

From: CAL Marshall [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 1:21 PM
To: Islands2050
Subject: Prioritize the Environment

Dear Islands Trust Trustees,

I am writing to you as a citizen of Gabriola Island. My family bought property in 1978 when the Islands Trust was formed. Had the Trust not been formed, our island would resemble any big city, all buildings and no trees.

My family has been thankful to have this beautiful island over the past 40 years.

It is a shame that we now have Trustees who are not putting the environment first.

I sadly attended a number of LTC meetings this year where the culmination was that only one Gabriola Island Trustee voted against a bylaw change that opened the door to denser building on our island. It was heartbreaking to see that the deciding vote was from a chairperson who does not live here and will not suffer the consequences of deforestation and groundwater loss on our island. When there is a disagreement between the two local trustees, is it appropriate for the Chair to vote against preservation of the environment?

I don't believe so.

The Islands Trust is the only organization standing between the loss of important habitats and endangered species in this fragile ecosystem.

Those of us who have watched the natural world deteriorate can see the results already.

When it comes time to vote for new Island Trustees I will be looking for candidates who uphold the "Preserve and Protect" mandate that will keep Gabriola healthy.

Thank you,

Carey-Ann Marshall
[REDACTED]