

From: Islands2050
Sent: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 8:35 AM
To: Islands2050
Subject: FW: At next Trust Council meeting please consider the following; 4.2.7. not attainable.

From: ALIX HODSON [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 3, 2022 2:57:18 PM
To: aallen@islandstrust.bc.ca <aallen@islandstrust.bc.ca>; lbusheikin@islandstrust.bc.ca <lbusheikin@islandstrust.bc.ca>; scolbourne@islandstrust.bc.ca <scolbourne@islandstrust.bc.ca>; dcritchley@islandstrust.bc.ca <dcritchley@islandstrust.bc.ca>; jdodds@islandstrust.bc.ca <jdodds@islandstrust.bc.ca>; sfast@islandstrust.bc.ca <sfast@islandstrust.bc.ca>; dfenton@islandstrust.bc.ca <dfenton@islandstrust.bc.ca>; pgrove@islandstrust.bc.ca <pgrove@islandstrust.bc.ca>; pjohnston@islandstrust.bc.ca <pjohnston@islandstrust.bc.ca>; mkaile@islandstrust.bc.ca <mkaile@islandstrust.bc.ca>; klangereis@islandstrust.bc.ca <klangereis@islandstrust.bc.ca>; pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca <pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca>; dmaude@islandstrust.bc.ca <dmaude@islandstrust.bc.ca>; bmconchie@islandstrust.bc.ca <bmconchie@islandstrust.bc.ca>; lmiddleton@islandstrust.bc.ca <lmiddleton@islandstrust.bc.ca>; dmorrisson@islandstrust.bc.ca <dmorrisson@islandstrust.bc.ca>; lpatrik@islandstrust.bc.ca <lpatrik@islandstrust.bc.ca>; tpeterson@islandstrust.bc.ca <tpeterson@islandstrust.bc.ca>; trockafella@islandstrust.bc.ca <trockafella@islandstrust.bc.ca>; drogers@islandstrust.bc.ca <drogers@islandstrust.bc.ca>; gscott@islandstrust.bc.ca <gscott@islandstrust.bc.ca>; kstamford@islandstrust.bc.ca <kstamford@islandstrust.bc.ca>; cthorn@islandstrust.bc.ca <cthorn@islandstrust.bc.ca>; jwolverton@islandstrust.bc.ca <jwolverton@islandstrust.bc.ca>; gscott@islandstrust.bc.ca <gscott@islandstrust.bc.ca>; pbrent@islandstrust.bc.ca <pbrent@islandstrust.bc.ca>
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Islands Trust Council

New Draft Policy Statement 4.2.7(4.4.2,4.4.1)

The new policy statement 4.2.7 states: “ Local trust committees and island municipalities shall. In their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, ensure: ...that the freshwater quality is maintained; and islands are self-sufficient in their supply of freshwater.”

It is hard to reconcile this policy with reality. How can an island be self-sufficient when there are millions of liters of drinking water being trucked onto it over the dry season?

Today I received a FOI (freedom of information] from the City of Nanaimo. Updated data on the number of liters of potable water that is being hauled to Gabriola to refill the cisterns on the island by the hauler “Summer Rain”. The volume is approximately 5.1 million liters. In conversation with a second hauler, “Island Haul”, I was told that they haul about 4 million liters of water to Gabriola in a season. Based on these two haulers, only, Gabriola Island is importing upwards of 9,000,000 (9 million) liters of water per dry season.

It is important to note that, the water supply is not secure:

1. The City of Nanaimo confirmed that throughout a drought period water supply to the islands could be rationed or suspended.
2. One water hauler mentioned that with transportation costs and long wait times due to overloads the service they provide was becoming untenable.

As the Trust is fully aware increases in development on Gabriola have not been sustainable for many years now and this is true for other islands as well.

Trucks loaded with thousands of liters of freshwater coming to Gabriola throughout the dry season clearly demonstrate that there is a water problem and a lack of it.

Even with cisterns, replacing once productive wells, the freshwater supply continues to be a growing concern. It must be acknowledged then, that Gabriola Island is not maintaining its quality of freshwater, nor, is it self-sufficient in the supply of freshwater.

Further development, over an above the densities that are not yet built on, is putting the community at serious risk. To residents on the Island the only logical solution is to protect the groundwater and the recharge area by placing a moratorium on all future development, until such a time that carrying capacity and water mapping can be accurately ascertained.

The old colony-settler mentality of expansionism is failing the islands and is a destructive out-dated idea. In this time of climate crisis we must look for new solutions and create only policies that will protect the water and put ecosystems first.

Sincerely,
Alix Hodson-Deggan
Gabriola Island