

# Island Studies: West Coast Canada & Beyond

By Islanders, For Islanders, About Islanders and Islands.  
May 10, 11, 12, 2013, The Haven, Gabriola Island, BC

*"...Roberto had sensed a world now without any center, made up only of peripheries, here he felt himself truly in the most extreme and most of peripheries; because, if there was a center, it lay before him, and he was its most immobile satellite."*

Umberto Eco,  
*The Island of the Day Before*

Sponsored by  
Athabasca University,  
Thompson Rivers University,  
Vancouver Island University

We are open to a wide range of participation/presentations from poster sessions, papers, panels, performances, displays, readers theatre etc. Please submit a 300-word abstract, no later than November 30, 2012, that includes your name, a brief bio, contact information as well as your proposed topic and your preferred format for presentation to:

info@islandstudiesconference2013.org

For questions please call  
Gloria Filax at 1-866-213-0941 (or 1-250-247-8953 outside Canada & USA), or  
Fay Weller at 1-250-247-8120

Childcare available upon request  
Wheelchair accessible

## Call for Proposals

Calling all west coast BC Islanders and those interested in the study of islands! This is a first call for proposals to participate in conference/forum/dialogue on the complex range of environmental, socio-cultural, and economic challenges that are the daily reality for island communities on West Coast Canada, USA, and elsewhere. Through our invitation we offer a place and time to study, think, discuss, disseminate, hope, vision, and explore islands on their/our own terms.

**We are looking for participation from scholars, intellectuals, leaders, community members, activists, and community organizations who:**

- have a passion for island communities and sustainability or the study of islands and islanders,
- want to learn from other island experiences and overcome challenges associated with islands and
- wish to network with like-minded and island focused individuals, including members or leaders of island communities (private enterprise, government, community groups, et cetera).



Photograph of Berry Point, Gabriola Island by Bill Pope

### Suggested themes for proposals (not restrictive):

**A. Theorizing Island and Archipelagos:** Island identity; how are islands and islanders similar/different; islands versus mainlands; glocality; hybridity; nano islands

**B. Island Natural and Social History:** History of island studies (international, local); First Peoples of the West Coast; colonial and white settler past; geology, bio-geography, and archaeology of islands; botany and ethnobotany

**C. Island Governance:** Community self-governance – whose community?; Indigenous sovereignty; land use, stewardship, and ownership; land protection and conservation; land trusts; indigenous people/First Nations rights; disaster management; transportation; changing demographics; food security and sovereignty; security (food, water, land, air, fear/safety); security and crime; health and well-being; provision of basic services

**D. Island Energies and Environments:** Climate change; alternative energy; sharing land and water with non-humans; wilderness, forests and wetlands; fisheries, water use and ground water protection; waste management; recycling and composting; clean air

**E. Island Cultures and Communities:** Art, Music, Literature of islands; resistance and activism; community building; commons/common resource sharing; conflict/resolution; resilience and hope; communications, media & local news; life of children and youth on islands; aging in place and elder care; recreation and leisure; cultural diversity & social norms/regulatory technologies (racial, sexual, ethnic, able-bodied, class differences); education (formal/non-formal)

**F. Island Economies:** Sustainable future/s; tourism; finance; information technology; the role of artists, food, and crafts; immigrants; entrepreneurs; economic development; barter; market economy; transition economy; exchange; local currencies; low carbon economies; non-monetary economy; social economy.

**G. ISISA:** The International Small Island Studies Association (ISISA) will have a panel discussion to share the history and context of how the ISISA sees island studies. We are very pleased to have this conference component.