

Letter - Offer reasons for OR position

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Over the years I've seen some awful letters in the Driftwood but the one signed by a group of local physicians in last week's paper was a real "jaw dropper."

Doctors stated they didn't agree with Save Our Surgery's mandate to "reinstate surgical services at Lady Minto Hospital." They are certainly entitled to their views, but it appears they are trying to undermine the work of SOS while not offering one single reason why they agree with the operating room closure.

I am greatly mystified that a brand new multi-million dollar operating room and sterilizing facility on Salt Spring stands idle when there are regional waiting lists for surgical procedures. We could have an enclave of semi-retired surgeons, nursing staff, an anaesthetist, a surgical technologist, housekeepers — good paying jobs. Instead, Salt Spring residents must travel off island for surgical procedures and the community is missing an opportunity to become a hub for patients requiring surgery from other communities.

So doctors . . . if you don't think VIHA should fund the local operating room, then present the community with supporting arguments, suggest what can be done with the current facility and equipment and then tell us where you think the funding should be directed.

Claire Heffernan,

Salt Spring

http://www.bclocalnews.com/vancouver_island_south/saltspringislanddriftwood/opinion/letters/114610774.html