



Making a difference...together

**SOUTHERN GULF ISLANDS ELECTORAL AREA
COMMUNITY ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**

Tuesday, February 18th, 2025 at 1pm

Held by Zoom Video Conference

MINUTES

SGI CESC Commissioners: Paul Brent, Director, Chair (Saturna), Mike Hoebel, Vice Chair (Galiano), Marcus Farmer (Mayne), Rob Fenton (Pender)

Staff: Justine Starke – Manager, SGI Service Delivery, Melody Pender – Recorder/Pender Liaison, SGI Liaisons: Emma Davis (Galiano), Katie Dentry (Saturna), Kat Ferneyhough (Mayne)

Guest: Simon Fallick (Galiano)

Regrets: Barbara Johnstone (Pender)

1. Territorial Acknowledgement/Call Meeting to Order

Chair Brent provided the territorial acknowledgement and called the meeting to order at 1:04pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED by Commissioner Farmer, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Fenton to accept the Agenda as presented.

CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes from November 26, 2024

MOVED by Commissioner Farmer, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Fenton to accept the minutes from November 26, 2024 as presented.

CARRIED

4. Financial Report

The Financial Report was deferred to the next meeting.

5. Director's Report

No report.

6. Introduction of Commissioner Applicant – Simon Fallick (Galiano)

Simon Fallick's biography was shared with the Commission for information. He is interested in projects that improve capacity to do business on the SGIs and is interested in joining the Commission.

7. Southern Gulf Islands Liaisons Update

Emma Davis (Galiano) – There is good news coming about the purchase of vehicles to restart local transportation on Galiano.

Kat Ferneyhough (Mayne) – Wheelchair accessibility improvements are in progress on Mayne, Service Canada assisted 30 people with taxes and other paperwork.

Katie Dentry (Saturna) – The BC Parks Foundation has purchased a new parcel of 375 acres on Saturna.



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Melody Pender (Pender) – Service Canada assistance was well-attended on Pender as well and the Pender school will be getting a climbing wall.

8. Rural Housing Program – April Launch - Justine Starke

Justine Starke presented a new report on the rural housing pilot program set to begin in April. Tailored solutions are needed for the rural context of the SGIs. The pilot program will be a regional program but is focused on the SGIs and Salt Spring. Three main components: 1) Accessory Dwelling Unit incentive program to give people grants to build new units on their properties, 2) Pre-Development Funding for non-profits that are working towards purpose-built rural housing projects, 3) Funding stream through the MRDT accommodation tax to fund a staff position to deliver the program. The goal of the pilot is to increase the stock of rental units on the SGIs. Published information will be available on the CRD website.

9. Old/New Business – none discussed

10. IN CAMERA – New Commissioner discussion

MOVED by Chair Brent, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Farmer that the Southern Gulf Islands Economic Sustainability Commission go In Camera under section 91A of the community charter.

CARRIED

[Simon Fallick left the meeting]

11. Next Regular Meeting – March 18th, 2025

12. Meeting Adjourned: 2:16pm