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January 26, 2010

File Number: PG/10

Attorney General Michael de Jong, QC
PO Box 9044, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister de Jong:

Re: Policing in the Islands Trust Area

I am writing on behalf of the Islands Trust Council to relay concerns from our residents about policing levels on island communities.

At our December Trust Council meeting, our trustees discussed the possible removal of staff from island locations and the amalgamation of detachments. The trustees passed the following resolution:

That Islands Trust Council request the Chair to write a letter to the BC Solicitor General reflecting community concerns in the Trust Area with respect to policing services in local communities.

The Islands Trust understands the need for policies that protect RCMP officer safety and understands that other small communities are likely experiencing similar situations. We would just ask that in your contract negotiations with the RCMP, you take into account the difficulty of access to Gulf Islands communities when an urgent police response is needed, particularly in inclement weather.

Yours sincerely,

Sheila Malcolmson
Chair, Islands Trust Council

cc: Islands Trust website
Randy Wilson, Commander of the RCMP Island District