

**From:** David Greer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** March 24, 2023 7:49 PM  
**To:** Tobi Elliott; Kristina Evans; Dag Falck  
**Cc:** South Pender Planner; Robert Kojima; SouthInfo  
**Subject:** South Pender LTC Work Plan review

Dear Trustees,

I will be unable to attend tomorrow's special meeting at which the forthcoming work program will be discussed, but would appreciate it if you would take into account my suggestion that the following be included in the work program priorities:

**Rezoning of Brooks Point regional park.** As a member of the Brooks Point Management Committee, I participated in the development of the park management plan, with its primary emphasis on the conservation of the park's considerable natural values and on protection of the critical habitat of the endangered sharp-tailed snake. Although the Capital Regional District formally approved the management plan, regrettably its staff erroneously misclassified the park with a primary recreational rather than conservation focus. Having been notified of the error, the CRD has made a commitment to reclassify the park with a primary conservation status. To support this change and to ensure the protection of the park's important ecological values, the park should be rezoned with a conservation designation. Brooks and Gowlland Points and the landscape that connects them are one of the most valued ecological features of the Penders and their headland ecosystems are particularly fragile. Ensuring the implementation of the conservation status of the park would be a relatively light task for the LTC and Trust staff and, consequently, a minor project for the South Pender LTC.

Development of a climate change mitigation strategy. There can no longer be any doubt that the impacts of human-caused climate change will be both global and local, with an increasingly narrow window of time to mitigate those impacts to a level that is not catastrophic. Islands Trust Council has taken considerable steps towards the development of a Trust-wide climate mitigation and adaptation policy, but the gravity of the threat demands that each island consider how best to address the threat at the most local level. Never has the old saying of "think globally, act globally" been more relevant. Because the increasing impacts of climate change are infinitely gradual, it is easy to downplay the need for present action in land use policies, which is all the more reason why the increasingly urgent recommendations of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change need to be taken into account at the local level. For that reason I support another South Pender resident's proposal for the establishment of a specialized APC to consult with community members for the purpose of gathering ideas and recommendations for a South Pender approach to climate change mitigation and adaptation, to be considered in turn by the LTC. To this end, it might be useful for this APC to consider the relevance and effectiveness of existing bylaw provisions in contributing to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.

**Fostering First Nations relationships.** The report of the federal Truth and Reconciliation Commission and subsequent reconciliation initiatives across the country have marked a sea-change in positive attitudes towards and respect for the peoples who inhabited the country and these islands before they were displaced from their homelands. The lack of respect for the original inhabitants of Pender Island/S, DÁYES was compounded even in recent decades by excavation and disturbance of their ancestral sites, without consultation, at Poets Cove and, earlier, at the canal bordering North and South Pender. In recent years, through the initiatives of Pender Islands residents and gracious responses from W̱SÁNEĆ elders, a warm and positive relationship has developed between the Pender/S, DÁYES community and W̱SÁNEĆ communities now based on the Saanich peninsula. South Pender's acknowledgement of that community-to-community relationship in Bylaw 123, currently awaiting ministerial approval, is an important and early step forward in the reconciliation process. LTC final approval of bylaw 123, in addition to honouring the painstaking preparation undertaken by the preceding trustees, would signal a recognition of the vital importance of the LTC's relationship with First Nations communities for whom South Pender Island is their ancestral home, and the LTC's respect for those communities.

Thank you for considering my suggestions.

Respectfully,  
David Greer