



News Release

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March 2017 Islands Trust Council Program Announced

VICTORIA – The Islands Trust Council invites members of the public to observe and participate in its next quarterly business meeting March 14-16, 2017 on Gabriola Island.

Trust Council encourages members of the public to attend a town hall session starting at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15. The session is a regular forum to promote dialogue between islanders and trustees and represents an opportunity for the public to ask questions and make suggestions about the work of Trust Council.

Persons or organizations wishing to make a formal delegation to Trust Council must send their request in writing at least three (3) weeks before the Trust Council meeting. The topic, speaker's name and contact information must be sent to Emma Restall (email: erestall@islandstrust.bc.ca) by Tuesday, February 21. Guidelines for presentations to Council can be viewed at <http://islandstrust.bc.ca/talktocouncil>.

The quarterly business meeting starts Tuesday, March 14 at 1 p.m. and is expected to end by 1 p.m. on Thursday, March 16. The meeting agenda package will be posted to the Islands Trust website calendar by March 6. A consolidated description of Council sessions and the full three-day "program" will also be posted when it is finalized.

Trust Council Sessions will include:

Trustee Roundtable – This session is an opportunity for trustees to exchange ideas about common island topics.

Archaeological Site Protection – Trust Council will review the context of archaeology in the Trust Area and discuss archaeological site protection tools and options.

Delegations and Town Hall – From 2 – 3 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15, Trust Council will invite members of the public to present their federation-wide concerns to trustees, ask questions and make suggestions about the work of Trust Council.

Regular Agenda Items – During these sessions, Trust Council considers and discusses Islands Trust business as part of its core decision-making function. Trust Council will review key advocacy and policy positions on a variety of topics, consider progress on strategic priorities and review recommendations from the Local Planning, Trust Programs and Financial Planning committees regarding proposed work programs for the coming quarter.

Closed Sessions – In closed sessions, trustees will review and consider various matters relating to litigation and personnel.

Water Sustainability Act – Trust Council will receive presentations on the *Water Sustainability Act* and discuss relevant issues.

The Islands Trust is a federation of special-purpose local government bodies representing 25,000 people living within the Islands Trust Area and another 10,000 non-resident property-owners. The Islands Trust is responsible for preserving and protecting the unique environment and amenities of the Islands Trust Area through planning and regulating land use, development management, education, co-operation with other agencies, and land conservation. The area covers the islands and waters between the British Columbia mainland and southern Vancouver Island. It includes 13 major islands and more than 450 smaller islands covering 5200 square kilometres.

The 26-member Islands Trust Council makes decisions about overall policy and financial management for the Islands Trust and has broad responsibilities to uphold the Islands Trust mandate to preserve and protect the islands. Trust Council does not make local land use decisions, which are the responsibility of the local trustees within their respective local trust areas.

Contact: Peter Luckham, Chair, Islands Trust Council 250.210.2553
Russ Hotsenpiller, Chief Administrative Officer 250.405.5160

Preserving **island** communities, culture and environment

Bowen, Denman, Gabriola, Galiano, Gambier, Hornby, Lasqueti, Mayne, N. Pender, Salt Spring, Saturna, S. Pender, Thetis
