



News Release

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Saturna Island By-Election Planned

VICTORIA – Saturna Island Local Trustee John Money has submitted his resignation from the Saturna Island Local Trust Committee, effective October 7, 2010. Trustee Money was one of the two Local Trustees for Saturna Island.

Money's resignation follows a decision by the Saturna Island Local Trust Committee to create a Development Permit Area on Saturna Island for water conservation and wetland protection in the East Point area of Saturna Island. Groundwater in the area had been identified by a 2010 Ministry of Environment report as particularly sensitive to development impacts. However, because Money owns a portion of the land that would be affected by the Development Permit Area, he had declared a conflict of interest. He was therefore prohibited from influencing the local trust committee's decisions, except through an agent. "I find myself in a position where I cannot defend my property rights," said Money. "I've thought very carefully about this and with regrets have decided I have no choice but to resign".

"John's contributions representing his community as a member of the Saturna Island Local Trust Committee and at Trust Council are much appreciated," said Sheila Malcolmson, Chair of the Islands Trust Council. "I'm very grateful for his many years of significant community service."

In accordance with the requirements of the provincial *Local Government Act*, the Islands Trust will begin immediate preparations for a by-election to elect a new Local Trustee for Saturna Island. The successful candidate will fill the position vacated by Money until the term ends in early December 2011.

Once elected, a Saturna Island Local Trustee essentially fills two roles: they sit on the three-member Saturna Island Local Trust Committee that has the authority to make land use plans and regulations for Saturna Island; and they also sit on the Islands Trust Council, which considers broader policy, operational and financial decisions for the entire Islands Trust Area.

While dates have not been finalized, electors on Saturna Island can expect the by-election to be held in January or February of 2011, assuming more than one candidate is nominated for the position. Should there be only one candidate, that person would be elected by acclamation after the close of the nomination period. Full details about the required qualifications for candidates, nomination procedures and important dates regarding nominations and voting will be well advertised in local newspapers as soon as arrangements are complete.

General Local Elections for the entire Islands Trust will be held in November 2011, in accordance with the schedule for local government elections throughout British Columbia.

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