

Andrew Peat

From: Minister, MAH MAH:EX <MAH.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November-30-17 15:41
To: 'directorssi@crd.bc.ca'; 'ggrams@islandstrust.bc.ca'; 'pgrove@islandstrust.bc.ca'
Cc: Olsen.MLA, Adam LASS:EX; 'crdchair@crd.bc.ca'; 'pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca'; 'board@northsaltspringwaterworks.ca'; 'corpadmin@saltspringfire.com'
Subject: 207229: Salt Spring Island

Ref: 207229

Wayne McIntyre, Director
Capital Regional District
George Grams, Trustee
Islands Trust
Peter Grove, Trustee
Islands Trust

Email: directorssi@crd.bc.ca
ggrams@islandstrust.bc.ca
pgrove@islandstrust.bc.ca

cc: Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca
crdchair@crd.bc.ca
pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca
Marshall Heinekey, board@northsaltspringwaterworks.ca
Per Krogh Svendsen, corpadmin@saltspringfire.com

Dear Wayne McIntyre, George Grams and Peter Grove:

Following the September 9, 2017, Salt Spring Island incorporation vote, I wrote to the Chairs of the Capital Regional District and Islands Trust to acknowledge the outcome of the vote and the corporate work supporting the process, and to draw the formal process to a close. I am writing today to thank you individually and collectively for your stewardship of the governance study process over the past five years, and to share some thoughts about moving forward.

Your commitment to seeing both studies through to completion provided the Salt Spring Island electorate with objective information about the current governance system and the costs and impacts of governance change. I understand that Salt Spring Island residents had many opportunities to provide feedback during both studies, public meetings were well attended and a high voter turnout was achieved. These successes are noteworthy; I sincerely thank you for the role you played in community engagement.

The clear outcome of the vote does close the door to further examination of incorporation for quite some time. At the same time, I can appreciate that now may be an opportunity for yourselves, as the locally elected representatives on the study committee, to reflect on how to move forward within the scope of the existing authorities of the Capital Regional District, the North Salt Spring Waterworks District, the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District, and the Islands Trust Local Trust Committee.

As you are aware, the governance and incorporation studies documented a number of gaps in the current system. Issues such as service coordination among agencies and recognition of inter-related mandates (such as water availability and development approvals) appear to be essential for the community. As well, you no doubt heard from many residents, some of whom have expectations for more complex and varied services. Looking to the future, it will

be important for the local service and planning agencies as well as the local government – Capital Regional District – to work together to address gaps and manage expectations.

It may be of interest to electors on Salt Spring Island to see further examples of how the various elected representatives on the Island can work together. For example, forging ongoing communications between Islands Trust, Capital Regional District and Improvement District representatives may create greater understanding of the service gaps and issues identified and generate potential approaches to address these concerns. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing staff remain available to support this work as you collectively move forward.

Thank you again for your commitment to the extensive governance study process.

Sincerely,

Selina Robinson
Minister of Municipal Affairs
and Housing