LASQUETI ISLE & TIMES

January 2020 Edition



Notes from Peter: Happy New Year to everyone. I hope that the holiday season has been good for you all. It's great to reach the time of year with increasing hours of light.

In the December Isle & Times I wrote extensively about the Islands 2050: The Future of the Trust Area consultation project to amend the Islands Trust Policy Statement, which sets out how the Islands Trust various bodies (Local Trust Committees, Trust Council, Executive Committee and Islands Trust Conservancy) will carry out the Object of the Trust, "To preserve and protect the trust area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of residents of the trust area and of the province generally ..."

This consultation is ongoing, and we would like everyone to participate.

It is difficult for those without internet connection to receive information and to give feedback. I am happy to set up my computer at the Health Centre (which has internet connection) for anyone to come and explore the information available and give their input to the process. Please let me know if you would like me to do this, so I can make arrangements and let you know what days and times I would be there for you to come and participate. We could do this individually and/or in groups, especially with the video projector and big screen.

We had an Islands 2050 Open House at our Community Hall on the evening of November 21. I found it informative and interesting, and the information display encouraged lots of discussion and thought about the trust area, and especially our island. I will see if we can hold another similar event on Lasqueti this spring.

I've posted printed copies of the Islands Trust Policy Statement and the information display boards on the ferry, at Provisions, the post office and at the community hall.

It's easy and convenient for people to participate over the internet. Go to http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/trust-

council/projects/islands-2050/ where you will find lots of information and several ways to contribute your points of view.

The "Thought Exchange" has two questions for you to think and write about: What do you value about the Islands Trust Area? In the context of a changing climate, what concerns do you have for the region over the next 30 years? After you contribute your thoughts and concerns, you are able to see what others have contributed, and indicate your level of agreement with each.

You can download and read the information boards at:

http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/media/348185/open -house-boards-web.pdf

Send your questions, thoughts and ideas directly by email to Islands2050@islandstrust.bc.ca

Our next scheduled Lasqueti Trust Committee meeting is Monday, February 24, which seems like a long way off right now, but will be upon us soon.

In the new year, and probably for the next several years, our Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw review process will be our major Lasqueti project, and we should give it similar thought and feedback to the Trust-wide process on the future of the trust area. What sort of legacy do we want to leave for the future, for our children and their grandchildren, and for the natural areas that will remain?

The 2008 Lasqueti draft build-out map showed that there were then potentially 1236 lots, each currently entitled to have a dwelling and a guest house. Recent censuses show that there are about 425 residents and a few more dwellings, about half occupied only part-time. We should think about the likelihood that the growth in the number of dwellings, clearings, people and our impacts on the land will carry on expanding.

Donald Gordon and I met with Sheila Malcolmson, MLA and Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Environment George Heyman, who has responsibility for marine debris, to see if the government could and would work to put a stop to the flow of plastic, especially polystyrene, into the ocean and onto our shores, where it breaks down and becomes impossible to clean up and remove. She was very encouraging and supportive, and told us that a report on their consultation would be released early in the new year, and recommendations for regulation in the spring. We, and particularly citizens in the Salish Sea, need to be ready to work to make sure that the actions they propose, and then the decisions they take, are as strong as possible.

This new year leaves me with three more years to serve as one of your local trustees. When the term finishes, at the end of 2022, I'll be 75 and won't seek another term. It's time to start thinking about whether you would like to stand for election, or to encourage someone else to consider offering their service to the community. I'm happy to help anyone who is interested to learn what's involved. Please talk to me if you want information or assistance. I'd like to see at least three good candidates stand for election, so voters have alternatives to consider and a choice to make.

Contact me if you have questions, comments or concerns about this or any other (Trust or community-related) issue. Peter 8785

pjohnston@islandstrust.bc.ca tpeterson@islandstrust.bc.ca northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca lasquetiislandlocaltrustcommittee@islandstrust.bc.ca

COMMUNITY HALL PROJECTS: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The LCA executive has identified a few projects that we want to proceed with as soon as possible. The following items are offered as paid work, unless someone comes forward to volunteer for any of them.

Playground Equipment Installation: The project is to install the playground equipment, including pouring concrete, assembly, removing burrs and sharp projections, and some welding.

Outdoor Stage Roof: The project is to install a postand-beam log structure and metal roof to cover the outdoor stage. Concrete has been poured for the corner posts, and we have an offer of logs for the main structure.

Fencing Completion: The project is complete the perimeter fencing around the hall. Missing sections needed from the swamp, near the propane tank, to the corner of the willow fence nearest the generator shed; and from behind the outdoor stage, around the new well and barbeque area, to connect with the back of the hall.

Gate construction: The project is to construct 3 metal gates, large enough for vehicles. The front gate should have visual appeal; the other 2 gates can be utilitarian.

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
JAN				9	
				16	
				23	
				AWAY	

January 24/2020 Mental Health Inservice Day to be held at the Judith Fisher Center.

Dan Clark a mental health and addictions worker working out of the Oceanside Health Centre will be available to answer questions regarding local services as well as address some concerns regarding mental health.