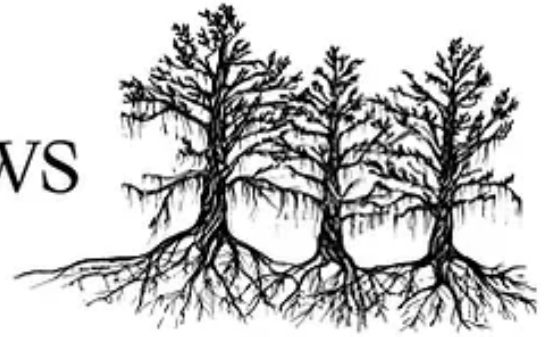




# Xwe'etay News

August 2024



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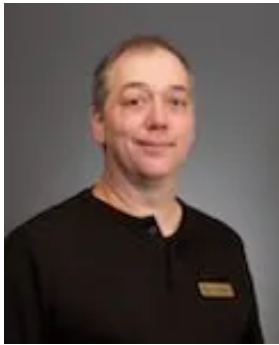
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Islands Trust

**Tim Peterson**

Islands Trustee

Greetings all.

At our July 15th meeting, the Lasqueti Local Trust Committee passed a resolution to advance a business case for the 2025/26 budget. If approved by Trust Council in March, it will assure sufficient funding to continue the OCP/LUB review without need to re-scope from a "Minor" to a "Major" project, as per Trust Council policy. After having to scale down the project last year, we want to ensure that will not be the case this time.

Other discussion concerned the Connected Coast fibre optic proposal. Staff advised that a rezoning application was required, and received, and that a regular timeline for such applications generally runs from 6-12 months. In conversation with the folks from City West and the Province, who joined us online, we were advised that a 6-month timeline was workable, but that longer could present problems from their end. "Last Mile" funding was also discussed, and an application for funding can be made, but it was stressed that, to be successful, it would need strong public support. My own feeling is that any such project should ensure equitable service provision to all community members who want it.

As a normal part of the Local Trust Committee process, the application itself would provide potential for a Community Information meeting and a Public Hearing. My impression is that some type of community process would be useful for determining support for the "Last Mile" funding application, whether

meetings, survey, or online poll. I reached out to LIAS board members after our meeting to see if there is interest in considering how LIAS and the LTC might coordinate in assessing public opinion to support an application for funding.

Our next meeting is October 21, at the JFC. Please consider attending if you are able to. And, as always, feel free to contact your trustees with your questions, comments, or concerns.

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To contact the whole committee and staff, email [laltc@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:laltc@islandstrust.bc.ca)

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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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