

From: chris carrier [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 11:34 AM
To: Islands2050
Cc: Ben McConchie; Deb Morrison
Subject: Island Trust plan comments

Dear Monica, Marianne, et al,

I hesitate to write as I mustn't impose my expectations on you nor accept your choices as mine. Only audacity could tip that balance. Clearly, you are invested in this document, a testament to your public awareness and conscience. For that, I thank you.

In the aftermath of a negative reception at public meetings, Pender Earth representatives asked for positives. I can offer one in good conscience:

an absolute prohibition on oil tankers travelling through the Salish Sea and the waters of the Island Trust Area.

This priority guides my personal time and resources, my donations, and my sense that something meaningful can be done. If you can make this part of the new Trust Plan stick, I shall forgive you all other sins in the document.

As for the rest of the document, moreover, I like the plan or rather the parts of it I understand. And this may point to one of the reasons you are getting static from so many people. It's written in WooWoo, and people suspect the worst. The writing is long on laying the ground work to do who knows what and short on plainly spoken certainties. It was a rare breath of fresh air to find writing with gonads: no fish farms, no casinos, no professional bingo operations, no desalination, and even the vagaries of no artificial reefs (except the occasional reef ball or maybe even an artificial reef if Fisheries and Oceans says so). The kind of waffling evident with the artificial reefs may become the norm for many wishes in this document.

You could help my understanding by explaining where the authority of the Island Trust falls in the scheme of authorities. Forgive me if this was mentioned in the first two sections as I found them unreadable. I know there is the provincial authority and that divides into various cabinets and departments. Then the departments enact policy as best they can. Do the Island Trustees have more or less authority than department representatives? Or is the prov. gov't only encouraging local control until it's inconvenient or voids its authority?

That's it for my personal feedback as I don't own ocean front property. Following is a perspective which I gather is important to Penderites who do.

You have already learned that the proposed policy change re. ending almost all dock and staircase-dock building will be met with opposition. In a request letter from Pender Earth for positive feedback, community members who challenged you with their legal property rights were as a group considered to be negative and "very few of the comments were directed toward specific TPS items." Please note that Item 4.6.7 (6th ? mark down) states: "New private docks should be limited to boat access only properties; (new)." In the interests of communication, it would help if comments were not solicited, judged, and dismissed before you are familiar with the text of the document.

The policy change to restrict new docks will remain a lightning rod. I suggest you find examples wherein people grievously tore hell out of the earth while putting in a dock or staircase and dock. The dog and I walk along some of the Pender coast, and I've not seen such examples. Without examples of abuse, it becomes environmentally sensitive construction vs. nightmare dreams in the Trustees' minds. The "no docks" policy change goes beyond inconveniencing people to include suffering measurable financial harm, aesthetic compromise, and misrepresentation by real estate people. You are messing with what is for most people a significant financial and aesthetic investment in their lives. God forbid there is a forest fire and people die because their only escape is the sea, and you guys have block access. I am not trying to build a case for Daddy Warbucks and his 35' yacht. A kinder mind recognizes the reality that most of us are of modest means, greatly appreciative of Pender's natural beauty, and regard contact with the ocean as a lifeline for healing ourselves.

Without examples of abuse, your near ban on dock building is an injury to some as individuals and to all as violations of the rule of law. It is based on an ugly 'what if' dream in the Trustees' minds. I can't see that logic standing up in court.

My thoughts are sincere and offered with respect for all who work to keep Pender vibrant and natural.

Sincerely,
Chris Carrier (the old one)

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