

It's been a year since the elections! Here's a highlight of some of the Committee work I have been involved in as well as being your local Trustee and Trust Council representative.

### **Trust Programs Committee Chair**

Trust Council requested advice about how the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework impacts the work of the Islands Trust. Trust Programs struck a joint working group with the Regional Planning Committee to review the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal.

A review of the Islands Trust CDF zone and biodiversity materials was undertaken. A Trustee training session on forest classification, health and significance in the Trust Area was provided by Del Meidinger and Andrew Mackinnon which aided the understanding of various classifications, their locations and importance, resulting in some edits to the website and publications.

Upcoming webinar topics include; Freshwater Sustainability, Groundwater, and Wildfire Prevention. An online questionnaire was sent out in September to solicit additional topics of interest from Trust Area community members for future potential webinars.

The Trust Policy Statement edits are scheduled to come back to Trust Programs Committee in Jan for review.

### **Financial Committee**

We have been working on creating the budget, financial statements and quarterly financial reports. Last year's financial statement package was approved at the last Trust Council meeting for filing and we have started developing the next draft budget for the 2024/2025 budget cycle.

### **Audit Committee**

Working with our Audit Engagement Partner from a third party company to review audit results before submitting the final reports to Trust Council for filing.

### **Corporate Planning Process Working Group**

Consisting of three Trustees plus 2 staff members, we report to both the Governance and Financial Committee. A draft of the new process along with a project charter outlining the anticipated upcoming work was presented to Trust Council in September. We will be focusing on the existing policies and templates that require updating and identifying any gaps needing new policies or guidelines to be developed.

We noted that the Islands Trust does not have Vision, Mission and Value statements. Hopefully you will be seeing statements coming your way soon!

### **Reconciliation Learning Group**

I wasn't able to attend the first meeting due to a conflict with another Committee meeting, but I'm very excited to be a part of this group.

### **Southern Gulf Islands Forum with Adam Olsen's office**

Some of the top items discussed revolve around Communication, Housing Needs and Management of the waterways surrounding our communities.

### **Local Trust Committee**

After asking the community what the next minor project should be, it was decided that the next minor project for South Pender will involve another review of the LUB. The process on how to move forward will be discussed at our next LTC meeting.

I am very proud to be a part of this community and I want to express my appreciation for everyone who takes the time to come to our local meetings and gets engaged with the process. I look forward to working with everyone over the next year to continue to make South Pender a great community and a beautiful place to live and visit.

Trustee Evans, South Pender