

From: Holly Schofield [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 1:57 PM
To: Alex Allen; pbrent@islandtrut.bc.ca; Laura Busheikin; Scott Colbourne; David Critchley; Jeanine Dodds; Sue Ellen Fast; Doug Fenton; Peter Grove; Peter Johnston; Michael Kaile; Kees Langereis; Peter Luckham; David Maude; bmconchie@islandstrust.bc.ca; Lee Middleton; dmorrisson@islandstrust.bc.ca; Laura Patrick; Timothy Peterson; Tahirih Rockafella; Dan Rogers; Grant Scott; Kate-Louise Stamford; Cameron Thorn; Jane Wolverton; Executive Admin
Subject: Trust Policy Statement Review action needed

To the Islands Trust Executive, Trust Council and All Trustees:

As a resident of Galiano, I was alarmed to learn of the defeat of a recent motion "that Trust Council affirm its understanding that the paramount object of the Islands Trust Act is preservation and protection of the natural environment". This understanding is essential: it is the historical objective of the Trust and should not be diluted or undermined.

Pressure for housing, employment opportunities and the rights of private ownership will never be satisfied no matter the number of development concessions, densification and shelved environmental protection efforts. As such, density caps need to be made for all the Gulf Islands according to the carrying capacity of the environment as established by an objective application of the cautionary principle.

This is not to say that such objectives as affordable housing, farming and transportation are irrelevant but that they must only be considered by Trustees within the primary goal to preserve and protect "the environment and peculiar nature of the islands" (as Minister James Lorimer pronounced on introducing the Islands Trust Act in 1974). To change the legal object of the Trust to open up other criteria severely weakens the ability of the Trust to continue its important land-use planning function.

It is my understanding that the recent "2050" survey showed residents' overwhelming concern for the environment and the rural nature of the islands. Please do your duty and have this clearly reflected in the Policy Trust Statement.

Please put this motion back on the table in the upcoming June meeting.

Thank you,

Holly Schofield

[REDACTED]
Galiano, BC