

**Subject: JUST SAY NO TO FIRST READING JULY 8TH - Islands Trust Policy Statement**

Dear Fellow Salt Springer's,

I'm writing those who I feel truly care about the issues of the day here on Salt Spring Island, impacting Our Community.

Over the last 23 months in dealing with BC Parks and the Management of Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park as an Adjacent Land Owner, I've witnessed first hand how Government Bureaucracies operate. In the case of BC Parks they commissioned and published a Management Plan for Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park - dated March, 2015. When it comes to the Community of Salt Spring Island, in August of 2019 they gave us a 2 day notice of the planned Open House to showcase their 3 year effort in silence on the initial plans for the Park. One of which was to build a Wetland on the Property Line of the adjacent Land Owner, with no consultation until the day of the Open House. Within 6 weeks BC Parks unilaterally went forward and built a Wetland on my Property Line for fear of losing a 50% funding grant from the BC Wildlife Federation (which I'm a Member ). BC Parks behaved and continue to act like the classic school yard bully we all knew in grade school. I have humbly asked for 30 metre set back from the Wetland. To put that in perspective, there's approximately 3100 lineal feet of Park Land from my property line to the head of Burgoyne Bay. They have completely abandoned the Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park Management Plan. They simply plan and act in complete silence without Community involvement. This was recently disclosed by the Salt Spring Trail Riders who have effectively lost their access to the Park without consultation. For a Group of approximately 25 individuals who have a passion for horses, their recent Petition sparked the support of 1400 Members of Our Community and outside Our Community. What it conveyed to me was The Community of Salt Spring Island want to be included in the Management Plan of Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park, not simply excluded at every turn which is currently the case.

When I was apprised 10 days ago of what is going on at the Islands Trust and their pending - **Islands Trust Policy Statement**. I thought to myself, oh no, here we go again! This is almost a mirror image on how BC Parks conduct themselves. My hope is this issue ignites Our Community into **Action** and we become engaged before others absent from our Community and other Islands, dictate the future of the Islands Trust.

The first step in engaging is to convey to Minister Osborne that the First Reading of the **Islands Trust Policy Statement** must be held in abeyance as suggested by our local Trustees Patrick & Grove and engage Our Community Publicly on the ramifications of the Policies presented by the Islands Trust - Trustees and Staff.

**Please everyone, it's time to Act.** It's straightforward, copy and paste my letter to the Minister and her Deputy Minister. Please feel free to add your own comments or pen your own personal request. Feel free to forward this request to like minded fellow Salt Springer's and other Islanders throughout the Islands Trust.

A Sincere Thank You, David Courtney,  
Burgoyne Bay Farm, Salt Spring Island, BC