

From: Jane Perch [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 4, 2025 12:54 PM
To: South Pender Island Local Trust Committee; Islands2050
Cc: Kristina Evans; Dag Falck
Subject: Policy Statement

South Pender Island Trustees,

The Policy Statement is heavily vested in First Nations. As an example, the first Guiding Principal of the Policy Statement, 2.1.1 states "Acknowledge and Respect Indigenous Rights". I no longer know what this means. Are my fee simple lands affected by these rights?

The recent court decision regarding Cowichan Tribes V Canada involving lands in Richmond has set a precedent with respect to fee simple lands. The court decision is being appealed by the Government of Canada, the Province of BC and the City of Richmond. Two First Nations are also appealing the decision. Private land owners affected by the decision are also appealing the decision.

When the Premier of BC says ""If you read that decision as a property owner, you would rightly be worried," said the premier, who earlier said that if it were his property, "I would be anxious" I am a property owner and I am indeed very worried. Until such time as the courts rule on the appeal, the Policy Statement needs to be set aside.

The Policy Statement also needs the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. The provincial government is not in a position to approve the Policy Statement as it is party to the appeal of the Court decision.

For the above reasons, it is pointless to proceed with the Policy Statement until the courts decide on the appeal.

Regards,

Jane Perch