

The Local Trust Committee did not meet in July. Your Trustees were kept busy with Trust council committee meetings. We spent a long day in a joint Trust Programs and Local Planning meeting to discuss Climate Change and where Islands Trust can be most effective. Trust Council advocates on behalf of our constituents to “preserve and protect” these special Islands we call our home. With changes to our weather patterns it is becoming even more essential that we look to ways to mitigate the human impact on this special environment.

One area of major concern is salt water intrusion. The Trust is currently involved in a project that will address concerns raised with the implementation of the Salt Water Intrusion Risk mapping that was previously undertaken by the Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development. The main goals of the project will be to complete saltwater intrusion risk mapping for all coastal areas of B.C. including Southern and Northern Gulf Islands, Discovery Islands, Sunshine Coast, Howe Sound, Mainland Coast, Vancouver Island and West Coast of Vancouver Island, Central Coast, North Coast, and Haida Gwaii. The \$10,000 funding would off-set some of the cost of undertaking this mapping project in the Islands Trust Area, and re-doing the mapping already completed by FLNRORD for the Southern islands. The results of this project will be useful in any area where groundwater is currently in use, the work will also assist local trust committees in developing land use regulations that are adaptive to climate change while seeking to reduce risks of salt water intrusion into groundwater aquifers. As we draw down our aquifers we might experience more intake of salt water and with a larger population and drier summers we need to be prepared.. The Local Planning committee voted in favor of contributing a further \$10,000 to the joint study with the Province that is currently underway. William Shuba our water specialist is a member of the study.

The Local Trust Committee will next meet September 23 at 1pm at the Agricultural Hall. This agenda will include giving final approval to bylaw 174 which has received ministerial approval. This bylaw is to address identification of a commercial core in Miners Bay and criteria for future commercial development on Mayne Island.

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