

Galiano Island Local Trust Committee Report
March 2015
Trustees Sandy Pottle and George Harris

On February 2nd Galiano's new Local Trust Committee had it's inaugural meeting at the South Community Hall. Returning Trustee Sandy Pottle, new Trustee George Harris and our new local Trust Chair Laura Busheikin from Denman Island were present (as well as Trust staff).

The first meeting of the 2014-2018 council was well attended by members of the public eager to participate and get information on the direction the new council intends to take.

As is the custom, a "Town Hall" dominated the beginning of the meeting with many islanders expressing concerns, wishes and questions regarding important issues that our local council will be dealing with this year. Passionate voices were heard regarding a proposed Roger's cell tower, islander's continuing interest in affordable housing solutions along with other island topics. The "Town Hall" is an excellent forum for **you** to bring ideas, concerns and awareness to topics that the Island's Trust can influence. The cost of ferry tickets might not be appropriate for this forum.

An application for non-farm use in the ALR was brought forward and council voted to recommend approving this and has now been forwarded to the Agricultural Land Commission for their consideration. The other significant application was from Crystal Mountain-A Society for Eastern & Western Studies. This was a re-submission that began early in the last decade. A number of the society's Galiano members were in attendance. The vision of the society will require a new zone be created affecting both subject lots. Because of the complexity and size of the application, council has asked the proponents to clarify and add to the application.

Another significant portion of the meeting was reviewing all projects that were on the previous councils work list as well as addressing what would be the first 3 project priorities the council will address in the new term. Fortunately the previous council had completed 2 of the 3 projects on the list...the visitor accommodation and ground water protection files. The 3rd file was the home-based contractor file which was put on the new top 3 list.

The decision was made to pursue affordable housing initiatives as the other 2 top priorities...cottage size and secondary suites. It is expected that the planning staff will bring forward recommendations to the next LTC meeting on Galiano Island ...March 2 at the North End Hall. (12:30 pm)

We encourage all islanders to visit islandstrust.bc.ca to keep track with what your Trustees are up to. This site now is easy to navigate and has all correspondence, studies, reports, etc. that form the basis of the work your local Trust is engaged in.

Spottle@islandstrust.bc.ca office hours Tues. 4-6 Gharris@islandstrust.bc.ca office hours Wed. 4-6