

From: **Mairead Boland** [REDACTED]
Date: Thu, 24 Mar 2022 at 10:10
Subject: Unable to Attend the North Pender LTC
To: Deb Morrison <dmorrison@islandstrust.bc.ca>, Laura Patrick <lpatrick@islandstrust.bc.ca>, Benjamin McConchie <bemcconchie@islandstrust.bc.ca>
Cc: Lori Foster <lfoster@islandstrust.bc.ca>

I find that there is no Attend option for todays meeting.
I wanted to make this public comment.

I would appreciate it if someone would read it for me and please add it to the record.
I have timed it - its 2 minutes.
Thank you,

Mairead

"(Public Comment for Pender LTC March 24th)

Hello. I am Mairead Boland, resident of Saturna and retired geologist.

The water DPA will be replicated on Saturna and so I am here.

These questions I raise with respect to the GW Solutions report on groundwater availability will be discussed at a Saturna LTC in May.

Water demand estimates for Saturna are too high. North Pender data are equally inflated.

The Islands Trust Director of Planning Services response to me was *"I understand your concernsWe are also contracting with GW solutions to address water demand parameters and expect that report to be ready in April or May."*

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In the report any above 5 % use of groundwater recharge is flagged as "of concern". No reason for this low threshold (5%) is presented.

Land-use parcel maps are used with average **URBAN** water usage from Kelowna. Water usage is grossly inflated by this.

Some examples of issues in the GW report:

- Urban Parks are classed as 50% irrigated. Saturna is 50% Park, so the water estimate will be ridiculous.
- Domestic use is set at 625 liters/day. This is too high – people who live with wells and water collection use water conservatively.
- Return of domestic water through septic fields is unacknowledged. Effectively there is **NO NET** use of groundwater on Saturna.

(In conclusion:) Water demand estimates for Saturna are inflated in this report. North Pender data are equally flawed and inflated.

I ask that this water DPA be stopped until, in the words of the draft Trust Policy Statement “multiple ways of knowing, including the best available area-based mapping, science, social science, local knowledge, and Indigenous ways of knowing” are thoroughly explored.