



Making a difference...together

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission
Held June 26, 2017, Portlock Park Meeting Room, 145 Vesuvius Bay Road
Salt Spring Island, BC**

Present: **CRD Alternate Director:** Darryl Martin
Commission Members: Robin Williams (chair), Rod Martens, Bill Cote, Shellie Barrett
Staff: Karla Campbell, Senior Manager, Salt Spring Electoral Area; Keith Wahlstrom, Manager of Engineering, Salt Spring Electoral Area; Tracey Shaver, Recording Secretary.
Absent: Wayne McIntyre, Ross Simpson, Nigel Denyer, Seth Wright

Estimated audience of 35 people

Chair Williams called the meeting to order at 4:36 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Commissioner Cote, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Martens,
That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission agenda of June 26, 2017 be amended and approved by adding item 5.3 Incorporation Road Study and item 6.4 Low Speed Vehicles.

CARRIED

2. Adoption of Minutes of May 29, 2017

MOVED by Commissioner Williams, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Cote,
That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission minutes of May 29, 2017 be deferred.

CARRIED

3. Delegation/Presentation

3.1 JE Anderson – Presentation of NGTP

Representatives from JE Anderson used large sized drawings to provide clear information to the Commission on the status of the priority projects of the North Ganges Transportation plan.

The upper side of Ganges Road from the intersection of Upper and Lower Ganges to Rainbow Road and around the corner to Kanaka Road has been reconfigured to bring costs down while still providing a safe passage for pedestrians and cyclists. The section along Lower Ganges Road fronting Rotary Park is also included in the current priorities for safety enhancement.

Staff and JE Anderson Engineers worked closely with Ministry of Transportation to come up with a temporary solution for pedestrians crossing at the intersections of Upper and Lower Ganges Road. A crosswalk and appropriate warning signage will be added to the north side of Upper Ganges Road which will link to the newly

constructed sidewalk heading into town. Staff reviewed several ideas to slow down traffic and or improve the flow of traffic at this intersection; some are costly or ineffective to pursue without additional community support such as traffic light, round about, accelerator lane, automated pedestrian light.

MOVED by Commissioner Cote, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Martens,
That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission approves in principle the JE Anderson Project No 88678 concept plans as presented and requests that final drawings be prepared for the priority sections of the North Ganges Transportation Plan for final review.

CARRIED

3.2 Jean Gelwicks, Partners Creating Pathways-Atkins Road South

Members of Partners Creating Pathways provided information on the status of the Atkins Road South pathway project which is planned to begin later this summer. Project costs were estimated using a \$135 per metre cost to establish a tender document. Only one bid came in for construction and it was higher than anticipated. Negotiations to lower costs began with compromises in to the scope of work to be performed by the contractor and have resulted in projects costs which exceed the budgeted amount by roughly \$19,000.

The Pathways Volunteers urge the Commission to increase the project fund and award the contract to Earth Heart Productions so that this project can be completed prior to the Fall Fair.

3.3 Hannah Brown, Ganges Hill Hitch Hiking

Ms. Brown presented her opinions on the merits of hitch hiking, island lifestyle and local traditions. A petition was submitted and the Raging Grannies performed a song.

4. Director, Chair and Commissioner Reports

- 4.1** Alternate Director Martin reported briefly on the success of the Tour de Iles event held over the weekend.
- 4.2** Chair Williams briefly reported on the first meeting of the Ganges Harbour Walk Steering Committee and the departure of Keith Wahlstrom.

5. Outstanding Business

5.1 Letter dated June 7, 2017 from BC Transit re: Installation of Bus Shelter, 2017/18 Fiscal

Staff confirmed that an agreement has been entered into with BC Transit to install one of their Provincial cost sharing bus shelters across the road from Country Grocer. Infrastructure and maintenance costs are the responsibility of the Regional District while the bus shelter remains under the ownership of BC Transit. It is anticipated that this will be a temporary location and the shelter can be moved as needed to other locations.

5.2 Ganges Hill

The Commission discussed some of the complex issues with the different sections of Ganges Hill such as drainage, lane width, uneven payment surfaces, sight lines and areas for bus pullouts or hitch hiking.

In 2012 CRD Regional Parks allocated \$50,000 for a feasibility study to identify the route for a cross island trail linking Salt Spring to the developing plans of a larger cross Canada trail network. Ganges Hill was a major focus of this study and identified a widened unpaved shoulder on the west side of Fulford Ganges Road as the acceptable option and priority for Salt Spring Island.

The costs of the feasibility study were less than allocated to complete this project, therefore the remaining funds were returned to the Regional Parks reserve account as contributions to these accounts are made regionally. The Commission would like Regional Parks to consider reallocating the unused project funds towards a capital project to construct the pathway on Ganges Hill.

MOVED by Commissioner Cote, **SECONDED** by Alternate Director Martin,

That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission supports Robin Williams, as Chair of the Commission, addressing the Capital Regional District in an effort to reallocate approximately \$26,433 from Regional Parks Reserves to a Salt Spring Island Capital Project fund for the future pathway construction on Ganges Hill.

CARRIED

5.3 Incorporation Road Study

The Transportation Commission has been approached for commentary on the amount of money allocated by the Province to transfer the maintenance of SSI Roads under incorporation. The Commission already endorsed a commentary report prepared by Commissioner Ross Simpson, a retired engineer, which was submitted to the Incorporation Study Group as factual and unbiased information for their use.

6. New Business

6.1 Memorandum dated June 26, 2017-Atkins Road South

The Commission briefly discussed the project.

MOVED Commissioner Martens, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Cote,

That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission recommends that the Capital Regional District award the contract to Earth Heart Productions for the amount of \$75,500 plus GST.

CARRIED

6.2 Memorandum dated June 26, 2017-Salt Spring Island Transit Service Agreement and Annual Operating Agreement

Annual approval process for operating local transit service between BC Transit and the Capital Regional District.

MOVED Alternate Director Martin, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Barrett,

That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission recommends that the Capital Regional District approve the 2017 to 2018 Annual Operating Agreement and subsequent Amendment #1, and the April 1, 2017 Transit Service Agreement for the SSI Transit service.

CARRIED

6.3 Memorandum dated June 26, 2017-Salt Spring Island Transit Service three year expansion memorandum of understanding.

Confirmation of previous plans already in place in the budget for service hour expansions.

MOVED Commissioner Cote, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Martens,

That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission recommends the Capital Regional District approve BC Transit's May 26, 2017 Expansion Memorandum of Understanding for the Salt Spring Island Transit Service for the AOA period 2018/19.

CARRIED

6.4 Low Speed Vehicles (LSV)

Commissioner Cote introduced the concept of low speed vehicles which could be used on islands roads with maximum speed limits of 50 km which are identified by local governance and the Province as appropriate.

These vehicles are powered by gas, propane or electric and do not resemble golf carts. Parksville and Chase BC are completing studies to use them in their communities.

Commissioner Cote will bring further information to the September Meeting.

7. Next Meeting- September 25, 2017 at 4:30 pm in the Portlock Portable

8. Adjournment

MOVED By Commissioner Martens, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Cote,
That the meeting adjourn at 6:32 pm

CHAIR

SENIOR MANAGER