



Dr. Joanne Gaul

325-3066 Shelbourne St., | Victoria, BC | V8R 6T9

Notice of Practice Closure

Dear Patients:

It is with mixed emotions that I announce my retirement from active practice as of **Dec 12, 2025**. It has been a privilege providing for your health care needs, and I am happy to continue to see you through December 12. Please remember that you can make an in-person appointment by calling or emailing the office.

Finding a New Doctor

I do have a new physician who is taking on some of my patients and **your name is on that short list. Please don't tell your family and friends about him, as he is doing this as a special favor to me.** Dr John McFarlane is opening a practice at the Quadra Village Medical Clinic, phone 250-383-5513. He'd like you to have a "meet & greet" appointment based on the first letter of your last name: A-D call in September, E-L in October, M-S in November, and T-Z in December. If you choose not to transition to Dr. McFarlane, here are some helpful resources for finding a new healthcare provider:

1. Ask family and friends if they can try to get you in with their doctor.
2. Speak to your local pharmacist who may be aware of new physicians in your area.
3. Visit <https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/> or call 8-1-1 (7-1-1 for hearing impaired)
4. Visit <https://bchealthcarematters.com/patient-resources>
5. Be in contact with **RSRS***. They often have access to additional resources which we don't have.

Note: If you have an urgent medical matter in the absence of a doctor, please proceed to the nearest emergency room.

Prescriptions & Labs

Prescriptions that I've provided for you will continue to be valid until their expiration date, but unfortunately, all standing orders at Life Labs and at the hospital labs will be cancelled on Dec 31. Tests that I've ordered will be done but there won't be any doctor to send results to, if you haven't established with a new primary care doctor. Fortunately, your **specialists** no longer need another referral from me to continue seeing you for an established problem. Tests that I've ordered will be done but you'll need to give Dr McFarlane's name as the doctor to receive the results, if the test is done after the first of the year.

Your Medical Record

I am required by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia to store all original patient records for a period before they can be destroyed. I have selected RSRS, a physician-managed company, to safely and securely store all patient records from my practice, and to assist you in obtaining a certified and searchable copy for yourself and/or your new physician. *Your medical record does not automatically follow you when you leave a medical practice, unless you arrange for it.*

I recommend obtaining a certified copy of your personal medical history. It is a very important resource for your continued care and can be helpful to have accessible, especially during your transition to a new doctor. I have included an infographic illustrating 10 reasons why getting your record is so valuable.

Please contact RSRS at your first opportunity for help with next steps in your care and your medical record following my closure. It's possible that they may contact you as well, to ensure that all of my active patients have been properly notified.

www.recordsolutions.ca/DrJGaultoDrJMcFarlane

Tel: 1-888-563-3732

Email: info@rsrs.com

Fax: 1-877-398-5932

(Please note: You can arrange for a copy of your medical record immediately, however unless it's an emergency, the actual delivery of your requested medical record will take place only after my practice closes. There is a fee for the copy/transfer of your medical record in accordance with guidelines.)

If you brought in a disc or thumb drive when you joined Oaklands Health, you can stop by the office and pick it up, if you want it for yourself or to bring to your new physician.

It has been my privilege to be a part of your health care over the years. I wish for you good health and much happiness in the future.

Sincerely,

*RSRS is a physician-managed medical records storage facility. They are fully compliant with the guidelines set by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia and the relevant privacy regulations.



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