

**Presentation on the Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust
To the Agricultural Alliance AGM
18 February 2010**

The process for establishing a farmland trust began in March 2008. The **Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust Society** by-laws and constitution received final approval from the provincial registrar in August 2009. Briefly, the primary objectives of the Trust are:

1. to protect and manage farmland
2. to accept donations of farmland, bequests and funds to support these farmland properties
3. to provide affordable farming opportunities to young and emerging farmers
4. to promote community agricultural and educational initiatives.

The founding board (whose members are: M. Lee president, C. Platz (treasurer) R. Cook (secretary), D. Robertson, G. Lee, C. Pilon and M. Bond) have met throughout the year.

Items on the agendas were:

1. to finalize the by-laws and constitution
2. prepare funding requests to support potential community gardens
3. review possible donations of land
4. review the proposed management of farm land within the Burgoyne BC Park area

The most critical step in the immediate future of the Trust is to complete the process which would allow the Trust to be recognized as an incorporated body with Charitable Status under Revenue Canada. This measure would allow the Trust to accept land donations without the burden associated with transfer taxes and other financial liabilities.

