

On Jan 31, 2026, at 9:51 AM, TRISH FAUROT [REDACTED] wrote:

To all involved, I am sending you the article written by Charles Kahn as he says it better than I could:

"Historian Charles Kahn describes Salt Spring Islanders as "disputatious". The current Islands Trust Act reform process provides clear confirmation. After two failed end-runs to the Minister's

Re: Stop the Islands Trust Reform

office, a small clique of reformers now pushes a controversial agenda to conclusion without an opportunity for a popular vote.

And yet, one of our three Salt Spring representatives gets to vote despite failing to qualify for the privilege. As a non-resident, and non-owner of island property he sits in Vancouver (?) dictating terms by Zoom. A second Salt Spring representative publicly endorses routine violation of building bylaws to support failing businesses unable or unwilling to pay a living wage. "There is no other option" ([see CBC News report posted November 15th, 2025](#)). Once the 'preferred' Land Use Bylaw is imposed, non-compliance is sure to be more appropriately disciplined. Adding insult to injury, a recent independent review of the Islands Trust Council states that the Council's understanding and management of the Islands Trust Act Policy Statement is "a dramatic example of Trust Council's collective leadership deficit". Additionally, the report identifies a "flawed leadership selection process, key partners absent from decision-making, ... practices, proceedings and committee structure do not foster the development of consensus, significant concerns regarding efficiency, and cost-effectiveness as well as timeliness, inadequate allocation of resources, performance measures largely absent, performance targets are virtually non-existent, processes are obscure and overly bureaucratic." ([see Great Northern Management Consultants Report, 2022](#)).

A housing crisis is given as justification for this illegitimate process. Yes, housing is more expensive in BC. Housing is exceptionally expensive in resort communities ostensibly protected from the lunacy of perpetual development. Other resort communities caught in a similar circumstance have responded with:

- 1) establishment of a non-profit housing authority to support small business with subsidized housing on an "as needed" rather than an "as wanted" basis. Ucluelet, Tofino, Banff and Whistler have, on a per capita basis, three to ten times more subsidized housing than Salt Spring Island.
- 2) public policy and public investment initiatives to mitigate the worst aspects of gentrification and excessive tourism.
- 3) support of multiple currently available agricultural programs. The rural economy of Salt Spring Island remains an essential, if marginal "amenity" referred to in the Islands Trust Act. It is a tough hoe that warrants continued support in the effort to reduce a leading cause of Islanders' greenhouse gas emissions.

Competent management is required to tailor such measures to limited island resources (money, potable water, roads, ferry service) while respecting the 'preservation and protection' principles of the current Policy Statement. Contrary to the opinion of vested interests, proven options are clearly available. A more thoughtful process, respectful of the Islands Trust Act and Gulf Islands citizenry is preferred over the flawed, rushed effort pushed by illegitimate representatives. Enforcement of the Islands Trust Act, enforcement of bylaws, particularly in the building sector, would ensure the safety of inhabitants and re-establish respect for common sense if not the law.

Have a look at where we are headed (Fig 1) Above. Limitation of development must remain a core principle of the Islands Trust Policy Statement.

The single most comprehensive reform in the history of the Islands Trust has been high jacked. The ITC does not have a mandate to promote unfettered development, or eliminate policy tools that allow restriction. At this point, the ITC's flawed, illegitimate rush to neuter The Islands Trust Act can only be stopped at the Minister's desk. If so inclined, you may advise the Minister to

dismiss the ITC amendment of the Policy Statement, OCP and Land Use Bylaw by contacting her at – HMA.Minister@gov.bc.ca or BC Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, Christine Boyle, PO BOX 9074, STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC. V8W 9E2

Islanders' franchise right must be respected. Reformers with the courage of conviction would have no reason to fear resolution of this "disputatious" matter with a fall election."

As I said above, this article tells all.

Sincerely,

Patricia Faurot,

[REDACTED]

Saltspring Island, BC
V8K1J5