



**Notes from Peter:** Trust offices are closed to the public, and many of the staff are working from their homes. Trust committee meetings have been cancelled, at least through the end of March, and are likely to only occur in the near future if really necessary and we can hold them safely.

Most normal Trust business (applications, permits, inquiries, etc.) is proceeding fairly normally, I am told. Contact staff by telephone or email. If you don't get them immediately, they will respond to you quickly.

### **Relations with Tla'amin Nation**

I wrote, as an individual Lasqueti Island trustee, to the Hegus (Chief) and Legislators of the Tla'amin Nation, located just north of Powell River, who have traditional ties with and usage (and now Treaty rights) on and around Lasqueti. My main desire is to begin establish a relationship between our community and theirs.

Hegus Clint Williams replied to me, kindly and wisely suggesting that a visit to them of a (small, I presume) delegation from Lasqueti would be a good way to begin. Unfortunately, this is not a good time to go visiting, no matter how important it is, so we'll have to wait until the current pandemic situation settles down.

I will post Hegus Williams' letter on the Lasqueti web site, and send a link to the email list.

**Bylaw issues:** There are a few bylaw matters current on Lasqueti, outlined in the Bylaw Compliance and Enforcement Report on pages 92-98 of the March Trust Council agenda package:

[http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/media/349035/tc\\_2020\\_03\\_10-12\\_agd-pkg\\_final.pdf](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/media/349035/tc_2020_03_10-12_agd-pkg_final.pdf)

At the end of 2019 there were six files open on the Lasqueti Trust Area, one concerning an unlawful dwelling, 5 about other land use issues. One has been open for more than five years, one for more than one year, and four for less than a year.

The Trust Bylaw Compliance and Enforcement Department handles complaints and bylaw compliance and enforcement issues, and the Local Trust Committee and trustees do not, except as the LTC receive reports (often in camera) as they are made, make policy decisions. We are not involved in individual complaints.

Lasqueti people decided strongly, years ago, to not have a Bylaw Enforcement Notification Bylaw and process. The goal of the Trust and the Bylaw department is compliance, and every effort is made to achieve compliance cooperatively.

When this isn't possible, other options are available, but they can be slow and expensive. I have not yet, in this or my previous term as a trustee, been involved in a bylaw case.

One of these bylaw issues is a structure recently constructed in an area where it is not permitted. The owner tells me that he will apply for a zoning change, and has never alleged that he has a permit for the construction. There will be public process, and lots of opportunity for public comment and input into the proposed change to our Land Use Bylaw, which is where our zoning is set out.

**OCP/LUB review:** With the drastic decline of public and private social and cultural events, this would be a good time to do some reading and thinking about our Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw. Our current versions is available on-line through this webpage: [islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/lasqueti/bylaws](http://islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/lasqueti/bylaws) and there were printed copies at the usual places - Provisions, Blue Roof, ferry, Post Office and Community Hall. I know the one at the hall was there still very recently. Let me know if I should get more printed copies and re-post them. All the work that the LCA OCP/LUB Review Committee did is available on-line at <https://lasqueti.ca/lca/ocp-review>

**NOTES FROM TIM:** Peter has done a good job of covering what is going on with LTC business, so I'll briefly delve into some items from Trust Council in March.

Trust Council voted in favor of a statement calling on senior governments to "uphold the guiding principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples signed by the Government of Canada in 2010, and the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act adopted by the Government of British Columbia in 2020" and "to look to the guiding principles of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action 2012 and the Calls for Justice tabled by the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in 2019 as a way forward." This resolution passed after much discussion and amending. The originally proposed wording can be viewed on the Islands Trust Website in the agenda package for March 2020; the adopted version will be available on the website soon.

Council voted to make the position of Senior Freshwater Specialist a permanent position, which gives opportunity for continuity in the ongoing freshwater projects which are of such importance throughout the Islands Trust Area, especially in the context of climate change. The Northern Islands portion of the project to map and develop water budgets for groundwater aquifers, which was voted out of the budget at December Trust Council, has been reinstated with the proviso that it will not launch until the Southern Islands portion of the project has been assessed for the utility of the data collected. I think most, if not all Northern Trustees were pleased that this work is now budgeted to take place in our region.

On March 22, Islands Trust issued a press release requesting visitors to reschedule proposed visits to the islands, due to the Covid-19 situation and the limited resources on our islands. Lasqueti elected officials and community groups issued a Joint Statement requesting all non-essential traffic to Lasqueti cease, and at the time of writing, B.C. Ferries has issued a travel advisory to avoid all non-essential travel as well. With awareness and diligence, we can all do our part to limit the spread of this virus and avoid overwhelming our health system and our dedicated health care professionals. I am very grateful to all of the people working to help us all through these times, and would like to express my thanks to Darcy, our ferry crew, and the folks delivering supplies both to the ferry and on island. Stay safe, enjoy the beautiful place we live in, and wash your hands!

**Contact information:**

Northern Office, Gabriola Island  
 northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca 250-247-2063 (1-800-663-7867 and ask to be connected)

Lasqueti planner and Regional Planning Manger Heather Kauer 250-247-2209 hkauer@islandstrust.bc.ca

Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee  
 lasquetiislandlocaltrustcommittee@islandstrust.bc.ca

Tim 250-607-7094 tpeterson@islandstrust.bc.ca

Peter 250-333-8785 pjohnston@islandstrust.bc.ca

Peter Luckham (chair of Lasqueti Trust Committee) 250-210-2553 pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca

Please take care of each other, and yourself.

**THE MEDICINE WHEEL**



Nursing Clinic located at the Judith Fisher Centre  
 Email address: LasquetiHealthCentre@gmail.com

Nurse: Dianne McClure RN/MN

Cell: 250-240-5712 Home: 250-752-7419

Clinic phone (during clinic hours): 250-333-8891

Hours: Drop in Thursday from 11:00am–3:00pm

**Clinic Dates:**

	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
APR		<b>CLOSED TILL FURTHER NOTICE</b>			

Unfortunately the nursing clinic will be closed until further notice due to the threat of the Covid-19 virus. It is in the community’s best interest that health care services, if at all possible, be provided at a distance via phone and/or email contact. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns regarding your health. I will do my best to answer

your questions and perhaps limit the need for you to travel off island at this particular time. It is a stressful time for all.

My main priority is keeping all people on Lasqueti virus free. As you are “socially distancing” you might consider reaching out to someone you might have on your mind, someone you might have had a disagreement with, someone you have unresolved issues with...it may just provide an opportunity for “socially healing”. Let care and compassion prevail in this particularly stressful time.

Blessings,

♥ ♥ Dianne

(two hearts are better than one...appropriately “socially distanced”)



**E-Waste Recycling & Right to Repair**

E-waste, which includes all computers, newer TVs, smart phones, some higher tech fridges, and so much more, has become a global ecological issue. It is the fastest growing waste stream in the world. In 2018, an estimated 50 million tones of e-waste was created. Only 15-20% of it was recycled, the rest went to landfills and incinerators.

Increasingly, electronics are manufactured with built in planned obsolescence. This, coupled with consumer demand for faster, better, cooler products, means most devices are not handled for more than a couple of years by their original owner. Add to that the difficulty, inconvenience and high cost of repairs, and the consumer finds it cheaper to buy something new. The economics of gadgetry encourages disposal!

Maybe you’re like me and have a stash of broken phones and computers in your house. Maybe you’re keeping them because they might be repairable or useful. You might not know what to do with them but you probably don’t want them to end up in a landfill.

If your old cell phone ends up in a formal (First World) electronic recycling facility, it will be shredded and sorted into its constituent parts by industrial machines that take lots of energy to power and money to run (add that to the overall footprint of your device). The expense of such e-recycling makes it cheaper to export e-waste to the developing world where it’s processed in unlicensed and unregulated situations which don’t consider human and environmental health hazards.

Most e-waste ends up in Asia where thousands of men, women and children are employed by informal recycling businesses. Discarded devices are sorted and disassembled with bare hands. Plastic is openly burned from wiring and casing to get at the valuable and complex mix of materials that make the devices work. They can contain lead, silver, gold,