

## **News Release**

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## COMMUNITY RAISES \$250,000 FOR NEW PROTECTED AREA ON LASQUETI ISLAND

Northern Coast Salish Territory, Lasqueti Island, British Columbia — The Islands Trust Conservancy and the Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy (LINC) have raised \$250,000 to protect a ridgetop Coastal Douglas-fir forest on Lasqueti Island. Now, the 11.6 hectare (28-acre) Salish View property is protected as a nature reserve, forever.

Salish View Nature Reserve rises 160 metres above Lasqueti's rocky south coast to a prominent ridgetop with stunning 270 degree views of the Salish Sea. The new nature reserve, which is owned and managed by the Islands Trust Conservancy, extends from the border of Squitty Bay Provincial Park, connecting the shoreline to the ridgetop and increasing the total protected area on Lasqueti Island to 428 hectares (1057 acres).

"Again and again islanders show us that they believe in the 'Preserve and Protect' mandate of the Islands Trust, donating their money, their creativity and their time to protect natural places," said Kate Louise-Stamford, Chair of the Islands Trust Conservancy Board. "The Islands Trust Conservancy is proud to be able to support this passion through partnerships to protect natural areas for all species."

"The Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy is grateful for all the support we received to conserve Salish View. Over 130 neighbours, friends and conservation supporters contributed donations ranging from \$10 to \$10,000. Substantial grants from the Sitka Foundation, the Clayden family and Environment and Climate Change Canada propelled the project to success. We also thank the landowner who generously donated 20 per cent of the market value to kick-start the campaign," said Gordon Scott, President of the Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy.

The Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy and the Islands Trust Conservancy will host a celebration event at the annual Squitty Bay Day on Sunday, August 25, 2019; a family-friendly event with guided hikes, workshops and a picnic. The partners will offer guided hikes in the new Salish View Nature Reserve and the local marimba band, Makeke Marimba plays at 3:30 p.m

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The Islands Trust Conservancy is the conservation land trust for Canada's islands in the Salish Sea. Since 1990, the Islands Trust Conservancy has protected more than 1,300 hectares of island ecosystems. This success is thanks to the vision, support and generosity of our donors and partners. Visit us online at www.islandstrustconservancy.ca.

The Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy (LINC) conserves and protects land for the benefit of wildlife, plants and the public. To achieve its mission, LINC acquires legal interests in land and provides public education on the natural and cultural features on Lasqueti and surrounding islands. Learn more at <a href="https://www.lasqueti.ca/LINC">www.lasqueti.ca/LINC</a>

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## Notes for Editor:

Media are invited to attend an on-site celebration event on Lasqueti Island on Sunday, August 25. Photo opportunities will be provided. To RSVP and receive location and travel information, please contact Crystal Oberg, Communications Specialist at coberg@islandstrust.bc.ca or 250-405-5171.