

Agenda

Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

Meeting will be held as follows:

Date: November 17, 2025

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Ganges Fire Hall Training Room

105 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island and Electronic Meeting (Microsoft Teams)

1. CALL TO ORDER

That _____ be appointed to Chair the Regular Meeting.

We would like to begin this meeting by acknowledging that we live and work in the territory of the Coast Salish First Nations. This meeting is an official forum for the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District Board to conduct its business. This is a place of employment, and our staff have the right to a safe and respectful workplace.

2. TOWN HALL SESSION

Members of the public can address questions or comments, and we request that you direct comments to the Board and not other members of the public, speak to the issues and not individuals and be clear, concise and respectful.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. BOARD MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of the Regular Trustee meeting held October 20, 2025 – For Approval

That the draft minutes of the Regular Trustee meeting held October 20, 2025 be adopted.

5. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 Communications & Marketing Committee - None

5.2 Finance & Audit Committee - None

5.3 Joint Occupational Health & Wellness Committee

5.3.1 Minutes of the October 22, 2025 meeting – For Information

5.4 Strategic Planning & Policy Development Committee

5.4.1 Minutes of the November 4, 2025 meeting – For Information

6. CORRESPONDENCE

7. REPORTS

7.1 Fire Chief's Report – October 2025

7.2 Salt Spring Island Fire Fighters' Association Report – November 2025

7.3 CAO Reports

7.3.1 Budget Report to September 30, 2025

7.3.2 Driftwood dated Oct. 29, 2025 Re: Lithium Batteries

7.3.3 Driftwood dated Oct. 29, 2025 Re: Halloween Fireworks

7.3.4 Driftwood dated Oct. 29, 2025 Re: Notice of Special General Meeting

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 New Fire Hall Project

8.1.1 New Fire Hall Project Update to October 31, 2025

8.2 By Election for Vacant Trustee Position

8.2.1 Notice of Election by Acclamation

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 2026 Meeting Schedules

9.1.1 2026 Draft Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule

That the Board of Trustees adopt the 2026 Meeting Schedule as presented.

9.1.2 2026 Draft Committee Meeting Schedule – For Information

10. BYLAWS

11. DELEGATIONS

12. IN-CAMERA MEETING

13. NEXT MEETING

That the Board of Trustees cancel the December 15, 2025 Regular Meeting.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes of the Regular Trustee Meeting of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District

Date: October 20, 2025

Location: Training Room, Ganges Fire Hall
105 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island and Electronic Meeting (Microsoft Teams)

Members Present: Rollie Cook, Chair
David Courtney, Trustee (Teams)
Mary Lynn Hetherington, Trustee
Dennis Lucarelli, Trustee
Rob Oliver, Trustee
Robin Williams, Trustee

Staff Members Present: Rodney Dieleman, Corporate Administrator and Financial Officer
Jamie Holmes, Fire Chief
Hans Hazenboom, New Fire Hall Project Owner's Representative
Mysha Dewar-McClelland, Salt Spring Island Fire Fighters' Association
Sarah Shugar, Recorder

Others Present: Gulf Islands Driftwood Reporter (Teams)
Approximately 3 members of the public (2 in person, 1 on Teams)

These minutes follow the order of the agenda although the sequence may have varied.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Cook called the meeting to order 7:00 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting is being held in the unceded territories of the Coast Salish Peoples.

2. TOWN HALL

Chair Cook opened the town hall at 7:00 p.m. There were no speakers in the town hall portion of the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By general consent, the agenda was adopted.

4. BOARD MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of the Regular Trustee meeting held September 15, 2025 – For Approval

2025-049

MOVED by Trustee Lucarelli, SECONDED by Trustee Williams,
that the draft minutes of the Regular Trustee meeting held September 15, 2025 were adopted.

CARRIED

5. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 Communications & Marketing Committee – None

5.2 Finance & Audit Committee – none

5.3 Joint Occupational Health & Wellness Committee

5.3.1 Minutes of the August 27, 2025 meeting – For Information

By general consent, the minutes were received.

5.3.2 Minutes of the September 24, 2025 meeting – For Information

By general consent, the minutes were received.

5.4 Strategic Planning & Policy Development Committee

5.4.1 Minutes of the October 7, 2025 meeting – For Information

By general consent, the minutes were received.

6. CORRESPONDENCE - None

7. REPORTS

7.1 Fire Chief's Report – September 2025

Chief Holmes presented the Fire Chief Reports for September 2025. There was discussion regarding fires caused by lithium batteries. Chief Holmes reported it is important to not store old lithium batteries, to dispose of old lithium batteries properly, and only use CSA approved batteries and chargers.

By general consent, the Fire Chief Report was received.

7.2 Salt Spring Island Fire Fighters' Association Report – October 2025

M. Dewar-McClelland presented the Association report for October 2025.

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Fire Fighters' Association report was received.

7.3 CAO Reports

7.3.1 Budget Report to August 31, 2025

CAO Dieleman presented the budget report to August 31, 2025. There was a question regarding whether there are any unanticipated expenses. Chief Holmes reported annual truck pump testing and maintenance is scheduled in November. There was a question regarding whether the District will receive funds from wildfire deployment in 2025. CAO Dieleman reported the request for reimbursement for the Salt Spring Fire Rescue crews that assisted with wildfires over the summer, has been submitted to the Province.

By general consent, the budget report was received.

7.3.2 Driftwood Dated Oct 1, 2025 Re Notice of Nominations

7.3.3 Driftwood Dated Oct. 8, 2025 Re Thank you to Firefighters

7.3.4 Driftwood dated Oct. 15, 2025 Re Incidents

7.3.5 Driftwood dated Oct. 15, 2025 Re Lithium Batteries

By general consent, the Driftwood Articles were received.

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 New Fire Hall Project

8.1.1 New Fire Hall Project Status Update to September 30, 2025

Owners Representative H. Hazenboom presented the New Fire Hall Project Status Update to September 30, 2025. H. Hazenboom reported the project schedule is on schedule although the construction schedule is a few months behind. There was a question regarding why the siding has not been installed. H. Hazenboom reported there was a delay in architect approvals for this stage. The approval for the insulation has been received, the insulation has been delivered, and the roof soffits are being installed. The roofing will be done by the same company that is installing the siding.

By general consent, the report was received.

8.2 By Election for Vacant Trustee Position

CAO Dieleman presented a staff report dated October 16, 2025 regarding the 2025 By Election for the vacant trustee position. CAO Dieleman reported one nomination has been received and Elections Officer Anthony Kennedy has advised the nominee will be elected by acclamation at the November 17, 2025 Special General Meeting. The notice of the Special General Meeting and Trustee Acclamation will be in the Oct. 29 and Nov. 5, 2025 editions of the Driftwood.

2025-050

MOVED by Trustee Hetherington, SECONDED by Trustee Lucarelli,

That the Board of Trustees schedule a Special General Meeting on November 17, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. to receive the Notice of Acclamation for a Trustee.

CARRIED

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Housing for Paid On Call Recruitment and Retention

CAO Dieleman reported there are three housing units at the Field's store being offered at no cost to the District. At the October 7, 2025 Strategic Planning and Policy Development Committee meeting, the Committee recommended staff decline the offer of the Field's housing and recommended the Board of Trustees plan for up to three tiny home or RV pads at both Hall 2 and a new Satellite Hall in the north end to help with Paid on Call recruitment and retention.

10. BYLAWS

10.1 Draft Bylaw No. 159 – Meeting Procedures Bylaw 2025– Second Reading and Adoption

Draft Bylaw No. 159 cited as the "Meeting Procedures Bylaw 2025" was presented for second reading and adoption. At the October 7, 2025 Strategic Planning and Policy Development Committee meeting, the Committee recommended the Board of Trustees give second reading to Draft Meeting Procedures Bylaw No. 159.

2025-051

MOVED by Chair Cook, SECONDED by Trustee Williams,

That Draft Bylaw No. 159 cited as the "Meeting Procedures Bylaw 2025" be read a second time and adopted.

CARRIED

10.2 Draft Bylaw No. 160 – Reserve Funds Disbursement Bylaw 2025 – To Build Irrigation Pond at Hall 2 – Second Reading and Adoption

Draft Bylaw No. 160 cited as the "Reserve Funds Disbursement Bylaw 2025" was presented for second reading and adoption. Chief Holmes reported the irrigation pond will hold approximately 750 gallons of water.

2025-052

MOVED by Trustee Lucarelli, SECONDED by Trustee Hetherington,

That Draft Bylaw No. 160 cited as the "Reserve Funds Disbursement Bylaw 2025" be read a second time and adopted.

CARRIED

11. DELEGATIONS – None

12. IN-CAMERA MEETING - None

13. NEXT MEETING

The next Special General Meeting is scheduled on November 17, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ganges Fire Hall Training Room and the next regular meeting is scheduled on November 17, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Ganges Fire Hall Training Room.

14. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Rollie Cook
Chair, Board of Trustees

Rodney Dieleman
Corporate Administrator

Minutes of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District Joint Occupational Health and Wellness Safety Committee Regular Meeting

Date: October 22, 2025
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Fire Hall No.1
 105 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island

Members Present: Dale Lundy, Co-Chair, Deputy Chief (Employer Rep Alternate)
 Nancy Pursell, Co-Chair (Employee Rep POC 2024-2026)
 Abe Hohn (Employee Rep POC 2025 – 2027)
 Steve Leichter (Employee Rep POC 2025 – 2027)
 Cameron Proudfoot (Employee Rep Union 2025)
 Sophia Kelly (Recruit Rep Alternate 2025)
 Gray Wardle (Employee Alternate POC 2025)

Regrets: Jamie Holmes, Co-Chair, Fire Chief (Employer Rep)
 Grant Gussie (Employee Alternate POC 2025)
 Jason Webster (Recruit Rep 2025)
 Gord Fraser (Employee Rep Alternate Union 2025)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Pursell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Hall 1 Safety Inspection was completed prior to the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By general consent, the agenda was approved.

3. MINUTES

By general consent, the minutes of the September 24, 2025 meeting were approved.

4. OLD BUSINESS

4.1 2023/2024 JOHWS Evaluation Report

Chief Holmes and Member Hohn are working on the report.

4.2 2025 Priorities

The 2025 Priority List is as follows:

- Mental Health Night (BCMSA – BC Frontline Worker Occupational Awareness Training Series to continue prior to Association Meetings) (Lead – Members Wardle)

and Purssell). Member Wardle discuss the plans for the November 25, 2025 Mental Health Night. Plan includes a “Campfire Conversation” with the assistance of a mental health clinician. Plans are still being put in place. Member DC Lundy asked to have a second option planned for members who opt out of campfire night.

- CISM and Peer Support (Leads: Purssell and Hohn) - Member Hohn reported follow up conversation with members continue. Two members have expressed an interest in attending a Peer Support course. Member DC Lundy is waiting to see if there will be any training opportunities offered through IAFF.
- OG’s and Policies – Health and Safety review (Lead - Member Chief Holmes) – no report.
- Near Miss Reporting (Lead - Member Proudfoot) – no update.
- Survey – Follow up and analysis (Lead – Member Webster) - Member Webster was unable to attend the meeting although provided a draft of the survey for the committee to review. Member Leichter will talk to Member Webster asking to consider “work-life choices” vs. “work-life balance”. Member DC Lundy suggested the scoring system could show which way the member’s may be “leaning” by having 5 choices (not 4 choices) to choose from.

4.3 Traffic Break Down – Member Hohn

Member Hohn reported extra cones have been placed on the apparatus. Laminated cards are in the bags high-vis bags on the apparatus. Suggestion is to redo the cards with how to break down the traffic scene at the end of a call. He is working on the process. Member DC Lundy discussed how the scene must be coordinated.

4.4 New Alarm System at Hall 3 Training

There was discussion regarding the new alarm system at Hall 3.

5. NEW BUSINESS - none

6. REVIEW OF INSPECTION REPORTS

6.1 Review of Hall Inspections

First Quarter Hall Inspections:

Hall 1 – Completed prior to the Jan. 22, 2025, meeting. Issues identified: the emergency light in the training room has a dead battery; a fire extinguisher is requested for the workshop to be located under the fire extinguisher sign by the compressor.

Hall 2 – Completed prior to the Feb. 26, 2025, meeting. Issues identified: electrical outlet outside the engine bay is missing a cover plate, electrical cord on the diesel pump should be replaced (no ground on plug), no hearing protection in the tender bay, Brush 2 bay door the pressure/crush sensor is not operating, consider painting around the pit to mark the edge of the pit, spent flare and fireworks were removed from the back of the hall.

Hall 3 – Completed prior to the March 26, 2025, meeting. Issues identified: The control switch on the Nederman Unit fell off during the testing process. It was repositioned back on the unit. Request that the fire extinguishers be mounted by the exit doors.

Second Quarter Hall Inspections:

Hall 1 – Completed prior to the April 30, 2025 meeting. Issues identified: The sharps container in the FR room is full and needs to be exchanged.

Hall 2 – Completed prior to the May 28, 2025 meeting. Issues identified: Second floor A/D corner floor grating is falling failing and creating a tripping hazard. Recommend checking grates and replacing them where needed. Engine 205 is not interfacing with the Nederman exhaust system. The wooden picnic bench is deteriorating, recommend removing or replacing it. General cleanup – A bird's nest was removed from a light fixture in the training container. The rubber mats on the outside walkways of the container were removed; they are deteriorating and were creating tripping hazards. Member Hohn has recommended that going forward, all members participating in the hall inspections wear appropriate PPE.

Hall 3 – Completed prior to the June 25, 2025 meeting. Issues identified: Member Hohn noted that the fueling station does not have signage or a written procedure posted for filling and logging. Recommendation was made that the process be included in the Drivers Training Manual. The fire extinguisher in the vehicle bay is not mounted on the wall. It was noted that the cardboard boxes that had been stored at Hall 3 have been removed.

Third Quarter Hall Inspections:

Hall 1 – Completed prior to the July 23, 2025 meeting. Issues identified: The depressurized fire extinguisher in the training room was replaced with an operational fire extinguisher. The car bay electrical panel door needs a hinge repair.

Hall 2 – Completed prior to the August 27, 2025 meeting. Issues identified: Recommend moving the fire extinguisher on the work bench to a more appropriate location. Engine 204 – the Nederman exhaust system does not attach properly to 204, recommend that until repair work is completed, the Engine should not be idled in the building. The SCBA cleaning supply tote needs to be refreshed. Sim Building, top floor – check the floor vents for tripping hazards. Remove the screws from the plywood next to the propane prop. Fuel in hose/air in sea can.

Hall 3 – Completed prior to the Sept. 24, 2025 meeting. Issues identified: The hall was in good order. Two deficits noted: a wasp nest in the GFI outlet behind the boat sea can and small rip in the flooring in the main office.

Fourth Quarter Hall Inspections:

Hall 1 – Completed prior to the October 22, 2025 meeting. Issues identified: The fire extinguisher holder in the training room does not hold the fire extinguisher securely. Recommended purchasing a “grabber” to pick up garbage outside.

7. REVIEW OF FIRST AID AND ACCIDENT/INCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS

7.1 Review of First Aid and Accident/Incident

7.1.1 Drone – September 16, 2025 #2025-09-16-73 - Not complete

7.1.2 #2025-10-04-74 – October 14, 2025 – Fluid splash - Not complete

7.2 Appointment of Accident/Incident Investigators

Members Purssell and Leichter will be the primary investigators in November, and Member Wardle will be the alternate investigator. Deputy Chief Lundy approved the appointments.

8. EDUCATION

8.1 Education – Report – BCMSA Safety Conference

Member Hohn reported that the BCMSA Safety Conference was well presented. Topics included: Mental Health, Importance of Sleep, and Health and Safety Programmes. Members Hohn and Purssell attended the conference and recommended the conference to others.

Member Kelly requires an OSH 1 on-line course. A course will be found in November or December.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Association Safety Talk

Member Wardle will present the safety topic at the November Association meeting. Topics discussed: proper use and care of PPE and winter preparedness.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on November 26, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Hall 2.

11. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent, the meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Nancy Purssell, Committee Co-Chair

Dale Lundy, Deputy Fire Chief & Committee Co-Chair

Minutes of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District Strategic Planning and Policy Development Committee Meeting

Meeting held: November 4, 2025
SSIFPD Administration Office
1202 - 115 Fulford-Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island

Members Present: Dennis Lucarelli, Committee Chair
Keith Ballantyne, Public Member

Staff Members Present: Rodney Dieleman, Corporate Administrator and Financial Officer
Jamie Holmes, Fire Chief

Regrets: Rollie Cook, Board of Trustees Chair and Ex officio member
Mary Lynn Hetherington, Trustee

These minutes follow the order of the agenda although the sequence may have varied.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lucarelli called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and acknowledged that we live and work in the territory of the Coast Salish First Nations.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By general consent, the agenda was approved.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting held October 7, 2025

By general consent, the draft minutes of the Strategic Planning and Policy Development Committee regular meeting held on October 7, 2025 were adopted.

4. OLD BUSINESS

4.1 Strategic Planning Capital Plan Update – CAO Dieleman

CAO Dieleman presented a capital strategic plan update.

4.2 Draft Inspections Policy Update – Chief Holmes – No update

4.3 Aerial Apparatus Standards – this item was discussed in item 4.4

4.4 Letter to Minister Boyle re Fire Protection Infrastructure – Follow Up

CAO Dieleman presented a letter to Housing and Municipal Affairs Minister Christine Boyle dated Oct. 21, 2025 regarding Recommendation on Fire Apparatus Procurement, Supply Constraints and Transition to Electric Vehicles.

By general consent, the letter was received for information.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Draft 2026 Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule

By general consent, the Draft 2026 Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule was received.

5.2 Draft 2026 Committee Meeting Schedule

By general consent, the Draft 2026 Committee Meeting Schedule was received.

6. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled on December 2, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

7. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Dennis Lucarelli
Chair, Strategic Planning & Policy Development Committee

Rodney Dieleman
Corporate Administrator

Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue

Fire Chief's Report

October 2025



Vision

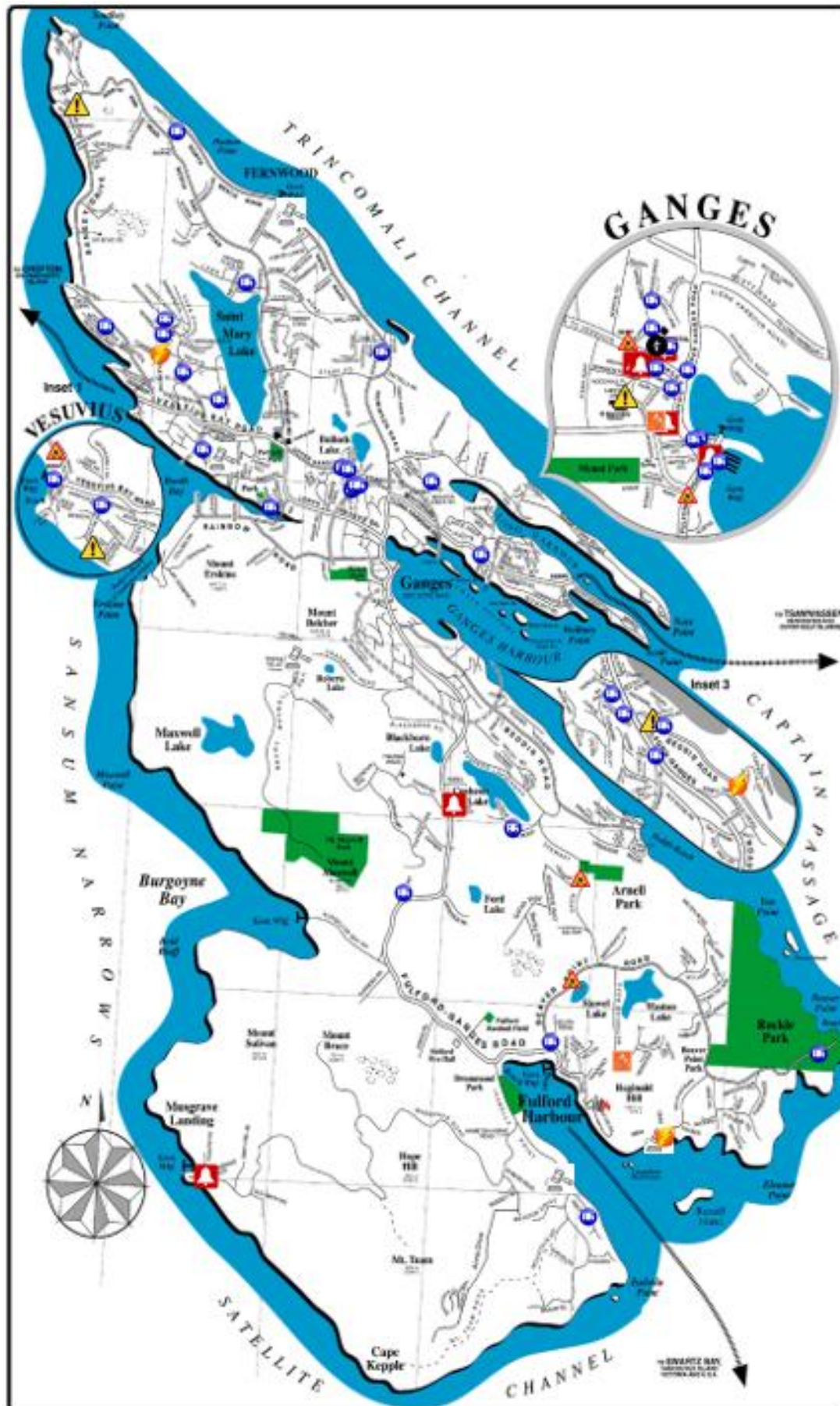
A responsive and sustainable fire-rescue service, effectively meeting community needs and valued by those we serve.

Mission

Always learning, engaging and adapting to be response ready.

Response Report

INCIDENT LEGEND		Oct-25										627
		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	
Act/Bylaw	Complaint	5	2	5	4	12	13	9	13	8	5	76
Aircraft	Emergency											0
Alarm	Alarm	2		4	6	3	8	9	10	10	7	59
Assistance	Assistance	1	1	4	5	4	11	3	3	9	4	45
Explosion	Explosion											0
Fire	Brush		1			1	1	1	1	5		10
	Chimney	2		1							1	4
	Misc		1		1		5					7
	Structure	2	1		2	1	1	1		2	1	11
	Boat					1						1
	Vehicle						1		1			2
HazMat	HazMat		2			1			1			4
Hydro	Hydro	1	5	2	1	1	1	2	8	4	3	28
Medical	Medical	29	28	36	27	23	31	31	39	33	37	314
MVI	MVI	7	2	2	3	5	2	4	4	2	5	36
Rescue	Rescue	1	1	1		2		1	1		1	8
Smoke/Smell/Sighting	Brush			2	1	1	2	1	4	1	1	13
	Structure	2			1	1	2	1	1	1		9
Total Calls for the month:		52	44	57	51	56	78	63	86	75	65	627
	2016	46	35	34	46	72	50	59	88	52	65	547
	2017	63	66	46	39	74	55	72	76	58	44	593
	2018	47	38	45	41	62	59	71	108	79	49	599
	2019	59	58	49	64	61	58	52	58	66	32	557
	2020	62	52	57	53	30	38	40	60	81	73	546
	2021	43	52	60	46	43	81	93	103	65	64	650
	2022	33	29	32	53	85	42	78	77	66	62	557
	2023	55	40	54	46	75	96	81	77	81	37	642
	2024	60	48	57	56	49	64	78	69	58	47	586
	2025	52	44	57	51	56	78	63	86	75	65	627
	2025											
	FIRE	9	10	9	12	10	21	15	26	23	13	148
	RESCUE	8	3	3	3	7	2	5	5	2	6	44
	MEDICAL	29	28	36	27	23	31	31	39	33	37	314
	ASSISTANCE	6	3	9	9	16	24	12	16	17	9	121
	TOTAL	52	44	57	51	56	78	63	86	75	65	627



Operations

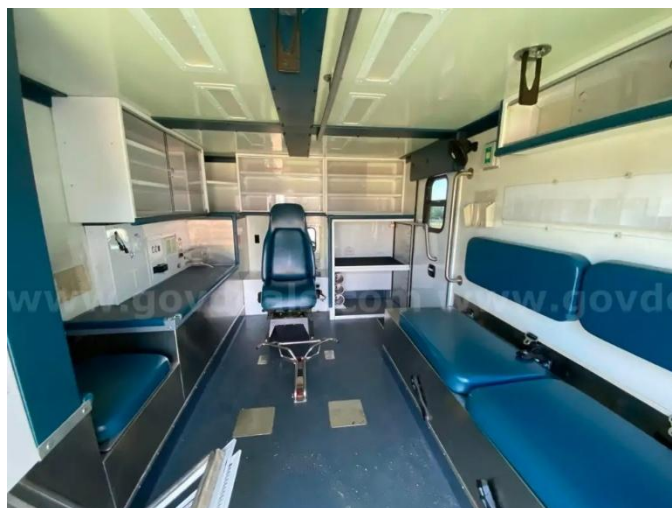
No call of note for October. I feel keeping the burn ban in place even with the fall rainfall assisted in the reduction of emergency responses.

New Firehall #1: The new firehall build continues to take most of my time with many walk throughs with sub trades to ensure everyone is on the same page.

Water Supply Pond Fulford: The 750,000 gallon pond behind the Fulford Firehall is complete and is filling nicely. A dry hydrant has been installed and will provide water for both drills and emergency calls for the island. All the tailings were kept on site and spread around to assist with leveling and sloping. Seed and hay have been spread around and is already sprouting.



RSU 1: We purchased a used ambulance out of Texas and are in the process of converting it into a Rehab Support Unit with communications abilities. BCAS in the past has supported our members with rehab taking vitals and overseeing rest and hydration but new direction has come down from the province that limits their abilities. The new unit will allow us to meet the WorkSafe BC requirements and support our members on emergency scenes. We easily saved \$100,000 on this unit.



Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue Roster



■ Career ■ POC Officers ■ POC Firefighters ■ POC FIT ■ Recruit FF

Prevention

FireSmart

Because of a very successful Fall Fair last month SSIFR performed 27 Home FireSmart assessments.

Fire and Life Safety Education

Fire and Life Safety Education had a very busy month as well. During NFPA Fire Safety Week, we went to 4 elementary school and saw every grade in the schools. The topic for the week was Lithium-ion batteries and the safety issues they can have.

There was also an Open house held at Hall 1 where we had a great turn out from the public.



Training

601.50 total training hours for the month. Regular members spent an evening with Emergency Support Services as well as John Wakefield, our Emergency Program Coordinator gaining a better understanding how all agencies can work together more effectively. Other topics were, First Responder, Fire Control, Rapid Assessments, and Rehab.

The 2025 recruit class worked on Assisting Special Rescue Teams, Fire Cause & Origin, Fire & Life Safety Initiatives, and Fire Detection/Suppression/Smoke Control Systems.

Currently still have a few members working on Fire Officer 1, and Fire Officer 2.



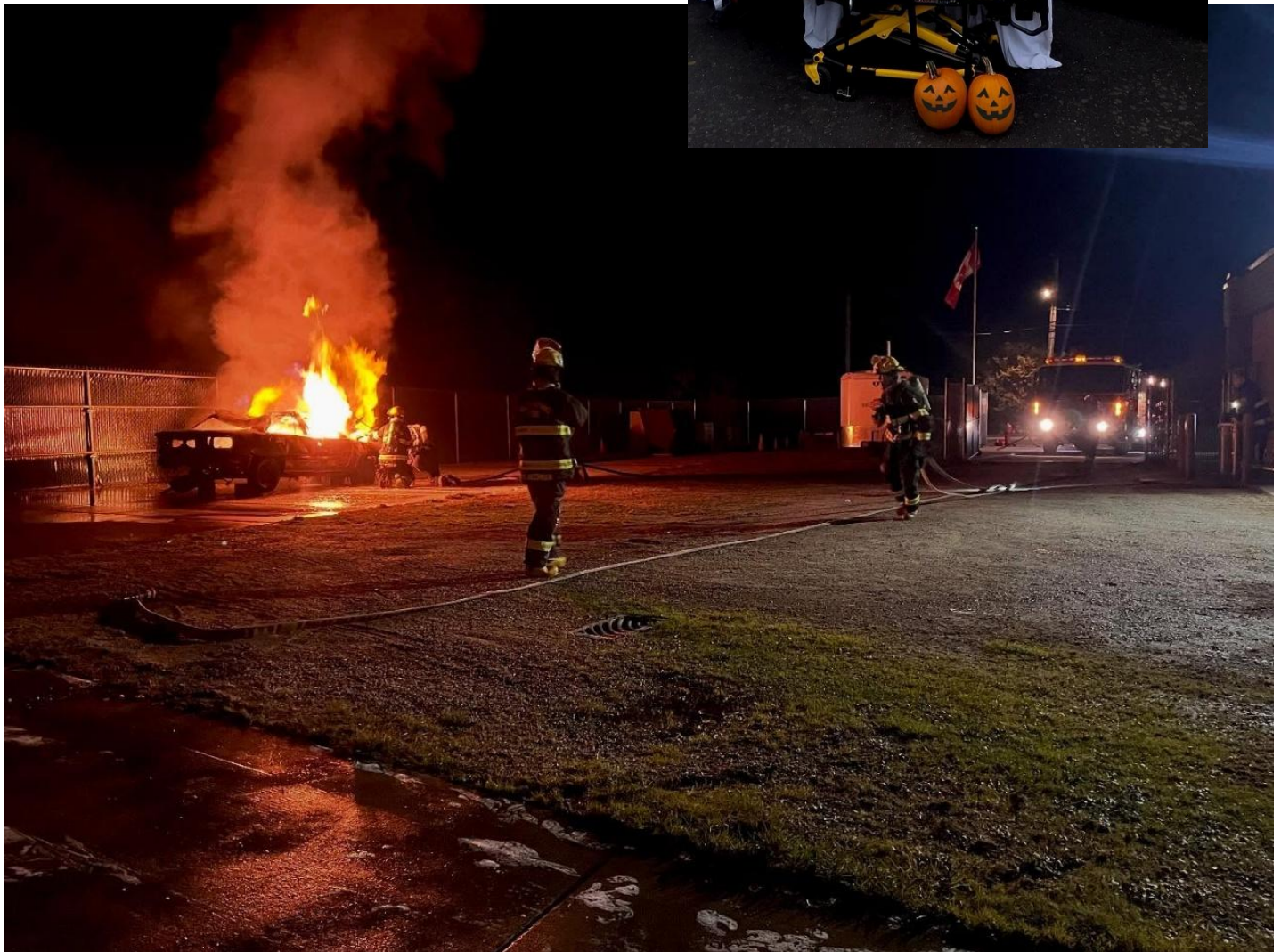
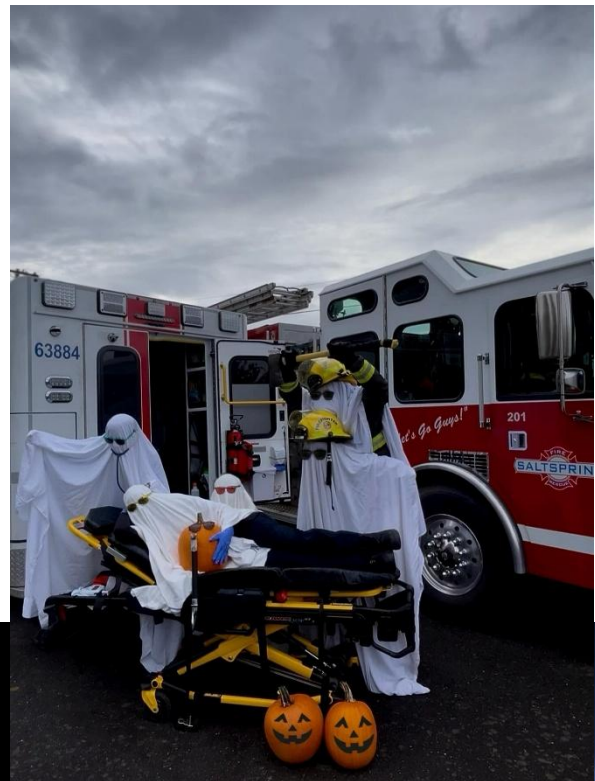
2026 Recruit Drive

We have received 18 applicants for the 2026 recruit drive. Ideally, we will bring 12 persons on for the recruit class training. Physicals/Interviews will take place during November with a January start date.

Respectfully submitted,

JL HBL

Jamie Holmes, Fire Chief



November 2025 Association Report

Dear SSIFPD Trustees,

Our main event in October is our annual Hallowe'en Fireworks and Feast. This event is the culmination of days of training to get our fireworks licenses, preparation, organization of different groups, and fundraising throughout the year. We would like to acknowledge the generous donations of food and refreshments from Thrifty's and the financial contribution of the SSIFPD in order to make this event a success.

We also started imagining what form the "Feast" part of this event will take with the Hall 1 move out of Ganges.

Our calendar is finished and off to the printing presses. We are trying a slightly different individual sales approach this year to reduce the time load on our small Fundraising committee.

Last but not least, our member and executive committees are hard at work preparing the Christmas Party, 2025 year in review, and our intentions for 2026.

As always, I would like to thank the Trustees and our SSIFR members for their continued support of the SSIFFA.

Thanks,

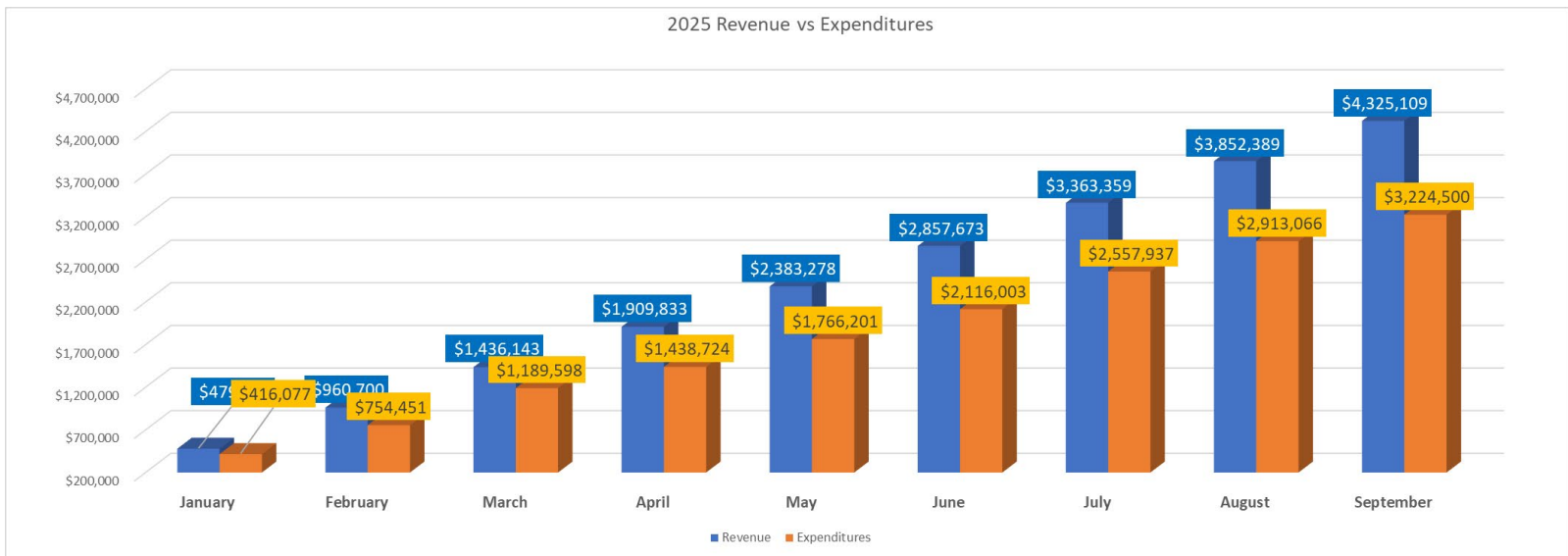
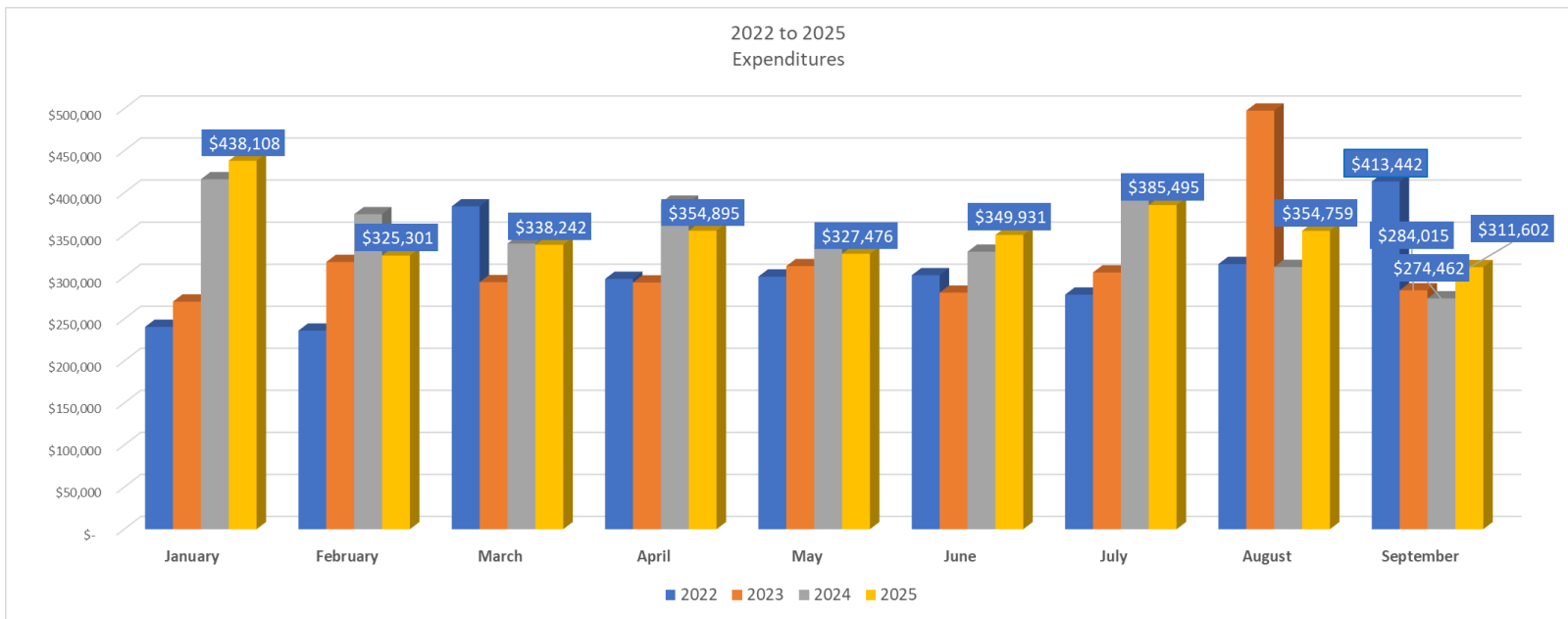
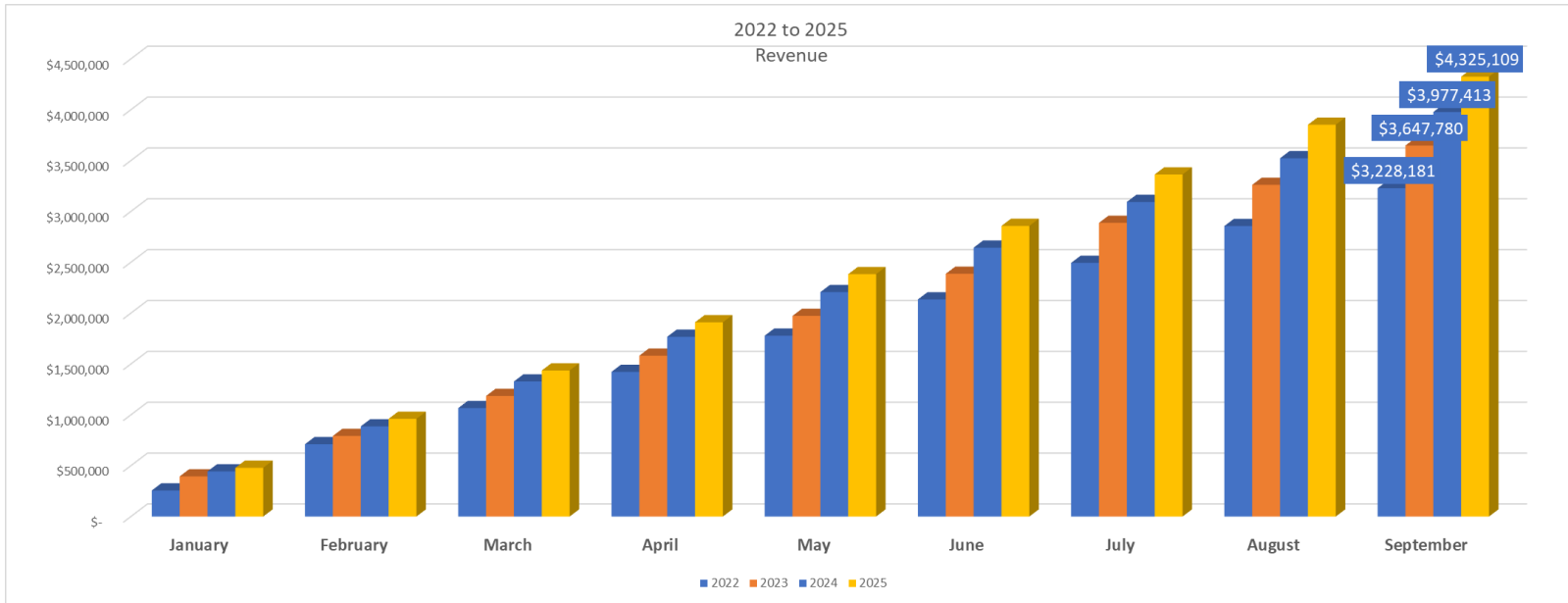
David Demner
SSIFFA President

Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
Financial Results (unaudited)
September 30 , 2025

New Line #		2024 Approved Actuals	2025 Approved Actuals	2025 Approved Budget
1		Consolidated	Consolidated	Consolidated
2	Income			
3	Interest General	\$ 57,876	\$ 56,214	\$ 6,750
4	Interest CWRRF	\$ 52,947	\$ 30,767	\$ -
5	Miscellaneous Income	\$ 10,090	\$ 46,988	\$ 55,000
6	Tax Revenue - LTD Interest	\$ -		\$ -
7	Tax Revenue- LTD Retirement	\$ -		\$ -
8	Tax Revenue	\$ 3,856,500	\$ 4,191,140	\$ 5,588,184
9	Total Income	\$ 3,977,413	\$ 4,325,109	\$ 5,649,934
10				
11	Administration Expenses			
12	Administration Trustee Meetings - Transcription		\$ -	\$ -
13	Advertising	\$ 2,934	\$ 8,671	\$ 3,500
14	Advertising - Elections, AGM, Board Meetings and Announcements	\$ 35,081	\$ 5,496	\$ 30,000
15	Annual Appreciation Dinner	\$ 7,809	\$ 8,164	\$ 8,000
16	Audit & Related Fees	\$ 17,000	\$ 19,561	\$ 15,300
17	Bank Charges/Credit Card Fees/Telpay Fees/Finance Charges	\$ 1,567	\$ 2,379	\$ 1,750
18	Communications - Phone	\$ 12,952	\$ 12,751	\$ 20,000
19	Communications & Miscellaneous	\$ -		\$ 7,200
20	Community Relations	\$ 1,883	\$ 3,351	\$ 1,500
21	Conferences	\$ 4,359	\$ 3,455	\$ 5,000
22	Consulting Fees	\$ 3,224	\$ 3,997	\$ 25,500
23	Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 797	\$ 1,841	\$ 5,100
24	Fireworks	\$ 382	\$ 790	\$ 5,000
25	Freight/Postage	\$ 3,220	\$ 2,796	\$ 4,500
26	Insurance	\$ 39,127	\$ 41,569	\$ 54,000
27	Labour Relations	\$ 17,397	\$ 14,246	\$ 24,000
28	Legal	\$ 10,662	\$ 5,555	\$ 15,300
29	Licenses, leases & Rentals	\$ 11,252	\$ 11,456	\$ 18,000
30	New Fire Hall Planning & Public Engagement	\$ -		\$ -
31	New Fire Hall Referendum	\$ -		\$ -
32	Office Supplies & Equipment	\$ 6,808	\$ 7,674	\$ 15,500
33	Professional Development - Excluded Staff			\$ 2,000
34	Technical Support	\$ -		\$ -
35	Total Administration Expenses	\$ 176,453	\$ 153,751	\$ 261,150
36				
37				
38	Amortization	\$ 153,750	\$ 168,750	\$ 225,000
39				
40	Clothing - Career	\$ 3,920	\$ 10,371	\$ 17,000
41	Clothing - Paid on Call	\$ 12,484	\$ 2,797	\$ 15,450
42	Clothing - Protective	\$ 3,182	\$ 10,088	\$ 60,000
43	Computer, Hardware, Software & Supplies	\$ 19,404	\$ 13,439	\$ 15,450
44	Employee/ POC Recognition	\$ 204	\$ 1,898	\$ 10,300
45	Equipment - Repair & Maintenance	\$ 2,980	\$ 4,508	\$ 11,000
46	Equipment Purchase - Small Tools	\$ 6,718	\$ 2,167	\$ 11,000
47	Fire Department Record System	\$ 3,743		\$ 4,000
48	Fire Prevention & Public Education	\$ 3,857	\$ 7,852	\$ 15,500
49	Fire Station Repair & Maintenance	\$ 11,070	\$ 24,875	\$ 69,000
50	Fire Station Utilities	\$ 23,796	\$ 26,286	\$ 39,500
51	First Responder	\$ 11,322	\$ 12,676	\$ 16,000
52	Foam	\$ 7,043		\$ 3,750
53	Health & Wellness	\$ 3,092	\$ 2,693	\$ 5,665
54	Hydrant Install/Repair	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 9,270
55	Landscaping	\$ 5,970	\$ 4,212	\$ 7,800
56	Miscellaneous			\$ 9,000
57	Paid-on-call recruitment & Retention	\$ 385	\$ 67	\$ 5,000
58	Radio Equipment Repair & Supplies	\$ 753	\$ 28	\$ 2,500
59	Self Contained Breathing Apparatus	\$ 12,527	\$ 23,014	\$ 10,300
60	Supplies & Sundries	\$ 3,737	\$ 6,742	\$ 10,300
61	Training - Paid-on-call & Career	\$ 59,869	\$ 75,951	\$ 77,500
62	Vehicle Operating	\$ 60,603	\$ 82,240	\$ 103,500
63	Total Operating Expenses	\$ 306,660	\$ 361,903	\$ 528,785
+				
65	Interest - LTD & Lease (SCBA)	\$ 12,846	\$ -	\$ -

Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
Financial Results (unaudited)
September 30 , 2025

New Line #		2024 Approved Actuals	2025 Approved Actuals	2025 Approved Budget
1		Consolidated	Consolidated	Consolidated
66				
67	Wage & Related Expenses			
68	Career/Excluded/Casual Staff Wages & Salaries	\$ 1,876,340	\$ 1,892,258	\$ 2,539,873
69	Paid-on-call Members Wages	\$ 201,259	\$ 200,550	\$ 278,500
70	Total Wages	\$ 2,077,600	\$ 2,092,808	\$ 2,818,373
71	Statutory & Group Benefits			
72	Employee Allowances			\$ 1,750
73	Employee Group Health, Dental Plans & LTD	\$ 101,404	\$ 94,729	\$ 152,530
74	Employer CPP Expense	\$ 64,368	\$ 73,073	\$ 72,775
75	Employer EI Expense	\$ 24,941	\$ 27,707	\$ 28,553
76	Employer Health Tax	\$ 43,853	\$ 44,394	\$ 58,114
77	Employer Registered Pension Plan & Supp. Pension Benefit	\$ 236,015	\$ 219,396	\$ 332,022
78	Fire Fighter Employee Assistance Plan	\$ 2,389	\$ 3,947	\$ 51,000
79	Group Life, AD&D & WCB	\$ 89,533	\$ 90,139	\$ 96,756
80	HUB Health Benefits (POC members)	\$ 41,143	\$ 45,325	\$ 92,000
81	Matching RRSP	\$ 21,133	\$ 17,314	\$ 15,000
82	Total Statutory & Group Benefits	\$ 624,780	\$ 616,023	\$ 900,500
83	Total Wages & Benefits	\$ 2,702,380	\$ 2,708,832	\$ 3,718,873
84				
85	Extraordinary Expense/ Contingency Reserve	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,000
86				
87	Total Expenses	\$ 3,352,089	\$ 3,393,236	\$ 4,790,808
88	Surplus Before Capital Expenses	\$ 625,325	\$ 931,873	\$ 859,125
89				
90	Capital Account			
91	Budget Capital Expenses Funded by Operating Fund (SCBA Lease)			\$ -
92	Budget Capital Expenses Funded by Operating Fund (Small Capital)			-\$ 30,000
93	Budget Capital Expenses Funded by Operating Funds (Water Supply)			-\$ 50,000
94	Budget Capital Expenses Funded by Reserves (Apparatus)		\$ -	-\$ 50,000
95	Budget Capital Expenses Funded by Reserves (Small Capital)		\$ -	\$ -
96	Transfer to General Capital Purposes Reserve Fund (Apparatus)		\$ -	\$ -
97	Transfer to General Capital Purposes Reserve Fund (New Fire Hall Reserve)			-\$ 340,000
98	Transfer to General Capital Purposes Reserve Fund (Unspecified)		\$ -	-\$ 564,125
99	Transfer to General Capital Purposes Reserve Fund (Halls 2 & 3 Remediation)			\$ -
100	Transfer to General Capital Purposes Reserve Fund (SCBA)		\$ -	-\$ 50,000
101	Transfer to General Capital Purposes Reserve Fund (Digital Pagers)		\$ -	\$ -
102	Transfer to Operating Fund from General Capital Purposes (Soft Costs New Fire Hall)		\$ -	\$ -
103	Transfer to Operating Fund from General Capital Purposes (2019 Digital Pagers)		\$ -	\$ -
104	Transfer to Operating Fund from Payroll Reserve Fund		\$ -	\$ -
105	Total Capital Expenses & Transfers to/from Reserve Funds	\$ -	\$ -	-\$ 1,084,125
106				
107	Principal Payments - LTD & Lease (SCBA)	-\$ 58,889	\$ -	\$ -
108				
109	Surplus After Capital Expenses & Principal Payments LTD	\$ 566,436	\$ 931,873	-\$ 225,000
110	Non Cash Expense (Amortization)	\$ 153,750	\$ 168,750	\$ 225,000
111	Change in Working Capital (Current Assets - Current Liabilities)	\$ 720,186	\$ 1,100,623	\$ 0



LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Trustees wave off LCC desire for OCP input

No amendments proposed 'at this time,' says Patrick

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Despite social media posts warning of "last chances" to weigh in on Salt Spring's Official Community Plan (OCP) review — and notwithstanding local advocacy groups' campaigns to engage their memberships — Islands Trust officials are insisting the process is still in its infancy, telling the Local Community Commission (LCC) it was in fact too early for their input.

"There's a lot out there on the island right now," said Salt Spring trustee Laura Patrick Thursday, Oct. 23, addressing a joint meeting between the island's land use authority, the Local Trust Committee (LTC), and its Capital Regional District (CRD) service authority, the LCC.

"But despite what everyone is

saying," she continued, "we have no proposals to amend the OCP in front of the LTC at this time."

Letters and essays penned by islanders about potential OCP amendment plans have gone online and into print in recent weeks; island advocacy group Transition Salt Spring (TSS), in support of the Common Ground Consensus (CGC) for the Future document produced earlier this year, launched a campaign urging supporters to send emails to the LTC and take its online OCP survey — offering pre-written responses in support of the CGC to be cut-and-pasted or reworded.

Other groups have reached out similarly to their members, pushing them to submit comments — and complete the survey — before Friday, Oct. 24, when the first of three public engagement periods on the OCP review project ended.

But Patrick on Thursday reiterated the Trust's position that the date marks "a milestone, not an endpoint," saying trustees themselves were now simply waiting for rec-

ommendations from Islands Trust staff and the OCP project team for next steps — and that there were no OCP changes on the table to be for or against.

"We're very happy that we have several island organizations that are lobbying on different things; it's great to have them involved," said Patrick. "But we're obligated to make sure we're hearing from a very broad representation on the island, and I think this first stage is really — I like the words that Chris [Hutton, regional planning manager] used — a 'temperature check.'"

The OCP has a detailed vision, she said, and the goal was to discover if it was "still relevant" to islanders.

"Is that what we're hearing, is that what everyone believes?" said Patrick. "We're going to hear back from the consultant; if they find that there's a difference of opinion, they're going to tell us that — and there would be more engagement on that topic if they recommend it."

Lasqueti Island trustee and Salt Spring LTC chair Tim Peterson agreed.

"We're still in that 'gathering information' stage," he said, and told LCC members Thursday he thought commissioners might be better served holding off on their own comments.

"A little further down the road, when we're actually looking at some policies and there's a little bit more meat to dig into," said Peterson. "That's probably a more useful time to have those discussions."

But LCC member Brian Webster worried the commission was in danger of being overlooked — or being too late — during OCP planning.

"We also have a role in influencing how land use patterns develop, through decisions we make around a service like transit," said Webster. "I'm a little concerned that the 'wait, wait, wait' could come to a point where we end up responding to a done-deal proposal, without ever having a visionary-level discussion from our perspective."

Patrick assured Webster that the LCC "have the same information" as the LTC so far.

"We're waiting for the 'what

we've heard' report to come back, and that report will be shared with you just as it's shared with us," said Patrick. "We are not having discussions about what we want this vision to look like as an elected body."

Salt Spring CRD director and commission member Gary Holman echoed Webster's concerns, saying that including the LCC's input was "not just a technical matter."

"These are fundamental policy decisions, where elected officials need to be involved," said Holman. "[The LCC] wants direct involvement as elected officials representing that broad public interest."

"I am asking for a bit of faith and patience," said Patrick. "It's just the way the process is; you will be part of it."

Two more community engagement phases are planned next year: after some core OCP elements are drafted between now and March, and another likely in May after the OCP is formally introduced at an LTC meeting, along with its enabling land use bylaw amendments.

FIRE SAFETY

Fire chief says lithium-ion battery fires preventable

Safe disposal and using only CSA-approved equipment essential

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's fire chief says an early-morning Fulford fire last month might have been prevented, and that islanders can improve their own safety through better practices storing and charging small lithium-ion batteries.

In a report to fire district trustees Monday, Oct. 20, Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue Chief Jamie Holmes said firefighters responding to

the Sept. 9 blaze — and the homeowners — were fortunate, in that both a neighbour and a firefighter who lived nearby were able to get some water into the house through an exterior window, dousing most of the flames before they spread.

Working smoke alarms had already successfully warned the residents, he said, who were able to exit the building with their pets and call 911.

But after fire crews cleared the heavy smoke from the building, they discovered the fire began at a lithium battery and quickly spread to cardboard and paper stored nearby.

"An electric scooter bike was charging, through multiple chargers and a few octopuses and other extension cords," said Holmes.

"The lithium-ion battery itself had taken off, caught the scooter on fire, which then caught the recycling on fire and started to spread throughout the lower floor of the house."

Holmes said the number of battery fires across B.C. and Canada has been growing, almost entirely due to improper charging, care or disposal methods.

"We're seeing huge spikes in these fires as the batteries become commonplace in our everyday lives," said Holmes.

He said it is critical to use the correct charger for each battery, to ensure the charging units are CSA approved and to avoid replacing any electrical components with "knock-off" parts. Equally important is disposal, he added, as the batteries become increasingly

unstable with age.

"A lot of times you'll have old cell phones sitting in a drawer, and they rattle around and bang on each other — and as the batteries deteriorate, they can combust," he said. "Or your cordless power tools that end up sitting in the garage getting older and older; and a lot of times they just stay plugged in, even though they're not really holding a charge anymore. It's important to dispose of them in a safe manner."

"Between disposing of them safely when they're at end-of-life, and only using CSA-approved batteries and chargers," said Holmes, "following just those two things you will probably get rid of the high 90-percentile of fires that we're seeing."

Donations needed to fund project

CLINIC

continued from 1

"Expanding primary care isn't just about improving the health system, it's about supporting our neighbours, friends and families in real and tangible ways," said Jacobsen. "Our goal is simple: the right care, available when people need it most. This expansion is the single most powerful step we can take toward that commitment."

Organizers said funding from both the Salt Spring Island Foundation and the LMHF has secured the funds to hire an executive director to lead the next phase of development in the coming year. ICCS said it had also invested in business planning and model-of-care design, drawing on successful examples from other communities — including Whistler 360 — and adapting them to Salt Spring Island's unique needs.

A rezoning application for affordable housing at the Kings Lane property awaits third reading from Salt Spring's Local Trust Committee, and if advanced would also lift current restrictions to expand the number of practitioners allowed.

Funding for 11 full-time-equivalent primary healthcare positions has been earmarked by the provincial government for Salt Spring Island through the primary care network of the South Island Division of Family Practice.



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

Current Salt Spring Health Clinic on Kings Lane, which the new Island Community Clinic Society and Lady Minto Hospital Foundation aim to see expanded to accommodate more primary healthcare providers.

The LMHF Primary Care Fund has raised \$600,000 so far to advance the \$3.5-million expansion, according to the foundation. For information on how to contribute, visit ladymintofoundation.com/projects/primarycare.

Capital Regional District

CRD

Notice of Volunteer Opportunity

Solid Waste Advisory Committee

The Capital Regional District (CRD) is seeking members from the community to serve on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. This committee monitors the implementation of the CRD's Solid Waste Management Plan. Participation is voluntary and members will be asked to commit to meeting quarterly for up to three years.

There are vacancies for members representing the following communities:

- ▶ Owner/Operator or Private Waste Management Facility (1)
- ▶ Public Representatives, At Large (2)
- ▶ First Nations (2)
- ▶ District of Highlands (1)
- ▶ Willis Point (1)

We invite you to send us a brief summary telling us about yourself, who you represent, your relevant experience and why you would like to serve on this committee. **Deadline for receipt of applications is Thursday, November 20, 2025.**

For a copy of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee Terms of Reference, contact CRD Environmental Resource Management at the address below.

Mail: CRD Environmental Resource Management
625 Fisgard Street, Victoria BC, V8W 2S6

Email: infoline@crd.bc.ca

COMMUNITY TRADITIONS

'Really big' show promised

Major sendoff planned
for final Halloween
fireworks event at
Ganges fire hall

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Back in 1968, an after-dusk chorus of sirens from Ganges' fire hall was the signal for islanders that Salt Spring's first firefighter-run Halloween fireworks display was about to start.

It was an admittedly last-minute affair, according to contemporary reports in the Driftwood, making that year's large turnout of "youngsters" all the more remarkable. By the next year, local fire crews decided to serve up hot dogs after the show ended, keeping the festive spirit alive a little later.

The rest, as they say, is history; and now, after 57 years, the traditional event will be held at the original Fire Hall No.1 for what is likely the final time as firefighters plan to move into their new hall by next year. It's a moment coloured with more than a little nostalgia, particularly for the Salt Spring Island Fire Fighters' Association (SSIFFA), who in partnership with the fire protection district have brought islanders this well-loved community event with care — and in tremendous safety — for decades.

It's also a great excuse to make it the biggest show yet, according to SSIFFA president David Demner.

"I guess this year feels a little bit different," said Demner, "so we're looking at having a bit of a sendoff. We have around 200

fireworks we're shooting off, and some of those cakes have like 100 shots inside them. It should be really big."

It may seem a simple enough task to set off fireworks from the Harbour Authority's Breakwater Dock, but it's a well-organized and highly certified group of professionals running the show. Active-duty firefighters get training through the federal government's Explosives Regulatory Division, first becoming certified as fireworks display assistants and then as supervisors.

"We need a certain setback where there's nothing flammable. The dock is really the only place on Salt Spring where we can do it."

DAVID DEMNER
President, Salt Spring Island
Fire Fighters' Association

"Then we're coordinating with the Harbour Authority and the Coast Guard," said Demner. "RCMSAR patrolling, making sure there's no seaplanes at the dock. The nice thing is that we've been doing it for a while — at least 30 years — so we have everything well documented."

The association starts planning early, with a subcommittee specifically meeting to plan for Halloween — from getting permits and insurance to budgeting fireworks purchases funded by firefighters' contributions and a receipt box at Country Grocer.

"Fireworks people don't exactly deliver to Salt Spring," chuckled Demner. "Fortunately, one of our members has a boat."

Long-time attendees might remember displays being staged from the entrance to Centennial Park — and, for that matter, firefighters helping manage bonfires where the Thrifty's parking lot now sits. But attitudes on safety have evolved a bit, Demner said, as have regulations.

"We need a certain setback where there's nothing flammable," said Demner. "The dock is really the only place on Salt Spring where we can do it."

Demner said both the association and the fire district want to send the message that fireworks are best left to professionals — and they believe the better the show is, the fewer people will be reckless with explosives on what is statistically a very dangerous night for injuries. Encouraging both fire safety and personal safety is a big goal for both organizations — and seeing how much the community enjoys the show is a bonus.

"We love being a part of everyone having fun in all their Halloween costumes," said Demner. "You know, because I'm so focused on the fireworks, I get to enjoy it mostly after, when we're giving out the hot dogs and hot chocolates."

Demner said the best way islanders could help out is to just come and join the event — the more the merrier.

"Show up and be happy," he said. "Bring your kids in their costumes. It really makes it all worthwhile."

The 2025 Halloween fireworks display is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m.

FINANCES

National expert on family wealth transfer to speak at ArtSpring

Tom Deans in free Salt Spring Island Foundation-hosted presentation with partners

SUBMITTED BY SSI FOUNDATION

Next week, the Salt Spring Island Foundation will present bestselling author Tom Deans in the ArtSpring theatre, in partnership with ArtSpring and BMO Nesbitt-Burns.

A celebration of philanthropy's power within community, Deans' talk will be followed by stories from several local charities about their impactful community work undertaken with the support of Salt Spring Island Foundation funding.

The event is on Friday, Nov. 7 from 3 to 6 p.m. Free tickets must be reserved through ArtSpring, either in person or through their website.

Deans is one of Canada's preeminent thought leaders on inter-generational wealth transfers. He has published three books on the topic, including Every Family's Business, Willing Wisdom, and The Happy Inheritor, as well as delivered over 2,000 speeches globally in his engaging storytelling style. Every Family's Business is the bestselling family business book of all time, having sold over a million copies across 100 countries.

Deans will share perspectives on the family wealth transfer movement and how to better understand your family's generational wealth. Now a leading topic in personal finance, Canada is currently navigating the greatest wealth transfer in history, with baby boomers expected to pass on \$1 trillion in assets by 2026.

Deans will shed light on why 15 million Canadians do not yet have a legal will, how to start your family wealth transfer conversation and how families are inspired to navigate the \$300-million inherited in Canada daily with charity and grace.



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DEANS

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ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

EVENTS

Full calendar at ArtSpring



PHOTO COURTESY ARTSPRING

Members of 88 Strings, from left, Joy Yeh, John Oliver, Dailin Hsieh and Ali Ramzi, who perform at ArtSpring on Tuesday, Nov. 4.

Dance, concert and exhibit on tap

SUBMITTED BY ARTSPRING

It's a busy time of year at ArtSpring! We are hurtling into November with a packed schedule that includes a raucous Halloween Community Dance, a concert by an international and multi-genre string quartet and a deeply moving gallery exhibition that shines a spotlight on veterans with local ties. As the winter rains begin to pour, we invite our community to join us as we fill these longer nights with art, music and connection.

Halloween Dance

Saturday, Nov. 1, 6 to 9 p.m.

Why wear your costume for only one night? On Nov. 1, ArtSpring is the place to go to keep the holiday spirit(s) alive. StageCoach Theatre School, Salt Spring Arts Council and ArtSpring's Roundtable Committee are thrilled to be hosting a Halloween Community Dance guaranteed to keep the spooky times rolling.

The music kicks off with Sheldar the Electric Clamfish warming up the crowd with eclectic art-folk tunes that emanate "deep-sea folk punk energy." Then, eight-piece rock powerhouse Local Motion

takes over to belt out blues and rock n' roll essentials from legendary bands like Led Zeppelin, Janis Joplin, and Aretha Franklin — plus a few Halloween hits — and dance us into the night.

Come ready for a night of Halloween hijinks, including a costume contest, trick-or-treats for the kids and a creepy craft table led by the Salt Spring Arts Council's Crafting Connections initiative. The GISS Renaissance Studies class will also be on hand, keeping partygoers fed at the concession counter. Entrance is by donation.

88 Strings: Crossover

Tuesday, Nov. 4, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

In 88 Strings: Crossover, Canadian quartet 88 Strings creates an intercultural fusion of sound. Pulling together traditional Chinese, Persian and Western plucked instruments, the group takes audiences on musical adventures that transcend geography and genre, seamlessly pairing classical and world music to immerse audiences in what has been called "plucked string heaven."

The quartet consists of Chinese-Canadian musician Joy Yeh on the harp, Chinese-Canadian musician Dailin Hsieh on the guzheng, Canadian musician John Oliver on guitar and Iranian-Canadian musi-

cian Ali Ramzi on the tar and setar. Formed as an initiative of the Vancouver Inter-cultural Orchestra, 88 Strings has an eclectic repertoire that includes new music by Canadian composers, unique arrangements of traditional songs from Asian and Persian heritage and special arrangements of classical music from around the world.

88 Strings: Crossover is part of the ArtSpring Presents series.

What These Eyes Have Seen: Witness to War

Wednesday, Nov. 5 through Wednesday, Nov. 12

ArtSpring's Roundtable Committee partners with local filmmaker and photographer Alan Bibby to present *What These Eyes Have Seen – Witness to War*, a powerful display that spotlights veterans with strong ties to Salt Spring. With this exhibition, Bibby offers a chance to reflect on the weight of witnessing conflict and the price veterans continue to pay even a lifetime after the last shot has been fired.

This is a follow-up to last year's exhibition, in which Bibby curated large colour portraits of veterans that he took over the course of 14 Remembrance Days on Salt Spring Island. This year's collection features new portraits, rare archival family photographs and a compelling collection of historic artifacts and memorabilia contributed by local families and community members.

The exhibition officially launches on Thursday, Nov. 6 at 6 p.m. with an evening of storytelling and connection. Veterans and their families are especially invited to share memories and reflections.

Lastly, on Nov. 9 at 7 p.m., come to the gallery for a special evening of locally produced documentary short films and live music. This unique night of remembrance features performances from Valdy and guest artists to honour our veterans.

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FILM

Phantom visits All Saints

Silent film with organ on Thursday

SUBMITTED BY MUSIC MAKERS

The Phantom of the Opera is a 1925 American silent horror film adaptation of Gaston Leroux's 1910 novel of the same name directed by Rupert Julian and starring Lon Chaney in the title role of the deformed Phantom who haunts the Paris Opera House, causing murder and mayhem in an attempt to make the woman he loves a star.

The film remains most famous for Chaney's ghastly, self-devised make-up, which was kept a studio secret until the film's premiere.

Salt Springers are fortunate to

have engaged acclaimed organist Ed Norman again, this time to provide improvised accompaniment on the magnificent four-manual Rogers organ at All Saints by-the-Sea on Thursday, Oct. 30 at 7:30 p.m.

Norman and his wife Susan now live on Galiano Island. He continues to perform on and off the island, regularly playing the historic Wurlitzer pipe organ at Vancouver's Orpheum theatre for the Monday Night Silent Movie series. Norman has been playing the Orpheum Wurlitzer for over 40 years, usually accompanying the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and Bach choirs.

Admission is \$25 (cash only) with doors opening at 7 p.m.



SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT Notice of a Special General Meeting

Public Notice is hereby given to the owners of land within the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District that a Special General Meeting will be held on **Monday, November 17, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.** at the Ganges Fire Hall, 105 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC and virtually through Microsoft Teams (the link will be available on the website). The purpose of the meeting will be a Trustee acclamation for the balance of a 3-year term that will commence at the end of the Special General Meeting and will terminate at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held in the year 2028.

NOMINEE ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION AS TRUSTEE: Ronald Lindstrom

As the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District only received one nomination, Ronald Lindstrom is elected as Trustee by acclamation. Please join us in welcoming Ronald Lindstrom to the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District Board of Trustees.

Rodney Dieleman

Corporate Administrator

Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District

Email: rdieleman@saltspringfire.com | Phone: 250-537-2531

VOX

A Contemporary Fine Art Photography Exhibition

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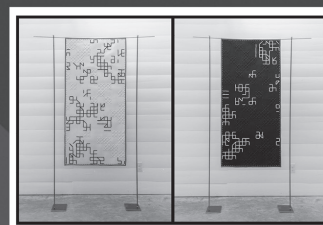


PHOTO BY KATHY BROWN

SSNAP

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Anna Gustafson

What George Said...
Salt Spring Prize:
The Joan McConnell Award



Jeannette Sirois

On the Table: Lorraine
The Matt Steffich
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Thank you to all artists, sponsors, volunteers, and visitors for making this extraordinary celebration of Canadian contemporary art possible.

View all the award winning works online.

SSNAP

PAS

Trustees Agenda Package

Page 25 of 32

**Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD)
Staff Report**

Date: **November 12, 2025**
 Subject: **New Fire Hall Project Status Update for October 31, 2025**
 To: **Board of Trustees**
 From: **Rodney Dieleman, CAO**

Issue: New Fire Hall Project Status Update for October 31, 2025

The Project Steering Committee continues to oversee project development, ensuring consultants adhere to established specifications, budget limitations, and community expectations. Regular updates are provided to the Board of Trustees and shared on the Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue website to maintain transparency. The project remains on track within its approved funding of \$13.7 million.

Project Budget & Expenditures:

As of October 31, 2025, a total of \$7,605,188 has been allocated to design, engineering, and construction. This month's expenses include related steel/wood and wood framing, roof and wall sheeting and roof truss installation and cement floors poured. Plumbing and electrical work has begun. Further details on progress and expenditures can be found in the Owner's Representative Report below.

**Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
New Fire Hall at 455 Lower Ganges Road**

Description	Project Charter Budget	Budget at October 31	Actuals to October 31, 2025
Construction Costs	\$ 8,075,200	\$ 11,174,800	\$ 6,709,525
2021 cost escalation estimate	\$ 1,532,900	included	included
Permits	\$ 100,000	included	included
Insurance	\$ 100,000	included	included
Construction Contingency	\$ 1,391,900	Included	included
	\$ 11,200,000	\$ 11,174,800	\$ 6,709,525
Architect	\$ 858,000	\$ 837,100	\$ 752,758
Project Manager	\$ 560,000	\$ 194,900	\$ 142,904
Contractor	\$ 672,000	Included	included
Interim Financing	\$ 410,000	\$ 643,200	\$ -
	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 1,675,200	\$ 895,662
Project Costs	\$ 13,700,000	\$ 12,850,000	\$ 7,605,188
Capital Region Community Works Grant	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000
SSIFPD Capital Reserve Funds	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 2,234,600	\$ 1,453,478
CIBC interim loan	\$ 9,700,000	\$ 9,615,400	\$ 5,151,709
	\$ 13,700,000	\$ 12,850,000	\$ 7,605,187

Owner's Representative Progress Report

Construction Progress Report

Construction Progress:

The new fire hall project continues to advance on schedule and within budget. Key accomplishments to date include:

- **Roofing:** The flat roof membrane and drain slope package have been installed.
- **Mechanical System:**
 - Installation of plumbing and drainage pipes continues.
 - Installation of duct system for heating and ventilation is ongoing.
 - Fire-Suppression System is being installed.
- **Electrical Work:**
 - Rough wiring of the building has started.
- **Cladding:**
 - The installation of exterior insulation, siding and soffits is progressing.
- **Windows:**
 - Windows are being installed.
- **Civil Work:**
 - Waterlines to the building have been sanitized and pressure tested and passed all test.
- **Infrastructure:**
 - BC Hydro design drawings have not yet been received.

Forecast:

The following activities are scheduled for the upcoming period:

- Building insulation continues.
- Window and door installation continues.
- Continuing of plumbing and mechanical rough-ins.
- Fire suppression system.
- Electrical work.
- Installation of windows, soffits and siding.

Safety and Security:

No safety or security concerns have been reported this month. Site protocols continue to be followed diligently.

Conclusion

The project remains on schedule and within the approved budget. Progress on mechanical, and electrical systems continues steadily, with upcoming milestones focused on weatherproofing and utilities.

Project Overview

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION/PICTURES



Roofing Being Installed on South Deck



Upper Roof with Equipment Curbs



Soffits Being Installed



Plumbing and Mechanical Being Installed



Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District Notice of Election by Acclamation of One (1) Trustee

Notice is hereby given to the owners of land within the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District that nominated candidate:

Ronald Lindstrom

Stand elected to the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District Board of Trustees by acclamation for a three (3) year term of office to commence at the end of the Special General Meeting which will be held on November 17, 2025 and terminate at the end of the Annual General meeting to be held in the year 2028.

Dated October 20, 2025

Anthony A. Kennedy
295 Mountain Park Drive
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1G3
Home phone: 250-537-8815 Cell Phone: 1-647-284-2900



**Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
Board of Trustees
2026 Regular Meeting Schedule**

January 19, 2026	7:00 p.m.
February 23, 2026	7:00 p.m. (note: this is the fourth Monday of the month as Feb. 16th is Family Day)
March 16, 2026	7:00 p.m.
April 20, 2026	7:00 p.m.
May 25, 2026	7:00 p.m. (note: this is the fourth Monday of the month as May 18th is Victoria Day)
June 15, 2026	7:00 p.m.
July 20, 2026	7:00 p.m.
August 17, 2026	7:00 p.m.
September 21, 2026	7:00 p.m.
October 19, 2026	7:00 p.m.
November 16, 2026	7:00 p.m.
December 14, 2026	7:00 p.m. (note: this is the second Monday of the month)



Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District 2026 Committee Regular Meeting Schedule

Strategic Planning and Policy Development Committee

Held on the first Tuesday of each month at 9:00 am to 10:30 am

January 6, 2026
February 3, 2026
March 3, 2026
April 7, 2026
May 5, 2026
June 2, 2026
July 7, 2026
August 4, 2026
September 1, 2026
October 6, 2026
November 3, 2026
December 1, 2026

Communications and Marketing Committee

Held on quarterly on the first Tuesday of the month or at the Call of the Chair
11:00 am to 12:30 pm

January 6, 2026
May 5, 2026
September 1, 2026
December 1, 2026

New Fire Hall Project Steering Committee

Held on the second Tuesday of each month at 9:00am to 10:30 am

January 13, 2026
February 10, 2026
March 10, 2026
April 14, 2026
May 12, 2026
June 9, 2026
July 14, 2026

Finance & Audit Committee

Held on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. between to April to September for budget preparations

April 14, 2026
May 12, 2026
June 9, 2026
July 14, 2026
August 11, 2026
September 8, 2026