



News Release

200 - 1627 Fort Street Victoria BC V8R 1H8

Telephone **250.405.5151** FAX: 250.405.5155

Toll Free via Enquiry BC in Vancouver 604.660.2421. Elsewhere in BC **1.800.663.7867**

information@islandstrust.bc.ca www.islandstrust.bc.ca

February 1, 2018

2018-02-IT

March 2018 Islands Trust Council Program Announced

VICTORIA – The Islands Trust Council invites members of the public to observe and participate in its next quarterly business meeting March 13-15 at the Harbour House Hotel, 121 Upper Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island.

Members of the community are encouraged to attend a town hall session on Wednesday, March 14 starting at 2 p.m. Designed to promote dialogue between islanders and trustees, the session is an opportunity for the public to ask questions and make suggestions about the work of Trust Council. Trust Council is aware that the recent referendum on Salt Spring Island over incorporation has spurred community discussions about service delivery and governance. Trust Council welcomes input about how the Islands Trust can improve on delivery of its mandate.

Persons or organizations wishing to make a formal delegation to Trust Council must send their request in writing at least three (3) weeks before the meeting. The topic, speaker's name and contact information must be sent to Jas Chonk (email: jchonk@islandstrust.bc.ca) by Wednesday, February 21. Guidelines for presentations to Council can be viewed at <http://islandstrust.bc.ca/talktocouncil>.

The meeting starts Tuesday, March 13 at 1:30 p.m. and is expected to end by 12 p.m. on Thursday, March 15. The meeting agenda package will be posted to the Islands Trust website calendar by March 5.

Trust Council Sessions will include:

Trustee Roundtable – This session is an opportunity for trustees to exchange information about common island topics.

Regular Agenda Items – During these sessions, Trust Council considers and discusses topics related to its core business. Trust Council will review advocacy and policy positions on a variety of topics, consider progress on strategic priorities and review recommendations from the Local Planning, Trust Programs and Financial Planning committees regarding proposed work programs for the next quarter.

2018/19 Budget Review– Trustees will review and discuss the proposed budget for Council's core operations and potential projects. Trustees will consider the public input received before finalizing and approving the Islands Trust's 2018/2019 budget and its annual Financial Plan Bylaw. More details about the budget and opportunities for input are available at <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/budget>.

Adapting to Climate Change Session – Trust Council will review and discuss land use planning tools available to lessen the effects of climate change and improve community resiliency.

Delegations and Town Hall – From 2 – 3 p.m. on Wednesday, March 14, Trust Council will invite members of the public to present their federation-wide concerns to trustees, ask questions and make suggestions about the work of Trust Council.

Closed Sessions – In closed sessions, trustees will review and consider litigation and personnel matters.

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 is responsible for preserving and protecting the unique environment and amenities of the Islands Trust Area 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.

The 26-member Islands Trust Council makes decisions about overall policy and financial management for the Islands Trust and has broad responsibilities to uphold the Islands Trust mandate to preserve and protect the islands. Trust Council does not make local land use decisions, which are the responsibility of the local trustees within their respective local trust areas.

Contact: Peter Luckham, Chair, Islands Trust Council 250.210.2553

Russ Hotsenpiller, Chief Administrative Officer, via Andrew Templeton, Communications Specialist 250.405.5156

*Preserving **island** communities, culture and environment*

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