



Islands Trust

Your Island Trustee's Report

Alex Allen and Tony Law

Welcome back to our summer residents. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. Tony can be seen patrolling the beaches and Alex, as always, will be at the Gas Bar. And that goes for everyone else too; from all reports, it's going to be a very vibrant summer.

25% Reduction in Ferry Fares?

Islands Trust Council is asking the Province of BC to invest an additional \$11 to \$14 million annually for four years, to reduce fares on all BC Ferries' minor routes. This request coincides with current negotiations for the 2016-2020 BC Ferries' Coastal Ferry Services Contract.

The Islands Trust hired Perrin Thorau & Associates (a public policy consulting firm with expertise in BC Ferries' markets) to calculate the cost of lowering fares on all minor ferry routes. The consultants built a model using recent BC Ferries operating results and fare information, allowing examination of how ridership will rebound in response to lower fares. The consultants calculated that an additional \$11 to \$14 million is needed annually to reduce fares by 25% from today's prices, on all minor routes on B.C.'s coast.

As you know, we ferry-dependent communities are struggling under the weight of ferry fares that have increased well above the rate of inflation.

The Province is unlikely to consider this request unless they have evidence it is broadly supported. If you agree, please send a message as soon as possible to Minister of Transportation Todd Stone (Minister.Transportation@gov.bc.ca) with a copy to MLA Don McRae (Don.McRae.MLA@leg.bc.ca).

Islands Trust Council – BC Ferries, San Juan County

By the time you read this, we will have attended the quarterly Trust Council meeting on Galiano Island (June 23-25). Anticipated highlights include a question and answer session with BC Ferries' CEO Mike Corrigan and meeting with our US counterparts, elected officials from San Juan County. Our annual get-together with San Juan Islands always provides valuable insights into our shared challenges and different approaches in response. Trust Council will also be continuing our strategic planning process. And at every Council meeting we are given the opportunity to listen to trust area residents on common concerns and issues, such as climate change and oil spill response preparedness.

Local Trust Committee Meeting – July 10th

At the local level, we are as always ready to listen to Hornby Island residents at our Town Hall session that opens every Hornby Island Local Trust Committee business meeting. The next one is on Friday, July 10th at Room to Grow at 11:30 am.

On the Web

We encourage you to explore the Islands Trust website as it is full of interesting information: <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/>.

On the home page you will see a map; click on Hornby Island to get to our local page. There you will see a menu on the right side of the page; “*Meetings*” will give you minutes of previous meetings and agendas for future meetings; “*Bylaws*” includes our current and proposed Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw; “*Projects*” will take you to information on our current work program items and list of possible future projects; “*Resources*” provides a wealth of information, including: a local fact sheet and community profile; reports on groundwater; housing needs and climate change, plus links to K’omoks First Nation.

On the Islands Trust home page, scroll down and check out even more information in “*Resources*.” Or click on “*MapIT*” to explore local maps where you can zoom in on your property and others. There's a video tutorial that will walk you through the program.

Have a great summer!

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Email the Local Trust Committee at: northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca

Islands Trust website: <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/>

Meeting notification service: <http://islandstrust.bc.ca/meetingnotify.cfm>