

October 27, 2011

## **GABRIOLA ISLAND AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMISSION TERMS OF REFERENCE**

*Approved by the Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee October 27, 2011*

Section 2(b) of the Gabriola Island Advisory Planning Commission Bylaw No. 209 permits the appointment of Special Advisory Planning Commissions based on a Terms of Reference developed by the Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee. The Agricultural Advisory Commission is an appointed Special Advisory Planning Commission pursuant to Bylaw No. 209.

This Terms of Reference guides the scope and role of the Agricultural Advisory Commission and its members and provides supplementary terms of appointment specific to the Agricultural Advisory Commission and its members. The operations of the Agricultural Advisory Commission and its members, as well as general terms of appointment applicable to all planning commissions, are guided by the Gabriola Island Advisory Planning Commission Bylaw No. 209. Both documents should be referred to for guidance.

### **1.0 Role and Mandate**

- 1.1 The Agricultural Advisory Commission shall provide recommendations to the Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee (Local Trust Committee) on matters referred to it by the Local Trust Committee concerning land use, community planning or proposed bylaws and permits relative to the role of agriculture and food supply in creating sustainable communities.
- 1.2 The role of the Agricultural Advisory Commission is advisory to the Local Trust Committee and recommendations of the Agricultural Advisory Commission are not binding upon the Local Trust Committee.
- 1.3 Agricultural Advisory Commission members are to exercise their judgment based on personal expertise, experience and knowledge of the subject matter. The gauging of community opinion on a particular issue or application is more appropriately considered one of the roles of the Local Trust Committee.
- 1.4 The Agricultural Advisory Commission shall be guided by the legislated object of the Islands Trust, relevant Trust Council policies, and the general policy intent as set out in the Gabriola Island Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw.
- 1.5 Agricultural Advisory Commission members shall listen to and acknowledge the views of other Agricultural Advisory Commission

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members and promote a meeting environment where all opinions are respected and all members feel comfortable expressing their views.

- 1.6 The Agricultural Advisory Commission may request information from other agencies through Islands Trust Staff. The establishment of policy and liaison with other levels of government, non-government agencies and community interest groups is the responsibility of the Local Trust Committee.

**2.0 Membership**

- 2.1 The total number of members shall be 5.
- 2.2 The members of the Agricultural Advisory Commission shall be appointed by resolution of the Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee.
- 2.3 Members shall be appointed for a term not exceeding 2 years.
- 2.4 The Local Trust Committee may reappoint a member for additional terms, but not exceeding three consecutive terms.
- 2.5 The membership of the commission shall include a majority with qualifications related to the mandate of the commission.

