

**REPORT TO SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL COMMUNITY COMMISSION
MEETING OF THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2026**

SUBJECT Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission Governance Training

ISSUE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to review and approve an outline for governance training for the newly elected Salt Spring Island (SSI) Local Community Commission (LCC) Commissioners following the October 2026 election.

BACKGROUND

At the January 29th, 2026, regular meeting of the SSI LCC passed the following motion:

“The Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission recommends to the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area Director that staff plan a Hybrid Governance Training Program (Option 3) for the fall of 2026 and allocate \$5,000 to support this training in the 1.111 Salt Spring Island Administration budget funded by requisition as a one-time expense in 2026”.

Governance training for elected and appointed officials is a best practice that supports effective decision-making, clarity of roles, and compliance with applicable legislation and policies. As the LCC enters its next term, establishing a structured orientation and governance training program will help ensure Commissioners are equipped to perform their duties effectively within the Capital Regional District (CRD) framework.

The LCC and CRD Director have requested that staff plan a hybrid training program for providing governance training. The LCC had also expressed an interest in additional training related to intergovernmental relations, referrals and cultural sensitivities when working with First Nations. The CRD's First Nations Relations department provides a variety of training sessions for both staff and elected officials. These training sessions include, but are not limited to, Cultural Perspectives and Building Local Relationships. First Nations training has been included as part of the Governance Training Workshop at no additional cost.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission approve the proposed governance training program.

Alternative 2

That the Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission approve the proposed governance training program as amended.

Alternative 3

The Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission refers the report back to staff for additional information.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

\$5,000 has been allocated towards Governance Training under 1.111 Salt Spring Island Administration budget funded by requisition as a one-time expense in 2026.

Governance Implications

Providing governance training supports informed and accountable decision-making by ensuring Commissioners understand their roles, statutory authority, and the CRD governance framework. The training reduces the risk of procedural or legislative non-compliance and promotes consistent governance practices. It also strengthens effective working relationships, including respectful engagement with First Nations and other governments.

CONCLUSION

Governance training is a recognized best practice that supports effective decision-making, role clarity, and legislative compliance for elected officials. The proposed hybrid governance training program provides a structured orientation for newly elected SSI Local Community Commission Commissioners following the October 2026 election. The outlined approach addresses both core governance responsibilities and additional learning priorities identified by the Commission, including First Nations relations, at no additional cost. Approval of the training outline in Appendix A will ensure Commissioners are well prepared to fulfill their duties within the CRD framework.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission approve the proposed governance training program.

Submitted by:	Dan Ovington, BBA Senior Manager, Salt Spring Island Administration
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