

Grant Scott  
Hornby Island Trustee

Alex Allen  
Hornby Island Trustee

Chair Tim Peterson  
Hornby Island Local Trust Committee

Sonja Zupanec  
Islands Trust Planner

Margot (apologies Margot, I don't know your last name)  
Islands Trust Planner

Dear Islands Trust staff and trustees,

I am writing for three reasons: two requests that I hope you can respond to and three is to share my experience as a community member and a Housing Society representative who attended all the APC meetings last fall and spring that were focussed on the tasks assigned by the Trust .

**First Request:** Could the Trust please issue a statement that responds to concerns about the proposed bylaws being an attempt to shut down STVR's. I believe that there is a need for clarification from the Trust about the proposed bylaws, as there still seems to be a great deal of confusion in the community about the recommendations brought forward by the APC to the Trust regarding proposed bylaw changes related to STVR's. I heard once again at the LTC meeting during the town hall portion of the meeting, concerns that the bylaw changes would shut down STVR's, causing financial hardship to the operators and that is not the case. The proposed bylaw changes would affect only new STVR's and any current STVR's that are non-compliant under the existing bylaws and/or that shut down for a period of time. I think that a great deal of the divisiveness that is being generated by very vocal STVR owners expressing their fear of being shut down could be eliminated if the Trust clarified the intention of the recommendations. I know first hand that the APC's intention is to regulate new STVR's in order to make way for properties to be used for year round rentals, to protect the environment by not overloading water and septic systems and to preserve the rural nature of the neighborhoods that are impacted by numerous STVR's. Please issue a public statement that reassures existing STVR operators that they will not be affected by the new bylaws. If they are not currently compliant, the current bylaws already in place, address that.

**APC process:**

I believe that unnecessary fear, leading to further community divisiveness is being created by the nature of the public statements made by some of the current STVR operators about the APC process and intention. I have heard and read references to the process carried out by the APC during their review of the OCP and land use bylaws as being biased, non-inclusive, insensitive, tokenism and other derogatory descriptors.

As stated above, I attended all the APC meetings that were focussed on the review as an invited representative from the Hornby Island Housing Society and witnessed first hand the conversations amongst the APC committee members and representatives from HISTRA and HICEEC. Although we were aware from the beginning of the process, that we as invited guests would have “voice but no vote”, there was always ample opportunity to speak, express a concern, ask a question, state an opinion and/or offer a different perspective. Any concerns that were raised by any of the invited guests were addressed with the intent to gain a deeper understanding into the nature of the concerns. For example, the HISTRA representative took careful notes at each meeting and would bring back feedback from the HISTRA group to each meeting. These were heard point by point both at the request of the APC members and/or initiated by the HISTRA representative. Another example is that HIHS were strongly encouraged to submit written feedback and suggestions and the Chair was very supportive of allowing extra time for that to happen. I wanted to share my experience of the APC process as I am concerned that you and the community may be hearing only that of the folks who spoke and/or presented letters at the last few Trust meetings.

In closing, I want to thank you for reminding the public at each meeting that the meeting is a work space and to speak to and about staff and trustees accordingly. Respectful communication and the use of non-inflammatory language is important to me as a community worker. My second request is that the APC be included in that reminder at the next meeting and that any communication that is not respectful to the APC be interrupted immediately. The more folks are reminded to use constructive language, the sooner we can figure out how to work more collaboratively together.

Thank you for your attention to my requests. I look forward to your response.

April Lewis