

**From:** Gregory Nicholls [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 12, 2021 6:37 PM  
**To:** Islands2050  
**Cc:** Ben McConchie; Deb Morrison  
**Subject:** Trust Policy

We support the long overdue and thorough review of the Policy Statement.

- We support in general, the important changes to the Trust Policy Statement that will equip Trust Council and LTCs to better implement the preserve and protect mandate of the Trust
- We support changes in the policy that will prevent further disruption of the integrity of island ecosystems and compromise the sustainability of island communities.
- We support Council's directive to LTCs to place priority on the integrity of the environment and Indigenous cultural heritage in all decision-making and limit the rate and scale of growth and development in their planning area. (3.1.12)
- We agree that the Trust has an obligation to increase its commitment to protect the endangered Coastal Douglas Fir Zone. We support the Trust's commitment to secure jurisdictional authority to preserve and protect forest ecosystems and prohibit clear cutting and logging old growth and to regulate tree cutting in the Trust Area.

We also support the Trust's application of the precautionary approach to stewardship of forest ecosystems and opposition to clear cutting of forests and logging old growth trees.

- We support Council's commitment to identify, monitor, and address the impacts of climate change on Trust Area communities through
    - > climate vulnerability assessments,
    - > adaptive management approaches,
    - > nature-based solutions that are informed by the best available evidence including Indigenous Traditional Knowledge.
  - Specifically we support policy amendments to reduce climate vulnerability including amendments: 4.1.5; 4.1.7; 4.1.9; 6.1.18; 6.1.20
  - We support Trust Council's commitment in 3.1.15 and 3.1.6 to seek meaningful engagement with First Nations in the Trust Area for matters that fall within Trust Council's jurisdiction, guided by the specific reconciliation principles and recommendations of:
    - > the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action,
    - > the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,
    - > the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act,
  - We support section (4.2.3) respecting inherent FN rights to access freshwater streams for cultural and spiritual purposes and (4.5.4) which expresses commitment to prevent removal or excavation of soil or fill from middens or foreshore areas that have been identified as culturally significant areas.
  - We support the aim that development, including housing, in the Trust Area, should be compact, energy-efficient, sustainable, and appropriately situated in order to minimize greenhouse gas emissions and safeguard protected area networks, freshwater sustainability, a healthy marine environment, and Indigenous cultural heritage in the Trust Area. Specifically we support policies (6.1.2,6.2.4; 6.2.5; 6.2.6; and 6.2.7)
  - We strongly support the Trust's commitment to apply the precautionary approach for protecting island water resources (4.2.1)
- I support all of the above points.

I would add that there should be a total ban on fracking in the trust area. It can have serious consequences for all nearby wells.

I would also add that we should treat these islands as a “safety zone” for indigenous flora and fauna, and strongly discourage the use of pesticides, herbicides and especially rat poison.

Gregory Nicholls