



Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue
105 Lower Ganges Road
Salt Spring Island, B.C.
PH: 250-537-2531
FAX: 250-537-2507

July 10th, 2019

Dear SSIFPD Board of Trustees,

It is the recommendation of the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee of Salt Spring Fire Rescue, that an investigation into the identified need for a position to oversee mental and emotional health and wellness of all employees of Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue.

The increasing trend in Canadian workplaces is to incorporate mental health policies into regulations. It is important to have an identified person in the workplace responsible for implementing these policies for addressing employee mental health. Doing so improves recruitment and retention, productivity, safety issues, morale, absenteeism and limits potential legal expenses. The alternative of not addressing workplace mental health, is costly.

We are requesting a response from the Board of Trustees by July 30th in advance of the next meeting of the JOHS Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Akerman".

Lt. Ken Akerman
Co-Chair, JOHS Committee
Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue
kakerman@saltspringfire.com

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Lynn Hetherington".

Trustee Mary Lynn Hetherington
Co-Chair, JOHS Committee
Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
trusteehetherington@saltspringfire.com