

## SATURNA FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

November 1st, 1993.

To All Electors;  
On November 20th, 1993, a referendum will be presented to the electors of Saturna asking them to approve the establishment of a Local Service on Saturna Island to provide a contribution to the cost of Fire Protection and Emergency Response under the provisions of Section 788 1 j of the Municipal Act.

This Referendum is the final step in a process that began at a meeting in the Saturna Community Hall on July 4th, 1992. A committee was struck at that meeting and given the mandate to examine all reasonable alternatives for funding fire protection on Saturna Island.

The Committee presented a report with four alternative ways of funding fire protection to the property owners. This was done by mailing, first class, the Committee's Report, together with a ballot asking everyone to indicate their choice out of the four alternatives. 217 people responded with a clear message that they were in favour of funding through the Tax Roll but also wished to maintain control of the operation of a fire protection service.

The majority opted for the formation of a Local Improvement District. The Committee made a presentation to the Minister of Municipal Affairs requesting that a Local Improvement District be setup. After considerable delay, and intervening meetings, the Minister stated that he would prefer that we pursue with the Capital Regional District the matter of setting up a Local service under section 788 {j} of the Municipal Act, with the proviso that if we were unable to reach agreement with the CRD that we come back to him.

The Committee examined the recommendation and found that the formation of a Local Service under Section 788 1 j of the Act for the purpose of contributing to the costs of fire protection on Saturna Island would meet the need for funding through the Tax Roll without losing any control over the Fire Protection service.

A Fire Protection Society will be formed on the Island whose members shall be the electors. Those electors will choose annually a Board of Directors who will be responsible for the overall operation of the fire protection service. The Board will prepare and present a budget to the CRD not exceeding the \$36000.00 set out in the By-law and the CRD will fix the mill rate so as to realize the budgeted amount. The CRD is simply a collector of taxes. All assets presently owned, or hereafter acquired will be the property of the new Society.

The \$36000.00 maximum levy in the By-law was arrived at through

the budget, a copy of which is enclosed. The annual tax levy cannot exceed this amount without going back to the electors for approval. This amount when applied to the total assessment on Saturna means that for each \$1000.00 in assessed value the tax will be \$.6806. If your property is assessed at \$100,000.00 then you will be assessed \$68.06 for fire protection.

The Committee considers the proposal to be a reasonable solution to the funding problem and unanimously recommends that the electors vote in favour of the referendum. If you have any questions about the proposal do not hesitate to call Al Sewell, the chairman, at 539 5680 or any of the Committee members.

On behalf of the committee:  
Al Sewell, Chairman  
Bill Harrower  
Lorne Bolton  
Hugh Graffwick  
Denise Kuzyk  
Norm Littlewood

## SATURNA FIRE DEPARTMENT

### 1994 BUDGET

Insurance	\$ 3,000
Repairs and Maintenance	2,000
Utilities	1,000
Training - Justice Institute	5,000
Contingency	4,000
Equipment: Air Pacs, Turn Out Gear and other small items	5,000
Capital repayment on existing loan used for Truck purchase	10,000
Reserve for future Truck replacement	6,000
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	\$ 36,000

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