



Dan Rogers
Galiano Island Chair

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April 2, 2019

To whom it may concern,

Re: Cellular service enhancement on Galiano Island

I write as the Chair of the Galiano Island Local Trust Committee (the "LTC"). The Galiano Island LTC is established pursuant to the Islands Trust Act of B.C. and exercises land use planning authority for the island in addition to its role to "preserve and protect" the local trust area and its unique amenities.

Recent severe weather events and the inability of residents on Galiano to communicate in emergency situations have reinforced the fact that much of Galiano has limited cellular service. This situation emphasizes that the community is vulnerable in the event of a severe weather event, a natural disaster or a power outage. Galiano's emergency services have unanimously voiced concerns that, due to difficulties in communication from lack of cellular service, there is potential for serious consequences.

The Galiano Local Trust Committee (LTC) thus writes to indicate that it is in support of the community's desire for better cellular coverage on Galiano Island. Two items that we would like to make clear. First, the LTC has adopted the following in its Official Community Plan:

"The Local Trust Committee will support efforts to expand electronic communications and infrastructure within the community provided it can be demonstrated that there are no harmful health or environmental effects."

Secondly, in 2018, after extensive consultation, the LTC adopted the Galiano Island Antenna System Siting & Consultation Protocol (see attached) to provide guidance for future applications.

A large portion of the Island (mid to north end) has low cellular reception and thus the LTC is of the view, keeping in mind health and environmental issues, that the community would benefit greatly from a cell tower (or cell towers) constructed in an appropriate location to address this issue. The LTC is in the unique position, as the local authority responsible for land use planning, of being responsible for providing a statement of concurrence or non-concurrence with referrals of specific proposals. This letter is in support of the need for improved cellular coverage, but it does not imply or pre-suppose that the Galiano Island Local Trust Committee would necessarily support any future referrals of specific proposals.

Preserving Island communities, culture and environment

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Rogers', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dan Rogers,
Galiano Island Chair

pc Galiano Island Local Trust Committee

Preserving *Island* communities, culture and environment

Bowen Denman Hornby Gabriola Galiano Gambier Lasqueti Mayne North Pender Salt Spring Saturna South Pender Thetis