

MINUTES OF TIRRA AGM
May 16th 2026
Forbes Hall

Executive Attendees

President: Lynne Smith

Vice President: Quentin Goodbody

Treasurer and Solid Waste Chairperson: Ernie Hunter

Communications Chair: Karl Unger

Cemetery Chair: Suzanne Sarioglu

40 Attendees including TIRRA Executive:

President, Lynne Smith called the meeting to order at 2:30pm, introduced herself and noted that quorum requirements were met.

Adoption of the Agenda - Carried

Adoption of last AGM Meeting Minutes, March 24, 2025. Carried

Executive Reports

President: Lynne Smith reported the past year was a busy year. The Board is currently working through the landowner trail agreements. Motions dealt with by the Board via email between scheduled Board Meetings will be included in the subsequent Board meeting agenda in order to ensure tracking of those motions.

Communications: Karl Unger reported that eSPOKES continues daily delivery to 682 subscribers, supported by volunteers that provide safety alerts, weather updates and community reports. 2026 Phone Book preparation is underway. Visitors Guide needs volunteers to update. Welcome Packages continue to support new residents. TIRRA website – thetisland.net maintenance continues while redevelopment progresses more slowly than anticipated. Membership currently includes 75 lots, with electronic membership form submission now available.

Treasurer: Ernie Hunter: Significant effort dealing with the commercial dept of the bank. Trail Donations added to membership forms. Need to increase our membership to keep our general fund in reasonable condition.

Solid Waste: Ernie Hunter. Andrea Baker continues to care for the facility and those that make use of it. The bag fees don't quite cover the cost of operations but are reasonably close. GFL does a great job doing the hauling. Thank you to Glen Andison for his extra work on maintaining the yard and Mike Comeau for the new facility shelter for Andrea.

Trails: Quentin Goodbody (acting Chair) shared maps of community trails under TIRRA jurisdiction. He spoke about TIRRA due diligence with regards to land use and sensitive ecosystems. All Trail agreements have been reviewed. Five Trail Agreements have been signed (ie renewed) by both TIRRA Board and Landowners, three draft Trail Agreements have been submitted to Landowners for review, one Trail Agreement under discussion (Fairyslipper Parking Lot), and one Memorandum of Understanding has been submitted to Cowichan Land Trust for review. Total expenditures May 2025 – May 2026: \$2,360.76. Trail work to do pending consultation with landowners. Lawrence Valley Trail – cutting steps into steep section by Fire Hall to mitigate slipping hazard; replacement of boards leading to the meadow bottom; removal of concrete stepping blocks from, and mitigation of, 115' muddy section. Thanked all the Trail Landowners for sharing access to their lands with the community and the stewards and volunteers that help maintain the trails.

Cemetery: Suzanne Sarioglu: In 2025 the cemetery board finalized its plan to proceed with natural burials in the cemetery with the intention of phasing out all casket burials by 2030. Over the last two years St. Margaret's Cemetery has been working with Capernwray Torchbearers on developing a raingarden on a portion of land to the cemetery on Capernwray property. As of 2026 May – Cremations plots total = 280 total; 69% reserved or used. Natural burials = 35 plots total; 17% reserved or used. Conventional burial plots=32 plots; 81% reserved or used.

Transportation: (Chair vacant) : No report.

Island Trust 2026/27 Budget Key Points: Karl Unger presented details on total IT Budget: \$11.8Million – Property taxes: +8.1% this year – Budget Growth: +19% since 2023(above inflation). Costs and key issues were the \$1.5M loss of grants now funded by taxes, rising salaries and wage increases, increased staffing but no major new core services. Amount of paperwork for IT meetings making it difficult to track spending and outcomes. TIRRA Board had written Islands Trust with concerns regarding the proposed 2026 Budget increase and received no response. Recommendations and questions from members suggested that TIRRA should meet with the Thetis Island Local Trust Committee Trustees. Lynne Smith recommended that the membership send the TIRRA Board their questions that they would like addressed.

CVRD Update: Lynne Smith noted 62 % taxation increase over 4 years with Regional Recreation facilities being a key element driving taxation increase. 2023-2026 funding towards \$1.5M for Frank Jameson roofing. Future \$3.6M for Fuller Lake Arena possibly taxation over 10 year period. CVRD since 2023 has received over \$15million in grant funding. Where are the Municipality reserve funds and grant funds to use towards these buildings they own? The CVRD Thetis Island Wharf has now been moved under the Community Services Dept. – Facilities Management Section. A breakdown on the costs of Phase 1 for the Wharf was provided. Recommended advocating for grant funding to assist with the next upgrade phase for the Wharf.

Scotch Broom – motion 2025 – No one has stepped forward to take on this work. ThINC has a scotch broom program for the community to participate in: suggested that TIRRA efforts be co-ordinated with ThINC.

Elections for 2026/7 TIRRA Board:

The following were appointed by acclamation:

Officers:

President: Lynne Smith
Vice President; Quentin Goodbody
Treasurer: Ernie Hunter
Secretary: Aimee Van Drimmelen

Committee Chairs

Cemetery: Suzanne Sarioglu
Trails: Kees Dekker
Transportation: Open
Solid Waste: Ernie Hunter
Communications: Karl Under

Members Forum:

Motion to increase the 2027 Membership fees by \$5, increasing the 2027 Membership fees to be Individual \$15 and Household \$20
Motion carried

Please send communications to TIRRA board to tirraboard@thetisland.net

All Reports from the President and Committees as well as the Update reports and details on the Islands Trust Budget and CVRD Taxation are available on the TIRRA website at <https://thetisland.net/tirra/tirra-office.html>

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 4.20pm.