**Thetis Island Improvement District**

On December 17, 1982 the Thetis Island Improvement District (TIID) was granted its Letters Patent by the Provincial Government. The founding trustees for the TIID were Paul Raike, Chair; Denham Kelsey Secretary/Treasurer; Harry Armstrong; George Bird and Don Hunter. Pete Rees pressed for the creation of the TIID to enable the funding of the Thetis Island Volunteer Fire Department (TIVFD) through the Provincial tax role.

The Letters Patent contain the name of the Improvement District, its boundary and the services which it will provide to the residents within that boundary. Improvement Districts are administered by an elected board of trustees, one of whom has the additional duty of chair. Each trustee is elected for a three-year term by the eligible landowners of the Improvement District. To be eligible to vote, or to be a candidate for trustee, a person must be eighteen years of age, a Canadian citizen, an owner of land in the Improvement District and a BC resident for the previous six months. The Improvement District’s Letters Patent, applicable sections of the Local Government Act, and other applicable provincial statutes outline the powers that can be exercised by the board of trustees. These powers include the ability to enact and enforce its regulations and charges, to assess and collect taxes, to acquire, hold and dispose of lands, to borrow money and to expropriate lands required to carry out its functions. The board of trustees exercises these powers through the passage of resolutions and bylaws. Although Improvement Districts are independent public corporations, they are also subject to supervision by the Ministry. All bylaws passed by the board of trustees must be registered with the Inspector of Municipalities and the bylaws are not effective until that approval is granted. In addition, each year the Improvement District’s audited financial statements and the minutes of its annual general meeting are reviewed and filed with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

Trustees must make decisions to ensure that adequate funds are available to maintain current operations and to replace capital infrastructure as it ages. Furthermore, the trustees must establish reserve funds (Capital) and those funds can only be used for the specific purpose for which the fund was established. The Board of Trustees must prepare financial statements according to GAAP and appoint an auditor.

The current board of trustees for the TIID are: Andy Lamb, Bill Dickie, Graeme Shelford, Keith Rush (Chair) and Tom Anderson. The board of trustees typically meets in January, April, July, September and October with additional special board meetings held as needed. Each board member is tasked with a specific file: Trustee Andy Lamb is the Improvement District’s appointment and hence Commissioner on the Thetis Island Port Commission, which manages the Thetis Island Community Dock and Boat Ramp. Trustee Bill Dickie is the boards’ representative on the Fire Departments joint Health and Safety Committee. Bill also participates with Fire Chief Jeannine Caldbeck on prospective firefighter interviews. Trustee and former Deputy Chief Graeme Shelford is the lead on the Insurance File. Graeme assists the Fire Chief with any grant applications. Our longest serving trustee Tom Anderson is the lead trustee on the Building Maintenance Auxiliary team. Supporting all of these activities are staff members Anne-Marie Koeppen, Administrative Officer and Charlotte Aaberg Chief Financial Officer.

Keith Rush, Chair

Board of Trustees,

Thetis Island Improvement District