

Agenda
Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
Board of Trustees
Town Hall Meeting

Meeting will be held as follows:

Date: September 14, 2026

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Fire Hall No. 1

455 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island and Electronic Meeting (Microsoft TEAMS)

We would like to begin this town hall by humbly acknowledging that we live and work in the unceded territories of the Coast Salish Peoples.

- 1. WELCOME – CHAIR COOK**
- 2. COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE ANNUAL WORK PLAN**
- 3. DRAFT 5-YEAR (2026-2031) STRATEGIC PLAN**
- 4. DRAFT 2027 BUDGET**
- 5. NEW FIRE HALL PROJECT REVIEW**
- 6. COMMENTS & QUESTIONS**



Community Relations Committee

2026–2027 Draft Annual Plan

Clear public communication, stronger community partnerships and improved access to District information.



2026

2027

COMMUNICATE
CONNECT
ENGAGE



Five priorities make the plan visible

5
practical
commitments
across the year

PRIORITY		PUBLIC VALUE	WHEN
01	2027 tax notice insert	Services, capabilities, budget and strategic priorities	Winter 2026–27
02	Community partner meeting	Shared community issues and better coordination at the new Fire Hall	Fall 2026
03	Public recruitment	Clear opportunities and expectations for public service as a Trustee or Committee Member.	As required
04	Public communications	Advice on major advertisements, notices and web content	Ongoing
05	Website improvements	Improved access to plans, budgets, financials and public information	2026–27



Community Relations Committee Workplan Delivery Calendar

Spring 2027

Bring partners together

Host the CRD, Islands Trust, School District, RCMP, Chamber and other organizations at the new Fire Hall.

THROUGH 2026–27

Make information easier to find

Improve website navigation and access to strategic, financial and public materials.

WINTER 2026–27

Put key facts in residents' hands

Prepare the 2027 Ministry of Finance property tax insert on services, capacity, budget and priorities.

ONGOING / AS NEEDED

Support timely participation

Advise on major communications and promote committee and trustee opportunities.

The plan combines scheduled milestones with year-round communication support.



What success should feel like to the community

01 Better understanding

Residents better understand District services, the budget and strategic priorities.

02 Improved access

People can find plans, financial documents and public information more quickly.

03 Stronger relationships

Community organizations have clearer connections and better coordination with the District.

04 More public participation

Qualified community members see pathways to contribute through committees and the Board.

2026-2031 DRAFT Strategic Plan

A safer, stronger and more resilient Salt Spring Island

Town Hall Presentation



Vision and Mission Statements



Vision



Mission

Always learning, engaging and adapting to be response ready.

A Draft Strategic Plan to meet Community needs

- 1

Our People & Workplace
- 2

Infrastructure & Capital
- 3

Financial Management
- 4

Emergency Response
- 5

Community Relationships

The plan is reviewed annually so priorities stay aligned with community expectations, operational risk and available resources.

Priority 1: Our People & Workplace

Build capacity, support wellness and prepare for leadership transition.



KEY DIRECTION

Create an Assistant Deputy Chief function focused on Human Resources, Training and Public Education.

- Update policies and operating instructions
- Explore staff housing options
- Formal succession planning for key operational and administrative roles

Retention above 90%

Leadership development

Succession plans complete

Priority 2: Infrastructure & Capital Planning

Make facilities, apparatus and emergency water supply ready for growing risk.

Major focus

Deliver Hall No. 3 planning and be tender-ready in 2029.



- Project business plans, charters and financing options for satellite halls No. 2 and No. 3
- Portable saltwater pump acquisition
- Long-term capital funding strategy: reserves, grants and debt financing

Hall No. 3 milestones on schedule

Capital projects within budget

Apparatus readiness maintained

Priority 3: Prudent Financial Management

Maintain sustainability while showing transparency, accountability and value.



FINANCIAL MODEL

Integrate capital, staffing and debt forecasts so the community can see the long-term picture.

- Maintain reserve contribution targets
- Maximize grants, donations and alternate revenue
- Communicate the capital plan clearly to stakeholders

Alternate revenue opportunities include FireSmart, wildfire deployment, donations, grants and room rentals at the new hall.

Priorities 4 & 5: Response and Community

Prepared operations, stronger partnerships and public trust.



Emergency Prevention & Response

- Fire prevention and life-safety engagement
- Emergency Operations and neighbourhood POD integration
- Change-management strategy for operations and administration



Community Relationships & Governance

- Capital-plan communications strategy
- Community handout on fire-rescue capabilities and property insurance information
- Trustee and committee recruitment pathways

What success looks like

Annual review, measurable outcomes and public accountability.

1

People

Retention, wellness and succession

2

Infrastructure

Hall No. 3 and capital milestones

3

Finance

Reserve targets and grants

4

Response

Training and response-time targets

5

Community

Partnerships and public confidence

Town Hall dialogue

Your feedback helps the SSIFPD Board of Trustees confirm priorities, explain trade-offs and keep the plan aligned with community needs.

Thank you