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Sent: Friday, April 1, 2022 4:39 PM
To: Islands2050
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Subject: Draft Policy Statement

To the Public Engagement Team

As the owner of [REDACTED] Hornby Island I hereby protest the contents of the Islands Trust Draft Policy Statement Plan, and ask you to reformulate the plan so that it accords more with the expressed wishes of those who live on the islands (as opposed to some city administrators). I do not agree with the huge proposed expansion of the Island Trust mandate and powers. The Trustees appear to have forgotten that the trust was set up for the express purpose of planning and review of development applications while preserving and protecting island amenities for the benefit of the RESIDENTS of the trust area. The mandate does not include restricting our farming economies, imposing fees and restrictions on cutting trees on private property, eliminating dock spaces, banning desalination, extending their authority in marine areas (which is an unnecessary duplication or possibly even a contradiction of Provincial and Federal jurisdiction), etc, etc. There is no need to expand their mandate in any way.

Of course the proposed expanded terms of reference would give rise to extra administrative costs which, one way or another, would have to be paid by those of us who live on the islands. It is just not acceptable for remote uninvolved administrators to make judgements that do not affect them personally, even if they think they know better than we do. Nobody needs any extra expenses in their lives.

The Trust needs, at the very least, to conduct a proper public engagement process, hiring as necessary any consultants. But those consultants should be based locally, not in Alberta, and should be appointed in consensus with those who live here. The local population should be fully involved in the public process to avoid (mis)leading biased statements. The recommendations of any outside report should be ratified before taking any action. That is how democracy is supposed to work.

In the hope that the Trust will see reason here and adjust their approach, with genuine consultation.

Respectfully

Michael Robertson