Executive Committee
Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date:	**Wednesday, April 15, 2026**
Location:	**Electronic Meeting, and a physical location to view the livestream of the meeting:** **Islands Trust Victoria Office** **#200 - 1627 Fort Street** **Victoria, BC V8R 1H8**
Members Present:	Timothy Peterson, Acting-Chair, Lasqueti Island Local Trust Area Tobi Elliott, Vice-Chair, Gabriola Island Local Trust Area David Maude, Vice-Chair, Mayne Island Local Trust Area
Staff Present:	Rueben Bronee, Chief Administrative Officer Stefan Cermak, Director, Planning Services Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services David Marlor, Director, Legislative and Information Services Derek Cockburn, Acting Director, Financial and Employee Services Julia Mobbs, Director, Financial and Employee Services Joe Elliott, Senior Indigenous Relations Advisor Wendy Tyrrell, Manager, Islands Trust Conservancy Alexandra Trifonidis, Executive Coordinator
Member Regrets:	Laura Patrick, Chair, Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area
Guests and members of the public present:	Lisa Gauvreau, Chair, Islands Trust Conservancy Board Tanner Timothy | nənqəm, Vice-Chair, Islands Trust Conservancy Board Jeannine Georgeson, Islands Trust Conservancy Board Member Risa Smith, Islands Trust Conservancy Board Member Susan Yates, Islands Trust Conservancy Board Member No members of the public were present.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:16 a.m.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Acting-Chair Peterson acknowledged that the lands and waters of the Islands Trust Area have been home to Indigenous Peoples since time immemorial, and noted that the *K'omoks Treaty Act* had been tabled in the British Columbia Legislature.

Trustees and staff were introduced.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3.1 Introduction of New Items

No new items were introduced.

3.2 Approval of Agenda

By general consent the agenda was approved, as presented.

3.2.1 Agenda Context Notes

Received for information.

4. RISE AND REPORT DECISIONS FROM PREVIOUSLY CLOSED MEETING

Nothing to report.

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

5.1 Draft Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of March 25, 2026

By general consent the Executive Committee minutes of March 25, 2026 were adopted presented.

6. FOLLOW UP ACTION LIST AND UPDATES

6.1 Follow Up Action List/Director/CAO Updates

The Committee reviewed the follow up action list, and Directors provided their area reports.

A question was raised regarding whether Islands Trust had provided comment on the *Heritage Conservation Act* Transformation Project. Staff clarified that individual staff members had provided comments, but confirmed Islands Trust, as an organization, had not. Discussion ensued regarding which version of the *Act* previous comments had addressed, as well as the staff resources required to facilitate the provision of feedback on the most recent version prior to the April 23, 2026 deadline for receiving comments.

6.2 Local Trust Committee Chair Updates and Reports on Local Advocacy Topics

Local Trust Committee Chairs provided updates on recently attended and upcoming local trust committee meetings, as well as current local advocacy topics.

6.3 Islands Trust Conservancy Liaison Update

No update was provided, as it was noted the Islands Trust Conservancy Board is joining later in the meeting.

Vice-Chair Elliott stated the following motion in relation to the discussion during Item 6.1.

EC-2026-048
It was MOVED and SECONDED,
that Executive Committee request Islands Trust Planning Services to contribute input to the proposed policy directions for the *Heritage Conservation Act* transformation project, introduced in the March 2026 technical paper, before April 23.

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

7. BYLAWS FOR APPROVAL CONSIDERATION

7.1 Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee - Bylaws 321 and 322 - Request for Decision

The Director of Planning Services spoke to the Request for Decision and noted that staff and the Local Trust Committee recommend its approval.

EC-2026-049
It was MOVED and SECONDED,
that the Islands Trust Executive Committee approve Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 321, cited as "Gabriola Island Official Community Plan (Gabriola) Bylaw No. 166, 1997, Amendment No. 1, 2025" in accordance with Section 27 of the *Islands Trust Act*.

CARRIED

EC-2026-050
It was MOVED and SECONDED,
that the Islands Trust Executive Committee approve Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 322, cited as "Gabriola Island Land Use Bylaw, 1999, Amendment No. 1, 2025" in accordance with Section 27 of the *Islands Trust Act*.

A question was raised regarding the format of the referral response form included in the bylaw information. Staff clarified that this would not be the final product.

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

8. TRUST COUNCIL MEETING PREPARATION - None

9. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING PREPARATION - None

10. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PROJECTS

10.1 Trust Council Initiated

10.1.1 Executive - None

10.1.2 Trust Area Services

10.1.2.1 Educational Webinar for Realtors - Request for Decision

The Director of Trust Area Services presented the Request for Decision.

A question was raised regarding whether this was a new project. Staff clarified that it is part of the existing MapIt project and not a new project.

A further question was raised regarding trustee participation, and staff clarified that their participation is welcomed.

Discussion ensued on:

- what written materials, if any, would supplement the webinar; and
- assistance from trustees in promoting attendance among local realtors.

EC-2026-051
It was MOVED and SECONDED,
that Executive Committee request staff to plan and host an educational webinar for realtors working in the Islands Trust Area.

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

10.1.3 Planning Services - None
10.1.4 Financial and Employee Services - None
10.1.5 Legislative and Information Services - None

10.2 Executive Committee Initiated

10.2.1 Executive - None
10.2.2 Trust Area Services - None
10.2.3 Planning Services - None
10.2.4 Financial and Employee Services - None

10.2.5 Legislative and Information Services

10.2.5.1 Change of Dates for Regional Planning Committee and Trust Programs Committee November Meetings - Request for Decision

The Director of Legislative and Information Services spoke to the Request for Decision.

A question was raised regarding the feasibility of holding back-to-back meetings. Staff clarified that this was feasible, while noting there were some unknown factors, such as the composition of new committee members following the election.

EC-2026-052
It was MOVED and SECONDED,
that Executive Committee request the Trust Programs Committee to reschedule November 26, 2026, Trust Programs Committee meeting to January 7, 2027, and that Executive Committee request the Regional Planning Committee to reschedule the November 27,

2026, Regional Planning Committee meeting to January 8, 2027.

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Executive/Trust Council - None

11.2 Trust Area Services

11.2.1 2026/27 Communications Strategy - Request for Decision

The Director of Trust Area Services spoke to the Request for Decision noting it is an update to the previous communication strategy.

Discussion ensued on:

- the use of the word “services” and its definition in this context as all-encompassing.
- a suggestion to add the word “projects” to the phrase “…governance, program, services…” in the second paragraph of Section 1 (Context).
- whether emerging issues should be analysed by source or treated uniformly with regards to Section 3 (Goals), under Section 1.1.
- concerns regarding purposeful misinformation and its potential impact.

EC-2026-053
It was MOVED and SECONDED,
that Executive Committee approve the 2026/27 Islands Trust Communications Strategy, as amended, and forward to Trust Council for information.

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

11.3 Planning Services - None
11.4 Financial and Employee Services - None
11.5 Legislative and Information Services - None

12. CORRESPONDENCE (for information unless raised for action)

12.1 2026-03-25 BC Geographical Names Office - Name Change NE Point of Tumbo Island

Vice-Chair Maude provided historical context regarding the name change.

By general consent item 12.1 was forwarded to Islands Trust Council.

12.2 2026-03-25 Rural Islands Economic Partnership - Islands Trust Secretariat 2026/27

Received for information.

12.2.1 2026-04-01 Rural Islands Economic Partnership - Islands Trust Secretariat 2026/27 – Resubmitted

The Committee raised a question regarding funding allocated to the Secretariat Services function. Staff clarified that the Islands Trust Council had budgeted $7,000.

A subsequent question was raised regarding forwarding the correspondence to the Islands Trust Council, along with a request for decision outlining funding options, including overspending.

EC-2026-054
It was MOVED and SECONDED,
that Executive Committee request staff to provide a request for decision with options regarding overspending with regards to the secretariate services function.

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

12.3 2026-03-27 My Sea to Sky - Initial comments on FortisBC's application to amend waste discharge permit PE-110163

By general consent item 12.3 was forwarded to Islands Trust Council.

12.4 2026-04-02 Southern Resident Killer Whale Bulletin

Received for information.

12.5 2026-04-10 Saanich Inlet Roundtable - Next Meeting - May 14, 2026

Received for information.

13. WORK PROGRAM

13.1 Review and amendment of current work program

Received for information.

14. NEXT MEETING

The next Executive Committee meeting will take place electronically on Wednesday, May 6, at 9:15 a.m.

14.1 Location Change of Executive Committee Meetings till End of the Current Term

EC-2026-055
It was MOVED and SECONDED,
that Executive Committee request staff change the location of the following Executive Committee meetings from Islands Trust Victoria Office to electronic:

- Wednesday, June 3, 2026;
- Wednesday, July 29, 2026;
- Wednesday, August 26, 2026; and,
- Wednesday, October 28, 2026.

A question was raised as to whether trustees could participate in person at their own expense, and staff clarified that this was okay.

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

EC-2026-056
It was MOVED,
that Executive Committee request staff change the location of the following Executive Committee meetings from in-person to hybrid:

- Tuesday, June 16, 2026; and,
- Wednesday, September 9, 2026.

A question was raised regarding the use of the language "hybrid" in the motion. Staff clarified that there are two forms of meetings in the Islands Trust Meeting Procedures Bylaw; in person or electronic. Discussion ensued on the differences between in-person and electronic meetings with regards to public participation.

EC-2026-056
It was MOVED and SECONDED,
that Executive Committee request staff change the location of the following Executive Committee meetings from in-person to electronic:

- Tuesday, June 16, 2026; and,
- Wednesday, September 9, 2026.

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

15. CLOSED MEETING

No closed meeting was held.

The Committee recessed for break at 10:37 a.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

16. ISLANDS TRUST CONSERVANCY BOARD JOINT SESSION

The Executive Committee was joined by members of the Islands Trust Conservancy Board to discuss the agenda items under this category.

The Islands Trust Conservancy Chair introduced the Islands Trust Conservancy Board members.

16.1 Islands Trust Conservancy 5-year Plan – Update

The Islands Trust Conservancy Chair provided an update on the Islands Trust Conservancy's work on the 5-year Plan, noting the plan is expected to be submitted to the province by December 2027, and the direction the organization is headed.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- Providing an update to Islands Trust Council
- Engagement with other entities in the Trust Area

16.2 Policy 6.10.4 Islands Trust/Islands Trust Conservancy Board Communications - Discussion

The Islands Trust Conservancy Chair spoke to Policy 6.10.4, specifically section 1. (Communications with Trust Council) which states that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board will provide an annual workshop at Trust Council meetings.

Discussion ensued on considerations for workshop content, including:

- The potential need for essential staff to support both bodies, including a biologist as a shared resource between the Islands Trust and the Islands Trust Conservancy Board
- Timing of the workshop, including the possibility of holding it at the first Islands Trust Council meeting of the new term in November
- Budgetary needs of the Conservancy
- Workshop format, including a more creative approach to communicating the Conservancy's role and work
- Recognition of the Conservancy as a key expression of the mandate, with strong public support and established relationships with local and conservation partners
- Sending information to the Trustee Orientation Working Group for further consideration
- The importance of increased First Nations representation on the Board

16.3 Whistleblower Policy for Islands Trust and Islands Trust Conservancy Staff and Trustees – Briefing

The Chief Administrative Officer spoke to the Briefing and summarized the information within.

Discussion ensued on measures in place in lieu of a policy.

16.4 Islands Trust Conservancy Growth - What it Means Going Forward - Discussion

The Islands Trust Conservancy Chair spoke to growth in regards to both land and donations.

Discussion ensued on the following topics:

- New models, ways of thinking, and approaches
- Increasing organizational work
- The importance of operating as a unified organization rather than individually

- Capacity to support growth, both financially and through other means
- Full cost accounting, including health, social, and biological considerations
- Patterns of growth
- The use of storytelling to attract aligned funders
- Acknowledging that the Conservancy's success is a growth model, and that strategies need to be developed for how that growth is sustained over time
- The importance of climate change and conservation stewardship at this time
- Engagement with Island Trust Council regarding the Conservancy's role in fulfilling the Islands Trust mandate
- Publishing *The Heron* for its impact, particularly as it includes landholder stories
- The value of working collaboratively
- Drawing on other examples and initiatives as resources
- The need for further discussion through less formal avenues

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m.

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Timothy Peterson, Acting-Chair

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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Alexandra Trifonidis, Executive Coordinator and Recorder