

May 2019 Trustee Report

- **Howe Sound Community Forum**
- **Riparian Area and Wetland protection webinar**
- **Cougar update**
- **Docks, Roads and Island Clean up day**

GAMBIER/KEATS LOCAL TRUST ACTIVITIES:

Meeting with Skwxwú7mesh Council – the meeting with members of the Squamish Council scheduled on April 8th in part to discuss the long term future of the New Brighton Dock and aspects of land interest on Gambier was cancelled due to a death of an elder within the Skwxwú7mesh Uxwumixw. The meeting has not been re-scheduled as yet.

The Gambier/Keats Local Trust Committee hosted the first Howe Sound/Atl'ki7tsem Community Forum of the new term for local governments, First Nations, provincial and federal representatives at Camp Fircom on April 26th. This event supports information and joint initiatives of common interest around the region.

A big thank you to local islander, **Ruth Simons**, for not only organizing the event, but figuring out a way to get more than 60 people to and from **Camp Fircom** from all points around Howe Sound. Also, Camp Fircom donated the facility charge for this event which made it possible for the Local Trust Committee to put on the Forum. They pulled out all the stops with an amazing lunch and some attendees got a tour of the Camp to see it's stunning location.

Here is a link to Howe Sound Community Forum review:

<http://futureofhowesound.org/campaigns/spring-2019-forum-review/>

The regular Gambier/Keats Local Trust meeting was held on April 27th. Unfortunately, the Community Information Meeting about the proposed riparian area and wetland protection bylaws had to be cancelled at the last minute because planning staff got stuck in Nanaimo due to a wind storm that delayed both the ferries and cancelled planes. My apologies especially to the couple who came all the way from the Fircom area to attend. The webinar on April 29th did take place but there were some technical difficulties at the beginning. This was a first for the LTC to use the online technology this way and we are still ironing out the bugs so we expect other engagement opportunities like this to go a lot more smoothly in the future.

Please see the recorded webinar along with other information associated with the riparian bylaws here:

<http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/gambier/projects-initiatives/riparian-areas-protection/>

The next Gambier/Keats Local Trust Committee meeting will be held at the Gambier Community Centre on June 13th.

Cougar Situation: The Conservation Officers came to Gambier last week and set a trap near where the last dog was killed. Sargent Dean Miller forwarded the attached statement about cougar behaviour and the island situation.

[https://gallery.mailchimp.com/57751b6b398595ee9e288baa1/files/31e4478a-7d9e-4f7c-b3bd-6c441cb9eed3/Cougar behaviour on the Islands by Dean Miller May 2019.pdf](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/57751b6b398595ee9e288baa1/files/31e4478a-7d9e-4f7c-b3bd-6c441cb9eed3/Cougar%20behaviour%20on%20the%20Islands%20by%20Dean%20Miller%20May%202019.pdf)

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

Islands Clean Up schedule – Here are the dates for the annual island garbage pick-up:

July 27th - For dock-stops (water access only). It begins at Avalon Bay at 8:30am, then heading towards West Bay, Centre Bay, Long Bay, Hope Point, Camp Fircom, Halkett Bay, Brigade Bay, Anvil Island, Douglas Bay, finish at Ekins Point area. Details for registering your dock for garbage pick-up to follow.

Aug 24th – Bin drop at the base of Cardiac Hill for the road access communities of West Bay, New Brighton and Gambier Harbour. Further details to follow.

Process for SCR D action on the islands – Director Hiltz attended the Gambier/Keats Local Trust Committee and during his verbal report reiterated the importance of using the SCR D feedback form to get appropriate response from the Regional District. He also suggested that this is the best way to garner support for larger projects under the SCR D jurisdiction. On that note, I pointed out the poor condition of the **Fircom dock** and the need for a larger float at that facility given the increase in traffic especially to Fircom Plateau *. As per the Director's instructions, I have filled out a feedback form and hope other islanders who have similar concerns also take the time to fill it out. Numbers count here.

- ** When the SCR D took over the 9 docks from the Federal Government 20 years ago, they implemented a policy to maintain the facilities at their original capacity. Whereas there is a good argument for an expanded float for Fircom, there is no guarantee it will be considered or that there won't be additional fees attached to any increase in service.*
- *** New Brighton Dock is not managed by the SCR D but by the Squamish Nation Marine Group.*

Here is the link to the SCR D feedback form: <http://www.scrd.ca/Feedback-Form>

SOUTH WEST PENINSULA

Marilyn Pomfret, a long-time islander and active volunteer in the Gambier community, passed away two weeks ago. Her obituary can be found here:
<http://vancouverandprovince.remembering.ca/obituary/marilyn-pomfret-1074362297>

New Brighton Dock: The long-anticipated repairs to the dock and float structure should be finished in the next day or so. A lot of effort has gone into stabilizing the outer float and they are going to try to install a piling at the end to further support it. By all accounts, Pacific Industrial has been very accommodating to users during these extensive repairs and have done a great job in time for the summer season.

Roads Committee: I attended the SW Peninsula roads committee on April 10th hosted by Joyce Clegg as Chair. The Ministry of Hwys renewed its contract with Capilano Hwys Ltd to service the islands for the next 15 years. Tyler Lambert of Capilano, outlined the plans for the upcoming summer season. There is an opportunity to provide two runs of dust control this year with calcium chloride except in those areas where local residents have requested that it not be sprayed. Verge cutting was also discussed as priority given the expected dry summer, and Capilano will do it's trimming as late into the season as possible prior to the fire hazard cut off. Any questions or concerns about specific road issues please call their reporting line at: 604-983-2411.

Capilano supports road maintenance on other parts of Gambier through private contracts with specific sub-divisions such as West Bay Landing and Fircom Plateau.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the information in this report or other ways I can help.

Respectfully,

Kate-Louise Stamford, Trustee
Gambier/Keats Local Trust Committee
kstamford@islandstrust.bc.ca
778-235-2240