



JULY 2020

Lasqueti Isle & Times

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,

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Editor/Publisher

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ourislandtimes.com

JULY EDITION
DEADLINE:
JUNE 28th, 2020



NOTES FROM TIM:

Greetings all,

June's first full electronic Trust Council meetings went fairly well from a technical standpoint. Trustees approved a change in the meeting bylaws, formalizing the use of a consent agenda format which helped to keep the meetings more efficient. We received staff briefings on the Trusts' response to Covid-19 with regard to staff and safety measures taken to protect them and the public, updates from committees, and delegations that included MP Paul Manly speaking about freighter anchorages and the problems they pose in the Southern Gulf Islands.

There were also two delegations concerned with logging practices, and a Trustee sponsored resolution requesting amendments to the Private Managed Forest Land Act that would enable local trust committees to regulate, but not prohibit, forest activities on land within the Islands Trust Area.

The Local Planning Committee meeting June 10th focused on updating the applications structure to increase cost recovery, presently around 7%, so that the share of development costs borne by the taxpayers decreases. I am strongly in support of these proposed changes. LPC also received an update on the Saltwater Intrusion Mapping project, Groundwater Mapping, and Freshwater Sustainability projects from Trust specialist William Shulba. Locally, he is also working with the Pete's Lake Water Users Society and the Judith Fisher Centre on water issues. The Trust Programs Committee meeting June 23rd focused on the Policy Statement Review, which can be likened to the OCP for the whole Trust Area, and is both an important and large project. Working groups were created at our May meeting to look at the Policy Statement with focus on three specific areas of note;

Reconciliation, Climate Change, and Affordable Housing.

The Lasqueti Local Trust Committee on June 22nd saw an update on the OCP/LUB review, discussion on a Model Antenna Strategy for cell towers, and the passing of a Standing Resolution stating "no objection" to the request from the hotel for a temporary expansion of the service area in order to provide more space for proper physical distancing.

All told, a busy month of electronic meetings for me. We did receive correspondence expressing concern over the electronic meeting format, and pointing out some of its limitations. It was interesting to read later that the Provincial Ombudsperson suggested that Public Safety Minister Farnworth had overreached his authority in issuing the orders which permitted local governments to electronically meet without fully complying to the Local Government Act rules regarding open meetings and Public Hearings. The new rules have now been introduced in the Covid-19 Related Measures Act in the Provincial Legislature. The Ombudsperson, Jay Chalke, is quoted as saying "A health emergency does not suspend the fundamental principle that every exercise of public authority...must find its source in law." Tim, Islands Trustee

NOTES FROM PETER: In quick succession in June we had a two-day electronic Trust Council meeting and an electronic Lasqueti Trust Committee meeting. I understand that the Trust Council meeting will be viewable (and listenable) over the internet before too long. The Lasqueti Trust Committee might be available for this, too, later. I'll send the links to the email list when they appear, or it appears.

The preliminary report on the two applications for private docks in Scottie Bay was not ready, so only a vague discussion of some of the issues surrounding uses of Scottie Bay was possible. The report will be available (all going well) before our next meeting, scheduled for August 10. We also got the go-ahead on the Radio Tower Strategy, including some

language about powering any antenna that is proposed for Lasqueti. Further information on this is available in the September, 2019 agenda package, starting on page 43. Go to the meetings September 2019 calendar for Lasqueti and click on http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/media/348365/la_2019-09-30_ltc_agd_pkg-revised.pdf

We re-appointed five members to the Lasqueti Advisory Planning Commission and are asking for further volunteers. These members asked not to be re-appointed, and I thank them for their service over the years: Sue Kristinsson, Doane Grinnell, Nadine Simpson and Lisa Johnson.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or Tim, by email or telephone or in person.

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

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



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REGIONAL DISTRICT

Regional operations and services are gradually being restored.

- Local response to Covid-19: The Province has moved into Phase 3 of its reopening plan, with continued gradual resumption of activities and services. The phased steps being taken by the Province allows time to monitor and adapt to the unfolding situation. If there are major changes in services on Lasqueti, I will do my best to put out notices. If you become aware of an important change, please let me know.

- Ferry: Transport Canada now requires that all passengers have a mask to be able to board ferries, and to be used especially if 2m physical distancing cannot be maintained. Please help make it as smooth as possible for the crew deal with this challenging situation.

- Respectful Conduct at False Bay Dock: Some concerns have been raised about lack of respectful behaviour at the dock. Most people, most of the time, are acting reasonably. But we can do better.

I realize that not everyone believes that Covid-19 poses a serious health risk, but many residents take it seriously, especially some of our most vulnerable residents. What one person views as perfectly safe behaviour, another may view as akin to second-hand smoke. It's not fair or respectful to force someone else to adopt a higher level of risk than they are comfortable with.

For the sake of community cohesion, it is important for people to respect each other's views. This means allowing people to follow the current Provincial and Federal guidelines and orders at the dock and on the ferry (until they are revised or withdrawn).

Respectful conduct at the wharf includes:

1. Respect 2m physical distancing (to the degree possible). Do not crowd. Allow people some space.

2. Respect one-way traffic on the gangway ramp. People coming up have priority. Wait for people to get off the ramp before going in the opposite direction. Be patient.

3. Do not wait on the float between the ramp and ferry, or on the wharf between the ramp and the parking area (high traffic areas).

4. Waiting areas: on the float past the ferry, near the freight shed and in the alcove.

5. If you are picking up freight and it is busy, wait near the freight shed. Arrange to pick up freight for friends and neighbours to reduce congestion.

Let's celebrate our diversity of views, which requires considerate conduct at the dock and on the ferry. If we want some self-governance, we need to find local ways to govern ourselves respectfully.

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

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
JUL				2	
				9	
				16	
				23	**
				30	

**Dan Clark (mental health nurse) will be at the Judith Fisher Center on Friday the 24 th of July. Call Dianne if you would like an appointment .

As we are all aware Covid-19 has not gone away. However, Vancouver Island and the neighboring gulf islands have done a terrific job at keeping the number of positive cases down. As we enter "phase 3" and some of the restrictions are lifted we still need to be cognizant of the fact that the virus has not disappeared and physical distancing, hand washing, as well as the wearing of a mask (when physical distancing of 2 meters can not be practiced) are the main ways of keeping safe.

People living on Lasqueti Island are quite fortunate to live in a place where the pandemic may not affect their day to day lives