

## **Southern Gulf Islands Harbours Commission Report Piers Island AGM 2017**

The commission serves North and South Pender , Mayne, Galiano, Saturna and Piers Island.

Meetings are arranged and managed by the CRD staff and 1 person from each island, to provide information re structural status of each government dock and how it meets community needs.

Term of service to the commission is limited to 1 or 2 , 4 year periods , then must be replaced by another from the same island. I have completed 8 years plus 2 extensions. I wish success to my successor and hope that he or she will find the commitment rewarding personally in addition to the contribution to the island.

My experience at first was somewhat challenging at times when the commission seemed to lack concern or interest in the status of the dock and if it met community need. "Financial restraints" were often offered "with regret". See attached letter.

Currently I am pleased by a change that has occurred and continues. There is now a willingness to review each dock in response to community input and reappointment of consultation to wharfingers by persons experienced in structure and function of docks , supply materials when needed and discuss issues. This of course improves feedback to the CRD.

The benefit currently , is manifest in 2 engineering studies regarding a change in the configuration of our dock. The first one proved to be too expensive, however ,contrary to past policies a second study has been completed and will be available soon.

Yours truly ,  
Bryce Young

January 26, 2016

Attention - Ted Robbins

Today I have a concern that the next meeting of the Harbours Commission could be subverted by a number of issues of which you may be unaware.

Under your leadership, the commission employed an engineering company to produce an assessment of all the docks in the jurisdiction of the commission. I was encouraged by this and agreed to serve another term as commissioner for Piers Island. In addition, the new and active participation by Financial Analyst Dayton, Operations Manager Robson, and Projects Manager Saunders in meetings, fosters a trust of understanding and action within the commission. This is enhanced by the appointment of Al Canon who is well respected and has a proven record of maintenance and repair of docks. In the past, this function was combined with opportunity for wharfingers to communicate with the commission. Will this continue?

For the commission, I see a main obstacle to progress in the small number of meetings each year and long intervals between, often without much communication. This may be adequate in an established system that has been functioning well but falls short when there is need for establishing a new system based on mutual trust and respect.

There is opportunity now to build one.

I fear the commission will not survive without one.

Thank you

Bryce Young