

ISLAND ROADS

Short and long term fixes on for Walker's Hook Road

Transport manager visits
Local Trust Committee

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A short-term solution to repair the worst surface issues on Walker's Hook Road is in the works with longer-term needs still to be assessed, according to Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure area manager Ryan Evanoff.

Evanoff attended Friday's Salt Spring Local Trust Committee meeting at the invitation of the committee and answered questions about ministry plans for the road. He

acknowledged a letter petitioning for action signed by the island's three elected officials, plus communication from BC Transit on the potential need for taking a bus route off the road, had led to the ministry's plans for the upcoming \$100,000 remediation project, despite the need for a more fulsome solution.

"We're still working on a long-term sort of plan of how we can stabilize the whole foreshore area and the road," Evanoff said.

Information that Evanoff sent to BC Transit's regional transit manager Myrna Moore indicates the project will comprise remediation of four sections of road, including road

base improvements and repaving.

Evanoff agreed with trustee George Grams, who suggested that shorter-term patching is a "Band-Aid" solution, but said it became apparent MoTI couldn't wait to act until an engineering study is ready.

"In the grand scale of it, Band-Aid is probably a suitable word," Evanoff said.

Even still, approval for the \$100,000 project was applied for and granted against a list of other regional and provincial priorities.

A restructuring offer from the provincial government, which will aid Salt Spring's incorporation process if the community votes to proceed,

estimates the cost of mitigating slope stability issues on Walker's Hook Road at \$1 million. The province has offered to fund the work and to maintain island roads at no cost for five years after incorporation as part of a \$19.8-million restructuring package.

Salt Spring trustees also quizzed Evanoff on the best method for reaching the ministry in order to have road problems addressed, in light of the long-standing issues at Walker's Hook.

"This is a problem that's been building for many years, and it really worries me that it's been allowed to get to this point," trustee Peter

Grove explained, adding that more frequent road maintenance is needed or conditions will just deteriorate.

"We need to get on top of this and I hope whatever process you have will be tightened up so something like this doesn't happen again," he said.

Evanoff said direct requests to his office would be most efficient for matters other than the regular maintenance work that Mainroad Contracting is responsible for.

He also reported that repaving at the Ganges sinkhole area will take place within the next couple of weeks to bring the new pavement flush with the road surface.



Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee

PUBLIC HEARING & SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE PIERS ISLAND

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee would like to invite you to attend a Special Meeting and Public Hearing beginning at **1:00 p.m. on Monday, October 3, 2016** at the Piers Island Fire Hall, **Piers Island** to hear your views regarding Proposed Bylaw No. 493.

At the Public Hearing, all persons who believe that their interest in property is affected shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard or to present written submissions respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw.

Date:	Monday, October 3, 2016
Location:	Piers Island Fire Hall, Piers Island
Time:	Special Meeting from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Public Hearing at 2:00 p.m.

WHAT IS THE SPECIAL MEETING ABOUT?

This special meeting is an opportunity for the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee to meet with residents of Piers Island and will include a Town Hall session.

WHAT IS THE PUBLIC HEARING ABOUT?

The purpose of the public hearing is to amend Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 51, cited as "Piers Island Official Community Plan By-law 1980" to include Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission reduction objectives, policies, and actions. It also includes a small number of housekeeping amendments, including a new map of the existing OCP land use designations. These amendments form part of Proposed Bylaw No. 493 and concern Piers Island.

Proposed Bylaw No. 493 is cited as "Piers Island Official Community Plan By-law 1980, Amendment No. 1, 2016".

HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

A copy of the proposed bylaw and the official public hearing documents may be inspected at the Islands Trust Salt Spring Office at 1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island up to September 30, 2016.

A copy of the proposed bylaw and project materials may be viewed on the Islands Trust website (www.islandstrust.bc.ca) under "Islands" → "Local Trust Areas" → "Salt Spring" → "Projects & Initiatives" → "Piers Island Official Community Plan Update - Climate Change".

Enquiries regarding the proposed bylaw may be directed to Planner Seth Wright at 250-537-9144. For toll free access, request a transfer via Service BC: in Vancouver 604-660-2421, in Victoria 250-387-6121, and elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867.

HOW DO I PROVIDE A WRITTEN SUBMISSION?

Received prior to October 3, 2016:

Mail or in person to: Islands Trust, 1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC. V8K 2N8
Fax: (250) 537-9116
Email: ssiphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca

On October 3, 2016:

At the Piers Island Fire Hall, Piers Island
From 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. at the Special Meeting
Commencing at 2:00 p.m. at the **Public Hearing**

Written submissions received in response to this notice will be available for public review.

NO WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS OR ORAL REPRESENTATIONS WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Claire Olivier
Deputy Secretary

ROYAL VISIT

Rare salt tempts royal palate

Government House
chef employs Salt
Spring Sea Salt

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A once-in-a-lifetime natural occurrence that happens to have coincided with William and Kate's royal visit to British Columbia has meant a happy convergence for Salt Spring Sea Salt creator Philippe Marill.

Marill's locally harvested product is being incorporated into one or more of the meals being served this week at Government House during official events for Prince William, and Kate, Duchess of Cambridge. Stimulating the royal taste buds will be not just local sea salt or even the more precious fleur de sel, but a unique batch of crystals Marill has dubbed "fleur royale" after a longstanding tradition in his native France.

As Marill explained, regular fleur de sel is created when distinctive pyramid-shaped crystals form during the dehydration process. The salt forms as a thin, delicate crust on the surface of the sea water as it evaporates. Crystals are difficult to achieve. Different results have much to do with current ocean and weather conditions.

"Fleur de sel is actually very rare. In the south of France it's only a few days a year," Marill said.

Fall's crisp days tend to produce better results than the summer, but Marill was just doing his usual, everyday skimming technique when he was surprised to find crystals forming at a much bigger size than usual, with pyramids reaching up to two-by-two inches at the base. Camarque folklore names similar crystals "fleur royale" because of their infrequent arrival.



PHOTO COURTESY REBECCA WELLMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

Government House executive chef Aleks Kornat, left, and Salt Spring Sea Salt owner Philippe Marill with a jar of the "fleur royale" crystals being served to the royal visitors.

"It's almost like nobody sees it, because it's so rare, and you never know when it will happen," Marill said. "The stories say it will happen once every hundred years."

"I had goosebumps," he added.

The larger crystals continued to form for one day and then ended. Remembering his grandmother's stories about the royal nickname, Marill thought perhaps his fleur royale should be given to actual royalty. He connected with Government House chef Aleks Kornat through Empress Hotel chef Morgan Wilson, with whom he has recently been working.

The duke and duchess will be in and out of Victoria several times during

their trip, flying into the city on Sept. 24 and departing from there on Oct. 1. Government House is their home base during the stay, and their suites are to be stocked with special food items from B.C.

The royals' itinerary included several official events at Government House, their first evening featuring a meeting with senior Canadian leaders. There was also a reception hosted by the province Monday evening and a children's party for invited military families planned for Thursday, Sept. 29.

For those who wish to see the duke and duchess before they go, an official departure ceremony will take place at Victoria's inner harbour on Saturday at 3:30 p.m.