



New Brighton Dock Committee Update

May 7, 2022

The New Brighton Dock Committee (NBDC) was formed by the Gambier Island Community Association (GICA) to provide a voice and help to develop a strategy to ensure safe, long-term public access to the New Brighton dock.

- Please note the NBDC has not taken on responsibility for managing or maintaining the New Brighton dock. This was clarified when the NBDC delegation made an in-person presentation, on Thursday, April 21, 2022, to the Sunshine Coast Regional District's (SCRD's) Community Services Committee. Maintenance is currently being done on an on-call basis with the Squamish Nation Marine Group (SNMG). Barbara Miklashek has graciously volunteered to be the point person for relaying urgent maintenance repairs. Contact her via email: bmiklashek@led.ca.

During the presentation, the NBDC reminded the Community Services Committee that the SCRCD is responsible for public services on the islands and that they have the expertise and experience for maintaining and operating docks.

The NBDC requested the SCRCD's Community Services Committee to:

- engage in a public process to determine options for supporting the New Brighton dock as the primary access point for the Southwest Peninsula;
- be a champion for the community of the southwest peninsula regarding the future of the New Brighton dock. This has been challenging as the SCRCD has been searching for a replacement for the vacated position/manager who was responsible for the nine docks within the SCRCD's jurisdiction.
- support a dock inspection to determine the condition and safety of the current structure;
- note that time is of the essence as there are clearly safety issues that often occur.
- continue dialogue between SCRCD and the SNMG about the long-term future of the dock;
- communicate with the Provincial government to explore funding alternatives and
- remember that each dock is valuable to each Gambier Island Neighbourhood.

The next steps to be taken by the NBDC are

1. to seek in-person meetings with our MLA and MP to solicit their support for the New Brighton dock and collaboratively find solutions for its long-term viability. A personal invitation to our MLA will be extended so the Honourable Nicholas Simons may have firsthand understanding of the situation facing the community of Gambier Island.
2. that the Ferry Advisory Committee be requested to ask BC Ferries to help find solutions for support as route 13 (Gambier-Keats-Langdale) is the only route where docks are not supported by either the provincial or federal governments.

The next steps are to be initiated through May and June with a further update to follow.

Thank you for your time and understanding as we navigate through this process.