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March 17, 2017

File No. 6930-20
(Agricultural Area Plan)

Via email: dugright@hotmail.com
erikaaction@gmail.com

Denman Growers & Producers Alliance
Denman Island, BC

Dear Denman Growers & Producers Alliance,

Re: Denman Island Farm Plan Implementation

I am writing on behalf of the Denman Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) in response to comments received from the Growers & Producers Alliance (GPA) concerning implementation of the Denman Island Farm Plan.

First of all, I would like to say thank you for your comprehensive review of the Farm Plan and comments regarding the Plan's recommendations. The LTC has had Farm Plan Implementation on its work program for many years but has only recently had the resources to proceed with this project. We sincerely appreciate that GPA members have contributed the time and energy to bring their thoughts and ideas to the LTC. This information will be very useful as the project progresses.

As we move forward, the LTC would also like to see more collaboration among stakeholders. We agree that supportive policies and regulations are needed to advance farming and food security initiatives on the island. We also recognize the need to take a balanced approach so that we can continue to, as you have indicated, provide for the growth of the community and the agricultural sector in a sustainable way and one that supports the protection of our sensitive island environment. Furthermore, the LTC acknowledges that many of the Farm Plan recommendations have already been advanced and that the GPA has been a critical element of this success.

The LTC will consider next steps in the Farm Plan Implementation project at an upcoming meeting this spring. We welcome continued engagement with GPA members and continue to be open to ideas about how we can best support agriculture on Denman Island.

Sincerely,

Susan Morrison, Chair
Denman Island Local Trust Committee

cc: Laura Busheikin, Denman Island Trustee lbusheikin@islandstrust.bc.ca
David Critchley, Denman Island Trustee dcritchley@islandstrust.bc.ca
Marnie Eggen, Island Planner, denmanplanner@islandstrust.bc.ca

*Preserving **Island** communities, culture and environment*

Bowen Denman Hornby Gabriola Galiano Gambier Lasqueti Mayne North Pender Salt Spring Saturna South Pender Thetis