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Trust Council was held on Saltspring Island this quarter. The first day we were welcomed by a full house, a protest and several delegations. We had a presentation by Transport Canada regarding vessels of concern. The government is working on dealing with abandoned vessels, but it takes time and money. Ganges Harbour is obviously quite full of vessels, many in poor shape. Housing is a huge problem on Saltspring, so it's not a surprise that their hospital staff cannot find housing.

I was nominated and appointed to Transport Canada's General Vessels Technical Working Group. During my term thus far, I have taken an interest in all things ocean, and have attended a variety of conferences on marine matters. We are an island after all, so it's important to keep abreast of what's going on in the greater scheme of things.

LIAS has been holding public information meetings regarding Connected Coast (fibre optic internet) coming to Lasqueti. They are trying to send a delegation to the next LTC meeting to explain what they're about. The Land Use Bylaw needs to be amended to permit utilities on land and in the marine foreshore. Connected Coast is proposing connecting Lasqueti Island to the new marine fibre optic cable network being laid throughout BC's marine environment. <u>https://connectedcoast.ca/</u>

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We acknowledge and honour the Indigenous Peoples who, for generations, have made Xwe'etay/Lasqueti their home.

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