

From: Gary Bywater [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 22, 2022 12:17 PM
To: Islands2050
Subject: To the Trust Committee regarding OCP review ,

We have lived on Saltspring for 28 years and believe It took great foresight to create a policy statement which placed the natural environment of the Gulf Islands ,surrounding waters and rural character as the top priority guiding development . It feels backwards to change this directive when climate change is clearly upon us and every decision made on Saltspring or any other community should be considering impacts on the environment first . As usual the pressure to change this directive comes from the push for growth and the money to be made from it .

People often find ways to get around bylaws or find loopholes to do what they like , no system is immune to that .Clear directive statements must be in the trust policy statement , there should be no opt out policies in other documents . We need a clear document not a muddy one .

The OCP should protect against further increases in zoning if there could be a negative impact on ecosystem health or quantity and quality of freshwater supplies for existing developments . You cannot put density ahead of the supporting water , septic or sewer infrastructure .

The original preserve and protect mandate is not out of date or in need of being brought up to current times it was ahead of its time . We must put the environment first if we truly want healthy communities now and in the future .

Respectfully , Gary and Sharon Bywater

[REDACTED] SSI V8k 1B1
[REDACTED]