

On Jul 25, 2022, at 3:06 PM, K Clark <[REDACTED]> wrote:

We have been residents of Salt Spring Island for almost [REDACTED] and raised our [REDACTED] here. Salt Spring was a wonderful caring community for them to grow up in. The impact of the Island Trust has helped to keep this community a special place with the mandate to preserve and protect the environment. Our community has changed dramatically now that its unique special character was realized by the rest of the world. We have transitioned towards being dominated by tourism and seasonal residents which have increased house prices and rents so now young families and alternate lifestyle people can not afford to live here. Bylaw 530 although well intentioned to provide affordable housing is a knee jerk reaction to a complex problem that will have significant environmental impacts and eventually provide more Short Term Vacation Rentals. The STVR bylaw should be enforced, speculation and vacancy tax are other avenues that would increase rental opportunities as well slow the rising house sales and values. Salt Spring used to be a diverse eclectic community but is now quickly transitioning to a playground and retirement community for the wealthy. Change is always inevitable but we are now at a turning point to decide whether we will be another Whistler or Tofino tourist community or will we be a role model as a community dedicated to maintaining and valuing our unique environment that has opportunities for a diverse human community. I think you will in time regret this as your legacy to Salt Spring Island if you pass this bylaw.