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A Legend of the Coast

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BC ferries short-term bail-out

On October 1, BC Ferries announced that due to a reduction in traffic, the company would be reducing sailings on the Tsawwassen–Swartz Bay, Horseshoe Bay–Departure Bay and Horseshoe Bay–Langdale routes at off-peak times in an effort to reduce operating costs. The reductions would be in effect from mid-October through March 31, 2009.

However, on October 22, the BC government announced that as part of a provincial economic strategy, it would provide funding that will enable BC Ferries to reinstate the cancelled sailings. Therefore, starting this Saturday, October 25, the cancelled sailings will be reinstated. Customers are encouraged to visit BC Ferries' website at www.bcferries.com to ensure they receive up to date schedule information.

The provincial government also announced it would provide funding that will enable BC Ferries to offer a 33% reduction of fares on all routes for the months of December 2008 and January 2009.

Ferries' fuel surcharges cut 50%

On November 4, BC Ferries will reduce the existing fuel surcharges by 50%. This reduction will apply to the major routes connecting Vancouver Island to the Lower Mainland, The Southern and Northern Gulf Islands, and the Horseshoe Bay–Langdale route. The northern routes currently do not have a fuel surcharge.

The reduction is intended to reflect recent reductions in fuel costs. Actual fuel costs over and above a budgeted price are accumulated in a special account for each route, and surcharges collected are applied to reduce that balance over time. Since fuel costs have recently been somewhat volatile, BCFS sets the surcharge levels to minimize sudden changes while still paying down the surcharge accounts. Therefore, the company has the choice of reducing the surcharges per trip, or paying down the accounts more quickly and then eliminating surcharges earlier (bringing them back if the price of fuel goes up again).

In view of substantial fare increases and the effect this has had on ridership, the choice has been to make reductions in the surcharges at once. The change will not affect the company's profitability, and will probably not affect its creditworthiness.



Photo: Henry Schnare, www.henny.ca

Radiant fall day in Fulford Harbour, Salt Spring Island.

Holiday fare cuts part of premier's economic plan for BC

Ferry fares will be cut by one-third during December and January, announced Premier Gordon Campbell on October 22. The cuts will apply to all fares on all routes, including discounted fares paid for on BC Ferries' Experience card.

In addition, the premier also announced that service cutbacks, announced earlier to apply to the Swartz Bay–Tsawwassen, Departure Bay–Horseshoe Bay, and Langdale–Horseshoe Bay routes, will be cancelled and full service will be restored. The cutbacks, which took the form of the cancellation of early Sunday morning and some off-peak and evening sailings, were planned for the October 14 till March 31.

Why Now?

Several months of Islands' opposition to huge fare increases was fuelled by the service cuts. Strong opposition to the cancellations became evident at a public meeting held in Gibsons on October 20, initiated by Sunshine Coast NDP MLA Nicholas Simons. The meeting was expected to attract 150, but 450 Sunshine Coast residents attended. Speakers at the meeting targeted the government, which had 'privatized' the ferry corporation in 2003 but actually continued to own it. The meeting, which got wide television coverage, made it clear that the government was being directly blamed for the cutbacks.

Simons commented that the meeting shows that 'when the public comes together in a concerted way, it does have an effect.' However he said that the system needs overhaul, 'Coastal ferries are a failure and we need legislative change.'

Since 2003, the government had essentially frozen the subsidy provided for the minor route ferries. The result was that all cost increases in that period, plus payment of dividends to the provincial government, have been borne by fare increases, some of which have seen fares more than double. Additional government money had been contributed to maintain fare levels on the northern routes, following the sinking of the *Queen of the North*. The main route ferries are not subsidized, and are profitable; the Langdale–Horseshoe Bay route comes close.

Twenty Million Buck Bail-out

In his announcement, the premier said that \$20 million would be contributed by the government to cover the costs of the two-month fare reductions, and the restoration of the cancelled sailings. This appears to confirm the willingness of the government to take action to reduce fares in the face of reduced demand. Recent reports have suggested that the main routes have suffered up to a 12% decline in traffic over the past

ECONOMIC PLAN, please turn to page 10

The bylaws that won't lie down—trick or treat? Christa Grace-Warrick

A very costly set of bylaws has engulfed the entire three-year term of the current Galiano Island Local Trust Committee (LTC). As Hallowe'en, elections and a new Islands Trust term approach, the story gets weirder and weirder. The situation has now drawn the whole of Trust Council under its spell.

On June 24, as a customary procedure, the Islands Trust Executive Committee considered Bylaws 199 and 200 referred by Galiano Island Local Trust Committee. The proposed bylaws would change the Galiano's Forest zoning. The Executive committee refused approval of the bylaws, because they were considered to be inconsistent with the over-arching Trust Policy Statement.

Things started to get spooky on July 7, when the Galiano LTC referred Bylaws 199 and 200 to the Islands Trust Council for approval, a never before used procedure. Trustees Roy Smith (not standing again for Trust but standing for CRD Director) and Michael Sharp called for an extraordinary meeting rather than wait for September's quarterly Trust Council meeting. This cost taxpayers \$15,000.

On August 14, the Islands Trust Council did consider Bylaws 199 and 200 and refused approval of the bylaws with reasons (see *Island Tides* August 21, page 1, in our online archive, www.islandtides.com).

Following the special meeting, on August 28 the Executive Committee provided a letter with advice to the Galiano Island Local Trust Committee regarding forest land issues.

On September 19 the Galiano Island Local Trust Committee referred amended Bylaws 199 and 200 to the Executive Committee for approval.

On October 15, the Executive Committee considered the amended Bylaws 199 and 200 and returned the bylaws; again for lack of congruence with Trust Policy, naming in particular Galiano's road network. The deletion of the Heritage Forest Zone without public consultation has also been questioned. Galiano's OCP Review begins in the new year and these issues will be comprehensively addressed then.

Time Running Out

On October 17, the Galiano LTC referred the amended bylaws 199 and 200 to the full Islands Trust Council for reconsideration.

Also on October 17, Trustees Brian Hollingshead, Tom Johnstone, Jeanine Dodds and Peter Frinton directed that a vote be conducted by Resolution without Meeting (RWM) to call another Special Meeting of the Islands Trust Council on Hallowe'en to consider the bylaws. (Hollingshead, Frinton and Johnstone are not standing for Trust in the November 15 election. Dodds is acclaimed.)

This RWM was defeated 14 to 12 at noon on Wednesday, October 22. Those opposed to the meeting were: Ken Hancock, Gary Steeves, Louise Bell, Bronwyn Preece, Wendy Scholefield, Rose Willow, Peter Lamb, Kim Benson, Sheila Malcomson, Peter Luckham, George Ehring, Bruce McConchie, Sue French, and Giselle Rudischer. Those in favour of the meeting were: Peter Frinton, Joyce Clegg, Tony Law, Ron Emerson, Brian Hollingshead, Roy Smith, Jeanine Dodds, David Graham, Michael Sharp, Gary Rowe, Tom Johnstone, and Alison Morse.

However, like a zombie, the issue sprang from the grave within hours with another RWM moved by Tony Law (Hornby), seconded by Gary Rowe (Mayne, not standing again) to call another special meeting on November 21, once again days ahead of the December quarterly meeting (the one for which new trustees will be sworn in).

This time the vote without meeting or debate (on Friday, October 24) was reversed, 14 in favour of the \$15,000 special meeting and 12 opposed. Sue French (Thetis) and Bronwen Preece (Lasqueti) changed their vote to enable the meeting.

This November 21 meeting will truly be a debate from the dead: elections will have taken place, new trustees will not be included, and fully 11 of the 26 council members will not even have been part of the election process.

Many Galianoites are wondering when their nightmare will end.

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|----------|------|---------|--------|----------|------|---------|--------|
| 28 TU | 0531 | 10.2 | 3.1 | 5 WE | 0248 | 3.3 | 1.0 |
| | 1010 | 7.9 | 2.4 | | 1136 | 10.8 | 3.3 |
| | 1520 | 10.2 | 3.1 | | | | |
| | 2229 | 2.3 | 0.7 | | | | |
| 29 WE | 0620 | 10.5 | 3.2 | 6 TH | 0339 | 3.9 | 1.2 |
| | 1059 | 8.5 | 2.6 | | 1209 | 10.8 | 3.3 |
| | 1540 | 10.2 | 3.1 | | 1950 | 7.2 | 2.2 |
| | 2258 | 2.0 | 0.6 | | 2127 | 7.2 | 2.2 |
| 30 TH | 0706 | 10.8 | 3.3 | 7 FR | 0438 | 4.6 | 1.4 |
| | 1152 | 8.9 | 2.7 | | 1239 | 10.5 | 3.2 |
| | 1600 | 9.8 | 3.0 | | 1948 | 6.6 | 2.0 |
| | 2330 | 2.0 | 0.6 | | | | |
| 31 FR | 0753 | 10.8 | 3.3 | 8 SA | 0002 | 7.2 | 2.2 |
| | 1249 | 9.2 | 2.8 | | 0542 | 5.2 | 1.6 |
| | 1621 | 9.8 | 3.0 | | 1304 | 10.5 | 3.2 |
| | | | | | 2002 | 5.6 | 1.7 |
| 1 SA | 0004 | 2.0 | 0.6 | 9 SU | 0149 | 7.9 | 2.4 |
| | 0841 | 11.2 | 3.4 | | 0644 | 6.2 | 1.9 |
| | 1356 | 9.5 | 2.9 | | 1326 | 10.5 | 3.2 |
| | 1639 | 9.5 | 2.9 | | 2024 | 4.3 | 1.3 |
| 2 SU | 0041 | 2.0 | 0.6 | 10 MO | 0309 | 8.5 | 2.6 |
| | 0929 | 11.2 | 3.4 | | 0741 | 6.9 | 2.1 |
| | 1530 | 9.5 | 2.9 | | 1345 | 10.5 | 3.2 |
| | 1644 | 9.5 | 2.9 | | 2050 | 3.0 | 0.9 |
| 3 MO | 0120 | 2.3 | 0.7 | 11 TU | 0415 | 9.5 | 2.9 |
| | 1015 | 11.2 | 3.4 | | 0833 | 7.9 | 2.4 |
| | | | | | 1405 | 10.8 | 3.3 |
| | | | | | 2122 | 2.0 | 0.6 |
| 4 TU | 0202 | 2.6 | 0.8 | 12 WE | 0512 | 10.5 | 3.2 |
| | 1058 | 10.8 | 3.3 | | 0924 | 8.9 | 2.7 |
| | | | | | 1428 | 10.8 | 3.3 |
| | | | | | 2158 | 0.7 | 0.2 |

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|----------|------|---------|--------|----------|------|---------|--------|
| 28 TU | 0535 | 14.1 | 4.3 | 5 WE | 0326 | 4.9 | 1.5 |
| | 1056 | 9.5 | 2.9 | | 1138 | 14.4 | 4.4 |
| | 1610 | 13.8 | 4.2 | | 1857 | 10.5 | 3.2 |
| | 2312 | 3.3 | 1.0 | | 2051 | 10.5 | 3.2 |
| 29 WE | 0620 | 14.4 | 4.4 | 6 TH | 0418 | 5.9 | 1.8 |
| | 1139 | 10.2 | 3.1 | | 1219 | 14.4 | 4.4 |
| | 1635 | 13.8 | 4.2 | | 1931 | 9.5 | 2.9 |
| | 2344 | 3.0 | 0.9 | | 2254 | 10.2 | 3.1 |
| 30 TH | 0703 | 14.8 | 4.5 | 7 FR | 0520 | 6.6 | 2.0 |
| | 1221 | 10.8 | 3.3 | | 1255 | 14.4 | 4.4 |
| | 1700 | 13.5 | 4.1 | | 1959 | 8.5 | 2.6 |
| | | | | | | | |
| 31 FR | 0017 | 3.0 | 0.9 | 8 SA | 0051 | 10.5 | 3.2 |
| | 0746 | 15.1 | 4.6 | | 0628 | 7.5 | 2.3 |
| | 1304 | 11.2 | 3.4 | | 1327 | 14.4 | 4.4 |
| | 1725 | 13.1 | 4.0 | | 2026 | 7.2 | 2.2 |
| 1 SA | 0050 | 3.0 | 0.9 | 9 SU | 0216 | 11.5 | 3.5 |
| | 0830 | 14.8 | 4.5 | | 0734 | 8.2 | 2.5 |
| | 1352 | 11.5 | 3.5 | | 1356 | 14.4 | 4.4 |
| | 1750 | 12.8 | 3.9 | | 2057 | 5.9 | 1.8 |
| 2 SU | 0124 | 3.3 | 1.0 | 10 MO | 0322 | 12.5 | 3.8 |
| | 0916 | 14.8 | 4.5 | | 0834 | 8.9 | 2.7 |
| | 1451 | 11.8 | 3.6 | | 1425 | 14.4 | 4.4 |
| | 1815 | 12.5 | 3.8 | | 2130 | 4.3 | 1.3 |
| 3 MO | 0201 | 3.6 | 1.1 | 11 TU | 0419 | 13.5 | 4.1 |
| | 1004 | 14.8 | 4.5 | | 0928 | 9.8 | 3.0 |
| | 1611 | 11.5 | 3.5 | | 1455 | 14.8 | 4.5 |
| | 1844 | 11.8 | 3.6 | | 2206 | 2.6 | 0.8 |
| 4 TU | 0241 | 4.3 | 1.3 | 12 WE | 0512 | 14.4 | 4.4 |
| | 1052 | 14.4 | 4.4 | | 1018 | 10.5 | 3.2 |
| | 1749 | 11.2 | 3.4 | | 1527 | 14.8 | 4.5 |
| | 1923 | 11.2 | 3.4 | | 2246 | 1.3 | 0.4 |

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Friedman's Last Hurrah?

Patrick Brown & Christa Grace-Warrick

Naomi Klein's 2007 book, *The Shock Doctrine*, describes the use of Milton Friedman's strategy for the introduction of radical changes in economic systems. Friedman suggested that such changes would occur if they were introduced in the guise of solutions at the time some political, natural, or economic shock occurred. For organizations prepared in advance, these crises presented opportunities.

Friedman's particular interest was the introduction of free-market economies in developing nations, and his combination of deregulation, privatization, and free trade was the basis of the 'Washington Consensus,' applied with variable levels of success in South America and Asia.

Klein's book demonstrates where and how the shock doctrine strategy has been successfully deployed world-over during the last fifty years.

Yet Another Crisis

Now we have yet another crisis, apparently the result of lending based on the exaggerated value of the US housing market. In fact, it appears that the supply of US dollars that has fueled the US economy over the past five years was largely based on this creation of fraudulent asset value. The crisis emerged from deregulation of the banking system.

The result is now being termed a 'credit crunch,' and has spread worldwide following the purchase of US-originated securities by banks and financial institutions in many nations.

World-Wide Sales, Local Regulation

Many securities are traded worldwide, but their value relies on regulation by their country of origin. In the case of US mortgage-backed derivative securities, it appears that specific decisions made by the US 'President's Working Group on Financial Markets' in 1998, under Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, specifically decided to leave the market to self-regulation, or 'voluntary oversight.' Thus it was that US-based financial institutions were able to originate and sell securities which, in today's analysis, are worthless or close to it.

The Latest Shock

The result has been the financial failure of banks and other organizations who find themselves holding these securities, many of which they purchased with borrowed money, leading to a financial domino effect. Friedmanite opportunists could easily spot, and wait for, such an obvious outcome—and prepare the moves necessary.

Financial industries were quick to take advantage of the situation. Results started with the government rescue of several 'merchant banking' organizations (who already appeared to have profited mightily from trading in questionable securities) and then moved on to the promotion of much wider, and highly debated, \$700billion US government rescue scheme.

It has not been made clear who will benefit from the new

SHOCK TACTICS, please turn to page 8

Election Contact Info Bowen Island Municipality

MAYOR - One to be elected

Alan Mills 604 947 2055 alan@bowenisland.com
Bob Turner: 604 785 3096, bob.turner7@gmail.com, www.bobformayor.ca

COUNCILLORS - Six to be elected

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Mobile Poll

On Bowen Island a Mobile Poll is available for those who are confined to home because of illness or disability. One must pre-register by phoning the Chief Election Officer prior to 4pm Tuesday, November 4, at 604-947-4255.



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Election Contact Info Islands Trust - two to be elected

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MAYNE - Acclaimed

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Colin Shew 250 539 2699

SATURNA - Acclaimed

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SOUTH PENDER - Acclaimed
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Wendy Scholefield: 250 629 3681 wscholefield@islandstrust.bc.ca

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Capital RD-Electoral Area F (Southern Gulf Islands)

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Roy Smith 250 539 3476 greyrun@hotmail.com

Nanaimo RD- Electoral Area B (Gabriola Island)

John Hague 250 247 7675 SEALOVERLANE@shaw.ca
Jim Phillipoff 250 247 7929 jim_phillipoff@yahoo.ca
Gisele Rudischer 250 247 8795 gisele.rudischer@gmail.com
Jeff Warr 250 325 0262, 250739 8863 jeffwarr@hotmail.com

CRD-Electoral Area E (Salt Spring Island)

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Gary Holman 250 653 2042

Comox Valley RD - Area A (Denman & Hornby)

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Bruce Joliffe 250 335 1275 brucejoliffe@telus.net

Cowichan Valley RD - Area G (Thetis Island)

Mel Dorey N/A
Sherry Durnford N/A

Election Contact Info: SD #64

GALIANO ISLAND - Acclaimed

Bonnie MacGillivray: 250-539-3012, galibm@telus.net

MAYNE ISLAND - Acclaimed

May McKenzie: 250-539-2530, mayonmayne@shaw.ca

PENDER ISLAND - One to be elected

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Russ Searle: 250-216-2210, rjsearle@shaw.ca

SALT SPRING ISLAND - Acclaimed

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Mike Krayenhoff: 250-537-5159, mkayenhoff@sd64.bc.ca

SATURNA ISLAND - Acclaimed

Susanne Middleditch: 250-539-2984, susanne@saturmacan.net

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What a New Trustee Needs to Know ~ Jim Campbell

We are now in election mode for regional, school board and Islands Trust representatives. This is about the Islands Trust and what the legislation requires of an islands trustee and thus what we are entitled to expect. The first part is my version of a history in which I played a part. I hope readers will find it helpful.

In any event what is most important to all of us is that we understand that the so-called mandate is actually an exclusive instruction to carry out the 'Object', as defined. It does not expect 'objects' as defined in the *Local Government Act* to trump the exclusive Islands Trust Object.

When the legislature created regional districts and gave planning powers and duties to electoral areas the new CRD assigned local electoral districts staff and committees to prepare land use bylaws. The incentive to get on with the job was the imposition of a ten-acre freeze on subdivision.

The first zoning bylaw developed for the Outer Gulf Islands was very controversial. I opposed its passage and was elected as CRD director on the promise to redraft it and then develop Official Community Plans for each of the Outer Gulf Islands.

When the OCPs for Galiano and Salt Spring were adopted by local trust committees, as chair of the CRD, I signed them and

sent them to the Minister of Municipal Affairs for his approval. He referred them to a Select Standing Committee of the legislature with instructions to report on the kind of planning that should apply to the islands in the general perimeters of the Gulf of Georgia. The members, mostly strangers to the islands, were blown away by what they saw and wanted to create a land trust to strongly control development and, as much as possible, to retain the status quo!

The Legislature did not go that far but it created the Islands Trust with a statutory Object: with power and duty to respond to the vision of the committee and expectations of the legislature of the day. In fact, far more than it has responded. The powers and duties of the Islands Trust were restated and reconfirmed by the subsequent legislation.

I have watched the activities of the Trust closely over the years and I think it has lost its way. It is clear that unique amenities identified in an OCP as suited for park land have been lost by lack of due diligence.

I look around at other Islands and see obvious failures. The lack of due diligence in training Islands Trust planners to set aside their mantra to plan for the highest and best use of land is one. They must set aside the economic benefit to community or

the entrepreneur in favour of the stated object that is pledged by their oath of office.

It does not take a lawyer to tell us what the purposes and object are when they are clearly stated in good English in legislation. The clear words of the *Islands Trust Act* speak for themselves. They were reviewed and updated in February 2004.

S.3 The object of the trust is to preserve and protect the trust area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the trust area and of British Columbia generally, in cooperation with municipalities, regional districts, other persons and organizations and the government of British Columbia.

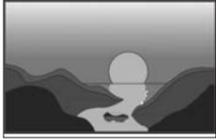
S.4(1) The trust council, executive committee, local trust committees and trust fund board are continued for the purpose of carrying out the object of the trust.

(It should be noted that there is no source of funding for functions except those in the *Islands Trust Act*.)

The Trust Policy Statement defines preserve and protect.

- Preserve: to maintain in a given condition. Preservation often requires maintaining the processes that generate the desired condition.

TRUSTEES, please turn to page 10



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 64 (GULF ISLANDS) NOTICE OF ELECTION BY VOTING

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the electors of School District 64 (Gulf Islands) that an Election By Voting is necessary to elect, for a three year term commencing December 2008 and terminating in December 2011, Trustees to the Board of School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands), and that the persons nominated as candidates at the Election By Voting and for whom votes will be received are listed below:

MAYNE ISLAND (One to be elected)

| Surname | Given Names | Residential Address |
|----------|-------------|--|
| McKenzie | May | 511 Whalen Road, Mayne Island, B.C. V0N 2J0 |

Elected by Acclamation

GALIANO ISLAND (One to be elected)

| Surname | Given Names | Residential Address |
|--------------|-------------|--|
| MacGillivray | Bonnie | 204 Harper Road, Galiano Island, B.C. V0N 1P0 |

Elected by Acclamation

SATURNA ISLAND (One to be elected)

| Surname | Given Names | Residential Address |
|-------------|-------------|---|
| Middleditch | Susanne | 131 Payne Road, Saturna Island, B.C. V0N 2Y0 |

Elected by Acclamation

NORTH AND SOUTH PENDER ISLANDS (One to be elected)

| Surname | Given Names | Residential Address |
|----------|-------------|--|
| Searle | Russ | 4840 Cutlass Court, Pender Island, B.C. V0N 2M2 |
| Williams | Pete | 2710 Privateers Road, Pender Island, B.C. V0N 2M2 |

SALT SPRING ISLAND (Three to be elected)

| Surname | Given Names | Residential Address |
|------------|-----------------|--|
| Krayenhoff | Mike (Michelle) | 212 Cusheon Lake Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2B9 |

Elected by Acclamation

| | | |
|----------|---------|--|
| Hingston | Charles | 345 Beaver Point Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 1Y7 |
|----------|---------|--|

Elected by Acclamation

GENERAL VOTING DAY for the election of trustees will be open **Saturday the fifteenth (15th) day of November 2008, TO QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 64 (GULF ISLANDS)** at the following places:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| North and South Pender Islands | Pender Island Elementary School 5714 Canal Road, North Pender Island |
|---------------------------------------|---|

All Islands, Mainland Voting Place
Anderson Elementary School,
9460 Alberta Road, Richmond

AND SUCH VOTING PLACES SHALL BE OPEN BETWEEN THE HOURS OF **EIGHT (8:00 A.M.) O'CLOCK A.M. AND EIGHT (8:00 P.M.) O'CLOCK P.M.**

ADVANCE VOTING OPPORTUNITIES shall be open at the:
Pender Island Elementary School, 5714 Canal Road, North Pender Island,

B.C., and Mary Winspear Community Cultural Centre at Sanscha, 2243 Beacon Avenue, Sidney, B.C. between the hours of **eight (8:00) A.M. and eight (8:00) P.M. on Wednesday, the fifth (5th) day and on Wednesday the twelfth (12th) day of November 2008**

of which every person is hereby required to take notice and be so governed accordingly.

Given under my hand at Ganges, B.C. this seventeenth (17th) day of October, 2008.
Thomas F. Moore,
Chief Election Officer

IMPORTANT NOTICE

There have been some legislative changes as to qualifications of elector status and process to vote that affect electors which are included in the listings below:

Resident Elector - You are qualified as a Resident Elector if you:

- are **eighteen years of age or older** on general voting day
- are a **Canadian citizen**;
- have resided in British Columbia in accordance with section 53 of the *Local Government Act* for at least six months immediately preceding registration;
- have resided in the area **at least 30 days** immediately preceding the day of registration

If you are not on the Voters List you may register on Voting Day providing you have two pieces of identification, one of which has your signature and preferably one with pictorial identification, e.g. drivers licence.

Non Resident Property Elector - You are qualified as a Non Resident Property Elector if you:

- are not entitled to register as a resident elector;
- are **eighteen years of age or older** on general voting day
- are a **Canadian citizen**;
- have resided in British Columbia in accordance with section 53 of the *Local Government Act* for at least six months immediately preceding registration;
- are a registered owner of the real property used for qualification **at least 30 days** immediately preceding the day of registration;
- are not disqualified under the *Local Government Act* or any other Act from voting in an election.

In addition to the above requirements the limitations listed below also apply to non resident property electors:

- if more than **one individual** is registered as an owner of the real property then **only one individual** is entitled to vote with the **written consent** of a majority of all other registered owners that are on the title including the person requesting registration; consent to have original signatures only, no facsimiles, please.
- if the non resident property elector is **not** on the voters list and wishes to register on General Voting Day or at an Advance Voting Opportunity you may apply for a certificate on Voting Day if you produce written authority from the registered owners that you have been designated to vote accompanied with adequate documentation, such as a Land Title Search, proving ownership of the property used as a basis for vote together with a form of designation that includes a signature (such as a driver's licence).

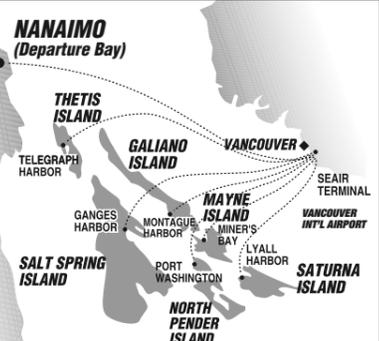


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Remembering Our Veterans

Dear Editor:
 This November 11, let's remember our veterans with much gratitude and appreciation for the countries they liberated and the peaceful world they secured for us in WW I and WW II.
 In spite of being wounded, maimed and many bearing the scars of war all their lives, they are happy and proud of having served their country, here and overseas, including guarding Canada's north, west and east coasts.
 When assembling the veteran's wall display for our Pender Isle Legion Branch 239, my late husband Stan and I found it most interesting and compelling when our Pender Isle veterans reminisced and shared with us some of their experiences whilst serving their country. We, our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren cannot appreciate and thank all the veterans enough for their immense sacrifices that obtained for us the freedom we enjoy today. May God bless them all.

Tessie McMillan, North Vancouver

'Spoofing' Calls On Behalf of Withdrawn NDP Candidate

Dear Editor:
 As a keen environmentalist like the many who reside in Saanich - Gulf Islands riding, I was shocked to learn about the controversy over the election result.
 I truly believe that if a group had not targeted thousands of homes, telling prospective voters to vote for the NDP candidate Julian West (who had withdrawn just hours too late to be removed from the ballot), Briony Penn would be going to Ottawa.
 Incredibly, 'spoofing,' this fraudulent practice of pretending to be phoning from someone else's phone number is legal according to the police and Telus.
 After speaking with Shawn Hall the media spokesman with Telus, he too conceded they have been lobbying the federal government to ban this practice ever since it was introduced in 2005. Serious complications arise dealing with potential for identity theft and, now, our electoral procedure.
 We have civic elections next month and a provincial election in the spring, clearly this practice flies in the face of our democratic process and must be forbidden.

Rachel McDonnell, Victoria

Election Post Mortem

Dear Editor:
 The recent federal election was bizarre in the extreme for Saanich and the Islands. The NDP candidate withdrew but not in time for his name to be removed from the ballot. This turn of events should have made it possible for progressive voters to unite around Briony Penn, someone with strong environmental credentials and the kind of experience and intelligence we need in an MP. Instead, the Greens voted for their perpetually doomed party rather than for their environmental principles. I hold them responsible for facilitating Gary Lunn's support of tanker traffic and drilling in our waters. To add to this, a bizarre voter fraud of robo-calls supposedly from the NDP on the eve of the election seems to have duped a significant number of NDP supporters to throw away their vote and thereby give the incumbent the edge he needed to retain his seat. Again, they voted for party rather than principles. I urge progressive voters to break this impasse whenever we get another opportunity to vote. We need to unite around the candidate best equipped to support environmental and social issues. The Greens should be ashamed at losing the best opportunity we have had in years to replace Gary Lunn with a progressive member of parliament, whatever his or her party may be.

Robin Ridington, Galiano Island

Ferry Fares

Dear Editor:
 Thank you so much for the great story 'Anatomy of a Body Blow' in *Island Tides* October 16 edition. I have never seen a more accessible and succinct breakdown of not only the events leading up to the passing of the *Coast Ferries Act*, but also the dramatically negative effect that the legislation has had on our island communities.
 This is the kind of journalism that the corporate papers do not want to run, as it asks some difficult questions, and dares to tweak the nose of a provincial government unmatched in its arrogance. Kudos to you for daring to compare ferries to highways, and also for reinforcing the idea that Islanders, and Mainlanders affected by the state of the ferry corporation, should make as much noise as possible in order to make this an election issue.
 Once again, I urge everyone to sign the petition at <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/1/return-bc-ferries-to-the-bc-ministry-of-highways>.

Robert Bailey, Bowen Island

Hornby Density Transferred

Dear Editor:
 Trustee Tony Law (*Island Tides*, October 2) has responded in a characteristic manner to my comments that the Islands Trust has lost its way (my letter, *Island Tides*, September 18).
 We are watching things in North American economics and finance brought about by a wide misunderstanding of the financial system, a one-sided set of self interested agendas and/or misguided perspectives and a lack of adequate planning, with

results of sudden collapses of systems and institutions that are said to be operating perfectly fine.

The parallels with the Islands Trust on Hornby are no different. Readers are led to believe the specifics on Hornby, but the statistics quoted do not tell the exact and whole story.

To avoid too much of 'he said-he said,' one can point to but one of many examples. Hornby is said to be well-cared-for because it is a leader in the preservation of land (27% in parks, the second highest in the Trust). Subsequent comments are made of the lack of opportunity to subdivide—partially because of this large reservation.

What has not been pointed out is the over-riding perspective and locally stated guiding principal. This is: 'since 27% is reserved, then the opportunity lost there in, should be included in the remaining 73%.'

So zoning and policy have already been put in place, and continue to be expanded and pursued, which make up for the density that could have originally been on the whole island. This is analogous to carbon offsets—for those that follow that debate.

This means Hornby, in having a finite area, will have a higher density of use on the 73% where Islanders live. That really does not protect the environment, but rather will more intensely impact the currently developed area. How odd.

The local trust does not make it better for either the environment or people with this approach.

Robert Gee, Hornby Island

Doing The Galiano OCP Review

Dear Editor:
 Galiano Island has been moving from a largely resource based economy to a seasonal tourism based economy for some time now. With this transition comes a number of serious impacts—an ever increasing gap between on-island incomes and real estate value, the summer housing crunch, availability of year-round rentals, the winter employment glut, an increase in fire hazard, increased need for emergency access, increased demand for shoreline access, increased demand on volunteer resources, and many more.
 At the same time we are faced with the ever increasing impacts of global issues such as climate change and peak oil—which give rise to serious local concerns about the health and resiliency of our ecosystems and our ability to provide for ourselves locally.

Our community needs to come together to address these issues now. While they cannot be solved by land-use policy and legislation alone, we have an opportunity to ensure that they are addressed in our OCP and Land Use Bylaws by bringing them to the forefront in this upcoming election. There is an OCP review scheduled for early 2009. This is our chance to bring issues crucial to our viability as a diverse and healthy community to the table.

Now is the time for all of us to get involved, to speak up about the issues that are important to us and elect trustees who are committed to taking a leadership role in addressing them. Our participation in this election can ensure that these issues are not ignored for another three years.

Keith Erickson, Galiano Island

Addressing All The Issues

Dear Editor:
 I would like to encourage the people of the Gulf Islands to be a part of shaping our future by voting thoughtfully in the upcoming Islands Trust election. Land use issues will continue to influence, both directly and indirectly, how these communities evolve.
 Here on Galiano, there seems to be large group of people who care about the Islands and recognize the issues, but feel disillusioned by the politics. I see the same concerns about low cost housing, transportation, water, and economic issues echoed in many letters and articles from all the Islands. The needs of wealthy holiday-home owners are being fulfilled, while young working families are being forced to move on. I would love to see all Islanders, no matter what their political views, get out to the local trust candidate's meeting (Nov 1) and more important—vote.

As a young resident who cares for the our future wellbeing, I feel disenchanted by the current political situation on Galiano. The local trustees, under pressure, have narrowed their focus to a pinpoint. With the focus on the potential to upzone a huge percentage of our Island from forestry use to residential use, all the rest of our issues are being ignored.

With a thoughtful, inclusive process, the solution of the forest lots could be a part of the solution to many of the community's basic needs. At the very least, the issue should be resolved during our awaited OCP review; when the Island as a whole has the opportunity to provide input. The Forest lot situation is something we would all love solved, with both sides content, but this will take some time. Very basic needs such as emergency vehicle access and potential water issues need to be addressed in a rezoning. The potential for beach access and a thoughtfully considered road plan need to be addressed in development. The giving of residential rights, a value of untold millions, doesn't have to benefit the community, but surely must not harm it.

Go to the all-candidate's meeting, ask questions, and learn about the potential trustees. The decisions that they make and precedents that they set are not easily reversible. Through becoming informed, casting a vote, and getting involved in an OCP review, the community has the chance to shape the future.

David Gaylor, Galiano Island

LETTERS continued on next page

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Fri Oct 31, Sat Nov 1, Thurs-Sun, Nov 6-8

Speakeasy—A Flying Dreams Aerial Arts Production with high-flying acrobats, sequined chorus girls, and gun-toting gangsters • 7:30pm • 'The Temple', 112 Sun Eagle Drive • Tickets: \$35, ArtSpring box office 250-537-2102 • Info: www.flyingdreams.ca • ON SALT SPRING ISLAND

Sat, Nov 1 & Thurs, Nov 6 & 13

Pender Film Group Screenings: SAT NOV 1: *Fugitive Pieces* (2007)—during World War II a Polish child escapes first to Greece before coming of age in Canada; THURS NOV 6: *Manufacturing Consent: Noam Chomsky and the Media* (1992/2007)—a primer for intellectual self-defense against corporate media's role in modern propaganda; THURS NOV 13: *Edge of Heaven* (2007)—a Turkish man travels to Istanbul to find the daughter of his father's former girlfriend • All shows 7:30pm, except where otherwise noted • Community Hall • Admission by donation • Info: www.penderislands.org • ON PENDER ISLAND

Saturday, November 1

Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary's Annual Christmas Sale—sweaters, pottery, linens, jewellery, books, toys, china, art; get a head start on your Christmas shopping • Meaden Hall at the Legion, 210 Blaine Rd • 9am-1:30pm • ON SALT SPRING ISLAND

Sunday, November 2

Gulf Islands Concerts (Saturna) presents St Petersburg Quartet—string quartet with many international prizes, recordings and concerts in their resume; an unusual opportunity to see and hear such a high profile group in the intimate setting of our Community Hall • Saturna Arts & Concert series tickets or \$20 at the door • 7:30 pm • Info: 250-539-5495 • ON SATURNA ISLAND



Tuesday, November 4

Gulf Islands Concerts (Pender) presents the St Petersburg String Quartet—internationally known and widely acclaimed chamber group includes quartets by Haydn, Ravel and Tchaikovsky • School Auditorium • 7:30 pm • Admission: single concert adults: \$25, children \$5 • ON PENDER ISLAND



Wednesday, November 5

Galiano Concert Series presents the St Petersburg String Quartet—one of the world's truly great chamber music ensembles • South Galiano Community Hall • 7:30pm • Tickets: Adults \$25; kids 15 & under with paying adult free, other students \$12, at Galiano Island Books or at the door • ON GALIANO ISLAND



Friday, November 7

InFrinGinG Dance Festival presents Sisyphus—Karen Jamieson Dance Company of Vancouver in one of Canada's top ten choreographic masterworks of the 20th century; a partnership with the Port Theatre, Crimson Coast Dance Society; also workshops, roundtable discussions and performances from Nov 6-9 • Port Theatre • 7:30pm • Tickets: \$32/\$28 members/\$17 students @ Port Theatre box office, 250-754-8550 • Info: www.crimsoncoastdance.org • IN NANAIMO



Fri, Sats & Wed, Nov 1 & 7, 8 & 12

Meet Ken Hancock—Candidate for Southern Gulf Islands' CRD Director meets with voters; events confirmed at press time GALIANO: Saturday Nov 1 and Fri, Nov 7; MAYNE: Sat, Nov 8; and SATURNA: Wed, Nov 12 • Info on other opportunities: www.kenforcrd.com 250-629-6610 • ON GALIANO, MAYNE AND SATURNA ISLANDS



islandtides@islandtides.com • 250-629-3660

Fri to Sun, November 7, 8 & 9

19th Annual Nanaimo Professional Craft Fair—62 crafters selling coffees to belt buckles, hourly door prizes, grand prize: Nintendo Wii Family Fun and Fitness System, wheelchair accessible, refreshments available • Beban Rec Centre, 2300 Bowen Road • FRI NOV 7: 12-8pm; SAT NOV 8: 10am-5pm; SUN NOV 9: 10am-4pm • Admission \$3 (unlimited re-entry), CLIP THIS AD FOR \$1 OFF ONE ADMISSION • Info: 250-758-3989 or judyshatto@yahoo.ca • IN NANAIMO

Saturday November 8

Delhi 2 Dublin—Vancouver's Indo-Celtic fusion with live electronica creates the ultimate dance party; listen at www.myspace.com/delhi2dublin • South Galiano Community Hall • Doors 8:30pm • Tickets: \$12, call 250-539-3767 to book ahead • ON GALIANO ISLAND



Sat thru Tues, Nov 8, 9, 10 & 11

Remembrance Day Weekend Family Fun Swims—enjoy the wavepool, waterslide, pirate ship, toddler pool, family changerooms, steam, sauna, whirlpool, and diving boards • SAT: 1-4pm, 6:30-8:30pm; SUN: 10-noon, 1-4pm, 6:30-8:30pm; MON: 7:00-8:30pm; TUES: 10-noon, 1-4pm • 4636 Elk Lake Drive (right off Pat Bay Hwy at Royal Oak Exit) • Info: 24-hour swim info-line 250-475-7620 • IN SAANICH

Thurs, Nov 6 thru Wed Dec 3

Gulf Islands Drop-In Influenza (Flu) Clinics—for those eligible for publicly funded/free influenza vaccine • PENDER: Tues, Nov 18 & Mon, Dec 1, 10am-2pm, Parish Hall; GALIANO: Thurs, Nov 13, 1:30-4:30pm & Wed, Dec 3, 1:30pm-4pm, Lion's Hall; MAYNE: Weds, Nov 12 & 26, 1:30-3:30pm, Community Activity Centre; SALT SPRING: Thurs, Nov 6 and Wed, Nov 26, 10am-noon & 1-3pm, Lady Minto Meeting Room (for information or to book a child influenza immunization call 250-538-4880); SATURNA: Mon, Nov 24, 11:15am-3pm, Community Hall • Info: 250-539-3099 • ON PENDER, GALIANO, MAYNE, SALT SPRING & SATURNA ISLANDS



Thurs to Sun, Nov 13, 14, 15 & 16

Fifth Annual Poetry Gabriola Festival—poetry, spoken word, storytelling and music including George Bowering, storytellers Ivan Coyote and Richard van Camp, performance artist singer poet Baby Dee; writing workshop, Alphabet Soup-poetry reading in a hot tub, and Buskers Galore—roving poets in the village, nightly after parties at Surf Lodge • Info: www.poetrygabriola.com 250-247-7604 • ON GABRIOLA ISLAND

Friday, Nov 14 thru Wed, Dec 31

Comox Valley Art Gallery 34th Annual Christmas Craft Fair—original designs, handmade works in pottery, jewellery, wood, glass, ornaments, specialty foods and more. Gala Opening: Sunday, Nov 16, 10am-5pm (15% discount) • CVAG Gift Shop, 580 Duncan Avenue • Nov: Mon to Sat, 10am-5pm; DEC: Mon to Sat, 10am-5pm, Sunday, 11am-4pm • Free admission • Info: 250-338-6211, www.comoxvalleyartgallery.com • IN COMOX

Saturday, November 22

An Evening with Timothy Taylor—join us for an evening with one of Canada's most exciting new writers; three course dinner paired with wine and reading • Morning Bay Winery, 6621 Harbour Hill • 6 pm • Tickets: \$95 at the winery, 250-629-8351, info@morningbay.ca or Talisman Books • Info: www.morningbay.ca • ON PENDER ISLAND



Sat & Sun, November 22 & 23

Gabriola Island Agricultural Association Annual Christmas Fair—35+ vendors with arts, crafts, and homemade specialty items; seasonal music; wheelchair accessible • Community Hall, 2200 South Road • SAT: 10am-4pm SUN: 11am-3pm • free admission; donations to food bank gratefully accepted • Info 250-247-9316 • ON GABRIOLA ISLAND

Campbell missed the mark on ferries, says Coons

As part of Gordon Campbell's ten-point plan on the economy, he has announced a 33% reduction in ferry fares for December and January, as well as a restoration of ferry service cuts, including the Sunshine Coast runs, for that time frame.

'Once again Gordon Campbell has put political rhetoric ahead of real relief for ferry dependent communities,' says New Democrat ferries critic Gary Coons. 'Ferry dependent communities need more than short-term political posturing. Reduced fares and restoration of service for a mere two months is an embarrassing response to the long-term damage caused by the Campbell government.'

'Gordon Campbell and Kevin Falcon constantly hide behind their claim that BC Ferries is now an 'arms length' corporation; that they cannot interfere with the actions of the ferries corporation. Clearly, yesterday's intervention by the premier into the operation of BC Ferries is proof that their claim is just a sham, an excuse so that they don't have to act.'

The premier's announcement came 3 days after an overflow meeting at Gibsons on the Sunshine Coast called by Nicholas Simons, New Democrat MLA for Powell River—Sunshine Coast. 450 irate people came together to discuss a drop-of-the-hat

MISSING THE MARK, please turn to page 11



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Capital Regional District



Notice of Adoption Of Bylaw 3571, Amendment to Hartland Landfill Tipping Fee and Regulation Bylaw

The Board of the Capital Regional District gives notice that it intends to adopt Bylaw 3571, Hartland Landfill Tipping Fee and Regulation Bylaw No. 5, 2003, Amendment Bylaw No. 7, 2008, at its meeting of Wednesday, November 12, 2008, in the Board Room at 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC.

The purpose of the bylaw is to increase the tipping fee for general refuse to \$95 per tonne at the Hartland landfill, effective January 2, 2009.

A copy of the bylaw may be inspected between the hours of 8:30am - 4:30pm, Monday - Friday inclusive, except statutory holidays, from the date of this Notice until November 12, 2008 at the locations listed below:

- Public Notice Posting Place, Main Floor, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria
- Hartland Landfill Administration Offices, Hartland Avenue, Victoria
- on the CRD website www.crd.bc.ca/bylaws/solidwastehartlandla/_index.htm Select Bylaw 3571 from the list of bylaws.

Questions regarding the bylaw may be directed to John Craveiro, Tel: 250.360.3164 or 1.800.663.4425 (local 3164).

Dated October 24, 2008

Carmen Thiel
Corporate Officer

LETTERS from previous page

Candidates, Talk To Us

Dear Editor:

As a new resident to the Gulf Islands I'm excited to participate in an election where I feel my vote has some power. Over the past year I've been watching and listening to find out what the key issues are for Galiano Island. I've attended Islands Trust meetings and various meetings where politics was the theme.

Now I'm ready to hear what the candidates have to say. Unfortunately, I've only been handed pamphlets with names, photos and slogan words like 'housing' and 'community' on them. I'm writing this letter as a plea to the candidates to not make assumptions during this campaign. I don't know who you are or what you've done in the past. So tell me.

I don't know what you think is the best approach to keeping families here and all of us housed. So tell me. I want to know what we can do about transportation so I don't have to worry about drunk drivers. I need to know what you think we can do to make living here sustainable. So tell me.

I'm a young person working multiple jobs to make a living but

I will be at our all-candidates meeting on November 1 to listen to you speak. I and so many others want to vote and have our voices heard but we can't stand behind you if we don't know what you're about. So please tell us.

Nicole Mouner, Galiano Island

Tuning Out

Dear Editor:

The upcoming Islands Trust election on November 15 presents the residents of Galiano with an opportunity to have their voices heard.

A significant portion of the population of Galiano Island is hesitant or downright refuses to become involved in our local upcoming election. This lack of engagement is possibly due to widespread tension surrounding the forest lot issue, a lack of feeling empowered, or perhaps there is a certain amount of apathy. Hopefully we can move away from intense frustrations which are obstructing the process of resolution with regards to F1 lots. Furthermore, indifference is the last thing any community needs, and with such a small population, each vote really does count.

LETTERS please turn to page 11

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Saturna Notes - Priscilla Ewbank

All over the Gulf Islands the big leaf maples are lit up like torches all day! This year they are spectacular—solid yellow—hardly a leaf has dropped. We had such a regular pattern of rain during the late summer and early fall that the

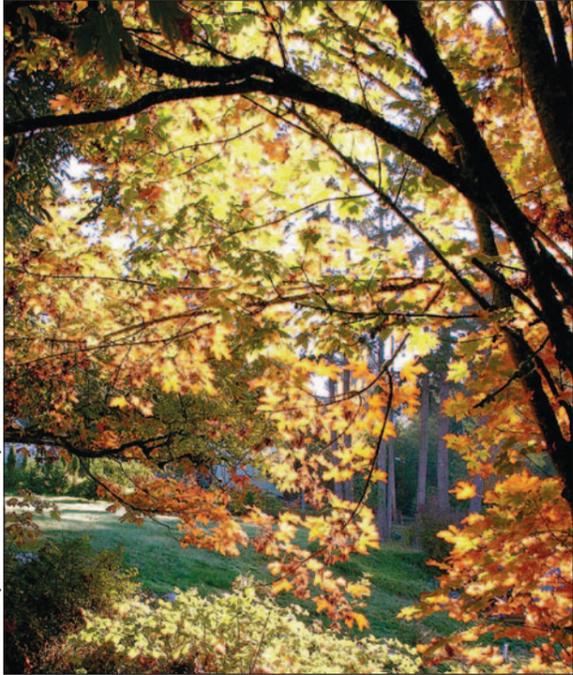


Photo: Henry Schmare, www.henry.ca

leaves are still well glued-on.

I keep mowing the lawn because the grass is hardly daunted by temperature—only by the much shorter hours of daylight.

Last weekend in the early afternoon sunlight we harvested 14 banana-boxes of apples from our two venerable King apple trees. This quantity doesn't account for the sheep harvest—any a good ballerina-pirouetting sheep can reach, or an agile tree-climbing turkey can knock down or a pileated woodpecker can peck out.

This is a medium to good harvest for these two trees. Kings are an old variety originating in New York state and were much planted around here. Their skins are waxy-greasy and the apples will be good eating quality into May in the bakery's cold room.



PRISCILLA & JON PICK APPLES

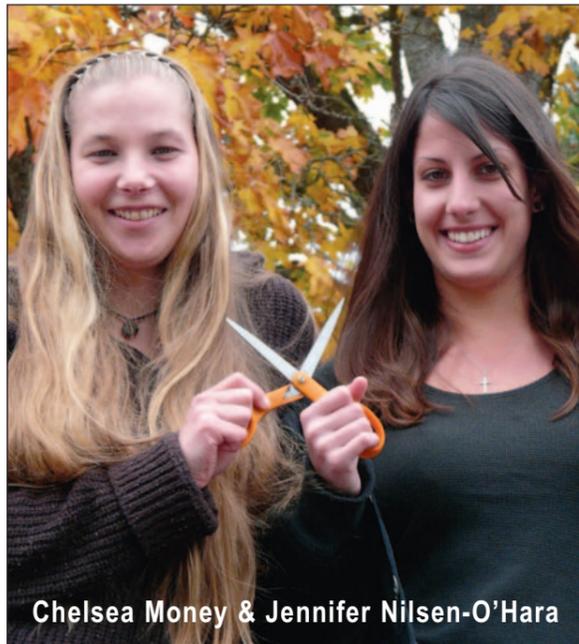
We didn't realize when we bought our place what an asset the old orchard would be to our lives.

Fall on the farm can be a time of hard choices. In the cycle of years you generally live longer than beloved members of your animal family. As their infirmities begin to infringe on their everyday life you wonder if it is worth getting them through the cold rain, puddles, ice and snow. With old bones and joints, hard of hearing, limited vision or blind, the animals don't talk and you are left with your best judgement guided by your rational brain and your emotional self as to whether to keep them going.

The Saturna Christmas bird count is on December 13 this year, Steve Dunsmuir is our coordinator.

New Hair-dos

Two long-haired and lively Island women have decided to shear off their tresses—to shave their heads on Halloween night. They are seeking pledges for donations to fundraise for the BC Cancer Society and Multiple Sclerosis Society. Their inspiration for this



Chelsea Money & Jennifer Nilsen-O'Hara

project comes from personal experience, Chelsea's mother is giving her all in living with MS and Jennifer's parents both died of cancer. Not only will the donations in support of their effort raise money for both worthy causes but the hair itself will be made into wigs for patients who lose their hair while undergoing cancer treatment. There are pledge sheets on all local bulletin boards.

Federal Election Review

For the cost of \$300million to run our October 14 federal election, we have another Conservative minority government elected with the lowest voter turn-out in the history of confederation—57%. Approximately 14 million voted out of the approximately 23,500,000 people registered to vote. The highest turnout was 69% in PEI and the lowest 48% in Newfoundland and Labrador. In BC, 61 % of registered voters cast votes.

On Saturna Island, we cast 98 votes for Liberal candidate Briony Penn, 63 for Conservative Gary Lunn, and 30 votes for

Andrew Lewis, Green Party. Julian West, the withdrawn candidate for the NDP received two votes. There were 195 ballots cast; 194 counted as valid—one person checked each box and their vote was rejected.

John Robertson, Sam Peramaki, and Lois King were our election officers. They added about 15 voters to the voter list based on identification and turned away three who lived in other ridings. In the last federal election we had under 160 voters. (These numbers do not account for those who voted in advance polls or by mail.)

Democracy is a civil responsibility and our system of government, can't function well if we do not have an informed electorate who casts their vote. Two incidents at our polling station were very satisfying. Our new Canadian, Minda was thrilled to cast her vote for the first time, as is her right as a citizen of Canada—and her responsibility. Saturna Elementary school students accompanied their teacher/principal Steve Dunsmuir when he cast his vote. John Robertson and his assistants had a chance to chat with the students about the voting process.

In the 38 years I have lived in Canada I have never before seen people attack and abuse the system of voting. Because Elections Canada would not reprint ballots, removing the name of the withdrawn NDP candidate, some persons the night before the election were able to instigate a riding-wide, phone call-out urging people to vote for Julian West, thus wasting their votes.

On Monday, before the election, I was in Victoria, and at three different major intersections I saw that well-built Green and Liberal signs were destroyed. My political convictions are for Briony Penn, but my anger and sadness was at what I perceived to be an attack on our system of government. Looking around the world, in some countries women cannot vote and systems of government have disintegrated, I feel lucky to have been born to such true privilege.

Local General Elections

Local elections take place on Saturday, November 15. Things will be slow on Saturna as Beverly Neff and John Money are our Island Trust Trustees by acclamation and Susanne Middleditch is our school trustee by acclamation.

However, Saturna will be voting for a new Capitol Regional Director for the Southern Gulf Islands, candidates are Ken Hancock from Pender and Roy Smith from Galiano. Get informed! Ask about the capability of the candidates to perform the jobs for which they are running and their ability to represent and respect the broad spectrum of people they are asking to elect them.

Property Tax Session

Saturna Island Property Owners Association has organized a public information session at the Rec Centre, Saturday November 8, 1:30 to 3:30pm. Rick McMahon, Deputy Assessor, BC Assessment, Capital Assessment Area, will be at the Rec Centre to explain the process of the tax valuation and classification of Saturna properties. McMahon will describe the process BC Assessment uses to evaluate vacant land, improved residential, improved commercial, farm land and forestry land. Our local Assessment Review panel members, Jacques Campbell, Louise Peramaki and John Money will be on hand to discuss the assessment appeal process.



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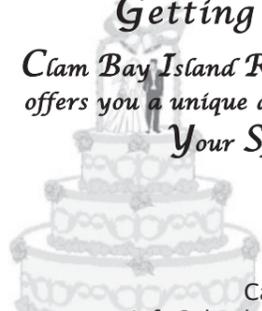
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Islands Trust

LOCAL TRUSTEES - 2008 GENERAL LOCAL ELECTIONS - NOTICE OF ELECTION BY VOTING

Public notice is hereby given that **General Voting Day** will be held **from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm on Saturday, November 15, 2008** to elect persons to serve three-year terms of office from December 2008 to December 2011 as **Local Trustees** for the six island trust areas under the **Islands Trust**.

Galiano Island Local Trust Area - Two Trustees to be elected:

| Surname | Given Name(s) | Residential Address |
|-----------|---------------|---|
| DECARIO | Louise | 667 Linklater Road, Galiano Island, BC V0N 1P0 |
| MABBERLEY | Ben | 1128 Montague Road, Galiano Island, BC V0N 1P0 |
| POTTLE | Sandy | 177 Harper Road, Galiano Island, BC V0N 1P0 |
| RUSSELL | William | 418 Montague Road, Galiano Island, BC V0N 1P0 |
| SHARP | Michael | 141 Seaview Terrace, Galiano Island, BC V0N 1P0 |

Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area - Two Trustees to be Elected:

| Surname | Given Name(s) | Residential Address |
|------------|---------------|--|
| EHRING | George | 200 Seymour Heights, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2B6 |
| LINEGER | Kimberly | 181 Malview Drive, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1B8 |
| SCHLENKER | Norbert | 130 Bittancourt Road, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2K2 |
| TORGRIMSON | Christine | 221 Harbourside Place, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K2L2 |

North Pender Island Local Trust Area - Two Trustees to be Elected:

| Surname | Given Name(s) | Residential Address |
|-------------------|---------------|--|
| JOHNSTONE GRIMMER | Barbara | 2310 Grimmer Road, Pender Island, BC V0N 2M1 |
| JONES | Victor | 37193 Schooner Way, Pender Island, BC V0N 2M2 |
| MASSELINK | Derek | 4316 Clam Bay Road, N. Pender Island, BC V0N 2M1 |
| STEEVES | Gary | 2702 Yawl Lane, North Pender Island, BC V0N 2M2 |

Mayne Island Local Trust Area - Two Trustees elected by Acclamation:

| Surname | Given Name(s) | Residential Address |
|---------|---------------|--|
| DODDS | Jeanine Gay | 720 Simpson Road, Mayne Island, BC V0N 2J0 |
| SHEW | Colin | 452 Garrick Road, Mayne Island, BC V0N 2J0 |

Saturna Island Local Trust Area - Two Trustees elected by Acclamation:

| Surname | Given Name(s) | Residential Address |
|---------|---------------|---|
| MONEY | John | 187 East Point Road, Saturna Island, BC V0N 2Y0 |
| NEFF | Beverly | 121 Dark Horse Road, Saturna Island, BC V0N 2Y0 |

South Pender Island Local Trust Area - Two Trustees elected by Acclamation:

| Surname | Given Name(s) | Residential Address |
|-------------|---------------|--|
| GREER | David | 1261 Transit Road, Victoria, BC V8S 5A4 (Owns property at: 9958 Gowlland Point Road, South Pender Island, BC) |
| SCHOLEFIELD | Wendy | 9944 Gowlland Point Road, South Pender Island, BC, V0N 2M3 |

The following constitutes the designated island trust areas for the purpose of electing Local Trustees to the Islands Trust:

Galiano Island Local Trust Area - Galiano, Ballingall, Charles, Gossip, Julia, Lion Islets, Parker, Retreat, Sphinx, Wise, Lot 145 Whaler Bay.

Mayne Island Local Trust Area - Mayne, Curlew, Georgeson

North Pender Island Local Trust Area - North Pender, Boat Islet, Fane, Roe Islet, Lot 31 A & B Colston Cove, Lot 50 Grimmer Bay, Lot 176 Otter Bay, Lot 32 Bedwell Harbour, Arbutus, Brethour, Chads, Coal, Comet, D'Arcy, Forrest, Gooch, Goudge, Hood, Imrie, James, Knapp, Portland, Pym, Rubly, Rum, Sidney, Tortoise Islets.

Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area - Salt Spring, Acland, Bright, Buriel Islet, Channel, Deadman, Goat, Grace, Hall, Hawkins, Idol, Isabella, Jackscrew, Mowgli, Norway, Piers, Prevost, Red Islets, Russell, Secretary, Secret, Sisters - First, Second, Third, Wallace, Lot 73 Long Harbour, Lot 349 Ganges Harbour, Lot 222 Long Harbour, Lot 344 Stuart Channel.

Saturna Island Local Trust Area - Saturna, Anniversary, Belle Chain Islets, Cabbage, Java Islets, King Islets, Lizard, Pine, Samuel, Trevor Islet, Tumbo, Lot 65 East of Samuel.

South Pender Island Local Trust Area - South Pender, Blunden Islet, Skull Islet.

Voting Opportunities

Voting places will be open from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm on Saturday, November 15, 2008 to qualified electors of the Capital Regional District at:

Salt Spring Island

- Fernwood Elementary School, 150 Fernwood Road, Salt Spring Island, BC
- Fulford Community Elementary School, 203 South Ridge Road, Salt Spring Island, BC
- Salt Spring Elementary School, 122 Rainbow Road, Salt Spring Island, BC
- Piers Island Fire Hall, Piers Island, BC
- Anderson Elementary School, 9460 Alberta Road, Richmond, BC

Southern Gulf Islands

- Lions's Hall, 992 Burrell Road, Galiano Island, BC
- Pender Islands School, 5714 Canal Road, Pender Island, BC
- Anderson Elementary School, 9460 Alberta Road, Richmond, BC

Advance Voting Opportunities will be available from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm on Wednesday, November 5, 2008 and Wednesday, November 12, 2008 at:

Salt Spring Island

- Mary Winspear Centre, 2243 Beacon Avenue, Sidney, BC
- Ganges Fire Hall, 105 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC

Southern Gulf Islands

- Mary Winspear Centre, 2243 Beacon Avenue, Sidney, BC
- Lions's Hall, 992 Burrell Road, Galiano Island, BC
- Pender Islands School, 5714 Canal Road, Pender Island, B

Dated this 17th day of October, 2008

Thomas F. Moore
Chief Election Officer

Elector Qualifications

Resident Elector - You are entitled to vote as a Resident Elector if you are 18 years or older on voting day (Nov. 15, 2008), are a Canadian Citizen, have resided in British Columbia for the past six months and within the boundaries of the jurisdiction for the past 30 days. If registering on voting day, you must provide two documents proving identity and residency (one must have a signature).

Non-Resident Property Elector - If you are 18 years or older on voting day (Nov. 15, 2008), are a Canadian Citizen, have resided in British Columbia for the past six months, have owned and held registered title to property within the boundaries of the jurisdiction for the past 30 days, do not qualify as a Resident Elector, you may vote as a Non-Resident Property Elector provided that you:

- have registered on or before Sept. 23, 2008, or
- apply at the time of voting. The following information is required at the time of application:
 - a recent title search, state of title certificate, or property tax notice, showing the names of all of the registered owners,
 - 2 pieces of identification proving identity and residency (one must have a signature), and in the case of more than one owner of the property, a completed consent form signed by the majority of the owners designating you as the person entitled to vote for the property (**original signatures only; facsimiles of signatures not acceptable**).

A copy of the consent form may be downloaded from: <http://www.crd.bc.ca/about/elections/documents/ConsentFormforNRPE.pdf>

The following are acceptable classes of documents for proof of identity:

- BC driver's licence
- BC ID card issued by the Motor Vehicle Branch
- BC CareCard or Gold CareCard
- Request for Continued Assistance form SDES8
- Social Insurance Card (Canada)
- Citizenship Card (Canada)
- Real property tax notice (municipal or rural)
- Credit card or debit card issued by a savings institution
- Utility bill

For questions regarding voting and voter registration call the Capital Regional District @ 250.360.3129 or Toll Free 1.800.663.4425 local 3129, or Mr. Tom Moore @ 250.472.0059.

Please Note:

- Only one Non-Resident Property Elector may vote per property, regardless of how many owners there may be. Further, you may vote for only one property, no matter how many properties you own within the jurisdiction.
- You may register on voting day if you meet the qualifications set out above. If you are already registered as a Non-Resident Property Elector, (ie. your name appears on the List of Registered Electors annotated with a "P"), and provided that you still meet all of the requirements of the Local Government Act in order to be registered under this category, you are not required to re-register in order to vote.
- No corporation is entitled to be registered as an elector or have a representative registered as an elector, and no corporation is entitled to vote. Individuals who are on title with corporations are not entitled to register or vote. Individuals who own an undivided interest in land on which the balance is held by a corporation are not entitled to vote.
- Automated vote counting machines will be used for the Salt Spring Island vote.

This notice is being published in this newspaper as a convenience only and not in accordance with the legal requirements pursuant to the Local Government Act.

Southern conservancies get together ~ Priscilla Ewbank

On October 14, the Southern Gulf Islands conservancies annual meeting took place at the community hall on Pender Island. Attended by several representatives from each Island's conservancy and representatives from Parks Canada for the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve (GINPR), the Island Trust Fund, the Habitat Acquisition Trust, and Ken Hancock and Gary Steeves, the two trustees from North Pender; the focus was protecting green spaces.

All of the conservancies do huge work locally with innovative ideas to inform and demonstrate to the public—adults who are in their power now and our children who will come to power—the splendidly beautiful piece of Canada we live in and what it takes to be a part of its continuance, rather than the agent of its destruction.

The groups had two main approaches, one is investigation of natural systems and the other is education—education of children and education of people who own land. The presentations were very insightful. It is easy to forget that we live in the most ecologically diverse area of BC. It is easy to forget that by gradual encroachment we are continually losing intact ecosystems—and even fragmented ecosystems.

I have to wonder what and when might be the magic insights that we humans will attain, or what the final curtain will be like. And the paradox is that we all—children to adults, conservationists to destroyers—love to look at and to see the rest of the natural world in action. What a dilemma! If only we humans could do everything we want and have the world be endlessly resilient and renewing.

Late this fall Parks Canada will release the results of last year's song bird monitoring program from about 20 sites. Songbirds are in serious decline and Parks Canada is anxious to get baseline

and change this as soon as possible in GINPR.

A new project involves VanCity Savings and Mountain Equipment Co-op, which fund several educational and research projects for our conservancies. The agreed-upon plan involving all groups, is to create a video and hand-out for wide distribution, detailing the uniqueness of the Gulf Islands and what each person can do to help it survive.

During the day-long meeting, we all gleaned tidbits of information from each other: • This is the time-of-year for sharp tailed snakes to emerge, as the snakes don't particularly like the heat of summer and neither to they like the cold of winter. For sightings, those of you with roof tiles and boards lying around can lift them up and check. • Sand Lances, a small fish that comes up to the high-tide line to lay its eggs are beginning to come in. They only use particular beaches with certain types of sand and slope. Migratory birds and local birds love to eat them. • There are about 30 eagle nests on Galiano Island. Eagles are regaining in numbers. • Blue herons are becoming more and more scarce—seriously so. There are no more local breeding colonies, only scattered nests of one or a few. • Galiano has two marine dump areas. Crofton dumps mill effluent near Porlier Pass at the north east end of Galiano and dredging from the Fraser river-mouth is dumped half-way-down the east-side of Galiano. • About 5,000 people visited Galiano Island Conservancies floating nature house in Montague Harbour this past year. • Parks Canada reports way less landings on islets and fewer beach fires.

This article can be found at www.islandtides.com, in the Reprints section of our online archive, go through 'Good Life,' box in left column. It is an easy size to email to a friend.

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SHOCK TACTICS, from page 2

money which the government has promised, but it has been remarked that it may be the same people who created the market for these derivative securities in the first place. 'Privatize profits, socialize losses' has been suggested as an appropriate motto.

The US taxpayer is apparently on the hook for the \$700 billion—or however much it eventually turns out to be—because the US government must borrow the money from somewhere; it is not allowed to just print it. However the money is raised, we should expect that over the long term, each and every dollar, including those already in circulation, will lose some value. This inflation will take the form of rising prices.

So successful has been the shock strategy, the bailout process has gone international. Banks around the world seek and get bonanza injections of funds from their governments, either in the form of loans or, in some cases, equity. They may plead hardship, threaten bankruptcy, freeze credit to the legitimate economy, or claim that without such assistance, they will be unable to compete with banks of other nations.

Thus, whatever the true nature or the cause of the 'credit crunch,' the reduction in the value of money is internationalized, and the 'injections' to financial institutions will be paid for through worldwide inflation.

'Washington Concensus' Losing Steam

Originally, 'Washington Consensus' policies were propelled by a combination of International Monetary Fund debt and economic threat. More recently by the terms of 'free trade' agreements offering access to the US markets. Targetted nations are encouraged to adopt US trade law and business practices, particularly the broad scope of US intellectual property law; along with Friedman's favourites: privatization of public services, and deregulation of markets.

However, these measures have lost credibility and proposed bilateral trade agreements are running into resistance from a number of nations, notably in South America.

Alternative Cures

In the 'credit crunch', US bankers have forced a pure money grab, consistent with Washington Consensus policies. But there are other world economic restructuring alternatives to consider.

The first might be termed the European model, which includes a much stronger role for government, particularly in the provision of public services and infrastructure. It also regulates financial markets much more strictly. The Europeans are in a position to point to the failures of the US model, but whether they would be able to force international consideration of a return to the 'mixed economy' is questionable.

The second might be termed the Asian model, in which the government is an active partner in the development of trade, markets, and businesses. This model sees government as financier, regulator, market-maker, educator, and provider of social services to promote the competitive economic development of the nation in world markets—a more aggressive role than the European.

Great Green Opportunity

A third alternative would be more radical—but also more forward-looking. In this time of rejigging the economic model, we have an opportunity to consider rewarding the environmental accomplishments of national economies. Government and enterprise would form a new kind of partnership to make this work; one based on co-operative programs, not just preferential taxation and new laws. A dynamic new economics could be born.

Why Not Now?

Now would be the appropriate time to examine all these alternatives. No one size fits all, but it is possible for all to co-exist, and this should be accepted and promoted.

Simply strengthening an outdated economic hegemony would be an opportunity missed—and a tragedy. If citizens must foot the bill, they should seize the moment and change the agenda. With the looming defeat of the Republicans in the coming US election this may be possible.

What will stop them is the overwhelming amount of 'shock' propaganda spread by a corporate media to the exclusion of any other news. This attention to shock doctrine tactics stampedes people into the single alternative of a financial bail-out, blinking them to a wider vision.

Interestingly, this latest 'shock' has derailed the world's environmental awakening (look how quickly the environment disappeared from the Canadian election agenda). Ask yourself who benefits?

If people can bravely resist this hysteria, this is a moment of great opportunity to get back to the real agenda of creating a sustainable world economy. ☺

LET'S DO IT RIGHT

Elect trustees who support the Islands Trust



Sandy Louise Photos by www.henny.ca

Vote for Louise Decario and Sandy Pottle on Galiano Island

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Voting day: Sat 15th November 8 am - 8pm
both at Lions Hall, 492 Burrill Road, Galiano Island

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Li Read
Sea to Sky Premier Properties

Li Read is very pleased to announce that she is now with Sea to Sky Premier Properties (Whistler office), which is an affiliate of Christies Great Estates. Li Read continues to live and work on Salt Spring Island. Li looks forward to serving her clients worldwide and advising on real estate for Salt Spring Island and the Southern Gulf Islands. Li Read's information rich website remains at the same URL: LiRead.com.



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Capital Regional District



Notice of Election by Voting 2008 General Local Elections

Public notice is hereby given that **General Voting Day** will be held from **8:00 am to 8:00 pm on Saturday, November 15, 2008** to elect persons to serve three-year terms of office as **Electoral Area Directors for Salt Spring Island and Southern Gulf Islands** on the **CRD Board** from December 2008 to December 2011.

Salt Spring Island Electoral Area - One Director to be elected:

| Surname | Given Name(s) | Residential Address |
|---------|---------------|---|
| HENDREN | Garth | 261 Canvas Back Place, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2W5 |
| HOLMAN | Gary John | 160 McLennan Drive, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1X2 |

Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area - One Director to be elected:

| Surname | Given Name(s) | Residential Address |
|---------|---------------|--|
| HANCOCK | Ken | 6610 Harbour Hill Drive, North Pender Island, BC V0N 2M1 |
| SMITH | Roy | 1018 Roberts Road, Galiano Island, BC V0N 1P0 |

Voting Opportunities

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Salt Spring Island Electoral Area

- Fernwood Elementary School, 150 Fernwood Road, Salt Spring Island, BC
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- Salt Spring Elementary School, 122 Rainbow Road, Salt Spring Island, BC
- Anderson Elementary School, 9460 Alberta Road, Richmond, BC

Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area

- Lions's Hall, 992 Burrell Road, Galiano Island, BC
- Agricultural Hall, 430 Fernhill Road, Mayne Island, BC
- Pender Islands School, 5714 Canal Road, Pender Island, BC
- Saturna Recreation Centre, 104 Harris Road, Saturna Island, BC
- Piers Island Fire Hall, Piers Island, BC
- Anderson Elementary School, 9460 Alberta Road, Richmond, BC

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- Ganges Fire Hall, 105 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC

Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area

- Mary Winspear Centre, 2243 Beacon Avenue, Sidney, BC
- Lions's Hall, 992 Burrell Road, Galiano Island, BC
- Pender Islands School, 5714 Canal Road, Pender Island, BC
- Saturna Recreation Centre, 104 Harris Road, Saturna Island, BC
- St. Mary Magdelene Church, 360 Georgina Point Road, Mayne Island, BC - **on Nov. 5, 2008 only**; and
- Agricultural Hall, 430 Fernhill Road, Mayne Island, BC - **on Nov. 12, 2008 only**

Dated this 17th day of October, 2008
Thomas F. Moore
Chief Election Officer

Elector Qualifications

Resident Elector: You are entitled to vote as a Resident Elector if you are 18 years or older on voting day (Nov. 15, 2008), are a Canadian Citizen, have resided in British Columbia for the past six months and within the boundaries of the jurisdiction for the past 30 days. If registering on voting day, you must provide two documents proving identity and residency (one must have a signature).

Non-Resident Property Elector: If you are 18 years or older on voting day (Nov. 15, 2008), are a Canadian Citizen, have resided in British Columbia for the past six months, have owned and held registered title to property within the boundaries of the jurisdiction for the past 30 days, do not qualify as a Resident Elector, you may vote as a Non-Resident Property Elector provided that you:

- have registered on or before Sept. 23, 2008, or
- apply at the time of voting. The following information is required at the time of application:
 - a **recent** title search, state of title certificate, or property tax notice, showing the names of **all** of the registered owners,
 - 2 pieces of identification proving identity and residency (one must have a signature), and
 - in the case of more than one owner of the property, a completed consent form signed by the majority of the owners designating you as the person entitled to vote for the property (**original signatures only; facsimiles of signatures not acceptable**). A copy of the consent form may be downloaded from:
<http://www.crd.bc.ca/about/elections/documents/ConsentFormforNRPE.pdf>

The following are acceptable classes of documents for proof of identity:

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- BC ID card issued by the Motor Vehicle Branch
- BC CareCard or Gold CareCard
- Request for Continued Assistance form SDES8
- Social Insurance Card (Canada)
- Citizenship Card (Canada)
- Real property tax notice (municipal or rural)
- Credit card or debit card issued by a savings institution
- Utility bill

Please Note:

- 1) Only **one** Non-Resident Property Elector may vote per property, regardless of how many owners there may be. Further, you may vote for only **one** property, no matter how many properties you own within the jurisdiction.
- 2) You may register on voting day if you meet the qualifications set out above. If you are already registered as a Non-Resident Property Elector, (ie. your name appears on the List of Registered Electors annotated with a "P"), **and** provided that you still meet **all** of the requirements of the Local Government Act in order to be registered under this category, you are not required to re-register in order to vote.
- 3) No corporation is entitled to be registered as an elector or have a representative registered as an elector, and no corporation is entitled to vote. Individuals who are on title with corporations are not entitled to register or vote. Individuals who own an undivided interest in land on which the balance is held by a corporation are not entitled to vote.
- 4) Automated vote counting machines will be used for the Salt Spring Island vote.

This notice is being published in this newspaper as a convenience only and not in accordance with the legal requirements pursuant to the Local Government Act.

TRUSTEES from page 3

• Protect: to maintain over the long term by managing, or if necessary limiting, the type and intensity of development or activity to ensure the valued attributes are not compromised or destroyed

This is all clear English. No legal opinions are needed to understand it.

The tools for local trust committees to regulate land use are the regulations and process used by local government as cited in the subsequent *Local Government Act*. That *Act* defines the distinctly different purposes of local government agencies other than the Islands Trust.

Part 1 s.2 of the *Local Government Act*

The purposes of a local government include,

- (a) Providing good government for its community,
- (b) Providing the services and other things that the local government considers are necessary and desirable for all or part of its community
- (c) Providing stewardship of the public assets of its community

(d) Fostering the current and future economic, social and environmental well being of its community.

The legislation clearly intended the purposes of the *Islands Trust Act* would *replace* the purposes of the *Local Government Act* for land use issues in the trust area. Care for the environment is the only purpose in common. Land use regulations in the trust area are for an exclusively different purpose than for local governments. None of those above four purposes can permit a use in conflict with the object of the trust.

The Object of the trust used to appear on stationary and publications of the trust as a constant reminder of its singular nature. It has been replaced with a slogan which reaches into the stated purpose of the local government which the Trust Object was intended to replace: *'Preserving island communities, culture and environment.'*

It is well known that if a slogan is repeated often enough people will accept it as a truth especially if it replaces a more complex and burdensome reality contrary to their values. This substitute slogan is on all stationary and is prominent as the conclusion of each trust report in the *Saturna Scribbler*. How

can the trustees and the public not come to believe it and be guided by it?

The first test for every application for change of land use should require an examination to determine its compatibility with the mandate. We must elect trustees who understand that if is not clearly compatible it should proceed no further. In such cases a bylaw need not be drafted or given first reading. The application can be simply rejected.

BC Court of Appeal decision in the Galiano Local Trust Committee's Bylaw to limit residential use of forest land clearly conferred the right, and duty, of an LTC to take whatever actions necessary to protect their mandate regardless of precedents in municipal circumstances.

Trustees should expect a report by the planner on an application to clearly indicate any possibility that the application may be in conflict with their mandate. Planning staff have a duty to remind. LTCs have the duty to test the eligibility of the application in the context of the exclusive terms of their Object as defined in the *Islands Trust Act*.

Policy statements in OCPs or bylaws or other subsidiary policy documents do not trump the Object. ☞

May 2009 Provincial Referendum on Electoral Reform Call for Applications for Referendum Group Funding - Application Deadline Dec. 1, 2008

On May 12, 2009, British Columbians will vote in a provincewide referendum on whether to adopt the single transferable vote (STV) electoral system for electing Members of the Legislative Assembly.

The Government of British Columbia will provide \$500,000 in funding to one group on each side of the debate to support or oppose the STV electoral system proposed by the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform.

How Can Funds be Used?

Each group will be able to use its funding for specific activities to support or oppose STV, including:

- producing brochures, posters, buttons or other communications materials;
- creating or sponsoring print, radio and TV ads;
- holding events such as rallies or debates; and
- paying related administrative expenses.

Who Can Apply?

Only non-profit organizations in British Columbia may apply. Political parties and constituency organizations are not eligible and other restrictions apply. See the referendum funding information on the Ministry of Attorney General website (www.ag.gov.bc.ca/legislation/referendum.htm) for further information about eligibility.

How Will the Two Groups be Chosen?

The two groups will be chosen by the deputy attorney general based on the applicant organizations':

- experience in conducting public information campaigns;
- capacity to conduct a provincewide information campaign about STV and our current first-past-the-post electoral system;
- structure and stability and the involvement of the organization's members in supporting its mandate.

Applications must be submitted by Dec. 1, 2008. For information and application forms, visit: www.ag.gov.bc.ca/legislation/referendum.htm or contact:

Strategic Planning and Legislation Office
Ministry of Attorney General
PO Box 9283 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria BC V8W 9J7
Facsimile: 250 953-4072
E-mail: agwebfeedback@gov.bc.ca



ECONOMIC PLAN from page 1

few months, since the application of significant increases in the fuel surcharge in August. Minor routes have also seen significant decreases in traffic.

The fare cuts are in addition to a recently announced cut in the fuel surcharge due to the falling price of oil, to take effect November 4. (See related stories, pages 1 & 5)

Premier's Economic Plan

The legislature, which the premier had cancelled for the fall sitting, will be called on November 20 to pass legislation necessary to implement the Premier's Economic Plan, which also includes:

- deposit insurance guarantees for provincially regulated Credit Unions
- the initiation of a privately financed defined contribution pension plan, available on a voluntary basis to employers, employees, and the self-employed in BC
- previously planned personal tax cuts to be implemented sooner
 - a 50% school tax rebate for industry
 - accelerated tax relief for small business
 - doubling the commission paid to business for collecting PST and Hotel Room Tax for the province
 - acceleration of public infrastructure construction
 - 'reining in' spending
 - holding 'summits' to get feedback on appropriate responses to the current economic crisis.
 - the implementation of further measures to implement the TILMA treaty with Alberta, with the object of complete implementation by April 1. (The specific nature of these measures has not been explained.)

It is not clear whether the late-start session of the legislature will provide any opportunity to debate ferry finance. ☞



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MEETINGS

School District #64 (Gulf Islands). A regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees will be held at the Gulf Islands Secondary School, Ganges, Salt Spring Island on Wednesday, November 12 commencing at 1pm. To view the agenda for this meeting, please refer to www.sd64.bc.ca/board_meetings.html. Public Welcome!

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Saanich-Gulf Islands: Lunn beats Penn by 2,600 votes

Incumbent Conservative MP Gary Lunn beat Liberal challenger Briony Penn in a closely fought federal election race. The final tally was Lunn 27,988, Penn 25,367. The Green Party's Andrew Lewis came third with 6,732, and Julian West of the NDP (who had, in fact, withdrawn from the election) tallied 3,667 votes. Four other candidates—Libertarian Dale Leier (246), Western Bloc Party's Patricia O'Brien (195), Canadian Action Party's Jeremy Arney (139), and Christian Heritage's Dan Moreau (114)—rounded out the field.

Penn's share of the popular vote (39.4%) put her well up among BC Liberal candidates. Only Joyce Murray, who was elected in Vancouver Quadra with 45.6%, and former BC Premier Ujjal Dosanjh, who took Vancouver South with 39.5%, did better. She achieved a higher vote share than Liberals Sukh Dhaliwal (elected in Newton-North Delta with 36.4%), Hedy Fry (who won Vancouver Centre with 34.3%), and Keith Martin (who took Esquimalt - Juan de Fuca with 34.1%).

Misleading Phone Calls

The NDP's Julian West withdrew his nomination one day too late for his name to be removed from the ballot slips. Elections Canada would not reprint the ballot slips. Advanced polls began four days later.

This provided the possibility for voters to record a vote in his favour despite the fact that he was no longer running. News coverage of West's withdrawal was the only way the public were informed that he was no longer a candidate.

Some 3,667 voted for him. These votes if cast for alternate choices could have made a difference in the final result of the election.

It is not clear whether these votes were cast by electors who were not aware of his withdrawal, or who wished to express their preference for the NDP in any event.

However, a number of *Islands Tides'* readers have reported being telephoned on the night before the election by both male and female voices, and told that West was a candidate and they should vote for him. It appears that this is not illegal, though it is certainly misleading

LETTERS from page 5

Although the F1 issue needs to be tackled, there are many other issues which have been neglected for too long. We have urgent needs to address housing, transportation, food security, and access to beaches for the locals. It is the duty of the elected trustees to address all these essential components and to facilitate, assist, or, at minimum, support the process of creating solutions which all intertwine for these pressing needs on Galiano. The disregard of these vital problems will result in the demise of a thriving community, and the creation of a bedroom and weekend community. I have witnessed this in my previous hometown of Canmore, Alberta, where all of my twenty-something friends, including myself, moved away in the course of a year due to an inability to be able to afford basic needs.

I would like to encourage all residents of Galiano to attend our all-candidates meeting and raise these and other long-ignored issues to all of our hopeful trustees. I especially would like to promote this concept to the young, working class of Galiano. Please cast your ballot and involve yourself in the future of Galiano if you hope to remain to call it home.

Kerri Lautamus, Galiano Island

Not Enough Fish in the Sea

Dear Editor:

Eight years ago when we lived on our boat at the fisherman's wharf on Granville Island, there was a buzz around the marina among fishermen and fellow live-aboards about the return of herring in False Creek. Guys that had boats down there for 25 years had not seen it like that. All the dock floats and pilings were covered in roe, it was a small encouraging event among an otherwise gloomy fishery at the time.

We never saw it again for the remaining time we lived there and never really thought about the reason until this year. As I was browsing the internet, I accidentally came across a letter from a Mr Ellis of Point Grey to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, it was suggesting a moratorium of four years on the herring fishery. From that point on I started to do some digging of my own and was appalled at what I came across.

First of all let me try and explain the importance of herring and the need to preserve the stocks we have. It's commonly known as a keystone species, meaning many other fish and marine mammals depend on it for survival. Last spring a number of seiners and gillnetters took almost 16,000 tons of herring from the Strait of Georgia. If that isn't bad enough in itself, the mass bulk of the fish went for animal feed and the

reason the fishery exists, the roe, went to Japan to satisfy the elite taste of a few wealthy businessmen at the cost of \$160 a kilo.

It gets worse when you find out our own Jimmy Pattison owns most of the seine fleet that are catching these fish and raking in huge profits in the process.

Think of what 16,000 tons of herring looks like, that's an incredible amount of biomass. Washington state has a ban on fishing herring for human consumption and only maintain a limited fishery for zoos and aquariums.

Coho numbers have been falling in the Strait, while their numbers remain strong on the west coast. The great whales used to be abundant off these very shores and they are making a come-back north of the Broughtons, but we will never see them here in any numbers unless we can preserve the herring stock, or at least limit it to the gillnet fleet only.

Please write to your local MP and send the same draft to DFO. If people join the effort, we can effect change. In my experience, government departments will have to reply to your letters and an average letter is read by at least four different departments.

Let's try and stop this crazy fishery and bring the great whales and the salmon back to the Strait and keep this incredible coast of ours unique.

Mark Shaw, Gabriola Island

MISSING THE MARK, from page 5

reduction of ferry service to the Sunshine Coast by the hard pressed BC Ferries Inc.

Coons says that the residents along the Sunshine Coast need more than a two month commitment for restored ferry service. 'This is really ridiculous,' said Simons. 'The communities on the Coast will get a two month reprieve from service reductions, but what happens after that?' At the Gibson's meeting, the multi-impacts of the early and late ferry cuts on the structure of people's lives was brought out. Would these activities start up again only to cease on February 1? Or will the ferries run empty because people have already had to cut these activities from their lives?

Coons said what British Columbians want is a long-term strategy that supports ferry dependent communities. 'Yesterday we learned Gordon Campbell and Kevin Falcon can dictate to BC Ferries, contrary to their previous denials. So now it is time for them to make a real commitment to fix the damage they've done. And a two month political ploy is not the answer people need.'

Smoke alarm

If you've ever removed batteries from your smoke alarms to stop a false alarm, or think smoke alarms last forever—here's the plain truth. You're playing with fire. And the consequences can be deadly.

The Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs appeals to all Canadians to take personal accountability for household fire safety practices and habits.

To help, watch for your copy of a new handbook called 'Safe at Home' being sent to more than 2 million households all across Canada. 'Safe at Home' is also available for free downloads from www.safeathome.ca.

Here is a 4-step fire safety plan: 1. Install a smoke alarm on every storey of your home and outside sleeping areas. 2. Install fresh batteries in smoke and CO alarms at least once per year when you change your clocks. 3. Replace all smoke alarms over 10 years old—battery operated and hard-wired. 4. Prepare a family fire escape plan and practice it! ☞

'The 'Free Market' Does Not Work'

So claimed Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel laureate and former head of the World Bank, only a couple of weeks ago in an interview with the BBC. It had to happen; anyone with even a glimmer of intelligence could prophesy that the orgy of more, more, and yet more was unsustainable. In the past few weeks, we have witnessed the defeat of capitalist arrogance followed by a frenzy of finger pointing that will, no doubt continue for months to come.

So now we are all poorer, at least on paper. The million dollar dreams we occupy increasingly resemble clouds of imagination rather than castles of granite. Omygod! the sky is falling; perhaps I should invest my mite on the moon.

Certainly, these times are interesting, but does that necessarily imply doom and gloom? The 'free market' collapsed because among other things, the congregation of investors lost faith in the chimera of lies promoted as a creed of greed. Faith followed by trust is the fuel of cultures.

Is this a time to pull up the drawbridge and retreat to our cells with bread and water, or is it the opportunity of lifetime to create a society of care?

In the space of a couple of generations, life on the islands has changed from rural self-sufficiency to luxurious urban complacency with one of the highest material standards of living on earth. It matters not one iota if the home you own is valued at one million dollars or one. (It matters greatly if you wish to buy into that market but the all important roof over one's head is the final necessity.)

For generations, communities across the Salish Sea have provided for each other with

produce, skills, friendships, emergency help, culture and creativity; all the requirements for a life of abundance. To assume a standard of life here in the forest or by the beach based on the burblings of a ditzy celebrity or corporate mantra is the height of stupidity. If this is not Shangri-La, then it does not exist. Quality of life lies in the imagination—but more trees and less traffic help a lot.

If the world in which we have been educated to believe does not exist any more, the potential for re-creating a real community does, like fellow islander Raffi Cavoukian who has spent years wading against the tide of greed to promote an ideal where children count first. If every decision we make is based on the quality of life that our grandchildren will inherit, how different will those decisions be?

With a little effort and the right spirit, this region has the potential to become the next Athens, and Wall Street can slide into the ocean for all that it matters. For so many years, the same 20% of the population have been responsible for 80% of the culture and production of these islands. Now there is the opportunity to capitalise on that legacy.

Taking responsibility is the first step. Destroying the television is the second. There is so much to do and see in this region, there is not time in several lifetimes to appreciate it all. But we can begin by joining the wave of creativity, by planting trees for our grandchildren, and next year when we sow our carrots and beets, we can till a few extra rows to give to our neighbour, because that neighbour might just as easily be me or you. ☞

Fair voting system needed

Canada set a new record for futility in voter participation in the federal election. Only 59.1% of all eligible voters turned out to cast their ballots on the October 14, says Fair Voting BC President Bruce Hallsor.

'Instead of turning up to vote, Canadians are tuning out in record numbers,' states Hallsor. 'Voters have realized that in most ridings, their votes simply don't count, and are giving up on democracy in Canada. Voter turnout was the lowest on record.'

'Once again, the First-Past-the-Post electoral system badly distorted our choices at the ballot box. For example, 940,000 Canadian voters supported the Green Party, but no Green candidates were elected. However, the Bloc Quebecois only needed an average of 28,000 voters each to elect 50 MPs.'

'Barely a quarter of votes cast were needed to determine the outcome. We would have had exactly the same result if the other three quarters of the voters who had no impact on the election had simply stayed home. These voters valiantly turned out either to cast a losing vote or to give the winner votes they didn't need.'

'With results like these, it's no wonder so many Canadians chose not to vote. There was a lot of talk about strategic voting and vote swapping in this election campaign, but it does not appear to have had much of an effect. No voter should ever need to resort to strategic voting or vote swapping in order for their vote to count—we need a system that counts votes fairly and equally.'

'Fortunately, there are better options available,' concluded Hallsor. 'Here in British Columbia we will be voting in a provincial referendum next May on the BC-STV (Single Transferable Vote) system.'

'BC-STV is a fair voting system recommended by the independent, non-partisan BC Citizens' Assembly. It received 58% support in the 2005 referendum on electoral reform. But the number were not evenly spread across all ridings so the initiative failed. British Columbians will be given a second chance to change their electoral system in conjunction with the next provincial election on May 12, 2009,' Hallsor concluded. ☞

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Vancouver Island Transmission Reinforcement Project UPDATE MARINE CONSTRUCTION – STRAIT OF GEORGIA September and October 2008

Meeting the electricity needs of growing communities on Vancouver Island and the southern Gulf Islands

BC Transmission Corporation (BCTC) is replacing and upgrading the existing 138 kV overhead transmission lines and one of the existing submarine cable circuits connecting southern Vancouver Island to the Lower Mainland with new 230 kV infrastructure.

Through late October, crews will continue the installation of three new 230 kV submarine cables in the Strait of Georgia (between Galiano Island and Roberts Bank). During this period, there will be a cable-laying vessel, barges with equipment, tugboats and workboats in the water along the cable route and also near the cable terminal stations on Salt Spring Island, Parker Island and Galiano Island.

To ensure the safety of the public and workers, the contractor will restrict public access around the active work sites. We thank you for your patience and co-operation while we undertake this important project.

CABLE INSTALLATION SCHEDULE – Strait of Georgia

| Construction Activity | Schedule (subject to change) |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Installation of cables in the Strait of Georgia | continuing through late October 2008 |
| Construction work at cable terminal stations on Salt Spring Island, Parker Island and Galiano Island | continuing through late October 2008 |

For more information, please visit: www.bctc.com

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