

February 27, 2007

MARCH TRUST COUNCIL AGENDA RELEASED

VICTORIA - The Islands Trust Council will hold its next quarterly business meeting March 27-29, 2007 at the Haven Institute and Conference Centre on Gabriola Island. The public meeting starts Tuesday, March 27, at 1:00 p.m. and finishes by noon on Thursday, March 29.

Trust Council invites members of the public to participate in a town hall session, a regular forum to promote informal dialogue between islanders and trustees, starting at 12:45 p.m. on Wednesday, March 28. Persons or organizations wishing to reserve time to make a formal presentation to the Islands Trust Council at the beginning of the town hall session must receive an appointment through the Executive Committee. Please forward your request to the Corporate Secretary, including the subject, name and address of the speaker, to the Islands Trust Victoria office, #200, 1627 Fort St., Victoria, B.C., V8R 1H8; fax: 250-405-5155; e-mail: information@islandstrust.bc.ca. Guidelines to help those planning a presentation to Council are available on the Islands Trust website at www.islandstrust.bc.ca.

Trust Council Sessions will include:

Tuesday, March 27

LOCAL PLANNING SERVICES REVIEW – We have contracted with John Steil of Stantec to undertake a comprehensive review of the way that we deliver land use planning services in the Islands Trust Area. John will present his final report with recommendations to Council and respond to questions from trustees.

2007-08 BUDGET PRESENTATION – The overall budget recommendation from the Financial Planning Committee will be presented, along with more detailed discussions around Base Budget adjustments, Salaries and Staffing, and contributions to the Surplus (Reserves).

Wednesday, March 28

DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION - Brian Epps, Source Water Protection Specialist with the Ministry of Environment will give a presentation on the new multi-agency approach to drinking water source protection in British Columbia and will speak briefly about the *Drinking Water Protection Act*.

2007-08 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS AND DECISIONS – First, the recommended budget for Programs and implementing the Strategic Plan will be discussed. Once the budget has been fully presented to Trust Council, debate, options and public input received to date will be considered, resulting in the approval of a 2007-08 budget and the Financial Plan Bylaw.

DELEGATIONS AND TOWN HALL SESSION - Trust Council encourages members of the public to participate in dialogue between members of island communities and the trustees. The public is invited to discuss issues, ask questions and make suggestions about the work of the Islands Trust.

RELEASE OF 'A PLACE IN THE ISLANDS' - A new cross-border publication, designed to provide information to people who are new to island life, has been produced in partnership with the San Juan Preservation Trust in Washington State. It will be unveiled for the first time and released publicly immediately following the town hall session.

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GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE UPDATE – The Governance Task Force will provide Council with an update on its latest activities, including the current Governance Review study, being undertaken by Allan Neilson-Welch of Neilson-Welch Consulting Inc. The task force will also update Council on its plans for public consultation once the Neilson-Welch’s report has been received.

Thursday, March 29

BUSINESS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – The primary highlight of this meeting will be Council’s consideration and adoption of its annual budget. This year, the Financial Planning Committee has responded to community requests for increased services by proposing a budget increase that will allow Council to carry out its three strategic goals related to Sustainable Environments, Healthy Communities and Excellence in Governance. Another highlight will be the presentation of recommendations regarding the Local Planning Services unit, following a comprehensive review by consultant John Steil of Stantec.

Attached: 3 day agenda program

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