



# Islands Trust Islands 2050

## Policy Statement Amendment Project Community Discussion Guide

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## Acknowledgment

The Islands Trust Area is located within the treaty lands and territories of the BOKÉĆEN, Cowichan Tribes, K'ómoks, Lək'wəŋən, Lyackson, MÁLEXEŁ, Qualicum, scəwáθən məsteyəx<sup>w</sup>, Scia'new, səŋlɪwətaʔl, SEMYOME, shíshálh, Skwxwú7mesh, Snaw-naw-as, Snuneymuxw, Spune'luxutth, ST'ÁUTW, Stz'uminus, łaʔəmen, toq qaymıx<sup>w</sup>, Ts'uubaa-asatx, Wei Wai Kum, We Wai Kai, WJOŁEŁP, WSIKEM, Xeláltxw, Xwémalhkwu/ʔop qaymıx<sup>w</sup>, and x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm.

## How to Use This Discussion Guide

The purpose of this community discussion guide is to share information about and gather feedback on key updates in the Draft New Policy Statement.

Your feedback will be considered by Trust Council when considering proposed updates to the Policy Statement.

Input received through this community discussion guide, along with other feedback gathered in Phase 3 of public engagement, will be shared in an Engagement Summary Report.

Following an overview of the Islands 2050 Policy Amendment Project, we have organized questions in this community discussion guide based on the following categories:

1. Regional Governance Policies
2. Ecosystem Preservation and Protection Policies
3. Sustainable and Resilient Communities Policies
4. Reconciliation Policies
5. Structure and Implementation of the Policy Statement

## Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

When you complete the community discussion guide, you are anonymous.

Community discussion guide results, and any other input we get about Islands 2050, may be shared publicly at Islands Trust meetings, on our website, through social media, or in our publications or documents.

Any personal information gathered through this community discussion guide is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Enquiries about the collection or use of information in this survey can be directed to the Islands Trust's Legislative Services Manager at 250.405.5188.

Islands Trust will not collect, use, or disclose personal information using this community discussion guide.

## Correspondence Policy

As you complete the community discussion guide please keep in mind that your comments are most useful if they are related to the Policy Statement Amendment Project.

Comments and questions will be reviewed to remove content that is defamatory or profane, or that contains personal remarks about other individuals, their motives, or intentions, or that is otherwise inappropriate for a general audience.

# Project Background

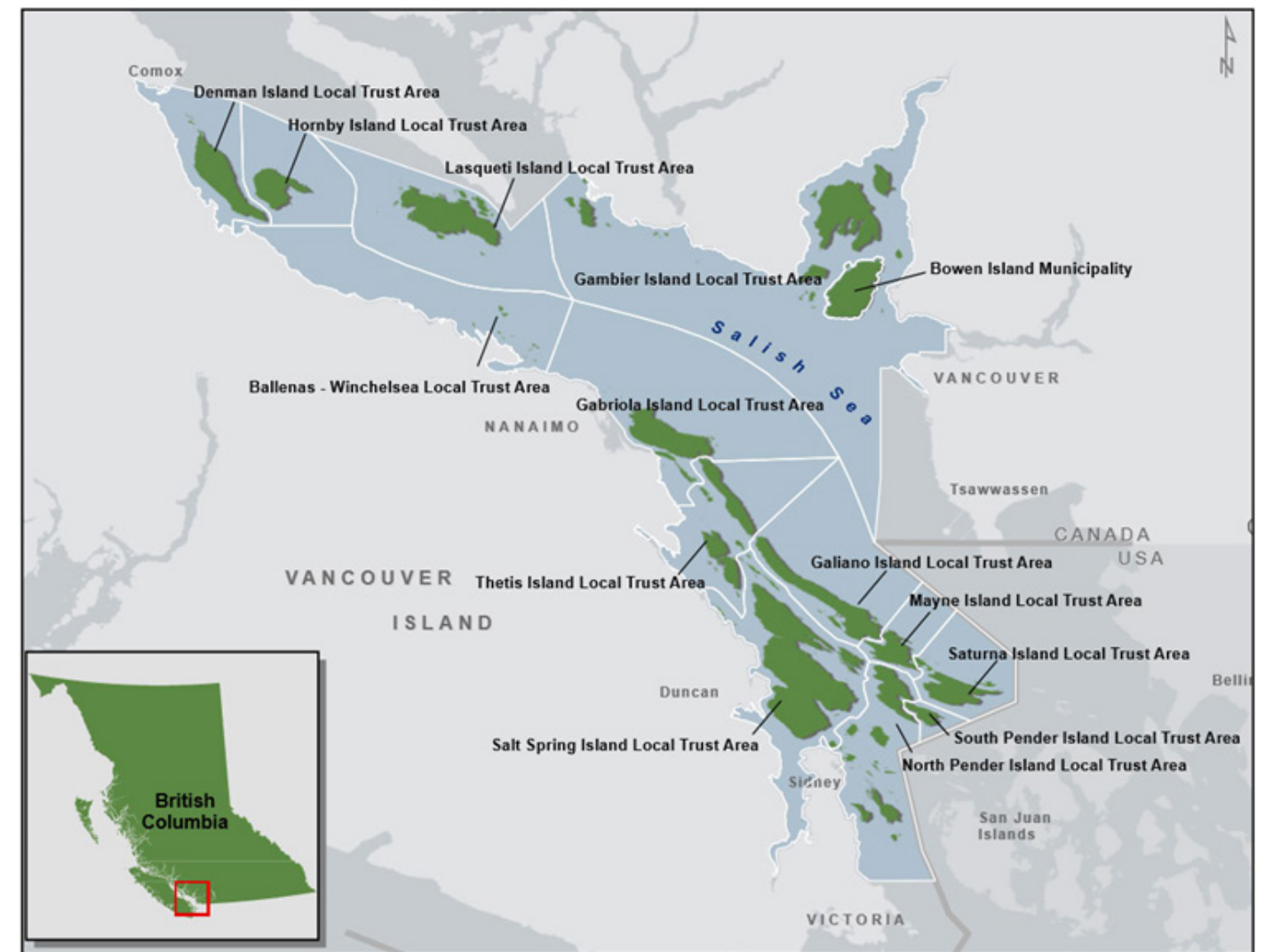
## Islands Trust, to Preserve and Protect

Islands Trust is governed by the Islands Trust Act, which sets out a purpose, or mandate, known formally as the “Islands Trust Object”:

“The object of the Trust is to preserve and protect the Trust Area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the Trust Area and of British Columbia generally, in cooperation with municipalities, regional districts, improvement districts, First Nations, other persons and organizations and the government of British Columbia.” (Islands Trust Act)

Islands Trust Council includes a 26-member federation of locally elected trustees who represent 13 different local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality. Trust Council is guided by the mandate to preserve and protect.

## About Islands Trust

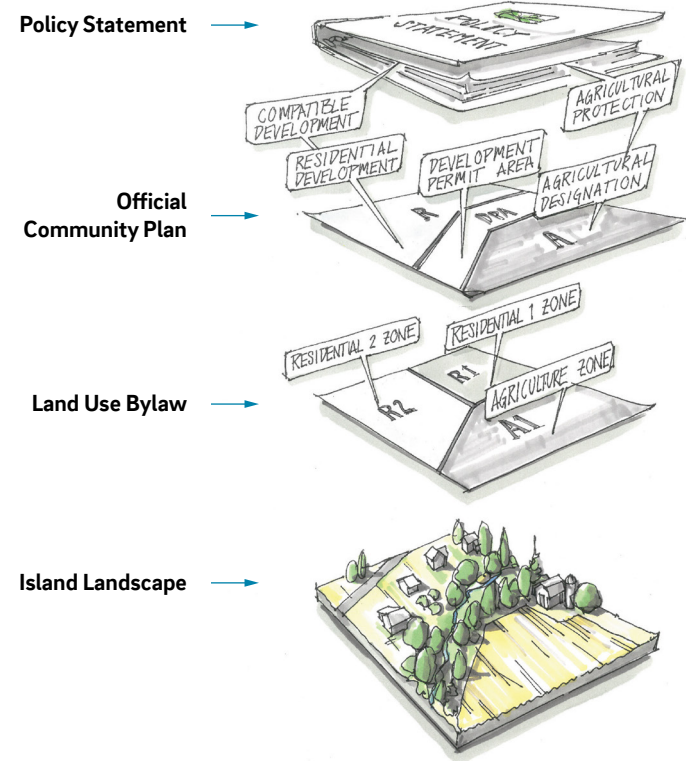


Islands Trust is a special-purpose government representing over 30,000 people living within the Islands Trust Area and 10,000 non-resident property owners.

The Islands Trust Area is located within Coast Salish territory and is the homeland to over 28,000 Coast Salish Peoples who have called this place home for many centuries.

The Islands Trust Area covers the islands and waters between the British Columbia mainland and southern Vancouver Island. It includes 13 major islands and more than 450 smaller islands, covering 5,200 square kilometres.

## About the Islands Trust Policy Statement



The Islands Trust Act requires Trust Council to adopt a Policy Statement, which is a collection of policies Trust Council uses to preserve and protect the Trust Area.

The Policy Statement guides the development of more detailed and local official community plans and regulatory bylaws across the Trust Area. And takes the place of Regional Growth Strategies that are used outside of the Islands Trust Area.

When a local trust committee or island municipality makes a decision about how a particular parcel of land will be used, it's the Policy Statement that guides that decision.

The Policy Statement also guides the development of Trust Council's Strategic Plan and how governments work together.

An Official Community Plan (OCP) describes the long-term vision of communities. It guides decisions on municipal and regional planning and land use management. An OCP is developed at the local level, with opportunities for public input.

A Land Use Bylaw (LUB) is used by municipal and regional districts to implement land use planning visions from official community plans and regional growth strategies. Bylaws regulate how land, buildings and other structures may be used.

### ISLANDS TRUST AREA

### REGIONAL DISTRICTS



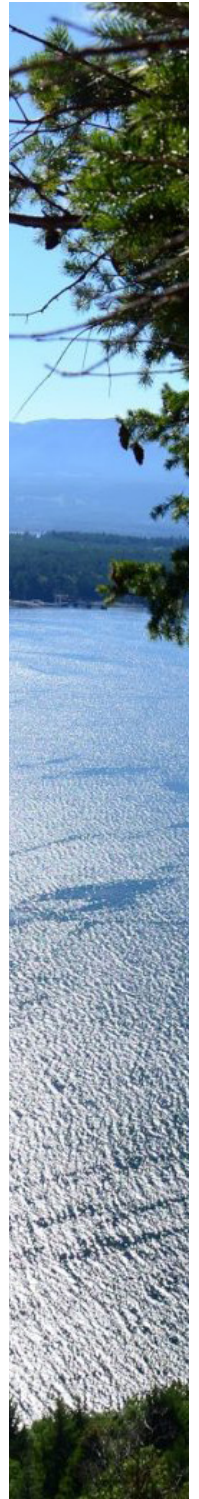
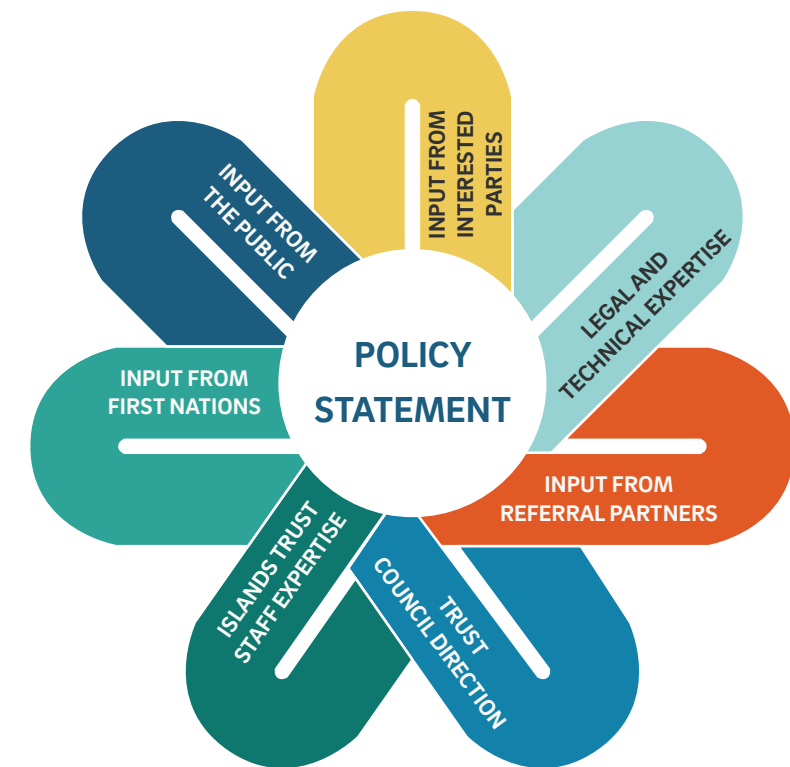
## About the Policy Statement Amendment Project

The Islands 2050 Policy Statement Amendment Project will help Trust Council plan for the challenges and opportunities that the Islands Trust Area will face over the next 30 years. The Policy Statement was first adopted in 1994 and has not been significantly updated in over 25 years. A lot has changed in that time.

The current Policy Statement does not meet Trust Council's recent commitments to reconciliation, climate change, and affordable housing, as reflected in Trust Council's 2018-2022 Strategic Plan, its Reconciliation Declaration (2019), and its Climate Emergency Declaration (2019).

Trust Council is leading the update process, with the support of its committees and staff. Trust Council must consider and balance feedback from the public, First Nations and Indigenous community members, referral agencies, subject matter specialists, and other interested and affected groups across the Islands Trust Area.

Because the Policy Statement has not been updated in so many years, many changes have been requested. All draft updates in the Draft New Policy Statement are within the existing mandate and scope of Islands Trust, as outlined in the Islands Trust Act.



# Project Timeline

The Islands 2050 Policy Statement Amendment Project began in 2019 and will go through many stages. Each stage of the project will build on, and be informed by, the stages that came before it.



## Gathering Information

- » Identify key challenges to be addressed in update
- » Seek public input on community values and concerns, and share what we heard

## Developing Draft Updates

- » Draft Policy Statement Amendments
- » Seek public input on draft new Policy Statement bylaw and share what we heard

## First Nations Engagement and Referral

- » Letters sent to First Nations
- » Early and meaningful engagement with First Nations
- » Capacity Funding
- » Policy Statement Review by First Nations

## Draft Policy Directions

- » Conduct policy analysis, draft Policy Directions Report
- » Seek online public feedback on draft policy directions

## Trust Council Review and Approval

- » Present feedback to Trust Council
- » First reading and Referrals
- » Second and Third Reading
- » Ministerial Approval
- » Fourth Reading

- » Engagement to review proposed changes to the Policy Statement
- » First Nations referral process following First Reading
- » Input from First Nations included in submission to Minister

# About the Islands 2050 Public Engagement Process

The purpose of conducting public engagement for this project is to inform the public about proposed draft updates to the Policy Statement and to gather community input for Trust Council to consider as they make decisions about the Policy Statement Amendment Project. Public input is one of many streams of input informing the project.

## Public Engagement Phase 1 (Fall 2019)

In Phase 1, public input was gathered on community values, concerns related to climate change, and opportunities to preserve and protect the Trust Area. Approximately 1,600 people provided feedback through Phase 1 engagement opportunities. Twenty-four events took place across the Trust Area, including:

- open house events
- group discussions
- information booths
- collection of feedback in key community locations, information displays and feedback opportunities in key community locations and on ferries
- online comment and discussion forum

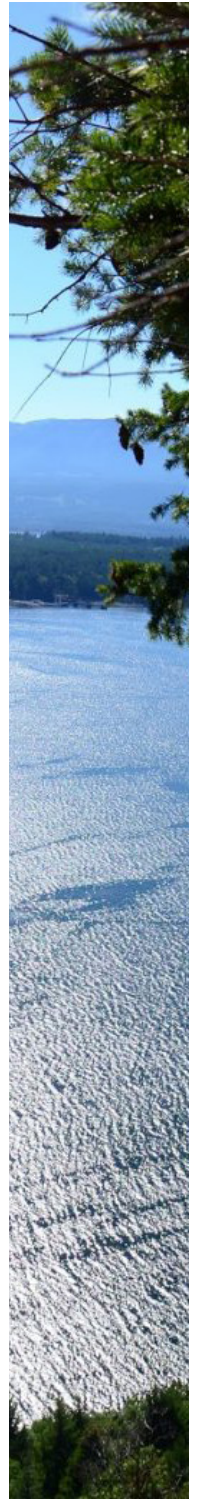
## Public Engagement Phase 2 (Jan-Mar 2021)

In Phase 2, public input was sought on draft policy directions. A Policy Directions Report was developed using input from Phase 1 public engagement, First Nations, Trust Council committees and working groups, and staff. Approximately 400 people provided feedback through the Phase 2 online survey, and 100 people attended the Open House. Opportunities for providing feedback on the Policy Directions Report included:

- An online survey
- A Virtual Open House

## Public Engagement Phase 3 (WE ARE HERE)

We are now in Phase 3. Your input through this discussion guide, and other engagement opportunities available February – April 2022, will help Trust Council to finalize amendments to the Draft New Policy Statement.





## The Draft New Policy Statement

### Share your views on the updates to the Policy Statement

On the following pages, questions about proposed draft updates to the Policy Statement have been organized by both category and type of policy.

The statements asked about in this Discussion Guide reflect key updates being considered in the Draft New Policy Statement.

Sometimes an update is being considered for more than one type of policy, for example an update may be under consideration for both a Commitment of Trust Council and a Directive Policy.

If you feel something should be included for all the types of policies it is listed under, or perhaps one type of policy, but not another type of policy, or not included at all, let us know in the questions below.

## About the Draft New Policy Statement

The Draft New Policy Statement organizes policies into both *categories* and *types* of policies.

### *Policy categories include:*

- **Regional Governance (new category)**
- **Ecosystem Preservation and Protection**
  - » Environmental Integrity Policies
  - » Freshwater Stewardship Policies
  - » Forest Stewardship Policies
  - » Agricultural Land Stewardship Policies
  - » Soil and Mineral Stewardship Policies
  - » Coastal and Marine Stewardship Policies
- **Heritage Preservation and Protection (new category)**
- **Sustainable and Resilient Communities**
  - » Rural Island Planning Policies
  - » Housing Policies (new section)
  - » Transportation Policies
  - » Waste Disposal Policies

### *Types of policies found in all categories include:*

- **Commitments of Trust Council:** identify the guiding principles Trust Council should use when making decisions.
- **Directive Policies to Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities:** require local trust committees and island municipalities to include certain types of policies in their local official community plans and land use bylaws. When Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities implement the directive policies, they tailor them to meet the specific local needs of each island and include opportunities for public input.
- **Coordination Policies:** guide how Trust Council will work with other government agencies and interested and affected parties, and make recommendations for preserving and protecting the Trust Area.

# Regional Governance Policies

## Draft Update Highlights

The draft new section of Regional Governance builds on the current Policy Statement’s section on “Guiding Principles for Trust Council.” It lists proposed guiding principles and approaches to support Trust Council in achieving its preserve and protect mandate throughout the Islands Trust Area.

## Proposed Updates to This Section

Proposed Updates to this section include:

1. Place priority on preserving and protecting the environment and Indigenous cultural heritage in all decision-making
2. Decision-making should be guided by best available science, local knowledge, Indigenous ways of knowing and the Precautionary Principle

*\*The Precautionary Principle recognizes that delaying action until there is compelling evidence of harm will often mean that it is then too costly or impossible to avoid the threat. Use of this principle promotes action to avoid risks of serious or irreversible harm to the environment.*

The statements asked about on the following pages reflect key updates being considered for the Regional Governance Section in the Draft New Policy Statement

**Commitments identify the guiding principles and approaches Trust Council should use when making decisions.**

**Tell us to what level you agree or disagree that Trust Council should state in the Policy Statement that:**

Priority should be placed on preserving and protecting the environment and Indigenous cultural heritage in all decision-making.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

The rate and scale of growth and development in the Trust Area must be carefully managed and requires limitation.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Decision-making should be guided by the Precautionary Principle.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Decision-making should be guided by the best available area-based mapping, science, social science, local knowledge, and Indigenous ways of knowing.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure



**Directive Policies** require local trust committees and island municipalities to include certain types of policies and approaches in their official community plans and land-use bylaws.

Tell us to what level you agree or disagree that Trust Council should state in the Policy Statement that:

Priority should be placed on preserving and protecting the environment and Indigenous cultural heritage in all decision-making.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

The rate and scale of growth and development in the Trust Area must be carefully managed and requires limitation.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Decision-making should be guided by the Precautionary Principle.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Decision-making should be guided by the best available area-based mapping, science, social science, local knowledge, and Indigenous ways of knowing.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Tell us more about your responses, why you agree or disagree with the policies listed here.

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Did we forget to ask something about the draft policies related to regional governance that is meaningful to you? Provide additional comments.

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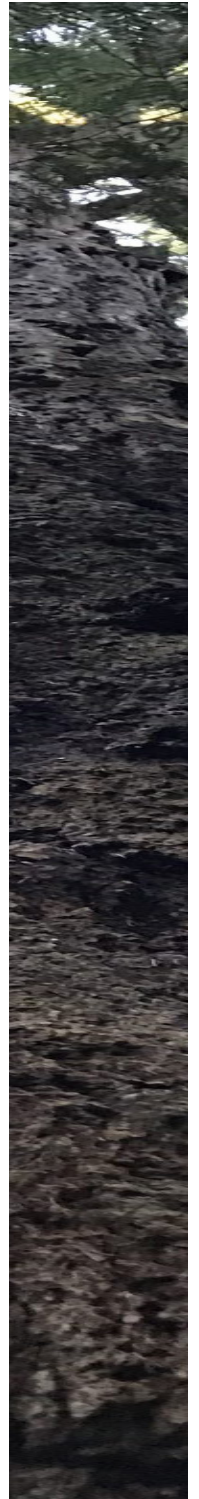
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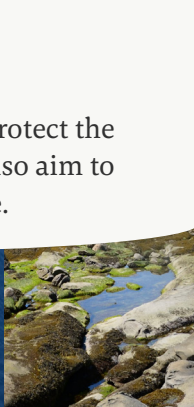




# Ecosystem Preservation and Protection Policies

## Draft Update Highlights

In the Ecosystem Preservation and Protection section, draft policies have been proposed to better protect the overall health and integrity of the local ecosystems cherished by communities. Proposed updates also aim to support communities, and the ecosystems they depend on, to mitigate and adapt to climate change.



## Proposed Updates to This Section

### Environmental Integrity Policies:

Feedback from Phase 1 and 2 engagement led to proposed updates in this section that require each local planning area to identify, monitor, and mitigate the impacts of climate change on ecosystems through:

1. Proposed commitment policies to conduct climate vulnerability assessments in each local area
2. Proposed directive policy to identify ways to reduce vulnerability support ways to adapt to climate change
3. Proposed directive policies to identify and prioritize, in each local area, the protection of:
  - a) sensitive ecosystems
  - b) contiguous, unfragmented forests
  - c) freshwater networks and groundwater recharge areas
  - d) eelgrass meadows, kelp forests, fish spawning areas
  - e) species at risk
  - f) Indigenous cultivation and harvesting areas

### Freshwater Stewardship Policies:

During Phase 1 and 2 engagement, community members expressed a strong concern about the sustainability of freshwater supply on the islands and a desire for stronger protective policies. Some existing policies have been strengthened to use clear and measurable terms.

1. Strengthened directive policy language is proposed to more clearly identify and plan for freshwater constraints in a changing climate (changes noted in bold):
  - a) “Neither the density nor intensity of land use is increased in **groundwater regions** where the

quality or quantity of the supply of freshwater is **likely to be inadequate or unsustainable**;

- b) Existing, anticipated, and seasonal water **demand and supply projections** are considered and allowed for”
2. Proposed draft directive policy to prohibit new desalination plants.
  3. Another proposed update in this section encourages rainwater harvesting as a supporting water source (though not as a primary water supply).

### Forest Stewardship Policies:

In this section, there are no significant updates to directive policies.

However, draft commitments and coordination policy updates include a request for the provincial government to grant the Trust Council authority to regulate tree cutting in the Trust Area. If successful, this would provide local trust committees the authority to adopt tree protection bylaws. They also include a request to the Ministry of Forests to prohibit any clear-cutting of forests or logging of old-growth trees in the Trust Area.

If the Province were to grant Trust Council authority to regulate tree cutting, this is not expected to affect residents’ abilities to remove danger trees, collect firewood, or perform regular land maintenance on their properties.

### Agricultural Stewardship Policies:

In the Agricultural Stewardship section, no significant regulatory updates are proposed.

1. Some language that described agriculture as a “traditional and valuable activity” in the current

Policy Statement has been removed in the proposed updates. While agriculture is valued in the Trust Area, these words hold different meaning for First Nations and was seen to be out of alignment with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls for Action.

2. Proposed policy preference for agricultural harvesting practices that are:
  - a) small-scale, sustainable, regenerative
  - b) minimize downstream impacts
  - c) respectful of Indigenous food security, harvesting areas, and cultural heritage
  - d) protective of environmental integrity
3. Proposed coordination policy to advocate for the approaches above on Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) lands
4. Proposed coordination policy to advocate for greater provincial supports to local farmers to adopt the highest standards of environmental protection and adapt to climate change

### Coastal and Marine Stewardship Policies:

In previous phases of engagement, Islands Trust heard a strong call from the public and First Nations to better protect the coastal and marine environment.

Proposed updates in this section aim to minimize changes caused by the combined impact of past, present and future human activities on Indigenous cultural heritage and harvesting sites, and on sensitive nearshore ecosystems that are critical to the health of the Salish Sea.

Draft updates propose preferred approaches that align with the preserve and protect mandate:

1. Proposed draft directive policies prohibiting new private docks (except where properties are boat access only)

- » Community/shared docks are preferred to minimize the cumulative effects of a large number of private docks on sensitive nearshore ecosystems, and Indigenous cultural heritage sites and harvesting areas. Private docks can also impede access to the foreshore and detract from the natural beauty of the coastline.
2. Proposed draft directive policies prohibiting new seawalls or other hard shoreline armouring
    - » Soft shoreline protections are preferred over hard shoreline armouring that can adversely impact Indigenous cultural heritage sites and harvesting areas, sensitive nearshore ecosystems, and the natural beauty of the coastline.
  3. Proposed draft coordination and advocacy policies to strengthen protection of the coastal and marine environment by other levels of government

The statements asked about on the following pages reflect key updates being considered for the Ecosystem Protection and Preservation Section in the Draft New Policy Statement

**Commitments identify the guiding principles and approaches Trust Council should use when making decisions.**

**Tell us to what level you agree or disagree that Trust Council should state in the Policy Statement that:**

The impacts of climate change on ecosystems should be identified and monitored through climate vulnerability assessments in each local planning area

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Nature-based solutions should be used to minimize climate vulnerabilities in each local planning area. (Nature-based solutions are actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore ecosystems that address societal challenges effectively and adaptively, providing both human well-being and biodiversity benefits.)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Neither the density nor intensity of land use should be increased in groundwater regions where the quality or quantity of freshwater is likely to be inadequate or unsustainable.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

New desalination plants in the Trust Area should be prohibited, due to their intensive energy demands and potentially adverse impacts to coastal and marine ecosystems.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Agriculture and forestry are valued activities in the Islands Trust Area. (Note: Previous Commitments of Trust Council that recognized agriculture and forestry as 'traditional and valuable' activities in the Islands Trust Area were removed from the Draft New Policy Statement, with reconciliation principles in mind, and without any regulatory impact on communities. Trust Council could consider reframing these statements instead of removing them.)

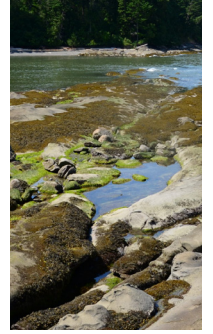
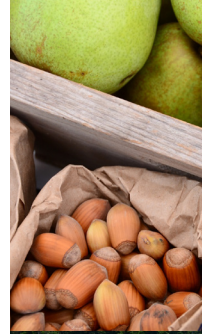
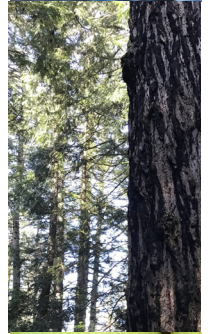
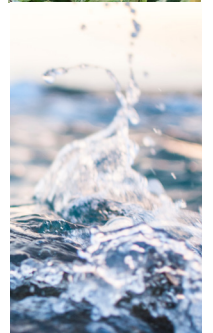
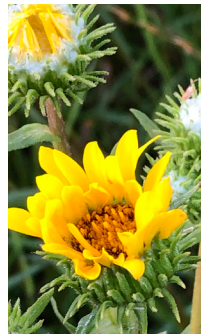
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Harvesting practices (i.e. forestry, agriculture, and aquaculture) should be small-scale, sustainable, regenerative, supportive of climate action, respectful of Indigenous harvesting areas, and protective of the environmental integrity of the Islands Trust Area.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

The clear-cutting of forests and logging of old-growth trees is inappropriate anywhere in the Trust Area, in light of the harmful impacts of these activities on ecosystems and natural area carbon sinks.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



**Commitments** identify the guiding principles and approaches Trust Council should use when making decisions.

Tell us to what level you agree or disagree that Trust Council should state in the Policy Statement that:

New private docks should be prohibited (except where properties are boat access only), in light of their potentially harmful cumulative effects on nearshore ecosystems, marine food webs and species at risk, Indigenous harvesting areas, and cultural heritage sites.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

New seawalls or other hard shoreline armoring should be prohibited, whereas soft shoreline protections should be encouraged.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Marine dependent land uses should be directed away from eelgrass meadows, kelp forests, forage fish spawning areas, tidal salt marshes, mud flats, and coastal wetlands, acknowledging the important roles they play in capturing and storing carbon, protecting shorelines, and supporting marine food webs and species at risk.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Trust Council should advocate to other levels of government to prohibit ocean dumping, commercial freighter anchorage sites, oil tanker traffic for export, and moorage/anchorage sites in eelgrass meadows, throughout the Islands Trust Area.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Directive Policies** require local trust committees and island municipalities to include certain types of policies and approaches in their official community plans and land-use bylaws.

Tell us to what level you agree or disagree that Trust Council should state in the Policy Statement that:

Nature-based solutions should be used to minimize climate vulnerabilities in each local planning area. *(Nature-based solutions are actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore ecosystems that address societal challenges effectively and adaptively, providing both human well-being and biodiversity benefits.)*

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Directive Policies** require local trust committees and island municipalities to include certain types of policies and approaches in their official community plans and land-use bylaws.

Tell us to what level you agree or disagree that Trust Council should state in the Policy Statement that:

Neither the density nor intensity of land use should be increased in groundwater regions where the quality or quantity of freshwater is likely to be inadequate or unsustainable.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

New desalination plants in the Trust Area should be prohibited, due to their intensive energy demands and potentially adverse impacts to coastal and marine ecosystems.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

When identifying and preserving appropriate areas for agricultural land in the Trust Area, consideration should be given to the impacts of agricultural activity on downstream ecosystems, wildlife habitat, and adjacent properties.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

New private docks should be prohibited (except where properties are boat access only), in light of their potentially harmful cumulative effects on nearshore ecosystems, marine food webs and species at risk, Indigenous harvesting areas, and cultural heritage sites.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

New seawalls or other hard shoreline armoring should be prohibited, whereas soft shoreline protections should be encouraged.

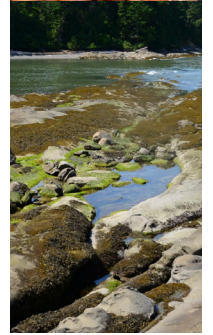
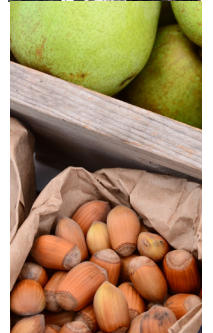
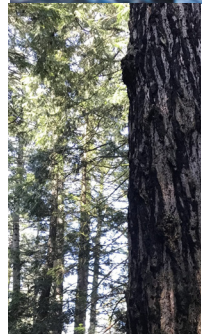
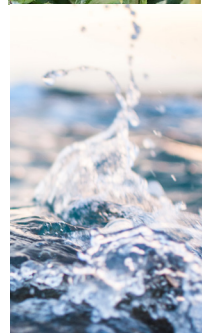
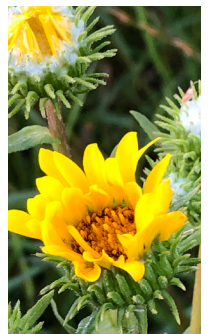
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Shoreline buffers and setbacks should be established in accordance with the current and anticipated impacts of sea level rise in each local planning area.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Marine dependent land uses should be directed away from eelgrass meadows, kelp forests, forage fish spawning areas, tidal salt marshes, mud flats, and coastal wetlands, acknowledging the important roles they play in capturing and storing carbon, protecting shorelines, and supporting marine food webs and species at risk.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/Unsure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



**Coordination Policies** outline Trust Council's intentions for working with, or advocating to, government agencies and other interested and affected parties.

Tell us to what level you agree or disagree that Trust Council should state in the Policy Statement that:

Rainwater harvesting should be widely encouraged as a supplemental water source but not relied upon as a primary water supply.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Harvesting practices (i.e. forestry, agriculture, and aquaculture) should be small-scale, sustainable, regenerative, supportive of climate action, respectful of Indigenous harvesting areas, and protective of the environmental integrity of the Islands Trust Area.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

The clear-cutting of forests and logging of old-growth trees is inappropriate anywhere in the Trust Area, in light of the harmful impacts of these activities on ecosystems and natural area carbon sinks.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Trust Council should advocate to the provincial government for authority to regulate tree cutting in the Trust Area, in light of its importance to the Islands Trust preserve and protect mandate.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Trust Council should advocate to other government agencies that farming in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) should not adversely impact Indigenous food security and harvesting practices, cultural heritage, or protected area networks in the Islands Trust Area.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Trust Council should advocate to other government agencies that legislation, guidelines, and incentives should be established to support local farmers to adopt the highest standards of environmental protection, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and adapt to climate variability, in accordance with the Islands Trust preserve and protect mandate.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

**Coordination Policies** outline Trust Council's intentions for working with, or advocating to, government agencies and other interested and affected parties.

Tell us to what level you agree or disagree that Trust Council should state in the Policy Statement that:

Trust Council should advocate to other levels of government to prohibit ocean dumping, commercial freighter anchorage sites, oil tanker traffic for export, and moorage/anchorage sites in eelgrass meadows, throughout the Islands Trust Area.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Trust Council should advocate to other levels of government to support the removal of abandoned and derelict vessels, plastics, ghost fishing gear, and other marine debris from the Islands Trust Area.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Trust Council should advocate to other levels of government to develop effective oil spill prevention, preparedness, and geographic response plans for the Islands Trust Area.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Tell us more about your responses, why you agree or disagree with the policies related to freshwater or groundwater listed in the questions above.

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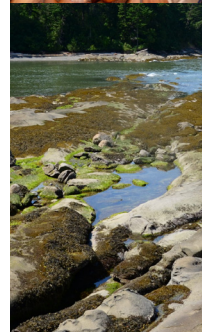
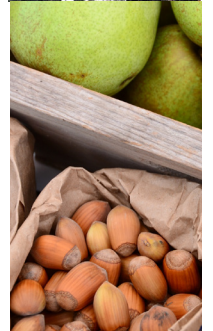
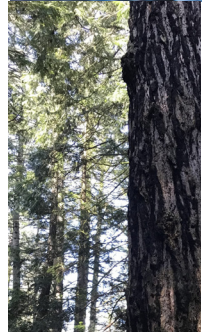
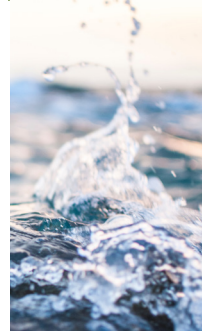
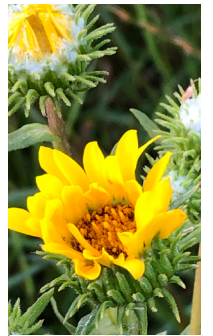
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Tell us more about your responses, why you agree or disagree with the policies related to **agriculture** in the questions listed above.

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Tell us more about your responses, why you agree or disagree with the policies related to **forestry** in the questions listed above.

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Tell us more about your responses, why you agree or disagree with the policies related to **marine and coastal stewardship** listed in the questions above.

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Did we forget to ask something about the draft policies related to ecosystem preservation and protection that is meaningful to you? Please provide additional comments.

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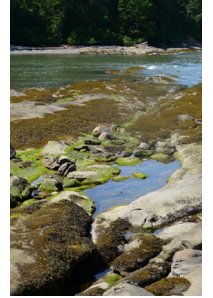
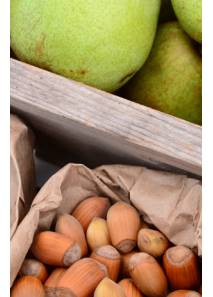
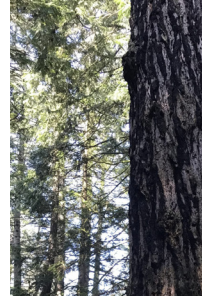
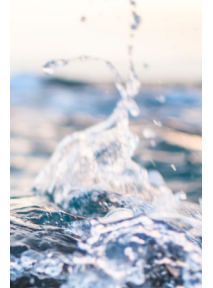
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## Sustainable and Resilient Communities Policies

### Draft Update Highlights

This section includes proposed updates that identify a preference for sustainable, low-impact, and low-carbon approaches to development, recreational activities, trails, and active transportation networks.

These updates support sustainable and resilient communities while also protecting the environmental integrity of the region and Indigenous cultural heritage and harvesting areas.

## Proposed Updates to This Section

### Rural Island Planning Policies:

This section includes draft directive policies requiring local trust committees and island municipalities to reduce the climate vulnerability of their communities by:

- » protecting natural area carbon sinks
- » fostering low-carbon housing, buildings, transportation, and agriculture
- » safeguarding freshwater sustainability
- » encouraging soft shoreline protections, and
- » mitigating wildfire risk.

### Housing Policies:

The Draft New Policy Statement proposes a new section about fostering low-impact and affordable housing in the Trust Area.

1. Proposed new section devoted to fostering low-impact, affordable housing, while safeguarding:
  - a) protected area networks
  - b) freshwater sustainability
  - c) healthy marine environment
  - d) Indigenous cultural heritage
2. Proposed draft directive policies to:
  - a) identify appropriate locations for housing density to support safe, secure, and affordable housing
  - b) assess impacts of short-term rentals on affordable housing, and regulate where necessary
  - c) establish locally-specific floor area and lot coverage limitations for residential development

### Transportation Policies:

This section includes draft updates to support active transportation networks and support electric vehicles and electric bicycles, which help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote community health and well-being.

Proposed updates to this section support creating public and active transportation networks, and refinements to existing directive policies to ensure that road systems do not negatively impact protected area networks, forested areas, watershed ecosystems, freshwater networks, groundwater recharge areas, agricultural lands, coastal and marine areas, or Indigenous cultural heritage.

A proposed update identifies Trust Council's interest in approaching the provincial government to support electric ferries in the Trust Area.

The statements asked about on the following pages reflect key updates being considered for the Sustainable and Resilient Communities Section in the Draft New Policy Statement

**Commitments** identify the guiding principles and approaches Trust Council should use when making decisions.

Tell us to what level you agree or disagree that Trust Council should state in the Policy Statement that:

New development and housing in the Islands Trust Area should be small-scale, low-impact, energy efficient, 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

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Community sustainability and resilience are supported by the availability of diverse, low impact, and affordable housing that caters to a range of age groups and income levels.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Strategic, multijurisdictional, equitable, and integrated approaches are needed to address the diverse housing needs of Trust Area communities.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Appropriately situated public and active transportation networks should be established to support electric vehicles and electric bicycles, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote health and well-being in the Islands Trust Area communities.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

**Directive Policies** require local trust committees and island municipalities to include certain types of policies and approaches in their official community plans and land-use bylaws.

Tell us to what level you agree or disagree that Trust Council should state in the Policy Statement that:

New development and housing in the Islands Trust Area should be small-scale, low-impact, energy efficient, 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.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

**Directive Policies** require local trust committees and island municipalities to include certain types of policies and approaches in their official community plans and land-use bylaws.

Tell us to what level you agree or disagree that Trust Council should state in the Policy Statement that:

Each local planning area should identify means to reduce the climate vulnerability of their communities, including actions that foster protection of natural area carbon sinks, low-carbon housing, transportation, and agriculture, biodiversity, freshwater sustainability, soft shoreline protections, and wildfire risk mitigation.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Appropriate locations should be identified where density increases could support safe, secure, and affordable housing, without compromising protected area networks, freshwater sustainability, a healthy marine environment, and Indigenous cultural heritage, in each local planning area.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

The impacts of short-term rentals of dwellings on the availability of safe, secure, and affordable housing should be identified, assessed, and, where necessary, regulated, in each local planning area.

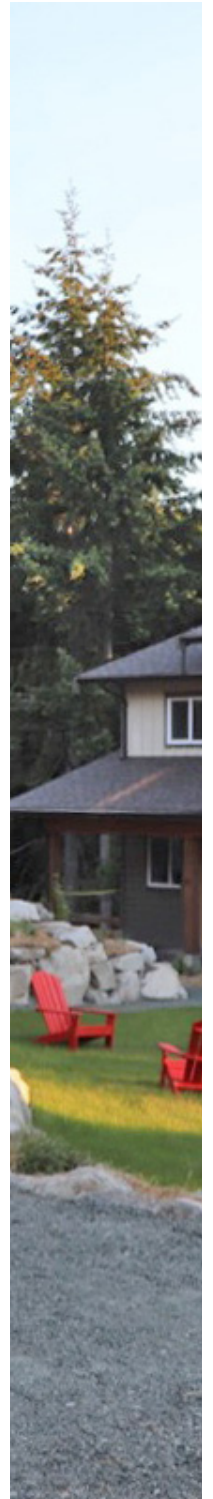
Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Appropriate floor area and lot coverage limits for residential development should be established to minimize greenhouse gas emissions and cumulative effects on the environment and Indigenous cultural heritage in each local planning area.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Appropriately situated public and active transportation networks should be established to support electric vehicles and electric bicycles, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote health and well-being in the Islands Trust Area communities.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure





**Coordination Policies** outline Trust Council's intentions for working with, or advocating to, government agencies and other interested and affected parties.

Tell us to what level you agree or disagree that Trust Council should state in the Policy Statement that:

Trust Council should coordinate with, and advocate to, other levels of government to foster safe, secure, and affordable housing in the Islands Trust Area, in alignment with the Islands Trust preserve and protect mandate.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Appropriately situated public and active transportation networks should be established to support electric vehicles and electric bicycles, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote health and well-being in the Islands Trust Area communities

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Trust Council should advocate to provincial government agencies to support the electrification of ferries in the Islands Trust Area, in order to minimize greenhouse gas emissions and protect coastal and marine ecosystems.

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Don't know/Unsure

Tell us more about your responses, why you agree or disagree with the policies listed in the questions above.

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Did we forget to ask something about the draft policies related to sustainable and resilient communities that is meaningful to you? Please provide additional comments.

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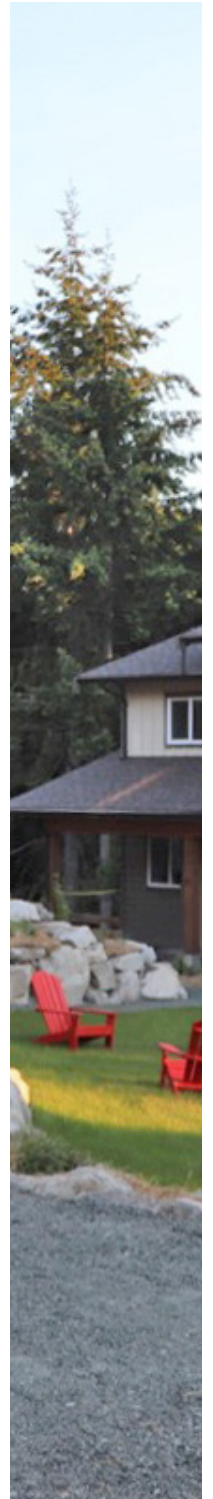
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## Reconciliation Policies

### Draft Update Highlights

There are a number of proposed updates and language changes throughout the Draft New Policy Statement that are guided by Trust Council's Reconciliation Declaration, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, and early and meaningful engagement with First Nations, Treaty Alliances, and Tribal Councils in the Islands Trust Area.

## Proposed Updates

The Draft New Policy Statement includes a long overdue acknowledgment of First Nations' treaty and territorial rights and relationships to these lands and waters, from time immemorial.

There are also draft updates stating that land and marine uses in the Trust Area should not impact the inherent rights of First Nations to access their treaty and territorial lands and waters for cultural, spiritual, or stewardship purposes.

There are proposed updates for Trust Council, local trust committees and island municipalities to seek meaningful engagement with First Nations, guided by reconciliation principles and recommendations that fall within their jurisdiction from:

- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)
- Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA)
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action
- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) Calls for Justice

Draft updates are also proposed for local trust committees and island municipalities to include certain types of reconciliation policies in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws.

These include policies that preserve and protect Indigenous cultural heritage, harvesting sites, and culturally significant species, and stronger protection of the coastal and marine environment. There are also draft updates that prohibit the removal or excavation of soil from areas that have been identified as culturally significant by First Nations or Indigenous Knowledge Holders.

Given Islands Trust Council’s commitment to align policies with the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, do you have suggestions for policies to be included to support reconciliation in the Islands Trust Area?

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# Structure and Implementation of the Policy Statement

The Draft New Policy Statement largely follows the structure of the Current Policy Statement. Do you have feedback you wish to share related to the structure of the Draft New Policy Statement?

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The implementation of the Policy Statement is guided by Trust Council’s Policy Statement Implementation Policy, which is currently set to be updated after a new Policy Statement has been adopted. Do you have feedback you wish to share related to the implementation of the Policy Statement?

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Would you like to see a Glossary of Key Terms added to the Draft New Policy Statement?

Yes                      No                      Unsure

# Tell us about yourself



## Optional Questions

These questions are optional. Information provided by these questions helps us to better understand the feedback we receive through the survey and to ensure we are hearing from broad and diverse perspectives across the Islands Trust Area.

### 1 Which area do you feel most connected with?

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ballenas-Winchelsea LTA   | <input type="checkbox"/> Gambier Island LTA      | <input type="checkbox"/> Salt Spring Island LTA  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bowen Island Municipality | <input type="checkbox"/> Hornby Island LTA       | <input type="checkbox"/> Saturna Island LTA      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Denman Island LTA         | <input type="checkbox"/> Lasqueti Island LTA     | <input type="checkbox"/> South Pender Island LTA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gabriola Island LTA       | <input type="checkbox"/> Mayne Island LTA        | <input type="checkbox"/> Thetis Island LTA       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Galiano Island LTA        | <input type="checkbox"/> North Pender Island LTA | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____             |

### 2 What is your connection to the islands? Check as many as apply:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am a part-time resident          | <input type="checkbox"/> I live adjacent to the region<br>(e.g. on Vancouver Island or mainland BC) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am a full-time resident          | <input type="checkbox"/> I do not wish answer   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am a non-resident property owner | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please explain): _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am a visitor                     |   |

### 3 Please indicate your age:

- 12-24   
  25-39   
  40-59   
  60-79   
  80+   
  Prefer not to say

### 4 With which gender do you most identify:

- Female   
  Male   
  Non-Binary   
  Two-Spirited   
  Prefer not to say
- I identify as, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

### 5 Please indicate if you identify with one of these groups:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am a member of a First Nation within the Trust Area | <input type="checkbox"/> I am a member of a visible minority group<br><i>According to the Employment Equity Act, members of a visible minority are people in Canada (other than Indigenous peoples) who are non-white in colour or non-Caucasian in race, regardless of their place of birth or citizenship.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am Indigenous, Metis, or Inuit                      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say                                     |  |

6 If you are a resident or property owner, how long have you lived or owned property in the Islands Trust Area?

- Less than 1 year
- 1 to 5 years
- 6 to 10 years
- 11 to 20 years
- More than 20 years
- Prefer not to say

7 How would you describe your housing situation?

- Own
- Rent
- Co-op
- Unsheltered or temporary shelter
- Prefer not to say
- Other (Please explain): \_\_\_\_\_

8 Including you, how many people live in your household? \_\_\_\_\_

9 Do you have children under the age of 18 living with you at home?

- Yes
- No
- No – only have children OVER the age of 18 living at home
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

10 What is your current employment status?

- Employed / self-employed full-time (30+ hours per week)
- Currently looking for work
- Not working
- Employed / self-employed part-time (fewer than 30 hours per week)
- Stay at home parent/caregiver
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Student
- Retired
- Prefer not to say

11 Which of the following categories best describes your total household income per year before taxes?

- Under \$20,000
- \$20,000 to \$39,999
- \$40,000 to \$59,999
- \$60,000 to \$79,999
- \$80,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 and above
- Prefer not to say

12 How did you hear about this survey?

- Community blog or website (apart from Islands Trust)
- Email from Bowen Island Municipality
- Email from the Islands Trust
- Newspaper advertisement
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Other social media
- Islands Trust website
- Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_
- Local trustee
- Newspaper article
- Word of mouth

13 How do you prefer to receive information from Islands Trust about this project? Select all that apply.

- Local newspaper
- Islands Trust website
- Email
- Direct mail
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Online community bulletin boards
- Meetings of the local trust committee
- Meetings of Bowen Island Municipality
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Did we forget to ask something about something that is meaningful to you? Please provide additional comments.

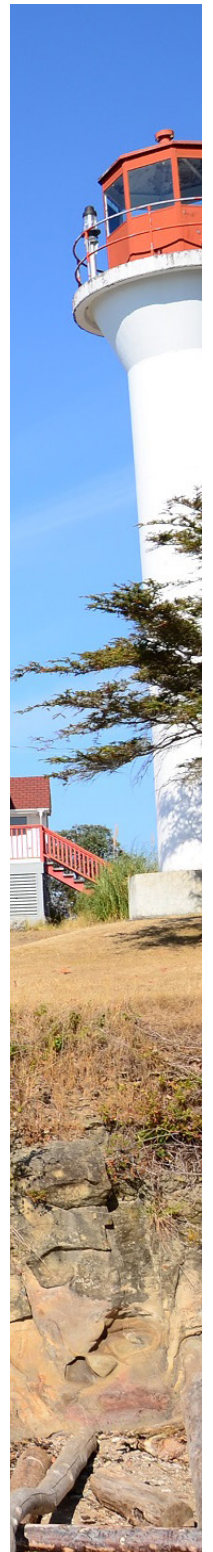
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## How to submit your Community Discussion Guide

### Thank you for taking the time to complete this community discussion guide!

Please return your community discussion guide to the pick-up location or use the enclosed pre-paid and addressed envelope to return your completed community discussion guide to the project team.

Your input will be included in the Engagement Summary and considered by Trust Council to further refine updates to the Policy Statement.

For more information about the project, please visit the website: <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/programs/islands-2050/>

Email: [islands2050@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:islands2050@islandstrust.bc.ca)

Or call: 1-250-405-5151



For more information about the project, please visit:

[WWW.ISLANDSTRUST.BC.CA/PROGRAMS/ISLANDS-2050](http://WWW.ISLANDSTRUST.BC.CA/PROGRAMS/ISLANDS-2050)

Email: [ISLANDS2050@ISLANDSTRUST.BC.CA](mailto:ISLANDS2050@ISLANDSTRUST.BC.CA)  
or call: 1-250-405-5151

## More ways to get involved

### In-person events:

#### Bowen Island

- Sunday, March 27, 2022 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Event booth on grass next to Union Steamship Company Marina
- Sunday, March 27, 2022 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Drop-in Event at Bowen Island Library Annex

#### Denman Island

- Friday, March 18, 2022 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Event booth in “downtown” Denman
- Saturday, March 19, 2022 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Drop-in Event at Denman Island Community Hall

#### Gabriola Island

- Tuesday, April 5, 2022 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Event Booth outside FolkLife Village/Nesters
- Tuesday, April 5, 2022 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Drop-in Event at The Haven

#### Galiano Island

- Tuesday, April 12, 2022 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Event booth by DayStar Market
- Tuesday, April 12, 2022 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Drop-in Event at South Galiano Community Hall

#### Gambier Island (virtual event)

- Monday, March 28, 2022 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

#### Hornby Island

- Friday, March 18, 2022 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Drop-in Event at Hornby Island Community Hall
- Saturday March 19, 2022 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Event booth outside Co-op Grocery Store

#### Lasqueti Island

- Monday, April 4, 2022 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Event booth outside Provisions Cafe

#### Mayne Island

- Monday, April 11, 2022 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Event booth outside TruValue Foods
- Monday, April 11, 2022 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Drop-in Event at Mayne Island Agricultural Hall

#### North Pender Island

- Tuesday, April 12, 2022 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Event booth on grass at Driftwood Center
- Tuesday, April 12, 2022 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Drop-in Event at St. Peter’s Anglican Parish Hall

#### Salt Spring Island

- Saturday, April 2, 2022 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. Event booth outside Salt Spring Fire Hall #2 (South Island)
- Sunday, April 3, 2022 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Drop-in Event at Mahon Hall
- Saturday, April 9, 2022 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Event booth at Salt Spring Saturday Market
- Sunday, April 10, 2022 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Drop-in Event at Harbour House

#### Saturna Island

- Monday, April 11, 2022 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Event booth by the General Store
- Monday, April 11, 2022 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Drop-in Event at Saturna Recreation and Cultural Centre

#### South Pender Island

- Wednesday, April 13, 2022 9:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Event booth by Church of the Good Shepherd

#### Thetis Island

- Sunday, March 20, 2022 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Event booth by pub/post office
- Sunday, March 20, 2022 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Drop-in Event at Forbes Hall



islands  2050  
THE FUTURE OF THE TRUST AREA

