



From Tim Peterson: At our March 4 meeting, we considered the application for an amendment to the Land Use Bylaw for the private dock in Scottie Bay. A motion was passed to request that the applicant work with staff to provide information on how land and water access to the dock would be legally secured in perpetuity for emergency services, prior to the Local Trust Committee considering first reading of draft bylaws, so that we can fully understand the implications of this offer by the applicants.

Discussion in the town hall section included the desire by some members of the public to amend the policies for docks in the OCP and LUB. I expect we will have more discussion at our next meeting as to how we might consider having a public meeting concerning this wider issue. It is not clear to the Local Trust Committee that there is broad consensus that this is a change the community desires. An open discussion could help to clarify the issue. We also requested a referral to the Advisory Planning Commission to consider private docks and their use.

We also made a number of amendments to the current version of the draft OCP, to reflect some of the work done in the previous term. These will be included in the updated draft, likely for our May meeting. As well, we requested staff to schedule a screening of *Dust n' Bones* and inquire about the feasibility of working with local First Nations to host a discussion on the film.

Dust n' Bones is a documentary that examines the legal issues, political controversies, and historic mysteries that threaten the preservation and rededication of First Nations artifacts, burial sites, and remains.

As Mikaila mentioned, we will be holding our first meeting with Snaw-naw-as in April, which marks the start of the new relationship between the LTC and the Nation.

Trust Council in March was focused on budget deliberations over the three-day session. The final decisions result in 5.9% increase to local trust areas, including Lasqueti, and a 13.1% increase to Bowen Island Municipality. I have requested an easier-to-read tax notice, but staff have

advised that this is challenging due to the seven different regional districts across the Islands Trust Area.

Our next regular business meeting is scheduled for May 6 at the JFC. In the meantime, feel free to contact your trustees with your questions, comments, or concerns: 250-607-7094. tpeterson@islandstrust.bc.ca To contact the whole committee and staff, email laltc@islandstrust.bc.ca

From Mikaila Lironi: In the past months, I have learned a lot about our Official Community Plan (OCP) and Land Use Bylaws (LUB), specifically that many of our community members don't understand how it all works. I have spoken to our Planner Stephen Baugh at length to ensure that I am providing accurate information (thank you, Stephen).

The OCP outlines how the community at the time would like to see the island develop from a land use and land use planning perspective. "The purpose of this Plan is to outline the goals of the community, the objectives relating to matters of Local Trust Committee authority and policies that provide guidance as to how to implement those objectives"

(<https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/lasqueti-island-ocp-bylaw-no-2023/>).

In 2018, we started a review of our OCP as it hadn't been reviewed since 2005 and was out of date. The LCA (Lasqueti Community Association) created an OCP Steering Committee, and as you may recall, the community was asked for input on OCP-related issues on multiple occasions in the form of community meetings. The OCP Steering Committee produced a report outlining what they liked and didn't like about the OCP.

The LCA report was presented to the LTC (Local Trust Committee) who directed staff to draft an OCP bylaw that incorporated the recommendations from the LCA report. At this point, using the Islands Trust Act and Local Government Act, and the Islands Trust Policy Statement as a guide, the report was reviewed by staff to ensure that the suggested changes were possible within the framework of the applicable acts. A new OCP draft bylaw was created and given first reading. Then
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the amended OCP was referred to First Nations, local governments, and agencies. These bodies may request changes, indicate support, fail to respond or identify their interest with some general comments. The Lasqueti LTC Project Page has more information on the project (including the LCA report) <<https://islandstrust.bc.ca/island-planning/lasqueti/projects/>>.

If you have any questions about this or anything else related to the Islands Trust, please don't hesitate to contact me (or Tim). Mikaila Lironi 250-812-2560 mlironi@Islandstrust.bc.ca
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Community Evacuation Workshop: April 6

The qRD is holding a workshop to enhance community resilience and emergency preparedness on April 6 from 10am to 1pm at the community hall. Everyone is invited to participate. The workshop will be interactive and practical-focussed and include a tour of the evacuation supply container. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

For more info, see "What's Happening" at www.qathet.ca.

Regional Director Town Hall

This provided an opportunity to review qRD service levels and costs (in particular LIVFD, waste management, marine ramp, emergency preparedness, library, LCA contribution, health centre contribution, grants-in-aid, regional parks and social planning).

There was some constructive discussion about the sources underlying the tax increase this year, expected to be about 23%. As described in my Feb article, primary factors are inflation (accounts for about 1/5th of the increase), LIVFD for health and safety training, critical stress management, and volunteer medical and dental benefits (a bit more than 1/3rd of the increase), and waste management due mostly to the Resource

Recovery Centre (about 1/3rd of the increase, although still less than the cost of waste management on Lasqueti).

Connected Coast: continuing the conversation

Connected Coast was a major topic at the LIAS meeting held Mar 23. To help support informed discussion, I will review some relevant information that I have previously provided.

First: the community will have a say in whether or not this service rolls out on Lasqueti, and how. No decisions have been finalized regarding last mile service. There won't be a last mile service option to discuss until grant funding is secured, after which a plan can be proposed based on the funding available.

My June-Aug 2023 articles laid out and addressed a number of questions, including: what is the Connected Coast project? who are Connected Coast and CityWest? what is last-mile service and how might it be financed? what is the potential for a local organization or the qRD to apply for funding? and what are the next steps if CityWest obtains a grant?

A few questions arose at the LIAS meeting about which I will seek information.

If you have other questions on this topic, please send them to me and I will try to address them in upcoming articles based on my understanding (or seek answers).

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

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

