

Dennis Perch



May 14, 2023

To: The South Pender Island Local Trust Committee (LTC):
Tobi Elliott, Chair
Kristina Evans
Dag Falck

Thank you for asking the public for input in setting your priorities for the next year. This is a refreshing and welcome change from the previous LTC practice.

My opinion is very simple. Please proceed with the key issues which were the basis for the election of new South Pender trustees. During the last term, the community overwhelmingly disagreed with the LTC proceeding with Bylaw #122 without reasonable support from residents and the passing of Bylaw #123 without adequate support of the community or consultation with First Nations.

My recommendations, therefore, are a series of steps in the following order:

1. Rescind Bylaw #122 and restore land use conditions to those existing under the previous bylaw. This is a far less costly and time-consuming action than exhausting extensive planning staff and LTC time trying to make changes to it. This would also allow conditions that were deemed acceptable to the community to be restored until the LTC can assess what changes may be beneficial or necessary (See Priority Items #3 and #5.)
2. (REMOVED as instructed by Kim Stockdale – planner)
3. Conduct an investigation of housing needs in our community and, based on that analysis, identify housing options that may be appropriate, for example: possibly allowing trailer accommodations or suites in residential homes and also allowing home sizes that comfortably accommodate them.
4. Initiate a process for direct transparent dialogue with the First Nations having historical interest in South Pender land and work with them collaboratively to identify the goals and actions that can benefit both First Nations and our residential community. Proceed only with reconciliation measures that are developed mutually in accordance with UNDRIP requirements. (Note: Trust planning staff and Executive may require education on the mandatory requirements of UNDRIP. (REMAINDER REMOVED as instructed by Kim Stockdale – planner)
5. Conduct a review of the existing Land Use Bylaw (restored after rescinding of #122) and gather community input in determining what, if any, changes are needed (e.g., possibly #3).

Thank you for considering my suggestions as part of your data gathering process.

Sincerely,

Dennis Perch

