



News Release

200 - 1627 Fort Street Victoria B.C. | V8R 1H8

Telephone 250.405.5151 | FAX: 250.405.5155

Toll Free via Service BC in Vancouver 604.660.2421 | in B.C. 1.800.663.7867

information@islandstrust.bc.ca | www.islandstrust.bc.ca

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ISL Engineering engaged to deliver enhanced third phase of public engagement for the Islands 2050 Policy Statement Amendment Project

Islands Trust seeking input from community to inform proposed Policy Statement updates

Ləkʷəŋən, METULIYE/Victoria, B.C. – From late February to April 2022, Islands Trust will be undertaking a third phase of Islands 2050 public engagement to seek feedback on proposed changes to the Islands Trust Policy Statement. Islands Trust has retained [ISL Engineering](#) to lead this phase of public engagement. ISL Engineering is a firm with extensive expertise delivering community planning, design, and engagement to public and private sector clients across North America.

Through a variety of engagement channels, including a series of in-person events throughout the Trust Area, an online/paper survey, and virtual question and answer sessions, community workshops, and focus groups, Islands Trust is hoping to raise awareness and gather feedback on proposed changes to the Policy Statement. Feedback from this phase of engagement will be considered by Trust Council, along with other inputs, to inform any changes to the draft new Policy Statement.

“Islands Trust is committed to providing opportunities for meaningful engagement and to reaching a broad audience,” said Peter Luckham, Islands Trust Council Chair. “Updates to the Policy Statement, informed by the community and other partners, will help ensure that we preserve and protect what we most cherish about the Islands Trust Area including thriving and diverse ecosystems, natural and cultural heritage, and sustainable and resilient island communities.”

This third phase of engagement will launch on February 25, 2022, with an online survey, followed by a virtual question and answer session on March 1, 2022, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Community members are invited to register at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_sfWxWhlGRTGndVq_2E03bQ and submit questions in advance by email to Islands2050@islandstrust.bc.ca. Islands Trust will be available to answer questions and share more information about the project. The session will be recorded but not live-streamed.

This is the first of many engagement opportunities. Stay tuned to the Islands 2050 webpage for more details on the many ways you can provide your input: islandstrust.bc.ca/programs/islands-2050. Residents, businesses, and interested parties can also sign up for email notifications about specific engagement opportunities and news updates by subscribing to ‘Islands 2050 Updates’ at: islandstrust.bc.ca/subscribe/

Policy Statement

The Policy Statement is a general statement of policies that Islands Trust Council uses to carry out its special-purpose government mandate to preserve and protect the unique amenities and environment of the Islands Trust Area. The document guides the development of local official community plans (OCPs) and regulatory bylaws in

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each local area, as well as regional advocacy and intergovernmental collaboration. The Policy Statement was first adopted in 1994 and has not been significantly updated in over 25 years. At the beginning of its 2018-2022 term, Trust Council set out its intentions to update the Policy Statement to better address its current priorities and commitments to reconciliation, climate change, and affordable housing.

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About Islands Trust

Islands Trust is a special-purpose government representing 26,000 people living within the Islands Trust Area and 10,000 non-resident property owners. The Islands Trust Area is located within Coast Salish territory and is the homeland to over 28,000 Coast Salish Peoples who have called this place home since time immemorial. Islands Trust is responsible for preserving and protecting the Islands Trust Area's unique environment and amenities through conservation-oriented land use planning and regulation, education, advocacy, and cooperation with First Nations and other agencies. The area covers the islands and waters between the British Columbia mainland and southern Vancouver Island. It includes 13 major islands and more than 450 smaller islands covering 5,200 square kilometres.

Contact:

Peter Luckham, Chair, Islands Trust Council 250.210.2553

Russ Hotsenpiller, Chief Administrative Officer, Islands Trust, via Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services 250.405.5192

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