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Sent via email: [FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Hon. Steve Thomson  
Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
PO Box 9049  
STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Mr. Thomson,

On behalf of the Gambier Island Local Trust Committee I would like to thank you for deciding to not accept a winning applicant in the tendering of Woodlots 2068 and 2069, opting rather to return to a more community-based consultation process.

We recognize that this decision based on a complex series of factors including the *Tsilhqot'in* decision by the Supreme Court and long-term discussions that your ministry will be having with Squamish and other First Nations. Even so, this does not lessen the impact of how landowners and community members came together to demonstrate the importance of the forest to the island and we appreciate that their concerns were heard.

As the land planning body for the Island, the Gambier Island Local Trust Committee is well structured to support public consultation through our advisory planning commission and public meeting process. In addition, we have access to a large email contact list that the Gambier communities use to communicate. These are valuable resources that can be used to reach out to landowner and residents in future consultation about provincially held lands.

The Gambier Island Local Trust Committee is an active participant in the Howe Sound Community Forum and has signed onto the Cumulative Effects Assessment Framework that is being spearheaded by Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations as a planning tool for the Howe Sound area. Islands Trust staff work closely with the Squamish people and other First Nations in the area especially in terms of mapping and cultural/archeological interests.

The new Local Trust Committee looks forward to participating in a more comprehensive consultation process with the staff at FLNRO around the future of provincially-held lands on Gambier Island.

Thank you again for making this important decision.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'D. Graham', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

David Graham, Chair  
Gambier Island Local Trust Committee.

pc: Islands Trust Executive Committee

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