

The
**LASQUETI
 ISLAND
 LOCAL**



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 is a community
 supported newsletter,
 the articles/ads are
 written by community
 members and
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 our local government.

The contents do not
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"Kindness is the
 language which the
 deaf can hear and
 the blind can see." –
 Mark Twain



ART SHOWS AT THE GALLERY

- June 29 - July 6th: 'You Inspire Me' (an illustrated journey) - photography by Susan Ashcroft and Rob Linschoten, spanning close to 3 decades of creative collaboration.
- July 7- 20th: 'A Lifetime of Art' - paintings by Mary Mc Rae, a magical journey in various mediums
- July 21st- 30th: 'Out of the Blue', a solo show of recent artwork reflecting Lasqueti's marine palette and DIY culture, by Carlyn Yandle. Opening social on Friday July 22, 6-8pm; daily rug- making drop in sessions July 24 - 30, 2- 4 pm, artist talk on Sunday July 31, 2-4pm.
- Aug 4- 17th : 'Land Ghosts and Lost Ancestors' - paintings by Sue Wheeler, Esther Tschurilow, and Gordon Scott. Curated by Jennifer Brant. Opening reception August 5th
- August 18th - 31st: 'Oceana', "Our portraits and shimmering visions of the waters that surround us." by Darzo and friends
- September 1st - 21st: a body of work made over the past year on Lasqueti island and Blóndúos, Iceland by Julia Woldmo , visual artist and folkloric maker. Title and details TBA

Gallery will be open every Saturday at market. Other hours will be up to the individual artists and will be posted.

Mary Mc Rae, A Lifetime of Art:

On behalf of the Lasqueti Arts Council, I am pleased to announce a showing of celebrated local artist Mary Mc Rae's work, July 7th - 20th. For years she has graced us with her visual art, cooking, healing wisdom and passion for dance in the community. This is a show to honour her journey on canvas and paper. Expect a series of visions in various mediums highlighting her presence on the island. More details to be announced prior to the show.

There is always art in every heart! ❤️

Land Ghosts And Lost Ancestors

- August 4th to 17th

Sculptor Eva Hesse once said "don't ask what the work is, rather see what the work does". Painter Paul Klee was quoted as saying "see with one eye, feel with the other".

Using colour and form, and drawing from landscape, memory and embodied knowledge, artists Esther Tschurilow, Sue Wheeler and Gordon Scott explore the space where the boundaries between abstract and representational work bend and blur. Curated by Jennifer Brant (in conversation with the artists), the show will feature a selection of new and past work from all three artists.

Please join us for the opening reception on Friday August 5th. There will also be a talk to accompany the exhibition, date to be announced.

Valeria



Islands Trust

NOTES FROM TIM: Greetings all, At June's Trust Council meeting two fairly significant decisions were made. One was a request to the Province to conduct a review of the Islands Trust's mandate, governance and structure. The other was to establish a new Standing Governance Committee. Both of these decisions follow the release of the Governance and Management Review in March, and are intended to improve the functionality and efficiency of the organization, as well as to clarify the object and mandate of the Trust in a modern context. I have the honor of being one of seven Trustees elected by Council to sit on the new Governance Committee, which is tasked with creating a Terms of Reference and Draft Policy (to be approved by Trust Council in September), setting the groundwork for the new Committee to begin its work following the election this fall. The Policy Statement Engagement Summary Reports (Islands 2050) were received, and several Motions were made for amendments to the new Draft Policy, before Council sent it to the Trust Programs Committee for further review.

Our final Local Trust Committee meeting of this term will be August 29th. Peter has written about the updated Fees Bylaw, to which I will add only a question; what percentage of application processing costs should applicants pay as compared to taxpayers?

We will also be appointing a new Advisory Planning Commission, and there will be a call for new members and any current members who are willing to serve again. I will be seeking amendments to the Meeting Procedures Bylaw to provide for mandatory public notice of meetings, and changes to meeting times or locations, as well as the timeframe for delegations to the LTC. At the request of the LTC, staff consulted the Ministry of Agriculture for more information about the terms "feral", "invasive", and "exotic" in relation to their use in the Official Community Plan in regard to sheep. The Ministry would not define the sheep on Lasqueti as "feral", "invasive", or "exotic", as these terms have specific definitions in the MoA legislation. When asked for more appropriate terms, "unowned" or "formerly domestic" were suggested. We are striving to be as accurate as possible when referring to sheep in the new OCP.

As this term nears its end, I want to offer my thanks for the support I have received as your Trustee, and to remind everyone considering running this fall to feel free to reach out to your Trustees if you have any questions about

running as, or being, a Trustee. As always, please also feel free to contact either or both of us with your questions, comments, or concerns about any local issues or those to do with the Trust Area as a whole.



Islands Trust

NOTES FROM PETER: want to thank everyone who attended the community meeting at the community hall, and Camino for organizing it. It seemed very helpful in clarifying several issues that worry Lasqueti people, especially coming from the Islands Trust Policy Statement proposed changes.

Our Advisory Planning Commission was unable to meet because they could not achieve a quorum for the meeting. The members' terms have now expired. The Lasqueti Trust Committee could schedule a special meeting to appoint or re-appoint members to the APC soon, or it might wait until our August 29 meeting.

One thing that people at the Hall meeting requested was more information about what's going on, especially in our Lasqueti Trust Committee. One thing that we are working on, and I might give you more information than you need or want, is our Fees Bylaw.

Some Local Trust Committees have not updated/increased their fees for years. Our Fees Bylaw was originally adopted in 2009, and was amended in 2016 and 2018. I think that new services/fees were added, and existing ones were not increased, but I'm not certain of this. Our current fees bylaw is at <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/lasqueti-ltc-fees-bylaw-no-85/>

The Islands Trust Council decided that it would ask each Local Trust Committee to adopt a fees bylaw that shifted the majority of the cost of processing applications from the general property tax payer to the applicant. The goal was to recover about 80% of the cost of dealing with the application from the applicant. To accomplish this, Trust Council adopted an Application Processing Services Policy and a Model Fees Bylaw. They can be found at <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/policy-5-6-1-application-processing-services/> The policy is on pages 1-7, and the Model Fees Bylaw is on pages 8-14.

There are many fees in the Model Bylaw for services that Lasqueti does not provide or require. Trust Council can not require that a Local Trust Committee adopt a particular fee schedule, but it requested that we each do so, and recommended that we could vary suggested fees by +/- 20% from the Model Bylaw.

Below is a chart showing the fees/services, the current Lasqueti fee, and the Model Bylaw fee in italic. Some sections are reorganized.

Official Community Plan amendment \$4,400

Official Community Plan amendment in combination with an application for amendment to a Land Use Bylaw \$4,950

Land Use Bylaw amendment \$3,520

Land Use Contract amendment \$4,400 \$2000 (These expire very soon, if we have any at all, so it's not very relevant.)

Reorganized to:

Major (e.g. change to density or OCP) \$7,800

Minor (e.g. regulation change without changing density or OCP amendment) \$4,600

Development variance permit in respect of a residential development \$440 \$1900

Development variance permit in respect of a commercial, industrial or institutional development \$715 \$1900

Development variance permit for a setback or screening regulation specific to any freshwater feature (stream, lake, pond, brook, ditch, creek or wetland) in respect of a residential, commercial, industrial or institutional development \$150

Temporary commercial and industrial use permit \$770

Temporary commercial and industrial use permit renewal \$165

Reorganized to:

Temporary Use Permit (residential, commercial, industrial) \$2150

Temporary Use Permit for residential uses and commercial uses under 95 square metres that provide community benefit \$1,000

Temporary Use Permit Renewal \$700

Temporary Use Permit Renewal (Community Benefit) \$350 (Community Benefit to be determined in our Official Community Plan)

Application for subdivision review – first parcel \$825 \$1000

Application for subdivision review - every additional parcel that would be created by the proposed subdivision \$110 \$100

Application for subdivision review - parcel line adjustments only, creating no additional parcels \$110 \$500

Board of Variance \$440 \$2200

Strata Conversion \$825 \$1500

Liquor & Cannabis Regulation Branch – Liquor License \$825

Liquor & Cannabis Regulation Branch – Non-Medical Cannabis Retail License \$825

Reorganized to:

Liquor & Cannabis Regulation Branch – Retail License Application and Process and referrals requiring local government consultation \$1,500

Liquor & Cannabis Regulation Branch – Temporary License Change \$100 \$500

The Lasqueti proposed new Fees Bylaw is on pages 15-21 in the June 6 LTC agenda package available at <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/lasqueti-ltc-regular-meeting-agenda-9/> It has received two readings so far, I think.

I will be proposing that a fee for Heritage Alteration Permit \$1700 be deleted, as we don't have a Heritage Area designated on Lasqueti, and no permit or fee (from the Trust) is needed. All the other fees are the same as the Model Bylaw, except that the application fee for subdivision fee is \$1100 rather than the recommended \$1000.

If there is community feeling that our fees should be reduced from the recommended amount, or that they should be higher, please let us know well before the date of our next LTC meeting, August 29. If it is desired, we could hold a community meeting before then, but probably only one of our two trustees could attend it, because the two of us form a quorum of the LTC.

Please send your comments and suggestions to us by email:

LasquetiIslandLocalTrustCommittee@islandstrust.bc.ca

If you write it on paper, give it to one of the trustees, or someone else with internet connection, and ask them to send it to us.

Reminder that BC local election date is October 15. The election island trustees, school trustees and regional directors is handled by the regional districts. The period where you can file your nomination is short – August 30 to September 9. Details of other rules and procedures are available at <https://elections.bc.ca/local-elections/2022-general-local-elections/>

I've got one Lasqueti Trust Committee and one Trust Council meeting left in my schedule before the end of my term serving as your trustee. I thank you for your trust and involvement in this aspect of our local government and community affairs. Peter

ISLANDS TRUST CONTACT INFORMATION:

- Islands Trust Northern Office
700 North Road, Gabriola Island, BC V0R 1X0

Email: northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca
Phone: 1-250-247-2063

WEBSITE: www.islandstrust.bc.ca

- Peter Johnston
Email: pjohnston@islandstrust.bc.ca
Phone: 250-333-8785
- Tim Peterson
EMAIL: tpeterson@islandstrust.bc.ca
PHONE: 250-607-7094

To reach the LTC trustees and planner:

LasquetiIslandLocalTrustCommittee@islandstrust.bc.ca

COMMUNITY RESPONSE 2050 PLAN MEETING RESULTS AND FOLLOWUP

Thank you to everyone who attended this meeting last month. This was a community-initiated and community-organized open public meeting. It was not part of any formal Local Trust Committee or Islands Trust process. The purpose of the meeting was to hold an in-person gathering to hear and record further community perspectives on the Islands Trust Draft 2050 Vision document. Approximately 55 people attended. The minutes recorded are to be printed and available to read in the common public areas of the island. A follow up evening meeting is being organized for those who were unable to attend. Expect a continuation of the topics discussed so far and a chance to examine other facets of the Plan. An additional thank you to the volunteers who formed the chairs and panel. This was the first meeting of its kind that stepped outside of the typical format we have been accustomed to and showed great promise of the community opening discussions together.

Best regards from the newly formed Lasqueti Community Public Response Committee



REGIONAL DISTRICT NEWS

Rain, rain, go away ... but not too far

Election Announcement and Platform: I have decided to put my name forward to run again for Regional Director. I appreciate all the positive feedback I have received.

Last election, I ran on a platform of rebuilding trust with the qRD, increasing public engagement on important community issues, and on accomplishing Lasqueti desires for the Option C dispatch system (see next bullet).

Those will continue as core parts of my platform. Trust takes a long time to build, and I will continue to put efforts to ensuring that our community voices are heard and respected. I will expand on my platform in the coming months.

LIVFD Dispatch System Public Consultation: The qRD Manager of Emergency Services will be organizing public consultation over the next month or so, and will include a survey and a public meeting. The community feedback will guide the qRD Board in finalizing the decision on dispatch system (participation in both is important).

Hasn't this been resolved? In Dec 2020, the qRD Board agreed to implement the Northern 911 call answer/transfer service (based in Ontario) as "temporary" pending public consultation. This system has now been used by LIVFD for a bit over a year (and will remain in place as long as the community wishes).

I have advanced the community wishes as far as possible, and the next step is up to the community.

At this stage, the choice is in the hands of the Lasqueti community (which includes, of course, our fantastic LIVFD volunteers). Any future major service changes must be based on community wishes.

The three main options are:

1. Continue with Northern911 and re-evaluate in 5 years or so.

This has been one of my objectives since I chose to run for Regional Director in 2018 and will continue to be a plank in my 2022 election platform. The current system is the central core of the Amended Option C system recommended by expert Chris Kellett in 2017 (which was a specific implementation of the Option C recommended by the community-driven Emergency Dispatch Advisory Committee in 2016 and based in part on unanimous support at the final public meeting held by the committee).

Features of this option include:

- It's already in place
- Single 10-digit emergency number (which people can put on a rapid dial if they wish) that is otherwise the same as basic 9-1-1
- No additional taxes
- Keep opportunities open for future change after sufficient evaluation
- No new towers on Lasqueti or Texada
- Potential to integrate with incident locator mapping tools

2. Adopt the NI9-1-1 system (based in Campbell River) plus house addressing

If community sentiment has changed in favour of a 9-1-1 system over the past 6 years since this issue started, I would encourage a candidate to step forward to run with this as a key plank in their platform since I plan to continue to advocate for the previous option based on previously expressed community support.

This second option would involve Lasqueti being included in two regional services: NI9-1-1 and house numbering. The NI9-1-1 service includes dispatch as well as some incident response, which requires towers to support communications with the NI9-1-1 centre in Campbell River.

The 2015 proposal from NI9-1-1 included a preferred site on Texada (Mt. Davies) for a relatively small tower with a cost of about \$60,000. However, this proposal has not been well received by Texada residents and there has been no public consultation to date with the Texada community. The Texada community included the Mt. Davies site in their 2021 Official Community Plan (OCP) as a proposed protected area with a stated desire for no towers. I believe that Lasqueti should support our Texada Island neighbours regarding their expressed wishes (as we would like our community wishes expressed in our OCP to be supported).

In the 2015 proposal from NI9-1-1, the alternative to a tower on Texada is for two 300-foot towers on Lasqueti, with a cost estimate in 2016 of over \$500,000.

Features of this option include:

- Referendum (or alternative approval process) for residents to decide whether or not Lasqueti joins the regional 9-1-1 and house numbering services.
- 3-digit 9-1-1 emergency number
- Tax increases to cover capital costs (and potential borrowing), in particular for towers.
- No opportunities for future change: once a 9-1-1 system is implemented by a local government, it cannot be changed to a different system by Provincial regulation.
- Reduced local control and involvement (e.g. our local LIVFD response coordinators would be made largely redundant).
- House addressing (2016 cost of about \$19,000 to set up), which would also require residents to change their id (e.g. driver's licenses and passports).
- Towers either on Texada (against wishes of the Texada community) or two tall towers on Lasqueti with fenced clearings of about 4 hectares each.

3. Community-administered fire department

This would involve setting up a non-profit society to administer LIVFD, creating a contribution agreement between the society and qRD to receive tax requisition funding, and termination of the fire department service with the qRD. This arrangement is essentially how Hornby Island manages many regional-type services. That said, based on the Hornby experience, this would take substantial time, effort and commitment (which should not be under-estimated). The main costs to run the LIVFD would not change. Administration costs incurred by the qRD would likely shift to cover local administration costs. Insurance costs would likely increase. Provincial requirements would not change (e.g. Office of the Fire Commissioner training).

My view for the past years has been that it would be preferable to continue to try to work out issues between our community and qRD than to go-it-alone, but to keep this option open if we ever reach an unresolvable impasse.

For anyone who wants to refresh your memory on this topic, and for people who came to Lasqueti more recently, two key documents are:

- The final report and recommendations of the community-led Emergency Dispatch Advisory Committee (E-DAC):
http://www.e-dac.ca/documents/2016-12-29_E-DAC_Final_Report.pdf
(the www.e-dac.ca site has other background info on the process leading to this final report and recommendations to the qRD).
- The final report and recommendations of the dispatch expert Chris Kellett, commissioned by the qRD to review the E-DAC recommendations):
<https://qathetrd.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/71555/?preview=71654>

LIVFD “Asset Management” survey results: The staff report on survey results can be found at the following link (feel free to ask me for any links via email):
<https://qathetrd.civicweb.net/filepro/document/135630/Lasqueti%20Island%20Volunteer%20Fire%20Department%20Asset%20Management%20Survey.pdf>

The response was very strong (128 people responded), which means high confidence that the survey results reflect community sentiments. Here are some of the items that stood out for me:

- Most respondents were full-time resident property owners (over 80%), but there were also quite a few responses from residents who rent (14%) and part-time residents (17%).
- Priority: First responder service is seen by residents as the highest priority (82%) followed by fire fighting (16%).
- Most residents are satisfied with the LIVFD service overall (88%), and for specific emergency calls (96%).
- The majority of residents do not have home insurance (70%). The survey did not identify whether or not this was by choice.
- The majority of responses did not want to make improvements to meet Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) grading requirements (58%) - not surprising given the insurance responses.

The FUS was created by the insurance industry, and sets fire protection grades for communities that are used by insurance companies as one

factor to set rates, or decide whether to even offer insurance (see <https://fireunderwriters.ca>). At present, the FUS considers Lasqueti to be grade 5 for home insurance (the lowest grade) because we do not meet all the grade 4 requirements (in particular due to the age of our trucks and the number of our volunteer firefighters). This has implications for insurance costs and availability (as many residents have experienced), and raises a concern that any insurance requirements for mortgages may be a barrier for lower income/wealth people moving to Lasqueti. However, to get FUS to increase their grade for Lasqueti would require significantly more volunteers for firefighters on an ongoing basis, and significantly more tax dollars (for newer trucks) and a likely need to adopt 9-1-1, which poses other concerns regarding impact of tax increases on lower income/wealth residents. Inter-linked issues for our community to reconcile.

- The question on support for tax increases for LIVFD was not very clear and difficult to answer, as indicated by some of the comments. The results were dispersed (with a majority wanting to keep tax increases at most moderate):
No tax increase: 21%
Low increase (\$1-50): 26%
Moderate increase (\$50-100): 20%
High increase (\$100-250): 24%
Very high increase (> \$250): 9%

More than 140 comments (12 pages in the report) expressed sentiments on a wide range of fire department-related topics and the survey, and provide the qRD with detailed views, especially on topics with multiple comments. Regarding asset management, the dominant sentiment was a desire to keep the LIVFD assets basic in order to limit tax increases.

Thanks to everyone who participated - these survey results will be used as a basis for decisions on the approach taken by the qRD for future LIVFD assets (trucks, halls, etc.). I anticipate that that next step will be a staff report with recommendations on how to proceed from here.

Please feel free to contact me. I am honoured to be your regional representative.

Director Andrew Fall, qathet Regional District
Contact: Tel: 250-333-8595

We are looking forward to reviving Squitty Bay Day this year. Mark your calendars for Sunday August 28th. There will be food and music and fun activities for the whole family. More details to come soon! We would love your help making this a great day for all. Please get in touch if you're available to help out or have ideas to share.

LINC is keen to get local native plant propagation happening on-island to help build up a stock of native plants for ecological restoration work on LINC stewarded properties and to share with the broader community. If this piques your interest, please get in touch. We're thinking about starting a native plant study and propagation group if there's interest.

Is your membership up to date? Send an email to linc@lasqueti.ca if you're unsure. We can also accept e-transfers to that email for your membership and/or donations. As mentioned last month, we have started a separate Acquisition Fund to start saving up for our next property. Just make a note when you donate if you'd like to donate specifically to acquisitions, otherwise your donation will simply go into general funds to be used where needed.

Unfortunately, LINC's Estate Planning workshop scheduled for Friday June 24th had to be postponed due to injury, but stay tuned for a new date. "Estate planning" is about making sure you have a will in place and that it helps folks get their affairs in order and saves their loved ones a bunch of headaches and capital gains taxes after their passing.

Enjoy getting out in nature this summer! Tuesday June 28th Duane West led a great hike from Mt. Trematon into the Ecological Reserve. Big thanks to everyone who came out! We plan to arrange for lots more hikes coming up. Have you done the Salish View hike yet? There is also now a trail at Johnny Osland Nature Reserve along the pond to the beaver dam.

LINC is having a table at the market this year. We have native trees, by donation, shirts, and lots of interesting natural history and nature info there, so come talk to us!

--Hilary on behalf of LINC

July 2022 – Peecycling: If you, like me, don't have a flush toilet in your house, then you might also be a pee collector keen on saving your "waste" for the garden and compost bin. In general, I don't announce to the world that I pee in a bucket and sh@! in an outhouse but since the New York Times spotlighted "peecycling" on June 17th and CBC's As it Happens episode followed suit on June 21st, I decided to follow their lead for this month's Let's Talk Trash column.

Until the invention of the sewage system, humans collected and used urine as a plant fertilizer (among other things). Urine contains a majority of the excess nutrients secreted by our bodies; nitrogen, potassium and phosphorus. These chemicals are commonly found in commercial fertilizers.

A major question in this time of climate driven drought, water scarcity and food insecurity, is how to capture what is valuable from the waste stream? The current worldwide shortage of chemical fertilizer is encouraging growers turn to urine for the nutrients they need. Side note: chemical fertilizers are unsustainable - manufacturing ammonia contributes to 2 % of the global CO2 emissions.

Some fascinating facts from the Rich Earth Institute, an organization in Vermont which collects and redistributes urine from the community to local farms:

- 9 billion pounds of chemical fertilizer could be replaced with the urine Americans produce every year,
- 320 lbs of wheat could be grown in a year with the fertilizer from one adult's urine,
- 125 gallons of urine is the approximate volume produced by an adult per year,
- 80% of the nitrogen and phosphorus pollution in wastewater is caused by human waste,
- more than 15,000 water bodies in the US are impaired due to nitrogen and phosphorus pollution,
- 1.2 trillion gallons of drinkable water is used to flush toilets every year, and
- the cost of phosphorus increase 270% between 1993-2013.

Gender, age and water intake effect the nutrient levels of pee but typically, fresh urine from a healthy person is sterile. However, if you are on antibiotics or prescription drugs, peecycling might not be recommended for garden application. The Rich Earth Institute, however, proposes that if we sprinkle pee on the land, a robust ecosystem can break down drugs or biodegrade them over time reducing or eliminating high levels before they reach a body of water and pollute it.

Most of us are aware that lakes, rivers and coastal waters are directly affected by inadequate sanitation. The waste problem is compounded by chemical fertilizer run off from farms. The result-ing algae blooms in our waterways trigger mass die offs of aquatic life and plants.

Pee can be pasteurized by storing it in a sealed container for one month in a room temperature greenhouse or heat it for 30 minutes in a solar pasteurizer. I store mine in buckets and use as needed.

If you are applying it to your garden, the dilution rate depends on the plant's nitrogen needs, salt tolerance and condition of soil. At least 5:1 for nitrogen hungry crops like corn, squash, lettuce, onions, garlic, and brassicas. 10:1 for fruiting vegetables like eggplants, peppers, and tomatoes.

It's best not to fertilize with pee 'tea' every time you water. When the plant leaves are a rich dark green, you can back off. Yellow leaves indicate a nitrogen imbalance which pee tea can help re-store.

Urine can also go straight on the compost pile to speed up the composting process. Pee is consid-ered 'green' meaning it's nitrogen rich, so make sure you have adequate 'brown' – carbon rich - layers to mix into it. Great sources of browns are untreated wood shavings, dead leaves, and shredded cardboard.

If re-purposing your own 'waste' stream appeals to you, there are several methods of collecting urine for later use, including the installation of pee diverters into outhouse or toilet set ups.

As global resources deplete and the need to become more locally resilient and self-sufficient in-crease, we are likely to see more innovative solutions like this one

Trash Removal System: July 13, the second Wednesday of the month, 10 am until the barge is full, is the regular trash removal day at the False Bay barge ramp. Any changes due to weather will be posted on the email list, FB Lasqueti Hotwire, and the Lasqueti website. No

construction materials, renovation or demolition waste, prohibited waste, organics, recyclable material or stewardship materials. \$5 per bag, \$25 per average truckload. Mattresses and boxsprings \$15 each. Please call Mark if you have any questions about what constitutes acceptable garbage. 8601 or 250 240 9886

Recycling Depot: Spring/Summer Hours April 1- Oct 31st

- Mon 10 am - 2 pm, Thursdays 1 - 5 pm, Fri 10 am - 4 pm

Closed on Statutory Holidays. All recycling is monitored. Please bring it CLEAN and DRY and SORTED.

Free Store: Spring/Summer Hours April 1- October 31st

- Monday 10 am – 2 pm and Thursday 1 - 5 pm

Please respect the signs. Drop donations during open hours so they can be quarantined. Outstanding items only, i.e. clean, usable clothing and household items. Please, NO food, garbage, recycling, TV's, soft foam, batteries, electrical devices, mattresses or hazardous materials, ie: chemicals, fluorescent light tubes, prescription/non-prescription drugs, or pills in general. There are recycling programs on Vancouver island for many of these materials.

Recycle BC Website: www.recyclebc.ca/what-can-i-recycle

Return-It Beverage Depot open 24/7 Front left of Free Store. It's not part of Mark's contract to deal with refundable beverages. He no longer accepts glass (beer, wine, hard liquor) containers. Please take these over yourself. He'll continue to accept aluminum beer, cider, pop cans, coconut water cans, boxed wine cartons (leave them intact) and tetra juice packs, including (rinsed) milk and milk substitute con-tainers, Please leave the caps on and push the straws in.

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions for me and the qRD Let's Talk Trash team, please get in touch. Jennyv@lasqueti.ca or 8601

SALE AT KIDS ISLAND CENTER

Dear Community, on Sunday July 31st from 1 to 3 I will have a sale of items from the former Kids Island Centre at the site across from the Teapot Lodge field.

I also want to celebrate the 27 years spent with the children and my true retirement (being 65....how did that happen?) After attempts to pass on my work at the Centre failed or use for other business opportunity the building will be for sale as well. Info can be obtained then.

Hopefully you will come visit, even if you don't need anything, have some sweets and mingle. I will have some photos of former students and a bit of history. See you then!
Gretje

HALL BUIDLING COMMITTEE JULY UPDATE

A lot of work has been done underneath the floor of the hall. Over two days in June the insulation was stuffed into the joist cavities then hardware was attached to keep the rodents from getting into it.

Bruce G., Michel L. and Nick H. prepared the site before the workdays. Bruce and Michel also worked both days together with Wendy S, Melinda, Jodi, Kristos R, Darcy D, Annaliese, Monika, Alec, Blakely, Sahara, Ezra, Simmah, Ron Chernick, Corey, Benoit and Aigul. Thank you all for getting a very big job finished.



(Photo by: Anneliese R)

The next step is to skirt the west and north sides with metal siding. This will accomplish two things: make the floor warmer and keep any air borne embers from getting underneath and igniting any litter that may be in there. *The necessary skirting material is being paid for by the qathet Regional District's FireSmart Program.*

This Program has studied why wildfires destroy some human structures and pass over others. To understand how to reduce the risk of wildfire investigators have discovered that structure losses in severe wildfires are primarily determined by the conditions within 10m of the structure and its flammable attachments. In examinations into extreme wildfire events where homes are lost, findings usually indicate that most structures are left unprotected due to an overwhelmed response agency. Then any embers or low intensity surface fire that meets a combustible feature of the building burns unchecked and results in total destruction. FireSmart is the practice of addressing these structural vulnerabilities and they can be applied to the Community Hall too.

On Sunday, July 31st, beginning at 10 a.m. there will be a FireSmart Demonstration event at the Community Hall.

It has two purposes:

- 1) to help reduce ignition risk of the Community Hall in the case a severe wildfire occurs nearby, and
- 2) to serve as a demonstration project for islanders to learn about FireSmart improvements.

Based on a FireSmart assessment of September 27, 2021 we have determined the following priorities:

1) Clad the crawlspace with a non-combustible material. This prevents embers getting into the crawlspace and decouples the flammable siding from the adjacent flammable surface (grass).

2) Relocate firewood 10m from building and clean fine fuels from under decks and 1.5m around building. If the firewood or fine fuels under a deck would ignite from windblown embers or from a surface fire spreading across the grass, the heat rising from these fuels could ignite the deck and subsequently ignite the building.

3) Clean gutters and other ember accumulating features on structure. Embers landing in dirty gutters can start ignitions which can spread under roofing material and ignite the building.

4) Limb conifers 3m above ground and clean up sticks, twigs, and branches from forest floor. These are the only untreated conifers within 10m of the hall. Fire primarily travels on the ground and keeping it there is the goal. Limbing the trees removes a fire's ladder into the canopy, there-by reducing the potential intensity, increasing the success of any firefighting efforts.

5) Even though we will not be applying this treatment at this demonstration project, creating a 1.5m non-combustible perimeter around the structure would further augment recommendation #1)'s efficacy by stopping surface fire spread before it reaches the building and preventing windblown embers from starting new ignitions in this critical area. At your place this could look like; rock (if you live on bedrock), gravel, concrete or even a dirt or sand perimeter.

The last recommendation (6) is tricky for a community space.... keeping easily ignitable materials usually made of thin wood, cardboard, wicker or straw off open decks.

Positive attributes at the Hall that are already FireSmart;

- 1) Landscaping within 10m is fire resistant (except for the 1 clump near outdoor kitchen). No high-

risk plants such as junipers, cedar hedges, or other short clumpy conifers are present.

- 2) Forest within the LCA License of Occupation is relatively mature and creates good shade. It also has few ladder fuels and few surface fuels,
- 3) Structure has a metal roof.

Come out and help increase the Community Hall's wildfire resistance. Lunch catered by Violet, limited spaces available. Contact Wendy B. at wbarth333@gmail.com or phone 245-240-8842.

If you are interested in applying these or other FireSmart principles to your property, contact us (Wendy or Marc 604-414-7839) to schedule a FREE assessment. You can even be eligible for a \$500 rebate.

Contact the Hall Building Committee if you have any questions about hall renovations at hbc.lca@lasqueti.ca

Bruce Grant, Aigul Kukolj, Jodi Ayers, Jenny Vester, Colin Ewan, Daniel Jacobs, Melinda Auerbach



The poster features a green background with white and yellow text. At the top left is the 'qathet Regional District' logo, and at the top right is the 'BRITISH COLUMBIA FireSmart' logo. The main title reads 'LASQUETI COMMUNITY HALL FIRESMART DEMONSTRATION EVENT'. Below the title is a photograph of the Lasqueti Community Hall, a large wooden building with a red roof and a porch. At the bottom, the date and time are listed as 'JULY 31, 10AM', followed by the call to action 'COME HELP INCREASE YOUR HALL'S WILDFIRE RESISTANCE'.

Projects you can help with:

- 1) Limb conifers 3 meters above ground and clean up sticks, twigs and branches from forest floor.
- 2) Relocate firewood 10m from hall and clean fine fuels from under decks and 1.5m around building.
- 3) Clean gutters and other ember accumulating features on structure.
- 4) Clad crawlspace with non-combustible material.

Free lunch catered by Violet, limited spaces available.

Please RSVP your attendance or for details contact Wendy B at wbarth333@gmail.com or 250-240-8842

A LASQUETI HERITAGE MOMENT OUR QUEER SHEEP

I've been interested in our local heritage sheep for many years. About 45 years ago I noticed two rams, one black and one white, who looked really healthy. They didn't seem to take part in the seasonal ram and bump competitions. They were cool; above the reproductive turmoil. Since then, I've observed other rams who seemed to be healthier, and better dressed, than the rest of the herd. They weren't interested in chasing the ewes to exhaustion.

I've always wondered what was going on. Fast forward to 2022 and, thanks to Willy et al, we have the answer. They're gay.

According to an article in the Globe and Mail written by the sheep expert and author Sally Coulthard, "researchers have found that in any flock of domestic sheep, about 8 per cent of the males seem to prefer the company of other males, even in the presence of fertile females. There are plenty of other examples of homosexuality in the natural world, from female macaques to male fruit flies; many species engage in same sex behaviour, whether by accident or for pleasure and social bonding. But the majority of those other animals seem to switch between homosexual and heterosexual behaviour; they don't show consistent sexual orientation. Only two species have ever been seen to show same sex preference for life, even when partners of the opposite sex are readily available: humans and, surprisingly, domestic sheep.

For a long time, homosexual behaviour was seen as 'unnatural', a view that persists in certain places around the world. How could it possibly be beneficial for the survival of a species, the argument goes, to have same-sex couples, which aren't able to pass on their genes to the next generation? And yet, what the science of sheep sexuality shows us is that homosexual behaviour doesn't challenge Darwinian ideas, but may in fact reinforce them.

The theory is that there may be one particular gene that reveals itself in two different ways: The gene that expresses itself as homosexual behaviour in male sheep could be the same gene that increases a female sheep's fertility. The female siblings of gay sheep produce more offspring than average, helping that specific gene to carry on in subsequent generations. In other words, the gene that predisposes some sheep to be homosexual promotes reproductive success in others. Sheep farmers have, over the centuries, enhanced the effects of this gene by

choosing and breeding from females that are the most fertile.”

It’s pretty groovy what 11,000 years of co-existence has produced. Tom W.

LASQUETI LIFELINE FOOD SECURITY PROJECT/ PROVIDE FOOD BOX UPDATE – FUNDRAISING TIME

A reminder to the community that throughout this past fall and winter we have been stocking the cupboard in Provide at False Bay and have regularly given or sent food to individuals in the community that needed help with their food security. We are grateful for the generous pledges of financial support from caring individuals that allowed this project to thrive.

We would like to be able to continue to provide this service again in the fall and winter when work and local produce are not as plentiful. Think of this as an ongoing fundraiser with an open format. We will be working on another fundraiser in the future to keep the program running.

Obviously, there is always someone who could use a little extra, even in the summer months. As funds come in, we are going to focus on helping those on the island who would welcome a little help.

If you know of someone that needs assistance, please contact us at 250 333 8558, come by in person, or leave a message at False Bay Provisions. Prepared food is also available for those who are struggling to cook for themselves. If you know someone who is reluctant to come forward on their own, please think about advocating on their behalf and talk to us.

If you have an abundance of food that you are able to share for someone who could use a little more in their kitchen let us know and we will add it to what is already being distributed. We have a steady need for food contributions and as soon as they come in, they are distributed to the island. Fresh produce, canned, dry goods and spices are all welcome. Packages of unopened frozen meats and proteins are also items that can be distributed and are very valuable in rounding out our ability to allocate what is needed for complete meals.

Thank you to everyone for your past, present and future support, the results of this project over the last two years have been huge. Every minute of time and support given has been totally worth it. We are very grateful to continue dedicating time to feeding it forward for the island.

We wish you and your neighbors enough, much love from Lasqueti Lifeline and Provide

LASQUETI SHORELINE CLEAN UP 2022

In partnership with Ocean Legacy, ‘Lasqueti Beach Babes’ has funding approval for a concentrated shoreline cleanup on Lasqueti this summer. I’ve assumed the lead duties from Mark B. with the talented Julia Mitchell heading up the crew.

We’re aiming to clean up marine debris during the first two weeks of August. We will be encouraging you, our community, to bring in marine debris collected from your local shorelines as our time allocation is much smaller this year than last. We’ll give out more details in the August Newsletter as to where, when, and how to do this.

Please, please, please direct all queries and concerns to either myself or Julia (leave Mark alone) by email: farenwolfe@hushmail.com and jukalu1@icloud.com Thank you 😊 Faren

MORE LOW-LOW TIDE FUN



*Editors Note: To view all pictures included in this article please visit: <http://www.lasquetilocal.ca>

The Xwe’etay/Lasqueti Archaeology Project (XLAP) was back out on the water during the June 12-16 low-low tide, searching the intertidal for material evidence of Indigenous presence in the archaeological record. Indigenous features such as fish traps and canoe skids can be seen at moderately low tides, whereas clam garden walls are only visible at low-low tide of ~0.7m.

Despite the ever-changing weather forecasts, we had some great fun as we continued to circum-navigate Lasqueti and the surrounding islets, shifting our plans around continually shifting wind forecasts. A very big thank you to Mark B. for captaining our crew (Dana, Faren, Kaya F, Emily, Katie, and Peter J.) as well as for allowing the Oneironaut out with Kaia B. and Carson’s skilled hands on the tiller. They capably transported us to explore False Bay, the Fagans, the Finnerties, and Scottie and Mine Bays.

As we saw in the Jervettes (near Jervis) and Boho, Xwe’etay’s outlying islands have complex, highly

engineered intertidal features that utilize the natural landscape to their advantage. When seen as a whole, things like small rock alignments between bedrock outcrops to create holding ponds take on new meaning. We also found remnants of early settler use in the form of rock piles stacked over buried milled planks. We suspect these were used as platforms for building and maintaining boats. Very neat to see that layered history.



Holding pond in fish trap complex on the Finnerties. Note rock walls at the far ends of the photo (photo by Kathy S).



One of the alignments in the Finnerties trap into which fish were funneled – probably through some kind of one-way basket trap.

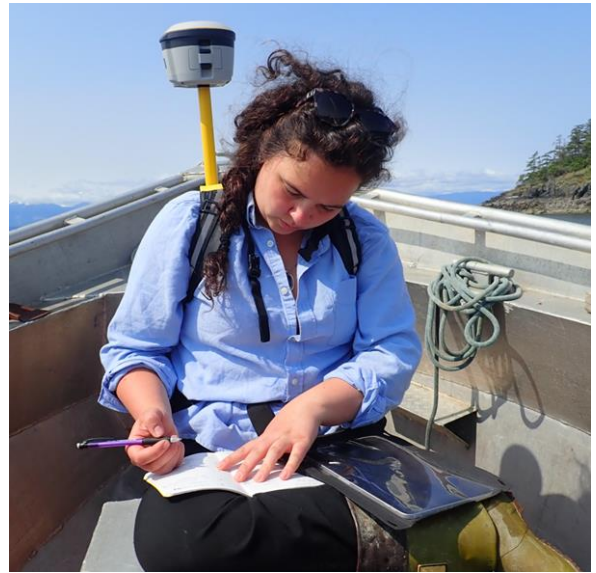
There is also a beautifully preserved fish trap just outside of False Bay. It stands in contrast to a degraded one in Mine Bay which has been heavily impacted by past industrial activity. Some layers of history wear more heavily on the landscape than others.



Fish trap near False Bay. These rock alignments were likely the foundation for a lattice fence. The trap is silted in, probably burying a wider and more robust wall.

We returned to Johnson Lagoon to map the intertidal features we saw on our last visit. Thank you to Betsy and

Mikyla for accompanying us. A big thank you also to Brennan J. for touring us around and sharing his inter-generational knowledge. It was interesting to re-look at the clam gardens after learning about a 1970's program when shellfish was harvested by being vacuumed from the beach. It was this program that motivated his grandfather to get a shellfish lease in the lagoon. Again, the overlapping layers of history as seen and told through the landscape.



All sites are recorded with a high-precision GPS (7cm accuracy near the water!). It's magic to us, but luckily Kaya understands it all.

The Finnerties captured the majority of our attention this week. Dana was excited to return to one of her favorite spots – a lookout site on a bluff that her daughter Gavia spotted while they were kayaking together. It's quite the climb to reach. Peter J., Kathy S., and Aigul were the super troopers who carried the equipment to the top and then took multiple small core (2 cm diameter) samples into the shell midden. These cores will provide charcoal for radiocarbon dates of the first and last use of the site. Like other defensive sites in the Salish Sea, this one may date to within the last 500 years during a time of regional social shifts.

The view from the lookout is clear all the way to Denman and Hornby and then back to Lasqueti. Dana wonders if this lookout is connected by line-of-sight to another one on Lasqueti itself. Communication may have been via smoke signals.

A grove of culturally modified Douglas-fir trees on a neighbouring island had their bark removed for fuel. Each were multiply stripped over the generations and had what we believe are stone (pre-contact) and metal (post-European contact) cut marks. We wonder if it wasn't the folks from the lookout site who went to this spot over the

generations. At the base of the lookout is a cleared beach and clam garden. It's really wonderful how these features, woven together, bring to life a story of Indigenous history on Lasqueti. The more pieces we gather, the more alive the story becomes.



Carson and a Douglas-fir tree from which multiple slabs of bark have been removed for fuel. Note the “natural” bark form coming through the slab-scar, suggesting that the cultural scar is quite old (thanks to Ken for that insight!). This tree has what we think are both metal and stone axe marks.

On a personal note, it turns out I have my own layered history with Xwe’etay. In searching the archives as part of this project, I discovered my own Indigenous ancestry is rooted right here on Lasqueti. My great great great grandmother, Margaret (Maggie) Stubbins, nee Margaret Kosampsom (Esquimalt Nation) lived and died here. Her grave, with a beautiful cement headstone, is on the north end. My great great great grandfather, Robert Stubbins, pre-empted a quarter section near Squitty Bay in the 1890’s and raised sheep on Jedediah. A very magical and unexpected discovery! A big thank you to Kathy S. for connecting the dots and to Kate H. for providing a photograph of Maggie.

We’ll be out again in the next low tide week of July 10 - 14, as part of a full month of archaeological fieldwork on the island. We are hoping the winds will be conducive for the community to meet us out at the Jervettes as we continue our intertidal work there. I’m especially looking forward to Friday, July 15, when we plan to take folks out to the clam gardens closest to Squitty Bay, as part of the plaque unveiling event. I’m excited for folks to grow (into) their own eyes, to see Indigenous presence come alive in a place they know so well and love so much.

For the July 15 event, we’ve invited neighbouring Nations to join us for tours and a potluck feast. The current plan is for folks to begin arriving at the park after 11am. Sharing food will start in the early afternoon following welcomes and drumming. Stay tuned for more details as they unfold. We hope to see you there!

As always, if you have any questions, please contact us. We’re happy to discuss any aspect of the project. Dana hopes to facilitate a public discussion sometime soon addressing questions and concerns about Indigenous heritage, the Heritage Conservation Act, and its relevance to archaeological sites on private land. With gratitude, Faren



July News from Provisions

Hi everyone, the Summer is in full swing and it's time to enjoy the sunshine.

Here is our news for the beginning of summer; after quite a chilly and wet Spring the island is busier than ever.

With more and more folks moving here we are seeing new faces and getting to know each other. The energy is vibrant and everywhere you look there is something exciting going on!

Pizza Nights, Special Events, Daily Service & Opening

Hours: This summer you can expect a variety of surprise events! Rather than have weekly or monthly ones planned we are going to announce each event shortly before the date. Pizza Nights are in the works, watch for postings to let you know when the oven is fired up! Every day you can expect new menu items with an emphasis on seasonal and local during the summer. Feel free to call ahead anytime to check what is on our daily menu. In July, our hours will be extended and we will post those very soon.

Returning to Plate wear and Cutlery to Dine In/ Take out cups, containers and shopping bags:

Last month we quietly returned to serving food and beverages on ceramic plates, bowls, mugs with cutlery. We appreciate your patience while we waited for the right time to return to using these items to serve you. You can bring in your own mug for coffee or tea and are also encouraged to bring in your own container for take away food.

We will still provide takeout containers, cups and bags for food on the go. Please do your best to compost, reuse and recycle these items whenever possible. Plastic bags are going to be completely phased out soon. Please try to remember to bring your own reusable shopping bag for purchases.

Our shopping bags and all of our cutlery are currently compostable it is likely they are also going to be removed

from service soon. A great way to handle this is to have a set of reusable cutlery, a Tupperware container and or a travel mug in your vehicle when you come in to eat or drink. Reducing the waste (even if it is compostable) is a mission that we are keen on encouraging. Having a smaller footprint on the island is a goal we can all get behind.

False Bay School “Make A Wish Come True” Project - Bursaries for Intermediate Students: Back in February we added a new part to our bookstore program at Provisions for the school;

This past month we met with the students and invited them to write short essays explaining what items that they could use help purchasing specifically for school use. Part of the funds raised from book sales will be used for the bursary and the remaining funds are still dedicated to buy books for the False Bay School library at the beginning of next year as well. Thank you again to Petra for allowing us to find a new way to get students involved with the project.

Three students are going to be picked at random from the entries and each receive funds towards an item such as a new bike, musical instruments, sportswear or equipment, learning tools such as a laptop or art supplies. The remainder of the essays submitted are going to be on display on the wall in the store where the book shelves are at Provisions for you to see. New books for sale are being stocked right now for purchase! 100% of the book sales go to fund the bursaries and new school book purchases. You are invited to come by and visit us to browse the current offerings at the bookstore next time you are looking for something to read. If you are downsizing your library or making space for new books at home, please consider donating books to the bookstore. We are looking for books on flora, fauna, books about Canada or B.C., titles focusing on the Gulf Islands or the West Coast, compilations of short stories, travel books, historical fiction, nonfiction, manuals and how to books and children's books. Ideally, they are in good condition with minimal wear or new. Thank you to all the passionate readers who have supported the bookstore, we hope you approve of the possibilities this will bring to the students on the island.

Inflation and Supply Shortages: We have all been affected by the increasing price of goods, fuel, transportation and food as well as other services. Goods and groceries are not always available and we do our best to try and find substitutions if possible. Our prices have

changed very slowly over the years and we have done our absolute best to keep increases as minimal as possible. We are grateful to you for understanding that this is necessary to offer all the services we have.

Art and Craft Showings Available: At the beginning of July, there will be new art from local artists on display. We encourage those of you who wish to show your art to a wider audience to drop by or call to discuss how we can feature your work on our walls or shelves. Share your inspiration with us and we can find a place for it to shine!

Have a terrific summer! Looking forward to greeting you with a smile when you arrive, False Bay Provisions

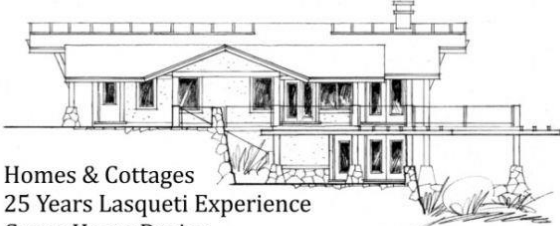
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:

Dear Community, thank you for your continued support and words of encouragement. It makes the job a little easier when I know that my efforts are appreciated. Lately I have been getting requests from people to have their submissions "put in a certain place in the newsletter". I do my best to serve the community through the format of the Lasqueti Local newsletter which includes what goes on the front page. I used to reserve that space for our local representatives, as my predecessor editors did, but lately I have been reserving the front page for time/date sensitive events/notices. The past 2 years have been challenging for us all and, with the return of community events, I feel having these announcements on the front page (or close to) is a benefit to the community as a whole.

That being said, I respectfully ask that you DO NOT ask me to place your submission in a specific spot and that you trust my judgment to create a community-based, visually appealing newsletter. This is why I opt to print it in color (at no extra cost to the community and the donations that fund the newsletter).

If you have any questions or comments regarding any aspect of the Lasqueti Local please do not hesitate to contact me at lasqueti.local@gmail.com or 778-962-0006

Sincerely,

Dianna Maycock



Islands Trust

LASQUETI ISLAND
LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

www.islandstrust.bc.ca

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: GET INVOLVED
IN LOCAL PLANNING DECISIONS**

The Lasqueti Island LTC is seeking expressions of interest for its Advisory Planning Commission.

The role of the APC is to consider referrals from the Local Trust Committee on various planning matters such as Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw amendments and development applications.

Up to 7 volunteers are needed for a period of 2 years.

As required by the *Local Government Act* and the Lasqueti Island Advisory Planning Commission Bylaw, at least 2/3 of appointees must be residents of the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Area. The APC Bylaw may be viewed on the Islands Trust website.

For more information, please contact:

Trustee Tim Peterson
250-607-7094

tpeterson@islandstrust.bc.ca

Peter Johnston
250-333-8785

pjohnston@islandstrust.bc.ca

Please click the following link to apply:

<https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/apc-bov-application-form/>. Forward your completed application to:

northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca by August 8, 2022.

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