

Our Isle & Times

April 2018



Islands Trust

NOTES FROM SUSAN: Trust Council on Salt Spring was full and interesting as usual. The budget was passed with a two percent property tax increase. A new policy was passed called The History, Heritage and Conservation Grants in-aid which will provide individuals, groups, First Nations, organizations or agencies to apply for funding to support their initiatives. We had a session on climate change and a delegation on the same topic. They both spoke to the urgency of this issue and gave options for adaptation. The meeting was well attended by Salt Spring Islanders and several spoke at town hall about climate change and what the Trust could do. A motion was passed to add funding in the next budget for adaptation strategies. One speaker at the town hall spoke about pollinators and, in particular, bumblebees.

Locally, at our recent LTC special meeting we requested that the subdivision lot size bylaw come back to our next LTC meeting in a revised state removing the lot-to-width ratio and the agricultural land reserve lot size change. Several members of the community were present and spoke to the need for cluster housing and conservation subdivision wording. These could be discussed as part of the OCP review. Our next meeting is on April 23rd at the Judith Fisher Centre and the OCP information meeting will be on April 28th at the hall. See you there.

NOTES FROM TIM:

Greetings all,

My thanks to Susan for her report on Trust Council, as I was unable to attend. As Susan mentioned, we will be having a regular business meeting this month, as well as the initial Official Community Plan review meeting. I would like to express my appreciation for the initiative of Colin Ewan and Andrew Fall and the "OCP 101" session, which I understand was well attended. Community participation in visioning our collective future is vital to the continuance of our unique culture.

The April 28th meeting is an opportunity to explore ideas, as well as learn more about the legal framework of how OCP and land use bylaws work. This will be a combination of open space format, with lots of room for brainstorming, and some facilitated, interest based discussion.

Please consider attending, if you are able. And, as always, please contact your Trustees with your questions, comments, and concerns.

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To email all 3:

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Sonja Zupanec (Lasqueti's Planner):

szupanec@islandstrust.bc.ca

1-250-247-2210 or 1-800-663-7867 and ask to be connected

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Spring Greetings one and all, I'm writing this on sunny Easter Saturday after a late-in-the month Regional Board meeting, and it was good to see so many returnees on the ferry yesterday. The fresh experience of trying to find parking on Thursday morning leads me to my first topic, the perennial problem of False Bay parking. With our busy season approaching, some attention to the rules and regulations such as they are, is warranted I think. Please respect the three-day limit from the sign at Provisions to the top of the hill. Those parking in the "parallel parking" zone should not project over the pavement. With Saturday Market time approaching it is time to move the inappropriate boats, motor homes and trailers from the Art Center parking lot. People should also be aware that we have budgeted for some serious ditching on the high side of this lot this dry season, so all vehicles will have to move at some point in the next few months. We all must appreciate that we live here with no policing, but that requires we police ourselves. Please consider your fellow islanders when you are parking and retrieving stuff or visitors in the bay.

March started with a long awaited meeting between our Island Trustees and staff with the RD Chair, our CAO and planner, and myself in Powell River at the Board meeting room. With the Trust people coming from Victoria, Denman, Black Creek and here you can see why it has taken a while to organize! We agreed to update some pieces of our working agreement from the '90's, and assured the liaison between Trust and Powell River planners. Our aim is to get together annually to discuss matters of mutual interest, and next time do it on Vancouver Island.

On March 9th Mike Wall (our Facilities Manager), Ty (the Talk Trash Team director), and Caleb (the surveyor) came here to meet with Robin Jacobs and Sam Bain as Magic Mountain Co-op representatives and to discuss the changes

around the Free Store mandated by our Waste Management Advisory Committee and our insurer. Very profitable discussions were held, and I am hopeful that a solution can be achieved, and we will actually be able to ship recyclable recycling! Watch for some changes around the place!

The Board meeting was delayed a week to allow our annual financial plan to be audited as is required. It passed with no problems so it was adopted at the Board meeting Thursday evening. Thanks largely to the sharing of our Waste Management budget throughout the RD our overall tax rate has dropped \$51.59. Although all our assessments have risen, our taxes should not this year.

Enjoy the spring!

Director Merrick Anderson 250-333-8773

THE MEDICINE WHEEL

Nursing Clinic located at the Judith Fisher Centre

Email address: LasquetiHealthCentre@gmail.com

Nurse: Dianne McClure RN/MN

Cell: 250-240-5712 **Home:** 250-752-7419

Clinic phone (during clinic hours): 250-333-8891

Hours: Drop in Thursday from 11:00am–3:00pm



April 2018 Clinic Dates

Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				12		
				19		
				26		
May				3		

There have been several inquiries regarding the “annual physical” and its coverage by the medical services plan of BC (MSP). It has been some time now (prior to 1998) that MSP has NOT provided coverage for a patient to have an annual physical exam by their doctor unless the patient has certain medical conditions that “qualify” them to have an annual complete check-up or physical.

The following sentence is from the Doctors of BC website: “In BC our Medical Services Plan no longer pays for an annual physical checkup unless the doctor deems it a medical necessity”.

There are other health care services that MSP does not cover that you may or may not have been aware of. The following has been obtained from the MSP website:

MSP does NOT provide coverage for the following:

- services that are deemed to be not medically required, such as cosmetic surgery;
- dental services, except as outlined under benefits;
- routine eye examinations for persons 19 to 64 years of age;
- eyeglasses, hearing aids, and other equipment or appliances;
- prescription drugs (see PharmaCare);

- acupuncture, chiropractic, massage therapy, naturopathy, physical therapy and non-surgical podiatry services (except for MSP beneficiaries with premium assistance status);
- preventive services and screening tests not supported by evidence of medical effectiveness (for example, ***routine annual "complete" physical examinations***, whole body CT scans, prostate specific antigen (PSA) tests);
- services of counsellors or psychologists;
- medical examinations, certificates or tests required for:
 - driving a motor vehicle
 - employment
 - life insurance
 - school or university
 - recreational and sporting activities
 - immigration purposes

Although many family doctors believe in annual physical exams they have been deemed “unnecessary” by MSP. I would suggest that if you are concerned about your health including prevention that you directly discuss your concerns with your family doctor and together you draw up a plan that meets your needs. Although the rule has been in place prior to 1998, in the past few years MSP has become stricter in its application. Blessings, ♥ Dianne

LASQUETI ISLAND NATURE CONSERVANCY



Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy

LINC invites you to our Annual General Meeting, April 22nd at

the community hall at 11:00am. After our brief meeting, we'll gather to go for our annual hike. Maybe we'll go to the Osland Reserve to see the fencing volunteers did there recently to increase biodiversity on the site, or maybe we'll go up to Salish View. More definite details to follow soon. All welcome! Osland Reserve is now a nesting site for mergansers who are using the wonderful nest boxes volunteers put up two years ago.

We are so grateful to all the folks who have volunteered over the years on restoration and fencing projects on the island's conserved lands! Many thanks also go to the 37 donors who have already stepped up to donate for Salish View! We're about 10% toward our goal of \$250k now. Call 250-333-8754 if you want a guided tour, or if you have any questions. We welcome you to get involved in our fundraising events scheduled through the late spring and summer! Make a charitable donation now or pledge an amount to be paid in November. Join us in acquiring this wonderful extension of the protected areas leading from the mountain top to the seashore - protecting the watershed leading to Wymar Creek and Squitty Bay!

–Submitted by Izzy, for LINC

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE JUDITH FISHER CENTRE?

Come to the **Wellness Fair** on **Sunday, April 15th, from NOON to 3:00pm.** Wellness can be said to be the state of being in good health, especially as an actively sought goal. Come to the health centre and find new ways of achieving personal wellness from fellow Lasquetians. There will be displays about tinctures, essential oils, massage, autism and Tai Chi. Learn everything you ever wanted to know about the "Good to Go Kit". There are still spaces available for anyone who wants to share their knowledge and expertise with the Lasqueti Community. And, if you have not been to the health centre yet this is a great opportunity to do the tour and learn how it operates for the benefit of the community. Did I mention the door prize?

Through the month of April, the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program continues. A volunteer can help you to prepare your income tax and benefit return if you have a modest income and a simple tax situation. Sending in your tax return is necessary in order to receive benefits such as the income supplement for seniors, medical plan assistance and even the GST rebate program. Call or email ahead to make an appointment during the times that the health centre is open.

The newly built woodshed is ready to receive firewood in preparation of next winter (already). We want to have plenty of time for the wood to dry and season. So, if you are removing danger trees or doing more land clearing then please consider donating some firewood to the JFC. Call or email to set up a delivery time.

Looking ahead, the Chili Dinner is set for June 3rd on Gwen Bigsby's deck, after the Women's Choir Spring Recital. Sometime after that will be the Annual General Meeting.

The Judith Fisher Centre is more than a health centre, it is a community hub for programs and educational activities that will help us all to age more gracefully.

—Melinda Auerbach, Administrator, 250-333-8891

Email: healthcentre@lasqueti.ca

<http://facebook.com/Lasqueti-Last-Resort-Society>

WHY CHANGE?

BECAUSE DIRTY DOESN'T WASH!

The truth of the matter with Lasqueti's waste is: we're paying for recycling at the point of purchase and, as of late, we're paying again with taxes! Our provincial government mandated that the producers take responsibility for packaging at end use, in what is called Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). The producers have amalgamated into a non-profit organization. Recycle BC is the EPR for containers made of plastic, paper, aseptic (i.e. soy milk), metal and glass; paper, cardboard, plastic bags and overwrap and styrofoam. It was formerly called Multi Materials BC (MMBC). Its cost of recycling packaging is

factored into everything we buy.

Two years ago Lasqueti had a contract with MMBC, of which we opted out of because of two warnings with threats of hefty fines if we submitted yet another **contaminated** bale of packaging. They recommended upgrades to our Recycle depot. Due to opting out, several bales thus went on an expensive circuitous route of the Georgia Strait and ultimately ended as landfill. Two years of bales were rejected because they were stored in our substandard depot; soiled by tree debris from above, gravel from below, and regularly rained upon. And, a dirty yogurt container (unwashed plastic) was part of the mix. **We learned the hard way, at great expense, that nobody, nowhere, not even China, will accept contaminated recycling.**

Once out of the MMBC contract, taxes had to pay for barging bales from Lasqueti and, as usual, we had already paid at point of purchase. (Remember, MMBC had paid the barging costs; transportation being the biggest expense.) No one would touch these contaminated bales, so they became landfill. A waste of effort and taxes.

Changes to our Recycling Depot will facilitate sorting materials and clean bales, so we can engage with Recycle BC to re-enter into a contract—**the only option**. Change will ensure that our bales will once again have transport costs covered and will allow the collection and storage of clean bales until time of removal. No more paying twice. Contamination comes in many forms: one dirty flower pot contaminates the hard plastic receptacle. Wash the pot, then it is okay. Car parts in the tin can receptacle contaminate the whole lot. Car parts go to the dump's scrap metal pile. A mug or plate contaminate the glass bins. Porcelain and ceramics have their own bin. Laminated dog food and coffee bags contaminate soft plastic. Laminates go to the dump. Beach styrofoam and light blue insulation foam contaminate the foam receptacle. Biodegradable shopping bags do not go with soft plastic. They go to landfill. The used toothbrush and hot water bottle are products, not packaging; they go to the dump. Complicated? It should get a whole lot easier with change. We won't pay twice and the 'goods' will actually be recycled!

—Julie Newton, Let's Talk Trash

MOTHER'S DAY PLANT SALE

Last year, Lasqueti's two local plant nurseries, V-Star Varieties (JennyV) and Old Mossy Haven Farm (Marie-Ange Fall) shared a Mother's Day sale. This year we are doing the same. On Sun., May 13th, 2018, we invite you to tour our farms, shop at our greenhouses and mingle with community on the move. Between the two of us we have many different varieties of veggie, flower and herb starters to fill your annual and perennial garden spaces. Bring your boxes, ask your questions, stay for tea and treats. If you would like to see what we individually have to offer in advance, please email or call to have a copy sent and make your special order. When you buy from us you won't get

any harmful pesticides or herbicides and you will be supporting your local green thumbs. We love to grow green babies. We love it when the people we know grow their own food. We love being the connection. For more information call Jenny V at 250-333-8601 or Marie-Ange at 250-333-8595. Also look for both of us at the False Bay School Plant sale on Sat. April 14th. Stay tuned for details! –JennyV



Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee
www.islandstrust.bc.ca
northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca
Tel. 250 247-2063

**Special Meeting to hold a
Community Information Meeting
to discuss an
Official Community Plan (OCP)
Review Project**

**Saturday, April 28, 2018
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm**

Lasqueti Island Community Centre

The Local Trust Committee will be holding a Special Meeting to discuss an Official Community Plan review project for Lasqueti Island.

Please contact northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca or visit the Islands Trust Office, 700 North Road, Gabriola Island Monday-Friday 8:30-4:00 pm for more information.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – EVERYONE WELCOME

**REMINDER:
FRENCH CREEK PARKING PASSES
2018-2019**

Once again, the time has come to renew parking passes at French Creek. The Lasqueti Community Association's Parking Committee is made up of Sue Kristinsson, Melinda Auerbach, Cindy Craven, and myself. Each year we send out the applications to eligible Lasqueti residents for "green" parking passes in the French Creek Harbour parking lot. We are planning on doing this before the end of March. The fee for the pass is **\$365** this year. This pass is **not** guaranteed every year. If you don't receive an application form in the mail, you didn't qualify for a pass.

At the LCA's Annual General Meeting in May 2017, the general membership voted to change the residency requirement from six (6) months to seven (7) months. Another part of the resolution was that each year the entire list be reviewed to determine eligibility. Every year the French Creek Parking Committee goes to the LCA AGM and gives a report. If any changes are needed the membership will vote on it then. So if you want a vote, you must be a member of the LCA (\$5/yr.)

Over the years, the number of people who want a parking

pass has vastly outpaced the parking spaces available. Right now there are over 20 names on the waiting list and this means that eligible individuals wait many years for their names to reach the top of the list.

The eligibility criteria for obtaining a parking pass in the green zone are:

1. Lasqueti must be your primary residence and you must reside on-island a minimum of seven months per year;
2. You must receive your mail on Lasqueti; no applications get mailed to off-island addresses;
3. **If you do not pay for the pass by May 7th, you will not receive a pass and the next person on the waiting list will be given your space;**
4. You must own a vehicle in running order;
5. Only one pass is available per residence;
6. You have to ask to be placed on the list, there are no automatic additions made to the list by the Parking Committee.

Because there are so many people who have been waiting patiently to get a parking pass item 3 will be strictly adhered to this year. All chronic late payers are hereby forewarned.

Like last year, return your application form and payment to the Harbour Office before Mon. April 30th, 2018. You can pay by cheque, money order, or credit/debit card. The Harbour Office phone number is 250-248-5051. **You will need to show your valid driver's license to receive a parking decal.**

To remain in good standing in the harbour parking lot you must:

1. Always have up to date insurance, license plate and parking decal;
2. Make sure your decal is clearly visible for the harbour crew to see;
3. Not be leaking gas or oil. Try not to have garbage in the back of trucks.

The Harbour Manager **MUST** contact you or Ezra Auerbach before your vehicle is towed away for an infraction (unless the RCMP is involved).

If you do not need your spot, please let me know as soon as possible so that the next person on the waiting list can be contacted.

–Lisa Johnson for FC Parking Committee (LCA) 250-333-8727 lasquetifcparking@gmail.com

**FREE STORE, RECYCLE CENTRE &
LANDFILL INFORMATION**

FREE STORE: Summer hours: April 1st to Sept. 30th. Mondays and Thursdays 1:00-5:00pm

Accepts: reusable household items and **clean** folded reusable clothing only. Clothes that are torn, faded, moldy or have broken zippers are NOT accepted. Take old synthetic clothes to the dump. Old natural fibres are compostable and make great rags.

The Free Store does not accept: furniture, foam,

electronics, TVs, or computers. If the thing has a cord or uses batteries, it's not accepted. Take to Encorp Recycling Facility, Church Rd., Parksville.

RECYCLING CENTRE: Open 24/7.

Soft and hard plastic packaging MUST BE CLEAN.

Old tarps go to the dump. Please take and reuse the cardboard. The bins accept clean, flattened cardboard and brown paper bags only. Metal food cans must be clean. Take other metals to the dump.

RE-USE CLASSIFIEDS: post furniture and building material at lasqueti.ca

LANDFILL: Forbes Rd.

Summer Hours: April 1st to Sept. 30th, 1st and 3rd Sat. of every month, 1:00pm-3:00pm

Accepts: non-recyclable plastic, metal and glass.

Tires are accepted but must be removed from the rims.

Does not accept: drywall, paper/cardboard, electronics, recyclables, foam, styrofoam, yard waste, compost or hazardous materials.

WASTE MANAGER: Robyn Dryburgh, 250-228-2284
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Darrell Jobb

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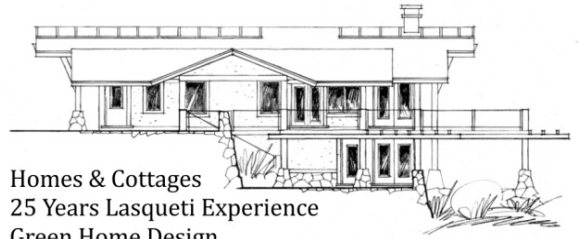
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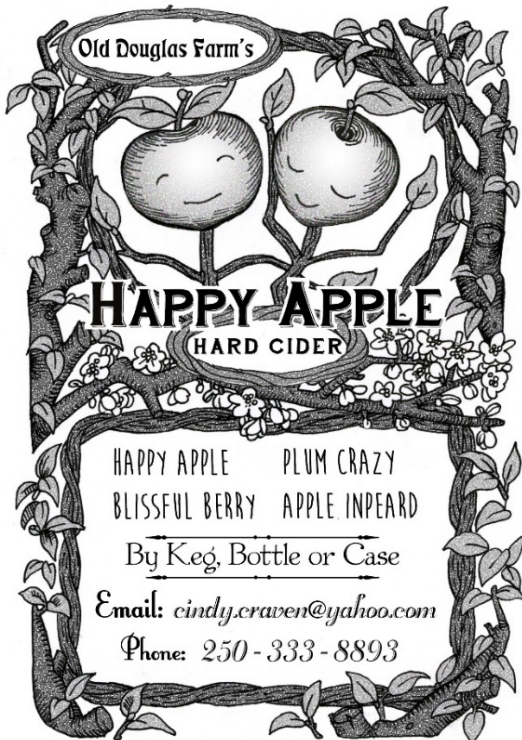
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Hope to see you this spring and summer!



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Off-island subscriptions are available for \$10.00 per year (PDF by email). Paper copies are \$25.00 per year (Canadian addresses), \$30.00 (U.S. addresses), or \$35.00 (overseas addresses). **Please make cheques payable to Kimi Cochlin.**

***The deadline for submission for the May issue is midnight, Friday April 27th
for release Monday May 7th.***