



News Release

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North Pender Island takes legal action to enforce on derelict vehicles Proceedings are underway to have derelict vehicles and parts removed

Lək'wəḡən, METULIYE/Victoria, B.C. – The North Pender Island Local Trust Committee authorized legal action against one property owner in early November. The concern that prompted this action is that large quantities of vehicles and vehicle parts are being improperly stored and disposed of on a single property, which directly contravenes Land Use Bylaw No.103.

“While we have undertaken legal proceedings against one property owner, the current legal action will be the first of many if compliance is not reached with other property owners regarding derelict vehicles,” said North Pender Island Local Trust Committee Chair Laura Patrick. “We have attempted to assist local property owners to comply with this regulation, but, sadly in this case, the damaging activity persists and we are compelled to take legal action in order to fulfil our preserve and protect mandate.”

This decision to proceed with legal action is an evolution of an earlier commitment made through North Pender Island Local Trust Committee Standing Resolution 2019-016 (carried on January 31, 2019) to commence bylaw investigations and enforcement without written complaint if bylaw violations related to disposal or storage of waste or recyclable materials or storage of vehicles or vehicle parts are observed by the bylaw enforcement officer while doing inspections for other issues or if it is reliably reported to the officer that such activity may be taking place. Repeated attempts to communicate with the property owner that he is in non-compliance with the bylaw and that there are environmental risks associated with his actions to improperly store multiple vehicles and vehicle parts have gone largely ignored.

The North Pender Island Local Trust Committee is seeking to obtain court orders for the removal of derelict vehicles, abandoned vehicles, and detached or salvaged motor vehicle parts or scrap.

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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 and Kwakwaka'wakw 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 by planning and regulating land use, development management, education, cooperation 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 5,200 square kilometres.

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Preserving and protecting over 450 islands and surrounding waters in the Salish Sea

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