



News Release

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Islands Trust Offices Reopen

Lekwungen, METULIYE/Victoria, B.C. – Islands Trust’s offices are reopening with new health and safety measures in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The office in Victoria will open to the public on Tuesday, September 1, joining the Salt Spring Island and Gabriola Island offices, which have already opened.

Until further notice, the Victoria office will be open to the public three days a week, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. The intention is to accommodate the public while limiting staff exposure and keeping staff resources allocated where they are needed most.

“We look forward to welcoming the public again,” shared Peter Luckham, Chair of Island Trust Council. “The health and safety of Islands Trust clients and staff are a top priority. We will continue to conduct meetings and events online, including the upcoming Trust Council meeting, September 15 – 16, and the Islands Trust’s Climate Change Speaker Series, which kicks off September 29 with a webinar about Rainwater Harvesting. We have a safety plan in place, as directed by WorksafeBC, and we are very serious about protecting staff and the public.”

The public is encouraged to continue using email and phone to communicate with Islands Trust staff, but visitors to the offices will be welcomed and will experience safety measures that include:

- Plexiglas shields at counters
- Maintaining two metres of distance between people
- Limited number of people allowed inside offices
- Frequent cleaning
- Use of hand sanitizer

To learn more about the health and safety measures Islands Trust offices have in place, please review the [Islands Trust COVID-19 Safety Plan](#).

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The Islands Trust is a federation of special-purpose local government bodies representing 26,000 people living within the Islands Trust area and another 10,000 non-resident property owners. The Islands Trust area is located within Coast Salish territory and is the homeland to over 28,000 Coast Salish Peoples who have called this place home since time immemorial. The Islands Trust is responsible for preserving and protecting the Islands Trust area's unique environment and amenities 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.

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Preserving **island** communities, culture and environment

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