



6/1/2022

Islands Trust
#1 - 500 Lower Ganges Rd #1
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2N8

VIA EMAIL

Attention: Mr. Peter Grove, Salt Spring Island Trustee

Transition Salt Spring
PO Box 768
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2W3

VIA EMAIL

Attention: Ms. Gayle Baker, Vice Chair/Secretary

Dear Sir/Madam:

RE: Salt Spring Forum – August 25, 2021

I spoke with you at the park meeting (August 25, 2021) and was disappointed in your responses.

I am shocked at the misrepresentations in the minutes as prepared by Ms. Gale Baker who informs me that the changes in the recordings were made as some aspects were deemed undesirable.

Mr. Grove, you were asked on four occasions which first nations had been consulted in updating the Islands policy statement. Your response was that you did not know, yet a list of those consulted appears in the meeting minutes.

As an Indigenous person I believe I have the right to see the records of these meetings and to see the minutes and discussion papers. Please provide copies.

The issue of me, an Indigenous person, asking for a meeting at the Islands Trust Office followed by a written request for a meeting was ignored for a matter of weeks.

You responded to my question claiming that you had phoned me. On checking my phone logs no call was received from you or any Trust Committee member.

A written response following any claimed failed attempts to contact me was a responsibility. I have not received an answer or commitment to meet.

The Indigenous people on Salt Spring the largest Island have not been consulted and as a Salt Spring Island Trust Committee representative, you, Mr. Luckham or Ms. Patrick have an obligation to formally respond to my letter requesting a meeting and address First Nations concerns on the Island.

I raised the issue of practising my Indigenous rights on fee simple property that I own. The reason I am bringing this to your attention is that the intrusive and abusive Bylaw Enforcement activity occurring on the Islands should not be directed at Indigenous people as they have the right to conduct themselves within their defined rights.

The matter that the Islands Trust and yourself justifying an “I do not believe you” statement to a complaining property owner on the basis that they are presumed guilty of claimed bylaw offences is not acceptable.

No governing official has a right to decide a person is not truthful because claimed bylaw offences are in the process of review. This discussion point was deliberately missed in the minutes published on the exchange.

I am requesting a written response to my questions and an explanation of the variance of the meeting minutes from the meeting content.

My request for a meeting of Salt Spring Indigenous people with the Trust Committee members still has not been acknowledged or committed to.

Yours truly,

COAST SALISH PEOPLES OF SALT SPRING ISLAND

DIGITALLY SIGNED

Daniel O'Donnell

DIGITALLY SIGNED

Ryan O'Donnell

Cc: Ms. Laura Patrick, Islands Trust Committee, Vice Chair Executive Committee (via email)
Mr. Peter Luckham, Chair Islands Trust Council, Chair Salt Spring Island Trust
Committee, Thetis Island Trustee (via email)
Mr. Russ Hotsenpillar, CAO Islands Trust (via email)

Note: Mr. Steve Maclane (Gabriola) has also expressed concern about misrepresentation of feedback on the Islands Trust Policy Statement