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Building Inspection

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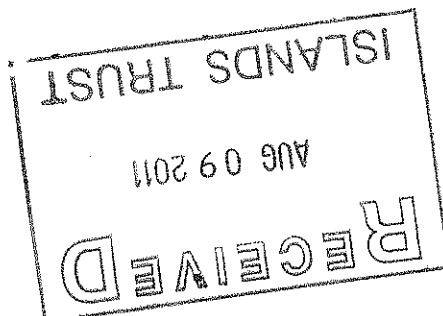
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August 9, 2011

Gary Richardson, Island Planner
Islands Trust
200 – 1627 Fort Street
Victoria, BC V8R 1H8



Dear Mr. Richardson:

RE: WATER CATCHMENT AND STORAGE SYSTEMS – SATURNA ISLAND

This is in response to your letter dated July 12, 2011 with respect to the Capital Regional District (CRD) policy for the design and installation of water collection systems (potable water systems).

Until recently it has been our practice of requiring the registration of a restrictive covenant to secure the engineering reports associated with the installation and maintenance of rainwater harvesting systems; however this is no longer a requirement.

We obtained a legal opinion that recommended that the CRD Building Regulation Bylaw 3741 be amended to include that when an engineer certifies rainwater collection systems, they can be used for potable water.

The CRD Building Regulation states that the CRD is not assuming any responsibility to review or inspect the installation of the water system and that the role is not one of "approval" but merely accepting and relying on the engineer's certification.

Permit fees for the design and installation of the water collection systems are reduced by 10%, up to a maximum of \$1000, when an engineer is involved. This was done to encourage rainwater catchment and help defray the cost associated with the involvement of an engineer.

The CRD Building Inspection division only addresses the water catchment and storage systems when the water is used for human consumption.

The CRD Building Regulation Bylaw 3741 requires that a cistern for potable water has a plumbing permit. Cisterns can be regulated through the land use bylaws for property setbacks to property lines and other buildings.

Should you require clarification of the above, please call me.

Yours truly,

Robert Gutierrez, RBO
Manager Building Inspection

RSG/rdl

cc: Director Ken Hancock, CRD