

From: Andrew Johnson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 10:39 PM
To: SouthInfo <SouthInfo@islandstrust.bc.ca>
Subject: Opposed to proposed Bylaw 129

I oppose the efforts to roll back bylaw 122: both in their substance and the manner in which they have been pursued. The existing bylaws offer generous allowances but retain a character that is distinct from urban or suburban communities. If that is lost, there will be no going back. I have yet to hear a compelling explanation for why the space and flexibility provided by the existing bylaws are insufficient.

The campaign to overturn the existing rules seems to proceed from the dubious assumptions :

- that the existing bylaw is divisive or controversial to the community, at large, not simply opposed by a vocal minority;
- that it is necessary to find a "compromise" between a *law* (duly adopted after extensive discussion and consideration) and its critics; and
- that the most recent election should, in effect, be considered a referendum on a specific bylaw.

None of these assumptions are supported by actual evidence.

Proponents of rolling back the existing law have sown unnecessary confusion and concern with misinformed references to "legally non-conforming" properties, and appear to have acted at times on inadequate or misapprehended legal advice. There is clearly a need to reassess the factual basis on which this decision would rest by:

1. obtaining proper legal advice; and
2. probing whether there is actually any breadth of popular support for the proposed change (let alone a "mandate") or if, instead, it simply reflects the views of a vocal minority which unsuccessfully opposed the current rules during the lengthy consultation and deliberation which led to their adoption.

Respectfully,

Andrew Louis Johnson
[REDACTED]