

**From:** cj canada <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2025 4:15 PM  
**To:** SouthInfo <SouthInfo@islandstrust.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Tobi Elliott <telliott@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Dag Falck <dfalck@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Kristina Evans <kevans@islandstrust.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Valentine's Day LTC Meeting, South Pender

*i am grateful to live and work on Coast Salish territory (S'dayes): traditional, ancestral, unceded land; locally, i recognise the role of the Tsawout band. acknowledgement is not static. mine encompasses lasting commitment to decolonisation, with a focus on environmental defence and legal reform.*

Dear members of our local trust committee, and of our community,

As I am unable at this juncture to attend tomorrow's meeting, I wish to reassert in writing my opposition to the proposed bylaw change.

I have held property on the Gulf Islands since 1974 and additionally my acreage on South Pender since 1988. I am a former Trustee, with experience in municipal and environmental law, as also law reform.

Several legal questions do arise from the current sort of tinkering with any bylaw, let alone this one in particular, which is central to critical commitments in

protected areas with respect to maintaining a sustainable and equitable built environment. I have discussed these in person with one of the trustees at some length, warning of the specific challenges that such a rewrite could well fail to meet.

It remains, first and foremost, entirely unclear whether such amendments as are still being held out for our consideration could withstand the most basic objections to their conception (myopic, for starters), let alone their process (radically flawed and additionally vulnerable to Review), implications (well out of proportion to the characterisation of such hamfisted re-drafting), and scope (egregiously incongruent).

More generally, it is demonstrable that the strategy of making a rule from what are and must remain rare exceptions has met with sustained, well-reasoned, and vigorous opposition from a wide swath of our community, which has been divided, frustrated, and fatigued by this sort of administrative legerdemain.

As many of us have consistently advised, this change is well superfluous to requirements, given the existence of other mechanisms -- ones that have worked in the

past and continue to so, fairly and in an aboveboard fashion -- that are already tried and true, through which landowners, disgruntled or otherwise, may seek readily available solutions. This obviates any over-riding necessity for (and exposes the lack of wisdom or legal drafting experience in promoting) changes that would make the bylaw overbroad.

Enough technical language. It is time to acquiesce to the reality that this ill-conceived and ill-fated attempt to radically unwrite the existing bylaw's useful precision is now dead in the water.

Let's ALL learn from this and move on, in order to do something positive for our beloved island and communities (human and animal, marine and land, indigenous and settler) before the second half of this committee's term ends up self-torpedoed, for no earthly good reason, in no one's best interest.

Yours faithfully,  
(Dr) CJ Milsum

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