

**SOUTHERN GULF ISLANDS and
SALTSPRING ISLAND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
JOINT MEETING of Monday Mar 9 2015
TIME: 11:00am
PLACE: Harbour House Hotel**

1. The meeting came to order at 11:00 am under the joint chairmanship of Leigh Pullen and John Tylee.
2. Attendance:
SGI EDC members; Ian Dow, George Harris, David Howe (SGI Director), Paul LeBlond (SGI Director Alt.), Leigh Pullen (Chair SGI-EDC), Priscilla Zimmerman.

SSI participants: John Tylee, Wayne McIntyre (SSI Director), George Grams (SSI IT Trustee), Peter Grove (SSI IT Trustee), John Cade (SSI Chamber of Commerce); Darryll Martin (SSI ETGI), Carla Campbell (SSI -CRD), Randy (??)

CRD: Kevin Lorette, General Manager, Planning and Protective Services.
3. John Tylee opened the meeting with a round of introductions. He and many others stressed the need for stronger links between SGI and SSI and the desire for unity in approach and planning, especially in the realm of transportation. Closer links and cooperation between the Islands Trust and the CRD were also desired.
4. John Tylee and Darryll Martin presented a review of the SSI 2015 Action Plan projects. (document attached). A constraint for implementation is to find commissioners who will personally drive projects. Darryll leads the ETGI project; Randy focuses on education. A problem raised is the different time scales of volunteer expectations and government response; initially enthusiastic volunteers get tired of waiting and go on to something else.
5. Priscilla Zimmerman emphasized the need for inter-island water connections beyond BC Ferries. All agreed that a despatch system would help link travellers with available water craft.
6. Leigh Pullen complained about the high cost of building permits compared to Alberta.
7. Repurposing the Islands Trust. Discussion focused on the cost of the Island Trust, the relentless growth of a Victoria-based bureaucracy and the danger of loss of public support on which the Trust depends for its longterm survival.
8. The need to work with local chambers of Commerce. How can the EDC help?
9. Next stages. The work of Ed Andrusiak, leader of the ETGI project, was acknowledged as seminal in creating closer links between all SGI and SSI. The next step will be to introduce a new service covering joint SGI and SSI activities fostering economic development. Kevin Lorette circulated a draft proposal for Terms of Reference for such a service.
ACTION: All participants to review and report to their EDC and Kevin by MARCH 20th. Document attached.
10. Ian Dow mentioned the problem of the escaped fallow deer on the SGI. Meeting scheduled March 16 in Victoria with BC Government biologist.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.