

RE-ELECT
Marie-Térèse Little
Rooted in Metchosin. Securing its future.
FOR METCHOSIN MAYOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 10, 2026

Mayor Marie-Térèse Little launches re-election campaign weeks after landing \$7 million for a new Metchosin fire hall

Incumbent mayor seeks a second term building on her foundational first term achievements. Her platform will include finishing the district's largest capital project, protecting Metchosin's rural and agricultural land and keeping the tax burden manageable.

METCHOSIN, B.C. —Mayor Marie-Térèse Little announced today that she will seek re-election as Mayor of the District of Metchosin in the general local election on Saturday, October 17, 2026.

Her announcement comes ten weeks after the district secured \$7 million in federal infrastructure funding toward replacing the Metchosin fire hall — the single largest capital project in the district's history, and a file the Mayor has driven since taking office in 2022.

“Metchosin does not have the tax base of a Langford or a Colwood. When something this big needs doing here, it gets done by showing up, making the case, and not letting go of it,” Little said. “That is exactly how the fire hall funding happened, and it is the way I intend to keep working for this community.”

THE FIRE HALL: FROM DECADES OF TALK TO SHOVELS IN THE GROUND

On July 30, 2026, the federal and provincial governments announced 54 community infrastructure projects across British Columbia totaling \$152 million. Metchosin's new post-disaster fire hall was on the list, at \$7 million. The funds were provided through the Strategic Priorities Fund under the “Build Communities Strong Fund Community Stream”, administered in B.C. by the Union of BC Municipalities.

The award followed sustained advocacy by Mayor Little. She met with Esquimalt-Saanich-Sooke MP Stephanie McLean within days of McLean winning the seat in April 2025 to press the case for Metchosin's fire hall. At the announcement outside the existing hall on July 31, McLean told the crowd that it was that advocacy which in large part led to the funding decision.

The building it replaces was constructed in the 1950s, renovated in the 1960s, condemned in the 1980s and added onto in the 1990s. It has rat and mould problems, no ventilation for truck exhaust, doors too small for modern apparatus,

and no separation between contaminated turnout gear and the space where crews eat. It meets neither current seismic standards nor current WorkSafeBC requirements.

“The new post-seismic firehouse will be the cornerstone of public safety in Metchosin for decades to come. The biggest threat to rural Metchosin is fire.”
— Mayor Marie-Térèse Little, July 30, 2026

The \$7 million grant joins more than \$2.4 million already banked from the province’s Growing Communities Fund. That is close to \$10 million in grant money for the \$16 million dollar project. The district also has infrastructure reserves that can be used for this modest, safe, to standards project. The remaining balance of \$2-4 million is expected to be covered by a loan. The new Firehouse is designed to remain operational after a major earthquake and will strengthen Metchosin’s mutual-aid commitments to Colwood, View Royal, Langford, Sooke and the Juan de Fuca region.

“Class D estimates indicated that this modest, rural-minded project will cost \$16 million with allowances made for 15% design and pricing, 10% time escalation and 5% construction contingencies. Not a penny more than \$16 million will be spent and I expect this priority project will come in under budget and on-time as is in keeping with the way we now do things in the District of Metchosin.”— Mayor Marie-Térèse Little, July 31, 2026

A FIRST TERM OF FIRSTS

Under Mayor Little’s leadership, the District of Metchosin adopted its first Strategic Plan, its first Agricultural Plan and its first Climate Action Plan — three foundational documents the community had operated without for its entire history as an incorporated municipality. Her council also delivered the long-requested crosswalk at Hans Helgesen Elementary school and provided long-term conservation for the 113.5 acres of green space called the buffer lands. Mayor Little currently serves as Vice-Chair of the Capital Regional District Board, giving Metchosin a stronger, collaborative voice in regional decisions on water, transportation and emergency services than a community of 5,000 would ordinarily command.

PRIORITIES FOR A SECOND TERM

Little says a second term is about completion rather than new promises: getting the fire hall built, under budget and on schedule; protecting agricultural land and the rural character that residents have defended for forty years; advancing the Agricultural Plan toward practical supports for local farmers; and holding the line on costs as the province and region download new responsibilities onto small municipalities. Innovative solutions and ideas to generate revenue will need to be discussed given the future tight financial picture.

“Rooted in Metchosin, securing its future — that is not a slogan I picked out of the air,” Little said. “The roots are the farms, the forest, the coastline and the people who

have looked after them. Securing the future means the unglamorous work: the plans, the grants, the buildings which have to stand up when the ground moves.”

ABOUT MARIE-TÉRÈSE LITTLE

Marie-Térèse Little was first elected to Metchosin Council in 2018 and elected Mayor in 2022. She has spent 25 years in cancer research and in research-related volunteer leadership roles such as the Chair of the Clinical Research Ethics board at Island Health and a Patient advocate at the Canadian Cancer Trials Group. Since arriving in Metchosin in 2005, Marie-Térèse has been a hard-working volunteer and board member at the Metchosin Preschool, Westmont Montessori School, Metchosin Volunteer Fire Department “Firehouse Cooks”, and Metchosin 4H.

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CAMPAIGN LAUNCH EVENT

September 10, 2026 · 6pm · Media welcome. The Mayor will be available for interviews.

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