



ISLANDS TRUST FUND
Protecting Canada's Islands in the
Salish Sea

News Release

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2018-05-ITF

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fundraising Campaign Launched for New Lasqueti Island Nature Reserve 'Salish View' to protect old-growth trees and stunning view

Lasqueti Island, British Columbia, May 3, 2018 — A joint fundraising campaign is underway to protect a spectacular 11.6 hectare (28 acre) property on Lasqueti Island featuring mature Coastal Douglas-fir forest and rugged cliffs. The Islands Trust Fund and the Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy are partnering to raise \$250,000 by December 21, 2018 to create a new nature reserve directly adjacent to Squitty Bay Provincial Park.

Salish View rises above Lasqueti's rocky southern coastline to a prominent ridgetop with a stunning 270-degree vista of the Salish Sea. Visitors have described the summit view as one of the best marine views on the West Coast. Once protected, the property will be open to the public, offering residents and visitors opportunities for walking on nature trails through beautiful old-growth trees and rocky bluffs to the viewpoint. The proposed Salish View Nature Reserve will protect habitat for species at risk and an important part of the watershed of Wamer Creek – one of only three salmon-bearing streams on Lasqueti Island.

"The Islands Trust Fund is proud to partner with the Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy to acquire this significant property," said Tony Law, Chair of the Trust Fund Board. "Protecting the Salish View property means the existing protected area at Squitty Bay will extend from shore to the ridgetop, encompassing a diversity of habitats and microclimates, supporting the resiliency of species and ecosystems in light of a changing climate."

The fundraising campaign has already received a significant amount of community support and almost 40 per cent of the funds are in place. Now, with only seven months to go, the partners need to raise an additional \$155,000. The negotiated purchase price for the property is below market value, a contribution made by the current landholders through the Ecological Gifts Program.

"This is an exciting opportunity for Lasqueti Island, and for the whole Salish Sea region," said Gordon Scott, President of the Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy. "We are almost half way to our final fundraising goal to protect this special place forever. Every donation makes a difference now."

Donations for the Salish View campaign can be made to the Islands Trust Fund's [Lasqueti Island Acquisition Fund](#) and the Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy's [CanadaHelps page](#). Tax receipts will be issued for gifts over \$20.

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The Islands Trust Fund is the conservation land trust for Canada's islands in the Salish Sea. Since 1990, the Islands Trust Fund has protected more than 1,270 hectares of natural island ecosystems. This success is thanks to the vision, support and generosity of our donors and partners. Visit us online at <http://www.islandstrustfund.bc.ca/>

A CONSERVANCY FOR CANADA'S ISLANDS IN THE SALISH SEA

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The Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy (LINC) conserves and protects land for the benefit of wildlife, plants and the public. To achieve our 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 <http://www.lasqueti.ca/LINC>

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