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7 Margaret Mackenzie art show opens at Mahon Hall

ELECTION 2022

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PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

IN FULL VOICE: Michelle Footz, far right, leads the Gulf Islands Secondary School Choir – who in turn led the entire school – in song during the school's observation of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The song was a gift from Indigenous composer Sherryl Sewepagaham. See page 2 story.

HEALTH

Public health sets mass flu clinic

Influenza vaccine booking invitations go out this week

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Island Health wants as many people avoiding the flu as possible this year, and is rolling out a mass vaccination clinic to deliver shots to Salt Spring Island.

Invitations are going out now through the provincial Get Vaccinated system, just as they have been for COVID-19 shots, according to clinician Faye Mollberg, coordinator for the upcoming clinic. It will run Monday through Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the former middle school building — now called the Salt Spring Island Multi Space — on Rainbow Road.

"Appointments will start the day after Thanksgiving, Tuesday, Oct. 11," said Mollberg, who has overseen operations at the clinic for just over two weeks while COVID-19 booster shots were on offer.

Islanders who have an existing appointment for the COVID-19 booster can get the flu vaccine at the same time. Mollberg

said anyone booked for COVID immunizations would be offered the flu shot as well. No matter which dose you are receiving, according to Island Health, all COVID-19 vaccines can be safely given at the same time as the flu vaccine.

"It works both ways," said Mollberg. "If you're booked for the flu clinic, we can give you the COVID vaccine at the same time." She added that it was safe to have both injections on the same arm, two centimetres apart, or one in each arm. "It's up to the person."

Public health nurse Calico Chang said those who hadn't been in for a recent vaccination should be aware the clinic was no longer in the south annex by the skate park but in the main building. Visitors can use the main Rainbow Road address and parking is available at the top of the hill.

"We do provide car service if somebody has mobility issues," said Chang. "Sometimes that mobility is a determination of whether they're going to get it or not, so

we want to make it as easy as possible. They can send their driver up with their care card to speak with one of the nurses, and we can send a nurse out to give them their vaccine in the car."

Like the COVID-19 vaccines and boosters, Chang recommends people wait 15 minutes before leaving to ensure they don't have adverse reactions to the influenza vaccine. The vaccines will also be available at Country Grocer and Pharmasave.

The flu — seasonal influenza, a serious infectious and contagious respiratory illness — can be spread 24 hours before you notice any symptoms, and for five days after symptoms begin. This year, everyone in B.C. over the age of six months is eligible to receive the flu vaccine free of charge. Part of that push, according to provincial health officer Dr. Bonnie Henry, is to help keep more people healthy during another predicted growth period for COVID-19 infections.

FLU CLINIC continued on 2

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EDUCATION

Students drum, march on reconciliation day

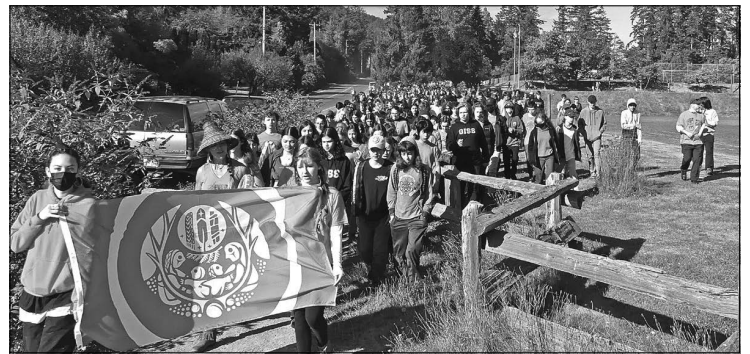


PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

Gulf Islands Secondary School students and staff walk down Rainbow Road Thursday, Sept. 29, to mark the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, one day before the federal statutory holiday Sept. 30. The day honours children who never returned home, as well as survivors of residential schools, their families and communities.

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- Take action to address our housing crisis.
- Listen and learn from all Salt Spring residents.

For more information go to Laurapatticktrustee.ca or contact laura@lpattick.com
Authorized by Eva Kuhn, Financial Agent, (evamkuhn@gmail.com)

Observance included day-long powwow drumming and song

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) students and staff observed Truth and Reconciliation Day early on Thursday, with a day of learning and listening highlighted by powwow drumming, singing and a march through Ganges.

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation was Friday, Sept. 30. GISS is usually closed on Fridays, so the school's observance was moved up so everyone could participate meaningfully.

The drumming started at 9 a.m., and didn't end until dismissal, featuring a rotating group of student musicians taking turns offering "many hands," according to Indigenous education principal Shannon Johnston. She said some communities will drum for as long as two days.

"The drum beat is the heartbeat," said Johnston. "We're drumming for those who did not make it home from the residential schools, who've been living in a place of anguish."

The idea, said Johnston, is to welcome those children back to the creator and their loved ones, to release them from that pain. The drumming was part of a week that saw staff engaging students on how they can be part of the ongoing process of truth and reconciliation — a cultural shift that is still, Johnston agreed, in its early stages.

"Yes, we're looking backwards in time, to a history that we are not proud of," said Johnston, "but we're listening deeply to the elders who are telling us the truth — the first step in truth and reconciliation."

That deep listening to things that are hard to hear, and conversations that are hard to have, is how we can honour those elders and their story, said Johnston.

"We look back to yesterday, and look forward to tomorrow. And by participating in events like this, you're changing the trajectory of tomorrow for so many."

As the drumming continued, music teacher Michelle Footz led the GISS choir — and ultimately, the entire gathered school — in a song by Indigenous composer Sherryl Sewepagaham. Footz and Johnston said the song was given to them at a recent conference of elders, knowledge keepers and songmakers in Victoria. Because it was gifted, the song is sacred, Johnston said. Footz said the melody gives singers and listeners a framework, but not a specific message.

"Because there are no words, you can think about what the meaning is," said Footz, "either by singing along or just listening. We sing it six times. The first time we each set our own intention with the meaning of the song, and that can feel different for everybody."

Drums in hand, students and staff then marched in song off school grounds, down Rainbow Road and through town, encountering waves of encouragement and cheerfully beeping horns along the way.

"It's exciting and beautiful," said Johnston. "I'm so excited to see all our youth here at the high school, standing in a place of pride as they learn about their cultures."

Omicron surge expected

FLU CLINIC
continued from 1

"We're likely to be facing a surge in Omicron," said Henry during a Sept. 28 press briefing, with modelling suggesting that could occur in November or December. "It's important for us to focus on boosting up those antibodies as we go into the fall. If we see a similar pattern to what we saw in the southern hemisphere, we might [also] see influenza start to surge in November."

This 2022/2023 flu vaccine is targeting several strains; most people will be offered a quadrivalent shot that targets A/Victoria/2570/2019 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus, A/Darwin/9/2021 (H3N2)-like virus, B/Austria/1359417/2021-like virus, and B/Phuket/3073/2013-like virus. The A/Darwin and B/Austria strains were not contained in last season's flu shots, according to Island Health, but are expected to help with the vaccine's effectiveness this year.

People who have not yet registered can visit the getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca website or call 1-833-838-2323. They can also register in person at all Service BC offices. After registration, a text, email or phone call will be received for booking a vaccine appointment.

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Every five to six years, the Capital Regional District conducts the Origin Destination Household Travel Survey. Data provide a profile of travel patterns in the region on an average fall day.

From October to November 2022, some residents around the region will receive a letter from the CRD inviting participation in the survey.

If you receive a letter asking you to participate, log in with your invitation letter's unique secure code at crdtravelsurvey.ca.

Participate and enter to win!
You could win \$500 cash or a \$25 gift card to a local business.

We value your contribution as it will directly affect transportation decisions made across the region.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete this important survey.



TRANSPORTATION

CRD rolls out local active transportation survey

Input sought on pedestrian, bicycle network

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

If you walk or wheel on Salt Spring, the Capital Regional District (CRD) wants to hear from you.

An online survey is open until midnight Oct. 24, as part of an island-wide plan-

ning process to create a new Active Transportation Network Plan (ATNP) for Salt Spring Island. Active transportation refers to human-powered forms of travel, from walking and wheelchair travel to biking and skateboarding, fully or part-way to and from a destination or bus stop.

The ATNP will focus on both walkability in Ganges as well as active transportation connectivity island-wide, according to the CRD, in an effort to develop options to improve safety, accessibility and convenience.

The online engagement stems from a community consultation held at an Ideas Fair during the Saturday Market in August, and seeks to identify current active transportation network, conditions and gaps. Information provided during the process will inform a list of actions, recommendations, and top priorities; a second survey will be available later this fall, according to the CRD, where islanders will be asked to provide feedback on those draft actions, recommendations and priorities.

When complete, Salt Spring Island's ATNP will identify a small number of priority projects which will inform the budget and planning work for funding applications; the ATNP will build upon the 2013 SSI Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plan, and will be informed by learnings from the Ganges Village Area Plan process.

To participate in the survey, share ideas, and provide input through an interactive map, visit the website: getinvolved.crd.bc.ca/ssi-active-transportation-network before 11:59 p.m. Monday, Oct. 24.

VOLUNTEERING

Santa help needed

First planning meeting coming up

A long-running volunteer-sponsored Salt Spring event is about to gear up for the holiday season and is seeking new members, particularly those interested in leadership roles.

For more than three decades, Santa's Workshop has been providing toys and gifts to needy children at Christmas; those toys are gathered, organized, and distributed by a hard-working core of volunteers.

"We come together for only one month before Christmas," said coordinator Wendy Eggertson, "and have a lot of fun doing it."

This year volunteers are needed from Nov. 21 to Dec. 16, and with two or three people needed to share leadership roles.

The first planning meeting will be in the second week of October. For information and to volunteer, contact Eggertson at 250-221-2381.


TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

OCTOBER 2022 PST (UTC-8h)
When using Daylight Saving Time, one hour must be added to the predicted time in the table

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
5	0629	0.8	2.6	9	0417	2.9	9.5
WE	1445	3.3	10.8	SU	0956	1.5	4.9
ME	2041	2.5	8.2	SU	1630	3.2	10.5
				DI	2247	1.3	4.3
6	0006	2.7	8.9	10	0521	2.9	9.5
TH	0732	0.8	2.6	MO	1039	1.8	5.9
JE	1518	3.3	10.8	MO	1650	3.2	10.5
	2110	2.2	7.2	LU	2322	1.1	3.6
7	0144	2.7	8.9	11	0622	3.0	9.8
FR	0825	1.0	3.3	TU	1124	2.1	6.9
VE	1546	3.3	10.8	TU	1709	3.1	10.2
	2141	1.9	6.2	MA	2357	0.9	3.0
8	0306	2.8	9.2	12	0723	3.1	10.2
SA	0913	1.2	3.9	WE	1212	2.3	7.5
SA	1610	3.2	10.5	WE	1727	3.1	10.2
	2214	1.6	5.2	ME			

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For over 30 years, Gary has served Salt Spring as a community activist, MLA, and CRD Director, and played a key role in many of our successes.

PLEASE VOTE 'YES' to an ELECTED LCC for MORE DIVERSE AND ACCOUNTABLE CRD REPRESENTATION

As promised, Gary held annual public budget meetings, attended monthly Islands Trust and ASK town halls, published dozens of Director Reports and articles. He is also fulfilling a commitment to establish a Local Community Commission (LCC) to improve CRD representation, accountability and service delivery coordination.

Gary's priorities will include:

- establishing LCC consensus on community priorities
- facilitating public access to LCC meetings
- CRD partnerships with First Nations and community groups
- inter-agency meetings, including RCMP on public safety
- management of parking, local parks, Ganges Harbour
- feasibility of CRD/Trust offices in the Middle School

Contact Gary about his campaign at:
gary4director.org gary4director@gmail.com
For voting information see crd.bc.ca/vote.
Authorized by Janis Gauthier financial agent (janisgauthier@shaw.ca)

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OPINION

2019 CCNA Awards
Gold - Best Editorial Page | Gold - Best Feature Series (Gail Sjoberg)
Bronze - Best News Story (Elizabeth Nolan) | Bronze - Community Service

2022 BCYCN Awards
Gold - Best All Round (for circulation Category C)
Bronze - Community Service Award



Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

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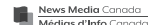
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Canada Publication Mail No.0040050837 | International Standards Serial Number 1198-7782
Member of News Media Canada • National NewsMedia Council, and BC & Yukon Community NewsMedia Association



EDITORIAL

Healthy debate

Every election needs hot-button issues, and the local community commission (LCC) proposal has provided one this time.

In some ways the anti-LCC voice is similar to what we heard in the 2017 incorporation debate. There's understandable fear and suspicion of the unknown, and a call for more time to consider it and other options. Negative sentiment naturally arises because some people don't like the CRD incumbent Gary Holman, who made investigation of an LCC an election campaign promise four years ago.

But if everyone was on board with an idea at the outset there would be no fulsome discussion and nothing to push against to see where its strengths and weaknesses may lie. Disagreement and debate is both necessary and healthy.

It's true that any governance change feels like a leap into the unknown, and this jump is with an existing partner — the CRD — who some past CRD commission members have reasons to not feel good about. But others with commission experience are confident the LCC option is an improvement for Salt Spring.

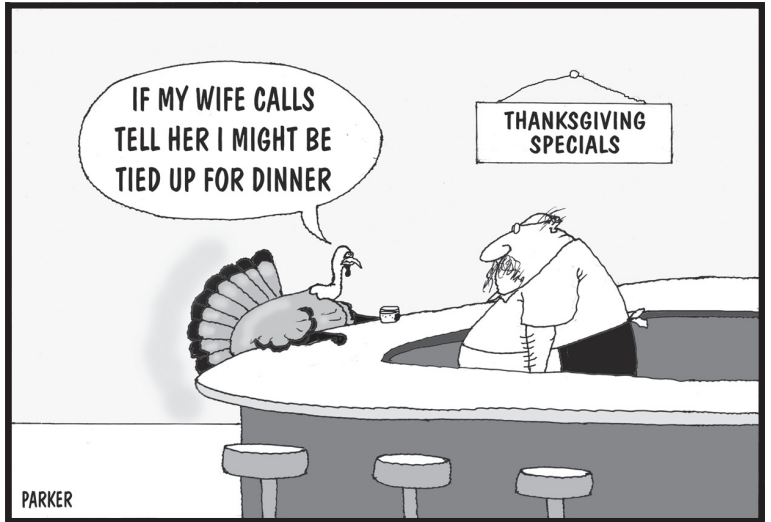
THE ISSUE: LCC referendum

WE SAY: Answers should lead to yes vote

As suggested by a letter writer in this week's paper, an in-person open house or public forum organized and hosted by the CRD would have helped clarify the issues. And several questions do remain, including what an LCC would really cost. The question is still unresolved because a CRD staff report suggested that 48 hours more staff time each week would be required with an LCC. Holman and others have stated that more staff would not be needed with consolidation of commissions. That conflict itself illustrates a problem with the current system. We feel four elected commissioners with their eye on the whole picture would make the best use of tax dollars and CRD expertise for Salt Spring-based priorities and would be able to save us money.

People with questions about the LCC concept should join a Zoom session set up by the Local Community Commission Advisory Committee on Tuesday, Oct. 11 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. See LCC-saltspring.com for the link.

The LCC issue and many others will also be discussed at the Salt Spring Forum/Driftwood all-candidates meeting for CRD and Trust candidates on Oct. 6 at ArtSpring. People can watch the video a few days later, read materials published in the Driftwood and elsewhere, or contact a candidate directly and have them answer your questions.



PARKER

Trust mandate under fire

BY PETER LAMB

The local government elections are upon us again on Oct. 15 with a four-year term for the successful candidates.

From a review of some of the statements from the candidates for the two Salt Spring Island local trustee positions it appears that the Islands Trust mandate is being threatened once more.

A Salt Spring local trustee is bound by the legislative object set out in the Islands Trust Act to "preserve and protect the trust area and its unique amenities and environment" and this wording has not changed to date.

It follows that the primary obligation of a local trustee is to make decisions that meet that object, not to just consider it as only one of the factors to be met. A local trustee who abides by this legislative authority is not an "eco-radical" or any other such inflammatory description; they are simply following the mandate that they have been elected to carry out.

The B.C. government is the authority that adopted the act, originally in 1974, and is the only authority that can make any amendments to the act, as it has done recently in including First Nations in the object. The B.C. government is also the authority that approves the Islands Trust Policy Statement and all local official community plans (OCPs). All local land use bylaws must be consistent with both, as determined by the Trust Executive Committee before adoption by a local trust committee.

VIEWPOINT

This is not to say that a local trustee should not consider other community issues, such as affordable housing or water supply or septic waste. Indeed, they are often covered in their OCP. But these must be considered only in the context of the Islands Trust object (or mandate), not given equal weight in their local decisions and certainly not given priority attention.

Often forgotten is that the Islands Trust

Whatever its flaws, it remains alone in our country as a government charged with the stewardship of a fragile environment and the preservation of a special, rural quality of life.

Act, and the institution which it established, represents a promise made by the provincial government to islanders, and to the people of British Columbia generally, that the islands would be protected for all time from over-development and inappropriate development. There are no other local or regional decision-making bodies like it elsewhere in Canada or, it appears, in North America. Whatever its flaws, it remains alone in our country as a government charged with the

stewardship of a fragile environment and the preservation of a special, rural quality of life.

The enormous challenges to our community imposed by climate change together with environmental and related political stressors mean that our community, now more than ever, needs elected officials who recognize the intrinsic worth of this unique administrative governance model and will commit to abide by its mandate.

The writer is a former Salt Spring Island local trustee.

THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Will you be getting a flu shot this year?

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Have you already decided who to support on Oct. 15?



Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before Monday 2 p.m. or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 2 p.m.

ISLAND VOICES

LETTERS to the editor

Sensible choice

I very much hope that voters will approve the proposed bylaw to establish a local community commission for Salt Spring when we go to the polls on Oct. 15.

When the Trust was created in 1974, a kind of bargain was struck between the province and southern Gulf Islands. Environmentally mandated local government would be established in the region and the islands would be separated from the standard form of municipal local government. The latter for good or for ill, presumes endless development as the principal funder of local government. I have previously called this the municipal treadmill. Typically, local planning takes a poor back seat to economic development. The Trust area got a reprieve from that model in the Trust legislation.

But the bargain came at a cost: local government would be very narrow in scope and limited in powers. Hence the understandable wish for the additional authority, and risks and costs, which come with municipal government, from islanders who would not necessarily like to see runaway development, but would like to see greater local authority, and a wider range

of locally elected representatives. We of course all know that the municipal model has been defeated at referendum, twice, most recently in 2017.

The LCC, using existing legislation, is a sensible and logical addition of local authority and elected representation, while keeping government small and proportional to the island. In addition to the list of authorities it would manage, it would mean a five member panel of elected folks, who would earn the confidence of the voters and carry considerable heft within the CRD, by far our largest local government presence.

DAVID BORROWMAN,
VESUVIUS

More info wanted

Gary Holman is clearly confused by my Sept. 14 opinion piece which asks for a second opinion on how a CRD/LCC might function.

I expressed no opinion on the merits of an LCC. I suggest that there is a large and experienced group of people on this island today who have insights, based on personal experience, that could clarify the relationship between CRD Victoria and commissioners

on Salt Spring Island. I have asked for more information than we get from the pro-LCC cheerleaders. It would take some time and a certain integrity to collect and present this information. It might cost some money to make our LCC decision based on a broader range of facts, but it would inevitably be a better decision.

You'd think a CRD director would welcome and support a process that delivers a balanced picture of the CRD/commissioner relationship; indeed the CRD might learn as much as the electors.

CHRIS DIXON,
SALT SPRING

Ideas, not insults

We have a plethora of candidates in our upcoming local elections but a significant dearth of election platforms.

One candidate seeks our vote because he says he "is the best candidate." Another says vote for me for this trustee office or vote for me for that CRD office — whichever. Several candidates are saying vote for me because I have lived here a really long time and some are saying vote for me because those other folks are just awful. The personal attacks have reached a degree

of possible legal libel.

Perhaps we should ask the candidates to submit a written classroom-type assignment requiring completion of the sentence: "If elected, I will . . ."

Our community would be better served if all candidates would offer us a positive vision and state clear, specific proposals to address our current challenges.

SHARON MCCOLLOUGH,
WELBURY DRIVE

Doctor voice appreciated

Roses and lighter on-call emergency physician duties to Salt Spring's Dr. Christopher Applewhaite. He was recently interviewed on CBC Radio's White Coat, Black Art about the causes of our island's rapidly worsening family physician shortage.

Last week I officially joined the half of our island's population without a family doctor. The fault lies not with our hard-working doctors but with a broken system.

TAM SIN MCKENZIE,
SALT SPRING

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"The drum beat is the heartbeat. We're drumming for those who did not make it home from the residential schools, who've been living in a place of anguish."

SHANNON JOHNSTON, SD64 INDIGENOUS EDUCATION PRINCIPAL

Reasons to vote yes for a Salt Spring Local Community Commission

By **RICHARD KERR**

Voting "yes" to create an elected local community commission (LCC) would open the door to significant improvements in control and delivery of local government services.

If we vote for an LCC, it will have administrative authority over almost all island-wide CRD services, including parks and recreation, transit and transportation, liquid waste disposal, economic development and grants-in-aid. The existing appointed commissions for these services are advisory only. They would be replaced by an elected LCC with real decision-making powers.

The LCC would initially have authority over services with operating costs of \$4.7 million and capital expenditures of \$3.8 million in 2022.

The LCC would also oversee property tax amounts for the library, search and rescue, ArtSpring, and Salt Spring Arts — more than \$800,000 in 2022.

The establishment bylaw would allow our CRD director to consult the LCC on any local matters, including all undelimited services.

Some current members of existing advisory commissions may run to become elected LCC

commissioners. If elected, they would bring their expertise and experience. The LCC could also use the expertise of former advisory commission members and others by creating specific advisory groups. The LCC would also get advice directly from the public at regular open meetings. Such input could be encouraged by providing timely information on forthcoming decisions. An LCC could thus provide broader, locally elected decision-making informed by continued community input.

LCC commissioners could take on "portfolios" and develop expertise in specific areas (transportation, parks and recreation etc.). The LCC could assign commissioners to liaise with other organizations whose work affects its responsibilities, e.g. Islands Trust, SSI Fire-Rescue, North Salt Spring Waterworks, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and its local roads contractor, the RCMP, etc. This knowledge would be shared with fellow commissioners to guide collective decision-making in the areas of delegated authority.

The four elected LCC commissioners would each receive an annual stipend of \$10,000. This \$40,000 cost would be a tiny

INDEPTH

fraction of the operating and capital budgets overseen by the LCC.

Four elected LCC commissioners and our CRD director should be able to scrutinize proposed expenditures more effectively than in the past and prune lower-priority spending. With a five-member elected LCC, budgets for our CRD services will reflect broader community perspectives than having the CRD director alone making these decisions.

Consolidation of existing island-wide advisory commissions should provide significant efficiencies. Together with potential reallocation of local CRD resources, this could help offset additional administrative expenses. The province provides LCCs with \$5,000 annually toward costs. Our LCC could seek a grant increase in line with its responsibilities - which would be much greater than in the smaller communities that receive such grants.

Once the LCC has proved successful in administering the initially-delegated services, it could ask the CRD Board to

delegate more responsibilities. Voter approval would be required for any new services — a degree of voter control that does not exist in municipalities.

Currently, two of our most successful CRD-funded services (library and recycling) are delivered under contract with local non-profits. Under an LCC, this approach could potentially allow fire and water improvement districts to be restructured as non-profits delivering services under contract to the LCC. This would retain on-island decision-making while providing eligibility for federal and provincial grants (for which improvement districts are not eligible). Any such changes would require voter approval.

The LCC's delegated authority should be expanded as soon as possible to include the allocation of federal gas tax funding, \$1.2 million in 2021. This allocation is now effectively decided by the Salt Spring CRD director alone.

In recent decades, Salt Spring has had two referenda on municipal incorporation and both times this option was rejected. The province is unlikely to consider this again in the foreseeable future. Regardless of our views on municipal incor-

poration, many Salt Springers have expressed dissatisfaction with what is seen as a confusing, fragmented and sometimes inefficient delivery of local government services, combined with a lack of accessible, democratic decision-making and local control. An LCC could help address some of the current weaknesses, while avoiding concerns about municipal incorporation: excessive roads and policing costs and potential over-development.

The demands on Salt Spring's CRD director have grown beyond the capabilities of even the most hard-working and competent individual. By sharing this load, an LCC could help us have much more effective, representative, and electorally accountable local governance. Let's give it a try! The risks are low and the potential benefits are great.

The writer is an economist who has served on two CRD advisory commissions and as alternate electoral area director. He was also on the 1999-2002 Salt Spring Island Local Government Restructure Study Committee and was a co-author of the 2022 LCC Options and Recommendations report.

CRD needs to answer outstanding LCC questions

By CURT FIRESTONE

Everybody believes that a democratically elected government is better than an appointed government. Equally, we all know that a government without proper resources or with overly restrictive regulations has trouble truly being democratic.

The CRD's proposed local community commission (LCC) is a new government structure for a community of over 12,000 without a municipal government. Yet, we are miss-

ing many "nuts and bolts" as we are asked to decide if the referendum fits Salt Spring Island. The proposed LCC leaves the details concerning resources and regulations for future CRD development.

Incumbent CRD director Gary Holman on several occasions said that our community would have plenty of opportunities to discuss the CRD referendum after it was adopted by the CRD Board on July 13. Now, we are one week before the advance polls open without

a CRD-hosted public forum open to all residents. Therefore I have decided to ask my 10 questions in the Driftwood and I am asking the CRD to respond in next week's Driftwood.

Karla Campbell, Salt Spring Island CRD manager, told the CRD Board that there will be one-time costs of \$70,000 and on-going expenses of \$168,600/year for an LCC. The two largest costs would be \$106,110 for 48 hours of staff time per week and \$40,000 for paying the four commissioners.

1. Will the 48 hours of available staff time come from existing Salt Spring Island staff or will the LCC commissioners be able to hire new employees to meet its staff requirements?

2. What are the five-year projections for annual fiscal increases and contingencies?

The proposed bylaw states that "The LCC shall hold a regular meeting once per month." If so, that means the LCC will meet less often than the current four advisory commissions.

3. How can the LCC do the work of the four current commissions plus all the other newly assigned requirements with only one meeting per month?

4. Will the LCC meet at a time and place when most working members of the public may participate?

5. What happens when the LCC and staff have differing positions on an issue? Will the LCC, as elected representatives, always prevail or is the matter referred to the full CRD Board for a decision?

6. If there is an LCC vacancy, what is the provision for electing a replacement?

7. Four advisory commissions will be terminated, if we create a LCC. They consist of many volunteer commissioners with valuable expertise. May the LCC have committees, CRD staffed, whose membership includes community volunteers?

9. Gary Holman has stated that if we need addendums to the LCC bylaws, we will have another referendum for that purpose. Karla Campbell has recommended \$60,000 for an election expense. Is the decision to send changes by referendum to the voters made by the CRD Board in Victoria?

10. MLA Adam Olsen announced at the Sept. 2 ASK Salt Spring gathering that he has been working with the Minister of Municipal Affairs on a "process that could honestly look at what is working on Salt Spring, what is not, and what governance solutions are possible. An outcome for Adam would be a structure in which Salt Springers align on values and priorities and have the local resources to implement many of them."

Should our community set aside the LCC until we learn what develops from Adam's effort assisting us in finding an improved governance structure?

I hope that Gary Holman or CRD staff will reply to these 10 questions. Those answers could help voters to better understand the nuts and bolts of the LCC referendum proposal before they vote either yes or no.

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LCC misrepresented in Moffatt letter

BY BRIAN WEBSTER

Bob Moffatt's latest anti-LCC letter (Sept. 21 Driftwood) shows that he has run short on points to criticize the proposed Salt Spring Local Community Commission.

In March, Mr. Moffatt wrote that an LCC would be another layer of government. Untrue, as the proposal calls for it to replace four existing commissions. He suggested the CRD would never delegate significant authority to an LCC. Wrong, as the bylaws call for full administrative authority over 11 local government services (plus oversight of three others) to pass from the CRD Board to the Salt Spring LCC.

Mr. Moffatt claimed that each LCC commissioner would be paid "as much as \$40,000 a year." Nope. It's about a quarter of that.

He said this kind of delegation was untested. Oops . . . no. The CRD has long had five other commissions with similarly delegated powers.

He even expressed concern on social media that LCC commissioners would need the same qualifications to run as an electoral area director (you need to be Canadian, at least 18, a B.C. resident for six months and not prohibited due to being in prison or other reasons). Umm . . . almost all Salt Springers meet those qualifications.

Now Mr. Moffatt has "exposed" a staff report (it's been publicly available for more than two months) estimating costs for staff support to the LCC. That report was speculative and didn't include savings from eliminating four current commissions. More importantly, by creating a single, elected local council with the power to set budget proposals at open public meetings (that's

INRESPONSE

what an LCC is), our community will be able to make tough budget choices out in the open, potentially generating savings far in excess of the costs estimated in the staff report.

The bottom line is that fixed costs for the LCC will include the stipend for LCC commissioners (estimated at a total of \$40,000 for four local commissioners) and approximately \$15,000 per year set aside to cover an election in the event of a resignation. With the \$5,000 per year from the province, the total annual fixed costs of an LCC will be \$50,000.

Any additional costs will need to be approved in open public meetings by the elected LCC. If commissioners don't manage taxpayer dollars frugally, they can be tossed out of office at the next election. That's how democracy works.

Clearly, Mr. Moffatt will find fault with any proposal other than municipal incorporation and prefers to stick with our current flawed system while waiting for another incorporation referendum.

I think most Salt Springers don't want to wait any longer. They want to act now to bring more voices to local government decision-making, improve coordination of services and enhance local control. All of which we will get if we vote yes to a Salt Spring LCC.

The writer is a Salt Spring farmer, business owner and former PARC commissioner who helped develop the LCC discussion paper.

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VISUAL ARTS

Forty years of painting illuminated in exhibit



PHOTO BY MARCIA JANSEN

Ken and Margaret Mackenzie stand with paintings of themselves made by Margaret. A retrospective of Margaret's work runs at Mahon Hall from Oct. 7 to 16.

Margaret Mackenzie shares profound body of work

BY MARCIA JANSEN
 DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

It was a couple of months into the COVID-19 pandemic when Ken Mackenzie gave his wife Margaret a final push towards her retrospective art show.

He had quietly saved up some money over the years to get the independent exhibition of Margaret's work on the way. The exhibition, taking place at Mahon Hall from Oct. 7 to 16, is the culmination of 40 years of work and study and consists of more than 60 paintings.

Margaret, 79, had always been involved in crafts but took up painting in the late 1970s after she started a drawing course at Algonquin College in Ottawa. Before that, she was a registered nurse in Newfoundland and Halifax.

After she and Ken, now 84, had moved from Ottawa to Montreal and adopted two children, she found it hard to find work in a hospital as a native English speaker. Instead, encouraged by her husband, she applied to Concordia University and got a degree in fine arts.

Ken and Margaret moved to Salt Spring in 1991 and started a bed and breakfast in their home on Castle Cross Road. Guests bought Margaret's artwork and encouraged her to create more.

Her painting got more serious after she contracted an infection and a wrong diagnosis led to an infected lymphatic system.

"I was in pain for more than a year. No specialist could find the cause, and painting was a way to process my feelings," she said.

Margaret started out with watercolour but has since worked with oil, pastels and charcoal. Her work — which she refers to as "painterly drawing" — expresses a theme deep in metaphorical imagery and paradoxical meaning.

Three images that stand out in her work: trees, skulls and whales.

"The tree is a metaphor for birth, the skull for death and the whale for freedom, and they are all connected," she explained. "It is my spiritual expression of divining the inner life in everything."

Dualism became a reoccurring theme in her work after she read a book about the Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard.

"During my sickness, Kierkegaard's words spoke to me. I found in him a friend who understood me. In life, you need the paradox to be whole. You need the darkness to see the light. It helped me to not let the pain drag me down, but to find peace in it."

Her whale paintings, inspired by the Herman Melville novel Moby-Dick and the biblical story of Jonah and the whale, form a big part of the exhibition.

"My last work pictures Jonah on the shore, with a whale in the distance. He came out of the darkness and into the sunshine. Just like me."

At age 79, Margaret feels it is time for a final exhibition of her work.

"During the pandemic, my infection flared up again. Pain comes and goes in cycles. My art, once again, helps me through it," she said. "The light in my paintings comes from within. It symbolizes all that we live for — for our lives to be an expression of hope amid the trials and tribulations of living."

The retrospective exhibition of Margaret's work runs from Oct. 7 to Oct. 16 at Mahon Hall, daily from 10:15 a.m. to 4 p.m.

On Friday, Oct. 14 at 12:30 p.m., Ken will give a talk, "Bowing our Heads in Dutiful Submission," based on his yet-unpublished book Victoria: The Outpost of Empire, about how two daily newspapers in Victoria reported local feelings about the province's role in the British Empire, and how three particular Brits, including Rudyard Kipling, viewed Canada's steady progress towards full nationhood between 1890 and 1914.



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HAPPY Thanksgiving

Advertising Deadlines Change

Please note that the **Gulf Islands Driftwood office** will be closed on **Monday, Oct. 10 - Thanksgiving** and will reopen 9am - 4pm on Tuesday, Oct. 11.

ADVERTISING DEADLINES FOR THE GULF ISLANDS DRIFTWOOD
 Wednesday Oct. 12 edition will be as follows:
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 12 NOON

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Salt Spring CRD & Islands Trust Elections

All-Candidates Debate

Thursday, October 6
7:00 - 9:00 pm
ArtSpring

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IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT FOR THE EVENTS CALENDAR EMAIL:
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LIVE MUSIC

Boccherini in focus at concert

Boccheriniana concert from Accademia de' Dissonanti

SUBMITTED BY ARTSPRING

The opening music performance in our new season, on Thursday, Oct. 13, brings an ensemble of five superb musicians on strings and flute to celebrate the classical-era composer and cellist Luigi Boccherini.

Under the artistic direction of leading cellist Elinor Fry, Accademia de' Dissonanti presents a concert of chamber music favourites by Boccherini and other European composers from the same era: Mozart, J.C. Bach and Maddalena Sirmen.

Founded in 2020, Accademia de' Dissonanti is an artistic institution presenting concerts, publications and educational academies centred on historical performance and creative research. Numbering 14 international musicians in its current season — including harpsicord, lute and harp players — the quintet visiting ArtSpring is currently on a nationwide tour with Boccheriniana.

Outstanding Canadian-American cellist Fry is also a dedicated



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH DELAGE

Canadian-American cellist Elinor Fry of Accademia de' Dissonanti, set to perform at ArtSpring on Oct. 13.

researcher and collaborator, resulting in worldwide performances and acclaimed recordings with musicians and scholars. Alongside Fry are Italian violinist Laura Andriani, whose

extensive repertoire covers both classic and contemporary eras; Canadian violinist Isaac Chalk, who trained as a choral singer as well as an instrumentalist; violinist Rosella Croce, who continues to play, record and teach in her native Italy; and the celebrated Belgian traverso player Jan De Winne, who leads the early music department of the Royal Conservatory of Brussels.

The group describes Boccherini as one of the most delightful and original voices of the classical era. Born in Italy in 1743, Boccherini influenced the development of the string quartet genre, and played as a travelling virtuoso before settling in Madrid as court composer. The program celebrates this unique voice with three pieces by the composer — Flute Quintet in B-flat Major, Op. 19, no. 5; String Trio Op. 6, no. 5 in G minor; and Flute Quintet in D Major, Op. 17, no. 1 — and complementary works by Maddalena Sirmen (String Quartet no. 2 in B-Flat Major), Mozart (Flute Quartet in A major) and J.C. Bach (Quartet in G Major for flute, violin, viola and cello, op. 19, no. 3).

Next Thursday's show, which is sponsored by Michael Pidgeon, begins at 7:30 p.m.

what's on this week



<p>Wed. Oct. 5</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Tea a Tempo. Harry Warner performs at All Saints at 2:10 p.m. Followed by optional tea and treats.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES Paper Covers Rock. Workshop with Gracie Gardner: From Memory to Menu. 3 to 5 p.m. Info/registration through papercoversrock.ca. Teen Lounge. Youth aged 13 to 19 meet in the library's Teen Zone every Wednesday. 4 to 5 p.m. Salt Spring Museum. Open in Bittancourt House on the Farmers' Institute grounds on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.</p> <p>Thur. Oct. 6</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Mother Goose. Program of rhymes, stories and songs for babies, young children (0-4 years) and their parents/caregivers. Salt Spring library. In partnership with Family Place on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Paper Covers Rock. Workshop with Ahava Shira: The Words You Want to Write. Salty Pear. 3 to 5 p.m. Poetry Open Mic. With featured poet Shirley Graham. At the Salt Spring Public Library Program Rom. 7 p.m. Open Mic. At the Legion. 7:30 to 10 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES CRD/Islands Trust Candidates Forum. At ArtSpring. 7 to 9 p.m. Hosted by the Salt Spring Forum and the Driftwood. The event will also be available for viewing online on the Forum and Driftwood websites afterwards. Salt Spring Museum. See Wednesday listing.</p>	<p>Fri. Oct. 7</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT OK, DOPE. Stand-up comedy with Dan Duvall at the Legion. 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES Friday StoryTime. Story telling by Brian Day and Marie Beaudoin and activities for kids aged five and up. Salt Spring library children's area. 11 a.m. ASK Salt Spring. MLA Adam Olsen is the guest in ASK Salt Spring's new location in the lobby of the Middle School. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Ask@asksaltspring.com for more information. Paper Covers Rock. Workshop with Shauna Devlin: Moving With the Words. Salty Pear. 3 to 5 p.m. Paper Covers Rock Happy Hour Social. With a DJ mix at Salty Pear from 5 to 7 p.m. Salt Spring Museum. See Wednesday listing.</p> <p>Sat. Oct. 8</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Everyday People. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. PepperFall. At the Legion. 7:30 to 10 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES Saturday Market in the Park. In Centennial Park from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.</p> <p>Sun. Oct. 9</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Full Moon Affair. Poetry, music, song and laughter with artists Shamana Ali, Michael and Helga Bagnell and guests, David Haggart and Cherie Geauvreau. Lions Hall. Doors at 1:30 p.m. Event at 2 p.m. Blues Jam. Singers, players and fans welcome. Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.</p>	<p>Sun. Oct. 7</p> <p>ACTIVITIES Salt Spring Museum. See Wednesday listing.</p> <p>Mon. Oct. 10</p> <p>ACTIVITIES Thanksgiving Day holiday.</p> <p>Tues. Oct. 11</p> <p>ACTIVITIES Spiritual Conversations – What Are Our Spiritual Practices? Hosted by Star of the Sea and led by Brian Day and Heather Martin at St. Mary's Church in Fulford. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Register at staroftheseassi@gmail.com Tuesday Farmers' Market. Weekly market in Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m.</p> <p>VIA ZOOM A Local Community Commission Conversation. Bring your questions about the referendum question and proposal for local governance change to this Zoom gathering from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. See LCC-saltspring.com for the Zoom link.</p> <p>Wed. Oct. 12</p> <p>ACTIVITIES Dance as Prayer. Hosted by Star of the Sea and led by Lolla Devindisch at All Saints By-the-Sea from 2 to 4:30 p.m. For more info and registration visit staroftheseassi.ca. Salt Spring Museum. See last Wednesday's listing. SS Chamber of Commerce AGM. Annual general meeting at Lions Hall. 4 to 6 p.m.</p>	<p>THE FRITZ CINEMA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where the Crawdad Sings runs from Friday, Oct. 7 to Tuesday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. each night, plus a 3 p.m. Sunday matinee. For more movie info, see thefritz.ca. <p>EXHIBITIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margaret Mackenzie shows a 40-year retrospective of her paintings at Mahon Hall from Friday, Oct. 7 to Sunday, Oct. 16, from 10:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. • Salt Spring Island Weavers and Spinners Guild members hold their annual Thanksgiving weekend show and sale at ArtSpring: Friday, Oct. 7 through Monday, Oct. 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with work by 16 guild members. • Shannon Wardroper presents an exhibit called DoomsScrolling & An Antidote at the Salt Spring Public Library Program Room through October. • Rolando Lampitoc has artwork showing at Dragonfly Art Supplies. <p>Salt Spring Island Public Library 129 McPhillips Ave., Salt Spring Island, British Columbia</p>	<p>SSI Weavers and Spinners Guild Show & Sale In the ArtSpring gallery FRI-MON, OCT. 7 TO 10 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.</p> <p>THRIFTY FOODS Ganges, Mouat's Centre 7:30am to 9pm Customer Service 250-537-1522</p>
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ISLAND LIFE

LITERARY EVENT

Library hosts four authors

'Worth More Standing' celebrated

SUBMITTED BY SSI PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Salt Spring Island Public Library is hosting an author event at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13, featuring four writers and poets who will talk about writing at a time of crisis.

The event, funded by the Writers' Union of Canada and the Canada Council for the Arts, will present Kathy Page, Joanna Streetly, Christine Lowther and Murray Reiss. It's also a chance to celebrate the anthology *Worth More Standing: Poets and Activists Pay Homage to Trees*, edited by Lowther.

Salt Spring writer Page is best known for her fiction, including novels *Dear Evelyn*, winner of the 2018 Writers' Trust Prize for Fiction, and *Alphabet*, a Governor General's Award finalist. Her latest short fiction collections, *The Two of Us* and *Paradise & Elsewhere*, were each nominated for the Giller Prize. Driven by circumstances, her writing has recently taken some new, non-fictional and poetic directions.

Streetly's memoir *Wild Fierce Life* was a 2018 B.C. best seller. She's also a poet, essayist and fiction writer whose work can be found in *Best Canadian Essays 2017*, as well as numerous anthologies, magazines and literary journals. She lives afloat in the Tofino harbour with her partner Marcel and daughter Toby. Also a visual artist, Streetly has worked as a naturalist guide



KATHY PAGE



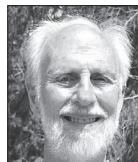
JOANNA STREETLY



CHRISTINE LOWTHER

and sea kayak instructor.

Lowther, a lifelong activist and a resident of Clayoquot Sound since 1992, served as Tofino Poet Laureate 2020-2022. She's the author of three books of poetry: *New Power*, *My Nature and Half-Blood Poems*. Her memoir *Born Out of This* was a finalist for the Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize.



MURRAY REISS

Salt Spring poet and activist Reiss has published two books of poetry: *The Survival Rate of Butterflies in the Wild*, winner of the 2014 Gerald Lampert Memorial Award, and *Cemetery Compost*. He's brought his work to life on the stage as well as the page as a climate action performance poet and founding member of Salt Spring's Only Planet Cabaret. His most recent work seeks to relocate the locus of evil in light of the Anthropocene.

Capital Regional District



Membership Opportunity

Regional Housing Advisory Committee

The Capital Regional District (CRD) invites applications from members of the public interested in sitting on the Regional Housing Advisory Committee. This committee will provide the CRD a forum that supports ongoing engagement with government, industry, non-profit housing providers and community on matters related to housing development and affordability.

There are vacancies for four members representing private developers, non-profit housing developers and operators, the indigenous community and the homelessness service sector. Meetings will be held quarterly, and appointments will be for a two-year term effective January 1, 2023.

To apply, submit your CV and a one-page summary including the following information: contact information, area of expertise, description of previous citizen engagement experience, reason for wishing to serve on the committee, and any other information you feel is relevant.

Deadline for receipt of applications is October 19, 2022.

For a copy of the Terms of Reference contact CRD Regional Housing at the address below or visit our website: www.crd.bc.ca.

Send your application to:

Mail: CRD Regional Housing PO Box 1000, Victoria, BC V8W 2S6
 Phone: 250.360.3652
 Fax: 250.361.4970
 Email: jputnik@crd.bc.ca

School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands)

Notice of Election by Voting; Trustee Electoral Area 1 – Salt Spring Island

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY given, in accordance with the *Local Government Act*, s 98 (1) (2) and (3), to the Electors of Trustee Electoral Area 1 – Salt Spring Island that an election by voting is necessary to elect School Trustees for School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands) from November 2022 until after the 2026 Local General Election, and that the persons nominated as candidates and for whom votes will be received are:

Area 1, Salt Spring Island – three (3) Trustees to be elected:

Surname	Usual Names	Residential Address
BOULTER	Tisha	Salt Spring Island, BC
MACDONALD	Nancy	Salt Spring Island, BC
MCCLEAN	Jenny	Salt Spring Island, BC
PINGLE	Rob	Salt Spring Island, BC
SIPOS	George	Salt Spring Island, BC
SZUL	Anna	Salt Spring Island, BC

VOTING OPPORTUNITIES

GENERAL VOTING will be open to qualified Electors of Trustee Electoral Area 1 – Salt Spring Island on: **Saturday, October 15, 2022 between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm at:**

- Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road, Salt Spring Island, BC
- Fulford Hall Seniors' Centre, 2591 Fulford Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC
- Salt Spring Island Public Library, 129 McPhillips Avenue, Salt Spring Island, BC
- Saanich Peninsula Presbyterian Church, 9296 East Saanich Road, North Saanich, BC

ADVANCE VOTING will be available to qualified Electors of Trustee Electoral Area 1 – Salt Spring Island: **Wednesday, October 5, 2022, and Wednesday, October 12, 2022, between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm at:**

- Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road, Salt Spring Island, BC
- Salt Spring Island Public Library, 129 McPhillips Avenue, Salt Spring Island, BC
- Saanich Peninsula Presbyterian Church, 9296 East Saanich Road, North Saanich, BC

MAIL BALLOT VOTING is open to all resident and non-resident property electors. To register to vote by mail, electors must submit a completed mail ballot application form and return to elections@crd.bc.ca before **October 1, 2022** to permit time for mailing. Application forms are available at www.crd.bc.ca/vote. To be counted, the elector is responsible for ensuring their mail ballot is received

by the CRD Chief Election Officer **no later than 4:00 pm on Friday, October 14, 2022** at the addresses listed here:

- Hand Delivery: Capital Regional District, Legislative Services, 5th floor, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC V8W 1R7
- Mailing by Post: Capital Regional District, Legislative Services, PO Box 1000, Victoria, BC V8W 2S6

ELECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

RESIDENT ELECTORS: You are entitled to vote as a Resident Elector if you are 18 years or older on general voting day, are a Canadian Citizen and have resided in British Columbia for the past six months. If registering on voting day, you must provide two documents proving identity and residency (one must have a signature). Please note the CRD is using the Provincial Voters List for Resident Electors.

NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY ELECTORS: If you are 18 years or older on general voting day, are a Canadian Citizen, have resided in British Columbia for the past six months, have owned and held registered title to property within the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area for the past 30 days, and do not qualify as a Resident Elector, you may vote as a Non-Resident Property Elector if you: a) have registered on or before August 23, 2022, or b) register at the time of voting. The following information is required at the time of registration:

- a recent title search, state of title certificate, or property tax notice, showing the names of all of the registered owners,
- two documents proving identity and residency (one must have a signature), and
- in the case of more than one owner of the property, a completed consent form signed by the majority of the owners, designating you as the person entitled to vote for the property. A copy of the consent form is available at: www.crd.bc.ca/vote.

IDENTIFICATION: The following are examples of acceptable classes of documents for proof of identity: BC Driver's **Licence**; BC ID card (BCID); BC Services Card; Social Insurance Card; Citizenship Card; Property tax notice; Credit card or debit card issued by a savings institution; and Utility bill.

For more information, please contact the Jesse Guy by email at jguy@sd64.org, or by email at elections@crd.bc.ca.

Dated this 20th day of September, 2022
 Jesse Guy, Chief Election Officer



2022 ISLANDS TRUST ELECTION

Seven candidates are vying for two seats as trustees on the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee.

Their answers to three questions posed to them by the Driftwood appear below.

1. What skills and experience do you have that would make you a good trustee?
2. If elected, what would be your top three priority areas during your term?
3. Do you think the Islands Trust generally needs more legislative powers, and if so, for what purposes?



BEN CORNO

1. I'm a good-willed and fair facilitator of discussion. I delight in learning new things, and I'm excited by the minutiae of public policy and the impact that it has on real people. I possess a great deal of empathy for anyone I'm talking with, and love to put myself in their shoes. I am lucky to have nurtured an expansive and pliable imagination, as well as an attention to detail. I have a strong need to have those details taken care of in the planning stages of any project.

2. First, promoting a conservation mindset to all residents, as well as trying to make conservation covenants more accessible for homeowners.

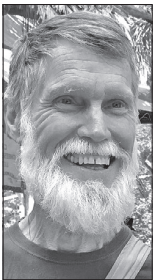
Second, taking care of the responsibilities of the job in good time, with care to devote to meaningful public consultation, and consistent, detailed communications. I will consider this a full-time job.

Third, identifying the best places for multi-family development on island, and being ready to be a hard-working, optimistic and flexible

steward of those projects.

3. I feel that the Trust has sufficient legislative power at the local trust committee level, and that a modernization of our official community plan, as well as the Trust Policy Statement, is needed to give our community direction with regards to our conservation goals, as well as our community care goals.

To what degree the Trust Council should have increased legislative power, I am not yet sure of. I'm still learning, and that's a great question to spur on my further learning.



GARY GAGNÉ

1. The main skill that I possess is being a problem solver and peace keeper by nature. Seeing the big picture and thinking outside the box comes quite naturally to me. I have many years of volunteer service including my current position as vice chair of NSSWD. I worked on Climate Action Plan 2.0; on the board of Island Pathways, and their two committees, and worked in Africa on permaculture installations. I also sit on the Salt Spring Housing Council. My natural tendency to look for connection leads me to find ways to bring diverse groups

together. Energy and passion included!

2. I am passionate about climate action and justice for all. My first priority would be to support the continuation of work begun on Maxwell Creek Watershed with regard to forest fire mitigation and wetland and forest restoration, with the eventual goal of expanding that resilience to all of Salt Spring. Regarding affordable worker housing, I have cost-effective and simple solutions that would enhance the quality of life and food security on the island. We also need to include Salt Spring in the Speculation and Vacancy Tax system and regulate STVRs. "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle"

includes housing as well.

3. It seems to me that governments generally have very little capacity to effectively use the powers they already do have, let alone waste staff time on trying to get new powers. The province needs to clarify that the purpose of the trust is to protect the natural environment, not the built environment. A useful aid in connecting with that purpose and with nature more deeply can be found in guidance from our Indigenous Elders and discovering the true value of life, not dead things (money, devices). This is the path most likely to get us out of our current pickle.



DON MARCOTTE AND JAMIE HARRIS, RUNNING AS A SLATE

1. We feel our decades of knowledge on how the Islands Trust works, along with our deep understanding of how the Islands Trust has had a negative impact on our community as a whole, will make us great trustees. Also, our business experience and established relationships would assist us greatly in our roles as trustees.

2. Addressing the ever-increasing

workforce housing crisis by working as fast as we possibly can to make provisions for ownership housing for workers and their families will be our first and foremost priority.

Secondly, we would work towards reducing the Trust's budget, by working with other elected trustees to aggressively get the Islands Trust performing efficiently and effectively to meet our communities' objectives.

Thirdly, we would work together with other governmental agencies and associations to focus on

the much-needed managing of our watersheds and conservancy lands, to improve the overall condition of these areas while reducing the growing wildfire risk.

3. We absolutely do NOT think the Islands Trust needs more legislative power. If anything, we feel the Islands Trust's bid for more power has been a huge waste of time, money and a gross overreach, as there are already other governmental agencies in place heavily regulating the areas the Trust wishes to gain control in.



JENNY MCCLEAN

1. I do know people on Salt Spring Island from all walks of life, and have a vision of how to create a community that works out for many types of people. I have been following the politics on Salt Spring Island for a long time, and I know about the different groups and what people here

are working to have built, and what they are concerned about protecting. I do read land use documents connected to Salt Spring as a personal hobby and I am aware of how things are run and what the issues are.

2. My top three priorities would be housing that serves families; learning about the aquifers, and their capacity and applying that knowledge

to land use, and planning for the community we will have in the future.

3. I do not believe that the Islands Trust can take on more legislative powers without a lot of public outcry. I would have to see if the public overwhelmingly wishes for the Islands Trust to have more legislative power before I would even say anything like that.



LAURA PATRICK

1. The issues the Trust has to deal with are complex and have interdependencies with other government bodies. As a newly elected representative it takes time to get your feet under you and understand how things work, what the policy purview of each government body is and, most importantly, how to get things done within that framework. I now have one term under my belt and can hit the ground running with all that learning AND all those relationships with other levels of government

already in hand. I bring a balance of honesty and compassion to the role of trustee. I am not dogmatic. I really do care about the consequences of the decisions I make.

2. Work initiated in my first term must continue to meet the challenges of climate change, the housing crisis, and walking the talk on reconciliation with First Nations. For example, I would:

- develop a multi-agency housing strategy and action plan that ensures all future development on Salt Spring is delivering the housing our community actually needs and is built with climate change adaptation in mind.

- build respectful relationships and work in trust with the many First Nations that wish to be involved in ensuring the well-being of our island for future generations.

3. Not necessarily, although the provincial review of the Islands Trust's mandate, governance and structure will ultimately daylight opportunities to the act. The fact is, the Trust hasn't fully utilized the powers it already has, and I believe we need to use these powers to coordinate the various government entities that share responsibility for addressing issues on our island like housing, equitable water resource use and watershed protection.



ELISSA POOLE

1. Dedication, civility, compromise and perseverance are essential for any work that involves people, projects and problem-solving. These aren't skills so much as character traits, but they've informed how I've approached an array of skilled professions. I've been a classical musician, journalist, editor and university teacher; I ran two ensembles, found the financing to produce their CDs and concert series, and am now working with conservationists to save an island forest and wetland. I've acquired new skills with each of these activities. So I'm not daunted by the immense work that will be

required to carry out the Trust's duties. I have great respect for other people's expertise, I would never hesitate to ask for advice, and I finish what I start.

2. The Trust was founded with the explicit aim of preserving and protecting the environment. A priority is reviewing the draft Policy Statement to ensure that this original mandate is clarified and strengthened throughout, and that it addresses the climate crisis in a way that values the health and security of all life on the islands. All other priorities fall in line with this one: the housing crisis, transparency in the Trust's process, protecting coastal Douglas-fir ecosystems and watersheds.

3. Maintaining a protected area in the middle of an intensely developed urban region requires funding and cooperation at all levels. The Trust Act must be tightened, along with the Trust Policy Statement, the official community plan and the bylaws, to ensure that the Islands Trust's top priority is to protect the natural environment. That does not exclude other objectives. We need provincial and First Nations representation on Trust Council (recommended by the Governance Review Report); and the province must provide funding and legislative tools for implementing coastal Douglas-fir protection through development permit areas, for enforcement of bylaws and addressing our housing crisis.

Obituaries

Obituaries

Nancy B. Holcroft

January 21, 1923 - September 1, 2022

It is with profound sadness that we announce the sudden and unexpected passing of Nancy Holcroft at North Island Hospital in Courtenay, BC. She succumbed to complications from a hernia. She will be missed by her son Tom (Char) of Victoria, daughter Anne (Bryne) of Campbell River, as well as several nieces and nephews and good friends. She was predeceased by her husband Ron, parents Norman and Amy, brothers Alf and John, and sister Sylvia.



Nancy was born in the city of Hull in Yorkshire, England. She was a teenager when the Second World War broke out, and was initially evacuated to a village south of York. Shortly afterwards, she moved back to Hull and continued her education. Her first job, in 1940, was at an aerodrome where she graphed the results of wind tunnel tests on different models of airplanes. But she realised that an inactive, indoor job was not for her. Instead, she attended Studley Horticultural College, followed by numerous jobs in market gardens, botanical gardens and nurseries, including two years at Kew Gardens and a year in Denmark. Thus began her love of gardens.

In 1954, she and a friend decided to uproot and move to Canada, settling in Brampton, Ontario. There she met Ron, another recent immigrant from England, when acting in a play together with an amateur theatre company. Nancy kept up this pastime throughout her life, with her last stage performance in 2004. She continued in Readers' Theatre until 2020 when COVID interfered.

Nancy always loved the outdoors. Walking was a favourite pastime, even as a child, so it was no surprise that she and Ron joined the Trail and Nature Club when they moved to Salt Spring Island in 1986. She was active in numerous other groups, including Sea Capers, Anglican Church, IODE, Daughters of the Nile, Scottish Country Dance Club, Salt Spring Garden Club, ArtSpring, Seniors Services Society, Meals on Wheels...

After several months of ups and downs, Nancy finally hit her stride when she moved to Courtenay in June, enjoying life again. Our thanks go to the staff at Comox Valley Seniors Village for the care and attention they gave Mum, helping to make her last couple of months happy ones.

Memorial service: 2:00 p.m. Friday, October 14th at All Saints by-the-Sea Anglican Church, Ganges, BC. Donations in Nancy's memory may be made to Salt Spring Island Conservancy.

"When someone you love becomes a memory the memory becomes a treasure"

In loving memory of
ROBERTSON, Donald
Born July 31st, 1931

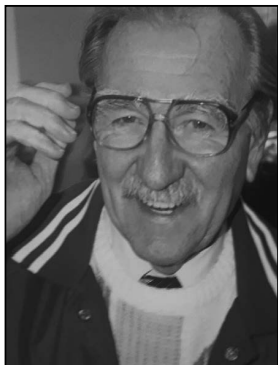
Passed peacefully in his sleep at home on September 21st, 2022 at Salt Spring Island, B.C. Predeceased by his loving wife, Shirley (Shelli); his sons: Gordon (Cameron) and Darryl and Jeffery Robertson; his three brothers: Alec, Richard and John.

Survived by his daughters Cheryl (Doug), Janet (Don), and his son Joseph (Aleta); his grandchildren: Jarrod (Jessica), Alexandra, Trevor, Dylan, Taylor, Courtney, Jacob (Emily), Brady, Jesse, Joshua and Travis; great grandchildren Austin, Kayla, Lilah and Millie; and his many nieces and nephews.

Donald enjoyed a successful career in Toronto, Hillsburgh and Erin as a Queen's Council lawyer. From 1972 until 1989, Donald and Shelli and family called Hillsburgh their home and the Hillsburgh Baptist Church, their church family. From 1989 until his passing, Salt Spring Island was his family home, the place he/they called 'Paradise'.

Donald was a beloved father across multiple generations and bloodlines.

You will be greatly missed, but forever remembered, by all your family and friends, and by your special friend, Fran.



Godspeed to your new Paradise, dear Dad, Boomba and Papa

There will be a Celebration of Life in the Spring. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Heart and Stroke Foundation or a special charity of choice.

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Obituaries

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Marjorie Ruth Leckie (Marge)

Marjorie Ruth Leckie (Marge) passed away peacefully on September 15th, 2022, at the age of 98.

She left her beloved Salt Spring Island, surrounded by family in a family member's garden, by way of Medical Assistance in Dying.

Mum was a long time member of Dying with Dignity and we are so grateful to her personal physician and the MAID doctor and nurse who provided her the means to go when she knew it was time. Although she could no longer help weed the flower beds, until very recently she still walked the grounds at Meadowbrook where the staff and residents made her feel at home. Mum was the sharpest card player in the family.

She always had a twinkle in her eye when she came from behind to win. Her keen desire to be independent and useful meant she was seldom idle. She finished her final project, helping to sew a sail cover for her son and daughter-in-law's boat, days before she passed.

In her kind and gentle way, as wife, mother and teacher, Mum's social conscience, strength and moral compass were reflected in her resolve to be true to her values. Happiest outdoors, she gave her time and resources to many environmental groups and lived her life walking as softly on mother earth as she could.

- The Leckie Family.

(At our mother's request, there will be no funeral service. Gifts in her name to Dying with Dignity or the proposed Community Park on Mount Maxwell or an environmental cause of your choice, would be welcome.)

In Memoriam Gifts



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Obituaries

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Misc. Wanted

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Obituaries

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Obituaries

In loving memory of

Ryon Charles Guedes

Born 1952 Nanaimo, BC

Died Sept 28, 2022 Cranbrook, BC

We are heartbroken to announce the passing of Ryon following a long fight with Alzheimer's disease.

Ryon enjoyed an accomplished career as a newspaper editor, most notably for the Vancouver Province, Nelson Daily News, and Castlegar News.

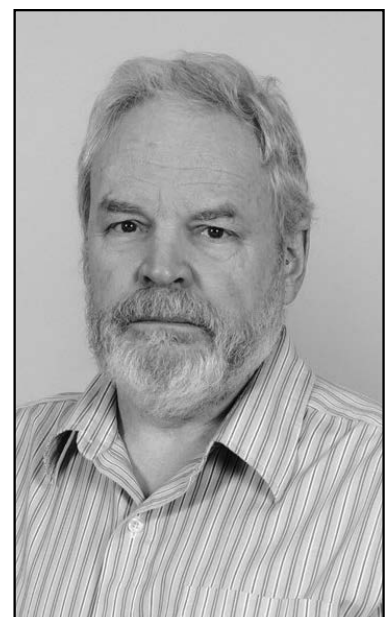
He was at his happiest smirking at his own jokes, interjecting trivia into conversations, and puttering around the family farm on Salt Spring Island, where he and his wife Judy raised three children: Travis (Sandy), Margot (Rob) and Roger (Rae-Anne).

Ryon was preceded in death by his eldest son, Travis. Following their retirement, Ryon and Judy moved to Cranbrook, BC, to be nearer to their youngest son.

He is survived by his beloved wife Judy Guedes (née Valdez) and the family they loved so much. His daughter Margot (Robert) Knight, and their daughters Mia, Anika and Autumn. His son Roger (Rae-Anne) Guedes, and their sons Gene, Lukas, William and Sawyer. His widowed daughter-in-law Sandy Guedes (now Buckley) and their children, Jupiter and Haylee. His sister Cathie (Philip) Herbert, and his brother Doug (Cheryl) Guedes.

The Guedes family wishes to thank the staff of the FW Green Memorial Home for their kind and compassionate care of Ryon.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, October 15th in Cranbrook. Please contact Roger Guedes for details at 250-421-8313.





A fundraiser for
Salt Spring LITERACY
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November 25-27 · Farmers' Institute

We need your jewelry donations now!

Drop off jewelry donations at Island Savings.

Donate books November 17-20 at the Farmers' Institute.

Your donation supports Salt Spring Literacy's programs, including children's literacy programs, adult tutoring, tech tutoring, senior tech help, public computer lab, help with forms, and more.




PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

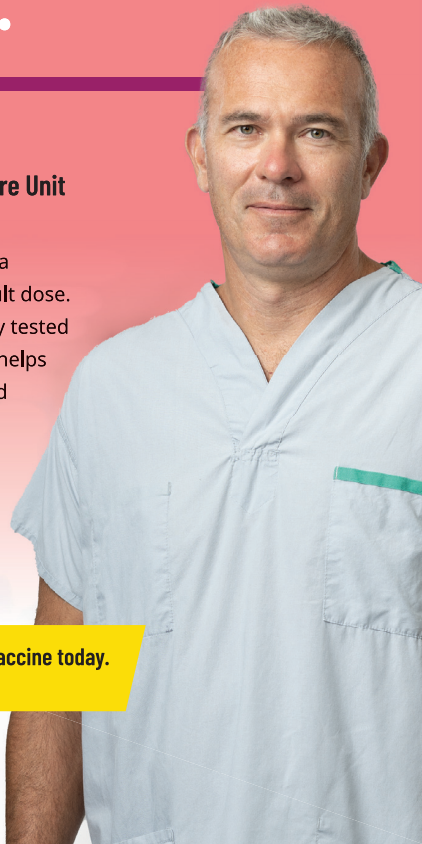
APPLE HEAVEN: Apple enthusiasts crowd Fulford Hall Sunday, Oct. 2, to view the centrepiece of Salt Spring Island's 2022 Apple Festival – a display of the hundreds of apple varieties grown in every corner of the island. Despite a season growers said was challenging, the display this year featured 333 apple varieties, set up in alphabetical order by 30 volunteers the night before. Several farms, orchards and agricultural properties also opened their gates to visitors.

COVID-19 IN BC

“Doses of the vaccine have been designed for children’s immune systems.”

Dr. John Boyd
Intensivist, Intensive Care Unit

Pediatric vaccines deliver a smaller dose than the adult dose. They have been rigorously tested and are safe. Vaccination helps prevent serious illness and hospitalization.



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Moment of truth for Trust

BY RONALD WRIGHT

We live by a system of local government unique in North America. The Islands Trust was founded in 1974 with a mandate to protect these islands from over-development and environmental destruction.

Yes, it is sometimes bothersome and bureaucratic. But without the protection the Trust gives us, Salt Spring would not be the lovely place it is today. Anyone who doubts that has only to look around at the Lower Mainland and Greater Victoria.

The Oct. 15 elections may well be our last chance to save the Trust from ever-rising commercial pressures. Driven by real estate speculation and a B.C. population growing at more than twice the national rate, these threats are often cleverly dressed up as “modernizing” or “serving human needs.” Of greatest concern is the threat from within, posed by trustees who no longer believe in what the Trust stands for.

A year before the last local elections in 2018, two-thirds of Salt Spring voters had chosen to keep the Trust protections, rejecting the development-friendly option of incorporation. We expected our trustees to abide by that decision. For a while they did, but lately they have taken some very wrong turns. I'll give examples, but first some background.

One incumbent, Peter Grove, is stepping down after a dozen years. The other, Laura Patrick, hopes for re-election. It is always wise to judge anyone running for another term by what they have done in office. The Trust Act's founding mandate and Trust Policy Statement spell out that preservation of the islands' environment must take priority over development. This is the reason for the Trust's existence, and most islanders choose to live here because of it. At Trust Council meetings last year on updating the Policy Statement, trustees from Pender, Galiano, Denman and Gabriola became worried that others were trying to water it down. They therefore brought forward several motions, such as this one affirming that “the paramount object of the Islands Trust Act is protection and preservation of the natural environment.” Laura Patrick voted against them.

Another sign our current trustees prioritize development came with the Vortex plan for a tourist resort on the site of the old Fulford Inn. This low-lying spot not far above sea-level is bounded by fish-bearing creeks and the tidal inlet. Trust staff advised thorough studies of its hydrology, drainage and biology before

any re-development could be approved. Yet our trustees passed the project regardless, just weeks before their term of office ends.

Over the past year or so, Laura Patrick and Peter Grove have repeatedly said the housing “emergency” is so serious it must trump all others. The housing shortage is real, but its main cause is well known. A recent hospital board study confirmed that the bulk of “workforce accommodation on Salt Spring has been displaced by over 500 nightly vacation rentals” (Airbnb and the like).

Salt Spring also has about a thousand homes that are seldom used or standing empty. Two obvious solutions could have been sought years ago: stronger enforcement of the ban on short-term holiday rentals; and bringing our island within B.C.'s Speculation and Vacancy Tax, whose revenues are earmarked for affordable housing. Instead the trustees went for a nuclear option: a blanket rezoning law, Bylaw 530, that would allow nearly all private landowners to double their density across most of the island. No due diligence was produced to support this idea: no estimates of need or build-out; no studies of impacts on roads, ferries, water sources, or woodlands. Yet Bylaw 530 was vigorously pushed ahead, despite staff's warnings it could contravene Trust policy and our official community plan. At second reading in July the trustees addressed these concerns merely by passing a motion asserting their bylaw “is not contrary to or at variance with the Islands Trust Policy Statement.” At the same time they made it even more extreme, cutting out earlier safeguards to ensure new dwellings would be rented longterm to islanders, not tourists.

Luckily provincial law required a public hearing (held Aug. 18) before the bylaw could be passed. Among the correspondence received was a letter from the Tsawout First Nation, who have the reserve near Fulford. Their strong objection cited the lack of an environmental study, as well as threats posed to their aboriginal rights and territory by the great increase in Salt Spring's population and water use that would be the bylaw's likely outcome. (Bylaw 530 is now on hold, awaiting our next trustees.)

Four years ago I voted for Laura Patrick, but I will not do so this time. We need trustees who will uphold the Islands Trust and the laws that have kept our island the special place it is. I ask you to vote for the two candidates with the strongest environmental platforms: Gary Gagné and Elissa Poole.