

Happy December everyone! Here is what I have been involved in over the past month.

### **Trust Programs Committee**

At our last meeting on Nov 6, we discussed the upcoming speaker series including available wildfire webinar resources and the results of the Stewardship Education Survey. We also received an update on the “Living in the Trust Area” Project discussing the Trust Area Mailing program with 2 updated publications which is planned to go to 309 new purchasers within the Trust Area.

1. Gov't and other Services contact sheet combined with Land Use Planning contact info
2. Stewardship Tips Brochure update (Think about Trees section to provide information specifically tailored for this region on managing forests for ecosystem values while also managing for fire)

We received an update on the Trust Policy Statement status, and a reporting back from the joint working group comprised of Trust Programs and Regional Planning Committee members on the applicability of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework as it relates to the work of Islands Trust.

We discussed and set our 2024 meeting dates.

### **Financial Committee**

We met on Oct 18 and Nov 8 to review the current budget draft that includes the Q2 spend and projected forecast for the remainder of this fiscal year. The group was walked through the various sections of the budget draft to explain the changes from the previous year and this year's budget needs, such as contracted staff wage increases, lease space increases, and technology upgrades due to obsolescence. Most business cases were in the agenda, a few are still being worked on and Financial Committee should have those soon. The draft budget will be presented to Trust Council in Dec for their review and comments. Dates for the 2024 calendar year were also set.

### **Corporate Planning Working Group**

At Trust Council, the Project Charter was endorsed and the working group was charged with continuing its work as presented. The working group met on Nov 7 to discuss next steps in the development of the overall process, including reviewing existing policies and procedures with the CAO to identify gaps and suggest changes as needed to bring current processes into alignment with the Corporate Planning Process. The vision and mission statement work that began in the Sept Trust Council meeting is identified as an important input to any strategy work that may begin in the next year.

### **Reconciliation Learning Group**

I missed the first meeting of this group due to a scheduling conflict, and since then Robyn Kefi left Islands Trust and took a position that advances her career. I understand that the group will continue to meet, but we're not sure who will be taking the lead at the moment.

### **Adam Olsen's SGIF**

I have missed the last few meetings due to scheduling conflicts, but am hoping to attend the next one scheduled for December 6. The Monday, Nov 13 meeting was cancelled as it was on the Remembrance Day stat holiday.

### **South Pender LTC**

We held our South Pender LTC on November 10. We discussed and adopted the Project Charter for the Minor LUB Amendments projects and agreed to hold community workshops to encourage community input on various solution ideas. These ideas will be collated by staff to be brought back to the LTC and passed over to the APC for review and suggestions. The dates for these events will be announced through the website and the Email Distribution list managed by our Islands Trust staff.

We set out 2024 meeting dates and those will be posted soon as well.

Best Regards,

### **Kristina Evans**

South Pender Trustee

T 778-885-7464 | [islandstrust.bc.ca](http://islandstrust.bc.ca)

### **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 BOKÉĆEN, Cowichan Tribes, K'ómoks, Lyackson, MÁLEXEŁ, Qualicum, scəwəθən, səliwətəʔ, SEMYOME, shíshálh, Skwxwú7mesh, Snaw-naw-as, Snuneymuxw, Songhees, Spune'luxutth', SÁÁUTW, Stz'uminus, ʔaʔəmen, Ts'uubaa-asatx, Wei Wai Kum, We Wai Kai, WJOLEŁP, WSIKEM, Xeláltxw, Xwémalhkww, Xwsepsum, and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm First 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.}*

It's been a year since the elections! Here's a highlight of some of the Committee work I have been involved in as well as being your local Trustee and Trust Council representative.

### **Trust Programs Committee Chair**

Trust Council requested advice about how the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework impacts the work of the Islands Trust. Trust Programs struck a joint working group with the Regional Planning Committee to review the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal.

A review of the Islands Trust CDF zone and biodiversity materials was undertaken. A Trustee training session on forest classification, health and significance in the Trust Area was provided by Del Meidinger and Andrew Mackinnon which aided the understanding of various classifications, their locations and importance, resulting in some edits to the website and publications.

Upcoming webinar topics include; Freshwater Sustainability, Groundwater, and Wildfire Prevention. An online questionnaire was sent out in September to solicit additional topics of interest from Trust Area community members for future potential webinars.

The Trust Policy Statement edits are scheduled to come back to Trust Programs Committee in Jan for review.

### **Financial Committee**

We have been working on creating the budget, financial statements and quarterly financial reports. Last year's financial statement package was approved at the last Trust Council meeting for filing and we have started developing the next draft budget for the 2024/2025 budget cycle.

### **Audit Committee**

Working with our Audit Engagement Partner from a third party company to review audit results before submitting the final reports to Trust Council for filing.

### **Corporate Planning Process Working Group**

Consisting of three Trustees plus 2 staff members, we report to both the Governance and Financial Committee. A draft of the new process along with a project charter outlining the anticipated upcoming work was presented to Trust Council in September. We will be focusing on the existing policies and templates that require updating and identifying any gaps needing new policies or guidelines to be developed.

We noted that the Islands Trust does not have Vision, Mission and Value statements. Hopefully you will be seeing statements coming your way soon!

### **Reconciliation Learning Group**

I wasn't able to attend the first meeting due to a conflict with another Committee meeting, but I'm very excited to be a part of this group.

### **Southern Gulf Islands Forum with Adam Olsen's office**

Some of the top items discussed revolve around Communication, Housing Needs and Management of the waterways surrounding our communities.

### **Local Trust Committee**

After asking the community what the next minor project should be, it was decided that the next minor project for South Pender will involve another review of the LUB. The process on how to move forward will be discussed at our next LTC meeting.

I am very proud to be a part of this community and I want to express my appreciation for everyone who takes the time to come to our local meetings and gets engaged with the process. I look forward to working with everyone over the next year to continue to make South Pender a great community and a beautiful place to live and visit.

Trustee Evans, South Pender