

Sustainable Gabriola

Notes of meeting May 25, 2025



Attending — Steve (facilitator), Joan, Bob A, Fay, Patrick, Dyan, Jeff M, Greg, Betty, Bob M (notes)

Reconciliation Moment — Dyan, having recently spent time in Victoria, spoke to residents in the Gabriola/Nanaimo area being much further along in recognizing, acknowledging, and appreciating the First Nations people and ways than do those in the larger urban areas such as Victoria.

1. Gabriola Health Care Foundation — Jeff Malmgren described how the existing health care system isn't working (emphasis on treating sick/injured people as opposed to encouraging wellness) and the Foundation's ambition to bring about a systemic change in order to improve it. We all have a responsibility for bringing this about. There's likely to be something to this effect in the prologue of the new OCP. The Foundation would like see groups such as Sustainable Gabriola being part of bringing about that change (with the recognition that SG is already doing that). A few of the social determinants of health mentioned during the course of the discussion: shelter, education, water, food, climate, and transportation. It was pointed out that social determinants were different for men than women.
2. Gabriola Health & Well-Being Collaborative — Dyan said the collaborative now has more than 50 organizations involved, including doctors, and is actively looking for more. SG is represented by Kes. The collaborative is setting up a booth providing information (articles, interviews) to do with poisonous drugs at the Outdoor Market on June 14th.
3. Climate-12 — Fay informed us the next Fix-It Fair will be 2-4 pm Sunday July 13th in the Agi Hall, and that C-12 organizers are thinking about setting up a table in the room with information from different community organisations ... the idea being that those waiting to have something fixed can visit the tables and be thus informed about different things going on around the island.
 - Joan reported that consultations to do with water on the island will continue until June 27th, at which time work on the final report will get underway.

- Greg said there will be an Art and Climate gathering from 2-3 pm in the Library on Saturday June 28th.
- Steve said the Safe Roads initiative he described last month is being worked on and headed for the IT Trustees for (hopeful) inclusion in the new OCP.

4. Fire Improvement District election — With 3 seats on the board to be filled at the June 17th AGM, Steve put forward the idea of Gabriola Talks putting on an All-Candidates' Meeting. There was general agreement this was a good idea.
5. Ferry Advisory Committee — Steve reported there will be a get-together of those interested in doing something proactive about BC Ferry's recent decision to do away with citizen-based Advisory Committees in the meeting room at the Library on May 29th at 10:30 am.
6. SG Logo — Fay said Logo #4 (as shown at last meeting, but with a brighter green) was the popular choice in the recent solicitation of opinions. A discussion of whether or not the species of the salamander depicted lives on Gabriola ensued.
7. Joan informed us that Snuneymuxw artist Eliot White-Hill, whom she described as an extraordinary young visionary and an accomplished master artist, is in residence on Gabriola and will be at the Gabriola Arts & Heritage Centre on June 13 and 14.

Next meeting: In upstairs room, Commons house, on **Sunday June 22nd, 3:00 PM** [changed from June 29]. Dyan will facilitate, Nancy to take notes.