

From: Susan Taylor [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2026 10:31 PM
To: Islands2050
Cc: HMA.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Subject: DRAFT Islands Trust Statement Survey
Attachments: draft Trust Statement letter, Feb. 126.pdf

Attached please find my letter addressed to the Islands Trust Executive Committee with copies to the Minister Boyle and MLA Botterell.

Susan Taylor

February 1, 2026

To: Islands Trust Executive Committee

Re: Draft Trust Policy Statement

I appreciate the time and effort that went into the creation of this survey. However I think it would be disingenuous if one were to suggest that a thoughtful, considered response to the survey can be completed in 15 to 20 minutes.

A thorough consideration of the issues raised in the survey has taken me many hours which I imagine many may not be willing to commit. I would therefore consider the survey results an inadequate basis for achieving the consensus desirable for any redrafted Policy Statement.

The Islands Trust Act was created in 1974 in response to rapid and dense development that threatened the sensitive ecosystems of the islands in the Salish Sea. Those same ecosystems continue to need protection, now even more than fifty years ago.

The Trust Executive Committee appears to be trying to eliminate the preeminence of the environment in decision making by island trustees. Broadening "unique amenities and environment" found in the current Trust Object to include tourism, housing development, infrastructure and livelihoods beggars the original ecological mandate of the Islands Trust.

Therefore, I cannot support the draft and urge the Executive Committee not to give approval to a new Trust Policy Statement that relegates the environment to equal criterion status when making decisions about the Gulf Islands. The environment needs to remain preeminent in the Trust's mandate.

Susan Taylor

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