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Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area  
Service Delivery  
625 Fisgard Street  
Victoria, BC, V8W 2S6

T: 250.216-5618  
www.crd.bc.ca

October 23, 2024

File: 0220-20

Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development & Innovation  
Regional and Rural Development Unit  
Rural Policy & Program Branch  
Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program  
(REDIP) Economic Diversification Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern:

**RE: SGI COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE SOCIETY (SGICRC) – PENDER ISLAND (S,DA',YES)  
SEA HARVEST**

As the Electoral Area Director of the Southern Gulf Islands (SGI) and the current Chair of the SGI Community Economic Sustainability Commission (CESC) I am in support of the SGICRC's project to establish a Sea Food Farm in the western part of Plumper Sound near Hope Bay. One of the priority initiatives of the CESC is implementing the SGI Local Area Food and Agriculture Plan (<https://www.sgicomunityresources.ca/fra/>) to increase food security by diversifying food production and building short local food supply chains. The Plan identifies priority actions that the Pender Island (S,DA',YES) Sea Harvest will help achieve:

“3.4.3. Conduct an information seminar using the Pacific Seaweed Industry Association’s “Seaweed Farming Workshop” video followed by a site visit(s) to build an awareness and understanding of the potential for seaweed farming in the Salish Sea.

7.1.4. Work with First Nations to explore the potential for adapting traditional seaweed food harvesting practices to current seaweed farming opportunities in the Salish Sea such as the newly announced project on James Island.”

On behalf of the CESC, I provide my full support for this project, and it is my sincere hope that REDIP considers the application positively, awarding the funding you seek to help make this project a reality.

Best regards,

Paul Brent  
CRD Electoral Area Director  
Southern Gulf Islands