

From: Islands2050
Sent: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 10:20 AM
To: Islands2050
Subject: FW: Islands Trust Policy Review

From: Jim Henshall [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 5:43 PM
To: information <information@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Executive Admin <execadmin@islandstrust.bc.ca>
Subject: Islands Trust Policy Review

Dear Trust Policy Chair and Trustees

As a resident in the Trust area, I am aware that the Trust is undertaking a Trust Policy Statement Review and that a motion was defeated at a recent Trust Council meeting that would have clearly and unequivocally established that the primary object of the Trust Act is preservation and protection of the natural environment.

I ask that those Trustees who voted against this motion reconsider this motion and the message that this defeat sends to future Trustees and to the populations that they serve.

Now more than ever, the environment of the Gulf Islands needs protection as it comes under climate change and escalating development pressures. A dilution of the TPS that makes environmental protection even murkier and harder to enforce than it already is in land use policy decisions at the local Trust level will not serve our natural world well.

The public engagement process indicated clear priorities for those who participated and it is protection of the environment above all else. I understand that Trustees are being asked to resolve many issues such as housing, a complex and enduring problem everywhere these days.

Respectfully, that is not your role. The Islands Trust was created to do one essential thing - put the environment first. That it has not been doing so adequately is clear to many of us. Yes indeed, the Trust needs a re-set and it must make it abundantly clear through the TPS that the environment - ecosystems, water resources, species habitat, our endangered forests - will be given value and protection over any other considerations.

Jim Henshall
Galiano Island, BC