

DECEMBER 2018 TRUSTEE REPORT – Kate-Louise Stamford

- **Local Trust Committee meeting package**
- **Activities over the past month**
- **Hunting**
- **New Brighton Dock**
- **Large carts on the Stormaway**

Gambier Island Local Trust Committee Business Meeting

Thursday December 13, 2018 12:00pm – 3:15pm

John Braithwaite Community Ctr., North Vancouver BC

<http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/gambier/meeting-calendar-agendas-minutes/>

Please review the package of the Gambier Local Trust Committee. We will be working to further Draft Bylaws 148 and 149 regarding development permits around wetland ecosystems for Gambier Island.

This is the first business meeting of the term and we welcome our new chair, Trustee Sue-Ellen Fast, from Bowen Island.

Gambier Island Advisory Planning Commission

This is also the new term for the Advisory Planning Commission. I would like to acknowledge the returning volunteer members of the Gambier Island Advisory Planning Commission: Boris Gorgitza, Camilla Berry, Peter Scholefield, Ruth Simons and Barney Taylor will be asked to help represent their island communities when the Local Trust Committee considers larger questions around the Official Community Plan and other projects including the current development permit areas around wetland ecosystems. I look forward to working with them again.

Other Activities:

Nov 1st Ocean Watch BC Edition launch at Vancouver Aquarium

Nov 6-8th 2018-2022 Inaugural Islands Trust Council in Victoria– see link below for highlights:

http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/media/346931/tc_2018-11-08_decisionhighlights_final.pdf

Nov 14th Met with regional, provincial and federal representatives regarding New Brighton Dock – see details below.

Nov 17th Gambier Island Community Association meeting

Nov 30th Ocean Watch Howe Sound Task Force meeting

Nov 30th Site visit to Keats re GM-DVP 2018.1

Dec 6th Islands Trust Northern Team orientation in Nanaimo

Hunting

The Remembrance Day long weekend again became the focus of dangerous firearm usage as hunters on Gambier Island were found shooting from the road into posted private property. I have been in contact with the environment branch of FLNRORD and am working with them on the process of getting the crownland between Austin Trails and West Bay closed to hunting as it is too close to homes.

Remember, there is no hunting within 100m of an occupied building or 15m off either side of a road. Basically, all of the lower SW Peninsula is out of bounds for hunting as the houses/public roads and private property are all within 200m of each other. Hunting on private property is by express

permission only, and landowners should clearly sign their land as no-hunting, private property.

The Stormaway does not carry firearms or carcasses. The other water-taxi services do carry hunters if weapons are safely stored. Please encourage your friends and neighbours who hunt to have a good map, knowledge of the area, and to move up into the central crownland area of the island where it is safer for everyone.

Any incidences or concerns around firearm discharge near your place should be reported to the police.

Thieves

There has been a spate of gas and other items being stolen over the past few months. It is disturbing because it is a neighbour, probably someone we know. Islanders are unfortunately having to resort to using lockable gas caps and wildlife cameras to monitor their property. Also, because some missing items are food like eggs and freezer goods, it indicates someone is in need. I'm sure the local community would be willing to help if a neighbour on Gambier is going hungry but please ask, don't steal.

FOCUS ON THE SOUTH WEST PENINSULA COMMUNITY

The New Brighton Dock

As many of you know, the five year agreement between the Federal Government and the Skwxwú7mesh Uxwumixw (Squamish Nation) to maintain the New Brighton dock as a public facility was up this past November. This scenario has been of considerable concern for community members ever since the divestiture occurred in 2013. Despite many overtures to the Skwxwú7mesh Uxwumixw to discuss the long-term future of this critical piece of infrastructure, they have not had the capacity to engage in any process to date.

The good news is that the Squamish Marine Group, who maintains the dock on behalf of the Nation, has received an extension by the federal government to expend the remaining funds on structural repairs over the winter and there are no immediate plans to change the status of the dock. Both the Skwxwú7mesh Uxwumixw and the Squamish Marine Group have been generally supportive and understanding of the need to keep this dock open with an appropriate funding model.

I have been working to inform as many people of influence as possible of our situation and to look for alternative options for funding this facility as a public structure *if* the Skwxwú7mesh Uxwumixw decide they are not in a position to continue to maintain and insure it. On November 14th I met with MP Goldsmith-Jones, MLA Simons, SCR D Director Hiltz and the Squamish Marine Group manager, Doug Conyers to outline the importance of the New Brighton dock to the ongoing viability of the community in the south-west peninsula of Gambier Island. Both our federal and provincial representatives are taking this situation seriously and are reviewing possible solutions with their staff/ministries. In addition, I continue to reach out to Skwxwú7mesh Council members at regional meetings and have forwarded the attached fact sheet to them with a request to meet either formally or informally.

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/57751b6b398595ee9e288baa1/files/267a3eb6-da26-4bf7-b45a-e54f4563014e/New_Brighton_Dock_facts_2018.pdf

In all my discussions with the various parties in this complex scenario, I have requested a public meeting for people on Gambier to understand what is going on and provide their ideas for long-term solutions. I will keep you up to date with any further developments

Stormaway - Rise of the Four-Wheeled Carts

There is a growing trend among Stormaway commuters to use four-wheeled carts and this is has come up for discussion at the Ferry Advisory Committee because of the extra space they take up on the deck and possible access hazard during an emergency. The Stormy crew want to remind passengers to reserve bulky items for the low-volume runs (ie not the first run of the afternoon) and use the upright two-

wheeled trollies when possible. They are happy to be flexible to islanders needs, but passenger access will take priority over cargo (and dogs) especially on the busy summer connector runs.

If you have any questions comments or concerns please feel free to contact me.

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With Regards,

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