



Islands Trust

North Pender Island Local Trust Committee

Information on Mining Claims

The North Pender Island Local trustees have heard community concerns regarding the mining claims on North Pender Island. To assist community members, we are providing the following information about this topic.

Information on mineral claims and the rights of landowners and free miners is available at the provincial government's website on the following links:

Information on to the rights of landowners:

<http://www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Titles/MineralTitles/Pub/Forms/Pages/LandownerNotification.aspx>

Information on mineral claims in BC:

<http://www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Titles/MineralTitles/faq/Pages/PrivateProperty.aspx>

Concerned constituents who cannot find the information about mineral claims they are seeking on the ministry's website can contact the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Natural Resources at 1-866-616-4999 or by email at mineral.titles@gov.bc.ca.

If a landowner believes a mineral claim has been registered on their land for a purpose other than a mining activity, they may complain to the Province's Chief Gold Commissioner. The Commissioner has jurisdiction to cancel the claim if the complaint is justified. For further information on making a complaint, contact the Ministry staff at the above phone number or email address.

If community members have concerns about the province's mineral tenure system, or how the *Mineral Tenure Act* works, please contact your M.L.A. Murray Coell at 1-866-655-5711 or by email at murray.coell.mla@leg.bc.ca.

Landowners can determine if there is a mineral claim registered on their property and the date of registration, by following the links from the Ministry of Energy and Mines website: <http://www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Titles/MineralTitles/faq/Pages/PrivateProperty.aspx>

While this issue has created considerable concern in our community, previous discussions between Islands Trust staff and staff from the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Natural Resources suggest it is very unlikely that there are any mineral resources on the Pender islands that could be economically developed. We understand that any actual land disturbance is very unlikely to occur.

While the Islands Trust Policy Statement does not support mineral extraction in the Islands Trust Area, this policy expresses an objective only and is not binding. The Islands Trust Executive Committee has this topic on its agenda for further discussion in January.

December 13, 2012 Ken Hancock, Local Trustee,

Gary Steeves, Local Trustee