

March Trustee Report – Dan Rogers

It's been a wild March weather-wise with strong winds repeatedly battering the Islands. Let's hope March goes out like a lamb as promised in the old adage.

Local Trust Committee Meeting

The next meeting of the Gambier Local Trust Committee is set for March 17th, 2016 at 10:30 Am in West Vancouver. Attached to this email is a copy of the Agenda and here is the link to the Agenda package. <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/gambier/meeting-calendar-agendas-minutes/>

We will continue our discussion regarding Riparian Area ("RAR") Bylaws for Keats, Anvil and Bowyer Islands and introduce the RAR report for the Thormanby Islands.

Meeting with MP Pamela Goldsmith-Jones

On March 2nd, Trustee Stamford and I met with MP Goldsmith-Jones in her Constituency Office in Horseshoe Bay. We had a productive discussion about derelict vessels, development planning for the Howe Sound area and finding ways to protect land and marine environments in this area. We have a firm commitment to continue to consult and work together on these and other issues.

Woodfibre LNG

As I advised in a previous notice, the federal Environmental Assessment Agency was accepting further submissions on the Woodfibre LNG proposal until March 1, 2016. I filed a follow up submission but before I did I attended one of three open houses hosted by MP Goldsmith-Jones in West Vancouver on February 28th. (the others were in Squamish and in Gibsons). It was extremely well attended (close to 150 people) and over 40 attendees spoke with all but 2 speaking forcefully against the proposal. (I understand the open houses in Gibsons and Squamish were equally well attended and the sentiment was similar to that I experienced. Whether you agree or disagree with the proposal, I believe the MP is to be commended for holding these open houses.

Community to Community meeting

The Local Trust Committee is pleased that it will be meeting with representatives of the Squamish Nation on March 31st on Gambier Island. We will be discussing relationship and protocol issues and plan on learning much of the history and plans of the Nation.

Coopers Green Park Boat Ramp

Trustee Stamford and I have spent a fair amount of time responding to a recent announcement by the SCRCD that the Coopers Green Park boat ramp will not be available for use by commercial barges starting June 1, 2016. This is very problematic for residents of the Thormanby Islands and Merry Island as they use this ramp regularly to load trucks the propane, building supplies and equipment. The options are very far away across open and often very rough water. We are working for a solution.

Howe Sound Forum

Trustee Stamford and I are pleased that the next Howe Sound Forum will be held on Gambier Island at Camp Fircom. This important gathering of political leaders and staff from all the municipalities around Howe Sound, First Nations leaders and local MLA's and MP's is held approximately every 6 months to share ideas about this fantastic area and discuss solutions to existing and emerging issues. We are pleased to be hosting this event!

Trust Council

The next Trust Council will be held March 22nd to 24th on Hornby Island. The information related to that gathering of all 26 Islands Trust Trustees can be found here. <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/trust-council/council-meetings.aspx>

As always, all our business meetings are open to the public. And if you have any comments or questions you can contact me at drogers@islandstrust.bc.ca.

Regards,

Dan Rogers