

**From:** Galena Ardern [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** May 13, 2026 4:41 PM  
**To:** Community Input Mailbox <communityinput@ucluelet.ca>  
**Subject:** Hyphocus Island - Letter of support

**[External]**

To the District of Ucluelet and Members of Council,

My name is Galena Ardern Pal. I've been searching for a home in Ucluelet and or Tofino for a long time now, and the process has been quite eye opening to the real challenges of houses here.

We absolutely love the island and it is stressful to think about the reality of ever having to move away due to lack of affordable and suitable housing options. Like many others, I am concerned about the reality of being forced to leave due to housing availability.

I'm a single mother to a teenage daughter who is an avid surfer and has real dreams of making the Canadian team and perusing her dreams in surfing. The thought of moving and not having access to surfing in BC is often a reality. Having access to the ocean and consistent training conditions here are central to my daughters development and wellbeing. She loves training here, and Ucluelet is that place that makes sense for her future as she enters into her high school years. I also care for my elderly mother, who depends on me as well as my elderly father is being moved to the island. So when I'm looking for a home, I'm not looking for something simple. I need space for three generations, my mother, my daughter, and myself, and I need it to be somewhere we can actually afford to stay long-term.

I have been trying to find that home in Ucluelet for a long time now. Despite actively searching for a significant period of time, I have found very limited options. Market rentals are scarce, and homes for sale are largely out of reach. Most available options do not meet the needs of a multigenerational household within our financial means.

It is disheartening, and I know I am not alone in this.

There is a significant gap in housing options for families like mine, particularly homes that include secondary suites or modest multi-generational layouts that allow families to remain in the community.

This is why I am encouraged by the Hyphocus Island proposal. The inclusion of varied housing types, including homes with suites, represents the kind of practical solution that would allow families to remain in Ucluelet. These are the types of homes that are currently missing from the market and that make long-term stability possible.

A home with a small suite, a modest family home with space for my mother, doesn't currently exist in this market. Anything within our budget seems to be a 2 bedroom condo.

I also understand the developer is committed to widening Helen Road and improving pedestrian safety, preserving the natural character of the island, and donating land back to the community. Which I thought was wonderful. It is a project built around people staying.

I'm not a developer or a business owner, just a local mother who is trying very hard to build a stable life for her daughter and her mother in a community we deeply value. I'm asking Council to please support this project. Not for abstract reasons about growth and tax bases, but for families like mine, who are right here, right now, and if our housing falls through really have nowhere else to go, potentially having to leave the area, or even island.

My daughter loves it here and has fallen in love with the cold water surfing community. This place is magical and I can't imagine ever having to leave.

Thank you sincerely for your time.

Galena