

From: Quetzo J. Herejk <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2022 9:15 AM

To: Dan Rogers <drogers@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Jane Wolverton <jwolverton@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Tahirih Rockafella <trockafella@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Brad Smith <bsmith@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Subject: Support Letter - Crystal Mountain Re-zoning Application Proposal

Dear Trustees and Planning Staff,

I write to you as a conservationist who lives on Galiano part time, and who has taken part in several retreats organized by Crystal Mountain Society.

The public retreats have benefited me personally as well as professionally in my work as a therapist helping people healing from trauma.

I urge you to move ahead with this application, particularly now that an in-depth Water Management Plan has been completed and a dedicated emergency-access-route established. Most importantly, the application proposes a forest protection level of 90% of the entire re-zoning area - this includes the additional protection of safeguarding 60% of the forest cover *within the development area*. This is an important and significant contribution to protecting wild ecosystems and old forest lots previously ravaged and attempting to re-grow on Galiano Island.

In reading our OCP and the Islands Trust Policy Directives, I am proud to see this organization work within the parameters of what is expected in terms of *land use* on the Gulf Islands. As the climate crisis bears down on us all, taking parcels of land out of zonings where they are vulnerable to deforestation and large residential impact is indeed a very good thing.

Sincerely,
Quetzo Herejk