

Island Economics, *Gabriola SOUNDER*, p.4, July 23, 2007

Dear editor

Good news. It looks like ferry fares are going up. This will serve several useful purposes, the main one being that as ferries get more expensive, people will use them less, and so there'll be a reduction in the burning of all that diesel fuel that contributes to global warming. Island produce-growers and farmers will also benefit as off-island produce's prices go up. And there will be less pressure on island services and resources as people elect to live where they don't need expensive ferries, and their dream of living in a suburb of Nanaimo becomes reality. The next very popular move, I suggest, is to do away with the free ferry rides for seniors. Do people living in million dollar plus homes really need this subsidy? Let's donate it to, say, paying off student loans and helping the working poor.

Sincerely

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