



July 8, 2021

Peter Luckham

Chair, Islands Trust Council

Victoria, BC

Re. Islands Trust Policy Statement Review-First Reading

Dear Mr Luckham:

We (Wilco Construction Ltd.) are requesting that you withdraw the proposed policy document, scheduled for First Reading July 8, 2021 in its present form. It is our feeling that much more public consultation is required prior to a First Reading.

The broad sweeping changes contained within the Draft Policy Statement have created much concern and we would argue this has led to an eroding of trust in the Islands Trust. The speed at which this has been tabled is leading to much concern amongst people we work with and for. The overarching concern is that there is an agenda to drastically change the way of life enjoyed by so many on the Gulf Islands.

The Draft Policy Statement has many laudible goals some of which are Reconciliation, adapting to Climate Change, and the creation of Affordable Housing to accommodate present and future needs in the Trust area. On the other hand, the Trust appears to be wading into areas where their jurisdiction and/or expertise is questionable, ie. restricting forestry & tree-cutting activities, banning of tanker moorage et al. The heavy-handed approach to dealing with private docks is of obvious concern to many as we depend on and enjoy a marine based lifestyle not only for business but for pleasure.

The policy document review process is an exciting opportunity to “protect and preserve” the Trust region for the next few decades, as titled-up to 2050. Given the importance of this document, it cannot be stressed more, that more time is needed for stake holder input and exhaustive public consultation.

If significantly more time is not allocated to discussing the direction we want for our Islands than we would argue that the Trust has lost the trust of the people!

We look forward to hearing back from you and do hope that you take our concerns to heart.

Sincerely,

Two handwritten signatures in black ink, one on the left and one on the right, both appearing to be stylized and somewhat illegible.

Wilco Construction Ltd.

Cc: Trustees Laura Patrick, Peter Grove  
Cc: Hon. John Horgan, Premier of BC  
Cc: Hon. Josie Osborne, Minister of Municipal Affairs  
Cc: Hon. Murray Rankin, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation  
Cc: Hon. Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture, Food & Fisheries  
Cc: Hon. Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Land & Natural Resources  
Cc: Adam Olsen, MLA