

Hello Lorne Bolton, Al Sewell, John Savage, Bernie Ziegler

More than 10 years ago a group of Saturna citizens began to think seriously about the development of new emergency services facilities on Saturna. It gives me great pleasure to inform you that as leaders of that time your dreams and efforts have come to total fruition. Within the next month or two our two new buildings will be owned by the Society free and clear of all construction and mortgage financing. Some of you were there during the early conceptual and land selection phases. Some of you were instrumental in arranging the early budgets and financing. Some of us lived through the heart of the construction period and others managed the pay down of finances and the securing of freehold tenure of the two buildings.

If you have read any of the **Daniel Silva** novels, his main hero character master spy and assassin Gabriel Allon makes frequent reference to the following: "**We all count or none of us count**"

While there have been five SIFPS presidents during this 10-12 year period and each of us provided leadership to our respective Boards during our tenure, we were all supported by a cast of hundreds: "**We all count or none of us count**"! So thank you to all the members who served the various Boards and served as financial managers and construction managers, to all the local contractors and tradesmen and women and material suppliers, to the conceptual designers, to the engineers, geotechs, CRD buildings, our legal advisors and bankers, to the volunteers of the fire department and SIR, to the people of Saturna who had faith in the projects by endorsing the Board's financing proposal, to everyday folk and contractors who donated material or labour in kind or for tax receipts, to the Saturna Island Recreation Centre who were patient with us during our lease back and eventual acquisition of free hold land at ESB#1, to the Ayers family for selling us the ESB#2 site and to Parks Canada for taking tenancy at ESB#1 and to the Money family for buying back the old emergency facility resulting in significant cash for the project. Also special thanks to Barry Crooks for supplying forming lumber for our foundations and the Gaines family for over 200 yards of concrete and the Moneys and the Crooks for supplying base shale and sand to prep our two building sites and to Permasteel for supplying us with a very competitive steel building package.

And so, now that we have completed the journey, this community accomplishment is worthy of celebration. Early in the spring we will provide details and hope you will be able to attend our celebration.

Sincerely

Wayne Quinn, President
SIFPS