

From: Jesse Keefer <[REDACTED]>

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To: Lisa Gauvreau <lgauvreau@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Emily Bryant <ebryant@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Kim Stockdill <kstockdill@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Robert Kojima <rkojima@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Ben Maberley <bmaberley@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Subject:

I am writing to lend my support to Leif Palmberg's zoning application, PLRZ2024003.

Leif's vision would be an attraction for both locals and visitors. It's easy to discount ideas due to fears such as water scarcity, but Leif is a conscientious, hardworking young parent who was raised on Galiano and deserves our support. Leif has included responsible use of water in his plan, ensuring that his operations will not strain our local water resources.

Apple cider production is an economically viable and environmentally friendly option, especially when compared to a brewery. Cider production requires approximately 50% less water. Also, apple trees typically require about 25% less water than other fruit trees, making them a more sustainable choice in regions where water scarcity is a concern. Cider production is already successfully established on Salt Spring Island, which has much more populated areas, demonstrating its feasibility.

Historically, the Gulf Islands were known as the 'fruit basket' of Canada before the population shifted towards retirees from Vancouver and Toronto, who moved here not necessarily for work but for the lifestyle. Leif's cider project harkens back to these roots, revitalizing our agricultural heritage and fostering a sense of community self-sufficiency.

Leif is also applying to run a small sawmill on his property. Using logs from the island rather than hauling them from elsewhere is significantly more environmentally sound. Local milling reduces the carbon footprint associated with transportation and supports sustainable forestry practices. By processing wood locally, we can ensure that the materials used for building and maintaining our homes are sourced responsibly and with minimal environmental impact.

Additionally, Leif is applying to have gravel storage on the property. This makes complete sense as every landowner needs gravel at some point. Having bulk storage on the island is far more environmentally responsible than having individual loads trucked over. It reduces the frequency and carbon footprint of transportation, providing a more sustainable solution for our community's needs.

Having a local cider, sawmill operation, and gravel storage will bolster our local economy and reduce the carbon footprint associated with transporting products on and off the island.

We need to look at the big picture and ensure that young members of our community have a viable future. Supporting initiatives like Leif's is essential for the long-term sustainability and prosperity of Galiano.

Leif is offering three key things that Galiano could benefit from. We all need aggregate for our driveways, materials to build and maintain our homes, and a refreshing beverage at the end of the day to help us put everything in perspective. Here is a local guy offering all of the above. Let's give him our support.

Sincerely,

Jesse Keefer

Jesse Keefer
proprietor

