

From: Jo Riley [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 12:51 PM
To: Islands2050; elizabeth.may@parl.gc.ca
Subject: proposed budget and increase of scope to shorelines

Hello,

I am opposed of the Islands Trust increasing their budget as we need an increase in tax for road maintenance, safe sidewalks, bike paths and upgrades to our health centre. on Pender Island. We as tax payers can only support so much bureaucracy. Islands Trust is in charge of land use management and this proposal shows the Trust is increasing its scope into areas already served by the CRD, the provincial ad the federal governments.

I am in support of farming on the islands as I love to eat local. I do not approve the proposed changes to farm land usage or additional business licences, expanded building permit fees.

We have extreme storms on the islands, this is a fact. Some trees on the islands are dangerous, one blew down on my sundeck the first year we moved here. Private home owners need to be able to hire professionals to take down dangerous, weak or dying trees around their houses for their safety.

Until the Islands Trust is wiling to provide islanders with chippers and a green waste facility we will continue to need to burn some wind fall branches each year. This needs to be done before fire season as it is fuel for wildfires should one occur. Many homes are wood burning with high efficiency fireplaces on the islands. People find great comfort and joy in this and it is a way to use up dead fall from storms.

I am very conscientious about water conservation and collection and on my island it is possible to store enough water to garden with some effort and expense. I do not agree to the draft proposal increasing Islands Trust scope to include ocean shore line and open waterways. There are many desalination treatments that have been designed in recent years that provide their own power through solar or turbine and therefore are worth having in areas of islands where wells and aquifers are over stressed. I think blanket by-laws are short sighted and difficult to undo. I already pay taxes to bodies who manage these areas.

I support low income housing. Islanders need young people (who can not afford to buy housing) to provide services and do all the jobs the elderly and tourists cannot. The Islands Trust would be wise to listen to the voices of the residents and spend some time looking at housing needs. Perhaps setting up some cooperative trusts where young families can rent to own and pay back the down payment at time of sale with the same % profit going back to the cooperative loan trust that the homeowner makes, and cooperative condos for long term lease only.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my thoughts.

Sincerely Jo Riley
Pender Island