

From: Jean-Daniel Cusin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 20, 2022 8:43 AM
To: Dan Rogers <drogers@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Jeanine Dodds <jdodds@islandstrust.bc.ca>; David Maude <dmaude@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Narissa Chadwick <nchadwick@islandstrust.bc.ca>
Cc: Deborah Goldman <[REDACTED]>
Subject: May 30th Islands Trust Meeting: Housing Society Submission

Dear Trustees

First I'd like to appreciate the work you are doing to preserve and protect the islands, including more specifically Mayne Island.

The last census shows that we have seen a marked increase in our island population, which only exacerbates the hardship of younger people and families to find affordable housing. At the other end of the spectrum, we have elders who want to age in place on the island but can no longer live alone and maintain their family houses. With increased demand, our businesses have extreme difficulty hiring staff because they have no place to live.

The Salish Grove affordable housing proposed by the M.I. Housing Society is a model of housing that endorses and honours your preserve and protect mandate. This project has ticked all the Islands Trust Policy Statement Directives boxes. It has been on your event horizon for months now.

I write in support of this housing project and urge you to please finalize the Islands Trust approvals needed with diligence, before the end of your mandate on October 22nd, so this project doesn't die from extended lead time exhaustion.

Please provide 1st reading of the Bylaws at the May 30 reading, and direct staff to schedule another CIM and Public Hearing in June 2022. This CAN get done before the municipal elections if there is political will. Mayne Island wants this rezoning. Without a target or directive, months will slide by and this community will be no closer to achieving purpose-built rental housing.

When we conducted the Designing the Future Summit in 2019, Affordable Housing was THE biggest issue Mayne Islanders said they were concerned about. There will always be some NIMBY people who are primarily concerned with imagined fears and self-centred wants. The course of this project cannot, must not, be torpedoed by these people given the accommodations made for their concerns to date, and the needs of this community.

Thank you for the work you do, and thank you for keeping the urgency of getting this done in mind as you proceed.

Yours truly,
Jean-Daniel Cusin

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