

Voting no, *Gabriola* SOUNDER, p.4, November 18, 2004

Dear Editor

I've read all the reports, been to all the meetings, and drunk lots of coffee... and I've decided. I will be voting no on Saturday. I will be voting no because I like Gabriola the way it is. Sure, things will inevitably change, but what's the hurry? To those who say we need MacDonalds, Starbucks, swimming pools, ice-rinks, high rises, traffic lights, and Cosco, I say, we already have them. They're only a ferry ride away, and the ride is free. To those who come from West Vancouver and are missing home, I say take the ferry. It might not be free, but if you're from West Vancouver you can probably afford it. To those who say incorporation will bring open and honest government, I say, no sh*t. To those who say Gabriola should be run in a more businesslike fashion, I say how come it's going to cost me more. To those who say I should use my lifetime's savings to pave the roads, I say, thank you, but I'd rather walk. Gabriola lives on the edge, and edges are always interesting. The edge of the land, the edge of the sea, the edge of times that are rapidly disappearing, the edge between truly rural and urban lifestyles, the edge between the invaders and those whose ancestors have lived here before there was history. Grow up they say! time to leave home! To which I respond, but I enjoy being a kid, don't you, and on Gabriola, yes, I am at home, but that's where I want to be.

So I'm voting no, and I feel very comfortable with that.

Sincerely
