



News Release

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LINC

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THREE LOCAL CONSERVATION GROUPS UNITE TO PROTECT MT. TREMATON

VICTORIA — The Islands Trust Fund has signed an agreement with the Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy (LINC) and the Nanaimo and Area Land Trust to share responsibility for protecting the Mt. Trematon Nature Reserve on Lasqueti Island. The agreement - a conservation covenant - ensures decisions about future use and management will include local knowledge and consideration.

Soaring 327 meters above Georgia Strait, Mount Trematon offers 360-degree views of the Salish Sea, the Discovery Islands, Mt. Baker, Mt. Arrowsmith and the mainland. Majestic old-growth Douglas firs flank the side of the mountain and provide a natural wildlife corridor between the Lasqueti Island Ecological Reserve to the south and undeveloped Crown land to the north.

Alasdair Gordon believed Mt. Trematon was the perfect place for peaceful contemplation. He purchased the property and immediately donated it in 2005 to the Islands Trust Fund so that it would remain accessible and natural for generations to come.

“Alasdair was raised on the windswept mountains of the Isle of Skye, and spent his childhood climbing in the hills,” recalled Nancy Gordon, Alasdair’s wife. “He loved the new outlook on the world that we all get from a climb to a summit. After 59 years on the BC coast, Mt. Trematon was his great favourite for the fresh perspective that it always provides. He wanted to ensure that it was open to all.”

The new conservation covenant between the three conservation organizations further guarantees the perpetual protection of Mt. Trematon. “While the property was protected as a nature reserve the day it transferred to the Islands Trust Fund, inviting the two local groups to hold this extra layer of protection on the land ensures there is local involvement and oversight in the care and stewardship of this significant gift,” said Gordon Scott, President of LINC. This is LINC’s first conservation covenant.

A conservation covenant is a voluntary but permanent legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust. A covenant grants the land trust certain rights and responsibilities while restricting any land uses that could adversely affect the important natural features of a property. The Mt. Trematon covenant allows for hiking and passive nature appreciation but prohibits subdivision, resource extraction or commercial activities.

“Our family chose the Islands Trust Fund as we felt that this conservation group would give local people the strongest role in the protection and care of the land,” explained Donald Gordon, Alasdair’s son. “It has been great to see people take this on over the past seven years through everything from garbage clean-up, to tree protection, to asking that 4x4s stay out. Now that LINC is a formally-recognized covenant holder, that local role gets even stronger.”

To learn more about conservation covenants, visit the Islands Trust Fund at www.islandstrustfund.bc.ca/covenants or contact Gordon Scott, President, LINC at (250) 333-8754.

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"A Conservancy for Canada's Islands in the Salish Sea"

Bowen, Denman, Hornby, Gabriola, Galiano, Gambier, Lasqueti, Mayne, N. Pender, Salt Spring, Saturna, S. Pender, Thetis

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