



## PIERS ISLAND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

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Piers Island  
February 2, 2021

**Subject: Connected Coast – Opportunity for Piers Island**

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Piers Island Improvement District (PIID) was recently made aware of the Connected Coast Project and is interested in discussing the opportunity to include Piers Island as part of it.

Piers Island is a Gulf Island located between Swartz Bay and Saltspring Island. With a total of 132 properties, Piers Island is a vibrant and active community that has been growing significantly in the past five years with now more than 100 full-time residents. The Island is going through amazing changes such as the first on-island school created in 2020 for families commuting or working from home. This is resulting in more demand in terms of services including but not limited to telecommunications.

The PIID is responsible for the following programs and services:

- Piers Island Volunteer Fire Department (PIVFD) and First Responders - <https://www.piersisland.ca/pivfd.html>;
- Piers Island Emergency Program (PIEP) - <https://www.piersisland.ca/piep.html>; and
- Water management and distribution - <https://www.piersisland.ca/water.html>.

The PIID relies on effective communication to deliver those programs and services to all properties. In addition, the pandemic has significantly impacted our already limited telecommunication infrastructure (i.e. Telus telephone line) as many of our programs are now heavily relying on virtual meetings, or e-learning (e.g. water operator courses or firefighter training).

With technology changing rapidly, a growing population, and the limited internet service provided to Piers Island, the PIID is looking for opportunities to improve the telecommunication infrastructure for our community.

The Trustees are looking forward to hearing back from you to discuss this exciting opportunity for Piers Island.

Sincerely,

Julien Bahain  
PIID Chair  
Buildings & Land Improvements Trustee  
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