

Thetis Island Community Association
Forbes Hall Community Centre

2023 Membership Application



Dear Thetis Islander:

We are writing to invite you to join the Thetis Island Community Association (TICA) and become a member of this active Association. TICA owns and operates the Forbes Hall Community Centre, its surrounding grounds, sports court and children's playground. We are proud of our Hall and what it offers to the community as a place to gather and strengthen the social fibre of Thetis Island.



If you become a member of TICA you will be joining the largest membership group on the Island. More than 80% of Islanders see the value of belonging to TICA and supporting our Community Centre through their membership dues. For the past 40 years, members have created a wealth of services, events and opportunities to connect including the popular Soup's On, the well-stocked volunteer-run library, the informative Quarterly and a myriad of member-driven fitness, wellness, educational and spiritual programs. Since reopening after a two-year expansion project, the Hall now boasts an average of 1400 visits per month. That's many feet crossing the threshold and extraordinary participation for an island as small as ours – a visible reflection of the importance of this community hub to Thetis Islanders.

TICA will soon be expanding these services because of a unique partnership with the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) to provide on-site medical care at the Hall. Island Health and the Forbes Hall Health Services Group have joined forces and upgraded the existing care room to the standards of an official Health Care Station. Beginning in February a Nurse Practitioner will be working with her Thetis Island patients as their primary care giver. She will also provide emergent and urgent day-of appointments. A Community Paramedic will offer vitals monitoring and other services such as home care visits to those under doctors' care. These services are especially critical to Thetis Islanders as many have lost their primary care giver due to retirement or relocation. Also, virtual medical appointments may now be booked using the Health Care Station for islanders who wish to remain on Thetis and have their virtual medical appointments in a private, secure space, with good connectivity and a supplied laptop, if needed.

The question you may be asking is "Why should I join TICA?". The answer isn't as simple as "you get to use the Hall" because anyone can use the Hall. But unlike other community centres, Forbes Hall is not municipally owned. It is not part of a tax base. TICA members OWN Forbes Hall. It's their membership dues and solely their membership dues, that support the operation of the Hall – that keep the lights on, keep the building heated, keep the floors clean. For the past few years, all monies received from fundraising and donations have been applied to the expansion of the Hall and this will continue until the debt to Local Lenders is repaid. Without membership dues, the Hall could not operate.

The TICA membership application form is on the reverse of this letter. As TICA handles membership of the Thetis Island Residents and Rate Payers Association (TIRRA) islanders may also apply for membership to that organization by completing this form. Please return the renewal form even if you send the fee via etransfer. This will better facilitate our record-keeping. TICA also accepts donations and issues tax receipts for all donations over \$25.

We ask that you give serious consideration to joining TICA in support of Forbes Hall Community Centre and all that it offers to Thetis Islanders.

Yours sincerely,
The TICA Board

(Ron Bannister, Ann Dickie, Marjan Jackman, Colleen Kastings, Teresa Moore, Ellen Rush, Don Sinclair)