

A Message from your CRD Director, Local Community Commission and 2024 Highlights

The Capital Regional District (CRD) Local Community Commission (LCC), with delegated authority over 14 local services, had its first meeting in June 2023, and is delivering on the promise of broadened elected representation, improved transparency and accountability, and consolidated delivery of most local services on Salt Spring Island (SSI).

The LCC has established a twice monthly public meeting schedule, including monthly evening meetings, at the SIMS boardroom, and has initiated joint meetings with the SSI Local Trust Committee. Delivery of regional services such as Regional Parks, and Land Banking and Housing, as well as sub-regional services such as Building Inspection, are still overseen by the CRD Board and Electoral Areas Committee.

2024 CRD-LCC Highlights

- Repaving of Ganges Hill is underway, with wider shoulder pedestrian and cycling lanes, negotiated by the CRD with the Ministry of Transportation
- Construction now underway on BC Housing’s 36 unit supported and worker housing project on the CRD’s Drake Road property
- Completed detailed design for Rainbow Road pathway and concept designs for Harbourside pathway and Harbourwalk
- Construction underway on a new fire hall which received \$1 million in gas tax grant funding from the CRD
- Completed construction of new Lady Minto emergency room to which the Capital Region Hospital District (CRHD) contributed \$3.7 million

- Completed Centennial Park plaza upgrades and SSI’s first large scale composting facility at Burgoyne Community Farm
- Detailed design completed for new Maliview sewage treatment plant, which received infrastructure funding of \$1.9 million
- Completed concept design of new PARC maintenance facility which has received \$487,500 in Growing Community funding
- Secured lease on former Phoenix School property, a portion of which is being rented by the Chuan Society for a community space, named the Hearth
- Continued rainwater catchment rebates that have helped fund 60 tanks storing at least 189,000 US gallons of water annually
- Ridership on our local transit system has recovered to pre-COVID levels
- The LCC completed its first strategic plan, which can be found at www.crd.ca, and initiated development of an integrated housing strategy

Sincerely,

Gary Holman,
Electoral Area Director, LCC Vice-Chair

Earl Rook,
LCC Chair

Gayle Baker, Ben Corno, Brian Webster,
LCC Commissioners

SSI 2025 Budget

Reflecting difficult circumstances, the total CRD requisition in 2025 (including the CRHD) is almost \$9 million, 10.1% higher than in 2024. LCC services accounted for about half of this tax increase. Aside from cost inflation and negotiated wage and salary increases, other contributing factors are: a new Electoral Area General Manager position, building permit revenue shortfalls, new CRD housing projects, staff re-organization in the SSI office, replenishing reserves and reinstating Sunday openings for the pool, funding to re-purpose the Phoenix School and Ganges fire hall properties, and additional library staff and program expenses due to decreasing volunteers.

Assessed values on SSI increased by 0.4% to \$1.1 million for the “average” residential property. Assessed values increased about 1% in the CRD region as a whole and, therefore, SSI’s share of costs for regional services will decrease slightly, mitigating impacts of regional tax increases. The average CRD/CRHD requisition increase over the 2018–2025 period has been just over 5% per year.

The total 2025 SSI CRD/CRHD requisition increased to about \$113/mo for the “average” residential parcel, a \$10/mo increase over 2024, excluding user fees and area-specific utilities. This requisition funds a number of regional, sub-regional, and local services, such as health facilities, affordable housing, regional parks and trails, building inspection, fire dispatch, emergency planning and telecommunications, local recreation facilities, active transportation infrastructure, Fernwood dock, public transit, library, liquid waste, economic development, and the arts. Residential recycling on SSI is funded by packaging and garbage tipping fees.

SSI has received tens of millions in grants over the past six years from or through the CRD from senior governments to help fund capital projects such as: the Lady Minto emergency room, Centennial Park revitalization, Burgoyne composting facility, the new fire hall, several affordable and supported housing projects, repaving of Ganges hill, and planned upgrades to Maliview and Ganges sewage systems.

FOR THE 2025 TAX YEAR

Salt Spring Island

CRD Services Provided to Taxpayers

CRD | Financial Services

Services provided through the CRD to the SSI Electoral Area include:

- Animal Control
- Building Inspection
- Economic Development
- Emergency Management
- Fernwood Dock Management
- Parks and Recreation
- Recycling Depot
- Regional Parks
- Transit and Transportation
- Water and Sewer Services

www.crd.ca/saltspring

Gary Holman,
Electoral Area Director

How the CRD Works

The CRD delivers a range of services throughout the capital region, including Salt Spring Island, that are funded by annual property tax requisitions and other fees and charges. The business of the CRD Board is managed by 24 Directors, selected every four years from 13 municipalities and directly elected in three Electoral Areas. Board meetings are open to the public, held on the second Wednesday of each month at 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC and are livestreamed on the CRD website.

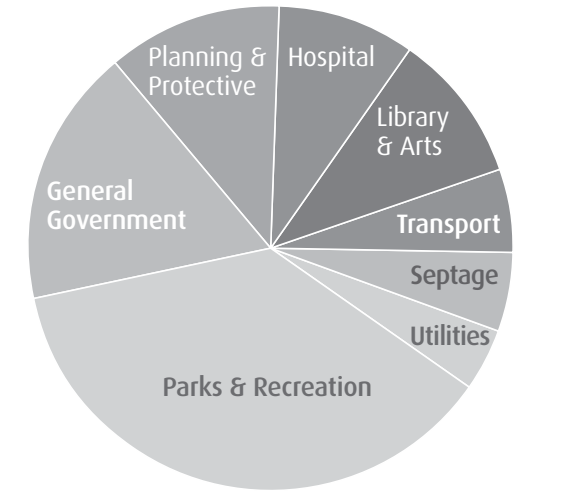
The Electoral Area Director is Salt Spring’s representative at the CRD Board and on various CRD committees, including the Electoral Areas Committee (EAC), comprised of Directors from each of the three Electoral Areas. The EAC oversees a number of services that are cost-shared by the three Electoral Areas (e.g., building inspection, bylaw enforcement, animal control), and convenes the same day as the CRD Board in video-recorded, public meetings.

The Local Community Commission (LCC) includes the CRD Director plus four other elected commissioners. The LCC administers 14 local CRD services, including parks and recreation, transportation and transit, liquid waste and economic development, among others. The LCC has full administrative authority over the services and makes budget recommendations to the CRD Board. The CRD Board must ratify any bylaws relating to these services, including the budget bylaw. For CRD services not under the authority of the LCC, the CRD Board retains administrative authority.

The 24 CRD Directors also convene as two other regional boards: the Capital Regional Hospital District (CRHD) and the Capital Region Housing Corporation (CRHC). The CRHD, through property taxes, shares the costs of hospital equipment and regional health facilities with the Island Health Authority. The CRHC funds, develops, and manages affordable housing throughout the capital region. CRHC operations are self-financing, requiring no property tax support.

SSI Electoral Area 2025 Requisition

The total requisition is \$9,350,617
(2024: \$8,538,511)



- Parks & Recreation \$3,471,508 (37.1%):**
Regional parks, local parks operations, recreation programs and pool operations
- General Government \$1,618,018 (17.3%):**
Regional and local government administration, local engineering service, grants-in-aid and economic development
- Planning & Protective Services \$1,080,635 (11.6%):**
Emergency communications and coordination, building inspection and animal care
- Hospital District \$860,672 (9.2%):**
Construction of health facility and debt serving of capital project and equipment
- Library and Arts Community \$912,071 (9.8%):**
Public library, Artspring and the Community Arts Council
- Transport & Docks \$544,456 (5.8%):**
Local transit service, pathways and Fernwood Dock
- Septage/Environmental Monitoring \$481,447 (5.1%):**
Liquid waste disposal and stormwater quality management
- Local Utilities \$381,810 (4.1%)**

CRD Contacts

CRD General Enquiries (toll free): **1.800.663.4425**
SSI Administration: **250.537.4448** saltspring@crd.bc.ca

- Animal Control **250.537.9414**
- Building Inspection **250.537.2711**
- Bylaw Enforcement **1.800.665.7899**
- Rainbow Road Aquatic Centre **250.537.1402**
- Water and Wastewater System
 - Emergency ONLY . . **1.855.822.4426** (toll free) or **1.250.474.9630**

CRD Services on Salt Spring Island

- Bylaw enforcement, animal control, building inspection, regional parks, solid waste disposal
- Water and sewage treatment (area-specific), liquid waste disposal services
- Parks and Recreation
- Emergency Program
- Transit (BC Transit) and Transportation (pedestrian and cycling infrastructure)
- Fernwood Dock Management
- Economic Development

Through contribution agreements, the CRD also supports services delivered by non-profit organizations for the library, community arts, residential recycling and Search and Rescue.

For more information about the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area, visit: **www.crd.ca/saltspring**

Learn more and follow decision making processes at: **www.crd.ca/agendas**

For more information on the CRD Financial Plan and Tax Requisition Summary, please visit: **www.crd.ca/budget**

EA Director, Gary Holman | **LCC Chair, Earl Rook**
directorssi@crd.bc.ca | erook@crd.bc.ca

Mailing address: 108–121 McPhillips Ave. V8K 2T6

Service Contacts

Emcon Services 778.698.3582
24 hour emergency line **1-866-353-3136**

- Public road maintenance

Fisheries and Oceans Canada . . . 250.363.3252

Front Counter BC 1.877.855.3222

- Provincial land/water lease applications

Island Health 250.519.3401

- Drinking water verification

Islands Trust 250.537.9144

- All land use matters including rezoning, development permits, subdivision

Land Title Office. 1.877.577.5872

- State of Title Certificate for your property
- Property registration, easements, restrictive covenants, rights-of-way

Ministry of Transportation & Transit 250.952.4515

- Surface water drainage
- Driveway access permits
- Major repairs to culverts, bridges, roads

Provincial Parks & Wildlife 1.800.663.7867 (Inquiry BC)

RCMP 250.537.5555

Surveyor of Taxes . . 1.800.663.7867 (Inquiry BC)

- Taxes, including school taxes

Technical Safety BC 1.866.566.7233

- Gas permits, electrical permits, licences, certificates

Get Involved

Did you know the CRD has an online engagement platform? To see current initiatives and help shape future projects, policies and decisions visit: **GetInvolved.crd.bc.ca**