

From: Rueben Bronee <rbronee@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Sent: Monday, August 10, 2026 9:47 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Tobi Elliott <telliott@islandstrust.bc.ca>; northinfo <northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Susan Yates <syates@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Draft OCP

Hi Gavin,

Thank you for your email and for your continued interest in the Gabriola OCP project. The OCP review has already included substantial in-person engagement, particularly during the Phase 2 visioning stage. Staff and trustees hosted multiple facilitated workshops, topic-specific sessions, mapping exercises, pop-up events, and repeated drop-in opportunities at community locations. These sessions involved hundreds of participants and formed the foundation for the draft now before the LTC.

In addition to those earlier sessions, the current phase has included a range of engagement opportunities. As noted by the trustees, they have continued to offer in-person availability through Ground Up and Library drop-ins. And staff have supported online participation like last week's online Q&A session, which provided a direct opportunity for residents to ask questions about the draft. I appreciate that an in-person format is preferred by some folks. But, as Trustee Elliott, noted, we also find others prefer virtual options for a variety of reasons.

The LTC also recently approved an updated engagement plan, which outlines further activities, including confirmed attendance at the fall market in September to provide another in-person venue for residents to speak with trustees and staff. At this stage of the project, the work is focused on drafting and refining amendment language, which is a more technical phase and typically involves fewer large-format public meetings. But engagement will continue as the draft advances through the statutory bylaw process. Staff capacity, budget limitations, and venue availability do shape what is feasible. However, I will also note that the process requires a public hearing, planned for spring 2027. This hearing will be held in person. While hearings are designed for trustees to listen rather than engage in dialogue, it will provide another formal opportunity for the community to express its views directly on the draft bylaw.

Please feel free to continue sharing your feedback with the LTC.

Thank you.

Rueben Bronee

Chief Administrative Officer

Islands Trust

200-1627 Fort Street | Victoria BC V8R 1H8 islandstrust.bc.ca You can also reach us toll-free via Service BC 1-800-663-7867 | 604-660-2421

Preserving and protecting over 450 islands and surrounding waters in the Salish Sea I respectfully acknowledge that the Islands Trust Area is located within the treaty lands and territories of the BOKEĆEN, Cowichan Tribes, K'ómoks, Lyackson, MÁLEXEL, Qualicum, scəwáθən, səliłwətał, SEMYOME, shíshálh, Skwxwú7mesh, Snaw-naw-as, Snuneymuxw, Songhees, Spune'luxutth', STÁUTW, Stz'uminus, łəɖəmen, Ts'uubaa-asatx, Wei Wai Kum, We Wai Kai, W_JOLELP, W_SIKEM, Xeláltxw, Xwémalhkwx, Xwsepsum, and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm First Nations/Tribes/Nations. Islands Trust is committed to reconciliation and to working together to preserve and protect this ecologically, culturally, and spiritually significant region in the Salish Sea.

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, August 7, 2026 11:10 PM

To: Susan Yates <syates@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Cc: Tobi Elliott <telliott@islandstrust.bc.ca>; northinfo <northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Rueben Bronee <rbronee@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: Draft OCP

Thanks Susan

It is beholden upon the Islands Trust to serve its constituents.

The fact that a budget and staff time have not been allocated for in-person community information meetings regarding a major OCP Review is questionable. As you have eluded to in your email maybe moving forward to first reading when staff and time are not available is perhaps premature having considered the Prima Facie of this process.

Perhaps CAO Ruben Bronee can provide an explanation? I look forward to a response.

Regards

Gavin Coford

Sent from my iPhone

> On Aug 7, 2026, at 9:02 PM, Susan Yates <syates@islandstrust.bc.ca> wrote:

>

> Thanks Tobi and Gavin,

>

> I'm pretty wiped out from working all week and having my grandson's family here, so this will be brief: I'll be at Ground Up on Tuesday 11, 18, and Sept 1 from 10-noon, unless some crisis intervenes. I can't make any of the Thursday library open houses but am grateful to Tobi for doing those.

>

> I believe all of your e-mails are part of the public record, Gavin, if you have sent them to the usual northinfo e-mail address.

>

> Re meetings in public vs online - most people I work with know I prefer in-person, however these are expensive and difficult to arrange as far as available venues, especially in the summer. Online meetings are far easier to organize with a very limited budget and time line, and staff availability.

>

> Best regards,

> Susan

>

>> On Aug 7, 2026, at 6:15 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:

>>

>> Hello Tobi

>> Thanks for your reply, I appreciate your advocacy in widening the tent towards the end of term. Many of the people I have spoken to feel left out of the process due to lack of information and lack of public forums where ideas can be heard and discussed. There is much apathy regarding the Islands Trust in this community.

>>

>> I would also like my emails and yours made part of the public discussion regarding the OCP. I feel that if the constituents of Gabriola are to decide whether opinions expressed through public record are ones they align with they should be able to be read them.

>>

>> I noticed a lot of the points I have made were discussed during your online meeting. I thank you for that.

>>

>> I look forward to meeting with you and Susan together at a mutually agreed time to discuss the OCP draft . I would prefer the Boardroom at the trust office though. Please send me a selection of dates you and Susan will be available?

>>

>> I must say as you know I have attended numerous LTC meetings, I have not seen open hostility at any of them. I have seen opinions expressed by people afraid of what is going on at the Islands Trust regarding rules and regulations that will have a very real impact on their property rights.

>>

>> I hope our representatives at the Trust can dispel these fears?

>>

>> Regards

>> Gavin

>>

>>

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>>>> On Aug 7, 2026, at 11:58 AM, Tobi Elliott <telliott@islandstrust.bc.ca> wrote:

>>>

>>> Hello Gavin,

>>>

>>> Thank you for sharing your views. We hear a lot from you. I would appreciate it if you would inject a little more civility and respect toward the hardworking staff and trustees on the receiving end of your many, many emails.

>>>

>>> Feedback I have heard directly from business owners, tradespeople, those aged >50, women/queer folk, and Indigenous people in our community, is that generally, in-person public meetings are extremely difficult to attend, from both a logistical and safety perspective. No matter what day or time the meetings are held.

>>>

>>> Without speaking for the diverse range of people in our community, I've been told they just won't attend meetings where their perspectives and lived experiences will be openly disrespected. We have had meetings in which open hostility was expressed toward the perspectives, rights and interests of Indigenous peoples. For those who are vulnerable and marginalized in our community, those who struggle with housing, those who have different perspectives and lived experience than the majority culture, online meetings can be much safer and accessible.

>>>

>>> Trustee Yates and I continue to hold open houses at Ground Up and the Library, which have been incredibly fruitful forums for us to hear from people 1-1 who don't feel comfortable attending community meetings. We will continue to work hard to ensure we widen the tent for equitable engagement, right until the end of term.

>>>

>>> Tobi

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>>>> On Aug 5, 2026, at 6:07 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:

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>>>> Hi Trustees and Staff

>>>> I think the fact that you have decided to have the next meeting online is a disservice to the community, is this just a way of speeding our way to first reading? I'm not impressed!

>>>> Do better!

>>>> Lamenting on Facebook that you cannot include working people in the process is ridiculous. Do the right thing and have a community meeting in the fall on the weekend so your community can have a proper dialogue.

>>>>

>>>> If the Province accepts this as good governance this Provincial Government is defective.

>>>> Regards

>>>> Gavin

>>>>

>>>>> On Aug 5, 2026, at 11:24 AM, Susan Yates <syates@islandstrust.bc.ca> wrote:

>>>>>

>>>>> Hi Gavin,

>>>>>

>>>>> I hope in the next while we may dispel the notion of 'class wars' on Gabriola, as I do not want to consider land use decisions with that as a precept.

>>>>>

>>>>> I also hope you believe me when I talk about wanting to live in a well-rounded community with a healthy environment and systems of support for everyone. That is why I spend my extra time at our local school, where I meet with teachers, parents, and children regularly - they bring me joy and a lot of questions about how to live with 'enough'. They also require transparency and veracity when it comes to existential questions.

>>>>>

>>>>> I also hope you are able to attend the LTC Special meeting tomorrow.

>>>>>

>>>>> Best regards,

>>>>> Susan