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Mayne Island Local Trust Committee Takes Legal Action

Lək̓ʷəŋən, METULIYE/Victoria, B.C. – The Mayne Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) has authorized legal action against Michael Ball and Mayne Island Towing & Recovery in order to address the unlawful towing operation and subsequent storage of derelict vehicles in a residential area.

The decision by the Mayne Island LTC to pursue legal action follows a prolonged period of non-compliance by Mr. Ball, who operates a tow truck company and stores derelict vehicles on public roads on Mayne Island. The storage of derelict vehicles, including a helicopter fuselage, on public road and parking areas disregards zoning bylaws and impacts public safety.

"Although taking legal action is a last resort for local trust committees, it is necessary in this case," said Mayne Island LTC Chair Tobi Elliott. "We must take legal action to preserve and protect Mayne Island and the community."

In accordance with Islands Trust policies, enforcement actions, including legal action, are initiated in response to complaints from community members. Initially, efforts focus on investigating complaints, educating violators, and offering opportunities for voluntary compliance with community bylaws. Typically, violators are given multiple options and reasonable timelines to address infractions voluntarily. Legal action is considered a last resort.

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Islands Trust is a special-purpose government representing over 30,000 people living within the Islands Trust Area and 10,000 non-resident property owners. The Islands Trust Area is located within Coast Salish territory and is the homeland to many Coast Salish Peoples who have called this place home since time immemorial. Islands Trust is responsible for preserving and protecting the Islands Trust Area and its unique amenities and environment through conservation-oriented land use planning and regulation, education, and cooperation with First Nations and other agencies. The Islands Trust 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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