

# Sustainable Gabriola

June 23, 2024 meeting notes

Present: Deb F, Charlotte, Tom, Suzi, Greg, Karen, Michelle, Sheila, Fay (notes), Bob (facilitator)

## 1. Introductions and land acknowledgement (Bob)

## 2. Living into the Earth Emergency (Shelagh Huston)

Shelagh is creating a course called Living into the Earth's Emergency.

## 3. Fix it Fair (Fay Weller)

Fay announced that the next Fix it Fair is planned for July 21<sup>st</sup> from 2 to 4 at the Agi Hall. Kess (Karen) offered to be a mender at the event. Fay to send her info.

## 4. Climate 12 Neighbourhoods (Fay Weller and Greg Blee)

Fay indicated that emails were sent out to the contacts for 16 neighbourhoods. The email included a request for names and the boundaries for that neighbourhood. There was also an offer of \$40 per neighbourhood for neighbourhood building events.

Greg described the mapping process and the aim to have a large digital map of Gabriola that would include each of the neighbourhoods, their boundaries and some of their unique characteristics (farm stands, little libraries, etc.)

## 5. Gabriola Health and Well-being (Kess)

Kess reported that there wasn't a meeting of the GH & W for the month of June. The job posting is up on the RDN site and the RDN will review the applicants against the set criteria. The request for organizations is also on their site and the RDN will determine the organization that will manage the position. There was some concern expressed that the organization might be off island.

## 6. Sustainable Futures (Greg Blee)

Greg suggested that SG consider handing out awards for organizations that were doing outstanding work in the area of sustainability. It was suggested that SG could partner with the Chamber and initiate a specific category for Sustainable businesses/organizations that SG would then judge. Fay to follow up with Erin from the Chamber.

## 7. SG Facebook page (Greg Blee)

Greg Blee and Susan Swift have created an SG facebook page. Greg suggested that we find ways for people to submit posts for the FB page that include sustainability tips and information on Climate Change and other sustainability topics.

## 8. Radical Flank and Overton Window

Greg summarized an article that focused on the radical flank (those doing outrageous or more civil disobedient acts) and how that radical flank allowed the more temperate activities to be accepted into mainstream. He used the Overton Window to describe the concept.

#### 9. First Nations gift fund (Bob)

At a previous SG meeting money was gathered for the purpose of building a fund that would then be given to the Snuneymuxw First Nation. A subsequent decision was to not create the fund as the amount would be minimal in relation to what was needed for reconciliation. Bob indicated that we could return the money to those who donated it, or retain it for sustainability initiatives on Gabriola. Michelle suggested that we donate it to the upcoming fund raiser for the Munu Canoe Family for the Snuneymuxw youth paddle to Puyallup. Everyone agreed.

#### 7. Global climate news (Deb F)

See attached

#### 8. Fall Election debates (Michelle)

Michelle raised the issue of the upcoming elections in the fall and asked whether SG takes part in providing questions or being part of organizing the debates. It was noted that Gabriola Talks, an initiative of Sustainable Gabriola, had taken the lead in the past. Fay committed to following up with Dyan and Steve (both part of Gabriola Talks) and Michelle to set a time to discuss the debates before September.

9. GILSS report from John Peirce: GILSS continues to review possible properties as a first purchase. Realistically, however, they need to build up a war chest in order to seriously bid on a property and have additional funds available to make changes to allow appropriate changes for living and farming a property. In their minds they need to have access to at least \$1,000,000 to be a serious bidder for properties on Gabriola. They have made a good start on arranging such funding, and will likely start a fund-raising campaign in the Fall.

The summer meetings are cancelled. Next meeting will be September 26, 2024.

June 23, 2024

Global Climate News

## 1. G7 summit, Borgo Egnazia, Apulia, Italy, 13-15 June 2024

### **Energy, climate, environment**

- The G7 reiterated its determination to address the triple global crises of climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss.
- They remain steadfast in their commitment to :
  - staying within the threshold of a 1.5°C increase in global temperature
  - halting and reversing biodiversity loss by 2030
  - holistically addressing energy security, the climate crisis and geopolitical risks

**G7 Summit 2025 will be held in Kananaskis Alberta.**

## **2. Bonn Climate Conference – June 11 (UN mid year climate talks in prep for COP 29)**

- Focus: the amount of money developed countries need to mobilise each year from 2025 to support climate action in developing nations.
- But there have been serious disagreements over how much this should be, who should be prioritised for finance, what form this money takes and what counts as a ‘developed’ country.
- Bonn Climate Conference on Tuesday ended in a stalemate as countries failed to make any concrete progress on the issue or to advance other aspects of the Paris Agreement.
- What does this mean for COP29? **Already dubbed the “Finance COP”**

**COP 29 Nov 11 to Nov 24 – Baku, Azerbaijan.**

**(SG – start some early fall action - letters/communications.**

## **3. COP 16 – Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity Oct 21 – Nov 1 Cali, Colombia.**


Parties to the Convention are expected to show the alignment of their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) with the Framework

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### **England brings in biodiversity rules to force builders to compensate for loss of nature.**

- a biodiversity credit scheme this week that attempts to force all new road and housebuilding projects to benefit nature, rather than damage it.
- The “nature market”, called [biodiversity net gain](#) (BNG), means all new building projects must achieve a 10% net gain in biodiversity or habitat. If a woodland is destroyed by a road, for example, another needs to be recreated. This can happen either on site or elsewhere
- one of the most ambitious schemes
- already hoping to copy the idea or use it to develop their own include Sweden, Singapore, Scotland and Wales

## **4. BIG Solar: game-changing energy shift happening**

-  [The world's biggest solar plant](#) is now up and running in Urumqi, China. Its capacity is 6 billion kWh annually, enough to power a small country.

- [♥ Portugal runs on 91 % renewables](#) and has the lowest energy prices in Europe.
- [♥ Uruguay transitioned away](#) from fossil fuels and is now averaging 95% renewables
- [♥ The people of Switzerland](#) have voted yes to boosting renewables.
- [♥ Norway has unveiled Europe's largest](#) hydrogen plant. It runs on renewables and will produce sustainable shipping fuel and fossil-free