Making a difference...together

SOUTHERN GULF ISLANDS ELECTORAL AREA
COMMUNITY ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, July 21st, 2026 at 1:00pm
Zoom Video Conference
MINUTES

SGI CESC Commissioners: Marcus Farmer, Chair (Mayne), Sandra Tretick, Vice Chair (Pender), Paul Brent, Director (Saturna), , Brenna Mongeon (Pender)
Staff: Justine Starke – Senior Manager, Southern Gulf Islands Administration; Melody Pender – Recorder/Pender Liaison**;** SGI Liaisons: Emma Davis (Galiano)
Guests: Rob Fawcett, Michael Hoebel, Michael Miller – Community Members
Regrets: Katie Dentry (Saturna), Kat Ferneyhough (Mayne), Simon Fallick (Galiano)

1. **Territorial Acknowledgement/Call Meeting to Order**
   Commissioner Brent provided the territorial acknowledgement, and Chair Farmer called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**
   MOVED by Commissioner Brent, ***SECONDED*** by Commissioner Fawcett to accept the Agenda as presented.

   CARRIED

3. **Approval of Minutes from May 19, 2026**
   MOVED by Commissioner Brent, ***SECONDED*** by Commissioner Fawcett to accept the minutes from May 19, 2026 as presented.

   CARRIED

4. **Financial Report** – deferred

5. **CESC Strategic Plan Consultant's Proposal for review and information.**
   Justine Starke provided a brief update on the proposal and summarized the hired consultant's background. The consultant was recommended from ICE-T and has relevant experience in economic development in rural communities. A participatory research method will be used, and liaisons have provided the consultant with relevant background information and previous report findings. Emma Davis described the timeline: survey development over the next few months followed by survey launch in the Fall. Commissioners are asked to respond to Emma's email requesting names of possible stakeholders to engage in the survey.

6. **Staff and Liaison Updates**
   Melody Pender (Pender) – The Pender Island Foundation Run/Walk for Wellness raised over $10,000 for the Health Centre.
   Emma Davis (Galiano) – Galiano just hosted a Dog Show as a fundraiser for the Galiano Health Centre. The Lit Fest also ran this past weekend. The Daycare ran into a roadblock hiring an international employee due to a lack of permanent staff to support the position.

Paul Brent (Saturna) – The Lamb BBQ sold over 1000 tickets. Saturna restaurants are busy and ferry lineups are long. The gas station has closed and the emergency services are purchasing gas tanks to store fuel for the emergency services vehicles.
Marcus Farmer (Mayne) – Mayne also hosted a dog show. The church fair in July was successful, as was the car show, and the 100th anniversary of the Mayne Island Fall Fair is coming up Aug 15th, and local truth and reconciliation discussions. Many restaurants have closed. Discussions with BC Ferries for bike transportation options are in progress.
Sandra Tretick (Pender) – Pender car show just happened, Mosaic Festival is upcoming and the Fall Fair.
Brenna Mongeon (Pender) – The Anglican Church is hosting a think tank regarding housing in the Fall. Brenna to email details to Commissioners.

7. **Old/New Business** – none discussed.

8. **Next regular meeting – Sept 15th, 2026 at 1:00pm**

9. **Meeting Adjourned** – moved by Commissioner Mongeon, Seconded by Commissioner Fawcett to adjourn the meeting at 1:30pm.