

From: Drew Stotesbury [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 3:56 PM
To: Islands2050
Cc: Peter Grove; Laura Patrick
Subject: Policy Statement - FAQ question....

Hi there

I am not against the idea but am concerned about the process.

Like many islanders I am only becoming aware of the policy statement process now. Most of us have had bigger issues on our minds in the past 18 months (like avoiding COVID) and you've successfully flown under the radar. Well done if that was the intention.

In particular - I wonder how public feedback will shape the outcome. In recent history on Salt Spring Island we saw an important governance issue go to a referendum. This is a much more explicit form of public engagement than what has transpired thus far ("Trust Council adopted a process that has been public for the last 18 months and undertook early engagement to gather feedback on issues and policy directions. The results of the engagements have been publicized and made available to the public throughout the project.") With all due respect this is not what many would consider true engagement.

Notwithstanding our collective interests, each island has its own character, problems and potential solutions. Accordingly it is disconcerting to think that we would only have two local votes (our trustees) on a decision this big.

So I guess the question is to what extent does the Trust Council intend to let local communities dictate the outcome? I'd like to see an explicit answer on this.

thanks
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