

From: P.F. Clarke [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 8:55 AM
To: Executive Admin
Cc: Laura Patrick; Tobi Elliott; vice chair David Maude; Timothy Peterson; Kristina Evans; Dag Falck; Kim Stockdill; Islands2050; David Maude
Subject: Re: Trust policies

I am very sorry for my incompetence in sending an earlier message that was not readable. So I am copying below the text of what I sought to convey, with apologies and best wishes, Peter Clarke

Trust and Distrust on Pender Island

My own objection to the proposals, as put forward by our current Trustees on South Pender, is substantive, in the sense that I disagree with the substance and impact of the proposals. But I am also highly critical of the way that they have gone about this matter, that is I object to their highly tactical approach.

I mean that their proposals, while ostensibly framed as a helpful updating of core Trust principles, are in fact a clever means of subverting those principles by stealth. Thus they offer very few overt challenges to the objectives that were originally embodied in the very creation of the Trust, but instead undermine, point by point, its special mission. This was, of course, to protect and conserve the special status of these islands in the face of unchecked market forces ('development'), which posed an obvious threat to the Gulf Islands' survival as a special part of the province – a part specifically dedicated to the preservation of a threatened kind of environment, both natural and human.

Thus the Trust's mission as a whole, and its specific application to an island like South Pender, was and is as a means of checking the forces of unbridled 'development' by pledging commitment to specific alternative criteria. Now it may be that there is room for some redefinition here, as we move into a different historical era; but dilution of the force and impact and priority of the original mission is surely not the way to keep faith with its intentions. It appears, rather, more like a clever subversion from within by Trustees and others who do not share the scheme of priorities that the Islands Trust itself enshrines. Hence I feel bound to endorse the analysis

offered with particular cogency by Ronald Wright: 'it appears the trust is being undone by what amounts to an inside coup by trustees who don't believe in it'.

Peter Clarke