

**An Important Message to all Residents and Property Owners
in the Areas Governed by the Islands Trust**

Revision of the Islands Trust Policy Statement

The Islands Trust is proposing the most significant rewrite of its guiding principles – the Trust Policy Statement – in the Trust’s 47 year history. If you live on the Islands this Policy will affect you.

The proposed revisions include:

- Centralization to more regionally-based land use planning, a reduction in Local Trust Committee autonomy, and elimination of the uniqueness of each island.
- Removal of residents, local economy and community health and well-being as planning considerations on the Islands.
- Removal of agriculture and forestry as traditional and valuable activities on the Islands.
- Prohibition of all private docks, seawalls and other hard shoreline activity.
- A ban on desalination as a means of providing potable water.

The Trust has scheduled a Special Meeting of all Trustees on July 8th with the intent of seeking their approval to proceed with adopting the amended Policy Statement. This is dead wrong. The Trust has not consulted those of us who reside in these islands and those who are directly affected have not seen this document. Nor have residents been party to the Policy rewrite.

The Trust asserts they have consulted widely for the past 18 months. If this is the case, were you aware that the Islands Trust is reviewing the Trust Policy Statement? Were you consulted? Do you know the extent of the proposed changes?

Normal process for such an important document would be to seek wide community input, as well as those of others, and then come back to the community with a draft document based on this input for review and discussion. This has not been done.

The process is being pushed very hard by Staff and some Trustees. Why is the Trust moving with such speed? To rush approval of this very important document, without community consultation and transparency, is an abuse of process and, frankly, it is preposterous! This Policy, if adopted, will have a lasting, negative impact on the livability of entire communities throughout the islands.

There is a brief window of opportunity to pause this rush by asking that the Special Trust Meeting to approve this Policy on July 8th not proceed. It is important that all residents speak up and insist that we want to be heard before any further consideration of this Policy by Trust Council or referral to other agencies.

You can do your part by contacting the Premier, Provincial Ministers, your local MLA and your local Trustees **immediately**. Encourage them to halt the flawed process until meaningful consultation with all affected residents can take place. **Demand that your Trustees halt this process, now.**

For further information see the Islands Trust website at https://islandstrust.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/TPC_2021-06-15_SM_AGD-PKG_FINAL.pdf starting at Page 12. Video records of Trust meetings are also available at <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/whats-happening/meetings-and-events/> .

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.vc.ca

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

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- 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

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- 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.pophan.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:

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

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