

# DENMAN ISLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 17  
DENMAN ISLAND, B.C. V0R1T0

The Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia  
c/o Denman Housing Association  
3720 East Rd.  
Denman Island, B.C. V0R 1T0

September 9th, 2013

Sir/Madam,

Denman Island, in common with so many communities in this province, is struggling to find practical and sustainable solutions for housing issues that are becoming ever more pressing. Previous inquiries into the housing needs in this community have consistently revealed a lack of affordable housing. We are a greying community, one anticipating more elders needing appropriate, convenient, and affordable housing if they are to be able to age in place. We are also a community in need of younger residents—the people who will likely provide some of the care and services elders will need—for whom affordability is often the paramount issue.

Islands, given their inherently self-contained nature, have particular development problems. Potable water—both its availability and protection from contamination—and waste treatment and disposal are key issues. Our electricity supply is necessarily limited by the capacity of the underwater cables; therefore, Net Zero Energy is a worthwhile goal. Carbon Neutrality, a goal of the provincial government, also has been embraced by the Islands Trust as a consideration in community development plans. All of these are matters the Denman Housing Association proposes to address in its sustainability study.

The Denman Island Residents Association is a registered non-profit society established for the purpose of promoting the welfare of our community. As such, we endorse the Denman Housing Association's sustainability objectives. We encourage you to look favourably on their application.

Robert T. French  
Vice-President, Denman Island Residents Association