

Clean and Safe Harbours Southern Gulf Islands

How do we “preserve and protect” our unique amenities?
Our harbours and coastal marine environment



Current state

- Increased numbers of vessels permanently moored in Ganges harbour
- Many are used as liveaboards and are dilapidated
- no sewage disposal
- no garbage disposal
- no oily bilge water disposal
- vessels have sunk and caught fire
- Moored in environmentally sensitive areas (eelgrass)
- Many illegal docks randomly placed causing congestion and navigation issues
- The SSI Trust has bylaws in place to regulate liveaboards and placement of docks but has chosen not to enforce by resolution



Options?

- Ban all dwelling on vessels and placement of buoys. This is unrealistic.
- Banning buoys rejected in a recent workshop hosted by the CRD and attended by Trust and other elected officials.
- CASHI and consensus at the CRD workshop recommend regulating use of our harbors.
- Both groups have independently come to the same solutions



Regulate mooring and use of the harbour

- Vessel registration and licensing
- Evidence of sewage/garbage disposal
- Insurance to cover costs of salvage/cleanup in the case of sinking
- A system to govern the placement of bouys to prevent overcrowding and renting bouys
- The intent is not to “kick” people out of the harbour but ensure that those who use it do so in a way that preserves and protects it.



No action causes harm!

- Choosing to not enforce existing bylaws or replace the existing bylaws with one that they will fairly regulate and enforce accelerates damage to the harbour
- Choosing to suspend bylaw enforcement in perpetuity is not governing or not taking any action, does not preserve and protect
- Lets create a system that promotes a clean and safe environment for all stakeholders: that allows liveaboards, regulates placement of buoys, has a code of conduct to ensure all are treated with respect and are safe, and fairly and reasonably enforces the rules.

