

**From:** Erik Andersen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 14, 2025 5:22 PM  
**To:** Islands2050; derek  
**Subject:** Fwd: Draft Island Trust Policy Statement

Hello All, just back from listening to the "findings" from a Island Trust study that was to address changes to our community plan. The takeaway is that our Island could/should accommodate more citizens.

I was unaware of any consideration today of what kind of citizens. I was left with the impression that the prevailing belief is that citizens only come in one model. Economies function much like humans, there are different types of economies as there are different types of humans. Humans in concentrations, as in urban centers, need more behavior "rules/laws" than humans living in rural areas. This difference shows itself in the economic data collected and on display below.

At 19 I saw this distinction played out in my training to earn my pilot Wings. At every stage of over a year and a half of training, those that washed-out were invariably those who had grown up in urban centers, in Canada and Europe.

On Gabriola Island the community has an excellent health care center that only came into existence because individuals living on Gabriola Island recognized that a large social benefit could be had if we all contributed a little money and a lot of volunteer hours. This is what happens in small Canadian villages but I have never heard of it happening in urban areas.. I and my school mates did the same thing in :Powell River, to help fulfill the desire for a community ice rink.

What is seen almost everyday, urban centers are enduring non-stop predation that I do not want contaminating Gabriola Island or any other Canadian rural locations.

Erik

**From:** "Erik Andersen" [REDACTED]  
**To:** "twolabradors" [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 14, 2025 12:53:22 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Draft Island Trust Policy Statement

**From:** "Erik Andersen" [REDACTED]  
**To:** "islands2050" <islands2050@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Dear Trustees and Editor of the Sounder

In keeping with your invitation to comment, I offer the following.

Statistics Canada conveniently has the nation's population divided into two categories. First is "urban" and second is "rural". Statistics Canada produced a chart of these two categories titled "Census of Population, 1851 to 2021". Over about 170 years the "rural" population that started at around 3 million, progressed to the less than an impressive of 7 million today. In total contrast, the urban population , almost non existent in 1851, now is about about 33 million, out of a total 40 million.

I think it is safe to say that along the way, around the 1940s, urbanites captured control of the parliament of Canada and has had a choke hold ever since.

That overwhelming dominance of Canada's economy by urbanites need not be an issue, but was and is. From the Fraser Institute we fortunately have a record of the "Federal Government Net Debt, 1867 - 2015 in Billions of Dollars". The Fraser Institute chart shows the Canadian debt history remained very reasonable until about 1975 when its vector changed, from about \$20 billion, going almost vertical to \$

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692 billion by 2015.

A correlation calculation could be done but I think it is not needed, since it is clear that the dominant urban population were making the running in Canada's economic life from which we got far too much debt. This out of balance economy is also demonstrated by the history of the division of Canada's GDP, separated into two categories, "Goods" and "Services". According to an Ottawa source at Finance, the ratio in the 1960s was about 60% of total GDP came from "Goods" and 40% from "Services". Over the intervening 65 years Canada and BC have made a transition to about 20 % from "Goods" and 80% from "Services". The recent decisions by BC Ferries to buy new ferries from China and Eastern Europe, is a current example of the economic model of getting what you need or want by sending out a lot of borrowed money and employment as well.

The dominant population category has taken Canada to an "order in everything we need or want" from the rest of the world economy model. This economic model has and is producing Government budget deficits (to be funded by borrowing) and the practice of "regressive " taxation, that is when citizens are required to pay taxes that do not relate to affordability. This practice has been brought into focus by a Fraser Institute Study, released July 22, 2025, having the opening headline, "Average Canadian families spent 42.3 % of income on taxes - more than on housing, food and clothing combined". It is also behind the rising rates of substance addiction, deaths of despair and homelessness.

It is clear to me that the Trust is attempting to "urbanize" the "Rural " Islands in the Gulf of Georgia and it is my opinion that such a transformation would import very bad money habits, demonstrated by the urbanites, where our economy is turned into a new play ground for the scammers and free-riders that now populate Canada's urban centers. Hands off. "Preserve" and "Protect".

Sincerely , Erik Andersen, Retired Economist