

OTTER POINT, SHIRLEY & JORDAN RIVER GOVERNANCE UPDATE

Here is the latest information, as of June 2006, on the outstanding request to the province for a Governance Study for Shirley/Jordan River and Otter Point:

- ◆ OPSRRA has recently been informed by the Capital Regional District (CRD) that they are working on draft terms-of-reference for a Governance Study for the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area with the Ministry of Community Services. They anticipate the draft being completed about the third week of July. They will then ask the seven Shirley and Otter Point community organizations, that have come together as the Governance Study group, to review and comment on the draft terms-of-reference.
- ◆ The CRD is apparently interested in doing a comprehensive governance study of the whole JDF Electoral Area, but can't do that with the limited (\$10,000) grant initially offered by the province. The CRD and John Horgan, MLA for Malahat/Juan de Fuca, have been lobbying for more money. The Ministry of Community Services has agreed to increase the amount, but no final figure has been agreed to. The amount of \$35,000 has been suggested.
- ◆ John Horgan, MLA, spoke to the Minister of Community Services on April 28th about a Governance Study for Otter Point, Shirley, Jordan River and East Sooke. The full text of that address is available on Hansard.
- ◆ [Here is the link to the Hansard transcript. John Horgan begins his questioning at about page 4080. http://www.leg.bc.ca/hansard/38th2nd/h60426p.htm#4079](http://www.leg.bc.ca/hansard/38th2nd/h60426p.htm#4079)
- ◆ A delegation of OPSRRA directors met with the MLA on May 12th to follow-up on the issues raised by him in the legislature on April 28th. The MLA agreed to pursue the following:
 - a) Meet with the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Regional Director for an update on what is happening with the idea of amalgamating East Sooke and The Malahat with Metchosin, and to find-out what governance option(s) he is prepared to support for Shirley, Jordan River and Otter Point.
 - b) Meet with the Chair of the CRD Board of Directors to find-out what in-put will be permitted from the Regional Director, MLA, Governance Study group, etc. when developing terms-of-reference for a governance study.
 - c) Meet with representatives from the Ministry of Community Services to follow up on the Minister's comments of April 28th about releasing more money for a governance study.
 - d) Remain in contact with the Otter Point and Shirley/Jordan River Governance Study group.

Note: On May 31st the MLA spoke with the Chair of the CRD Board (Mayor Lowe of Victoria) and they have agreed, as a first step, to arrange a meeting with the JDF Regional Director and the Mayors of Metchosin, Sooke and Langford. The purpose of this meeting would be to agree on the comprehensiveness of the governance study, the estimated cost and to provide direction to CRD staff.