



Rose Longini

Galiano BC VON IPO

July 13, 2021

To: Galiano Island Trustees  
and Islands Trust Council Chair

Re: July 2021 message re. The Draft New Policy Statement.

"We're amending it now to reflect current realities like climate change and affordable housing -" obfuscates the reality that response to the climate crisis and high-density affordable housing projects cannot co-exist, due to lack of sufficient WATER.

Over the years, the Ministry of Environment has undertaken several groundwater studies on Galiano Island. At our last OCP review, the Groundwater Committee considered those studies, which reported a continuing and ever more alarming decline in water quantity and quality. Have those reports been forgotten or ignored by planners?

Hydrologists hired by developers to calculate available water on any individual property are acting in isolation from the integrated aquifer system of this small island as a whole. Nor can we now calculate future rainwater catchment. Climate change compounds the necessity for extreme conservation - perhaps a moratorium - on planning for housing projects.

Sincerely,

Rose Longini