



Making a difference...together

**SALT SPRING ISLAND COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

Notice of Meeting on **Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 4:00PM**

School Board Office, 112 Rainbow Rd, Salt Spring Island, BC

Wayne McIntyre  
Janice Harkley  
Bruce Cameron

Darryl Martin  
John Wellingham

Christine Grimes  
Francine Carlin (r)

Randy Cunningham  
Holly MacDonald  
(r) regrets

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**AGENDA**

- 1. Approval of Agenda**
- 2. Adoption of Minutes of January 21, 2016**
- 3. Delegation/Presentation**
  - 3.1 Islands Trust Industrial Land Use Bylaw Update Proposal**

Tom Watkins, Manager, CRD Policy & Planning  
Anke Berger, CRD Planner, Environmental Resource Management
- 4. Director, Chair and Commissioner Reports**
- 5. Outstanding Business**
  - 5.1 CRD Parameters Regarding Economic Development**
  - 5.2 Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) Overview-Director McIntyre**
  - 5.3 Tourism Plan Update (Action Plan Priority 1.3 Tourism, partnerships with Chamber Activities) - Report to be distributed**
  - 5.4 Experience the Gulf Islands-Destination BC Cooperative Marketing Application**

That the Salt Spring Island Community Economic Development Commission pledge \$2,000.00 to the Experience the Gulf Islands marketing effort as identified in the letter dated January 22, 2016 from the Southern Gulf Islands Tourism Consortium c/o Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce with some refinements and payable if funding from Destination BC is confirmed.
  - 5.5 Community Economic Development Coordinator**
    - 5.5.1 Website**
  - 5.6 Ganges Boardwalk/Seawalk Visioning Feedback:**

<http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/salt-spring/projects-initiatives/ganges-village-plan-boardwalk/>
- 6. New Business**
  - 6.1 Explore Common Interest/Issues with Southern Gulf Islands**
  - 6.2 Tour des Iles Decision-Inter-Island Transportation Society**
  - 6.3 Fall 2016 Walking Festival**
  - 6.4 Salt Spring in the City – Information to be distributed**

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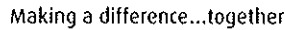
*To ensure quorum, advise Tracey Shaver 250 537 4448 if you cannot attend.*

- 7. Next Meeting – March 17, 2016 School Board Office from 4:00 to 6:00 pm**
- 8. Adjournment**

For information only:

Attachment 1: Letter of support- SSI Farm Centre for Food Security

Attachment 2: CRD Media Release-\$50,000 for Salt Spring Island and Southern Gulf  
Islands Integrated Service Plan



**DRAFT as amended**

nomination. Hearing no other nominations, Commissioner Cunningham accepted the position of Vice Chair with unanimous vote.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**MOVED** by Director McIntyre, **SECONDED** by Commissioner MacDonald,  
That the remainder of the agenda be approved as presented noting that items 4.1 and 4.2 have already taken place and the addition of item 7.2 to allow for discussion of the Farm Centre for Food Security presentation.

**CARRIED**

**3. Adoption of Minutes of December 10, 2015**

**MOVED** by Commissioner Cunningham, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Wellingham,  
That the minutes of December 10, 2015 be approved as submitted.

**CARRIED**

**4. Delegation/Presentation**

As noted above.

**5. Director, Chair and Commissioner Reports**

**5.1** Chair Martin provided a written report and highlighted several items. The report will remain on file with the minutes.

**5.2** Director McIntyre reported on several current topics.

- Recently met one on one with Elizabeth May after a Chamber sponsored breakfast meeting. Encouraged that she is interested in assisting the CRD with its number one strategic plan which is to look at all initiatives through a climate change lense.
- Meeting with local government representatives and the Department of Fisheries next week to discuss Salt Spring harbours and a need for transparent an open process of management.
- Water conservation initiative of rain water harvesting rebate program is up and running.
- Working with staff to renew the Liquid Waste Facility project and plan.
- Partnering with the RCMP, Fire District and Emergency Services for a town hall style meeting to educate the community on local emergency preparedness.
- Worked with the new CRD Chair to include water transportation as part of the initiatives of the Transportation Selection Committee.

**6. Outstanding Business**

**6.1 Website with Southern Gulf Islands (Action Plan Priority 6.13-Community dialogue)**

Commissioner Carlin presented a motion that would allow the Salt Spring Island Economic Development Commission to have a space (page) on the Southern Gulf Islands Website. This provides an opportunity to have a presence established for Salt Spring as part of the Southern Gulf Islands overall economic development and allow links to promote local Salt Spring business and events.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Carlin, **SECONDED** by Commissioner MacDonald,  
That a budget of up to \$600.00 for web design editing and web photo rental be approved to foster a Salt Spring Community Economic Development Commission presence on the Southern Gulf Islands Community Economic Development Commission website as a way of promotion and strengthening an on-going collaborative relationship between SGI-CEDC and SSI-CEDC.

**CARRIED**

**6.2 Tourism Plan Update (Action Plan Priority 1.3 Tourism, partnerships with Chamber Activities)**

This agenda item will be deferred to the next meeting should the Chamber come forward with a written request with specific costs.

Director McIntyre to present information at the next meeting regarding the principles of a Destination Marketing Organization (DMO).

**6.3 Community Economic Development Coordinator**

A fee for service contract request document was presented at the table for discussion.

The CEDC Commission is interested in contracting with someone who can assist, coordinate and put into motion the action items already identified in the 2014 Report & 2015 Action Plan-Collaboration for Sustainability. This contract will have limited hours and funding available.

Staff will work with Commissioners to establish a defined set of deliverables, measurable actions and times lines. Additionally, staff will investigate what services and resources are already in place in the CRD to assist the Commission with their goals.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Carlin, and **SECONDED** by Commissioner MacDonald,  
That the Salt Spring Island Community Economic Development Commission approve in principal with the concept of a fee for service contract Economic Development Coordinator position subject to the refinement of deliverable and measurable actions for a maximum term of one year and not to exceed the available budget of \$24,000.

**CARRIED**

**6.4 Experience the Gulf Islands**

Director McIntyre reported that the Electoral Area Services Commission will be spearheading the Experience the Gulf Islands initiative for inclusion in some of the funding from the Trans Canada Trail grant recently received by the CRD.

**6.5 Confirmation of Public Meeting Dates-Proposed Schedule Attached**

Discussion moved to item 8 to allow other agenda items to be completed prior to Director McIntyre and Manager Campbell needed to depart.

**6.6 Canada 150 Infrastructure Program Application**

Received for information.

**7. New Business**

**7.1 CRD Parameters Regarding Economic Development**

Deferred to next meeting.

**7.2 Discussion of presentation on Salt Spring Island Farm Centre for Food Security**

Director McIntyre commented that this project falls in line with many of the CRD current Strategic Plans. Commissioner Harkley agreed to lend her experience to the group as she organized the Lower Mainland Vegetable Distributors in a similar venture.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Cunningham, **SECONDED** by Commissioner MacDonald, That Salt Spring Island Community Economic Development Commission would provide a letter of support for the Salt Spring Island Farm Centre for Food Security.

**CARRIED**

K Campbell and W. McIntyre leave the meeting at 6:00 pm

**8. Next Meeting**

A list of potential meeting dates for the remainder of 2016 was provided to the Commission. Under the CEDC establishment Bylaw 3727 item 10 (a) "The Commission must hold at least four meetings per year to conduct their business, which must be open to the public".

**MOVED** by Commissioner Martin, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Grimes, That the Salt Spring Island Community Economic Development Commission considers the four mandated public meeting dates to be January 21, 2016; March 17, 2016; June 16, 2016 and September 15, 2016.

**CARRIED**

**9. Adjournment**

**MOVED** by Commissioner MacDonald, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Grimes, The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

**CARRIED**

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CHAIR

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SENIOR MANAGER



**Parks & Environmental Services**  
625 Fisgard Street, PO Box 1000  
Victoria, BC, Canada V8W 2S6

T: 250.360.3078  
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July 7, 2015

VIA EMAIL: [kcampbell@crd.bc.ca](mailto:kcampbell@crd.bc.ca)

File: 0320-20  
Associations/Clubs/Societies

Salt Spring Island Economic Development Commission  
Ms Karla Campbell, Senior Manager, Salt Spring Island Administration  
145 Vesuvius Bay Road  
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1K3

Dear Ms Campbell:

**RE: REFERRAL OF ISLANDS TRUST INDUSTRIAL LAND USE BYLAW UPDATE  
PROPOSAL**

At its June 17, 2015 meeting, the Electoral Area Services Committee reviewed the attached staff report, Islands Trust Industrial Land Use Bylaw Update – Proposed Reconfiguration of Land Use Zoning at Mouat Park on Salt Spring Island, and made the following motion:

*That the Electoral Area Services Committee refer the Islands Trust proposal for reconfiguration of land use zoning of a portion of Mouat Park on Salt Spring Island to the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission, the Salt Spring Island Solid Waste Advisory Committee, and the Economic Development Commission for comment.*

We look forward to your comments. Please contact me if you have any questions or require more information.

Yours truly,

Russ Smith, Senior Manager  
Environmental Resource Management

AB:dd

Attachment: Staff Report ERM 15-63: Islands Trust Industrial Land Use Bylaw Update – Proposed Reconfiguration of Land Use Zoning at Mouat Park on Salt Spring Island

cc: Wayne McIntyre, CRD Director, Salt Spring Island  
Robert Lapham, CAO / General Manager, Salt Spring Island Administration  
Larisa Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services  
Stefan Cermak, Acting Regional Planning Manager, Salt Spring Islands Trust





**REPORT TO ELECTORAL AREA SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2015**

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**SUBJECT**      Islands Trust Industrial Land Use Bylaw Update – Proposed  
Reconfiguration of Land Use Zoning at Mouat Park on Salt Spring Island

**ISSUE**

To initiate discussion on a proposal by Islands Trust staff to reconfigure land use zoning at Mouat Park on Salt Spring Island.

**BACKGROUND**

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) has been working since 2009 to address community concerns regarding the availability and uses of industrial lands on Salt Spring Island. In 2012, the LTC made updating the land use bylaw for industrial uses a priority with two key deliverables: 1) an Industrial Land Needs Assessment, and 2) a report from the Industrial Advisory Planning Commission (IAPC) to provide recommendations that would furnish Salt Spring Island with sufficient commercial and industrial land for the next 25 years.

In August 2013, the LTC received the *Salt Spring Industrial Land Needs Assessment* report. The IAPC subsequently developed a draft report entitled *Blueprint Towards a Working Community* which was referred to stakeholders for input in September 2014, including the Capital Regional District (CRD). CRD Environmental Resource Management (ERM) staff endorsed the IAPC's proposal, in principle, to create a new zoning definition for waste management activities and to identify and reserve lands for public and private sector waste management, transfer and recycling activities.

In December 2014, the LTC approved the IAPC's final report, in principle, and accepted, in general, an amended work program containing 15 recommendations. One of the IAPC's recommendations is as follows:

- Open discussions with the CRD regarding the possibility of using, for industrial purposes, a portion of the Mouat Park property transferred from the BC government equivalent to the size to the portion of the existing property zoned for industrial use.

Islands Trust staff have drafted a proposal to reconfigure land use zoning of a portion of Mouat Park as outlined in Appendix A. The land is owned by the CRD. The majority of land use is as a community park and is managed by the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission, which is responsible to the CRD Board. A portion of the land is leased to the Salt Spring Island Community Services Society for the operation of the Salt Spring Island Recycling Depot under contract to the CRD, which has an agreement with Multi Material BC. The License of Occupation is valid until April 30, 2019.

Islands Trust plans to commence community consultation on this proposal in the near future.



## **ALTERNATIVES**

### *Alternative 1*

That the Electoral Area Services Committee refer the Islands Trust proposal for reconfiguration of land use zoning of a portion of Mouat Park on Salt Spring Island to the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Committee for comment.

### *Alternative 2*

That the Electoral Area Services Committee receive this report for information.

## **SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Park land and recycling are important values on Salt Spring Island. Alternative 1 will provide the opportunity to initiate discussion among affected CRD stakeholders.

## **ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are no immediate economic implications. The Local Trust Committee states that the goal of the Industrial Land Use Bylaw Update work program is to encourage socio-economic diversity and to enhance economic sustainability and security on Salt Spring Island by meeting the needs for commercial industrial lands for the next 25 years.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

The importance of community planning for waste management has been identified as part of the development of the CRD's new Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan. Environmental Resource Management staff are of the opinion that the proposal to reconfigure land use zoning at Mouat Park appears to be an opportunity to ensure availability of appropriately zoned land to meet future waste management demands on Salt Spring Island.

## **CONCLUSION**

Islands Trust staff have drafted a proposal to reconfigure land use zoning at Moaut Park on Salt Spring Island. The purpose of this report is to initiate discussion among affected CRD stakeholders.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Electoral Area Services Committee refer the Islands Trust proposal for reconfiguration of land use zoning of a portion of Mouat Park on Salt Spring Island to the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Committee for comment.

Submitted by:	Russ Smith, Senior Manager, Environmental Resource Management
Concurrence:	Larisa Hutcheson, P.Eng., Parks and Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP

AB:dd

Attachment: Appendix A – Islands Trust's draft proposal to reconfigure land use zoning of a portion of Mouat Park

## IAPC PROPOSALS

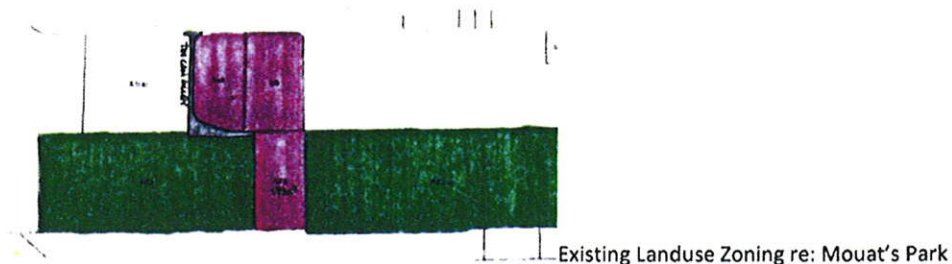
In considering the areas to which new industrial land uses might be directed, the IAPC was guided by the criteria proposed in the ITF report, and endorsed in the UCL report. But in some cases, the Commission's choice of lands to be considered for possible rezoning to industrial use differed from those in the previous reports, where it considered there were inappropriate neighbouring adjacencies or potential accessibility or traffic issues.

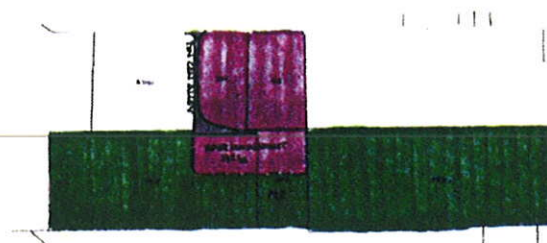
The IAPC also considered a number of sites that may have been overlooked by the two previous reports because the sites are unavailable right now, but certainly could become available within the next 25 years.

Most prominent among these sites are gravel pits, which currently occupy some 193 acres of the island. Different pits will become exhausted at different times, but many will be available for alternative use within the next quarter century. As previously noted, gravel pits are regulated by the BC government, but the relevant regulations allow for local zoning authorities to have a role in determining the zoning and use of these properties once their potential for gravel is exhausted. Most of the gravel pits on Salt Spring are not within the ALR, so there is no requirement that they convert to agricultural use once exhausted, and many of them are sufficiently isolated that they could be considered for general employment 3 and/or waste management purposes. This would require prior consideration of potential impacts on downstream water quality and on neighbouring properties. For this reason, the IAPC chose not to include exhausted gravel pits in its proposed approach to meeting the demand for industrial land.

Other specific sites, currently in other uses, that could help meet the 25-year demand for industrial land include:

- Slegg's lumber yard on Fulford-Ganges, once the business is consolidated at its other site
- Land in the ALR adjacent to the CRD's waste site at Burgoyne Bay; the ALC has recently confirmed that this land could be used for certain CRD wastewater treatments
- A portion of Mouat's Park, which was transferred by the BC government to the CRD in the early 2000s, but retains an industrial zoning area that is adjacent to existing industrially zoned lands. The amount of land currently zoned industrial could be reconfigured, as shown in the map below, so that the remaining parkland is not split into two pieces.





Proposed Reconfiguring of Landuse Zoning

In the short term, whether or not a piece of property is in the ALR is an important consideration in considering rezoning, since there are major difficulties and potential delays in securing release of land from the ALR for other purposes. But in a 25-year time horizon, this is not a major consideration, since it is likely that the challenges that currently exist with ALR lands can be resolved in that time frame.

The areas identified by the IAPC as most suitable to consider for rezoning to different categories of industrial use are shown in Map C and are identified in the following table.

The table shows the amount of land potentially available for each of the categories of industrial use in these areas. The Commission has identified areas with a total acreage significantly greater than the anticipated demand for industrially zoned land over the next 25 years, because not all private landowners may be interested in having their property rezoned for industrial use. Marine Employment land is yet to be determined based upon future study. GE1 and GE2 sites could be developed as stratas with smaller, more affordable lots where appropriate.

**IAPC Recommended Areas to be Considered for Future Demand for IAPC zone uses**

General Location	Proposed Zone (acres)					
	GE1	GE2	Marine Empl	Waste Mgmt	GE3	Total
Stewart Rd unused zoned lots		15			3	18
Robinson Rd unused zoned lot		1.44				1.5
Upper Ganges/Long Harbour Rd	13	2				15
Rainbow Rd/Atkins, inc unused zoned lots 345 Rainbow, 131 Knott		15		10	5	30
Mouats Park CF zoned land				19		19
Ganges Hill	3					3
Jackson Ave	2	6				8
Garner Rd/Fulford Ganges Rd, inc TUP site		14			3	17
Isabella/Musgrave	5					5
Burgoyne Bay				17		17
Fulford/Ganges/Beaver Point intersection – Ackerman lot portion	7	7				14
Sleggs Lumber old site		2				2
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>62.5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>149.5</b>
Estimated Demand	3	17-22	TBD	40-45	10	70-80

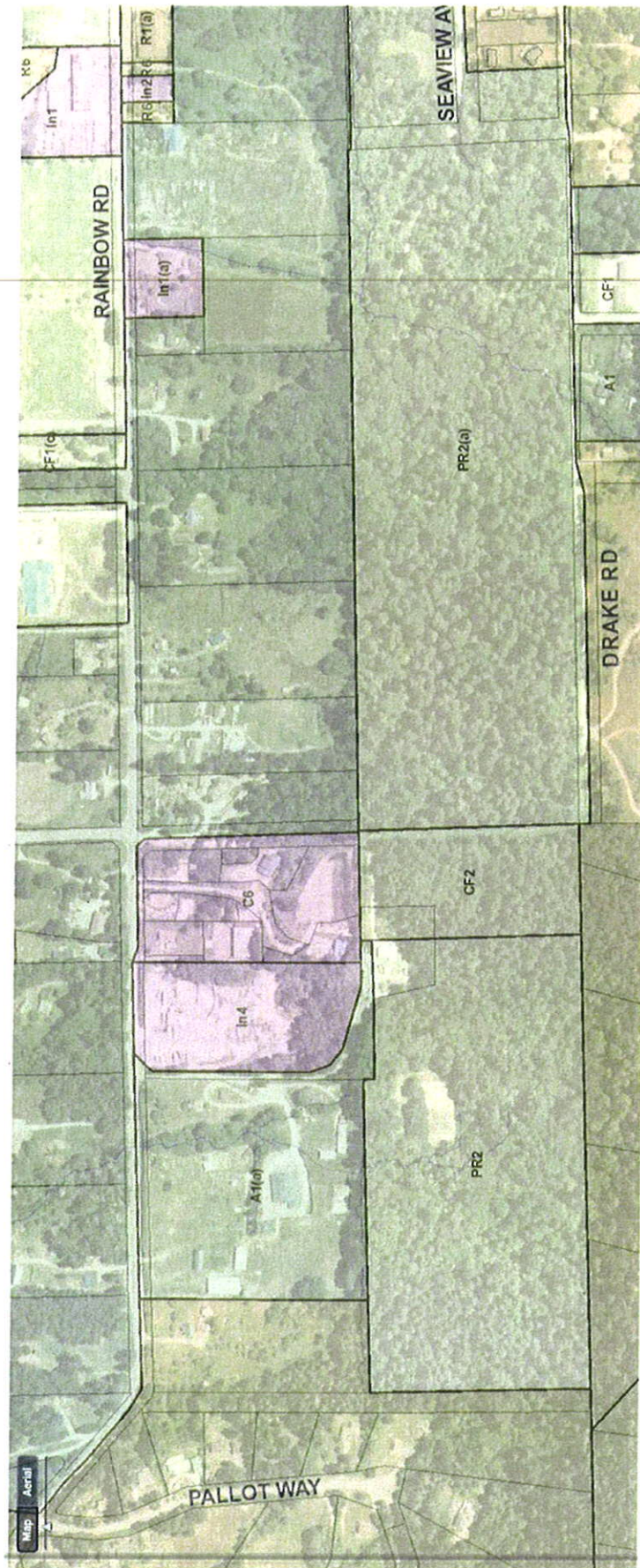
















Report to the Salt Spring CEDC, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016

Considering that I have been on the CED commission now for one year I have been reflecting on what I have learned over this period. I had little input and no participation in the creation of the 2014 report but came in at the beginning of the plan's implementation stage.

I am still trying to figure out what my/our role is and what the purpose of our commission is. Other commissions seem to have a defined, functional purpose such as transportation or parks and recreation while our purpose is less defined. I spent 2015 networking and trying to get to know people in many aspects of our business community. I am now keen to start 'doing'.

I would like to understand better how we might interact or integrate more with CRD staff and other commissions including the SGI EDC. I wonder how we might engage government and quasi-governmental organizations to find ways to make Salt Spring an even more desirable place to live. In this regard I wonder how we might find ways to lower costs to allow projects a chance to flourish or even to facilitate solutions to hurdles or even road blocks.

I understand that we can distribute some funding through our 'fee for service' plan but surely there must be other initiatives that a commission charged with economic develop could and should be doing. How can we inform our community, both general and business about our existence? Do we need a physical and/or virtual presence? How do we provide opportunities to keep our talented young people here? How do we reach out to possible new comers and attract their talent and ideas to our small gem of an Island?

With our renewed commission I am optimistic that we will find ways, together to answer many of my questions and more. I am looking forward to 2016 with enthusiasm

Respectfully

Randy

## CEDC Commissioner Report

January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016

Holly MacDonald

I attended the BC Tech Summit on January 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> and looked for resources that might assist us in supporting any tech businesses or enthusiasts who may need to tap into a support network.

- \$100 million tech fund – there is still little information on this, but primarily it is a venture capital fund for companies in the early stages. It does not appear to be community oriented, therefore as a commission, we'd need to help companies in our jurisdiction learn more.
- Venture Acceleration Partners within BC Innovation Council – there are both geographical VAPs and specialist VAPs. The VAP network are connected and will refer you to another that's more relevant to what you are looking for.
  1. For Salt Spring, companies would apply to either [Accelerate Tectoria](#) (Victoria) or [Innovation Island](#) (Nanaimo) if they were looking for mentoring or support for a technology company (i.e. Industry Drones) or an entrepreneur.
  2. [Foresight](#), which is focused on "Cleantech" applications – these typically involve hardware. [Wavefront](#), which is focused on wireless (lots of sensors/beacons, etc). [SRCTEC](#), Agritech solutions based in the Fraser Valley. [Spring](#) is a social accelerator.
  3. Virtual VAP – through New Ventures BC – this is location agnostic and uses online tools to provide education and mentorship. The Virtual VAP offers [free access to the Market Validation Training](#) only. If you want mentoring you pay for the service.

Other elements were announced in the [BC Tech Strategy](#), which may or may not have influence on Salt Spring, including:

- The introduction of coding to all K-12 schools in September 2016.
- BCIC Tech Works which is a grant for small tech companies to hire post-secondary students who are in tech fields.
- Easing the complexity of working with government – the provincial government now has "Short Form RFPs" that make it less onerous for start-ups to propose on projects. Typically government is looking for someone with a track record, and examples of similar work, rather than taking a chance on an unknown entity.

Although it is more Vancouver-centric event, there were companies/people there from throughout the province, for example:

- [Thoughtexchange](#) from Rossland won the \$5000 "pitch" contest
- [Cloudhead Games](#) is a cutting edge Virtual Reality game developer, who gained lots of attention from media and attendees is from Coombs.
- [BW Global](#) from Abbotsford was a highlight on the Agri-tech panel.



**Southern Gulf Islands Tourism Consortium**  
c/o Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce  
121 Lower Ganges Road  
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2T1

January 22, 2016

Director David Howe  
Commissioner Darryl Martin  
Southern Gulf Islands and Salt Spring Island  
Economic Development Commissions

Re: Funding for Southern Gulf Islands Tourism Marketing

Dear David and Darryl,

I am pleased to be forwarding this request to your attention. As you know, the 5 Southern Gulf Islands – Galiano, Mayne, Pender, Salt Spring and Saturna – have submitted an application to Destination British Columbia for Cooperative Marketing funds for tourism marketing for 2016/17. The strategy is based on the “Experience the Gulf Islands” program developed by the SGI and SSI CEDC’s.

Using matching funds, the program will market this region primarily as an outdoor adventure destination focussed on hiking, water activities and eco-tourism along with services, amenities and accommodations.

Here is the project overview from our application: Experience the Gulf Islands (ETGI) is a tourism marketing initiative showcasing Mayne, Pender, Saturna, Galiano and Salt Spring Islands, known collectively as the Southern Gulf Islands. The Southern Gulf Islands (SGI’s) consist of spectacular landscapes, unique natural features, water based activities and interesting, creative communities situated between the major population centres of the Lower Mainland and southern Vancouver Island. They provide a natural link between the regional trail and waterway systems of Metro Vancouver and the Capital Regional District/Vancouver Island and the American San Juan Islands. The project will be implemented by the Southern Gulf Island Tourism Consortium.

Funds will be used in several key areas: Web Presence, ETGI and SGI Maps and Brochures, Consumer Shows, ETGI and SGI Advertising, Social Media, ETGI Brand Development, ETGI Earned Media Development and Marketing Coordinator Fee (for project implementation staffing).

Funds contributed by the SGI and SSI CEDC’s will be added to funds contributed by each of the 5 Chambers of Commerce and local stakeholder business along with matching funds from Destination BC. We are therefore requesting a contribution of \$2000 from each of the 5 Southern Gulf Islands to go towards this initiative. Funding confirmation will be made on January 31<sup>st</sup> and the program will officially commence on April 1, 2016. We hope to hear back from you in the very near future confirming the outcome of this request.

Please let me know if you have further questions in this matter.

Regards,



Li Read – President  
Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce  
on behalf of the SGI Tourism Consortium



Making a difference...together

Salt Spring Island Electoral Area

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Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 1K3

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Salt Spring Island Community Economic Development Commission  
Agenda February 18, 2016  
**Attachment #1**

February 10, 2016

Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust Society  
c/o Anne Macey and Brian Webster  
106 Old Scott Road  
Salt Spring Island, BC  
V8K 2L6

**Re: Salt Spring Island Farm Centre for Food Security**

Dear Ann and Brian,

Thank you very much for your presentation to our Community Economic Development Commission on January 21, 2016.

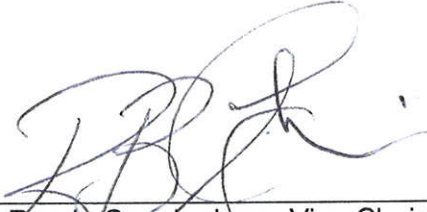
Your ideas and goals resonated with all of our Commission and I am writing on behalf of the Commission to extend our support in principle for your project and the potential benefits to the local food suppliers. We all hope that this letter might assist in some way in advancing this project.

We look forward to hearing more as the project progresses.

Sincerely,

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Wayne McIntyre, CRD Director  
Salt Spring Island Electoral Area



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Randy Gunningham, Vice Chair  
Salt Spring Island Community Economic  
Development Commission



## Media Release

For Immediate Release

February 12, 2016

### **CRD Receives \$50,000 to Undertake the Salt Spring Island (SSI) and Southern Gulf Islands (SGI) Integrated Service Plan**

Victoria, BC- The Capital Regional District has been awarded \$50,000 from the strategic priorities component of the Federal Gas Tax Fund to undertake the Salt Spring Island (SSI) and Southern Gulf Islands (SGI) Integrated Service Plan. The fund is administered by the Union of BC Municipalities in partnership with governments of Canada and British Columbia.

The Integrated Service Plan will consolidate key aspects of existing economic development and related plans across the islands and identify priorities and implementation strategies to provide greater opportunity for a broader demographic of residents to live and work in their local communities.

"This project will prioritize key economic drivers for the islands which have the capacity to increase local employment opportunities and attract new tourism revenue," says Wayne McIntyre, Salt Spring Island Electoral Area Director. "The outcomes will provide the framework for the islands to move forward with integrated planning, development and implementation of shared priorities to enhance their economic and environmental sustainability."

"The Integrated Service Plan will identify opportunities for transportation enhancements including inter-island passenger ferries, on-island community bus, and pedestrian and cycling trails. It will also focus on tourism-experience the Gulf Islands initiative, recreation and potential economic development opportunities," says David Howe, Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area Director. "These enhancements will encourage local spending and improve economic ties between the islands, the Saanich Peninsula and the region as a whole."

The CRD will be preparing a Request for Proposal for the next steps in the project.

*Celebrating 50 years! The CRD delivers regional, sub-regional and local services to 13 municipalities and three electoral areas on southern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Governed by a 24 member Board of Directors, the CRD works collaboratively with First Nations and all levels of government to enable sustainable growth, enhance community well-being, and develop cost-effective infrastructure while continuing to provide core services to residents throughout the region.*