



**GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE
PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING NOTES
MAYNE ISLAND MEETING CONSULTATION
Monday, May 7, 2007 at 3:30 p.m.
Mayne Island Agriculture Hall**

PRESENT:

Kim Benson, Chair, Islands Trust Council
Jeanine Dodds, Mayne Island Local Trustee
Gary Rowe, Mayne Island Local Trustee
Linda Adams, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
Gerry Hamblin, Island Planner
Lina Beaudet, Recorder

There were eleven (11) members of the public in attendance.

Kim Benson, Chair of the Executive Committee of the Islands Trust Council and Linda Adams, Chief Administrative Officer of the Islands Trust made presentation addressing the history and structure of the Islands Trust and options considered to bring changes to the Islands Trust Act to have the most effective political structure to sustain the Islands Trust Area into the future.

Questions from the public brought the following clarifications by the Presenters:

- The province has the decision power with the support of the Trust Council
- On the Trust Council, one person, one vote.
- The workload perception varies per area and per Trustee
- The workload of Trustees can be improved by improving the resources efficiency and effectiveness, and by the use of committees
- The need for transparency has increased the workload of trustees over the years.
- The support for increase representation for Saltspring Island received more support from the southern half of the islands than the northern half.
- The mechanism for option “3” (local trust area determine the size of local trust committee) has not yet been developed; it would be the responsibility of the province
- The basis for the present representation is not known
- Originally, all funds were provided directly from the province; it is now the responsibility of the Trust to address their financial need, resulting in many talks about budget and money allocation.

The following comments were from the Trustees:

- The workload assumed by the Trustees on Saltspring Island does not allow them time to sit on the Trust Council Executive
- Tasks such as development permits could be delegated to staff
- Trustee are drawn from a small base partly because of a small honorarium
- The Trust Council would have to look at the situation of representation and workload, regardless of Saltspring demand

All voiced opinions with the exception of one, supported a change in representation but felt that the workload issue had to be also addressed. Fair compensation was considered as a tool to insure the health of democracy, which could be established by gauging with other government structures.

One member of the public expressed her concern that the changes in representation was driven by Saltspring. She would have like to know what was the deciding factor for Saltspring Island not to become a municipality.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

RECORDER

DATE