

ISLANDS TRUST CANDIDATE: NOEL TAYLOR

The following words and photo were submitted to *Our Isle & Times* by the Candidate

Elect Noel Taylor for Island Trustee

Why do I want to put my name forward for the Position of Island Trustee?

The original intent of the Island Trust was to build an effective local system of governance that empowers each individual island to create a community plan and from that bylaws that reflect and enforce the values and vision of each island community. The intention of having a Trust was to envision how to protect the natural environment and to share experience of how to do that from different island communities. In particular to study and learn how over development and /or lack of foresight on other islands can be avoided or redirected in future planning.

I think the Island Trust has lost it's direction and is no longer effective or accountable to the people it is supposed to serve.

The Island Trust mandate is land use, not the political agenda we have seen in the past 4 years with an ever increasing budget and very little work on preserving and protecting the islands.

Skills I Bring:

Enthusiasm and love of this amazing community and island that we call home.

I have lived on the island for 56 years...

Experience in local, municipal and provincial political systems.

I served as Regional District Director for Lasqueti for 18 years 1978 -1996

History I was there in 1975 when the Island Trust was formed and the Lasqueti community agreed to be part of the Trust.

Skill Graduate of the Justice Institute Mediation and Negotiation Certification 1994.

I feel called to bring my skill set forward and offer to be an Island Trustee.

Unlike an inexperienced newly elected person, it will not take me 2 – 3 years to learn and understand the politics and systems of the Trust.

I am most certainly not in this for a pay cheque.

I am very much a get on it, get it done, show results kind of person.

More about me:

My grandparents arrived on Saltspring in the 1890's. I was born on Galiano Island, After my family relocated to Vancouver we continued to spend summers on Galiano. We watched the island community change, we saw what happens with uncontrolled development.

In 1969, it seemed like the world was falling apart, my older brother Randy and I spoke of finding a place like Galiano was when we were kids; no ferry, dirt roads, small population, a place where we could go back to the land, to be self sufficient,

Randy and Sue found Lasqueti and the Teapot House. It seemed remote enough, and even then as we arrived in the spring of 1970 we saw development pressures. There were only 70 residents on the island then!

In 1972 a group from Powell River came to inform us of impending imposition of building codes. That visit was the beginning of the Lasqueti Community Association and I served as the first president.

The LCA brought the community together to talk about protecting the island and keeping it rural, off grid, with no building codes and no car ferry. We applied for crown land and a grant to build the community hall. I was one of many who worked and dreamed of the community hall we have today.

As Regional Director I was instrumental in the building of two Fire Halls, the Free Store, Lasqueti Waste Management, the First Responders. road access to China Cloud Bay and the Boat Ramp as well as securing the Land the Arts Centre sits on .

I believe in community, where together we co-create a rich dynamic vibrant place to live and care for the land and environment.

I would be honoured to serve as an Island Trustee, I ask for your support. Thank you

