

 <p>Islands Trust</p>	<p><b>LASQUETI ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE</b>  <a href="http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca">www.islandstrust.bc.ca</a>  <a href="mailto:northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca">northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca</a></p>
<p>The next meeting of the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee will be held at the  <b>JUDITH FISHER CENTRE</b>  <b>#1 China Cloud Bay Rd, Lasqueti Island</b>  <b>October 4, 2021 at 11:00am</b>  <u>IN PERSON ONLY-NO ZOOM</u>  <b>*NO REQUEST FOR PROOF OF VACCINATION BUT MASKS REQUIRED</b>          Live streaming and recording  <b>MAY</b> be available.          See <a href="http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/whats-happening/meetings-and-events/">www.islandstrust.bc.ca/whats-happening/meetings-and-events/</a></p>	

**NOTES FROM TIM** Greetings, all. Trust Council met in September, and the decision highlights will be posted on the website soon. Council directed staff to develop policy guiding sponsorship for the Natural Area Protection Tax Exemption Program (NAPTEP), which offers property owners tax reductions for placing conservation covenants on parcels or portions of parcels which are deemed to have high conservation values. This would reduce some of the costs to the landowner associated with putting land into this program. Contact the Islands Trust Conservancy or me for more information. Trust Council also approved an additional \$82,000 for public consultation on the proposed update of the Policy Statement. More information is available at the Islands 2050 page on the website. Some Trustees from other islands have contributed to the acquisition of Young Point on the south end, and I'd like to thank them for doing so. DFO/Coast Guard presented on Oil Spill Planning in the Islands Trust Area, which was informative, if not very encouraging. Similar was a study which San Juan County commissioned, modeling disabled vessel drift times before grounding and an analysis of an emergency response towing vessel response in the high traffic zone between the Port of Vancouver and the outlet of the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

Our next local Trust meeting will be Monday, October 4th. Due to Provincial regulations, this will be an in person meeting. For those uncomfortable with an indoor meeting with no proof of vaccination required, and who

wish to address any of our business, I encourage you to email us at:

[LasquetiIslandLocalTrustCommittee@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:LasquetiIslandLocalTrustCommittee@islandstrust.bc.ca)

As always, feel free to contact your Trustees with your questions, comments, or concerns. Tim

**NOTES FROM PETER:** Tim has given a report on the September Trust Council meeting. Next one is scheduled to be in December in Victoria, but available over the internet, so many can participate without travel to Victoria. There is some interesting stuff in the agenda package for this meeting, available at <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/trust-council-meeting-agenda-2/>

Our Lasqueti Trust Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 4, beginning at 11am at the Health Centre. At this point the weather forecast is predicting only a small chance of a small amount of rain, so hopefully we can meet outside, which will be safer than meeting indoors, crowded together. If the meeting is held indoors, everyone will be required to wear a mask. Proof of vaccination certificates do not apply to Islands Trust meeting attendees, and will not be required or inquired about. I think that there will not be any way to listen to or watch the meeting unless you are there, but I understand that it will be recorded and available for watching and listening a few days later. In future I hope that we will be able to connect our meetings to the internet and have them live-streamed, just like we did when our meetings were held electronically. It'll take a bit of time and money to figure out what equipment we'll need, and maybe personnel to operate it, to make this possible.

If anyone has any questions or comments, please try to attend the meeting, or talk with or write to your trustees. Thanks for your participation and involvement. Almost exactly one year left until the next election for local government, and at least one new trustee from Lasqueti.

Best to you all, Peter

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**To reach the LTC trustees and planner:**

[LasquetiIslandLocalTrustCommittee@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:LasquetiIslandLocalTrustCommittee@islandstrust.bc.ca)



I would like to focus this month on the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) convention.

**What is UBCM?** UBCM is the association of local governments in BC (cities, towns, municipalities, regional districts, Islands Trust, etc.). It is run by and for local governments. The executive is elected by local government representatives at the annual convention.

**Why is UBCM important?** UBCM provides a collective voice to help further common goals of local governments, and often serves as the interface between local governments and the Provincial government. Many of the grants received by the qRD from the Province are administered via UBCM.

**Annual UBCM Convention.** The annual 4-day convention (held each Sept) is attended by many hundreds of elected local government representatives, and has a number of different elements, including:

- **Meetings with Ministers:** This year, the qRD met with the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure to advocate for a bus service from Lund to Vancouver, and with the Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development regarding pesticide use in forest management and to advocate for the Province to prevent commercial bottling of local water resources.

The qRD Board also requested to meet with the Minister of Health to advocate for a review of a change of policy that increased the cost to local governments of providing first responder services, but that request was declined due to the Minister being completely booked.

These meetings are only 15 minutes long each, so messaging is very important, and one must keep expectations modest, but at least it gets the message directly to the Minister.

- **Community Excellence Awards:** Communities that have done exceptional projects present short videos to showcase their work. This year, the qRD presented on the natural asset management approach of the Resource Recovery Centre just north of Powell River (on which I reported in a previous issue). The qRD project was picked as first place. Other communities are also doing some impressive work on issues related to sustainability and resilience.
- **Election and Annual General Meeting:** Election of the new UBCM executive. This only takes a few minutes of the convention.
- **Resolutions:** This is perhaps the most important collective part of the convention. Local governments forward resolutions to the UBCM for consideration. Most of these are advocacy to the Province on a wide range of topics. The delegates vote on whether or not to endorse these resolutions, and a significant role of the UBCM executive is to meet with the appropriate Ministers and agencies over the following year to advance these requests.

As with the meetings with Ministers, expectations must be kept in check, but the Province does take these resolutions seriously, since the collective voice of the majority of local government representatives carries some weight.

This year, some interesting resolutions from the dozens that were endorsed include:

- Fairer taxation to address the increased cost from downloading services by the Province onto local governments (e.g. RCMP, food insecurity and other social issues, etc.).
- Restoration of funding that ended last year for local governments to respond to climate change.
- Consultation with local government regarding forest management, including old-growth protection (this was part of a larger “special resolution” that combined concerns from different communities about old-growth, changes in forest policy and resource dependent communities, and over which there was plenty of debate).
- More accurate and timely information to local governments during declared states of emergency.
- Increased responsibility to deal with abandoned vehicles.
- Increased resources and strategies to address illegal dumping in rural areas.

Panels and presentations, including:

- Pathways to Truth and Reconciliation: panel that included the Chief Commissioner of the Truth and