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# Driftwood

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## AGRICULTURE

# Poultry club seeks LTC help

Trustees suggest livestock for joint meeting with CRD

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring land use officials had words of encouragement but few answers for small-scale poultry advocates, who seized a moment during a regular meeting with agricultural leaders to press trustees for help protecting their flocks.

The meeting held Thursday, May 30 was a regular session for the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) to have a discussion with members of the Salt Spring Island Agricultural Advisory Planning Commission (AAPC) and representatives of the Salt Spring Island Agricultural Alliance (SSIAA) on agriculture-related issues.

For Salt Spring Island Poultry Club executive member Elsie Born and supportive club members, it seemed a ripe opportunity to urge trustees toward advocacy—for islanders who raise poultry generally, and for Salt Spring resident Clint McNichol specifically. According to court documents, McNichol is facing seven counts of Capital Regional District (CRD) bylaw infractions at his 0.92-acre Woodland Drive property related to noise from a rooster kept there.

"People have bought property where they've been told they're allowed to farm, and now are being either ticketed or taken to court," said Born. "It's very frustrating for small-scale farmers to start up on Salt Spring—and I think it shouldn't be. Those are the people we want here."

Court documents show McNichol's first appearance in Victoria Law Courts was in May of last year, two weeks after he shared redacted images of what appeared to be an official summons for the seven counts on social media; that undated document indicated McNichol had been charged with keeping livestock—specifically a rooster—on his property, contrary to a CRD bylaw requiring animals be kept in a manner that does not disturb the "quiet, peace, rest, enjoyment, comfort or convenience of other property owners in the vicinity."

The CRD bylaw in question does have an exception: "except in an Agricultural Zone." The Islands Trust has two agricultural zone designations on Salt Spring Island, Agriculture 1 ("A1") and Agriculture 2 ("A2"). The property where violations are alleged to have occurred is zoned Rural ("R"), which—as far as the Islands Trust is concerned—indeed allows livestock.

**POULTRY** continued on 2

## ISLANDS TRUST

# Trustees question 'object' consensus

Policy Statement meeting diverted by disagreements

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A first pass at considering amendments to a cornerstone Islands Trust document got off to a rocky start last week.

Islands Trust Council chair Peter Luckham

kicked off the first-ever Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting for that body, and a nearly complete roster of trustees spent three hours on the Policy Statement amendment project—a meeting on fundamental values that was punctuated by fundamental disagreements.

The online gathering Thursday, May 30 marked the start of the first significant revisiting of the Policy Statement in decades, in a structure—the COW—designed to be more

informal. Technically, the plan was for the COW to receive a draft version of the amended document and "discuss the process by which it will be considered," launching what Trust Area Services director Clare Frater that morning called "the beginning of a multi-year journey" to revise the Policy Statement and address emergent issues.

**TRUST** continued on 2

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# Trustees at COW clash on consensus' scope

## TRUST

continued from 1

Those issues include the climate crisis, growing housing needs and the Trust's commitment to reconciliation with local First Nations, she said.

But after introductions and the matter of who would chair the meeting were sorted out, and after Frater briefed trustees on the background and outline for advancing the project — the meeting shifted. Disagreements arose, not surrounding the Policy Statement revisions themselves, but regarding the Islands Trust's "object" — the Trust Act's so-called "preserve and protect" Section 3 mandate — and whether trustees had truly come to consensus last year on how to interpret it, or whether that agreement was limited to some manner of legal interpretation.

Section 3 states, "The object of the trust is to preserve and protect the trust area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the trust area and of British Columbia

generally, in cooperation with municipalities, regional districts, improvement districts, First Nations, other persons and organizations and the government of British Columbia."

Consensus on that section's interpretation had reportedly been reached last year; in September 2023, trustees emerged from a closed-to-the-public session of Trust Council to report the group had "just had a lengthy discussion about the interpretation of Section 3 of the Islands Trust Act," according to Luckham at the time, "and have come to a conclusion of how we wish to interpret that."

Luckham did not elaborate then on the discussion, but in October the Islands Trust released a draft "consensus statement" disclosing trustees had — reportedly through an examination of specific legal opinions — reached consensus on interpreting the object, notably in that the definition of "unique amenities" in that section may include "housing, livelihoods, infrastructure and tourism."

That consensus statement can be viewed at <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/trust-council-statement-section-3-of-islands-trust-act>.

Following lively public comment in response, the Islands Trust released another statement in January on the "scope and meaning" of the object clause, "to make public the results of our discussions and share with our constituents how the current Trust Council intends to interpret our mandate, which in turn will help inform our strategic planning."

That second statement can be viewed at <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/islands-trust-council-statement-on-the-scope-and-meaning-of-section-3-of-the-islands-trust-act-object-clause>.

But on Thursday, some trustees at the COW meeting disagreed with how that consensus was reflected in staff reports supporting the Policy Statement revision project — seemingly at odds with both the released statements and other trustees' public comments.

"The Trust Council did not come to consensus on the interpretation of the object," said North Pender Island trustee Deb Morrison. "We came to consensus on the interpretation of the legal interpretation of the object. And that is a different thing."

Gabriola Island trustee Susan Yates echoed the sentiment, and trustees expressed a range of opinions throughout the meeting — some stating they believed consensus was not reached, some stating it was, and some opining it might not even matter.

"My understanding was that in that [September 2023] meeting, we had reached a consensus as to what this Trust Council's interpretation of that mandate was," said South Pender Island trustee Kristina Evans. "If that's not the case, we have to absolutely go back and get that done up front, because that is an integral basis for this work that we're undertaking with the Policy Statement."

Morrison said her understanding was that the September 2023 in-camera discussion was for "examining legal decisions," and that it would be the Policy Statement that would do the "unpacking" of the object.

"We don't need to get into the weeds about having a consensus vision of the object," said Morrison, "because the Trust Policy Statement is our consensus vision of the object."

Bowen Island trustee Judith Gedye agreed, suggesting a fuller understanding of the object/mandate could be developed "in parallel" with the Policy Statement project.

"I think the Section 3 mandate discussion that we have to have is important," said Gedye, "but I think it's not necessarily before we have any of this. I don't want that to hold up this process."

Trustees have previously stressed that consensus among them on the Trust's mandate was critical; in April 2023, as the Governance Committee put gaining that consensus at the top of its priorities, Gedye warned fellow committee members that if they didn't have

"some sort of discussion about Section 3, that's going to hamper us in terms of getting into whenever we do all of the background and the details of the Policy Statement."

At the same meeting, Salt Spring trustee Laura Patrick said that "if there is any doubt" among trustees on Section 3, then it would be "undermining automatically what we're trying to do to go forward."

"So there is a benefit," said Patrick last year. "I think you have to make a decision, make it clear and move forward. Say 'this is our interpretation' as we're moving forward on the conversation."

Indeed, last year Gambier Local Trust Area trustee Joe Bernardo called developing a "working definition of the Trust mandate that we can all get behind, that can be supported by everybody" an eventual "centrepiece" of the corporate planning process, and was among trustees advocating later

that the consensus document be placed prominently on the Islands Trust's website.

At the COW meeting Thursday, Evans reiterated that beginning the process to amend the Policy Statement without consensus on the mandate was "not going to help us out here."

"Without that, we don't have a position to start from, because we're all coming from different positions," said Evans, turning to staff. "Was that [document] a consensus by the trustees on the interpretation of the mandate, or was that just consensus by the trustees on the legal interpretation of the mandate?"

"That was a decision of the council," replied legislative services director David Marlor. "It may not be 'consensus,' but it is council's decision. I'm not sure I understand the differentiation, so maybe that's something we can discuss offline or with the Executive [Committee] outside this meeting?"

Saturna Island trustee Mairead Boland called the return to the mandate discussion "destructive and erosive of our capabilities and resources."

"It's quite depressing," said Boland. "Every term there will be this debate, because the act is ambiguous, and it's left to us to redefine over and over and over."

With the fundamentals unaddressed, Boland said, she worried it would be difficult to get through details.

"I personally believe that if there was more evidence needed — which I think there isn't — this is evidence that we need an intervention from the province."

A motion to schedule time to further consider the Policy Statement during the next Trust Council meeting — set for June 18-20 at the Harbour House Hotel on Salt Spring Island — failed; Luckham suggested the Executive Committee will be advancing recommendations for a schedule of future meetings.

The currently proposed draft changes can be viewed online at <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/trust-council-committee-of-the-whole-special-meeting-agenda/>.

## More regulations feared

### POULTRY

continued from 1

But similar to how provincial building codes prescribe how zone-permitted buildings are constructed, the manner in which livestock is kept is not within the purview of the Islands Trust. Planner Chris Hutton explained during Thursday's meeting that while the land use powers the Trust exercises are significant, they are not the only authority on Salt Spring.

"We don't really have a direct authority over what regulations the [Capital] Regional District puts in place," said Hutton. "However, they do not have [our] ability to create land use regulations. We're essentially parallel entities; we regulate in the same space, but in different ways."

Trustees were asked whether they could add stipulations or amendments in their bylaws — "so livestock noise is not something you can complain about," suggested small-flock poultry grower Donna Saffel. LTC members seemed to agree that would be outside their authority. But with full-throated support for agriculture on Salt Spring broadly, trustee Laura Patrick said the LTC was planning a joint meeting with CRD officials in the near future — and suggested that the issue should be part of that meeting's agenda.

"We want to make sure that agriculture is maintained, grows [and] thrives," said Patrick. "We want to enshrine that use, because to me this is Salt Spring — this is what it is, and what's so important to me is the agricultural base of our island."

Trustee Jamie Harris returned to his well of criticism for the Islands Trust, suggesting the issue was yet another that might be solved by the island becoming a municipality, and worried trustees stepping in might turn into more restrictions, not fewer.

"We clearly don't want to have more regulation and say OK, you can't do that," said Harris. "Maybe it's up to people that are farming to sort of use their better judgment as far as getting along with your neighbours goes."

The latest court appearance for McNichol on the bylaw infractions was set for Monday, June 3; CRD officials have indicated they would not be commenting on the issues surrounding the case until court proceedings concluded.

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## FIRE DISTRICT

# New hall waiting for building permit

Board riled over trustee-initiated FOIPPA request

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Action at the site of Salt Spring's future fire hall has been taking place under the surface, fire district trustees heard last week — and as much might be said for the board itself.

Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District CAO Rodney Dieleman gave a few updates at the board's meeting Monday, May 27, including on the current state of construction for the new hall on Lower Ganges Road where excavation began in earnest last month.

"Right now, we're in a bit of a waiting game," said Dieleman, noting that in addition to a pause in hope of receiving an additional bid for a mechanical contract, the district was still waiting for its building permits to be issued.

"They told us six to eight weeks," said Dieleman. "I think we're getting pretty close to that. I think things move as they move on this island, and our plans don't necessarily mean a lot when we're not in control."

Trustees noted some concerns expressed on social media regarding delays, as well as what seemed to be digging of trenches just to seemingly fill them in again; Dieleman agreed it might be difficult to visualize the work progressing, particularly given how much would be going on underground.

"There's a lot of drainage to be constructed there, including reservoirs and swales; it's an understandable question," said Dieleman. "It's difficult for anyone who's not familiar with what we're doing to look at that site and imagine the final product just yet."

**"It's difficult for anyone who's not familiar with what we're doing to look at that site and imagine the final product just yet."**

RODNEY DIELEMAN  
CAO, SSIFPD

harassment.

"Because what he's been doing is going behind the board's back," said Williams, "badgering and threatening the CAO with [legal] action."

Courtney directly addressed Dieleman. "CAO Dieleman, have I harassed you?" asked Courtney.

"I would say that if I felt you were harassing me, I'd probably say something directly to you first," said Dieleman after a brief pause. "I welcome some questions, and it's within your rights. It's just a little frustrating; I communicate my position, then you go through the official act, and threaten to go to another governing body like the Ombudsman if I don't comply with that act, which I fully intend to. So, it's not harassment, but it's frustrating."

"A point of clarification," said Cook. "The square footage [of the fire hall] has not changed in 15 months. The square footage is [in the drawings] on the wall, right behind Mr. Courtney. The number of bays has been the same, the square footage has been the same. Mr. Courtney has chosen not to avail himself of information that's already been public."

Dieleman said his concerns on intellectual property and competitive advantage would form the basis of his official response to the request, in a written form where "anybody who wanted to challenge it" would be able to see his thinking on refusal.

"The reason is, there's a competitive process going on," said Dieleman. "They're really confidential and being evaluated in confidence. Architectural drawings are integral to the tendering process; when we tender, we go to different vendors to receive competitive bids. Right now, people are competing dollar for dollar on those drawings."

Dieleman suggested that after the tendering process concluded, they could likely engage the architects to permit a partial release, but that would be similar to what was currently available on the district's public website — necessarily vague, and unlikely to satisfy the requester.

That person was not named in Dieleman's report — "No matter who would have made this request, my response would have been the same," he said — but trustees seemed unwilling to leave things there.

"I'm going to be a little but more forthright," said board chair Rollie Cook. "This request came from a trustee; this is not an information request from a member of the public, but from a trustee who is fishing."

"It's not only a trustee who's looking," said trustee David Courtney, seemingly revealing himself as the requesting party. "It's other people in the community. They want to know the size of the building; we have three numbers — 11,500 [square feet], 16,500, and 15,500."

"I think the size is advertised on the BC Bid [website]," said Dieleman. "We've advertised 15,500 as the size of the building drawn, 16,500 is in the Community Charter — really just the box we're supposed to build within — and 11,500 was a number pre-design. So you're right, [but] the building number is advertised as 15,525. Whether you have drawings or not, that number doesn't change."

Trustee Robin Williams told fellow board members he took exception to Courtney's conduct, saying he felt it was rising to the level of employee



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## HAVE YOUR SAY & ENTER TO WIN

North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) is undertaking a review of the way it communicates and engages with NSSWD ratepayers, renters, and other Salt Spring Island residents who are affected by NSSWD activities. This includes treating and supplying water from St. Mary Lake and Maxwell Lake to over 5,500 island residents.

WCS Engagement + Planning is assisting us with this project and will be leading the engagement process to inform the project deliverables.

Critical to this review is gathering input directly from ratepayers, renters, and other residents to learn about their preferences, challenges, and ideas for improvements. If you are a ratepayer who rents out your unit, please share the survey with your renters — we want to hear from them too.

**Please take the 15-minute survey before June 9, 2024.** Once complete, you can enter your name into the draw for a \$100 gift card to a local grocery store of your choice.

**To access the survey** and for more information about the project, visit [www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca](http://www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca) or scan the QR code.



If you want a paper survey mailed to you or you'd like it in a different language, email: [info@nsswaterworks.ca](mailto:info@nsswaterworks.ca).

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# OPINION

## Driftwood

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### EDITORIAL

## Solo act

We regularly refer to the Islands Trust as the area's "land use authority," which — while correct — fails to convey something important: that authority is built upon a foundational reliance on other agencies to complete its work.

The Islands Trust Act mandates the Trust "preserve and protect . . . in cooperation with municipalities, regional districts, improvement districts, First Nations, other persons and organizations and the government of British Columbia." That "cooperation" means they will help the Trust achieve its purpose and the Trust will help implement their policies.

When the Islands Trust's object/mandate was deliberately re-examined in 1985, the process was launched over an explicit concern: the "divergence of perceptions" among trustees and the public on how to interpret it was so debilitating to the

Trust's operation that the body was not effectively holding up its end of the bargain. Without an agreement on what the object meant, for example, the Trust was not able to achieve the provincial policy of "sound management of the islands." So in that spirit, the 1985 review and re-interpretation of the mandate was exhaustive, and included not just trustees and Islands Trust staff, but elected provincial and regional officials (and their staff) with responsibilities within the Trust Area.

And had the current Trust Council chosen to merely discuss the Trust's object out of the public eye at a September 2023 meeting, and without such external agencies represented, it would have been perhaps just an unfortunate footnote. But instead, trustees announced a conclusion. Indeed, consideration of how to interpret the Trust's mandate was explicitly called "completed" and multiple versions of that interpretation were guardedly alluded to in meetings, teased on social media, and — finally — published officially. That occurred, we now hear, without the agreement of everyone in the room.

Even the staunchest originalist should concede that interpretations of foundational documents might shift over several decades. But despite whatever reasonable justifications there may have been to hold that September 2023 mandate meeting without the public present, doing so has caused a predictable quagmire — one we would hope the leadership of a 50-year-old organization might've seen coming. Instead, that quagmire just keeps expanding as the current regime wades into it deeper.

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Gold - Community Service Award



## Route 4,6 changes positive

BY HAROLD SWIERENGA

The Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committee (SSIFAC) would like to provide some clarifications and updates regarding the plans for the Vesuvius Bay ferry terminal and Route 6.

When it was confirmed last year that the replacement of the 64-vehicle Quinsam with twin 47-vehicle Island Class ferries and reconstruction of the Vesuvius and Crofton terminals were scheduled for 2027, it was obvious a new experience was coming to ferry travel on Route 6. There had been many discussions, meetings, proposals and plans over the years between BC Ferries, the SSI FAC and the public, and now the plans were firming up.

However, as with any capital projects, funding is a constant underlying factor and we are not surprised that completion of the work will be staged to some extent as funding becomes available. A major role of the SSIFAC is to focus on ensuring that all aspects of the project are completed regardless of the timeframe and staging involved.

The two critically essential and costly elements of the project are the Island Class ferries themselves and the rebuilding/life extensions of the trestles and berths to accommodate them in both Vesuvius and Crofton. The two elements are interdependent and scheduled to be in place and functioning in early 2027. A major additional feature of the new berth in Vesuvius is the provision for lineup parking on the trestle, thus reducing the lineup pressure on the land-side holding lot and the street. This additional planned capacity will be significant, but the other huge factor, of course, in resolving the lineups on the streets in both Vesuvius and Crofton will be the increased combined capacity and much more frequent sailings of the twin Island Class ships. Vehicles will be underway to the other side of the channel rather than taking up parking space on shore to the extent they do now.

### VIEWPOINT

Other planned features of the Vesuvius berth will be the elimination of the 90-degree turn in the trestle, replaced by a

sweeping curve, and a pedestrian shelter at the berth itself. A dedicated lane for pedestrians and cyclists from the land-side to the berth will be provided. A full waiting room and washrooms are planned for construction on the edge of the land-side parking area and will be among the SSIFAC's highest priorities of the next phase of improvements. The SSIFAC will also be paying particular attention to the overall needs of cyclists and pedestrians, such as SSI Transit access, pedestrian drop-off and pick-up and bicycle parking etc.

When the Island Class ferries go into service on Route 6, the Quinsam now on that route will become available to provide additional "peak" period service on Route 4 (Fulford-Swartz Bay). The definition of "peak" period will need to be adjusted as traffic builds over time and the Quinsam would be needed on the route for longer periods each year over the years. Until 2027, the 10 round trips per day peak service will continue, but the SSIFAC is advocating for that service to start in early rather than late June.

The SSIFAC is extremely disappointed that financial constraints will require the Vesuvius terminal reconstruction work to be staged rather than entirely completed by early 2027, but we are confident that the Route 6 experience will be markedly enhanced. As planning continues and when construction proceeds there will be further opportunities for community input. As well, the actual berth construction will involve some temporary modifications of service, but we are confident that the end result will be well worth waiting for.

The writer is SSIFAC chair.

### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Are you familiar with any local Indigenous placenames?

Yes  No

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you use the ferry more often during the summer?

40 73  
YES NO

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# ISLAND VOICES

## LETTERS to the editor

### Intimacy education needed

The May 22 "Men are pigs" letter written by Mike Stacey opened lively dialogue amongst the Islanders Working Against Violence (IWA) board of directors and various social groups on Salt Spring Island that we know of. Listening and discussing are part of creating social change. Kudos to the Driftwood for offering a space for this to happen!

Sexuality and desire are healthy aspects of being human. We need to encourage boys, men and grandfathers to talk about their feelings rather than suppress them. Dressing "sexy" and receiving attention for this is enjoyed by many people. The letter was about looking, not about touching, so why did the letter ignite such a flame?

Violence and sexual assault unfortunately do exist in the Southern Gulf Islands, and IWA offers free and confidential services to those affected. Last year IWA supported 26 clients with crisis support and offered 26 clients counselling because of sexual assault.

The fear of men stepping beyond the boundary of only "looking" to acting on that desire in acts of violence prevents many people from feeling free to walk in the forest alone or even to move from house to car on a dark night. Mike's declaration that men are animals operating only on instinct is scary to the vulnerable. In many parts of the world, the attitude that men have no

control over themselves is an excuse to abuse women or to control the way they dress and where they go. Sexual violence is a global issue and change is needed.

The key to healthy sexual relationships is consent. We must continue to educate our diverse community members to identify how they feel, to talk about intimacy and to be confident to set limits. This is a difficult task when various media are bombarding us with images of women as sexual objects and suggesting that men have no control over their actions.

However, we believe that men are humans, and are capable of discerning between feeling desire and acting upon it. Hopefully Mike thinks that pigs are smart enough to know the difference too!

**ALICIA HERBERT,**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
ISLANDERS WORKING AGAINST VIOLENCE

### Bad precedent

The May 22 article on the proposed Musgrave Road development is missing a critical piece of information. The application to change the zoning on the section on Musgrave Road from "Forest 1" to "Shared Residential" is a way for developers to avoid the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's requirement that subdivisions in Forest 1 zones include proper road upgrades to and from the subdivision.

That requirement has inhibited development along Musgrave Road for decades. Allowing "Shared Residential" zoning for this property sets a dangerous precedent that will potentially allow all of the sections along Musgrave Road to be effectively subdivided under "Shared Residential" schemes without ever having Musgrave Road upgraded to accommodate the increase in traffic, let alone control what happens to the housing on parcels owned by corporations when "family" members pass on or relocate.

This may not matter to owners currently living there part-time, since they apparently access their property by helicopter. However, it may matter when their children have to get to school in the winter, or when their grandparents discover that ambulances and other emergency vehicles cannot make it up the existing road. This was the case when one of the residents at the KDL retreat centre succumbed to carbon monoxide poisoning several years ago. There has already been one fatality on Musgrave Road as well as a recent roadside wildfire just a few years ago — all within one kilometre of the current applicant's parcel.

At a time when the province is unwilling to upgrade roads to provincial parks, such as Mount Maxwell Provincial Park, allowing parcels to be effectively subdivided without requiring proper upgrades to the road infrastructure represents the worst kind of negligent planning on behalf of the Islands

Trust. While trustee Jamie Harris may not call it "indiscriminate development," it's still "stupid development."

**DAVID RUMSEY,**  
MUSGRAVE MOUNTAIN FARM

### Trail endangers community

Our family would like to add our voices to those of our neighbours in the Cranberry Valley who are expressing concern regarding the proposed two-and-a-half kilometre trail from the Wright Road turnaround to the new Mount Maxwell Community Park.

The park already has two direct access points on site. A two-and-a-half-kilometre-long trail for walking (dogs and people), horseback riding and mountain biking is ill conceived and not necessary to access the park. The trailhead proposed at the Wright Road turnaround is inadequate for vehicles and horse trailers. It would block private driveways and reduce accessibility for emergency vehicles.

This trail will result in multiple disruptions and risk to our local farming community as well as significantly increasing the fire hazard in the valley. This trail would not benefit our community. It would endanger it.

**IAN GUMMESON AND  
LEE ANNE TOUGH,**  
WRIGHT ROAD

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

**"I personally believe that if there was more evidence needed — which I think there isn't — this is evidence that we need an intervention from the province."**

MAIREAD BOLAND, SATURNA ISLAND TRUSTEE, ON TRUST OBJECT DISCUSSION

## Conspiracy theories and 'them or us' nature of conflicts discouraging

I have nothing against roosters. Fine-looking birds, mostly, if a bit on the raucous side. Quite a bit on the raucous side, in fact, and, if I'm honest, chewy. Thankfully, our local egg entrepreneur is rooster-free, so we're spared the disquiet of being woken at 4 a.m. by a cockerel celebrating the sunrise.

There are, however, those on the island who are woken by a rooster or roosters doing what roosters do, and if the stridency of an early morning cock crow wasn't bad enough, the cacophony of indignation on Salt Spring's Facebook pages is deafening.

Those of you who stay abreast of the news — Trump's trials, Putin's monstrous invasion of Ukraine, the bloody mayhem in Gaza, the Salt Spring Rooster Affair — will have read that an island family is supposedly being persecuted by the jack-booted Nazis employed by the Capital Regional District (CRD). Or, alternatively, being fined for keeping noisy farm animals.

It is an internecine war being fought largely through the pages of Salt Spring's Facebook sites or this newspaper and is a dispute I have no fixed opinion on because,

as I've said, I'm not within earshot of the nearest rooster. But while the Great Rooster War wends its way through the courts, the more distressing aspect of it is how utterly divisive it has become. There is nothing many islanders love more than a self-righteous seething, and ambivalence just isn't part of their lexicon. Equally, there is a level of dystopian paranoia that marks so many of the disputes on this fractious rock. It doesn't take long for a simple, if fraught, dispute between residents and the local authority, such as it is, to devolve into a manic rant against the fascists persecuting the farming community.

Just as some folks were convinced Covid vaccines are a plot by an anonymous world cabal to castrate society and control our minds, others have determined that silencing roosters is also part of the same wicked scheme. Of course, there is a majority who are simply sympathetic to the family involved, and genuinely believe that their cause is a righteous one, but even then there is the sour taint of ruralism ... if you don't like cocks crowing, go back to the city. What next, they ask? Complaints from "Karens"



**Paul McElroy**  
+ ANOTHER  
THING

about cows mooing, sheep bleating and llamas making whatever noise llamas make? In case you're wondering, Karen is pejorative slang for an obnoxious, angry, entitled middle-aged white woman who uses her privilege to get her way. There doesn't seem to be a male equivalent, but it is presumably any man behind the wheel of a Tesla and not a disintegrating Ford F150.

There is certainly a case to be made for caveat emptor. If you bought a property without checking whether there were cockerels and their harem next door, frankly you don't have much to complain about. Equally, if you moved onto agricultural land and there was agriculture going on, you can't complain about farm noises, any more than you can complain about traffic noise in the heart of a city.

So take my word for it, there is no dastardly scheme by the Islands Trust or the CRD. Like it or not, there are laws and, like them or not, there are ordinary, decent people employed to enforce those laws.

The bylaw bards are not out to get anyone and, despite the relentless conspiracists on Facebook, there is no Boomers' master plan to drive out the grubby-handed sons of soil and subsume the island in a welter of Starbucks and Pret A Mangers. Those of us who came here from the cities and suburbs did so because we were ready for a change and looked forward to neighbours who are a half-acre away and not peering through our living room windows.

In the unusually sour bowels of Salt Spring's Facebook pages there is invariably a half-baked assault on local police and the civil servants charged with upholding those laws that seem to aggravate so many islanders. The police, so the daft delusion goes, are only in the business of handing down fines to raise cash for the government, the Islands Trust is determined to pave the entire island and the CRD employees are a

bunch of jackbooted thugs. Yada, yada, yada . . .

If you want to farm, go ahead. I'll most likely buy your products, but please don't turn it into another interminable "Them or Us" conflict. We buy your eggs, your cheeses, your bacon and your beef. There are even those who will buy your curly kale, although for the life of me, I will never know why. You need us, the idle not-especially rich.

The truth is the loony luddites have no more right to their lifestyle on Salt Spring than we have to ours. We are all interlopers, and no amount of smug, by-rote recognition of the fact that the land was nicked from the natives will change that. So what if you were born here or first arrived on the island when the only ferry was a rowboat? It gives you no more rights to determine its future than the guy who arrived last week.

There is nothing truly unique about Salt Spring; it is simply one more rural community being dragged by the scruff of its neck into the 21st century, a painful process to some, a welcome inevitability to others. Get used to it.

## A FULL STAGE



PHOTO BY CHRISTINA HAASE

Dance teacher Sonia Langer, centre, is surrounded by young dancers from her ballet and tap classes, plus her GISS students and dancers from other island programs at the nearly sold-out May 31 Community Dance Performance at ArtSpring. Youth dance activities are in rebuilding mode on the island after feeling the impacts of Covid and due to other factors.

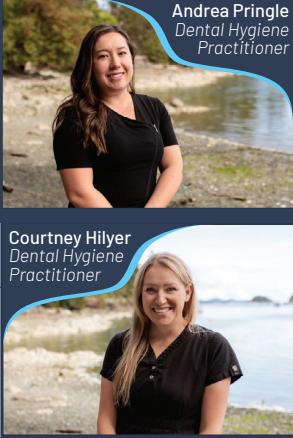
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## Do you want to make Islands Trust more accessible?

### Now Recruiting - Accessibility Committee Appointments

Islands Trust is accepting expressions of interest for volunteer Accessibility Committee (AC) positions.

Islands Trust is seeking residents that have the interest and ability to assist and advise the Islands Trust Council to identify, remove, and prevent barriers to individuals interacting with Islands Trust. To meet the requirements of the Accessible British Columbia Act, Islands Trust is looking for:

- a minimum of one and up to four people from organizations that support people with disabilities, or who have disabilities, in the Islands Trust Area;
- a minimum of one person who is Indigenous; and
- a minimum of one and up to two people from the Islands Trust Area.

Successful applicants will be appointed by the Islands Trust Council and may be expected to meet four times per year. The term for each of these positions is to December 31, 2026. Terms of reference for the Accessibility Committee can be viewed on the Islands Trust website.

If you are interested in helping us promote accessibility in the Islands Trust organisation, please apply via the website before 4:30 pm, September 16, 2024.



Preserving and protecting over 450 islands and surrounding waters in the Salish Sea



## ENVIRONMENT

# Harbour tests show higher bacterial levels

Centennial area tested

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

As water quality sampling for the summer season begins, the health authority has given a clean bill of health for Salt Spring Island's popular freshwater swimming spots — but one saltwater collection point might have been closed to swimmers, had they been interested in the first place.

Samples collected Wednesday, May 22 from the water off the Centennial Park bulkhead were again tested this year for Enterococci, the indicator bacteria Island Health uses to identify the presence of fecal contamination and determine potential risk associated with swimming.

The results — which in previous years kept Ganges Harbour well into the "safe for swimming" column — were nearly high enough for the health authority to have issued a red

"swimming not recommended" warning: 70 bacteria per 100 mL, where officials say there is a "significant risk of illness" from entering the water.

Testing throughout last summer at the site — as well as at a second Ganges Harbour location at Churchill Beach — produced no concerning results, according to Island Health data, showing well inside the "safe for swimming" levels of indicator bacteria. The "worst" summertime tests at Ganges Harbour last year showed 5 or fewer of the bacteria found per 100 mL sample in the water off Centennial Park, and 20 per 100 mL off the end of Churchill Road.

Saltwater beaches are generally deemed "acceptable" for swimming when single sample results are less than or equal to 70 — or if the average of the most recent five finds fewer than 35 of the bacteria per 100 mL sample, according to Island Health. That second threshold is unlikely to be met soon, as last summer just three samples were taken.

## LAND USE PLANNING

# OCP/LUB review work kicks off

Housing-focused review at ASK session and June 6 meeting

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

If a recent ASK Salt Spring discussion is any indication, Salt Spring's upcoming targeted official community plan (OCP) and land use bylaw (LUB) review could be pretty interesting.

Salt Spring trustee Laura Patrick and planner Jason Youmans were ASK Salt Spring guests on May 24, providing information about how community consultation for the review will shake out and answering people's questions about the process that will focus on diversifying housing options.

Patrick said the problem to be addressed through the upcoming process is why the OCP's current stated goal of creating a diverse community with diverse housing options is not being met.

"Why are we only getting more and more single family homes that the real community can't afford to live in? How do we fix that? Those are the questions I'm going to be looking for as we go into this conversation with the community. How do we make sure that we have the housing we need for a healthy community?"

The topic and a staff report is also on the agenda for the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC) business meeting on Thursday, June 6, accessible now through the [islandtrust.bc.ca](http://islandtrust.bc.ca) website.

Those attending the May 24 session at the Salt Spring Island Multi Space heard how the review process will be supported by a provincial \$150,000 Complete Communities program grant, which Patrick said will provide all kinds of maps and data to aid the OCP/LUB updating process.

"So that we're not walking into a room just having theoretical conversations, we've got information at our hands," she said.

Frants Attorp, a frequent commenter on Islands Trust matters, was critical of the focus on housing and pressed for a full OCP review.

"You've already defined the goal. It starts with a goal that you've decided on,

not one that the community has decided on. It's predetermined, and it's going to be housing. And that's not the focus of the Islands Trust. The Islands Trust has a different mandate."

Youmans defended the decision to not do a wholesale OCP review, observing that the existing document adopted in 2008 is "pretty good and most of it should probably be maintained in a form that looks pretty close to the way it looks today." The point of this land-use planning update, he said, is to determine "how do we begin to get out the housing options and the housing equity that the trustees and many members of the community have identified as being shortcomings from which our community is suffering? The OCP doesn't need a big overhaul. Housing has been identified as the area lacking."

He noted that both trustee Patrick and Jamie Harris were elected in October of 2022 on platforms that promised ways to increase the island's housing stock.

Attorp and Maxine Leichter also pressed Youmans and Patrick to explain how growth beyond the existing 17,000 population cap in the current OCP would be held in check. Leichter said she and some others felt the underlying purpose behind the OCP/LUB targeted update is to get rid of Section B.2.1.2.1 of the existing OCP, which states: "Zoning changes should be avoided if they would likely result in a larger island population than is expected under the development potential zoned in 2008. Exceptions to this policy are to be few and minor and only to achieve affordable housing and other objectives of this Plan." The population number cited in the current OCP is 17,000. Salt Spring's population in the 2021 census was 11,600.

Youmans admitted that policy was not "sancrosant" — it is a policy that was included in the OCP by the local trustees who adopted the OCP at that given time, and that can be revisited." But he also pointed out that the LTC is constrained from eliminating development caps by a number of legislative factors such as the Trust Policy Statement.

"The latitude to depart grossly from the Policy Statement, or even the existing OCP as it reflects the Policy Statement . . . is very limited, right? Like this is not a place where you can wipe the slate clean and start fresh."



# ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

## EXHIBITIONS

# Mayne clay team first up in Showcase season



PHOTO COURTESY SSAC

Ceramic artists Kristine Webber, left, and Kim Korol in their kiln shed at Mayne Island Clay Works. Work by Webber and Korol forms the first stage exhibit at Mahon Hall with the opening of Salt Spring Arts' annual Artcraft show and sale.

## Kim Korol and Kristine Webber exhibit opens June 14

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
FOR SALT SPRING ARTS

The creative force behind Mayne Island Clay Works makes an exciting launch on Salt Spring this month when ceramic artists Kim Korol and Kristine Webber open *Phenomenologies*, the first event in Artcraft's 2024 Showcase season.

Opening along with Artcraft at Mahon Hall on Friday, June 14, the exhibit features select pieces of ceramic works generated over a six-month period using iterative cycles of making, mutual critique and personal reflection. Taking their cue from a term used in social sciences, *Phenomenologies* explores the ways in which two artists may influence each other's work both intentionally and unconsciously when working in the same space — how they respond to each other's work, opinions and ideas.

"*Phenomenology* is all based on experience and the influence of those experiences on what you do next, your attitudes and your expression of those experiences. So it felt like a really good word: How our experiences with our making and with each other then influences the next making — and how that then influences the next making," Webber explained.

The two women first met after Korol moved to Mayne around five and half years ago, and an immediate connection was forged. They decided to create a joint business and shared studio outside their homes in 2021, and together received a Canada Council for the Arts grant that same year to com-

plete a six-foot diameter tile mural titled *Porosity*, which was exhibited in the Mayne Island Japanese Memorial Gardens. But it was their pattern of working alongside each other as independent artists on seemingly separate journeys that invited the philosophical theme behind the show.

Known for delicate, small vessels, Webber's new work pushes the boundaries of what clay can do and what it can represent, such as a series of technically challenging knot sculptures.

"I think working with Kim has given me permission to explore different ways of

working with clay. I don't feel limited to making functional work. So it's just like this brain explosion of potential and permission to explore different things," Webber said.

As for Korol, she said, "I like making very large vessels and big things and Kristine really makes me pay attention to the form and colour and why I would use certain colours. I think she makes me pay more attention to it, which has been really good."

Asked whether clay turned out to be a good material for expressing their philosophical theme concept, Korol confirmed it is.

"Clay is an excellent medium for this process because you can make clay into anything. There are an unlimited number of ways to use clay, from how you decorate clay to what you make with it. We could make big things and small things and functional things and torn up things and broken things ... so it really pushed us with our creativity."

The exhibit is therefore a window into the specific creative process of two ceramic artists, but as they explain, it also "invites the viewer to consider the important role of supportive connections and safe spaces in enabling us to flourish as artists and humans."

"I think for me personally the work that I have made for the show is about finding my voice. And it's about the internal struggles, as to what humans go through," Korol said. "It's been an interesting personal journey for me this winter and I think that really is reflected in the work I made. And so it's like expressing the inner workings of human beings; the way our minds work and don't work and the stresses and anxiety."

"You'll see a lot of very vulnerable work," Webber

added. "And similarly, I think an underlying theme in all of the things that I have been working on is connectivity in relationships."

A joint opening reception for *Phenomenologies* and Artcraft 2024 is set for 6 to 8 p.m. on June 14. An artists' talk will take place at the hall on Sunday, June 16 starting at 2 p.m. The show will continue daily during Artcraft hours through July 8.


salt spring arts  
presents

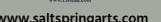
**PHENOMENOLOGIES**  
**KIM KOROL & KRISTINE WEBBER**

ARTCRAFT  
SHOWCASE  
EXHIBITION

OPENING RECEPTION  
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ARTIST TALK  
JUNE 16 | 2 – 3 PM

EXHIBITION  
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JULY 17	COWBOY JUNKIES <small>Sold Out</small>
JULY 18	COWBOY JUNKIES <small>Sold Out</small>
JULY 22	CHRIS SMITHER WITH BETTYSOO
AUG 15	EILEEN JEWELL BAND
AUG 22	WILLIE WATSON TRIO
AUG 26	MIKE FARRIS AND THE FORTUNATE FEW
SEPT 1	KELLY HUNT TRIO

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**TRIO TIME AT TEA À TEMPO**


PHOTO COURTESY MUSIC MAKERS

Ready to celebrate 25 years of singing together are, from right, soprano Connie Holmes and alto Anke Smeele, accompanied by pianist and All Saints' organist and choir director David Storm, who has been with them for several of those years. The trio will perform a program of classical, folk and popular songs – from Mozart to Billy Joel – at Tea à Tempo on Wednesday, June 12 at 2:10 p.m. Holmes and Smeele's collaboration first started in the late 1990s when they were members of the Salt Spring Singers choir and formed part of a quartet of soloists in some Gilbert and Sullivan songs. They then enjoyed 10 years with pianist Beth Ranney presenting programs at care facilities and at Christmas time, plus taking part in summer concerts at All Saints and in house concerts. They also recorded and produced a well received CD of lullabies raising funds for the Stephen Lewis Foundation supporting African grandmothers.

# what's on this week

<b>Wed.</b>	<b>June 5</b>	<b>Fri.</b>	<b>June 7</b>	<b>Sat.</b>	<b>June 8</b>	<b>Wed.</b>	<b>June 12</b>
<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b>		<b>ACTIVITIES</b>		<b>ACTIVITIES</b>		<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b>	
Tea à Tempo: Backstage. All Saints by-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m.		Bittancourt Museum. See Wednesday listing.		Sea Slugs to Sea Stars: Challenges and Resilience in Salish Sea Marine Life. Talk by David Denning for World Oceans Day at the library program room. 7 p.m.		GISS Theatre Presents: Treasure Island. Thrilling adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic tale. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.	
GISS Music Presents Wipeout! Term-end music concert. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.		ASK Salt Spring. This week's guest is new Chamber of Commerce executive director Matthew Quetton. SIMS. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.				Tea à Tempo: Anke Smeele, Connie Holmes and David Storm. All Saints by-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m.	
The Yazoo Brothers. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.		Kids' Bike Rally. Obstacle courses, timed laps, mentoring, BBQ and more. For ages 3-16 and caregivers. Mouat Park Bike Park. 4 to 6 p.m.				GreyVine Duo. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.	
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>		Story Time. In the children's area at the library. 11 to 11:30 a.m.		<b>ACTIVITIES</b>		<b>CINEMA</b>	
Bittancourt Museum. Farmers' Institute grounds. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.		Youth Games & Chess Club. For ages 9-13. Library children's area. 1 to 4 p.m.		Final Invasive Plant Drop-Off Event of 2024. Bring gorse, broom, ivy, blackberry, and daphne - no roots, please! Fulford Hall parking lot. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.		• It runs Friday, June 7 to Tuesday, June 11 at 7 p.m. each night, plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. See <a href="http://thefritz.ca">thefritz.ca</a> for more movie info.	
Central Hall Society Board of Directors Meeting. Lower hall. 7 p.m.		Sat.	<b>June 8</b>	Dress to the Nines Day. Wear something special anytime or anywhere today (and on the 9th day of every month).		<b>ART EXHIBITIONS</b>	
Swing Dancing. Legion. 6 p.m.		<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b>		Bittancourt Museum. See Wed. listing.		• Quentin Harris exhibits in the Jankura Lounge at ArtSpring from June 4 to 28.	
Music Bingo. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.		Fawkes & Hownd. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.		<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b>		• Sherry Leigh Williams and Patricia Rose Williams show their artwork in the ArtSpring lobby from June 4 to 28.	
<b>Thur.</b>	<b>June 6</b>	DJ Skywater. Mateada. 9 p.m.		John and Bruce. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.		• Matthew Hildebrandt – Remembering the Joy of Life is the Salt Spring Gallery A-space exhibit until June 12.	
<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b>		The Bandits. Legion. 7:30 p.m.		<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b>		• Contemplative Threads, an exhibition of textile art by Medwyn McConathy, runs in the library program room until June 8. Art Jam at the Library: Joseph Reville (aka CJ) and Sherman Sherwood is the show from Monday, June 10 through July 3 (with an opening on June 13 from 2 to 4 p.m.)	
Wesley Hardisty and Charlie Gannon. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.		Salome Cullen Country Night. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.		John and Bruce. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.		• Rolando Lampitoc exhibits artwork at the Salt Spring Coffee Cafe & Kitchen.	
Poetry Open Mic. With featured poet Celia Meade. Salt Spring library program room. 7 p.m.		<b>ACTIVITIES</b>		<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b>		• Sheri Standen shows watercolour paintings at the Country Grocer deli wall display for the month of June.	
Open Mic. At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.		Saturday Market. In Centennial Park. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.		James Houlahan. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.		<b>Emergency Preparedness Fair</b>	
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>		Emergency Preparedness Fair. Meet your emergency service providers and get free info and useful emergency prep items. Ganges Fire Hall. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.		Country Jam. With open mic. Legion. 6 to 9 p.m.		Ganges Fire Hall	
Salt Spring Local Trust Committee Meeting. Meaden Hall. 9:30 a.m.		World Oceans Day Fancy Dress Clean-up. Wear fancy duds and meet at the beach by Beachside to clean up the harbour shoreline and raise funds for the Heiltsuk First Nation through RAVEN Trust. 2 p.m.		<b>ACTIVITIES</b>		Saturday, June 8	
Monthly Restorative Justice Circle. Topic is Anger as a Tool for Justice. SIMS. 5 p.m. Registration at <a href="mailto:info@rjssi.org">info@rjssi.org</a> required.		Book Launch: Lynda Monk. Local author presents Affirmations for Self-Love: A Motivational Journal with Prompts for Self-Worth, Self-Acceptance, & Positive Self-Talk, a guided journal co-authored with Eric Maisel. Library program room. 2 p.m.		Tuesday Farmers Market. Every Tuesday at Centennial Park. 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.		10 a.m. to 2 p.m.	
Bittancourt Museum. See Wed. listing.		<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b>		Book Launch: William Deverell: The Long-Shot Trial. Library program room. 7 p.m.		<b>THRIFTY FOODS</b>	
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>June 7</b>	Karaoke. At the Legion. 7 p.m.		Trivia Tuesday. Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.		Ganges, Mouat's Centre 7:30am to 9pm	
<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b>		Everyday People. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.				Customer Service 250-537-1522	
Daryl Chonka and Band. Mateada. 9 p.m.		Daryl Chonka and Band. Mateada. 9 p.m.					
DJ Boomtown. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.							



# ISLAND LIFE

## LAND CONSERVATION

# 'Quiet' Trust conservancy has major impact



PHOTO BY CHARLES KAHN

Part of Coastal Douglas-Fir ecosystem at the Lower Mount Erskine Nature Reserve, one of the Islands Trust Conservancy's earliest acquisitions after the agency was created in 1990.

## Nature reserves and covenants protect more than 1,400 hectares

BY CHARLES KAHN

FOR ISLANDS TRUST CONSERVANCY BOARD

Fifty years of quiet accomplishment! In this era of climate change, when all levels of government are trying to protect forests and wetlands, the Islands Trust Conservancy (ITC) has greatly contributed to these goals.

What is the ITC? You mean you've never heard of it? That's not surprising, as it enjoys working quietly in the background to accomplish its goals of protecting as much of our fragile forests and wetlands as possible. To make its identity more confusing, the ITC started as the Trust Fund Board in 1990. The name was changed in 2018. And of course there are several conservancies around here, so you're bound to be confused.

While the Islands Trust was established in 1974 to protect the beautiful environment of the Gulf Islands, the ITC was not created until 1990. Its first covenant was on Salt Spring Island and its first nature reserves were on Denman and Salt Spring. Today, the ITC owns 34 nature reserves and holds 79 covenants, protecting around 1,400 hectares (over 3,400 acres) of land on

over 20 different islands. To put that in perspective, 1,400 hectares is about two-thirds the size of Mayne Island.

The ITC is working with the many First Nations in the Trust Area to develop a plan that includes their interests and knowledge in the future of conservation. It also partners with other similar organizations like the Salt Spring Island Conservancy and The Land Conservancy of BC, so that most covenants are held jointly by two conservancies.

The ITC's Opportunity Fund provides seed money to other organizations to help them purchase land for nature reserves or conservation covenants. It has provided assistance to other organizations to protect over 50 pieces of land.

What does all this mean to us? Well, one of the ITC's earliest acquisitions on Salt Spring was the Lower Mount Erskine Nature Reserve, which contains a trail leading to Mount Erskine Provincial Park, often referred to as Salt Spring's Grouse Grind. For many years this trail has been one of the most used on the island.

Gabriola's Elder Cedar (S'ulhween X'pey) Nature Reserve is the most popular walking trail on that island. Denman Island has three lovely nature reserves with trails open to the public. The ITC's largest nature

reserve is Gambier's Mount Artisan Nature Reserve with 107 hectares. It includes many hiking trails and a great view from the summit of Mount Artisan. Lasqueti's Mount Trematon has similarly great trails and lovely views.

Now when you think of the Islands Trust, think of its conservancy and all its wonderful achievements. With a sterling staff of about eight, it collects research and other data, which it shares with others, as well as protecting individual properties for the next generations. If you can't participate in a public celebration, raise a glass or have a piece of birthday cake on your own to celebrate an institution that has been working to keep the Gulf Islands as beautiful as ever for five decades.

## NOTICE NP-TUP-2024.5 North Pender Island Local Trust Committee



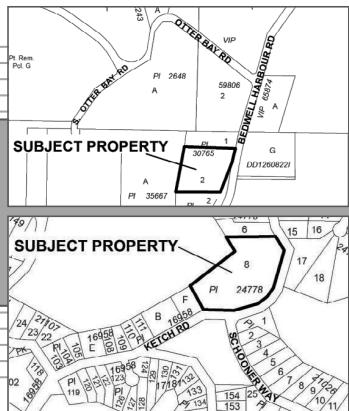
### Islands Trust

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 494 of the Local Government Act that the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) will be considering a resolution allowing for the issuance of a Temporary Use Permit.

The proposed permit would apply to LOT 2, SECTION 15, PENDER ISLAND, COWICHAN DISTRICT, PLAN 30765 (PID: 001-227-904) and LOT 8, SECTION 10, PENDER ISLAND, COWICHAN DISTRICT, PLAN 24778 (PID: 002-818-388). The properties are located at 4423 Bedwell Harbour Road and 47284 Schooner Way Road, North Pender Island.

The purpose of this temporary use permit would be to permit a worker accommodation use via temporary mobile housing structures providing housing for emergency service personnel.

The establishment of these uses would be subject to the conditions specified in the attached proposed permit. The permit would be issued for up to three (3) years and the owner may apply to the LTC to have it renewed once for up to an additional three (3) years.



The general location of the subject property is shown on the following sketches:

A copy of the proposed permit may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, 200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C.

V8R 1H8 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, commencing May 24, 2024 and continuing up to and including June 5, 2024.

For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 499 (2) (c) of the Local Government Act, additional copies of the Proposed Permit may be inspected at various Notice Boards on North Pender Island.

Enquiries or comments should be directed to Brad Smith at (250) 405-5194, for Toll Free Access, request a transfer via Enquiry BC: In Vancouver 660-2421 and elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867; or by fax (250) 405-5155; or by email to: southinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca before 4:30 pm, June 5, 2024.

The North Pender Island Local Trust Committee may consider a resolution allowing for the issuance of the permit during the special meeting starting at 10:00 a.m. on June 14, 2024, to be held electronically via zoom.

All applications are available for review by the public with prior appointment. Written comments made in response to this notice will also be available for public review.

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## Obituaries

## Obituaries

## Obituaries

Nina Raginsky O.C. RCA  
1941 - 2024

With much love and sadness, we share the news that our beloved Nina suffered a massive stroke on Mother's Day in her garden on Walter Bay on Salt Spring Island and died early May 17 with her daughter Sofya at her side. As she noted in her day planner, May 17 is Eric Satie's birthday. Nina would have been pleased with this date.

Widely acknowledged and honored in her lifetime, first as a photographer and artist and later as an environmental activist, she cared deeply about the earth and loved to walk her talk.

Nina was born on April 14, 1941, in Montreal, the only child of Helen and Ben Raginsky of Russian and German Jewish heritage.

In 1962, she graduated from Rutgers University in NJ, where she was forever influenced by her studies with the artists Roy Lichtenstein, George Segal, and Allan Kaprow.

She was fundamentally creative and worked making jewelry, ceramics, and sculpture, but by 1964 the camera became her primary tool of expression. Nina worked as a freelance photographer in Mexico, London, Old Crow Yukon, and later in Vancouver and Victoria. She had a great eye and was exhibited many times; her photographs are in books, international collections, museums, and galleries. She was made an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1984 and was a member of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts. Her photography was recognized in 2015 with a Canada Post stamp of one of her full-figure portraits in her distinctive sepia-toned and hand-colored style. In 2022, she was delighted to be included in the anthology 'A World History of Women Photographers.'

Throughout her career, Nina used only one camera and only one lens, a Nikon 50mm. In 2020, she got her very first flip phone. Another era of photography began as she enjoyed using its rudimentary digital camera to document and share her quiet and solitary daily life.

Nina traveled widely and finally settled in Victoria in the late 1970s where she raised Sofya and taught photography and, as she liked to say, metaphysics, at Emily Carr University of Art and Design in Vancouver.

In 1988, Nina and Sofya moved to Salt Spring Island where Nina turned her keen eye and attention to the natural world. Phenology delighted her endlessly. She worked hard to protect Xwaawq'um from logging as well as eelgrass, heron, and oyster catcher habitat. She was especially proud of her work to protect the sensitive ecosystem of her beloved Walter Bay.

In addition to her many accomplishments, Nina was generous, warm, and witty. She spoke forthrightly and had intense compassion for all living creatures. She loved conversation, and invitations to tea were cherished times. She had a prodigious memory and could recite passages from whatever book she happened to be studying. She remembered important dates in friends' lives and could connect with people of all backgrounds. She touched many lives, had a strong presence, and was a force for good.

Working and being in her beautiful garden was one of Nina's greatest joys. Many people still fondly remember her geraniums and colorful gardens in James Bay. Thankfully, she was able to garden right up to the end of her life.

She also loved food and was a fantastic cook and bread baker. She was committed to promoting and eating local food, and one of her last projects was to produce a cookbook highlighting Salt Spring farmers and their recipes.

Always prolific, she created and shared countless recipes and guides to living simply and with respect for Gaia. She spent a month every year on her Winter Solstice cards and correspondence, handwriting in her distinctive printing style, sharing photographs, recipes, stories, treasures from her garden, and her latest find from the thrift store. Even her envelopes, like everything she did, were works of art.

Besides Sofya, who was instrumental in helping her live well and up to her standards in her later years, Nina leaves cousins and many friends. She will be missed.

Myra Lee Johnstone described Nina beautifully with this spoken word poem at her small funeral on May 23rd:

We all saw Nina

Nina Raginsky

Out in the market

Landmark on Salt Spring

Grace Beauty Strength

braided salt and pepper hair

red shawl long skirt

wicker basket with bread

NO yeast!

water and salt

Blue Herons

Water Watch

Blue Slow Salt Spring Signs

We loved you Nina

Thank You

In lieu of flowers, please remember Nina by observing the natural world, buying less, and buying used. A remembrance will be held at a later date.

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## Obituaries

## Obituaries

Ward, Norah  
'Denise' (nee Fader)July 12, 1937 –  
April 5, 2024

Denise passed away in Victoria, BC, on April 5, 2024. Born in Vancouver, she was a proud graduate of Prince of Wales, class of 1955. She went on to St. Paul's Nursing, graduating in 1959, where she dedicated her work to maternity and obstetrics.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Phil Ward (1926–2019), whom she met while traveling in Europe in the early 1960s. After living in London, they settled in Victoria and then Ottawa, raising their family before eventually retiring back to BC.

Denise is survived by her daughters, Carol and Nancy; five wonderful grandchildren; and one adorable great-grandchild.

A long-time resident of Salt Spring Island, Denise, or Denny to her friends, loved the outdoors, her beloved pets (Simba), walking, gardening, creative projects, and most of all, having a good laugh over a glass of wine. She will be missed.

Special thanks to the staff at Douglas Care in Victoria and Lady Minto on Salt Spring Island.

A private interment of ashes will be held later. Memorial donations may be made to the BC SPCA.

## In Memoriam

## In Memoriam

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## Coming Events

## Coming Events

Salt  
Spring  
Island  
CONSERVANCYAnnual General Meeting  
Wednesday, June 12, 7:00 p.m.

SSI Conservancy members, please note that the AGM will be in person at the Conservancy office, 265 Blackburn Road. Please RSVP to debra@saltspringconservancy.ca, or call 250-537-0318, no later than June 10.

## Coming Events

## Coming Events

AGM of the Gulf Islands  
Horsemen's Association (GIHA)Thur June 20th, 7:00p.m.  
183 Margolin Drive (off North End Rd)All horse enthusiasts  
are welcome.Members in  
good standing  
may vote on  
the following  
resolution:  
"Be it resolved that the  
society change its name  
from Gulf Islands Horsemen's  
Association to Gulf Islands  
Horse Association."For more information on GIHA and to renew  
memberships, go to [www.giha.ca](http://www.giha.ca).

## Legal

## Legal

Land Act:  
Notice of Intention to Apply for a  
Disposition of Crown Land

Take notice that I, **Andrew Housser** from **Woodside, California**, have applied to the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRS), for a **Specific Permission for Private Moorage** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Goat Island** fronting **Goat Island** (SITUATED IN GANGES HARBOUR), COWICHAN DISTRICT.

The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **Crown Land File # 1415312**.

Comments may be submitted electronically via the provincial Applications, Comments & Reasons for Decision webpage at [comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca](http://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca). Alternatively, hard copy comments may be directed to the Senior Land Officer, Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRS) at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9.

Comments will be received by WLRS up to **July 5, 2024**. FLNRORD may not be able to consider comments received after this date.

Please visit the website at [comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca](http://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca) for more information.

Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the Freedom of Information Advisor at the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship office in Nanaimo.

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## TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

# Indigenous placenames given voice in maps

Archives project launched

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND ARCHIVES

National Indigenous Peoples Day is June 21. As newcomers living on these unceded First Nation territories, we can educate ourselves every day about the land and people whose territories we occupy.

Consider making June a jumping-in point to begin or to further your knowledge of local First Nation history, challenges, continuing strong presence and resurgence.

If you live on the north end of the island, you can say that you live near P'q'unup. If you are travelling south to "Ruckle" you are going toward 7ESNOEN or (S)ts'usna'um'.

And now, you can learn to pronounce these ancient names.

The Salt Spring Historical Society and Archives is pleased to announce an interactive First Nations Placenames Map of the island to help you do just that. The map page is a rich resource, offering names and recorded pronunciations of significant First Nation places in both the SENĆOTEN and Hul'q'umi'num' languages. We are grateful to ɬOSINIYE (Lindy Elliott) and Luschiim (Arvid Charlie) for lending their voices to the initiative.

This "reconcili-action" project is a direct tie-in to the Indigenous Interpretive Panels at Ganges Harbour and Fernwood Dock. The panels are beautiful and carry significant information, but only touch the surface of the layers of learning to be done/undone.

"People talk about truth and reconciliation a lot these days. Let's talk about the truth first. Acknowledge what was actually done to our homeland and territories, and then look at reconciliation," said J'SINTEN (John Elliott).

A team of volunteers, including Phil Vernon, Maggie Ziegler, Christina Marshall and Cerdwen Ross Collins, have been working for over five years with Elders from Tsartlip, Tsawout, Quw'utsun, Halalt and Penelakut to learn what mattered most to include on these panels. Funding for traditional artwork, interview time with Elders and the materials required for the creation of the panels was provided primarily by the Salt Spring Island

Foundation and the Donna Martin Legacy Fund.

Adding QR codes allowed for the archives team, led by our formidable webmaster Brian Smallshaw, to greatly expand on content by linking the panels to the new First Nations page on our website. The landing page provides options to search collections, oral history, information about the panels, origin stories, a timeline by Chris Arnett, further links, and the Placenames Map of Salt Spring Island with clickable pronunciations by local Elders. This menu will continue to be expanded as more work is completed. Clicking on the "More" button on the map will give the viewer a comprehensive overview of the First Nation background for each labelled site, compiled by Chris Arnett.

The interactive Placenames Map project is the culmination of two decades of effort. In 2004 the late Frank Neumann of the Salt Spring Island Historical Society and Chris Arnett, anthropologist and author of books such as *Terror on the Coast*, began working with First Nations Elders to record placenames and any other information they were willing to share in connection to Salt Spring Island.

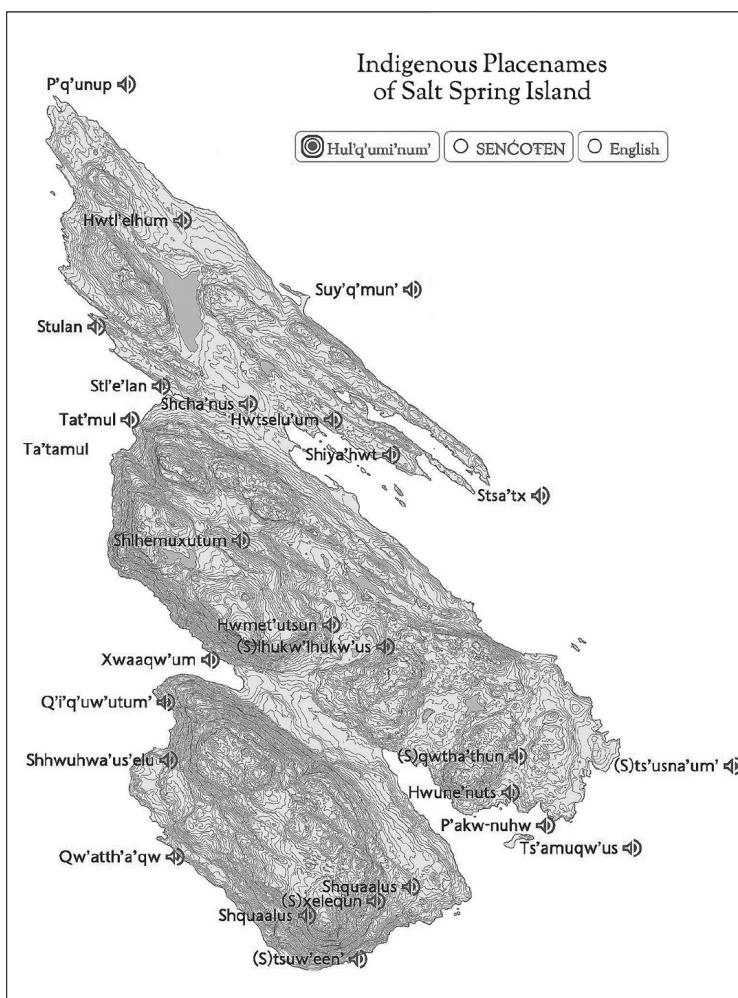
"It really is a privilege to be able to work on this type of project with knowledgeable Indigenous Elders to give Indigenous voice to the land," said Arnett.

The archives team is grateful for the generous donation of Arnett's time and for his extensive contributions to local knowledge through this project.

To view this work, a First Nations link can be found on the "Collections" page at [saltspringarchives.com](http://saltspringarchives.com).

We respectfully acknowledge the following Elders for their generosity in sharing their knowledge of "Salt Spring" place names with us over the years: Earle Claxton Sr., Ray Sam, Henry Edwards, Ernie Rice, Louis Pelkey, Christopher Paul, Richard Harry, Ernie Olsen, Bob Akerman, Luschiim (Arvid Charlie), August Sylvester, Dave Elliott, J'SINTEN (John Elliott) ɬOSINIYE (Lindy Elliott) and SELILIYE (Belinda Claxton).

The above is the first of weekly articles leading up to Indigenous Peoples Weekend on Salt Spring from June 21-23.



MAP IMAGE COURTESY SSIHS

Indigenous Placenames of Salt Spring Island map showing Hul'q'umi'num' names for several locations. It can be found, along with pronunciations, on the First Nations page under Collections on the [saltspringarchives.com](http://saltspringarchives.com) website. A map for local SENĆOTEN language placenames is on the same site.

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# SPORTS + RECREATION

## YOUTH ATHLETICS

# Junior sailors tackle dinghy regatta challenges

Tricky conditions managed at Royal Victoria Yacht Club hosted event

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING ISLAND SAILING CLUB JUNIOR SAILORS

Six junior sailors from the Salt Spring Island Sailing Club (SSISC) attended the Royal Victoria Spring Dinghies Regatta, which took place on May 4-5 in the waters of Cadboro and Oak bays.

Aoi Otsu and Luci Pugh Aucoin, both age 12, participated in the Opti Red fleet, while Malika Clement, 14, Maeve FitzZaland, 13, Reuben Sol, 15, and Izzi

Pugh Aucoin, 14, all participated in the C420, double-handed dinghies division.

The racing format for junior sailing involves multiple races over a set course throughout each day of racing, with points awarded in order of placement: the goal being a low overall score.

Shifty winds and choppy waters made for tricky conditions, but the Salt Spring sailors held their own. After a disqualifying false start on the first heat of the day, all the SSISC 420 sailors recovered well, with Izzi Pugh Aucoin and Sol earning first over the course of the day, and FitzZaland and Clement earning fifth. This was Clement and FitzZaland's first regatta as partners and their confidence and teamwork was impressive.



PHOTO COURTESY SALT SPRING ISLAND SAILING CLUB

Salt Spring Island Sailing Club junior sailors and coaches attending the recent Royal Victoria Spring Dinghies Regatta last month.

The second day brought more challenges, with heavy winds, strong currents and cold temperatures on the water. Izzi Pugh Aucoin and Sol had an eventful capsize, resulting in a DNF on the second heat of the day. Once they righted their boat, they were able to continue racing in the next heat, and came back with strong results and a first place finish overall. FitzZaland and Clement gave a consistent performance, only dropping one place from the previous day.

The rough conditions caused the remaining Opti to retire early from the

racing. Many capsized boats were witnessed throughout the fleet by spectators on shore, and several racers from other teams had to be towed in from the races before the day was over.

Despite being unable to finish their races, Opti sailors Luci Pugh Aucoin and Otsu finished 35th and 36th respectively, in a large pool of sailors at their first competitive event.

The junior sailing team greatly appreciates the support of the SSISC in their training and racing, as well as coaches John and Finley, who spent the week-end out on the water with the team.



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✓ **Production Insurance**  
helps producers manage the risk of crop losses caused by drought, hail, spring frost, excessive rain, flooding, and other risks.

## WHAT A SHOT!

On Saturday, June 22 show us what you see!

### A DAY IN THE LIFE SALT SPRING ISLAND 2024

We invite people to send us their photos for our 2024 Day in the Life of Salt Spring Island feature.

Photos must be taken between 6 a.m. on Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup> & 6 a.m. on Sunday June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Register in advance by sending an email to editor Gail Sjuberg at [news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com](mailto:news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com) for deadlines and details about how to submit.

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