



Lasqueti Isle & Times

SEPTEMBER 2020

A Community Newsletter

LIT is a community supported newsletter, i.e., the articles and ads are written by community members and representatives of our local government. The contents do not necessarily represent the views of the editor/publisher, nor is accuracy guaranteed.

Submission to the newsletter is free for community members, though donations are gratefully accepted.

Ads are \$10/month.

Thank you,

Dianna Maycock,
Editor/Publisher

PH: 778-962-0006 or
islandtimes@gmail.com

Online version at:
ourislandtimes.com

OCTOBER EDITION
DEADLINE:

SEPT 26TH, 2020



NOTES FROM PETER: Trust Council will be holding its September meeting electronically Tuesday Sept 15 and Wednesday the 16th. Agenda package should be posted towards the end of the first week of September. People can “attend” the meeting (or part of it) in several ways: by watching the live-stream broadcast; by connecting to the meeting as an attendee on their computer, or by telephone. I’ll send electronic connection information out on the email list, and it’s available on the Trust web site. By telephone, 855-703-8985 (Toll Free) Webinar ID: 618 2384 1419. “Raise your hand” to speak during the town hall by pressing *9.

The Lasqueti Trust Committee is scheduling a Community Information Meeting where we can present the draft Official Community Plan text. An in-person meeting will be held at the community hall, probably noon to 2ish on Thursday, September 17, and it will be followed by an electronic meeting on Friday of that week or Monday of the next. We hope that every Lasqueti person will read the draft and attend one (or both) of the meetings (or communicate with us by writing) to give us their comments and suggestions, so we can make the new Official Community Plan reflect the views of the community as much as possible. To repeat, these dates are tentative, and will be announced and advertised when set.

The other important issue currently before the LTC is private docks. Our Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw make it pretty clear that we don’t want to allow docks to proliferate, instead

encouraging moorings and slipways, and communal docks. It is possible to apply for a rezoning to permit a private dock on the public foreshore, and two landowners in Scottie Bay have applied for this rezoning. Be aware that there is (currently) no public dock in Scottie Bay.

Please read the planner’s report on pages 15-59 and/or 60-102 (two applications, very similar except that one dock is already built) of the August 10 agenda package available at http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/media/349708/la_2020-08-10_ltc_agd_pkg.pdf There are printed agenda packages in the False Bay area and on the ferry. Or you can read excerpts from the planner’s report and some comments from me and from Laurence at <https://lasqueti.ca/node/6663>

There has been considerable public correspondence that is posted on the web at the Lasqueti Island Current Applications page <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/lasqueti/current-applications/current-application-documents/> The LTC will be discussing these applications at our next scheduled meeting, October 5.

I encourage everyone with a view to express it to the LTC. In order for us to consider your opinion, it must be public, so that the applicants and other parties can also be aware of and able to respond to what you write. It is most helpful if you say not only what you want us to consider/decide, but why. Facts and information are far more useful than a simple expression of support or opposition to one, or both, of these applications. It would also be helpful if you expressed your views about future applications for private docks on the Lasqueti public foreshore. Please be alert

that not all the information expressed in correspondence is accurate and correct.

As always, please talk with me or Tim if you have concerns or questions. You can also call or email our chair, Peter Luckham, or our planner, Heather Kauer. There is a planner on duty and available to answer questions by telephone at the Northern Office whenever it is open, 250-247-2063 (1-800-667-7867 and ask to be connected).

**SPECIAL MEETING TO HOLD A COMMUNITY
INFORMATION MEETING TO DISCUSS THE
LASQUETI ISLAND OFFICIAL
COMMUNITY PLAN REVIEW PROJECT**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2020

12:00 PM TO 2:00 PM

LASQUETI ISLAND COMMUNITY HALL

Please join us for a presentation and facilitated Q + A session regarding the Lasqueti Island OCP Review Project. Members of the Lasqueti Community Association OCP Review Steering Committee will be available to answer questions regarding their recommendations report.

Complete project information can be found on the Islands Trust website www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/lasqueti/projects-initiatives/comprehensive-ocp-and-lub-review/

OR Join us electronically

Friday, September 18, 2020 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Go to <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/lasqueti/> for instructions on how to participate or watch online.

Please note: this meeting will be recorded and posted to the project page on the islands trust website a few days after the meeting.

For more information or to submit questions before or after the meeting, please email northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – EVERYONE WELCOME

Please note: If time allows following the presentation and Q+A on the OCP review, docks and home enterprises on Lasqueti Island may also be open for discussion.

** Outside (in the Hall if raining) following restrictions in the Provincial Health Officer Ministerial order for public gatherings and events. All in-person attendees will be required to provide contact information to aid in contact tracing if required **



qathet
REGIONAL DISTRICT

The Regional District is now pretty much fully operational, with modified procedures to ensure health and safety. Many staff and Board members have been attending meetings via video-conference (which are recorded and available on the qRD website www.qathet.ca). This has been a big improvement for me, since the rest of the Board can see me, and I can see them.

The following items may be of interest:

- Ferry: Masks need to be worn by all passengers on ferries. Please continue to help make it as smooth as possible for the crew to deal with this ongoing situation.
- Vancouver Island Regional Library is gradually re-opening. and services are gradually increasing. The Parksville branch is now open for takeout service. For details, see <https://virl.bc.ca/branches/parksville/>
- Social procurement: Social and local benefits have been added as criteria for qRD contract bids. This is a welcome step forward (and unfortunately not as simple as it seems given inter-provincial trade agreements). The change means local employment and other social benefits are included as part of the assessment and ranking of contract bids.
- The Landfill closure continues. Natty will be trucking cover material to cap the fill, working on conjunction with the engineers.
- The first metal recycling day at the ramp was well organized by Waste Manager Mark B, and seemed to be much appreciated (what's not to like about free disposal?). Mark also organized removal of a load of tires from the landfill site. Let's keep the trajectory going of reducing waste on the island.
- The LIVFD Parcel Tax has been eliminated and replaced with "normal" taxes based on assessed value (the mil rate). A parcel tax is a single amount added to the tax bill for each property, and is considered to unfairly tax people with lower value properties. It also makes it harder to understand your tax bill. Now, all taxes from the qRD are based on mil rates. The overall effect on your property taxes should be minor.
- LIFVD Radio Coverage Analysis: Based on my request, the qRD put out a request for quotes for a Radio Coverage Analysis (see the January newsletter). This was one of the key recommendations from the expert Chris Kellett in his evaluation of the Emergency Dispatch Advisory Committee report in Dec 2017. A Radio Coverage