

In Thanks to the current Trustees for giving the Islanders a chance to put forward an assessment of aspects of Island Living that are in need of being considered and addressed at this time:

Re Island Trust Property Taxes,

Going back as far as 2004 it would seem that there does not appear to be much transparency regarding the incremental increases for Trust planning costs, upgrades to Trustee salaries which appear to have escalated, in some cases as high as \$132% in present day.

In some years, there was an uptick of population growth as low as .08% with a continuing escalation of property tax increases which in many respects becomes burdensome for the islanders.

Since it is clear that the Islanders are carrying the costs for all British Columbians to enjoy the resources of the Gulf Islands it would appear that the idea of limiting the lucrative resources of tourism along with a continuing expansion of Trust Planning Activities 74% (it doesn't appear there are details provided for how many staff) of a now \$9.1 million dollar budget, **up to 130% upgrade for Trustees salaries and now a 12% cut for the Trust Conservancy** is beginning to wear thin financially as it doesn't appear that there is a call for referendums or the like when making a call on a limited public purse.

To conclude, it is difficult to ascertain that any organization, whose costs climb at a rate of six times inflation is clearly not cost effective nor fiscally well managed. **The Islands Trust displays a profound lack of accountability toward the tax payer** while other public agencies have had to increase productivity, the Islands Trust has become more fiscally inefficient and less productive.

Please note some partial quotes have emanated from several different years regarding Property tax information regarding the accountability of the Islands Trust.

Respectfully

Georgia Taylor