

From: Laura Patrick <lpatrick@islandstrust.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2020 10:05 PM
To: Charles Kahn <[REDACTED]>
Cc: ssiinfo <ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Housing on Salt Spring

Thank you for calling for action. I urge you to read the housing working group report, because we are not recommending further study. In an attachment to the report, we include a list of all the studies conducted to date. The report proposes a number of tasks that culminate in a prioritized action plan.

Laura

From: Charles Kahn [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2020 9:43 PM
To: Peter Luckham; Peter Grove; Laura Patrick
Subject: Housing on Salt Spring

Dear Trustees:

We're now hearing people urging you to start yet another study, this time on housing. It seems that when things get really bad, as is the case with housing on Salt Spring, governments commission studies.

Well, we've had several studies. One long ago chaired by David Wood urged the Trust to legalize secondary suites and cottages on the island for full-time rentals and not vacation rentals. I understand that the pilot project for this endeavour in 2013 has never been expanded to the whole island. Why would that be when we so desperately require rental housing on Salt Spring?

Many potential rental units are now being rented out as Air B & Bs/vacation rentals. These were made illegal many years ago, but enforcing this bylaw seems to be beyond the Trust's capacity. What is the point of a bylaw if it can't be enforced.

Today I walked through town and noted how many trucks, trailers, and other mobile homes are littering our streets. I chatted with one fellow who works and lives out of his large truck. He told me that [REDACTED].

Salt Spring has become a place for the rich, but it's also becoming a less attractive place where the rich live in their gated estates while the poor live in broken-down vehicles along the sides of our roads or grouped together on farms where farmers manage to earn a bit of money by providing a place for these people to park their "homes."

I don't think we should be commissioning another study that cannot be ready to produce action for a couple of years. What we need are some definite changes in our bylaws right now. Be brave. Make changes. Free up secondary suites and cottages for rental housing. Allow small and tiny homes on private property where water and hygienic services can be provided. Be proactive. Work with other government agencies to relax overly exacting standards so that

people have a place to live. This problem will only get worse if you do nothing about it but commission a study.

Thanks for your attention to this matter.

Charles Kahn

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