

Gwaii Trust Society
Members Meeting MINUTES
Saturday April 5, 2014
Sandspit, BC
Community Hall
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

In Attendance:

	Representing:	Area Director	Area Alternate
	Graham Island Central CHN Skidegate Graham Island South Area 'E'	Berry Wijdeven Percy Crosby Shelley Sansome	Ian Gould Warren Foster
	Graham Island North Skidegate Band Council CHN Massett Old Massett Village Council	Fran Redick James Cowpar Cynthia Samuels John T. Jones	Kiefer Collison
Chair:	Gwaii Trust Society	Brad Setso	
Staff:	Managing Administrator Old Massett Receptionist	Errol Winter Adrienne Bertrand	
Excusals:	Area 'E'	Kristi Schmitz (Proxy assigned to Shelley Sansome)	
Guests:	Denise Husband Kris Olsen Berni Zimmermann Greg Martin Carol Kulesha Bob Prudhomme Michael Johnson – GTS Auditor	Jeff King David Gallowah Robert Ells Evan Putterill Missy McDonald Lisa Bell	Robert Williams Deena Wilson Marcel Vestl

Note:

The following is an accurate reporting of the meetings as they occurred, however these minutes are not to be construed as a verbatim report of all conversations that transpired, but rather a reflection of the outcome of those discussions; where necessary members have been quoted as closely as possible.



Gwaii Trust Society
Members Meeting MINUTES
Saturday April 5, 2014
Sandspit, BC
Community Hall
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

1.0 Call to Order

The Gwaii Trust Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 PM.

2.0 Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone for coming out to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves. The Chair also welcomed the new Directors OMVC, Lisa Bell, Graham Island South Director, Ellen Cranston and her Alternate Denise Husband. The outgoing Directors are Shelley Sansome, Graham Island South and her Alternate Jacques Morin, and Harold Yeltatzie Alternate for OMVC. The Chairman thanked them all for their contributions to the Gwaii Trust Board and stated it was greatly appreciated and is looking forward to the new rejuvenated faces and new ideas.

3.0 Adoption of the Agenda

The Gwaii Trust Board of Directors reviewed the agenda, after discussion the Directors made a motion to adopt the agenda with the addition of adding the following resolution:

10.0 Resolution of the Board

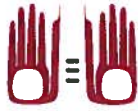
10.3 Resolution to appoint the 2014-2016 newly elected/appointed Directors and their Alternates:

Representing:	Area Director	Area Alternate
Graham Island South	Ellen Cranston	Denise Husband
Graham Island North	Fran Redick	Bret Johnston
Old Massett Village Council	Lisa Bell	John T. Jones
Skidegate Band Council	James Cowpar	Godfrey (Didi) Williams

Moved by: John T. Jones

Seconded by: Percy Crosby

CARRIED



Gwaii Trust Society
Members Meeting MINUTES
Saturday April 5, 2014
Sandspit, BC
Community Hall
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

4.0 Adoption of Minutes

The Gwaii Trust Board of Directors reviewed the Members Meeting Minutes from April 6, 2013. After discussion the Gwaii Trust Board of Directors made a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Moved by: Fran Redick
Seconded by: Shelley Sansome
CARRIED

5.0 Annual General Report

The Gwaii Trust Board of Directors presented the public with the Gwaii Trust Annual General Report, This year's revised report contains easier to access content presented in a clearer more relevant format. After discussion the Gwaii Trust Board of Directors made a motion to approve the Gwaii Trust Annual Report as presented.

Moved by: Percy Crosby
Seconded by: Berry Wijdeven
CARRIED

6.0 Auditors presentation and explanation of the Gwaii Trust Audited Financial Statements

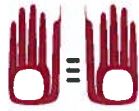
A) Public Review of the financial statements

Mr. Johnson of McAlpine & Co. made a public presentation of the Gwaii Trust's audited financial statements, noting the Trust had an excellent year in the markets returning in excess of 16%, with expenses all in line with previous years.

B) Questions/comments

1) Outgoing Director, Graham Island South, S. Sansome, had a question in regards to the salaries and benefits part of the financial statement. More specifically, she asked why there appeared to be a \$62,000.00 pay increase in overall salaries and benefits, and if it wasn't pay increase why was it noted on that part of the financial statement.

Mr. Johnson responded by saying that the salaries budgeted were in line with those of previous years, the \$62,000.00 is the amount of salaries and benefits accorded to the operations of Gwaii Forest Charitable Trust, which the Gwaii Trust Society manages. The income from the Gwaii Forest Charitable Trust to offset this expense is recorded in the income section of the balance statement. Mr. Johnson



Gwaii Trust Society
Members Meeting MINUTES
Saturday April 5, 2014
Sandspit, BC
Community Hall
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

went on to say that in future years the GTS could break out this expense differently or simply increase the years starting budget to reflect both organizations salary allocations.

2) Missy McDonald – asked the number of employees Gwaii Trust has.

Errol Winter – replied by stating Gwaii Trust has five (5) full time employees.

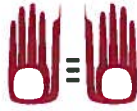
3) Bob Prudhomme - asked what plans the Gwaii Trust had put in place plans for the cash (operationally) in order to be able to payout the Haida Parity allocation.

Errol Winter - responded by stating that the organization had moved \$2,000,000.00 from the markets over the last year in order to fund any potential large calls due to Parity payouts. He also went on to explain that on the larger projects once the applications have been received it can take up to two years for approval, project completion and final review before all project funds are disbursed, this long timeline gives the Trust ample opportunity to plan for the eventual payout of projects. The Trust typically spends \$1-2 million a year on project payments.

4) Carol Kulesha – asked what the Trusts plans are with the larger amount of income accruing in the Trust Fund, was there any plans to look at a larger allocation, or was the money simply going to remain a part of the funds buffer.

Errol Winter – Responded by noting that our accumulated buffer sits at roughly Buffer 18.5% of assets under administration. Over the years we have experienced markets shift from 10-15% so fiscal prudence would dictate that we have a reasonable buffer available to account for any market movements. He also went on to say that the markets appear to be steadier, in part due to the reconfiguring of the Trust's portfolio over the years, and in part due to global markets so the Trust could likely look forward to a steady year in 2014. As the fund increases the board will be discussing the possibility of allocating larger funding opportunities, perhaps as a one-time Request for Proposals (RFP).

Graham Island Central member B. Wijdeven - While we continue to watch the Trusts buffer grow and markets return steady income we are taking this opportunity to pay out the Haida Parity program's remaining \$3 million to get it over with and close out that program (Note GTS Haida Parity program was scheduled for payout by 2020, this years payout will close out the program 5-6 in advance of the official end date) Mr. Wijdeven went on to say that Parity entities will still need to go through the proposal submitting process before funding can occur, and that finally having a strong buffer in place again is a great thing, and the Trust is working on ideas about limits and amounts.



Gwaii Trust Society
Members Meeting MINUTES
Saturday April 5, 2014
Sandspit, BC
Community Hall
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

CHN Skidegate member P. Crosby added - I don't want another 2008; we need protection.

5) Carol Kulesha - how much of a buffer is reasonable 18 – 20%? The Trust had a great year, and we really appreciated the help the organization gave to the Gwaii Tel Society.

Graham Island Central member B. Wijdeven noted – this is the benefit of having a buffer, we are able to do so many of these types of things.

6) Carol Kulesha – asked if any more thought had been given to boundaries for funds to be invested on island, and had the Trust looked for ways to reduce the actuary cost and the custodian fees.

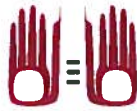
Errol Winter – The fund operates with three separate fund managers who have different return objectives utilizing different investment product mixes; We have a global equities manager, a domestic equities manager who also looks after the Trust's bond portfolio, and we have a real estate manager who also manages a defensive global strategy position. Our fund managers fees are based on fund balance so as the fund grows so do the fees. Our existing portfolio costs us roughly 0.5% in fees. Actuarial advice is provided by Towers Perrin, and we are reviewing their contract looking for alternatives. Actuaries look at the Trusts overall portfolio and give general advice; they also calculate probabilities for success, and spending. Custodians oversee all the fund managers trades within the accounts to ensure the fund managers orders go where they are supposed to, we are mandated in the use of custodians.

Regarding the on island investment question, for the last five years the Trust has been publically open to looking to place up to 10% of the fund in an on-island investment vehicle. We ask that the project be viable return a small 4-6% return (Negotiable subject to the number of island jobs the venture may create) and that there be a viable business plan. Over the years we have had one forma presentation with a very weak business plan that we were not able to support. The Trust continues to encourage islanders with ideas to approach our office.

7) Bob Prudhomme - Asked what projects will be eligible for the GFCT funds this year.

Brad Setso: replied that this is being worked on

Errol Winter: over the next couple of months we will be working hard to bring a program allocation to the market. We hope to have a Request for Proposal (RFP) style guide out by late Spring-early summer.



Gwaii Trust Society
Members Meeting MINUTES
Saturday April 5, 2014
Sandspit, BC
Community Hall
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

8) Carol Kulesha – This is not the original forestry committee that we were part of, our representative Leslie Johnson had come back reporting that the Gwaii Forest Charitable Trust would be providing an update.

Errol Winter – That is correct, we will be looking to a new internal Gwaii Forest Committee to create a Request for Proposals (RFP) for this years' allocation. We had expected this to be available earlier, however the process with governments has taken us quite some time, and we were restricted as to what information we could release.

9) Evan Putterill – Gwaii Forest Charitable Trust was expected to have further consultation with the communities, and this is something appears to be quite unlikely now.

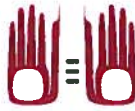
Brad Setso – Stated that in the end the decision rests with the Board of Gwaii Trust, we have listened to the communities input and will be making the best decision we can, considering all available input.

Errol Winter – We have come to the place now where we are able to begin granting out into the broader community through an RFP process. This years' process will be in response to both community needs and (Canada Revenue Agency's) CRA pressure for not for profits to disburse funding on a regular basis. One thing we can all agree upon is the need for community funding to begin again.

10) Evan Putterill - All communities feel that there was no general resolution on process for funds and granting, we didn't agree it was a Gwaii trust decision.

11) Missy McDonald – what determined the cancellation of the Food Security Program by the Trust? We see families in need, and we are working to combine both food banks together, we hope you consider bringing this program back, we are starting a petition to bring back this program..

Errol Winter- When we reviewed programs at last year's budget sessions we examined program use, and applications within the previous years. The Board felt that there was still a strong need to support food for kids in schools, and so continued to direct fund the school food program for \$85,000.00 per year. The community applications had waned so much that on one call out the Board had no applications to review, additionally on top of the \$85,000.00 community food budget being unallocated we also noted that food program projects approved were not completing, leaving the Trust to de commit project dollars. The Board found no alternative but to discontinue this portion of the program. I want to state that the Board categorically supports food security on the islands; however there must be applications we can support or we end up diverting dollars away from other critical programs in the hope that a group will apply.



Gwaii Trust Society
Members Meeting MINUTES
Saturday April 5, 2014
Sandspit, BC
Community Hall
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

12) Kris Olsen – confirmed that the new Community Initiatives program was important and good to see, and wondered why it was not reflected in the annual general report.

Errol Winter responded – The Community Innovation program is a new program not in place for 2013 so it was not included in that year's Annual General Report, however the program is on line under the Trusts new website. This program looks to assist smaller projects that encompass, education, micro infrastructure and just plain good ideas that need funding. The maximum grant is \$10,000.00 and it is a matching equity program.

7.0 Resolution of the Board of Directors

10.1 Audited Financial Statements

The Gwaii Trust Board of Directors discussed the audited financial statements for the 2013 fiscal year. After discussion the Gwaii Trust Board of Directors made a motion to approve the financial statements for the fiscal year January 01, 2013 to December 31, 2013 as presented.

Moved by: Percy Crosby
Seconded by: Fran Redick
CARRIED

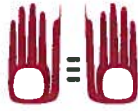
10.2 Auditor Appointment

The Gwaii Trust Board of Directors discussed the auditor appointment. After discussion the Gwaii Trust Board of Directors made a motion to appoint McAlpine & Co. the auditor for Gwaii Trust Society for the 2014 fiscal year.

Moved by: Cynthia Samuels
Seconded by: Shelley Sansome
CARRIED

8.0 More General questions/comments

13) Missy McDonald – I have reviewed the Community Initiatives program with its limit of \$10,000.00 per application. How are we to feed people under that program – it is an insult to food security.



Gwaii Trust Society
Members Meeting MINUTES
Saturday April 5, 2014
Sandspit, BC
Community Hall
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Brad Setso – not our responsibility to figure that out – we will be holding a strategic planning session shortly, if you have a concern bring it to your community reps in time for the next Board community Strategic Planning session. The next strategic planning session will be announced later today.

Fran Redick – encouraged all food banks to join together as well, efficiencies for their boards, and the facilities are not a long way apart. The GTS has funded community gardens, provided food to food banks, and other projects that have received funding approval but the projects did not go forward. Fran suggested giving them a call and see why they failed to move forward.

14) Missy McDonald– has already reached out to other food banks, and also Sk'aadgaa Naay Elementary in regards to the community garden.

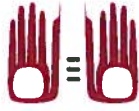
15) Bobby Williams – First I would like to make it clear I am not submitting a recommendation from the Skidegate Band Council, but I think a new Gwaii Trust funding allocation structure would be a good idea. With Gwaii trust modifying their structure so communities can be guaranteed x amount of dollars, we have no models at this point but would like to leave that with Gwaii Trust Board to be explored. Also noted, that it was wonderful to see the Lewis Collison quote opening in the annual report, stressing we all work together.

James Cowpar - Thanked Bobby for his comment and suggested to put that in writing to the staff and Gwaii Trust Board, noting it was great timing with the strategic planning coming up as board whose governance has not changed over the years.

Percy Crosby – This comment is to the first couple of speakers, I would like to point out that this is why we have community selected Board members, you should be going to them and they can be advocating for what you want.

Berry Wijdeven - members are elected by communities, they represent you. Suggestions/comments do not get to us unless you talk to your community Board member, I am astonished by the separation once you make the transition from the general public to sitting on the board, a wall instantly goes up.

16) Kris Olsen – appreciates all Gwaii Trust has done for the Youth program. Thanked the board members for listening and answering their questions. Funding to each community's youth co0ordinators was successful; will this be the case in the future?



Gwaii Trust Society
Members Meeting MINUTES
Saturday April 5, 2014
Sandspit, BC
Community Hall
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Shelley Sansome – responded to Kris saying she was chair of youth committee last year and they started with strategic planning where they voted to put \$20,000.00 aside , available to be accessed by North and South Youth Co-ordinators, we will go through the process again this summer when we change out our youth directors. It will be up to them to decide where their priorities lay.

James Cowpar – thanked the public for coming out and attending our AGM.

17) Carol Kulesha – made clear she was entirely grateful for the broadband application approved out of any regular Gwaii Trust programming, and now that strategic planning is coming up it will be interesting to see what direction the Trust will be taking. Carol also wanted Board members not to take any comments heard here today as negative, but rather as constructive criticism. Carol thanked all members for their time and efforts.

18) Greg Martin – I still get a sense of “us and them”, we on civic councils experience the same, suggests more public meetings, and wanted to echo his gratitude. He likes this as a sounding board with the, public is just brewing ideas –eager to share, he reiterated the need for more public consultation meetings.

Cynthia Samuels – enjoyed the recommendations brought forward, noting we had consultation meetings over the years, however often no one came out. We do have a strategic planning meeting coming up, all comments have been noted. Cynthia also said “Thank you” to Shelley Sansome as she is leaving the board, noting Shelley’s helpful participation with the Haida Language Committee.

Brad Setso – thanked the public for coming out and expressed his appreciation for the comments.

Fran Redick – encourages everyone to contact their community board members – proposals can go a long way when members can speak to certain projects. In the past, overall not many phone calls have been received on projects seeking approval. Fran really stressed the need to contact board members prior to the allocation meetings.

19) Missy McDonald – thanked Gwaii Trust for all their funding, noting that she really appreciates it. She has been involved in a couple of different projects with Gwaii Trust, and takes her projects seriously.



Gwaii Trust Society
Members Meeting MINUTES
Saturday April 5, 2014
Sandspit, BC
Community Hall
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

9.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:00 PM

Brad Setso
Chair

Errol Winter
Managing Administrator

Date, as to both signatures