



**Bishop and Team Delta propose portion of new casino monies be allocated to ‘Pathway to Health-Care Careers’ initiative**  
*Mayoral candidate unveils second component of ‘Action Plan on Health Care’*

August 23, 2018 – Delta, B.C. – A suite of scholarships, bursaries and grants to be made available to young Delta residents or high-school graduates who seek health-related careers in medicine, science or care-giving was announced today by Sylvia Bishop, the two-term Delta councillor now seeking election as Mayor with Team Delta.

The initiative – called ‘Pathway to Health-Care Careers’ – is the second component of Team Delta’s proposed five-part Action Plan on Health Care.

The Pathway initiative, budgeted up to \$95,000 annually, will be funded from revenues expected by the City of Delta from a new hotel and resort complex to be built and operated by Gateway Casinos & Entertainment Corp. The yearly revenues from the development are forecast at \$1.5 million to \$3.0 million.

“Everyone knows that the Fraser Health Authority – which delivers many of the health-care services needed by Delta residents – has the lowest proportion of family physicians in British Columbia,” said Bishop.

“At the same time, Delta’s population is growing and aging, so it is increasingly evident that our city has an urgent need for additional physicians, nurses and other health-care providers. If Team Delta is successful in the local-government elections on October 20, we intend to address that challenge and improve the health services available to local residents.”

On Monday, August 20, Bishop unveiled the first component of her Action Plan on Health Care, under which a portion of the city’s newfound casino revenues would go to a variety of innovative physician-recruitment strategies administered by a proposed Delta Economic Development Office.

Today, Bishop pledges to develop and deliver of an array of financial programs intended to aid young Delta students who wish to pursue a career in a health-related field. The goal is to encourage financial-aid recipients to stay in Delta to pursue a health-care career, or return to their home-town to practice after graduating from a post-secondary institution or medical school located elsewhere in B.C. or Canada.

“We want to help young people who attend and graduate from Delta schools as they set out on a career in health-care, with the understanding that many or all later could practice or work in Delta and deliver superb health-care for our growing and aging population,” said Bishop.

Running with Bishop on the Team Delta slate are veteran Delta councillor Robert Campbell, and political newcomers Dr. Joan Hansen, Kim Kendall and Simran Walia.

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## BACKGROUND

The following is an annual budget outline of the 'Pathway to Health-Care Careers' initiative designed by Sylvia Bishop and Team Delta. This is the second component of their five-part Action Plan on Health Care.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS:**

- \* Twenty (20) 'Excellence in Science' scholarships – half for girls (up to 10 available), half for boys (up to 10 available) – each scholarship to be valued at \$1,250 and offered each year to Delta residents upon graduation from a School District No. 37 high-school. Successful applicants must have achieved excellent grades in Science in high-school and wish to pursue a post-secondary education.

Total cost = up to \$25,000 annually.

### **BURSARIES:**

- \* Ten (10) 'Science Studies and Financial Need' bursaries – half for girls (5) and half for boys (5) – each bursary valued at \$2,500 and made available each year to Delta residents upon graduation from a School District No. 37 high-school. Successful applicants must have achieved commendable grades in Science in high-school, wish to pursue a post-secondary education in Science, a health-related field or care-giving, and can demonstrate a personal and family financial need.

Total cost = up to \$25,000 annually.

### **GRANTS:**

- \* Four (4) 'First-Year Medical School Tuition' grants – half for girls (2), half for boys (2) – each grant valued at \$5,000 and made available each year to a School District No. 37 graduate who has successfully graduated from a post-secondary institution and wishes to enroll in a medical school in B.C. or Canada.

Total cost = up to \$20,000 annually.

- \* Five (5) 'Registered-Nurse/Nurse-Practitioner Training-Education Tuition' grants – each grant valued at \$3,000 and made each year to a School District No. 37 graduate who has successfully completed two years of study at a post-secondary institution in B.C., and wishes to pursue a career either as a RN or a Nurse Practitioner at an accredited B.C. institution.

Total cost = up to \$15,000 annually.

- \* Five (5) 'Health-Care First-Year Tuition' grants – each grant valued at \$2,000 and made available annually to a School District No. 37 graduate who is in need of financial assistance to pursue first-year studies in a health-related field including pharmacy, nutrition, health-sciences, midwifery, kinesiology or any accepted field of endeavour.

Total cost = up to \$10,000 annually.