

**Reply to the Finance Policy Committee RE My Format Complaint - Democratic Due Process Not Followed.**

**From:** Mary Elliott, Galiano Resident  
**Date:** March 2, 2022

**To:** Finance Policy Committee  
**Subject: Re: Formal Complaint - Democratic Due Process Not Followed - Islands Trust Financial Planning Committee**

Thank you for your very informative reply. I realize that a survey is not a referendum.

Perhaps the fair way to go is to **have a referendum** on a question such as: **Do the Southern Gulf Island tax payers still need the "ISLANDS TRUST" to preserve and protect the "land"?**  
The Trust was a good idea in 1974 but I am sorry to say that it is my belief and experience that the Island Trust has turned into an unfair "dictatorship trust government" run by well-meaning! but unnecessarily zealous people. I also have witnessed (hard to prove) questionable voting tactics - "for trustees" - being carried out in the past 30 years on Galiano Island.

I believe that if CRD & Provincial Government had a few specific rules about density and subdivision and maybe zoning for the Southern Gulf Islands (besides what other controls they have now, roads, building permits, etc., -that will be all that is needed. We do not need **all** the "restrictions" that the Trust has decided may be detrimental, to their "preserve & protect" policy.

In other words, I personally am against paying **any** taxes for the "operation" of the ISLANDS TRUST.

Mary Jean Elliott  
Galiano Island Resident for 45 years