

**From:** Alan Rebane [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 2, 2022 7:32 AM  
**To:** Islands2050  
**Cc:** Barb; Ben Glassen  
**Subject:** Island trust district A  
**Attachments:** Island trust district A.pdf; ATT00001.txt

**Categories:** Green Category

Good Morning,

Please find letter addressing islands trust policy statement draft bylaw No. 183

May 2, 2022

From: Alan Rebane  
President  
District A Farmers Institute  
7812 Valley Rd  
Powell River BC V8A 0S9

To: Islands Trust - Islands 2050.  
Via email: islands2050@islandstrust.bc.ca  
200-1627 Fort Street  
Victoria BC V8R 1H8

Via Email: islands2050@islandstrust.bc.ca

**Re: Islands Trust Policy Statement – Draft Bylaw No. 183**

Dear Sir/Madam

I am coming into this late in the process having just been elected president of District A Farmers Institutes and reviewing numerous correspondence from all interested parties. Being a Regional Director at one time myself, I have a general understanding how Islands Trust operates as well as the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) and Ministry of Agriculture and Food. I am knowledgeable of good farm practices from being a farmer myself with a small to medium scale farm in Powell River.

I have been able to review the documentation and determine both the ALC and the Ministry Of Agriculture have made statements to ensure that agricultural activities, whether intense or light, are allowed on all agricultural lands no matter what size. It cannot be restricted if it falls within the guidelines of agricultural practices.

Both the ALC and Ministry of Agriculture have a responsibility to the citizens of British Columbia to uphold the rules put in place to maintain our agricultural lands. Whether they are forested or not, these lands have been set aside to serve as agricultural lands therefore any restrictions placed on them by Islands Trust, I would assume would have to be overriding the provincial government.

The only thing that I can see that may concern me is that letters dated from August 3, 2021 through October 2021, and recent discussions indicate that Islands Trust still believes that Agriculture should be small scale which is comparable to the small size of the islands within the islands trust area.

In my experience most farmers are responsible to the environment and their surroundings to coexist, and in fact in most cases farming increases wildlife migrating birds etc. Most agricultural ventures are now adhering to environmental farm plans.

I believe Barb Johnstone's statement is very relevant as of April 19, 2022 " The draft policy statement lacks any understanding about the importance of agriculture to the people on the islands who farm. It has gone from being supportive of our culture to viewing Agriculture as an environmental problem."

Island trust must not draft a policy statement that is negatively going to affect agriculture with in the Islands Trust Policy Bylaw No. 138

The District A Farmers Institute has the ability to work with the provincial government to ensure the local Farmers Institutes get the proper engagement with local government. This Island Trust Policy statement draft bylaw No. 183 needs to be reviewed by the local agricultural community before completion to ensure that they have received fair consideration and have been properly consulted with, and that all the needs of the Agricultural community are met to the provincial guidelines.

Could you please forward your draft Islands Trust Policy bylaw No.183 with your latest revisions so District A Farmers Institute can review, and all local Farmers Institutes can review this policy; as we are always looking to see if there's something that may set a precedent.

I look forward to hearing from you and thanking you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alan Rebane  
President  
District A Farmers Institutes  
Cell [REDACTED]

Cc. Provincial Agricultural Land Commission  
Reid Bailey Land Use Planner  
Lana Popham Ministry Of Agriculture and Food