



**GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE  
PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING NOTES  
SALT SPRING ISLAND MEETING CONSULTATION  
Sunday, April 29, 2007 at 1:30 p.m.  
Gulf Islands Secondary School Multi Purpose Room**

**PRESENT:**

Kim Benson, Chair, Islands Trust Council  
George Ehring, Salt Spring Island Local Trustee  
Peter Lamb, Salt Spring Island Local Trustee  
Linda Adams, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)  
Gillian Saxby, Policy Analyst  
Geri Sharp, Recorder

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Gary Holman, Capital Regional District (CRD) Director

There were approximately 76 members of the public present.

Trustee Ehring convened the meeting at 1:30 PM, welcomed attendees and introduced Chair Benson, Trustee Lamb and CAO Adams.

Chair Benson provided some background information related to governance including the current political structure, as well as the role of the Trust Council and the Trust Fund Board.

She also explained that any changes to the political structure of the Islands Trust would require amendments to the provincial Islands Trust Act and only the provincial government can make such changes.

She stated increasing the number of local trustees and improving coordination between the Islands Trust and the CRD are the main changes suggested and outlined the options of the Governance Task Force and the independent consultant.

CAO Adams discussed the Islands Trust Governance Review Report prepared by Neilson-Welch Consulting Inc. She reviewed representation change options, ways to amend the legislation as well as suggested coordination with the CRD. Other issues being looked at include political structure, financial arrangements, mandate and policy statements and regulatory authority and coordination.

Questions and comments from the public would be welcomed before May 21, 2007.

Trustee Lamb stated his support for having four trustees on Salt Spring Island (SSI) with all four trustees represented on the Trust Council.

Gillian Saxby took over the question and answer forum of the meeting stating that any member of the audience may speak or ask questions.

**Dennis Russell, 431 Baker Road**

Mr. Russell spoke to the possibility of SSI becoming a municipality.

**Stan Shapiro, Morningside Road** (complete address not stated)

Mr. Shapiro suggested that four trustees be elected to the Local Trust Committee (LTC) and that the trustees rotate through the two seats on Trust Council.

**Roger Middleton, 409 Elizabeth Dr.**

Mr. Middleton questioned the number of 7500 regarding population representation in Option 1.

**Kevin Marr, 114 Woodhall Place**

Mr. Marr questioned how changing the number of trustees would change the governance on the Trust Council.

**Doug Dobbs,** (address not stated)

Mr. Dobbs questioned whether representation should be by population or region.

**Jennifer Burgess, 22135 North End Road**

Ms. Burgess questioned whether increased representation could bring about conflict on the Trust Council and a possible way to bring about equality would be to provide the use of a weighted vote by other members on the council.

**Duart Campbell, Fruitvale Road** (complete address not stated)

Mr. Campbell spoke to the need for revisiting the formation of a local municipality.

**Christine Torgrinson, Long Harbour** (address not stated)

Ms. Torgrinson expressed her gratitude for trustees advancing options for governance and supports the addition of two more trustees, supporting population models that increase representation, supporting that all trustees are on Trust Council, supporting better integration with the CRD and urging the province to increase financial support to the trust. She stated she did not support adding extra trustees to every area.

**Peter Lake, 1128 North Beach Road**

Mr. Lake spoke to increasing taxes, the LTC needs to be independent and does not need more trustees.

**Ron Spencer, 1257 Beddis Road**

Mr. Spencer commented that no more representatives are needed on the LTC and that SSI needs a municipal government.

Chair Benson commented that the chair recognized that people in the audience may be in favor of incorporation but the purpose of the meeting was to allow people to comment on options for change outside of incorporation, which does not preclude incorporation at a later date.

**Sharon McCullough, 255 Welbury Point Dr.**

Ms. McCullough supports Option 1A or 1 B, having more trustees and increased representation on Trust Council.

**Ellen Taylor, 264 Fulford Ganges Road**

Ms. Taylor supports Option 1 and suggested having two trust areas on SSI.

**Eric Booth, 109 Fraser Road**

Mr. Booth questioned the decreased provincial funding for the island and would like to see a more equitable portion be given to SSI.

Chair Benson and CAO Adams discussed the lack of provincial government funding for the islands and the hiring of a specific person to handle grant applications for funding and the role of the Trust Fund Board's focusing on revenue request and allocation.

**Don Tarris, Reynolds Road** (complete address not stated)

Mr. Tarris spoke on the confusing government structure on the island. He also spoke of the increasing financial burden to preserve and protect the Gulf Islands, for everyone in British Columbia, without funding from the government. He also suggested the possibility of the Gulf Islands becoming a municipality.

**Judy Norget, 302 Channel Ridge Dr.**

Ms. Norget spoke in support of Option 1.

**Ruth Tarasoff, Dukes Road** (complete address not stated)

Ms. Tarasoff supports Option 1. She stated she would like to see more effort given to getting government funding for the islands.

**Elizabeth White, 171 Vesuvius Bay Road**

Ms. White supports Option 1 and supports increased cooperation with the CRD.

**Gary Holman, CRD Director** (address not stated)

Mr. Holman discussed the possibility of having the LTC designated as a local commission thus providing the LTC with some administrative authority.

**Dick Greer, 180 Salt Spring Way**

Mr. Greer thanked the committee for a very good presentation and stated his support of Option 1. He questioned why the consultant report does not support two extra members from SSI on the Trust Council.

Chair Benson and CAO Adams discussed the principal of equal representation from each trust area.

**David Borrowman, Vesuvius** (address not stated)

Mr. Borrowman spoke to his support of the election of four trustees and having the four trustees on Trust Council.

**Barry Cook, 186 Salt Spring Way**

Mr. Cook spoke in support of strengthening the trust and would like the next step to be incorporation.

**Susan Russell, Baker Road** (complete address not stated)

Ms. Russell spoke in opposition to the options presented and supports equal representation only.

**Norma Laird, 160 Rainbow Road**

Ms. Laird spoke to her support of Option 1 and increasing the number of trustees on the LTC and Trust Council.

**Bob McGinn**, (address not stated)

Mr. McGinn spoke in support of Option 1 but questioned the lack of detail regarding changes in governance.

**Ron Spencer, address above**

Mr. Spencer questioned how services would be improved.

**Gillian Proctor, Wright Road** (complete address not stated)

Ms. Proctor questioned the role of the LTC and the Trust Council on dealing with the more complex issues of growth that the island has seen.

Chair Benson spoke on the influence of the Trust Council.

**Roger Middleton, address above**

Mr. Middleton spoke on the importance of a sustainable community.

**George Taylor, 264 Fulford Ganges Road**

Mr. Taylor spoke in support of Option 1 and increased representation on Trust Council.

**Joan Mc Connell, 131 Leslie**

Ms. Mc Connell spoke in support of the Islands Trust coming to the community for support and urged the public to write to their MLA for increased government funding.

**Ron Spencer, address above**

Mr. Spencer questioned how the work load would be divided if the number of trustees was increased.

CAO Adams reminded members of the public to fill out the survey located at the entrance of the building or located on the Islands Trust web site, with input appreciated before May 21, 2007.

**Name not stated, address not stated**

Gentleman spoke to his concerns related to the costs of the public process on governance and the transparency of the process.

Chair Benson discussed the auditing process within the Island Trust. She added that the meeting was being audio taped and minutes were being taken for the public record.

Chair Benson thanked members of the public and the meeting closed at 4:40 PM.

**I CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A FAIR AND ACCURATE SUMMARY OF THE NATURE OF THE REPRESENTATIONS, RESPECTING THE GOVERNANCE REVIEW, THAT WERE MADE AT THE HEARING.**

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Geri Sharp - recorder