

From: B Fidler [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 8, 2021 10:13 AM
To: Islands2050
Subject: Policy statement first reading.
Attachments: itpolicy statement.docx

Hello, My name is Burt Fidler. Attached is my letter of support for the work that the IT is doing on our behalf as island residents in regards to the IT Policy Statement revisions. Please pass the First Reading of this important document draft at today's meeting of the Trust Council.

Here is the content of the letter attached:

Letter to Islands Trust Council

I applaud the Trust Council for their recent efforts in reviewing and updating the Trust Policy Statement. I feel that the process has been transparent and that information has been easily accessible on the IT website.

I believe that there is an interconnectedness of everything within the purview of the IT and that there is a need for balance between the environmental needs and the human needs on the islands within the trust. The need to address climate change, carrying capacity, and ecosystems is not exclusive to the Trust's work in managing land use and meeting the needs of people living within the islands of the Trust. I believe the Trust can do both and must do both.

It is interesting to note that the original policy statement at the creation of the Trust in 1974 gave the Trust a mandate to preserve and protect the flora and fauna as well as the rural character of the islands, but concluded with this statement: "**Recognition that the islands are first of all an existing community of people, and the welfare of those people, and those who join them and come after them, must always be a primary concern of the Trust.**"

I believe that it is important that the Islands Trust be mindful of the welfare of island communities. There has to be a place for a diversity of people of all ages and economic circumstance and the policies of the Islands Trust must allow for new community models in order to sustain a diverse population of people with different needs.

Hopefully, the new Trust Policy Statement will reflect the intent and spirit of the original 1974 Trust Policy Statement, and be mindful of the welfare of those who live in Trust governed island communities.

Respectfully,

Burt Fidler

Gabriola Island.