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Sent: Monday, June 28, 2021 11:02 AM
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Cc: Peter Luckham; directorsgi@crd.bc.ca; Islands2050; Deb Morrison; Benjamin McConchie; Laura Patrick
Subject: Revision of Islands Trust Policy Statement

We are adding our voices to the many who are alarmed about the Special Meeting of All Trustees , planned for July 8, with the intent of seeking the trustees approval to proceed with the adoption of the amended policy statement.

It appears to us that the “revision” or “amendment”, is more like a new policy, as there is so much in it that was not in the original document. There has been no consultation with the Islanders whose lives on the islands will be affected by this. From my understanding, the Islands Trust Policy Statement is the overall determinant of what can be in each individual island’s Official Community Plan. Despite that, there has been no opportunity for the community to hear about it. I also feel that there are many, many Islanders who are totally unaware of what’s happening. The only folks aware are those on the Trust boards, those who have followed islands trust online, or who have been contacted by those who follow it. There is now an active following on Facebook.

There is a defined lack of trust that the trustees are representing their communities, and acting in their community’s best interests. There is a feeling that this was prepared by trust staff and some trustees, and they want to see their desires passed without due diligence in order to get it through all the hoops before their terms expire. They appear afraid that their successors will feel differently about the “amendment”.

I am not including the whole document here, as you will have access to it.

The information we have indicates that our individual island community plans could be upended at the discretion of the trust, who will be required to follow the policy guidelines, should this go through.

We believe that no draft should go to the trustees for approval until there has been an opportunity for community, and other input and oversight. That is, we think the July 8 meeting should be cancelled. This is a big deal. The document has not been changed since its inception in 1974, and is now being rushed. There are many unasked for, unwanted, and frankly frightening changes, with its removal of property owners rights.

Yours truly
Fred and Sidney Mary Wein
[REDACTED]

Pender Island, BC

Sent from my iPad