



**Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue**  
**105 Lower Ganges Road**  
**Salt Spring Island, B.C.**  
**PH: 250-537-2531**  
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28 June 2019

Mr. Gary Holman, CRD Director  
Salt Spring Island Electoral Area  
#108 – 121 McPhillips Avenue  
Salt Spring Island  
BC V8K 2T6

Dear Mr. Holman,

Possibility of Collaboration on  
Ganges Harbour Boardwalk

It is our understanding that the renewal of the foreshore lease with owners of the Ganges Marina is presently before various government bodies. This may be an opportunity for interested parties to present their concerns to government in a collaborative effort and advance the possibility of completion of the Ganges Harbour Boardwalk.

From the Fire District's perspective, the availability of water for fire flow purposes is a concern which has also been mentioned in the Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) insurance grading report. High risk and critical infrastructure are concentrated in the Ganges core (commercial, institutional and residential properties) and the District is investigating with FUS the practicality of obtaining a separate insurance rating for this area. A possible solution that could address concerns about water availability for fire flow purposes would be a series of dry hydrants at critical points (Coast Guard dock, Rainbow Road, Ganges Marina, and Salt Spring Marina) that would utilize saltwater supplied from piping on top or underneath a completed Harbour Boardwalk. A dry hydrant is a permanently installed non-pressurized pipe system that provided a suction supply of water to a fire department tank truck.

Much work still needs to be done investigating the merits and costs of the project but on the surface, it addresses a major public safety concern. The two marinas and their users could also receive improved fire protection. Local government agencies working collaboratively with affected property owners has the potential to reach an agreement that benefits all parties.

Representatives from the District will make themselves available to meet with you and other interested parties if desired.

Yours truly,



Ron Lindstrom  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District

CC Karla Campbell, CRD Senior Manager, Salt Spring Island Electoral Area  
Islands Trust  
Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce