

# Letter - Support our hospital

By [Contributed Opinion - Gulf Islands Driftwood](#) Published: **October 12, 2011 8:00 AM**

Lady Minto is a small hospital that is sometimes criticized for what it doesn't have. However, I think we should look more closely at what we do have. We are, in fact, fortunate in times of "fiscal restraint" and government cutbacks to have the hospital and the other medical services available to this community.

When babies get a scary cough in the middle of the night or when chest pains appear and when people break bones or kids get hurt, the hospital, the family physicians, the nurses, the social worker and the cleaners, the kitchen staff, the techs and all the other staff are there. It is hard to imagine what it would be like without them.

I urge all of us to let the hospital and all its staff know that we do appreciate them and have some understanding of the pressures they face in their daily work. Salt Spring has a long history of pulling together and it is time to let our medical community know — vigourously and directly — that the island appreciates their commitment and their presence in our community. They provide (among many other things) the best hospital food in western Canada, humane care, emergency services and a hospital staff that works under pressure and in often crowded conditions.

We need to push the politicians to provide the much-needed extended care and longterm care that an aging population requires and which is essential in supporting Lady Minto in its work as a community hospital.

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