



News Release

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Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee Moves to Electronic Meetings during the Pandemic

Lekwungen, METULIYE/Victoria, BC—Gabriola Island Local Trust Area residents and property owners can attend the next local trust committee meeting, May 14, 10:30 a.m., from their homes. All they need is a phone or a computer with access to the internet.

In compliance with public health directives to limit public gatherings and maintain social distance, the Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee will be conducting its next regular business meeting via Zoom, an electronic video and audio conferencing system, which can be accessed by anyone through the internet, or phone.

The Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee will conduct its meeting electronically. However, provincial law requires that a physical location be provided for the public to assemble. The Islands Trust Victoria Office at 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC, will serve as this location, but Islands Trust hopes that meeting attendees will stay home and attend the meeting electronically.

“During the current public health emergency, we can’t be holding meetings in person,” said Dan Rogers, Chair of the Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee. “We asked the provincial government for an exemption to the physical location requirement, but to date, it has not been granted. To comply with having a physical location open to the public, the Islands Trust Victoria office is designated for that purpose. Despite not meeting face-to-face there will be a town hall session and the public is encouraged to participate.”

To listen or view the Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee meeting, on May 14, 2020 starting at 10:30 a.m., the public may join the meeting by:

- Calling: 855.703.8985 (Toll Free)
- Logging into: <https://islandstrust.zoom.us/j/62278378779>

The Webinar ID number is: 622 7837 8779

The Islands Trust Victoria Office provides sufficient space for social distancing. However, if the number of people attending the meeting in Victoria is too many to meet social distancing requirements, the meeting will be cancelled.

For future meeting notifications, including electronic meeting login information and phone numbers, members of the public are encouraged to subscribe to Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee information and updates by going to the Islands Trust [website](#).

All local trust committee meeting details and login information is on the Islands Trust [website](#) along with agendas and agenda packages.

Until further notice, to protect the health and safety of trustees, Island Trust employees, and the public during the COVID-19 pandemic, all Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee meetings will be held electronically and broadcast using Zoom.

On March 26, 2020, the BC Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General issued an order (M083), allowing local governments to conduct electronic meetings without a location for the public to gather. The Islands Trust was not included in the order.

The Islands Trust appreciates your understanding and assistance in these unprecedented times.

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The Islands Trust works to preserve and protect over 450 islands in the Salish Sea through land use planning, the Islands Trust Conservancy, and Trust Council programs and services. The Trust Area, located within Coast Salish territory, is the homeland of over 28,000 Coast Salish Peoples who have called this Area home since time immemorial. Covering 5,200 square kilometres between the British Columbia mainland and southern Vancouver Island, the Trust Area has 26,000 residents and 10,000 non-resident property owners. The region features many indigenous archaeological and culturally significant sites, and some of the world's most endangered ecosystems.

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