



News Release

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Islands Trust By-Election Plans in Place for Hornby and South Pender

VICTORIA – The Islands Trust Council has initiated by-election processes in the Hornby Island and South Pender Island Local Trust Areas with the June 15 appointment of Thomas Moore as Chief Election Officer. The by-elections will fill vacant Local Trustee positions for the remainder of the 2005-2008 term of office. The Hornby Island position became vacant on May 22 following the resignation of former Trustee Cari St. Pierre, while the South Pender position became vacant upon the death of former Trustee John Henshaw on May 25. By-elections for Local Trustee positions in the Islands Trust are held in accordance with provincial rules and schedules set out in the *Local Government Act*.

Chief Election Officer Moore has now established Saturday, August 25, 2007 as Voting Day for both by-elections, provided electors nominate more than one qualified candidate to run for each position. To provide each community with information about nomination procedures, Notices of Nomination will appear in local newspapers that circulate in the Hornby Island and South Pender Island Local Trust Areas between June 25 and July 3. Non-resident electors will be advised by letter of the by-election process. The nomination periods for each position will run from 9 a.m. on Tuesday, July 10 through 4 p.m. on Friday, July 20.

Where electors nominate more than one qualified candidate, the Chief Election Officer will declare on July 31 that an Election by Voting will take place on August 25 as scheduled. Where electors nominate only one qualified candidate, the Chief Election Officer will declare that candidate Elected by Acclamation as of July 31. Those elected will serve until the current term of office ends in early December 2008.

Once elected, Local Trustees fill two roles. They sit on the 3-member Local Trust Committee that has all the power and authority of a regional district board to make land use plans and regulations for the relevant Local Trust Area. Local Trustees also sit on the Islands Trust Council, which considers broader policy, operational and financial decisions to achieve the provincial “preserve and protect” mandate of the Islands Trust on behalf of Trust Area residents and all British Columbians.

In addition to advertisements in local newspapers, Notices of Nomination and other information for candidates and voters are available on the Islands Trust website at <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/byelections.cfm>. More information about the by-election process is also available from the Chief Election Officer, who can be reached by phone at 250.472.0059 or by email at tmoore63@shaw.ca.

General Local Elections for the entire Islands Trust Area will be held in November 2008, in accordance with the schedule for local government elections throughout British Columbia.

The Islands Trust Council is a federation of independent local governments that represents some 23,000 people living within the Islands Trust Area. The Islands Trust is responsible for managing development while preserving and protecting the unique environment of the Islands Trust Area. The area covers the islands and waters between the British Columbia mainland and southern Vancouver Island. It includes 13 major and more than 450 smaller islands covering 5200 square kilometres.

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Preserving **island** communities, culture and environment

Bowen, Denman, Hornby, Gabriola, Galiano, Gambier, Lasqueti, Mayne, N. Pender, Salt Spring, Saturna, S. Pender, Thetis