

LTC Report

On Friday, 10th January the Local Trust Committee hosted a presentation on Oil Spill Recovery by Islands Trust Chair Sheila Malcolmson. Sheila's two part presentation began with a comparison of local BC waters with similar jurisdictions in Washington State and Alaska. In every scenario, BC came in a very distant third with oil spill recovery equipment, training and knowledge of local waters in a very precarious state. This concern is compounded by the possibility of a twenty fold increase in marine traffic in the next 15-20 years.

Sheila's second presentation focused on a June 2013 invited visit to Norway, a country with an oil and gas export industry and long rugged coastline very similar to this one. The Norwegians, it seems, have a state of the art shipping response program along their entire coast paid for by the industry, and oil revenues are taxed at 75% to support social services such as a comprehensive retirement program.

At the next LTC meeting there will be a further discussion about the Oceanwood Senior's Housing application with new revisions to downsize the project as the LTC has requested. The second APC review has recommended the application should be allowed to proceed with some reservations about size and layout.

The next Mayne Island LTC meeting will be held at the Agricultural Hall on Wednesday 26th February at 1:00pm.

Jeanine Dodds, 250 539 2411, jdodds@islandstrust.bc.ca

Brian Crumblehulme, 250 539 3027, bcrumblehulme@islandstrust.bc.ca