

## Trustee Report – October 2018

Dan Rogers

I've been meaning to write a proper Trustee Report for a while now and am spurred on by the fact municipal elections were yesterday and this current 4 year term is up as of early November.

### **HAS IT REALLY BEEN 4 YEARS?**

It's difficult for me to fathom but indeed I became Trustee in November of 2014. It's been a rewarding, sometimes frustrating and certainly an educational time. I have learned a lot about the people of the islands not only in this Trust Area but around the Salish Sea. I have visited Anvil, Bowyer, Pasley, North and South Thormanby and of course have traveled to parts of Keats and Gambier that were unknown to me including Plumper Cove, the Sea Ranch and Brigade Bay. I have visited all of the other Local Trust Areas except Mayne and Thetis. I will get around to those I'm sure. And I've met hundreds of islanders that I wouldn't have met otherwise many of whom are totally in love with their place on these islands in the Salish Sea.

I want to thank everyone I've met and worked with over the past 4 years but especially the other Trustee for this area, Kate-Louise Stamford who has helped make this experience so rich.

### **AND ANOTHER FOUR TO COME**

Many of you likely already know that Kate-Louise and I have been acclaimed for another term. I hope this reflects faith in the job we are doing as Trustees. I am looking forward to the next four years as lots of challenges and opportunities exist in this area and around the Trust Area. Some of the specific issues I hope to work on include:

- a) Continuing the work to update the Official Community Plan on Gambier and starting a similar process on Keats.
- b) Completing the work on Riparian Area bylaws for Gambier and other islands.
- c) Continuing the reconciliation work with local First Nations people.
- d) Working on balancing the service levels from the SCRD and the taxes paid from the island communities. This will involve a special attention to docks.
- e) Continuing the review of shoreline protections on Keats and elsewhere.
- f) Observing and assisting the effort to have Howe Sound/Alt'kitsem designated a United Nations Biosphere area.
- g) Continuing to monitor the health of the ecosystems in this area including marine and terrestrial areas. While our authority is somewhat limited often the Trust can make a big difference.
- h) Working to protect special areas on all the islands.

I also look forward to hearing from you about what issues are important and how we can go about "preserving and protecting" our place.

## **TRUS COUNCIL ON KEATS**

Trust Council meets every 3 months and in September I was pleased to play 'host' to 25 folks from other islands and the Victoria office on Keats. The attendees stayed at Barnabas and our meetings were held at Keats Camp. Thanks to all the people at both of those locales for treating us so well. Everyone was deeply impressed with the island and Howe Sound and we were treated with blue skies and wonderful vistas up the Sound.

## **BURNCO**

One piece of news. If you have been following the application for a gravel extraction and processing facility at McNabb Creek just off the north end of Gambier, you may know that the province and the federal government gave environmental approval for the project a number of months ago. Last week the SCRD unanimously rejected a rezoning application from the company to allow for the processing of the gravel. As a result, at the moment while extraction is permitted, processing is not. The company will now have to decide whether to proceed with extraction and transport the gravel for processing elsewhere or not. I will let you know when more information is available.

## **SCRD ELECTIONS**

Congratulations to Mark Hiltz in Area F (including all Howe Sound islands except Bowen, Bowyer and Passage) and Lori Pratt in Area B (which includes the Thormanby and Trail islands) for becoming Directors of the SCRD. I look forward to working with both of them and all the new Directors of the SCRD. With the results now in the Board is made up of completely new Directors. Special thanks to outgoing Director Ian Winn for all his help and collaboration over the past 4 years.

As always, if you want to get in touch with me, contact me at [drogers@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:drogers@islandstrust.bc.ca) or 604-220-1500

Dan