



MINUTES
Gwaii Trust Members Meeting
April 28, 2018
Port Clements Community Hall
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

In Attendance:

Representing:	Area Director	Area Alternate
Graham Island Central	Absent	
Graham Island South	Clyde Greenough	Devin Rachar
Area 'E'	Warren Foster	Laurie Chisholm
Graham Island North	Bret Johnston	
Skidegate Band Council	Billy Yovanovich	Ooka Pineault
CHN Massett	Robert Bennett	
Old Massett Village Council	Cecil Brown	Richard Williams
CHN Skidegate	Jason Alsop	

Chair & Staff:	
Chair	James Cowpar
Chief Operations Officer	Carla Lutner
Chief Investment Officer	Errol Winter
Communications Officer	Joey Rudichuk
Project Officer	Dana Bellis

Excusals: Berry Wijdeven

Guests:

Peter Sloan	Gloria O'Brien	Leslie Johnson
Elizabeth Stewart	John Broadhead	Erika Stocker
Travis O'Brien	Karen Dean	Elsie Dean
Kiku Dhanwant	Wayne Nicol	Penny Richardson
Ken Rea	Peter Lantin	Joseph Lavoie
Danielle Lavoie	Christine Martynuik	Sandra Morgan
Maureen Bailey	Joan Hein	Doug Daugart
Mike Racz	Greg Martin	Tammy Gates
Astrid Egger	Carlos Ormond	

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:11pm

2.0 Excusals - Proxies

As above

3.0 Introductions

Board and staff introduced themselves.

4.0 Message from the Chair

The chair welcomed everyone to the AGM and requested a moment of silence for director John T Jones who passed away one year ago today.

To overcome challenges, it will take the work of all communities working together as one.



5.0 Call for Adoption of the Agenda

The members of the Gwaii Trust Society reviewed the agenda, and after discussion the Board of Directors made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented.

Moved by: Bret Johnston
Seconded by: Robert Bennett **CARRIED**

6.0 Call for Adoption of Previous Minutes

The members of the Gwaii Trust Society reviewed the April 22, 2017 meeting minutes. After discussion, the Board of Directors made a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Moved by: Warren Foster
Seconded by: Clyde Greenough **CARRIED**

7.0 Approval of the Gwaii Trust Society's 2017 Annual Report

The 2017 Gwaii Trust Annual Report was presented to the Gwaii Trust Members. The COO provided a brief overview of the report. After review, the members of the Gwaii Trust Society made a motion to approve the 2017 Annual Report as presented.

Moved by: Billy Yovanovich
Seconded by: Bret Johnston **CARRIED**

8.0 Auditors Presentation of 2017 Audited Financial Statements

Regrets provided by Michael Johnson, MNP

CIO Errol Winter provided an overview of the 2017 audited Gwaii Trust Society financial statements.

9.0 Approval of the 2017 Audited Financial Statements

After review and discussion, the Gwaii Trust Board of Directors made a motion to approve the 2017 audited statements as presented.

Moved by: Cecil Brown
Seconded by: Robert Bennett **CARRIED MR 2018 003**

Question: what is the Trust's materiality threshold? The CIO defined materiality threshold as what percentage of the fund that allows for errors going forward if the statements are wrong. It's .05%.

The COO noted the auditor (Michael Johnson, MNP) had offered that although he's absent, anyone may contact him directly with questions.

Question: What is the Investment management regulatory expense on page 8? The COO responded this is the Fund Management fees for Athlii Gwaii. There was discussion about the fees for both Gwaii Trust and Athlii Gwaii Legacy Trust, and the COO provided an overview of what they were.

Question: How are AGLT meetings held, are they public?

COO: They are not public.

With new regulation Athlii Gwaii reporting is now included in Gwaii Trust financial statement whereas in the past the auditor would present both separately at the AGM.

Question: Is AGLT at a standstill until the government can release?



Dir Foster: Currently working through issues on how it's controlled and managed.

Question: While that's happening why can't Gwaii trust fund things that support the purpose of Athlii Gwaii?

Chair: We anticipate it will be resolved in the coming months. The question will then be what are our collective priorities on Haida Gwaii?

COO: There's nothing that says same purposes couldn't be supported through Gwaii Trust, through one of our current programs or through a special project.

Question: when Gwaii Trust was set up in '94, the understanding was it was to ensure our communities remained strong and it was to support local jobs, but if it's set up so funds only go to nonprofits. Somehow we have to get our money out to the purpose for which it was received.

CIO: When we look at some of the projects funded there are basic infrastructure, Gwaii Trust has been continuously shifting to economic support. This was part of why Athlii Gwaii was found to be illegal, there were some charitable purposes and some uncharitable purposes.

Chair: Since inception there have changes, very good to see more people attending the AGM to provide this kind of input.

Peter Lantin, President, CHN: Here for a specific reason on behalf of the Council of the Haida Nation; there's a disconnect between AGLT and GTS governance, and island governance. The Protocol Table is made up of all mayors and CHN. If direction is provided to Gwaii trust from the protocol table, why is it not going forward? Forestry and energy being the two things that need to be focused on. In our opinion, the island community needs to own the forests on Haida Gwaii. I'd rather see our cash in the form of trees rather than in the markets. We want to buy tenures, want to fund value add.

Chair: We want to ask you to trust Gwaii Trust. We want to hear what the priorities are of the community of Haida Gwaii. If you want to make that leap we want to make it together. How we want to invest that money, it will take everyone at the table saying there will be sacrifices but we're all in agreement moving forward.

It will require changes, but it will take working with your board, calling your Gwaii Trust office, speaking with the COO.

Question: Page 14, item 15 – Provide an update on Haida Parity and what has been done.

CIO: provided an update, expects it to be fully funded over the next period of time. It was not an ongoing thing, it was a one-time lump sum.

The CIO offered for anyone to contact him directly if they have questions.

10.0 Auditor Appointment for 2018

The Members of the Gwaii Trust Society appointed MNP as the auditor for the 2018 fiscal year and requested a request for proposal for a new auditor beyond that date.

Moved by: Warren Foster

Seconded by:

Bret Johnston

CARRIED

MR 2018-002

11.0 Member appointments

The members of the Gwaii Trust Society made a motion to appoint the Gwaii Trust Board of Directors as follows:



Community:	Director	Alternate	Term Expiry
Graham Island Central	Berry Wijdeven	Lisa Gyorgy	2019
CHN Skidegate	Jason Alsop	William Russ	2019
CHN Massett	Robert Bennett	Tyler Bellis	2019
Area 'E'	Warren Foster	Laurie Chisholm	2019
Graham Island North	Bret Johnston	Lareina Grosse	2020
Graham Island South	Clyde Greenough	Devin Rachar	2020
Skidegate Band Council	Billy Yovanovich	Ooka Pineault	2020
Old Massett Village Council	Cecil Brown	Richard Williams	2020

Moved by: Warren Foster
Seconded by: Jason Alsop **CARRIED** **MR 2018-004**

12.0 Questions from the Public

Question: When will Haida Language be open to more than two groups?

Dir Alsop (Chair of Haida Language Committee): The guidelines were recently adjusted. One group wasn't active and it was opened to OMVC who are hiring a coordinator. As there are many projects and committees within the Haida language world, the committee is careful to not overstep.

Question: Do the leftover funds get carried forward?

Dir Alsop: This year we had an additional \$75,000 that didn't go forward

Question, Peter Lantin, President, CHN: Hawaa for recognition of John T Jones.

Mr. Lantin acknowledged that this table is the only island governance on the island. Going to build islands protocol table to uncover some of the challenges and asked if they can apply to the Governance fund?

COO: There is not a separate fund set aside anymore after many years of it not being accessed, but it's always been available. The core purpose of Gwaii Trust in bylaws was to support all islands governance and an application can still come forward.

Dir Foster corrected that there was never a specific fund.

Attendee responding to Mr. Lantin - the protocol table is an important forum but doesn't have support. Councilors aren't well paid and staff have their own mandate to run the village. Encouraged political parties to put a proposal forward to the board.

Question: Have been doing a language mentorship apprenticeship program. Last year 7 applied, this year 23. The average person struggles to do proposals. The process needs to be more open and inviting, especially for those who aren't a society.

COO: We'd like to see a simpler process for the smaller projects. We welcome people's comments if they have specific feedback. We have to adhere to board policy, but having specific information will help.

Question, Greg Martin, Mayor, Village of Queen Charlotte: Recognized board and staff for the work they do.

Regarding Labour Market Survey – would like to contribute information regarding BC Ferries staffing, how does he participate?

COO: Provided an overview, welcomed participation, and will follow up with information.



Question: Have been involved in requests in the past, once you get going it's pretty straightforward but if you've never done it, it can be difficult. Could we put on a training?

COO: Have offered in Port Clements last year, but only one registrant. More to come, although getting the word out to the community is always difficult. There will also be project management training offered in September.

Question: We are in serious crisis because of the power struggle over forestry at the moment. Looking for guidance and security on our future.

Chair: Starting point to look at islands' governance, current title holders have been holding independent of one another.

Question: Is there another process for people to bring things directly to the board?

Chair: There are committees in place, there are directors open for conversation who can bring back to the table

COO: You can advocate directly to your director, and there are also public Meet Your Director events.

Question: In terms of direction, will there be a public consultation before allocations decisions made?

Dir Greenough: Tuesday federal & provincial government meeting in Ottawa to go over some of the 4th round minutiae of the lawyer's details, and yes there will be public consultation.

Dir Foster: The government will then issue letter providing authority to proceed while awaiting legal legislation. Providing timeline is difficult as there's uncertainty based on government process but if it does go sideways again we'll keep fighting and advocating.

Questioner: Priority is food security, economic diversification in food, and restoration. Culturally appropriate / island appropriate employment, eg a clam processing plant.

Ken Rea: Recognized the board for their commitment to volunteering, one of the most difficult boards on the islands, people give up 2-3 weekends a month.

There's no political capital and credibility that Gwaii Trust has beyond the island. It's one thing this board has never capitalized on. Problem with Athlii Gwaii Legacy Trust is no one off the island knows who Gwaii Trust is, so there's no credibility to help move things forward. There's an opportunity to use other organizations to build the Trust.

Regarding the Economic Development Committee, would be great to provide highlights of progress at a forum like this.

Chair: Director Wijdeven is chair of Economic Development committee, unfortunately had to provide regrets. Growing the Trust is something that has been discussed, but the priority should be to take care of our own back yard, as we've heard today.

Dir. Yovanovich: Is it time to have an islands-wide nonprofit society focused on some of the items raised by Gloria O'Brien? Has little faith in all-island protocol, not a lot has come out of it in his time spent with it, but perhaps reps from a society would have more traction and there could be funding for governance from the Trust?

Dir. Foster recommend that idea go to the All-Islands Protocol Table for consideration.

13.0

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:19pm



James Cowpar
Chair

Carla Lutner
Chief Operations Officer

