

## South Pender Island Trustees Report

The September 6, 2013 LTC (local Trust committee) meeting resulted in some decisions made and some deferred. There are two opinions on next steps in the LUB (land use bylaw) review - whether to continue work on the review or to cut it off and take the next steps in adopting the current draft. Because David Graham from Denman Island was serving as our alternate Chair for this meeting, standing in for Ken Hancock, and Trustees Jones and Montague were unable to reach agreement, this decision will be revisited at the next LTC meeting on November 5, 2013.

Comments on the LUB draft amendments from the APC and community are available at the South Pender web page of the Islands Trust website. The August 10th Community Information Meeting minutes are included in the agenda package for the September 6th LTC meeting. The August 6th APC meeting minutes are there as well, listed as the late item package.

One change was made to our APC bylaw, increasing the number of APC members from the current six to "up to seven". The other proposed amendment, to add a conflict of interest rule to the APC bylaw, and include a terms of reference, was not adopted. The discussion as to whether it would be desirable to include a conflict of interest rule for APC members is one that would benefit from a Trust-wide discussion. Until that discussion can take place, any decision to change the current APC bylaw will be deferred.

On the question of whether marine geoexchange would be an appropriate technology for South Pender, this proposed amendment is being considered with due caution, especially with regard to the Marine Protected zones. At this time, Trustees have requested more information on the background for the designation of Marine Protected zone and more detailed information on installation requirements and practices for geoexchange systems including potential impacts on marine ecosystems.

The results of the forage fish habitat assessment report for the Penders, conducted by forage fish specialist Ramona de Graaf, is now available at the South Pender Island web page of the Islands Trust website. The results for South Pender indicate that, of the 48 beaches assessed, 32 beaches were identified as suitable spawning habitat for surf smelt and sandlance. Of these 32 beaches, 84% were in a natural state, unaltered by structures that would impede movement of sediments either to the beach or along the beach. Forage Fish Habitat Assessments can grade beaches only for spawning potential. The actual presence of spawning activity at beaches can be determined only after conducting spawning surveys according to established protocols. Many Islands Trust communities are undertaking spawning surveys. To follow the Pender Island Conservancy Association forage fish surveys, visit their website at <http://www.penderconservancy.org/forage-fish-monitoring.html>.

In other news, the status of the Church of the Good Shepherd remains unchanged at this time. Thus far, there has been no successful negotiation on its acquisition for the purpose of satisfying the terms of an application for subdivision. Meanwhile, the newly formed South Pender Historical Society has been approached by representatives of the Church to

consider whether this property could serve community needs and uses under a lease arrangement. A well-attended community meeting took place on September 7th at the South Pender Fire Hall to share ideas and information.

The next South Pender LTC meeting is scheduled for 10 AM on November 5th at the South Pender Fire Hall on Gowlland Point Road. We hope you'll join us. Trustees Jones and Montague welcome your input and feedback. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Submitted by Trustee Montague

Contact information: Mike Jones [<mjones@islandstrust.bc.ca>](mailto:mjones@islandstrust.bc.ca) and Liz Montague [<lmontague@islandstrust.bc.ca>](mailto:lmontague@islandstrust.bc.ca)