



## SOUTHERN GULF ISLANDS FORUM

### Meeting Notes from Monday January 10, 2021 – 8:30 – 9:30am

- **8:30 – 8:35: Welcome/acknowledgement** (5mins):
- **8:35– 8:40: Check-in – new attendees** (5mins):
  - Attendees by first name alphabetical order:
    - Adam Olsen, MLA, SAN
    - Dan Rogers, Chair Galiano Local Trustee Committee
    - Gary Holman, SSI CRD Director
    - Jane Wolverton, Galiano Island Trustee
    - Jeannie Dodds, Mayne Island Trustee
    - Laura Patrick, SSI Island Trustee
    - Paul Brent, Saturna Island Trustee
    - Peter Grove, SSI Island Trustee
    - Steve Wright, South Pender Island Trustee
    - Tahira Rockafella, Galiano Island Trustee
    - Staff:
      - Alexa Lewis, MP Elizabeth May
      - Laura Parker, MLA Adam Olsen
  - Guests:
    - none
- **8:40 – 9:15: Discussion** (35mins):
  - **ACTION ITEMS** from last meeting,
    - **Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>, 'Storm response':** [211126 SGI Forum meeting notes, FINAL.docx](#) (PDF was emailed to all on Dec.17th)
      - *“each island to make assessments of issues and infrastructure needed - for Adam to take to MoTI”*
        - Nothing received yet but lots in notes could use
      - *“Adam and Elizabeth to meet in the new year to discuss re: a coordinated approach re: provincial/federal”*
        - We tried to get a meeting in December, but scheduling did not work
          - We are confirming a meeting this week
        - *thereafter form a working group within the Forum - identify 1 rep from each island*
    - **UPDATE:**

- Heard back from Transport Canada (they had to cancel their November presentation) - they are available for our March 14<sup>th</sup>, half-day meeting
  - Marc-Yves Bertin will present
    - (He works as Director General, Marine Policy for Transport Canada, in the Assistant Deputy Minister's Office, in Ottawa)
  - they are planning on having a representative of the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority
    - given their work on a new active vessel traffic management initiative. This initiative will encompass the gamut of vessel traffic management dimensions, including anchorages.
      - they will let us know closer to the date
    - They shared the Transport Minister's August 2021 news release regarding "... the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority will work with partners to design, by March 31, 2022, [a new collaborative system to manage marine vessel traffic and optimize the supply chain flow for \[the Port of Vancouver\] this strategic gateway.](#)"
- **Issues discussed:**
  - **Adam** also wants to bring up Housing again this year
    - Spec tax etc
  - **Roads**
    - Omicron, ferry cancellations, communities impacted
    - Propane run out due to delivery probs
      - Dip on Canal Rd – Ministry finally realizing issues on islands
        - There is no other route around that road
        - National parks owes up from the road so in discussions on what to do
        - Prov – no repairs budgeted but have emergency funds available so now can work on it
          - Tho' have been complaining to Prov for so long
      - Other islands – similar issues
        - Need to maintain roads as cost of repair far exceeds what would cost to build and maintain
          - Adam hears that from many other MLAs as well – he will bring it up again to the government
        - Adam – would like to review surface treatments – there are many other types other than pavement that could be
          - Eg chip-seal is a good alternative...
      - From Gary:
        - *"There is a South VI "Transportation Strategy" from which SGI and SSI are excluded despite CRD Board request to include. Hundreds of millions are being spent on highway development, even just within CRD. We could propose that a strategy for Trust Islands be developed, a major part of which could be pro-active maintenance that will become increasingly important with climate change."*
      - Jeanine on Mayne – yes, someone re EMCON got let go over Christmas
      - Paul suggests having EMCON's contract reviewed for what they are doing
  - **What about mandatory vaccinations?**
    - Adam spoke about it on CBC The Early Edition Political Panel this morning:

- <https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-91-the-early-edition/clip/15888162-political-panel-back-school-musings-mandatory-vaccinations>
  - Prov NDP has little appetite for it
    - But it will come from the Federal government
    - Tho' inconsistent response from Fed Min of H say Provs will determine on their own?
      - [Provinces could make vaccination mandatory, says federal health minister](#), Posted: Jan 07, 2022 12:30 PM ET
      - "Federal Health Minister Jean-Yves Duclos says mandatory vaccine laws could eventually exist in Canada, but provincial leaders in Alberta and Saskatchewan are among those already saying no to the idea.... Provinces are likely to introduce mandatory vaccination policies in the coming months to deal with surging COVID-19 caseloads, Health Minister Jean-Yves Duclos said today..."
  - Adam
    - We need/want equitable access to rapid tests, N95 masks, HEPA filtration etc...
      - Thinks MV is fine
      - But also need consistent communications
    - Travel restrictions - ferries
- **9:15 – 9:30: Next Steps/Action Items (15mins):**
- Next regular meeting (second Monday of each month):
    - Monday February 14th, 8:30 – 9:30am
    - Next host?
  - ACTION ITEMS:
    - Re: provincial/federal coordinated storm response – Adam and Elizabeth to meet to discuss before next meeting
    - Adam will request EMCON's contract from MoTI
    - Each island to make assessments of issues and infrastructure needed
      - send to MoTI and Cc'd Adam on it
        - Or send to Adam for him to take to MoTI