

For more information please contact Sheila, our Home Care Manager at (250) 792-5889 or sheila@hornbydenmanhealth.com.

**Contact Information for HDCHCS**  
General inquiries (250) 335-2885

Home Support or the Equipment Loan Cupboard (250) 792-5889

Better at Home (250) 898-0244

Senior's Day Program/Meals from the Heart (250) 898-0242

Community-based Adult Mental Health and Substance Use Services (778) 585-4585

Children, Youth & Family Services (250) 898-0247 Youth Outreach (250) 443-1658

**Health Services Available at our Offices**

Island Health Adult Mental Health Clinician - Jennifer Clark - (250) 331-8524

Physiotherapist Christopher Mainella - (236) 255-3354, or email physioalternativem@gmail.com

Registered Massage Therapist Kathy Pantalon - (250) 335-2624\*

## Island Trustees Report

Alex Allen and Grant Scott

At the end of June, you may have seen in your mail box, an anonymous letter from "Concerned Residents of the Islands" about the Islands Trust Draft Policy Statement revisions. Grant and I have received many phone calls from rightly concerned community members, if the information in the letter was indeed, true. This is yet another, stark example of how one letter can galvanize a community with misinformation. We would like to alleviate your concerns by addressing the content of the letter and clarify what really is being proposed.

**"Centralization to more regionally-based land use planning, a reduction in Local Trust Committee autonomy, and elimination of the uniqueness of each Island." False.** There are no changes in the draft that will centralize the decision making. The new draft is amending the language and content to reflect Trust Council's commitment to reconciliation, and to address climate change and affordable housing, all of which are absent in the existing Policy Statement that was last substantially updated over 25 years ago.

These policies would be developed by the local trust committees using the usual engagement processes once we choose to update our OCP or LUB. The decisions on local policy and land uses will still lie with the local trust committees.

Each island within the Trust Area has unique characteristics and has developed in its own unique way over the years. While the preeminent duty of all locally elected officials is to uphold the Islands Trust object and regional mandate in all aspects of local planning and decision-making, we are to do so in a way that is sensitive and suitable to local circumstances, and guided by open, consultative public participation.

**"Removal of residents, local economy and community health and well-being as planning considerations on the Islands." False.** The draft does not include any policies that will result in the blanket removal of our island autonomies. One of the four major goals of the new Policy Statement is to foster sustainable and resilient communities and specifies that "Trust Council understands its mandate to include the preservation and protection of healthy and inclusive communities."

**"Removal of agriculture and forestry as traditional and valuable activities on the Islands." False.** These value statements have no effect on land use planning. Removal of the term "traditional" is to ensure the Policy Statement aligns with the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions Calls to Action.

The Islands Trust Policy Statement policies cannot override anything in the Farm Practices Protection (Right to farm) Act, or the Agricultural Land Commission Act, or the

*"A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the birds are singing and the lawn mower is broken."*

James Dent

Private Managed Forest Land Act, and changes to the Policy Statement do not give the Islands Trust additional powers to manage tree cutting, although Trust Council is making that request of the Province.

When a new draft is approved, the Agricultural Land Commission will continue to be the agency that considers approval of inclusion of land into the Agricultural Land Reserve. Local trust committees will continue to have a say on exclusion and nonfarm use applications in their area. Removal of the values statements will have no effect on this.

**“Prohibition of all private docks, seawalls and other hard shoreline activity.”** Partially true. The draft that the Executive Committee has forwarded to Trust Council includes: “4.6.14 Local trust committees and island municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, prohibit new private docks except where properties are boat-access only.” EC has requested staff to prepare policy options regarding dock regulation for us to consider on July 8 when we will have first reading of the Policy Statement. There are many ways to protect shorelines without using hard solutions. To protect shorelines and marine ecosystems, and to maintain as natural as possible shoreline, soft shoreline solutions are generally recommended.

**“A ban on desalination as a means of providing potable water.”** True. The draft of the new Policy Statement includes: “4.2.9 Local trust committees and island municipalities shall, in

their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, prohibit desalination plants in the Trust Area.” This policy has been proposed due to concerns over their adverse impacts to the marine environment and intensive energy demands. This policy would not affect existing desalination plants.

There is no hidden agenda. Trust Council adopted a process that has been public for the last 18 months and undertook early engagement on issues and policy directions. The results of the engagements have been publicized and made available to the public throughout the project.

Unfortunately, we can not address all the concerns raised in other letters we have received in this forum, so we urge you all to inform yourselves so you can discern what is true and what is false. We invite you to read the document from cover to cover to get a complete understanding about what is being proposed, the rationale, and the commitment to reconciliation.

In July, Trust Council will have the opportunity to consider amending the document and the opportunity to give first reading. Following first reading, while public engagement is going on, over 100 provincial and federal agencies, organizations, First Nations, and other governments will be invited to review and provide feedback on the proposed new Policy Statement bylaw.

After that, there will be as many opportunities to consider amendments at future meetings as Council desires, based on the feedback received from the public and agencies. After first reading, there will be at least three months, and likely longer, for communities to consider and comment on the Policy Statement. In addition, there will be at least three information webinars and a Trust-wide survey. After first reading, Grant and I will receive a referral of the proposed Policy Statement and we will have the opportunity to host a community information meeting that will give you opportunity to ask questions and share your feedback.

As Chair Luckham wrote: There seems to be concerns that first reading somehow creates immediate regulatory change and that it suggests a “done deal” with little flexibility for change. This is simply not the case. First reading is just the introduction of the draft Policy Statement that reflects the changes proposed

“All truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed. Third, it is accepted as being self-evident.”

Arthur Schopenhauer, German philosopher

by Council committees, First Nations, Islands Trust staff and reflects the engagement received to date, as well as any amendments desired by Trust Council itself. It gives communities, First Nations and referral agencies something to comment on. It doesn't set a timeline or preclude major changes happening at second reading. After first reading Trust Council retains full ability to change the process or change the document in whatever ways it sees fit.

*First Reading: Tabling; Second Reading: Discussion in principle; Third Reading: Final discussion including any changes; and Final Adoption: Assent.*

And so with that, we invite you to attend the special Trust Council meeting electronically. The special meeting will begin Wednesday, July 7 at 7:00 pm with a town hall session until 9:00 pm that evening. Without giving any advance notice, you can speak to trustees for up to two minutes. On the second day of the meeting, July 8, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Trust Council will consider first reading of the draft of the new Policy Statement.

You can view the electronic meeting live stream in real-time on a computer or smartphone via the Islands Trust website, listen and participate by telephone, or join the meeting by Zoom. Check the IT website for sign-in details or contact Lori Foster on how to attend via email at [lfoster@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:lfoster@islandstrust.bc.ca) or call 250-405-5061. \*

### Island Mini Summer Manifesto

- Speed limit 60K unless otherwise posted. Some people have to get to work.
- Do not leave your pets in a hot car. EVER! NEVER!
- Watch out for deer and slugs crossing the roads.
- Please take garbage to depot or take off island, and not leave at random, secretive spots.
- E-bikes are electric bikes, not cars, share the road.
- Please do not feed the locals, it only encourages lethargy.
- And watch out for imposters.

*Norris Rocks*

## WTF: Words That Flabbergast

A Montreal woman has been arrested on charges of trying to cross the US border into Canada with “numerous undeclared wildlife items,” including a three-toed sloth, 18 crocodile skulls and heads and seven crocodile feet. Both the sloth and crocodile are protected under the US Endangered Species Act and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

Vanessa Rondeau, the owner of The Old Cavern Boutique in Montreal, also was alleged to be in possession of two horseshoe crabs, 30 sea stars, 23 racoon feet, eight African antelope horns, one human skull “with mounted butterflies,” four pufferfish and six shark jaws when she attempted to cross the border at Highgate Springs, Vermont in June. Ryan Bessey, a special agent with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, working undercover asked Rondeau in a private message in January 2020 if she had any polar bear skulls for sale. Rondeau offered to sell a skull for \$780 and Bessey received it in the mail and he bought another polar bear skull from Rondeau for \$711.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service had also intercepted packages she sent containing skulls from a bird, a weasel, a bat and the skin from a Hartmann's zebra, another protected species. The Old Cavern Boutique website “offers for sale a variety of unique curiosity and oddity items, many composed in whole or in part from wildlife.” \*

Every year, forest companies and government agencies spend millions of dollars to eliminate broadleaf species. First Nations in Ontario call it the “rain of death,” referring to the aerial spraying of the herbicide glyphosate — Bayer-Monsanto's Roundup and similar products. This has been going on for over 45 years, in line with the forest industry's practice of clear-cutting, followed by replanting for monocultures.

The purpose of the glyphosate is to wipe out the so-called “weed” species that start regrowing after clearcutting. Those species include aspen, alder, birch, oak, maple, willow and other broad-leaf plants and shrubs — which are considered of less commercial value than needle-leaf softwoods like lodgepole pine and Douglas fir, the “money trees.”

In 2017, Health Canada decided to re-authorize the use of glyphosate for another 15 years,