

John Money, October 14, 2021

Do you know that the Islands Trust has already budgeted to hire 2 new Planners to rewrite the Community Plans and By-laws to conform to the new draft Policy Statement?

We must not relax as the intention is still to ram this new Policy Statement through.

Please write letters to Josie Osborne, Minister of Municipal Affairs and to Premier John Horgan stating your concerns as well as your Local MLA.

Below is a copy of my letter to John Horgan. I sent a similar letter to Josie Osborne as well. (Email list at the end)

Dear Premier John Horgan,

I was on the original Planning Committee that created the first Official Community Plan (OCP) and Land Use By-laws (LUB) for Saturna Island.

Later I was an elected Trustee for 22 years and a Vice-Chair for six years chairing Trust Committees on many different island communities.

The Preserve and Protect mandate given to the Islands Trust said to preserve the unique amenities for the people of BC as well as the different communities.

The Islands Trust and Executive have totally lost sight of the local OCP's and LUB's and the communities they serve.

They are creating a draft Policy that will neuter these local by-laws.

They have already budgeted for two Planners whose job it will be to go around and make all the local OCP's and LUB's conform to the new draft Policy Statement.

In your own words, as is my understanding, Policy Statements should be advocacy for the Local OCP's and LUB's not "Law" that the islands must conform to.

This new Policy draft removes democracy and governance from the local elected Trust Committees and each island's OCP and LUB's.

I was involved in the last Policy Statement approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

The Policy Statement, that is in place now, took many months of public meetings with all the different communities and their Local Trust Committees.

It saw every different island community as unique and tried very hard to allow each island and their by-laws suit each and every community while observing the mandate.

The Islands Trust was looked at and respected as a unique form of government that allowed thirteen different communities to have a form of local governance that allowed each and every island community autonomy. That respect is being seriously eroded by the staff and Executive of the Islands Trust at this time.

The new draft Policy Statement totally neuters all local OCP's and LUB's and the locally elected representatives; worse it is being done without community consultation.

I feel the time has come to take a hard look at the Islands Trust as the right form of local government for the gulf islands.

Sincerely,

John Money

List of Ministers / MLAs to Contact

Salt Spring Island, Galiano, North & South Pender, Mayne Island, Saturna

- MLA Saanich North & the Islands - Adam Olsen - adam.olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Gabriola, Valdes, Thetis

- MLA Nanaimo – North Cowichan – Doug Routley – douglas.routley.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Lasqueti

- MLA Parksville – Qualicum – Adam Walker – adam.walker.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Denman, Hornby

- MLA Mid-Island – Pacific Rim – Josie Osborne – josie.osborne.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Gambier, Keats

- MLA Powell River – Sunshine Coast – Nicholas Simons – nicholas.simons.MLA@bc.leg.ca

Bowen

- MLA West Vancouver – Sea to Sky – Jordan Sturdy – jordan.sturdy.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Government Ministers to Contact

Premier

- John Hogan – john.horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Minister of Municipal Affairs

- Josie Osborne – Minister – MAH.minister@gov.bc.ca; josie.osborne.MLA@leg.bc.ca
- Okenge Yuma Morisho – Deputy Minister – MAH.DMO@gov.bc.ca

Minister of Environment & Climate Change Strategy

- George Heyman – Minister – ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca; George.heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca
- Kevin Jardine – Deputy Minister – DM.ENV@gov.bc.ca

Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries,

- Lana Popham – Minister – AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca; lane.popham.mla@leg.bc.ca
- Thomas Ethier – Deputy Minister

Minister of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation

- Murray Rankin – Minister – IRR.Minister@gov.bc.ca; murray.rankin.MLA@leg.bc.ca
- Doug Caul – Deputy Minister – doug.caul@gov.bc.ca

Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development

- Katrine Conroy – Minister – FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
- John Allan – Deputy Minister -

Copies to:

Peter Luckham, Chair, Trust Council, pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca

Russ Hotsenpiller, Chief Administrative Officer, Islands Trust rhotsenpiller@islandstrust.bc.ca

Dave Howe, Director – Southern Gulf Islands, Capital Regional District directorsgi@crd.bc.ca

Gary Holman, Director – Saltspring Island, Capital Regional District gholman@crd.bc.ca