

From: Islands2050
Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2021 9:21 AM
To: Islands2050
Subject: FW: Draft Islands Trust Policy Statement Bylaw - Request to pause 1st Reading

On Jun 18, 2021, at 1:44 PM, Richard Thomas [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear Sirs/Mesdames

My name is Richard Thomas, and I am a resident of North Pender Island. I write in relation to the Special Meeting of the Islands Trust Programs Committee which took place on June 15, 2021, in which final revisions to the draft Trust Policy Statement Bylaw (the "draft Bylaw") discussed.

As I understand it, the Islands Trust Council wishes to urgently move the draft Bylaw to 1st Reading (perhaps as early as the July 8, 2021 Islands Trust Council meeting?) with neither adequate transparency nor meaningful consultation with residents. Under normal circumstances there would be significant community consultation before 1st Reading, after which the Bylaw would be referred to many governmental, indigenous, and special interest organizations for review and comment. As I also understand, once that referral process has begun, any changes would have been largely finalized.

To the best of my knowledge the Trustees have not openly consulted on their islands. I saw the draft Bylaw the first time late yesterday. In my cursory review I see that there are changes proposed in the draft Bylaw which could impact island residents and businesses very significantly. Stakeholders may view some of those changes positively and some may view them negatively.

The purpose of this message therefore, is not to comment on the merits of the draft Bylaw but rather to ensure that a meaningful community consultation process takes place prior to 1st Reading.

Respectfully, we need to press the pause button on the 1st Reading of the draft Bylaw in order to ensure due process through proper community consultation.

Best regards,

Richard Thomas, B.Comm, LL.B.
[REDACTED]
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