

From: Lambertus Struik [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 11:16 PM
To: Islands2050
Subject: Re: Islands Trust Islands 2050 Mailbox Auto-Reply

Dear Trustees

This is in reaction to the
Policy Directions report of January, 2021.

RE: the eco-housing land-use policy.

The report's policy direction for living on a Gulf Island will probably reserve the bulk of the islands for the rich, and pushes those who cannot afford land, and happens to work here, into village enclaves.

The direction is similar to off-island thinking, in particular creating dense villages without increasing public ecologically-balanced, conservation, recreation and work areas around those villages. Work areas are places like community vegetable gardens, wood-lots, wild-food sources, and such.

The policy direction report recognizes that only the rich can afford the increasingly costly acreages (driven by concentrated global wealth). Most of the Gulf Islands are private properties. Some islanders have created conservation areas and parks scattered about their island. Zoning a densely populated village for low-income people without surrounding it with public multi-purpose areas, creates a place for the poor, who provide services for the rich, without any island rewards, especially if transportation is limited to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

These types of concerns are similar to those of First Nations as expressed in the policy direction document, where they are looking to access environmentally clean, ecologically-balanced natural areas for their cultural livelihood.

The Gulf Islands used to be homesteads. The policy direction enforces expensive acreages, while the rest may be mainly confined to condo like village by the ferry terminal or some other island area with little biodiversity left.

Sincerely

Bert Struik

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