



Executive Committee Revised Agenda

Date: Wednesday, March 25, 2026

Time: 9:15 a.m.

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

	Pages
1. CALL TO ORDER	
2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA	
3.1 Introduction of New Items	
3.2 Approval of Agenda	
3.2.1 Agenda Context Notes - None	
4. RISE AND REPORT DECISIONS FROM PREVIOUSLY CLOSED MEETING	
Chair Patrick to rise and report that at their last meeting Executive Committee adopted the February 25, 2026, in-camera meeting minutes.	
5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES	
5.1 Draft Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2026	5 - 8
For review and adoption.	
6. FOLLOW UP ACTION LIST AND UPDATES	
6.1 Follow Up Action List/Director/CAO Updates	9 - 16
6.2 Local Trust Committee Chair Updates and Reports on Local Advocacy Topics	
6.3 Islands Trust Conservancy Liaison Update	
7. BYLAWS FOR APPROVAL CONSIDERATION	

7.1	Bowen Island Municipality – Municipal Regional District Tax Bylaw No. 701 - Request for Decision	17 - 53
	1. THAT Executive Committee advise Bowen Island Municipality that Bylaw No. 701, cited as “Bowen Island Short Term Accommodation Tax Bylaw No. 701, 2026” is not contrary to or at variance with the Islands Trust Policy Statement. 2. THAT Executive Committee request staff work with the Chair to send a letter of support to Bowen Island Municipality regarding the Municipal & Regional District Tax program.	
7.2	Gambier Island Local Trust Committee - Proposed Bylaw No. 162 - Public Notification Bylaw - Request for Decision	54 - 61
	1. THAT the Islands Trust Executive Committee approve Gambier Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 162, cited as "Gambier Island Local Trust Committee Public Notification Bylaw No. 162, 2026" in accordance with Section 27 of the <i>Islands Trust Act</i>.	
7.3	Hornby Island Local Trust Committee - Proposed Bylaw No. 180 - Public Notification Bylaw - Request for Decision	62 - 69
	1. THAT the Islands Trust Executive Committee approve Hornby Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 180, cited as "Hornby Island Local Trust Committee Public Notification Bylaw No. 180, 2026" in accordance with Section 27 of the <i>Islands Trust Act</i>.	
7.4	South Pender Island Local Trust Committee - Proposed Bylaw No. 131 – Public Notification Bylaw - Request for Decision	70 - 77
	1. THAT the Executive Committee not approve South Pender Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 131, cited as "South Pender Island Local Trust Committee Public Notification Bylaw No. 131, 2025" due to unacceptable risk, costs, and vagueness. 2. THAT the Executive Committee recommends South Pender Island Local Trust Committee amend Bylaw No. 131, cited as "South Pender Island Local Trust Committee Public Notification Bylaw No. 131, 2025" by: a. Limiting minimum public notification methods to two b. Removing “direct mailout” c. Removing vague reference to “direct email”, or d. Replacing “direct email” with “South Pender public notice email subscriber list”	
8.	TRUST COUNCIL MEETING PREPARATION	
8.1	Roundtable Review of March 10-12 Trust Council Meeting - Discussion	
8.2	Executive	
	8.2.1 March Trust Council Highlights	78 - 78
	8.2.2 Trust Council Follow Up Action List	79 - 88
8.3	Planning Services	

8.4	Financial and Employee Services	
8.5	Trust Area Services	
8.6	Legislative and Information Services	
8.6.1	Change of Dates for Regional Planning Committee and Trust Programs Committee November Meetings - Request for Decision	89 - 90
	For review and consideration of forwarding to the June Islands Trust Council Quarterly Meeting agenda.	
9.	COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING PREPARATION - None	
10.	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PROJECTS	
10.1	Trust Council Initiated	
10.1.1	Executive	
10.1.2	Trust Area Services	
10.1.2.1	2026/27 Meeting Decorum Materials - Request for Decision	91 - 95
	THAT Executive Committee approve the meeting decorum poster and presentation slide for use at public meetings.	
10.1.3	Planning Services	
10.1.4	Financial and Employee Services	
10.1.5	Legislative and Information Services	
10.2	Executive Committee Initiated	
10.2.1	Executive	
10.2.2	Trust Area Services	
10.2.2.1	Islands Trust Property Tax Assessment Notice Insert for 2026/7 – Briefing	96 - 98
10.2.3	Planning Services	
10.2.4	Financial and Employee Services	
10.2.5	Legislative and Information Services	
11.	NEW BUSINESS	
11.1	Executive/Trust Council	

11.1.1 Transport Canada - Potential regulations to increase access to marine emergency services and improve response to pollution incidents - Discussion

Vice-Chair Peterson

Click the link below to access the discussion paper:

[Potential regulations to increase access to marine emergency services and improve response to pollution incidents - Second discussion paper](#)

11.2 Trust Area Services

11.2.1 *Letter of Support for the Order of BC Nomination of Dr. Diana Allen - Discussion*

11.3 Planning Services

11.4 Financial and Employee Services

11.5 Legislative and Information Services

11.5.1 Appointment of Treasurer - Request for Decision 99 - 100

THAT Executive Committee appoint Director of Finance and Employee Services, Derek Cockburn to the office of Treasurer.

12. CORRESPONDENCE (for information unless raised for action)

12.1 2026-03-03 D Wallinger - Formal Submission – Deer Overabundance and Ecological Integrity in the Gulf Islands 101 - 105

For review and consideration of forwarding to the June Islands Trust Council Quarterly Meeting agenda.

12.2 2026-03-09 D Dunnison - The Islands Trust Area is Uniquely Beautiful, but Perhaps not Ecologically Unique 106 - 108

For review and consideration of forwarding to the June Islands Trust Council Quarterly Meeting agenda.

12.3 2026-03-14 S Wright - SP Bylaw 129 Decision 109 - 109

13. WORK PROGRAM

13.1 Review and amendment of current work program 110 - 113

14. NEXT MEETING

The next Executive Committee meeting will take place electronically on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 9:15 a.m.

15. CLOSED MEETING (if needed)

16. ADJOURNMENT



Executive Committee Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2026
Location: Khowutzun Heritage Centre – Comeakin Hall
200 Cowichan Way, Duncan, BC, V9L 6P4

Members Present: Laura Patrick, Chair, Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area
Tobi Elliott, Vice-Chair, Gabriola Island Local Trust Area
David Maude, Vice-Chair, Mayne Island Local Trust Area
Timothy Peterson, Vice-Chair, Lasqueti Island Local Trust Area

Staff Present: Rueben Bronee, Chief Administrative Officer
David Marlor, Director, Legislative and Information Services
Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services
Julia Mobbs, Director, Financial and Employee Services
Stefan Cermak, Director, Planning Services
Joe Elliott, Senior Indigenous Relations Advisor
Alexandra Trifonidis, Executive Coordinator

Members of the public present: One member of the public attended electronically.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair Patrick acknowledged that the meeting was being held in Cowichan Tribes territory.

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 - None

4. RISE AND REPORT DECISIONS FROM PREVIOUSLY CLOSED MEETING

Chair Patrick reported that at the February 25 in-camera meeting, the Executive Committee adopted the February 4, 2026, in-camera meeting minutes and appointed Barb Aust, Deborah Scott, Seth Gustafsson, Riley Vardy, Dennis Fortin, Christopher Jason, and Michael Bean to the Islands Trust Accessibility Committee.

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

5.1 Draft Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of February 4, 2026

By general consent the Executive Committee minutes of February 4, 2026, were adopted as presented.

5.2 Draft Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of February 25, 2026

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

6. FOLLOW UP ACTION LIST AND UPDATES

6.1 Follow Up Action List/Director/CAO Updates

Received for information.

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

6.3.1 Highlights of Islands Trust Conservancy January 20, 2026 Board Meeting - Report

Received for information.

7. BYLAWS FOR APPROVAL CONSIDERATION - None

8. TRUST COUNCIL MEETING PREPARATION

8.1 Executive - None

8.2 Planning Services

8.2.1 Request for Trust Council Sponsorship of Temporary Use Permit Application Fee - Request for Decision

By general consent item 8.2.1 was forwarded to Trust Council.

8.3 Financial and Employee Services - None

8.4 Trust Area Services - None

8.5 Legislative and Information Services

8.5.1 Meeting Streaming and Recording – Briefing

The Director of Legislative and Information Services presented the Briefing.

By general consent item 8.5.1 was forwarded to Trust Council.

8.5.2 Ratification of Accessibility Committee Appointments - Request for Decision

DRAFT

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

By general consent item 8.5.2 was forwarded to Trust Council.

9. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PROJECTS - None

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Executive/Trust Council

10.1.1 Training Funding Request - Longhouse Experiential Workshop - Request for Decision

Vice-Chair Peterson spoke to the Request for Decision, and informed the Committee he is currently on the waitlist and will bring back the Request for Decision if a spot becomes available.

Vice-Chair Elliott mentioned she is attending, and noted she had not considered applying for funding, and will report back following the Workshop.

10.2 Trust Area Services - None

10.3 Planning Services - None

10.4 Financial and Employee Services - None

10.5 Legislative and Information Services - None

11. CORRESPONDENCE (for information unless raised for action)

11.1 2026-02-26 B McConchie - Your decision on Bylaw 129

Received for information.

11.2 2026-02-27 K Watson - 2025 Bowen Island Requisition

By general consent item 11.2 was forwarded to Trust Council.

11.3 2026-03-03 D Wallinger - A Science-based Call for Decisive Deer Population Reduction to Restore Island Ecosystems

By general consent item 11.3 was forwarded to Trust Council.

11.4 2026-03-05 Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust - Urgent Request - Budget Approval for Potential Reimbursement of Application Fee

The Director of Planning Services noted this application was received last week.

By general consent item 11.4 was forwarded to Trust Council.

11.5 2026-03-06 L Gauvreau - Request for Reconsideration of Permanent Biologist Position - Islands Trust Conservancy Board

By general consent item 11.5 was forwarded to Trust Council.

12. WORK PROGRAM

12.1 Review and amendment of current work program

Received for information.

A question regarding the status of Item 3 was raised, and staff clarified that it was ongoing.

13. NEXT MEETING

The next Executive Committee regular meeting will be held electronically on Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 9:15 a.m.

14. CLOSED MEETING

The Chair indicated that the Committee would not reconvene in open meeting following the Closed Meeting, and that a rise and report will be provided at the next regular meeting, if required.

EC-2026-007

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the meeting be closed to the public subject to Sections 90(1)(g) and (i) of the Community Charter in order to consider matters related to litigation or potential litigation affecting the Islands Trust; and the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; and that staff attend the meeting.

CARRIED

The meeting was closed to the public at 10:17 a.m. and reopened at 10:25 a.m.

15. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Laura Patrick, Chair

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Alexandra Trifonidis, Executive Coordinator and Recorder

Minutes are not official until adopted at a subsequent meeting.

Follow Up Action Report

Executive Committee

Chief Administrative Officer

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
75%	1 Explore future education/workshop sessions on decision-making to benefit trustees. Deferred to next council term per decision of EC Feb 25, 2026.	Rueben Bronee	Meeting: 24-May-2023 Target: 13-Mar-2026	In Progress
100%	2 Staff to forward the following items to the March Trust Council Quarterly Meeting agenda: ·8.2.1 Request for Trust Council Sponsorship of Temporary Use Permit Application Fee - Request for Decision ·8.5.1 Meeting Streaming and Recording - Briefing ·8.5.2 Ratification of Accessibility Committee Appointments - Request for Decision ·11.2 2026-02-27 K Watson - 2025 Bowen Island Requisition ·11.3 2026-03-03 D Wallinger - A Science-based Call for Decisive Deer Population Reduction to Restore Island Ecosystems ·11.4 2026-03-05 Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust - Urgent Request - Budget Approval for Potential Reimbursement of Application Fee ·11.5 2026-03-06 L Gauvreau - Request for Reconsideration of Permanent Biologist Position - Islands Trust Conservancy Board	Rueben Bronee	Meeting: 10-Mar-2026 Target: 10-Mar-2026	Completed

Follow Up Action Report

Executive Committee

Director Legislative Services and Information Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
0%	1 Investigate options for policies or policy updates for formal opportunities for First Nations presentations and engagement at Trust Council meetings. DEFERRED: Not yet started. Trust Council December 2025 resolution to not start new work this term.	David Marlor	Meeting: 07-Oct-2021 Target: 03-Jun-2026	In Progress
51%	2 Staff to develop policy regarding s. 8 (2) (h.1) (iii) and (iv) of the Islands Trust Act. This request responded to changes to the Islands Trust Act to give Trust Council new discretionary powers relating to supporting and give financial assistance to others to (iii)engage in activities to gain knowledge about the unique amenities and environment of the trust area and to increase public awareness, understanding and appreciation of the unique amenities and environment; (iv)preserve and protect the unique amenities and environment of the trust area. Executive Committee has discussed there may be an opportunity to concurrently review the secretariat services, and grants in aid policies with the intention of identifying administrative efficiencies.	David Marlor	Meeting: 12-Apr-2022 Target: 16-Jun-2026	In Progress
50%	3 Staff to prepare a primer on principles of the meeting assembly based on the guidelines from the training session May 19, 2022 along with clarification on points of order.	David Marlor	Meeting: 15-Jan-2025 Target: 16-Jun-2026	In Progress
0%	4 Staff to draft options for an updated version of Policy 6.12.2 UBCM/AVICC MEMBERSHIP AND RESOLUTIONS. This will be undertaken as part of the Governance Committee on-going project to review and update TC policies.	David Marlor	Meeting: 17-Jun-2025 Target: 09-Sep-2026	In Progress

Follow Up Action Report

Executive Committee

Director Legislative Services and Information Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
75%	5 Staff will review the Resolution Without Meetings (RWMs) policy further and report back with findings and recommendations. Being undertaken and will go to GC and then to EC and TC. Expected to TC in June 2026.	David Marlor	Meeting: 02-Jul-2025 Target: 09-Sep-2026	In Progress
50%	6 Staff to amend the Islands Trust Council Meeting Procedures Bylaw No.101 to reflect the fact that the Islands Trust is unable to proceed with its first Trust Council meeting of a new term until Bowen Island Municipality formally appoints two Bowen Island Municipality Councilors as Islands Trust Trustees, which occurs in the first couple weeks of November. Underway and will come to June 2026 Trust Council.	David Marlor	Meeting: 29-Oct-2025 Target: 02-Jun-2026	In Progress
100%	7 Staff to inform the Governance Committee that Executive Committee request Governance Committee that policy 6.12.2 UBCM/AVICC Membership and Resolutions be included in the policies queued for amendment updates before the end of the term.	David Marlor	Meeting: 19-Nov-2025 Target: 03-Mar-2026	Completed

Director of Planning Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
66%	1 Staff to: a) evaluate the implications of a longer referral response window, and; b) consider how Trust Council and local trust committees (LTC's) might consult with First Nations to better understand what changes to the current referral process should be made to both improve communication and to further reconciliation, and report back to Trust Council.	Stefan Cermak	Meeting: 29-Jun-2023 Target: 31-Mar-2026	In Progress

Follow Up Action Report

Executive Committee

Director, Financial and Employee Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
51%	1 Staff to add to a future EC agenda: Honoraria for Indigenous elders providing welcomes or presentations at local trust committee meetings.	Clare Frater Julia Mobbs	Meeting: 20-Dec-2023 Target: 03-Jun-2026	In Progress

Follow Up Action Report

Executive Committee

Director, Trust Area Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
51%	1 Staff to add to a future EC agenda: Honoraria for Indigenous elders providing welcomes or presentations at local trust committee meetings.	Clare Frater Julia Mobbs	Meeting: 20-Dec-2023 Target: 03-Jun-2026	In Progress
15%	2 Staff to develop a protocol agreement in cooperation with Snuneymuxw First Nation for Trust Council's consideration. ON HOLD at request of Snuneymuxw First Nation.	Clare Frater	Meeting: 05-Jun-2024 Target: 31-Mar-2026	In Progress
25%	3 Implement the Executive Committee approved "The Role of the Trust" webinar project charter.	Clare Frater	Meeting: 05-Jun-2024 Target: 17-Oct-2026	In Progress
10%	4 Staff to develop a protocol agreement in cooperation with Quw'utsun (Cowichan) Nation for Trust Council's consideration.	Clare Frater	Meeting: 24-Jul-2024 Target: 08-Sep-2026	In Progress
0%	5 Staff to put on a future Executive Committee meeting agenda for Executive Committee to consider: "that the Executive Committee acting as a Local Trust Committee (Ballenas-Winchelsea Islands) request that the Executive Committee consider a policy on engagement and communication with First nations in the Trust area, to be developed with Local Trust Committees, with respect to standing resolutions on Reconciliation and engagement with local First Nations. "	Clare Frater Joe Elliott	Meeting: 18-Jun-2024 Target: 25-Mar-2026	In Progress

Follow Up Action Report

Executive Committee

Director, Trust Area Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
49%	6 Staff, with advice from Trustee Elliott, to draft a letter to Snuneymuxw First Nation to gauge their interest in a joint meeting and mention that there is an opportunity to jointly apply for up to a \$20,000 Union of BC Municipality Community to Community Grant. In preparation for a potential grant application with Snuneymuxw First Nation staff to estimate associated costs, and report back to Executive Committee. (ON HOLD)	Clare Frater	Meeting: 18-Dec-2024 Target: 31-Mar-2026	In Progress
15%	7 Staff to cooperate with Tsartlip First Nation and Tseycum First Nation via the W_SÁNEC Leadership Council Society, to develop an agreement for Trust Council consideration.	Clare Frater Joe Elliott	Meeting: 14-May-2025 Target: 08-Sep-2026	In Progress
80%	8 Staff to apply for, and, if successful, manage a \$20,000 grant from the UBCM Community to Community grant program to support a relationship building event with Tsawout First Nation.	Clare Frater Joe Elliott	Meeting: 14-May-2025 Target: 03-Jul-2026	In Progress
2%	9 Staff to develop a protocol agreement in cooperation with Tsawout First Nation for Trust Council's consideration.	Clare Frater Joe Elliott	Meeting: 14-May-2025 Target: 03-Jul-2026	In Progress
0%	10 Staff to prepare a request for decision recommending undertaking advocacy on enshrining the Coastal Marine Strategy into legislation for the June Trust Council meeting.	Clare Frater	Meeting: 04-Feb-2026 Target: 26-May-2026	In Progress
0%	11 Staff to invite a presentation on the Coastal Marine Strategy for the June Trust Council meeting.	Clare Frater	Meeting: 04-Feb-2026 Target: 15-May-2026	In Progress
0%	12 Staff to prepare a report evaluating advocacy for the term and to provide background on the advocacy program for trustee orientation.	Clare Frater	Meeting: 04-Feb-2026 Target: 01-Oct-2026	In Progress

Follow Up Action Report

Executive Committee

Director, Trust Area Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
0%	13 Staff to prepare a high-level, order-of-magnitude cost estimate for co-developing protocol agreements and for conducting meaningful engagement with all the First Nations with rights and territorial interests in the Trust Area for the significant projects (e.g., Trust Policy Statement and LTC OCP/LUB update projects), to clarify the fiscal implications and to support discussions with senior government regarding funding mechanisms necessary for implementation.	Clare Frater	Meeting: 25-Feb-2026 Target: 03-Jun-2026	In Progress

Follow Up Action Report

Executive Committee

Senior Indigenous Relations Advisor

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
0%	1 Staff to put on a future Executive Committee meeting agenda for Executive Committee to consider: "that the Executive Committee acting as a Local Trust Committee (Ballenas-Winchelsea Islands) request that the Executive Committee consider a policy on engagement and communication with First nations in the Trust area, to be developed with Local Trust Committees, with respect to standing resolutions on Reconciliation and engagement with local First Nations. "	Clare Frater Joe Elliott	Meeting: 18-Jun-2024 Target: 25-Mar-2026	In Progress
15%	2 Staff to cooperate with Tsartlip First Nation and Tseycum First Nation via the W_SÁNEC Leadership Council Society, to develop an agreement for Trust Council consideration.	Clare Frater Joe Elliott	Meeting: 14-May-2025 Target: 08-Sep-2026	In Progress
80%	3 Staff to apply for, and, if successful, manage a \$20,000 grant from the UBCM Community to Community grant program to support a relationship building event with Tsawout First Nation.	Clare Frater Joe Elliott	Meeting: 14-May-2025 Target: 03-Jul-2026	In Progress
2%	4 Staff to develop a protocol agreement in cooperation with Tsawout First Nation for Trust Council's consideration.	Clare Frater Joe Elliott	Meeting: 14-May-2025 Target: 03-Jul-2026	In Progress



REQUEST FOR DECISION

ISLAND MUNICIPALITY BYLAW SUBMISSION

08-3020-20-01

DATE OF MEETING: March 25, 2026
TO: Islands Trust Executive Committee
FROM: Trust Area Services
SUBJECT: Bowen Island Municipality – Municipal Regional District Tax Bylaw No. 701

RECOMMENDATION

1. **THAT Executive Committee advise Bowen Island Municipality that Bylaw No. 701, cited as “Bowen Island Short Term Accommodation Tax Bylaw No. 701, 2026” is not contrary to or at variance with the Islands Trust Policy Statement.**
2. **That Executive Committee request staff work with the Chair to send a letter of support to Bowen Island Municipality regarding the Municipal & Regional District Tax program.**

IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

Organizational: None

Financial: None

Policy: None

Implementation/Communications: Communication to Bowen Island Municipality (BIM) regarding Executive Committee’s decision by April 20, 2026.

Other - None

PURPOSE

The purpose of this referral is to seek Islands Trust support for Bowen Island Municipality’s inclusion in the Province’s Municipal and Regional Tax (MRDT). Bowen Island Municipality Bylaw No. 701 (Attachment 1) requests the Government of British Columbia to collect a three percent tax on short-term accommodation on Bowen Island and that the collected tax will be paid to BIM to fund tourism-related programs/projects and affordable housing initiatives

This bylaw has been forwarded to Executive Committee for comment under Section 15 of the Bowen Island Municipality [Letters Patent](#).

BACKGROUND

Bowen Island Municipality is planning to request inclusion in the Province's Municipal and Regional District Tax (MRDT). The MRDT allows the Province, at the request of participating local governments, to tax short-term accommodation providers¹ and distribute those taxes back to those local governments to be used for tourism initiatives and/or affordable housing projects. BIM estimates that the MRDT will bring in \$47,000 in fiscal 2027.

Executive Committee previously considered Bowen Island Municipality's efforts to join the MRDT in 2020. At its February 5, 2020 meeting, EC resolved:

EC-2020-021

That Executive Committee request staff work with the Chair to send a letter of support to Bowen Island Municipality regarding Municipal & Regional District Tax program.

CARRIED

EC's 2020 letter is attached as Attachment 3 to this RFD and can be used as a template if EC resolves to again support for BIM's request for inclusion in the MRDT.

BIM's 2020 effort to join the MRDT was unsuccessful as it did not reach the required level of support from accommodation providers on Bowen Island. The COVID pandemic then put tourism-related initiatives on the backburner for several years.

BIM staff have reviewed the Islands Trust directives only checklist and have identified the MRDT initiative is not contrary to, or at variance with, the Policy Statement, and is consistent with the following two directive policies:

	5.2	Growth and Development
✓	5.2.3	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address policies related to the aesthetic, environmental and social impacts of development.

	5.7	Economic Opportunities
✓	5.7.2	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address economic opportunities that are compatible with conservation of resources and protection of community character.

The BIM staff report of [February 23, 2026](#) provides significant information about the MRDT, BIM's application process, and proposed use of the tax funds.

The following earlier BIM staff reports are also available:

¹ Both multi-unit commercial operators and home-based businesses

- December 15, 2025 Committee of the Whole: <https://bowenisland.civicweb.net/document/337036/>
- July 21, 2025 Committee of the Whole: <https://bowenisland.civicweb.net/document/330436/>
- December 9, 2024 Council: <https://bowenisland.civicweb.net/document/320473/>

The following local trust areas are already party to the MRDT through the listed regional district:

- Salt Spring, Galiano, North Pender, South Pender, Mayne, Saturna (Capital Regional District)
- Thetis (Cowichan Valley Regional District)
- Lasqueti (qathet Regional District)
- Gambier (Sunshine Coast Regional District)
- Hornby (Comox Valley Regional District)

Issues Relating to First Nation Interest

The BIM staff report does not indicate that any engagement with First Nations occurred. The Islands Trust Policy Statement does not contain directive policies about engagement with First Nations.

Public Comments

As of the date of this Request for Decision (RFD), Islands Trust Staff have not received any public comments.

Staff Comments

Over-tourism in the Islands Trust Area can put, and in a number of cases is already putting, significant strain on island ecosystems and communities. The influx of visitors to the islands in the dry summer months exacerbates freshwater supply issues, diverts occupancy of residential units from year-round residents to weekend visitors, thereby worsening the housing crisis, and can result in harm to sensitive ecosystems and culturally important areas to Indigenous Peoples.

However, staff have reviewed BIM's one-year tactical plan for its potential MRDT funding (Attachment 4) and find that the tourism approach it advocates is not inconsistent with the Islands Trust object. It is summarized as follows:

Three strategic priorities guide the first year: strengthening destination management, enhancing visitor services, and advancing sustainability and community stewardship. Key actions include expanding visitor centre hours, improving digital and in-community visitor resources, forming new partnerships with local and regional stakeholders, and developing a sustainability framework rooted in regenerative tourism principles. The plan emphasizes increasing the value of tourism rather than its volume, protecting Bowen's environment and quality of life while supporting local businesses and a resilient island economy.

If EC decides to write a letter in support of BIM's MRDT application, it may wish to emphasize the importance of ecosystem protection as BIM's tourism economy develops, and suggest that BIM solicit engage with Indigenous Governing Bodies with treaty and territorial interests in Bowen Island to shape its tourism strategy.

Based on a review of proposed Bylaw No. 701, the Bowen Island staff reports, and the ITPS Checklist (Attachment 2), Islands Trust staff concludes that proposed Bylaw No. 701 is not contrary to or at variance with the Islands Trust Policy Statement.

KEY ISSUES/CONCEPTS

- Referral of MRDT Bylaw No. 701 under s.15 of the Letters Patent (“Where the municipality proposes to adopt a bylaw, other than an official community plan bylaw, which has any reference to a matter included in the trust policy statement . . .”)
- Written response to Bowen Island Municipality required by April 20, 2026 (within 45 days of receipt of the referral on March 6, 2026)
- Comments from Executive Committee limited to whether or not Bylaw No. 701 is contrary to or at variance with the Islands Trust Policy Statement
- Staff does not consider Bylaw No. 701 to be contrary to or at variance with the Islands Trust Policy Statement

RELEVANT POLICY

- [Islands Trust Policy 1.3.1](#) [Policy Statement Implementation]
- [Bowen Island Municipality Letters Patent](#)
- [Islands Trust Council/Bowen Island Municipality Protocol Agreement, 2014](#)

ATTACHMENTS

1. BIM Municipal and Regional Tax Bylaw No. 701
2. Islands Trust Directives Only Checklist
3. EC Municipal and Regional Tax Letter of Support, 2020
4. BIM Municipal and Regional Tax Tactical Plan

RESPONSE OPTIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **THAT Executive Committee advise Bowen Island Municipality that Bylaw No. 701, cited as “Bowen Island Short Term Accommodation Tax Bylaw No. 701, 2026” is not contrary to or at variance with the Islands Trust Policy Statement.**
2. **THAT Executive Committee request staff work with the Chair to send a letter of support to Bowen Island Municipality regarding the Municipal & Regional District Tax program.**

ALTERNATIVES

1. THAT Executive Committee advise Bowen Island Municipality that Bylaw No. 701, cited as “Bowen Island Short Term Accommodation Tax Bylaw No. 701, 2026” may be contrary to, or at variance with, the Islands Trust Policy Statement for the following reasons . . . [list reasons].

Submitted By:	Jason Youmans, Senior Policy Advisor	March 10, 2026
Reviewed By:	Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services	March 18, 2026



**Bowen Island Municipality
Bylaw No. 701, 2026**

A Bylaw to request the Province to levy the Municipal and Regional District Tax on behalf of the Municipality

WHEREAS, Council wishes to raise revenue for the purpose of financing tourism marketing and management, programs and projects, and affordable housing initiatives;

AND WHEREAS, under Section 240 of the *Provincial Sales Tax Act*, a municipality may request that the Lieutenant Governor in Council make a regulation imposing, on behalf of the municipality, an additional tax not exceeding three percent (3%) of purchase price of accommodation sold within the municipality;

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Council for Bowen Island Municipality in open meeting assembled enacts as follows:

1.0 Citation

- 1.1 This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as "Bowen Island Municipality Short Term Accommodation Tax Bylaw No. 701, 2026".

2.0 Short Term Accommodation Tax

- 2.1 The Lieutenant Governor in Council is hereby requested to make a regulation under Section 240 of the *Provincial Sales Tax Act*, declaring that effective March 1, 2027, Section 123(1) of said Act applies in respect of accommodation purchased within Bowen Island Municipality.
- 2.2 The tax to be imposed under the provisions of the regulation is requested to be three percent (3%) of the purchase price of accommodation.

3.0 Application

- 3.1 The funds paid to Bowen Island Municipality under the provisions of the regulation shall be applied to tourism programs and projects, and affordable housing initiatives.

4.0 Effective Date

- 4.1 This bylaw shall come into effect on March 1, 2027.

READ A FIRST TIME this ____ day of _____ , _____;

READ A SECOND TIME this ____ day of _____ , _____;

READ A THIRD TIME this ____ day of _____ , _____;

RECONSIDERED AND FINALLY ADOPTED this ____ day of _____ , _____;

Andrew Leonard
Mayor

Sophie Idsinga
Corporate Officer



ISLANDS TRUST POLICY STATEMENT DIRECTIVES ONLY CHECKLIST

File No.: 08-3020-20-01

File Name: BIM MRDT Bylaw No.

701

PURPOSE

To provide staff with the Directives Only Checklist to highlight issues addressed in staff reports and as a means to ensure Local Trust Committees address certain matters in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, Island Municipalities address certain matters in their official community plans, and to reference any relevant sections of the Policy Statement.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Policy Statement is comprised of several parts. Parts I and II outline the purpose, the Islands Trust object, and Council's guiding principles. Parts III, IV and V contain the goals and policies relevant to ecosystem preservation and protection, stewardship of resources and sustainable communities.

There are three different kinds of policies within the Policy Statement as follows:

- Commitments of Trust Council which are statements about Council's position or philosophy on various matters;
- Recommendations of Council to other government agencies, non-government organizations, property owners, residents and visitors; and
- Directive Policies which direct Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities to address certain matters.

DIRECTIVES ONLY CHECKLIST

The Policy Statement Directives Only Checklist is based on the directive policies from the Policy Statement (Consolidated April 2003) which require Local Trust Committees to address certain matters in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws and Island Municipalities to address certain matters in their official community plans in a way that implements the policy of Trust Council.

Staff will use the Policy Statement Checklist (Directives Only) to review Local Trust Committee and Island Municipality bylaw amendment applications and proposals to ensure consistency with the Policy Statement. Staff will add the appropriate symbol to the table as follows:

- ✓ if the bylaw is consistent with the policy from the Policy Statement, or
- ✗ if the bylaw is inconsistent (contrary or at variance) with a policy from the Policy Statement, or
- N/A if the policy is not applicable.

PART III: POLICIES FOR ECOSYSTEM PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION

CONSISTENT	No.	DIRECTIVE POLICY
	3.1	Ecosystems
N/A	3.1.3	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the identification and protection of the environmentally sensitive areas and significant natural sites, features and landforms in their planning area.
N/A	3.1.4	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the planning, establishment, and maintenance of a network of protected areas that preserve the representative ecosystems of their planning area and maintain their ecological integrity.
N/A	3.1.5	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the regulation of land use and development to restrict emissions to land, air and water to levels not harmful to humans or other species.
	3.2	Forest Ecosystems
N/A	3.2.2	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the protection of unfragmented forest ecosystems within their local planning areas from potentially adverse impacts of growth, development, and land-use.
	3.3	Freshwater and Wetland Ecosystems and Riparian Zones
N/A	3.3.2	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address means to prevent further loss or degradation of freshwater bodies or watercourses, wetlands and riparian zones and to protect aquatic wildlife.
	3.4	Coastal and Marine Ecosystems
N/A	3.4.4	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the protection of sensitive coastal areas.
N/A	3.4.5	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the planning for and regulation of development in coastal regions to protect natural coastal processes.

PART IV: POLICIES FOR THE STEWARDSHIP OF RESOURCES

CONSISTENT	No.	DIRECTIVE POLICY
	4.1	Agricultural Land
N/A	4.1.4	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the identification and preservation of agricultural land for current and future use.
N/A	4.1.5	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the preservation, protection, and encouragement of farming, the sustainability of farming, and the relationship of farming to other land uses.
N/A	4.1.6	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the use of adjacent properties to minimize any adverse affects on agricultural land.
CONSISTENT	No.	DIRECTIVE POLICY
N/A	4.1.7	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the design of road systems and servicing corridors to avoid agricultural lands unless the need for roads outweighs agricultural considerations, in which case appropriate mitigation measures shall be required to derive a net benefit to agriculture.
N/A	4.1.8	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address land uses and activities that support the economic viability of farms without compromising the agriculture capability of agricultural land.
N/A	4.1.9	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the use of Crown lands for agricultural leases.
	4.2	Forests
N/A	4.2.6	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the need to protect the ecological integrity on a scale of forest stands and landscapes.
N/A	4.2.7	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the retention of large land holdings and parcel sizes for sustainable forestry use, and the location and construction of roads, and utility and communication corridors to minimize the fragmentation of forests.

N/A	4.2.8	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the designation of forest ecosystem reserves where no extraction will take place to ensure the preservation of native biological diversity.
CONSISTENT	No.	DIRECTIVE POLICY
	4.3	Wildlife and Vegetation
	4.4	Freshwater Resources
N/A	4.4.2	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address measures that ensure neither the density nor intensity of land use is increased in areas which are known to have a problem with the quality or quantity of the supply of freshwater, water quality is maintained, and existing, anticipated and seasonal demands for water are considered and allowed for.
N/A	4.4.3	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address measures that ensure water use is not to the detriment of in-stream uses
	4.5	Coastal Areas and Marine Shorelands
N/A	4.5.8	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the needs and locations for marine dependent land uses.
N/A	4.5.9	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the compatibility of the location, size and nature of marinas with the ecosystems and character of their local planning areas.
N/A	4.5.10	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the location of buildings and structures so as to protect public access to, from and along the marine shoreline and minimize impacts on sensitive coastal environments.
N/A	4.5.11	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address opportunities for the sharing of facilities such as docks, wharves, floats, jetties, boat houses, board walks and causeways.
	4.6	Soils and Other Resources
N/A	4.6.3	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the protection of productive soils.

PART V: POLICIES FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

CONSISTENT	No.	DIRECTIVE POLICY
	5.1	Aesthetic Qualities
N/A	5.1.3	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the protection of views, scenic areas and distinctive features contributing to the overall visual quality and scenic value of the Trust Area.
	5.2	Growth and Development
✓	5.2.3	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address policies related to the aesthetic, environmental and social impacts of development.
N/A	5.2.4	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address any potential growth rate and strategies for growth management that ensure that land use is compatible with preservation and protection of the environment, natural amenities, resources and community character.
N/A	5.2.5	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address means for achieving efficient use of the land base without exceeding any density limits defined in their official community plans.
N/A	5.2.6	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the identification of areas hazardous to development, including areas subject to flooding, erosion or slope instability, and strategies to direct development away from such hazards.
	5.3	Transportation and Utilities
N/A	5.3.4	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the development of a classification system of rural roadways, including scenic or heritage road designations, in recognition of the object of the Islands Trust.
N/A	5.3.5	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the impacts of road location, design, construction and systems.
N/A	5.3.6	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the designation of areas for the landing of emergency helicopters.
N/A	5.3.7	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the development of land use patterns that encourage establishment

		of bicycle paths and other local and inter-community transportation systems that reduce dependency on private automobile use.
	5.4	Disposal of Waste
N/A	5.4.4	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the identification of acceptable locations for the disposal of solid waste.
CONSISTENT	No.	DIRECTIVE POLICY
	5.5	Recreation
N/A	5.5.3	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the prohibition of destination gaming facilities such as casinos and commercial bingo halls.
N/A	5.5.4	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the location and type of recreational facilities so as not to degrade environmentally sensitive areas, and the designation of locations for marinas, boat launches, docks and anchorages so as not to degrade sensitive marine or coastal areas.
N/A	5.5.5	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the identification of sites providing safe public access to beaches, the identification and designation of areas of recreational significance, and the designation of locations for community and public boat launches, docks and anchorages.
N/A	5.5.6	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the identification and designation of areas for low impact recreational activities and discourage facilities and opportunities for high impact recreational activities.
N/A	5.5.7	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the planning for bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian trail systems.
	5.6	Cultural and Natural Heritage
N/A	5.6.2	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the identification, protection, preservation and enhancement of local heritage.
N/A	5.6.3	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address the preservation and protection of the heritage value and character of historic coastal settlement patterns and remains.
	5.7	Economic Opportunities
✓	5.7.2	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address economic opportunities that are compatible with conservation of resources and protection of community character.
	5.8	Health and Well-being
✓	5.8.6	Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities shall, in their official community plans and regulatory bylaws, address their community's current and projected housing requirements and the long-term needs for educational, institutional, community and health-related facilities and services, as well as the cultural and recreational facilities and services.

	POLICY STATEMENT COMPLIANCE
✓	<i>In compliance with Trust Policy</i>
	<i>Not in compliance with Trust Policy for the following reasons:</i>



200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria BC V8R 1H8
Telephone **(250) 405-5151** Fax (250) 405-5155

Toll Free via Enquiry BC in Vancouver 660-2421. Elsewhere in BC **1.800.663.7867**

Email information@islandstrust.bc.ca

Web www.islandstrust.bc.ca

February 20, 2020

3020-20-MRDT Support

Via Email: HDallas@bimbc.ca

Hope Dallas
Bowen Island Municipality
981 Artisan Lane
Bowen Island BC, V0N 1G2

Dear Hope Dallas:

RE: Letter of Support for Bowen Island MRDT Application

The Executive Committee of the Islands Trust Council met on February 5, 2020 to consider the request from Bowen Island Municipality to provide a letter of support in regard to their application for the Municipal & Regional District Tax (MRDT) program.

Bowen Island Municipality is applying for the MRDT with a desired effective date of January 1, 2020. We understand that the designated accommodation area will be all of Bowen Island, with a requested tax rate of 3%. We further understand that the MRDT revenue will go towards tourism marketing, programs and projects, as well as affordable housing initiatives within the municipality.

Bowen Island Municipality has a special relationship with the Islands Trust that is set out in its Letters Patent and the *Islands Trust Act*. Bowen Island Municipality must have regard for the preserve and protect Object of the Trust when adopting a bylaw or issuing a permit or license, must submit its Official Community Plan (OCP) bylaws for approval and refer non-OCP bylaws that include a reference to a matter included in the Islands Trust Policy Statement. The Islands Trust and Bowen Island Municipality also have a Protocol Agreement that describes the principles and processes that underpin our positive relationship.

On February 5, 2020, the Executive Committee resolved as follows:

That Executive Committee request staff to work with the Chair to send a letter of support to Bowen Island Municipality regarding the Municipal & Regional District Tax program.

We wish Bowen Island Municipality success with this request.

.../2

Bowen Island Municipality
February 20, 2020
Page 2

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. Luckham".

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

cc: Islands Trust Council
Islands Trust website

Tactical Plan: 2027



BOWEN ISLAND
Municipality

Executive Summary

The 2027 One-Year Tactical Plan establishes Bowen Island's first MRDT-funded tourism program, allocating approximately \$47,000 to tourism initiatives and \$47,000 to affordable housing in its inaugural year. The plan focuses on building the essential systems required for MRDT administration, improving data collection, and initiating a coordinated, sustainable approach to tourism that reflects community values and the island's long-term aspirations.

Three strategic priorities guide the first year: strengthening destination management, enhancing visitor services, and advancing sustainability and community stewardship. Key actions include expanding visitor centre hours, improving digital and in-community visitor resources, forming new partnerships with local and regional stakeholders, and developing a sustainability framework rooted in regenerative tourism principles. The plan emphasizes increasing the value of tourism rather than its volume, protecting Bowen's environment and quality of life while supporting local businesses and a resilient island economy.

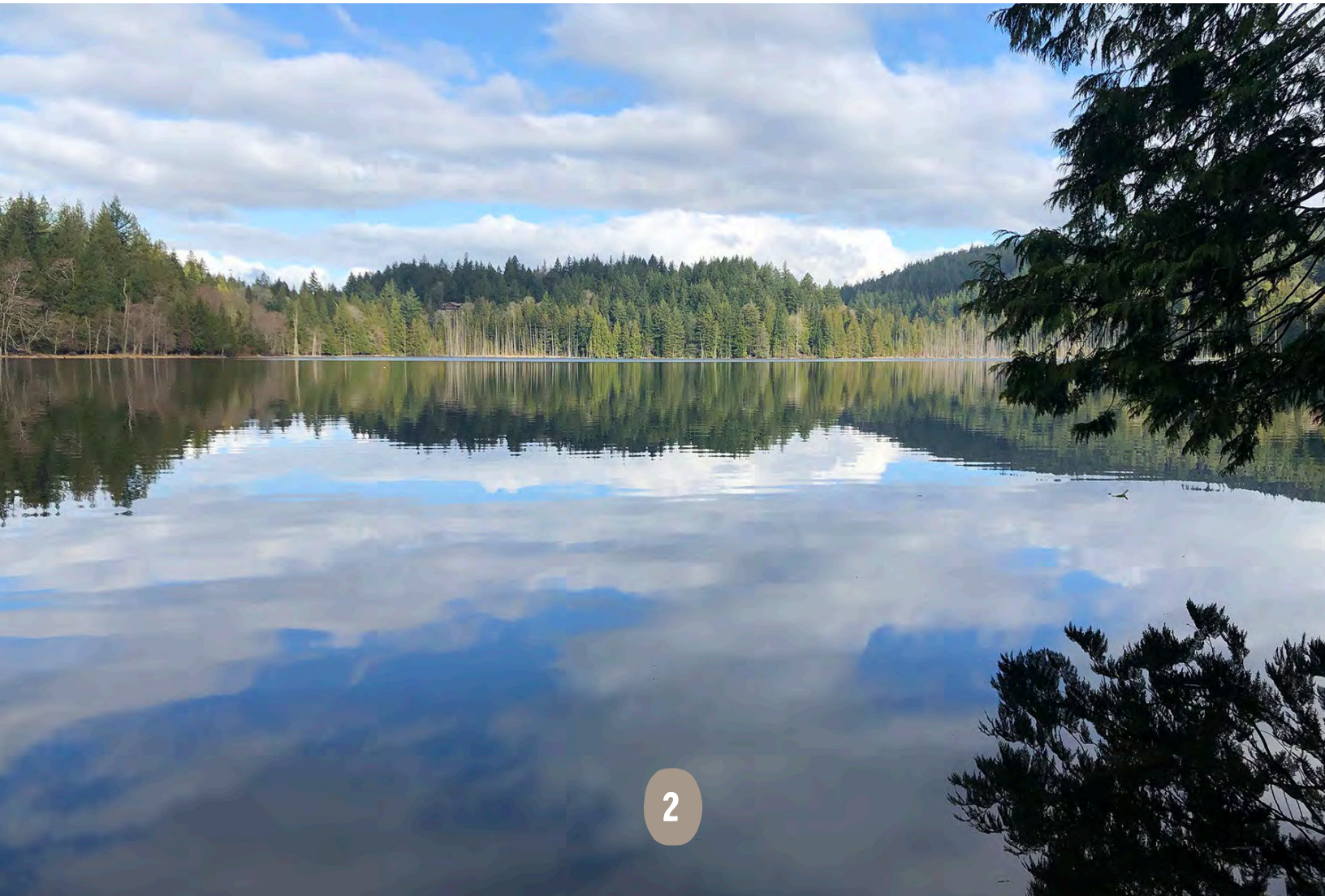


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One-year Tactical Plan Overview

Designated recipient: Bowen Island Municipality

Designated accommodation area: Bowen Island Municipality

Designated service provider: Tourism Bowen Island Association

Date prepared: November 2025

Five year period: 2027 – 2032

Start date: January 1, 2027

MRDT rate: 3%

Section 1 - One-year Tactical Plan Overview

Vision and Mission

Vision

We envision Bowen Island as a thriving, sustainable community — a place where residents flourish, businesses prosper, ecosystems are preserved for future generations, and visitors are welcomed as contributors to a balanced, resilient and valued way of life.

Mission

To create and manage a community-based and regenerative tourism ecosystem that balances the needs, values and wellbeing of residents, environment, economy and visitors.

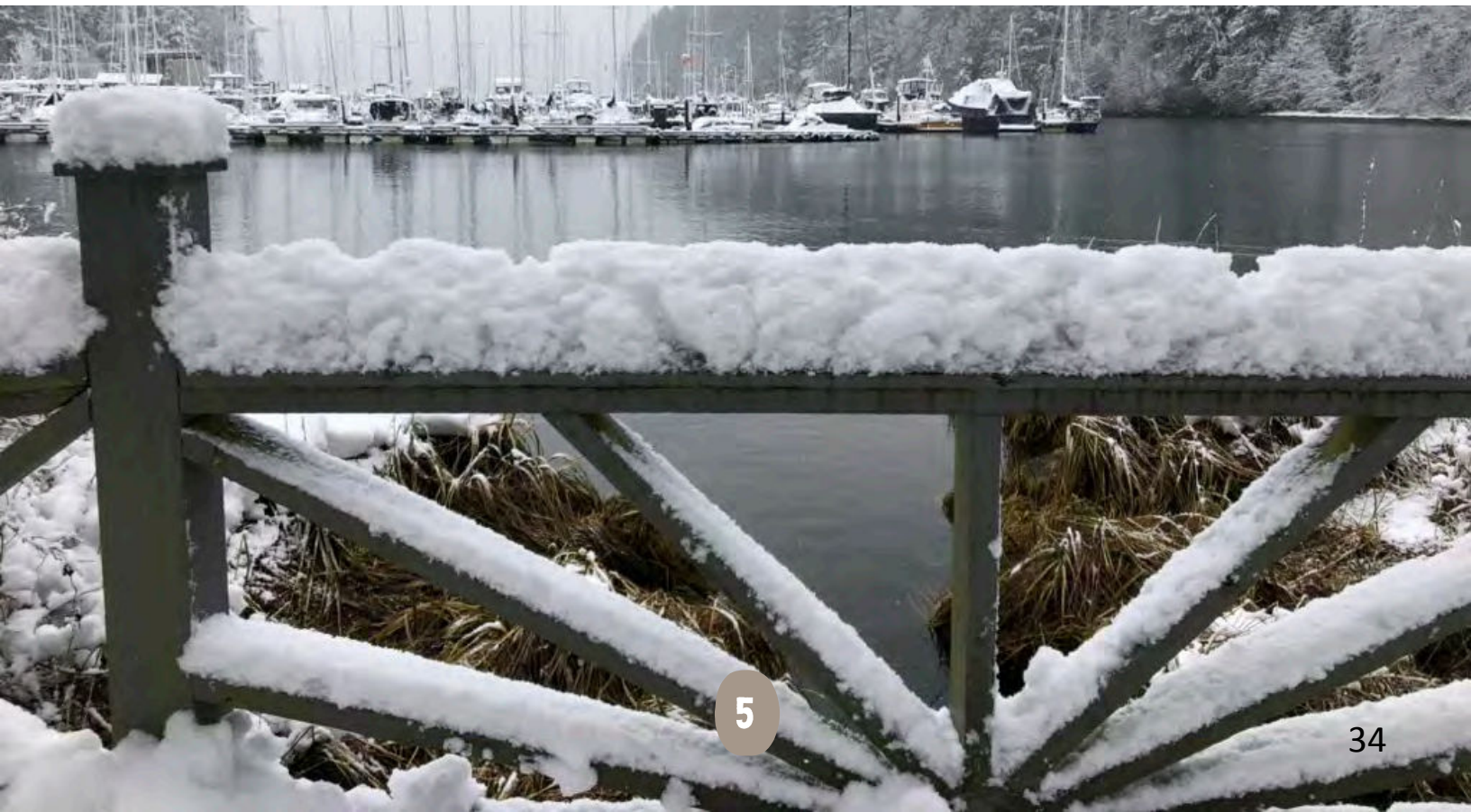


Strategic Direction

This inaugural one-year tactical tourism plan has been prepared by Tourism Bowen Island Association (TBI), the designated service provider, and in collaboration with Bowen Island Municipality, designated recipient. This plan is developed based on an estimated first year MRDT revenue of \$110,000. After removing MRDT administration costs (\$5,500) and Provincial Administration (\$10,633) the total estimated MRDT revenue to be allocated is \$93,867. Based on a 50% split, \$47,000 will be allocated to tourism projects and services and \$47,000 towards affordable housing.

TBI will be the revenue administrator and manager of the tourism projects and services, establishing in the first year the foundational systems to ensure fiscal management, collect data, measure key performance indicators, and deliver accurate reporting, as per MRDT requirements.

Given the estimated MRDT revenue stream, this inaugural one-year plan outlines a modest range of tactics and outcomes. The overall goal of this year-one tactical plan is to enhance and support current services and programs and, where possible, advance new initiatives. Once a baseline MRDT revenue stream is established after year one, subsequent tactical plans and priorities will be adjusted and implemented according to the goals and tactics outlined in the five-year strategy.



Key learnings and conclusions based on situation analysis

For more than 125 years, tourism visitation has been a significant economic and social-cultural driver to life on Bowen Island. Easily accessible by public transit from anywhere within Metro Vancouver, Bowen is the doable Gulf Island. Bowen Island is both a convenient day trip and an affordable multi-night getaway, a place of natural beauty, smalltown charm, and a refuge from urban life. Residents cherish the community and semi-rural lifestyle. Visitors, for a short time, appreciate and value their time on Bowen Island.

Bowen's tourism-related businesses are collectively recognized as one of the island's largest employers and key economic sectors. With a population of 4,255 residents (2021), tourism's direct, indirect and induced fiscal contributions to the island's economy is significant. From bakers, makers, and growers, to realtors, trades, and home builders, tourism is interconnected and contributes to the island's social diversity and economic resiliency, providing services and amenities that equally benefit residents and visitors.

Equally true, tourism impacts the island. Tourism can strain the island's infrastructure and resources, which then causes ill will within the community and infringes residents' way of life. Bowen receives an estimate 200,000+ visitors annually and with projected population growth, the demands and impacts of tourism are expected to increase in the coming years.

It's imperative to proactively manage tourism and to create a sustainable tourism ecosystem that benefits and supports the wellbeing of residents, environment, economy, and visitors.

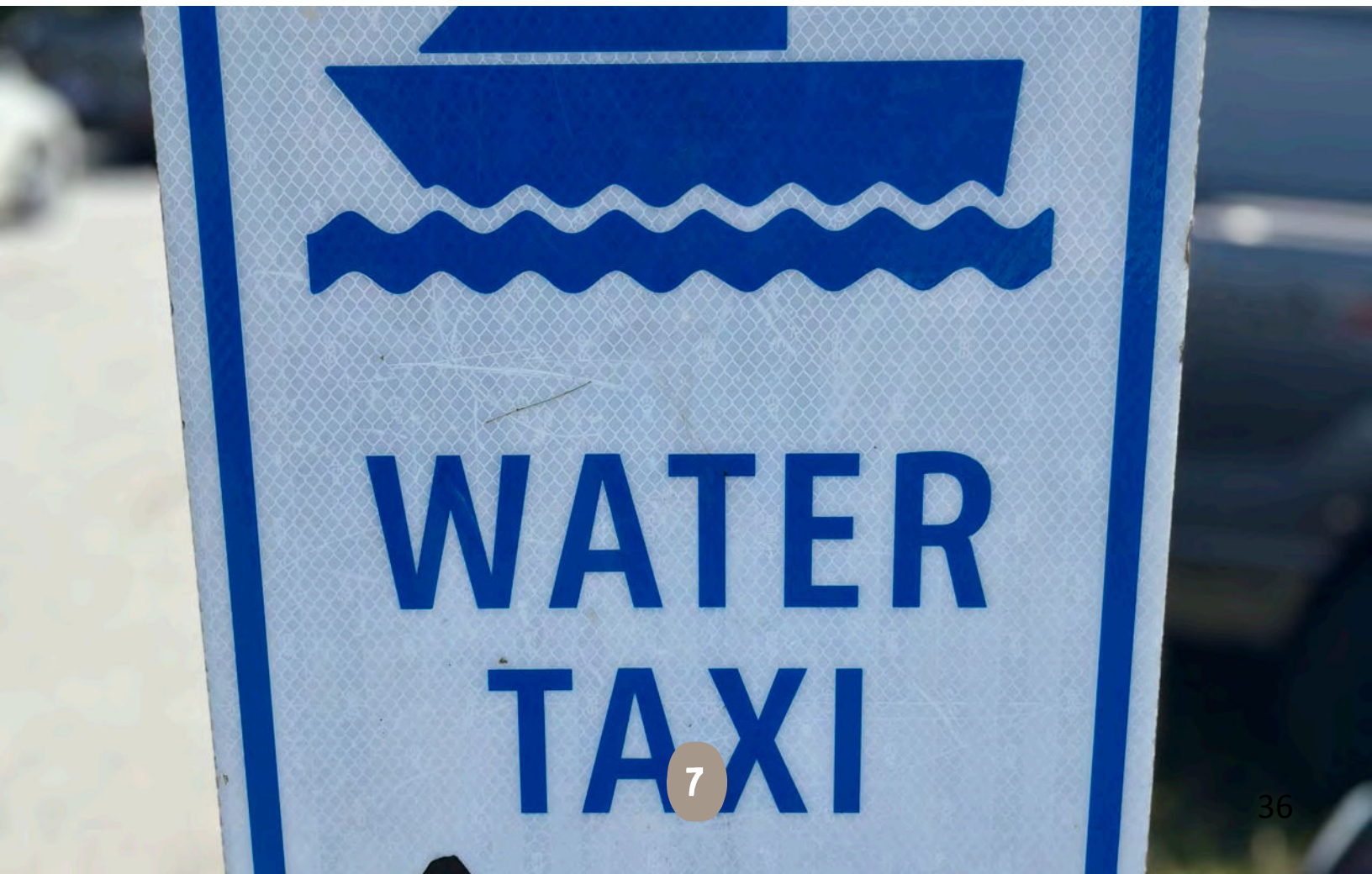


Overall goals and objectives

With increasing ferry traffic, visitor volumes, resident and Metro Vancouver population growth, there's an imperative need to implement a structured, collaborative approach to Bowen Island's tourism ecosystem. Bowen Island faces an important challenge: balancing the benefits of tourism with the protection of its small-island character, natural environment, and quality of life for residents. As growth and increasing demands impact local infrastructure and amenities, the community requires proactive tourism management and a coordinated strategy that guides responsible visitations and supports sustainability.

Bowen is well positioned and established as the doable "Gulf Island." For international visitors, Bowen is the feasible alternative to Victoria and Vancouver Island. Given the estimated modest MRDT revenues, the year-one tactical plan does not include traditional paid advertising, and subsequent years will be reviewed based on priorities and targets. The objective is to increase the value of visitors rather than simply aiming to increase the volume of visitors.

The overarching goal is to create a sustainable and resilient tourism ecosystem for the island. The following three strategic goals outline ways to guide sustainable tourism that aligns with community values, protects and preserves nature, supports jobs and the local economy, and ensures tourism contributes positively to Bowen Island, now and for future generations.



Goal 1: Destination Management and Tourism Economy

The challenges and opportunities of Bowen Island's tourism ecosystem require concerted planning and management to ensure the wellbeing of residents, environment, economy and visitors. Moreover, planning and management require community and regional stakeholder alignment, collaborations, and cross-sectoral partnerships to maximise effectiveness, implementation and successful outcomes. Vancouver, Coast and Mountains supports a collaborative, partnership-driven tourism industry "...to reduce the unintended negative impacts of tourism on the land, water, and within communities."

Tourism has been and will continue to be a key socio-economic driver on Bowen Island. By adopting community-aligned sustainability principles and practices, the goal is to increase the value and benefits of tourism, to ensure that tourism positively contributes to the wellbeing of residents and environment, as well as creating jobs and a resilient local economy.

The year-one tactical plan does not include traditional paid advertising. For the subsequent years of this strategy, any marketing and promotions will be purpose-driven and aligned with strategic goals: supporting community values; responsibly managing destination and visitors; advancing sustainability goals; and facilitating economic benefit.

Currently, Tourism Bowen Island does not have revenue to employ permanent destination management staff. This has limited the organization's ability to oversee and manage the island's tourism ecosystem, to implement programs and services, and to work effectively with stakeholders. It's hoped that once the MRDT is in place, there will be sufficient revenue to employ at least one dedicated full-time industry professional to oversee and manage the island's tourism ecosystem.

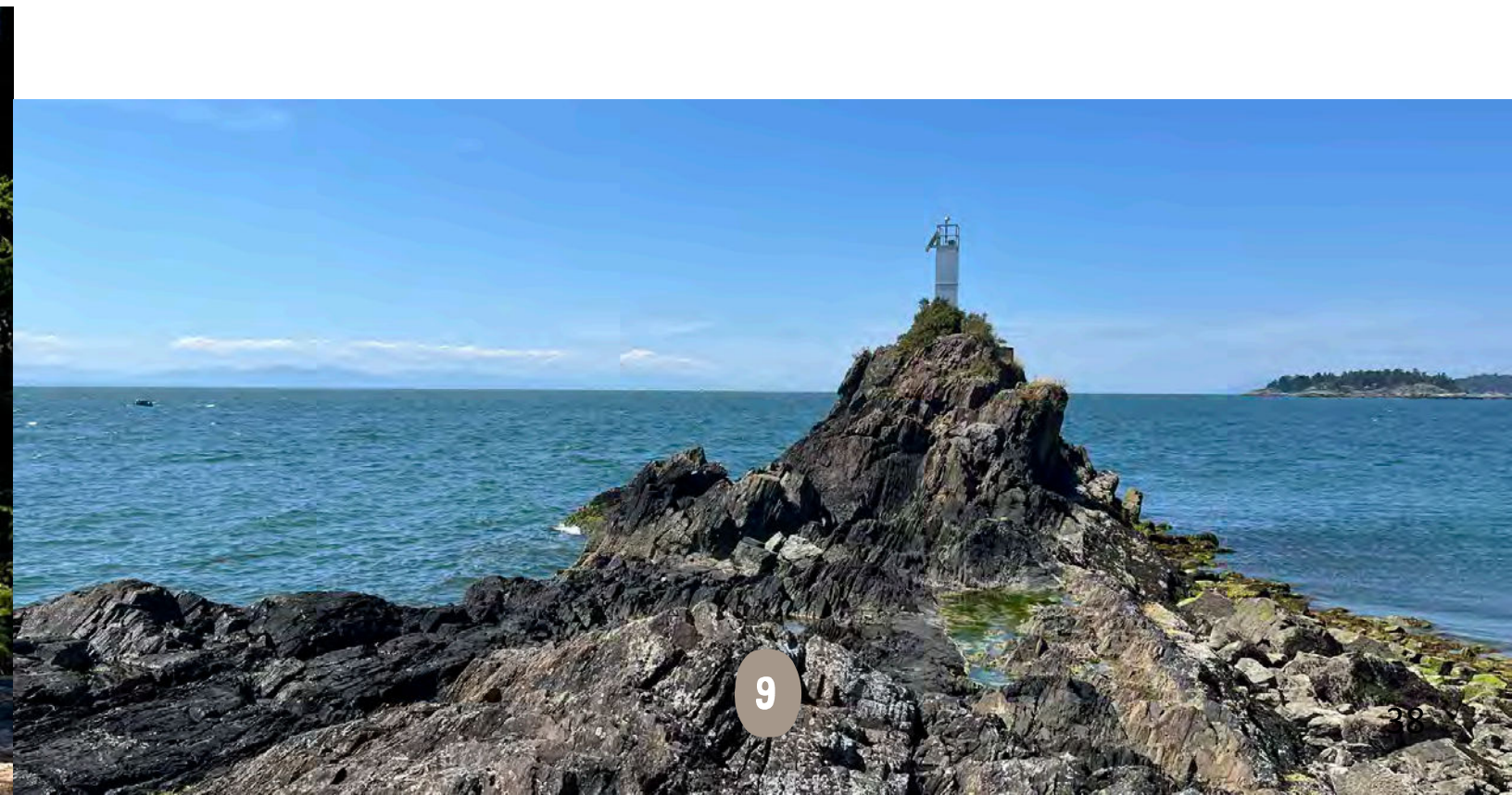


Objectives:

- Using research, data, industry best practices, and evolving tourism trends to plan and implement destination management programs and services on Bowen Island.
- Foster collaborations and partnerships to facilitate solutions and tackle larger multi-stakeholder challenges.
- Seek investment, funding, and innovative opportunities to solve issues.
- Support the development of value-added tourism experiences during the shoulder and off season to create seasonal dispersion and to foster economic resilience and jobs.
- Encourage low impact nature-based and high-value tourism, such as health & wellness, culinary, and agritourism.
- Hire a full-time employee to effectively manage Bowen's tourism ecosystem, to plan and execute programs and services

Targets:

- Establish and implement MRDT management, data tracking, and reporting in the first year.
- Increase Tourism Bowen Island staff to manage tourism, plan, and deliver programs and services. The goal is a full-time staff member by year two of MRDT.
- Conduct annual industry and resident surveys to track trends and identify issues.
- Expand regional and stakeholder partnerships and collaborations.
- Create and implement new destination management initiatives, after baseline identification year one.
- Support local businesses with sustainable tourism practices and economic resiliency, identifying opportunities in the first year.



Goal 2. Visitor Management and Visitor Services

Informed by industry knowledge, best practices and principles, tourism trends, and psychographics, visitor management and services are adapted and applied according to each community's specific goals, values, and needs. Visitor management must anticipate and identify the needs of travellers, community, and businesses, then based on this knowledge, plan and execute services accordingly. Resources are developed and services are provided to mitigate problems, foster wellbeing, and facilitate visitor value. As technologies evolve and as travel trends change, visitor services includes both digital and traditional services.

From online trip-planning to in-the-community services, it's important to connect with travellers regardless of where they are in their journey: to provide accurate, current information; to ensure safety and responsible visitations; to provide timely services; and to connect visitors to local businesses and amenities, thereby facilitating visitor experiences and increasing economic benefits. Visitor management and visitor services are frontline destination management and community economic development, the cornerstone of a sustainable tourism ecosystem.



Objectives:

- Continue, enhance and expand current visitor management and visitor services.
- Develop new visitor resources and materials to facilitate sustainable tourism.
- Maintain and enhance website, social channels , and answer visitor inquiries throughout the year.
- Create and ensure alignment with local businesses and support community economic development by connecting visitors to businesses, services, and organizations.

Targets:

- Increase visitor centre hours of operation and in-person visitor services by 10% in year one and annually thereafter based on funding and service demands.
- Improve and create new visitor resources, both digital and traditional, increasing trip-planning know-before-you-go guidance, and in-the-community resources and wayfinding.
- Update and maintain website, monitoring analytics to inform planning and services.
- Provide virtual visitor services throughout the year by answering emails and other inquiries.



Goal 3. Sustainability and Community Stewardship

Visitors come to Bowen Island for many of the same reasons people choose to live and work here: natural beauty, small-town charm, and convenient location. While residents and local businesses have a vested interest in ensuring a high-quality way of life on Bowen, visitors have a vested interest and responsibility to care for this place, too. With the acceleration and consequences of climate change, it's imperative that we all – residents, businesses, governments, and visitors – do our part to tackle the contributing factors and reduce our negative impacts.

Through partnerships and collaborative initiatives, the goal is to foster responsible tourism and a regenerative tourism ecosystem. This will ensure a long-term resilient tourism economy that positively contributes to a livable and thriving community. By adopting recognized principles and practices, such as circular economy, regenerative tourism, and the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals, Bowen Island can become a model of regenerative tourism.



Objectives:

- Transition Bowen to a regenerative tourism model.
- Adopt sustainable and regenerative policies and practices, such as the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and circular economics, so that tourism contributes to environmental protections, supports social and cultural enrichment, fosters economic and community resiliency. Explore feasibility of formal certifications.
- Work collaboratively with stakeholders, local businesses, and residents to advance sustainability and responsible tourism.

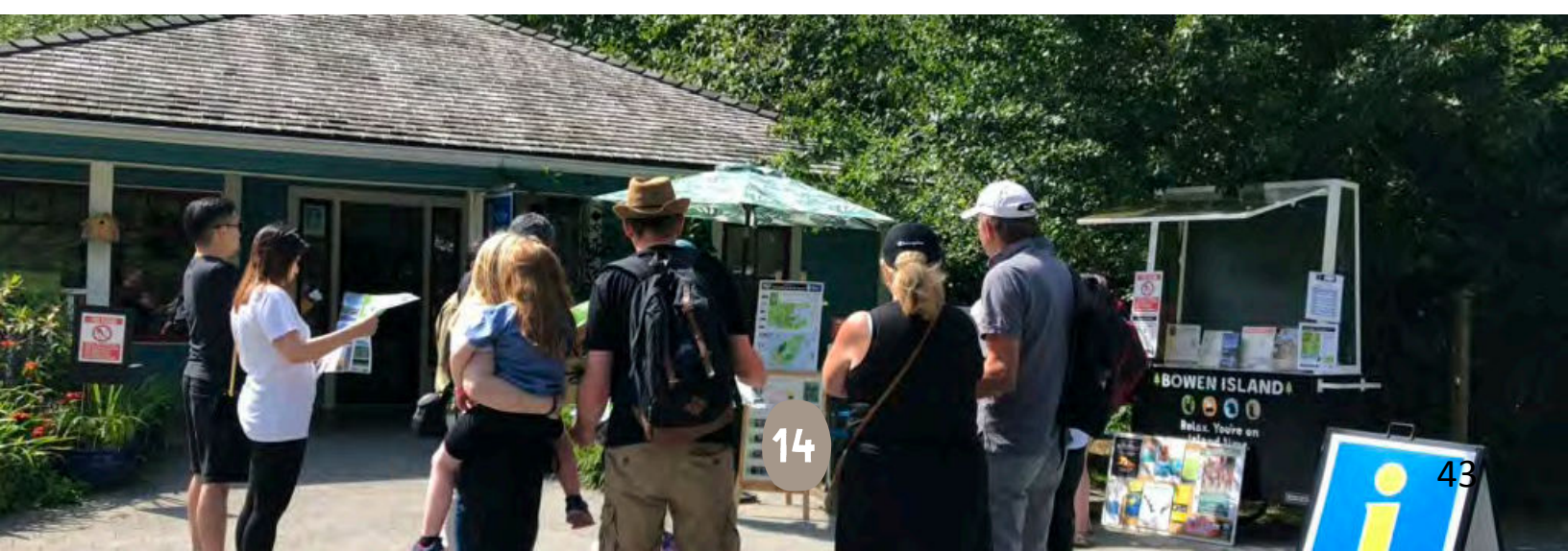
Targets:

- Formulate a sustainable and responsible tourism strategy.
- Identify new sustainable and responsible tourism initiatives in the first year, implement feasible initiatives, and measure outcomes year over year.
- Create a resident advisory committee.
- Establish partnerships with local and regional organizations to advance mutually beneficial initiatives.
- Support local businesses in adopting sustainability practices.



Strategies – Key Actions

- **Quality over quantity:** The focus is on increasing the values and benefits of tourism, rather than increasing visitor volume, per se. Growth is measured through improvements, such as reduced negative impacts and increased stewardship. The goal is to establish a responsible, sustainable tourism ecosystem that balances the needs, values and wellbeing of residents, environment, economy and visitors. Key activities might include defining a values-based, community-appropriate tourism model that resonates with preferred visitors and fosters desired behaviours. Shifting visitors to off-season experiences and seasonal dispersion to support community wellbeing, jobs and economic resiliency.
- **Comprehensive, collaborative tourism planning and destination management:** Continue research, data collection, and analysis to build on current knowledge, identify opportunities, and advance initiatives. Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with local and regional stakeholders, Squamish Nation, residents, organizations, and businesses to maximise efficiencies, minimise costs, and ensure positive outcomes. Key activities might include annual business, resident, and visitor surveys; attending industry conferences and training; creating a resident advisory committee; and aligning management practices throughout the community and with industry partners.
- **Dedicated staff:** With an estimated 200,000+ visitors annually and increasing tensions amongst residents, businesses, and visitors, it's vitally important to have professional staff overseeing, planning, and orchestrating tourism programs and services on Bowen Island. Without dedicated staff, tourism management is reactive and ad hoc rather than proactive, strategic, and effective. Key activity is to employ a full-time tourism manager to execute the programs and services outlined in this MRDT strategy.
- **Visitor management:** Enhance visitor management through informed planning and strategic alignment with stakeholders. Improve visitor resources and guidance, both digital and traditional media, capturing individuals throughout their visitor journey, from trip-planning to in-the-community. Key activities might include maintaining and creating visitor resources, amplifying



visitor guidance and communications through stakeholder collaborations, and executing proactive communication campaigns, such as via social media platforms.

- **Visitor services:** Effective visitor services encompass virtual, digital, and in-person services. Bowen Island's concentrated Snug Cove area and ferry terminal lends itself to effective and well-utilized in-person services provided through the visitor centre. Staff are trained in visitor management best practices and provide valuable frontline services that facilitate both responsible visits and increase economic value by connecting visitors to local businesses and amenities. Equally important is maintaining an updated website, social media channels, and responding virtually to trip-planning inquiries. Key activities include providing virtual visitor services throughout the year, increasing in-person visitor centre operational hours

- **Community economic development:** Tourism has a long history on Bowen and is recognized as a key socio-economic driver, employing many residents and providing community services and amenities. Connecting visitors to businesses, services, and amenities is an integral objective and ensures tourism positively contributes to the island's economy. Partnering with businesses to advance responsible tourism and sustainable economic goals is equally important and impactful. Key activities might include enhancing partnerships with local businesses to ensure alignment, tackle issues, and advance collaborative solutions; share visitor resources and amplify communications; develop cooperative initiatives to support a resilient tourism ecosystem and job resiliency; facilitate low-impact and high-value tourism experiences.

- **Sustainability and regenerative practices:** The island's rich natural ecosystems and semi-rural lifestyle are cherished by both residents and visitors. Low impact and nature-based activities, as well as health and wellness, are top motivators for visitors. By developing strategic initiatives and partnerships, Bowen's tourism industry can foster sustainability that benefits the broader community. With proper guidance, visitors can be more responsible and better stewards. Key initiatives might include, adopting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals; facilitating circular economy principles and practices; working collaboratively with local and regional organizations to advance climate and environmental initiatives; incorporating regenerative principles and developing opportunities for visitors to give back.



Target markets

An ideal visitor to Bowen Island is mature, respectful, and responsible. Satisfied with fewer amenities and content with a simpler, semi-rural lifestyle. The ideal visitor is seeking cultural and eco-conscious experiences and, also, values unstructured time and space to slow down and just be for a while. The ideal visitor supports local businesses and the community. But does not need to be entertained, so to speak, and is not motivated by a checklist of must-do or Instagram-able moments. For a short time, the ideal visitor lives like a local and cares like a local, leaving a positive contribution to the community.

The Canadian Tourism Data Collective's new Highly Engaged Guests Explorer Quotient (EQ), is a psychographic segmentation tool, that combines demographics with the values and purposes that motivate travellers. Based on this tool, Bowen Island is primarily aligned with the values and motivations of Simplicity Lovers, Outdoor Explorers, and Purpose-Driven Families.

Based on 2024 visitor centre statistical estimates, Metro Vancouver and BC residents represent the largest visitor segment to Bowen Island, an estimated 80%. Given the island's proximity to major transportation hubs, Bowen also receives national and international visitors from across the globe.

Top trip motivators to Bowen Island

- visiting friends and family.
- exploring and seeking new experiences.
- connecting with nature.
- rest, relaxation, wellness, retreats.
- recreational pursuits, such as hiking, walking, running, cycling, swimming, boating, kayaking, fishing.
- cultural pursuits, such as food & beverage, shopping, events & festivals, classes.



Section 2: One year tactical plan with performance measures

1) Destination Management and Tourism Economy

With an estimated 200,000+ visitors annually, projected growth, and increasing pressures on infrastructure and community, it's imperative to address current challenges and implement a structured, collaborative approach to Bowen Island's tourism ecosystem. The community requires proactive destination management and a coordinated strategy that facilitates responsible visitations, mitigates negative impacts, fosters the wellbeing of community and environment, and supports jobs and a sustainable tourism economy. The objective in this first year is to establish MRDT requirements and, proportional to MRDT funds, conduct research, planning, and develop partnerships to implement destination management initiatives.

Tactics

MRDT Management & Staff	TBI staff will establish and fulfil MRDT requirements, measurements, and reporting.
Research, planning, and Initiatives	Informed by recent research and experience with current context, staff will identify destination management initiatives and, if possible, implement feasible initiatives. TBI staff will continue research and, if funds enable, conduct annual surveys and other data collection, attend relevant training and conferences.
Partnerships & Collaborations	TBI staff will identify and cultivate stakeholder opportunities, partnerships and initiatives to advance destination management, foster sustainability, and support tourism businesses and jobs.

Implementation Plan

Description	While MRDT revenue is limited, partial funds will be used to increase staff hours for destination planning and management. Staff will work on establishing the MRDT program requirements, conducting research, and developing stakeholder partnerships and initiatives to improve destination management, oversee and support Bowen Island's tourism ecosystem.
Quantifiable Objective	Based on Bowen Island's current context, many destination management challenges and issues have been identified. MRDT funds will enable staff to dedicate time and effort to planning, prioritizing and, where possible, implementing feasible initiatives.
Rational	MRDT revenue will provide much-needed core funding that will increase staff hours. Bowen Island's current context and growth projections necessitate proactive planning, stakeholder collaborations, and destination management initiatives to address issues and balance the needs, values and wellbeing of residents, environment, economy, and visitors.
Action Steps	• Work collaboratively with Bowen Island Municipality to execute the MRDT program. • Work one-on-one with local businesses to identify issues, strategize solutions, and facilitate opportunities to support sustainability, jobs, and increase the value of tourism. • Develop an annual destination management strategy, identifying and prioritizing initiatives. • Conduct and analyse visitor, resident, and business surveys. • Attend relevant industry training and conferences. • Cultivate stakeholder partnerships, particularly regional collaborations.
Potential Partnerships	Bowen Island businesses and organizations, Bowen Island Municipality, Metro Vancouver, BC Ferries, Sea-to-Sky Destination Management Council, Átl'ka7sem / Howe Sound UNESCO Biosphere, Squamish Nation, Island's Trust, Rural Island's Economic Partnership, regional destination management organizations.
Resources	Tourism Bowen Island Association board of directors, Destination BC, Vancouver, Coast, and Mountains, community organizations.
Sources of Funding	MRDT
Timeframe	Ongoing.
Budget	\$16,500
Performance Measures	• Successful establishment of MRDT program requirements and measurements. Completion of annual MRDT reports and tactical plans. • Number of hours invested in research and planning. • Number of stakeholder meetings, discussions, and engagements. • Number of destination management and tourism economy initiatives identified and actioned. • Development of annual destination management plan. • Execution and analysis of annual business, visitor, and resident surveys

2) Visitor Management and Visitor Services

The objective in the first year is to incrementally enhance and expand current visitor management and visitor services. Bowen's seasonal Visitor Information Centre and in-person visitor services are well utilized and highly effective at directing visitors, guiding responsible visits, problem solving, and facilitating economic value. TBI's website is the go-to resource for visitors and provides valuable trip-planning guidance and resources. It's essential to continually update information, resources, and provide virtual visitor services throughout the year.

Tactics

Visitor Centre	Increase visitor centre hours of operation and in-person visitor services. Estimated increase first year is 10%, based on MRDT estimates.
Visitor Resources	Update and create new visitor resources, both digital and traditional, the from trip-planning to community resources and wayfinding.
Website	Maintain website and update with current information and resources. Monitor analytics to inform planning.
Virtual Services	Provide virtual visitor services throughout the year by answering emails and other inquiries.



Implementation Plan

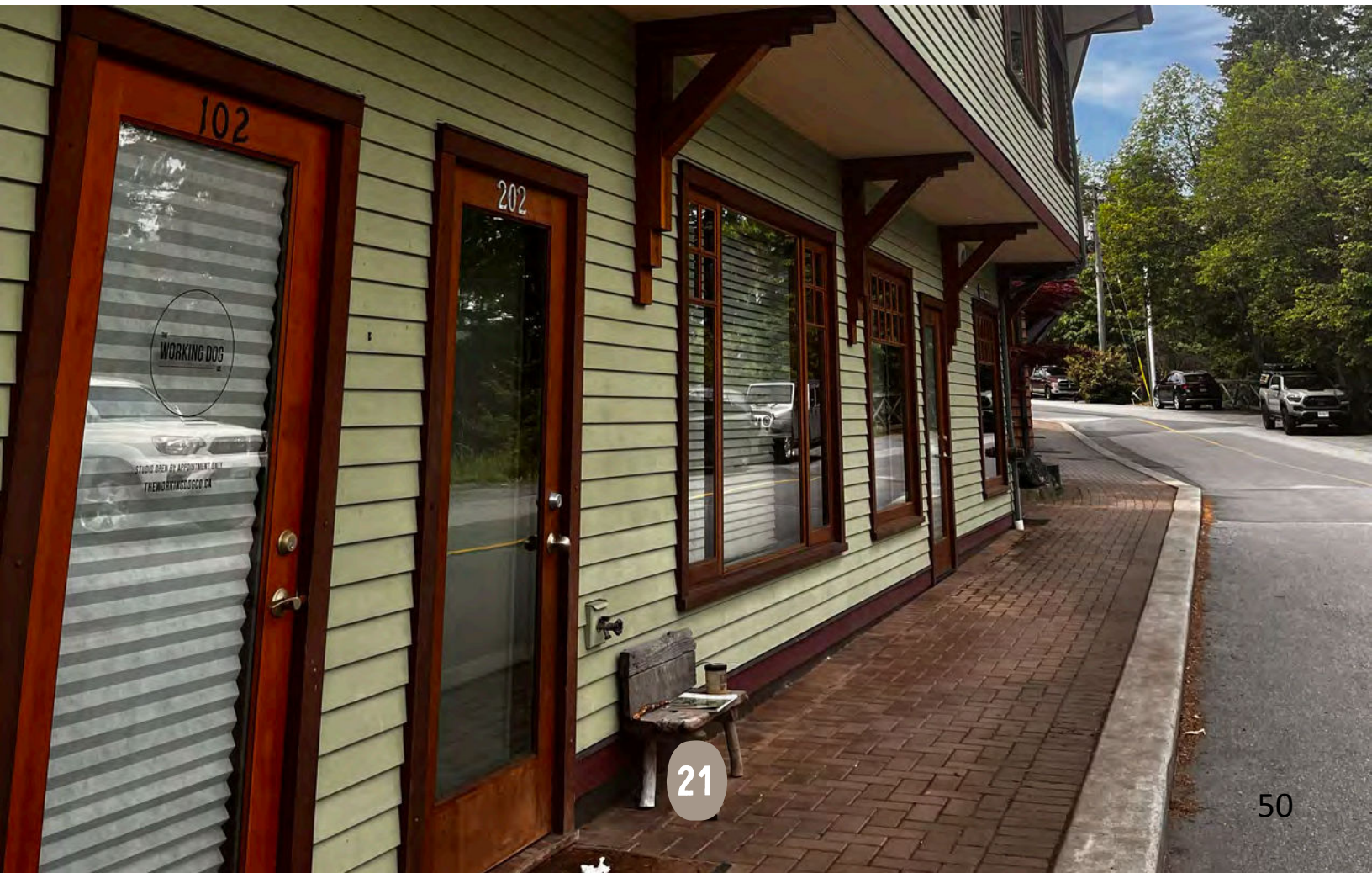
Description	Visitor management and visitor services are well utilized and highly effective on Bowen Island. Throughout the year, both virtually and in-person, visitors require guidance and seek assistance. Facilitating responsible visits involves a suite of best practices, principles, planning, resources and services.
Quantifiable Objective	Increasing in-person and virtual visitor services and resources will capture more visitors, provide accurate, timely information, and guide responsible visitations, thereby helping to mitigate problems and fostering sustainable community tourism.
Rational	With increasing visitor demand and impacts in the community, visitor management and visitor services are integral to fostering responsible visits, supporting the wellbeing of the community and environment, and facilitating a sustainable tourism economy. It's equally important to provide visitor services and resources in both virtual and traditional formats throughout the year and via various channels, including social media.
Action Steps	• Plan visitor management, including adopting new practices, pursuing collaborations, seeking opportunities to amplify efforts and communications. • Hire and train Visitor Information Centre staff and manage operations. Collect statistics and metrics. • Design and create new visitor resources and guides to proactively manage visitors and support responsible visits. • Maintain website as the go-to resource for visitors, updating materials and information, tracking analytics. • Work collaboratively with local businesses and other stakeholders to align visitor management practices and information. • Maintain virtual visitor services throughout the year, thereby assisting more individuals.
Potential Partnerships	Bowen Island businesses and organizations, Bowen Island Municipality, Metro Vancouver, BC Ferries, Sea-to-Sky Destination Management Council, Átl'ka7tsem / Howe Sound UNESCO Biosphere, Island's Trust, Rural Island's Economic Partnership.
Resources	Destination BC, industry partners, non-profit organizations, national and international best practices and trends.
Sources of Funding	• Destination BC visitor services agreement. • Bowen Island Municipality fee-for-service agreement. • Canada Summer Jobs.
Timeframe	Ongoing
Budget	\$68,500
Performance Measures	• Number of hours visitor services, in-person and virtual services. • Number of visitors assisted in-person and virtually. • Number of new visitor resources created and disseminated. • Hours spent updating and maintaining website. • Website and social media analytics.

3) Sustainability and Community Stewardship

As one of the island's key socio-economic drivers, the tourism industry can play an important role in creating a sustainable economy and leading community and environmental stewardship. By adopting established models, such as the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals, circular economics, and regenerative tourism, Bowen's tourism sector can help address current challenges and develop stakeholder partnerships to tackle larger, complex issues. The objective of this first year is to cultivate partnerships, outline a sustainability and regenerative tourism strategy, and identify feasible initiatives.

Tactics

Planning & Initiatives	Formulate a sustainable and responsible tourism strategy. Adopt principles and establish targets. Identifying initiatives to implement over the next five years and, if possible, implement actionable initiatives in the first year.
Partnerships & Collaborations	Engage with and consult stakeholders. Create a resident advisory committee. Identify collaborative initiatives.



Implementation Plan

Description	Bowen's tourism sector has a responsibility to operate sustainably, both locally and in alignment with broader climate targets and actions. The current and long-term wellbeing of residents, environment, and the island's tourism economy necessitate responsible management and progressive practices. Regenerative tourism, as well as other sustainability practices, can advance community stewardship and foster a balanced, resilient economy.
Quantifiable Objective	To create a collaborative sustainable tourism framework, based on proven practices and climate targets, to address current challenges and identify long-term sustainability goals.
Rational	Adopting and actioning sustainability practices is integral to addressing Bowen Island's current challenges and creating a more livable and prosperous future.
Action Steps	• Engage with stakeholders and establish local and regional partnerships to advance sustainability and responsible tourism. • Create a resident advisory committee. • Identify sustainability, climate, and responsible tourism targets and initiatives. • Formulate a community sustainability and responsible tourism strategy and, if possible, advance feasible initiatives in first year.
Potential Partnerships	Bowen Island businesses and organizations, Bowen Island Municipality, Metro Vancouver, BC Ferries, Sea-to-Sky Destination Management Council, Átl'ka7tsem / Howe Sound UNESCO Biosphere, Squamish Nation, Island's Trust, Rural Island's Economic Partnership, regional destination management organizations.
Resources	Destination Canada, Destination BC, national and global nonprofit organizations, tourism research, United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, regional destination management organizations.
Sources of Funding	MRDT
Timeframe	Ongoing.
Budget	\$7,500
Performance Measures	• Number of stakeholder engagements. • Creation of resident advisory committee and number of meetings. • Number of sustainability initiatives identified, prioritized, and implement. • Development of sustainability and responsible tourism strategy.



BOWEN ISLAND Municipality



580 Bowen Island Trunk Road, Bowen Island



604-947-4255



www.bowenislandmunicipality.ca

QUEEN OF CAPILANO



Islands Trust

REQUEST FOR DECISION

LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE BYLAW SUBMISSION

File No.: GM BL 162

3900-03: Public Notification
Bylaw

DATE OF MEETING: March 25, 2026
TO: Islands Trust Executive Committee
FROM: Nadine Mourao, Legislative Clerk
SUBJECT: Gambier Island Local Trust Committee - Proposed Bylaw No. 162 – Public Notification Bylaw

RECOMMENDATION

1. **THAT the Islands Trust Executive Committee approve Gambier Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 162, cited as "Gambier Island Local Trust Committee Public Notification Bylaw No. 162, 2026" in accordance with Section 27 of the *Islands Trust Act*.**

DIRECTORS COMMENTS

Gambier Island Local Trust Committee referred Bylaw No. 162 to the Executive Committee for approval under Section 27 of the *Islands Trust Act*. Staff recommends that the Executive Committee approve the bylaw as it is not contrary to or at variance to the Islands Trust Policy Statement.

IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

Organizational:

In addition to the default requirement of newspaper advertising, local trust committees are already posting notices on our website and email notification service. Adoption by local trust committees of a bylaw similar to the model would simplify our administrative processes and reduce costs.

Financial:

Adoption by local trust committees of a Public Notice Bylaw similar to the model will result in a reduction in costs generally as it will remove the need to advertise in print newspapers.

Policy:

There are no policy implications. Trust Council policy deems that Administrative bylaws are consistent with the Islands Trust Policy Statement.

Implementation and Communications:

Staff post the new bylaw on the Islands Trust website, and staff would be made aware of the new public notification process.

First Nations:

There are no First Nations relations implications.

Other:

There are no other implications.

PURPOSE

The purpose of bylaw is to provide the local trust committees with a draft bylaw for Public Notification that is based on the model approved by Trust Council.

BACKGROUND

The Community Charter establishes the requirements for publishing public notice where public notices are required by the *Local Government Act*. The Community Charter includes a default requirement, and an option to adopt an alternative means by bylaw.

The default public notification is by publication in two editions of a newspaper once each week for two consecutive weeks, unless another provision for a specific type of notice states otherwise. The newspaper has to circulate local area.

Section 94.2 of the *Community Charter* gives local governments, including local trust committees, the authority to adopt public notice bylaws. If a local trust committee adopts a Public Notice Bylaw, the local trust committee is required to publish notices by all the methods specified in that bylaw. Local trust committees that do not adopt a Public Notice Bylaw are required to continue to follow the default publication rules under Section 94.1 of the *Community Charter*.

When adopting a Public Notice Bylaw, the local trust committees are required to consider the principles of effective public notice (reliable, suitable, and accessible) described by the [Public Notice Regulation](#).

Principles of Effective Public Notice

The Public Notice Regulation establishes the principles that must be considered before a public notice bylaw is adopted; these are:

- Reliable – the publication methods are dependable and trustworthy;
- Suitable – the publication methods work for the purpose for which the public notice is intended; and
- Accessible – the publication methods are easy to access and have broad reach.

In considering the adoption of a Public Notice Bylaw, local trust committees must consider and record, either by a resolution recorded in the minutes, or by preamble whereas clauses in the bylaw, that these principles have been considered.

Considering the three principles (reliable, suitable and accessible) possible methods to publish public notices that are available to local trust committees include:

- Online or print newspaper;
- Islands Trust website;
- Community website or newsletter;
- Islands Trust social media page, such as Facebook; and
- Direct email or mail out.

Each of the above meet the principles set out in the Public Notice Regulation. On-line print newspaper still has the problem of being published infrequently, or not circulated through the entire local trust area. Use of a community website or newsletter is outside the control of Islands Trust and each could be shut-down or modified without Islands Trust input; this could compromise the accessibility and reliability

principles. Direct mail or a mail-out would reach all owners and residents; however, it could be expensive and time consuming to undertake.

The two best options with the lowest costs and that meet the principles outlined in the Public Notice Regulation are publishing on the Islands Trust website and publishing on an Islands Trust social media page. These are recommended, however, Trust Council recognizes that there may be other conditions on the islands that may warrant a different method.

At its June 2025 meeting, Trust Council adopted Policy 4.1.16 Model Public Notice Bylaw. This contains the format for such a bylaw and recommends the use of the Islands Trust website and a social media account to post the notices. As these are recommendations, and each local trust committee must consider the reliability, suitability and accessibility of the form of notice for their islands, variation on the recommendation may be considered.

Proposed Bylaw No. 162 now requires Executive Committee approval prior to adoption.

RELEVANT POLICY(S):

- [Section 94 and Section 94.2 of the Community Charter](#)
- [Community Charter Public Notice Regulation](#)
- [Trust Council Policy 4.1.16 Model Public Notice Bylaw](#)

ALTERNATIVE

1. Determine that the bylaw is inconsistent with the Islands Trust Policy Statement:

THAT the Executive Committee request that staff advise Gambier Island Local Trust Committee in writing that the Executive Committee considers that Gambier Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 162, cited as "Gambier Island Local Trust Committee Public Notification Bylaw No. 162, 2026" is inconsistent or at variance with the Islands Trust Policy Statement for [INSERT REASONS], and advise the Gambier Island Local Trust Committee on steps needed to address the specified issues.

Submitted By:	Nadine Mourao, Legislative Clerk	March 17, 2026
Concurrence:	Stefan Cermak, Director Local Planning Services	Select Date.

ATTACHMENTS

1. EC Submission Cover
2. EC General Checklist
3. Proposed Gambier Island LTC Bylaw No. 162



ATTACHMENT 1

Local Trust Committee Bylaws Submission for Executive committee Approval

Local Trust Committee: Gambier Island Local Trust Committee

Bylaw No.: GM-162

Bylaw Type: Administration Bylaw

Date of resolution referring bylaw to Executive Committee: 27-Jan-2026

- ☒ Bylaw Submission Checklist attached
- ☐ Policy Statement Checklist attached*
* not required for administrative bylaws
- ☒ Summary of Bylaw Intent Attached

Received by Islands Trust Secretary:

Signature: _____
Secretary

Date: _____

Deadline for Executive Committee decision (one month after receipt by Secretary as determined pursuant to the Interpretation Act*): _____

Date bylaw will appear on Executive Committee agenda: _____

- *a month means "a period calculated from a day in one month to a day numerically corresponding to that day in the following month, less one day"*
- *In the calculation of time expressed as clear days, weeks, months or years, or as "at least" or "not less than" a number of days, weeks, months, or years, the first and last*

Distribution: Executive Committee

Director, LPS

Local Trust Committee

Planner

Planning Clerk

Executive Committee

Policy Checklist

Checklist Key:

Consistent	The bylaw is consistent with the Islands Trust Policy Manual Chapter 2, Section 4, Subsection iv
Contrary	The bylaw is inconsistent (contrary or at variance) with the Islands Trust Policy Manual Chapter 2, Section 4, Subsection iv
Not-Applicable	The policy is not applicable with the Islands Trust Policy Manual Chapter 2, Section 4, Subsection iv .

Executive Committee Legislative Role Policy (2.4)

Consistent	i	Bylaw is consistent with the object of the Trust
Consistent	ii	Bylaw is not contrary to or at variance to the Islands Trust Policy Statement
Consistent	iii	Bylaw does not expose the Islands Trust to unreasonable expense in the administration or enforcement of the bylaw
Consistent	iv	Bylaw is not enacted without legal authority, including inconsistency with the relevant OCP (based on legal advice)

Checklist Key:

Requires Resources	Staff resources required to assist with administration.
No Resources Required	No staff resources required.

The Bylaw has been Examined Against Best Management Practices for Delivery of Local Planning Services as found in Section 5.9 of the Islands Trust Policy Manual

No Resources Required	B.5	Bylaw is consistent with the object of the Trust
No Resources Required	B10	Bylaw is not contrary to or at variance to the Islands Trust Policy Statement

Comments

Completed By: Nadine Mourao

Status

Date Resolution Referred to Exective Committee: 27-Jan-2026

Reading: 27-Jan-2026

Third Reading

**GAMBIER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE
PUBLIC NOTIFICATION BYLAW
BYLAW NO. 162**

PROPOSED

Chairperson

Secretary



Islands Trust

REQUEST FOR DECISION

LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE BYLAW SUBMISSION

File No.: HO BL 180

3900-03: Public Notification
Bylaw

DATE OF MEETING: March 25, 2026
TO: Islands Trust Executive Committee
FROM: Nadine Mourao, Legislative Clerk
SUBJECT: Hornby Island Local Trust Committee - Proposed Bylaw No. 180 – Public Notification Bylaw

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. THAT the Islands Trust Executive Committee approve Hornby Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 180, cited as "Hornby Island Local Trust Committee Public Notification Bylaw No. 180, 2026" in accordance with Section 27 of the *Islands Trust Act*.**

DIRECTORS COMMENTS

Hornby Island Local Trust Committee referred Bylaw No. 180 to the Executive Committee for approval under Section 27 of the *Islands Trust Act*. Staff recommends that the Executive Committee approve the bylaw as it is not contrary to or at variance to the Islands Trust Policy Statement.

IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

Organizational:

In addition to the default requirement of newspaper advertising, local trust committees are already posting notices on our website and email notification service. Adoption by local trust committees of a bylaw similar to the model would simplify our administrative processes and reduce costs.

Financial:

Adoption by local trust committees of a Public Notice Bylaw similar to the model will result in a reduction in costs generally as it will remove the need to advertise in print newspapers.

Policy:

There are no policy implications. Trust Council policy deems that Administrative bylaws are consistent with the Islands Trust Policy Statement.

Implementation and Communications:

Staff post the new bylaw on the Islands Trust website, and staff would be made aware of the new public notification process.

First Nations:

There are no First Nations relations implications.

Other:

There are no other implications.

PURPOSE

The purpose of bylaw is to provide the local trust committees with a draft bylaw for Public Notification that is based on the model approved by Trust Council.

BACKGROUND

The Community Charter establishes the requirements for publishing public notice where public notices are required by the *Local Government Act*. The Community Charter includes a default requirement, and an option to adopt an alternative means by bylaw.

The default public notification is by publication in two editions of a newspaper once each week for two consecutive weeks, unless another provision for a specific type of notice states otherwise. The newspaper has to circulate local area.

Section 94.2 of the *Community Charter* gives local governments, including local trust committees, the authority to adopt public notice bylaws. If a local trust committee adopts a Public Notice Bylaw, the local trust committee is required to publish notices by all the methods specified in that bylaw. Local trust committees that do not adopt a Public Notice Bylaw are required to continue to follow the default publication rules under Section 94.1 of the *Community Charter*.

When adopting a Public Notice Bylaw, the local trust committees are required to consider the principles of effective public notice (reliable, suitable, and accessible) described by the [Public Notice Regulation](#).

Principles of Effective Public Notice

The Public Notice Regulation establishes the principles that must be considered before a public notice bylaw is adopted; these are:

- Reliable – the publication methods are dependable and trustworthy;
- Suitable – the publication methods work for the purpose for which the public notice is intended; and
- Accessible – the publication methods are easy to access and have broad reach.

In considering the adoption of a Public Notice Bylaw, local trust committees must consider and record, either by a resolution recorded in the minutes, or by preamble whereas clauses in the bylaw, that these principles have been considered.

Considering the three principles (reliable, suitable and accessible) possible methods to publish public notices that are available to local trust committees include:

- Online or print newspaper;
- Islands Trust website;
- Community website or newsletter;
- Islands Trust social media page, such as Facebook; and
- Direct email or mail out.

Each of the above meet the principles set out in the Public Notice Regulation. On-line print newspaper still has the problem of being published infrequently, or not circulated through the entire local trust area. Use of a community website or newsletter is outside the control of Islands Trust and each could be shut-down or modified without Islands Trust input; this could compromise the accessibility and reliability

principles. Direct mail or a mail-out would reach all owners and residents; however, it could be expensive and time consuming to undertake.

The two best options with the lowest costs and that meet the principles outlined in the Public Notice Regulation are publishing on the Islands Trust website and publishing on an Islands Trust social media page. These are recommended, however, Trust Council recognizes that there may be other conditions on the islands that may warrant a different method.

At its June 2025 meeting, Trust Council adopted Policy 4.1.16 Model Public Notice Bylaw. This contains the format for such a bylaw and recommends the use of the Islands Trust website and a social media account to post the notices. As these are recommendations, and each local trust committee must consider the reliability, suitability and accessibility of the form of notice for their islands, variation on the recommendation may be considered.

Proposed Bylaw No. 180 now requires Executive Committee approval prior to adoption.

RELEVANT POLICY(S):

- [Section 94 and Section 94.2 of the Community Charter](#)
- [Community Charter Public Notice Regulation](#)
- [Trust Council Policy 4.1.16 Model Public Notice Bylaw](#)

ALTERNATIVE

1. Determine that the bylaw is inconsistent with the Islands Trust Policy Statement:

THAT the Executive Committee request that staff advise Hornby Island Local Trust Committee in writing that the Executive Committee considers that Hornby Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 180, cited as "Hornby Island Local Trust Committee Public Notification Bylaw No. 180, 2026" is inconsistent or at variance with the Islands Trust Policy Statement for [INSERT REASONS], and advise the Hornby Island Local Trust Committee on steps needed to address the specified issues.

Submitted By:	Nadine Mourao, Legislative Clerk	March 17, 2026
Concurrence:	Stefan Cermak, Director Local Planning Services	Select Date.

ATTACHMENTS

1. EC Submission Cover
2. EC General Checklist
3. Proposed Hornby Island LTC Bylaw No. 180



ATTACHMENT 1

Local Trust Committee Bylaws Submission for Executive committee Approval

Local Trust Committee: Hornby Island Local Trust Committee

Bylaw No.: HO-180

Bylaw Type: Administration Bylaw

Date of resolution referring bylaw to Executive Committee: 23-Jan-2026

- ☒ Bylaw Submission Checklist attached
- ☐ Policy Statement Checklist attached*
* not required for administrative bylaws
- ☒ Summary of Bylaw Intent Attached

Received by Islands Trust Secretary:

Signature: _____
Secretary

Date: _____

Deadline for Executive Committee decision (one month after receipt by Secretary as determined pursuant to the Interpretation Act*): _____

Date bylaw will appear on Executive Committee agenda: _____

- *a month means "a period calculated from a day in one month to a day numerically corresponding to that day in the following month, less one day"*
- *In the calculation of time expressed as clear days, weeks, months or years, or as "at least" or "not less than" a number of days, weeks, months, or years, the first and last*

Distribution: Executive Committee

Director, LPS

Local Trust Committee

Planner

Planning Clerk

Executive Committee

Policy Checklist

Checklist Key:

Consistent	The bylaw is consistent with the Islands Trust Policy Manual Chapter 2, Section 4, Subsection iv
Contrary	The bylaw is inconsistent (contrary or at variance) with the Islands Trust Policy Manual Chapter 2, Section 4, Subsection iv
Not-Applicable	The policy is not applicable with the Islands Trust Policy Manual Chapter 2, Section 4, Subsection iv .

Executive Committee Legislative Role Policy (2.4)

Consistent	i	Bylaw is consistent with the object of the Trust
Consistent	ii	Bylaw is not contrary to or at variance to the Islands Trust Policy Statement
Consistent	iii	Bylaw does not expose the Islands Trust to unreasonable expense in the administration or enforcement of the bylaw
Consistent	iv	Bylaw is not enacted without legal authority, including inconsistency with the relevant OCP (based on legal advice)

Checklist Key:

Requires Resources	Staff resources required to assist with administration.
No Resources Required	No staff resources required.

The Bylaw has been Examined Against Best Management Practices for Delivery of Local Planning Services as found in Section 5.9 of the Islands Trust Policy Manual

No Resources Required	B.5	Bylaw is consistent with the object of the Trust
No Resources Required	B10	Bylaw is not contrary to or at variance to the Islands Trust Policy Statement

Comments

Completed By: Nadine Mourao

Status

Date Resolution Referred to Exective Committee: 23-Jan-2026

Reading: 23-Jan-2026

Third Reading

**HORNBY ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE
PUBLIC NOTIFICATION BYLAW
BYLAW NO. 180**

PROPOSED

Chairperson

Secretary



REQUEST FOR DECISION

LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE BYLAW SUBMISSION

File No.: SP-BL-131

3900-03: Public Notification Bylaw

DATE OF MEETING: March 25, 2026
 TO: Islands Trust Executive Committee
 FROM: Jas Chonk, Legislative Clerk
 SUBJECT: South Pender Island Local Trust Committee - Proposed Bylaw No. 131 – Public Notification Bylaw

RECOMMENDATION

1. ***THAT the Executive Committee not approve South Pender Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 131, cited as "South Pender Island Local Trust Committee Public Notification Bylaw No. 131, 2025" due to unacceptable risk, costs, and vagueness.***
2. ***THAT the Executive Committee recommends South Pender Island Local Trust Committee amend Bylaw No. 131, cited as "South Pender Island Local Trust Committee Public Notification Bylaw No. 131, 2025" by:***
 - a. ***Limiting minimum public notification methods to two***
 - b. ***Removing "direct mailout"***
 - c. ***Removing vague reference to "direct email", or***
 - d. ***Replacing "direct email" with "South Pender public notice email subscriber list"***

DIRECTORS COMMENTS

South Pender Island Local Trust Committee referred Bylaw No. 131 to the Executive Committee for approval under Section 27 of the *Islands Trust Act*. Staff recommends that the Executive Committee advise the South Pender Island Local Trust Committee to amend the South Pender Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 131 to require only two methods as prescribed by the legislation as by having three methods listed when only two is required under the legislation creates unacceptable risk, and the use of the term "direct email" is vague.

IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

Organizational:

In addition to the default requirement of newspaper advertising, local trust committees are already posting notices on our website and email notification service. Adoption by local trust committees of a bylaw similar to the model would simplify our administrative processes and reduce costs.

Financial:

Adoption by local trust committees of a Public Notice Bylaw similar to the model will result in a reduction in costs generally as it will remove the need to advertise in print newspapers.

Policy:

There are no policy implications. Trust Council policy deems that Administrative bylaws are consistent with the Islands Trust Policy Statement.

Implementation and Communications:

Staff post the new bylaw, when adopted, on the Islands Trust website, and staff would be made aware of the new public notification process.

First Nations:

There are no First Nations relations implications.

Other:

There are no other implications.

PURPOSE

The purpose of bylaw is to provide the local trust committees with a draft bylaw for Public Notification that is based on the model approved by Trust Council.

BACKGROUND

The Community Charter establishes the requirements for publishing public notice where public notices are required by the *Local Government Act*. The Community Charter includes a default requirement, and an option to adopt an alternative means by bylaw.

The default public notification is by publication in two editions of a newspaper once each week for two consecutive weeks, unless another provision for a specific type of notice states otherwise. The newspaper has to circulate local area.

Section 94.2 of the *Community Charter* gives local governments, including local trust committees, the authority to adopt public notice bylaws. If a local trust committee adopts a Public Notice Bylaw, the local trust committee is required to publish notices by all the methods specified in that bylaw. Local trust committees that do not adopt a Public Notice Bylaw are required to continue to follow the default publication rules under Section 94.1 of the *Community Charter*.

When adopting a Public Notice Bylaw, the local trust committees are required to consider the principles of effective public notice (reliable, suitable, and accessible) described by the [Public Notice Regulation](#).

Principles of Effective Public Notice

The Public Notice Regulation establishes the principles that must be considered before a public notice bylaw is adopted; these are:

- Reliable – the publication methods are dependable and trustworthy;
- Suitable – the publication methods work for the purpose for which the public notice is intended; and
- Accessible – the publication methods are easy to access and have broad reach.

In considering the adoption of a Public Notice Bylaw, local trust committees must consider and record, either by a resolution recorded in the minutes, or by preamble whereas clauses in the bylaw, that these principles have been considered.

Considering the three principles (reliable, suitable and accessible) possible methods to publish public notices that are available to local trust committees include:

- Online or print newspaper;

- Islands Trust website;
- Community website or newsletter;
- Islands Trust social media page, such as Facebook; and
- Direct email or mail out.

Each of the above meet the principles set out in the Public Notice Regulation. On-line print newspaper still has the problem of being published infrequently, or not circulated through the entire local trust area. Use of a community website or newsletter is outside the control of Islands Trust and each could be shut-down or modified without Islands Trust input; this could compromise the accessibility and reliability principles. Direct mail or a mail-out would reach all owners and residents; however, it could be expensive and time consuming to undertake.

The two best options with the lowest costs and that meet the principles outlined in the Public Notice Regulation are publishing on the Islands Trust website and publishing on an Islands Trust social media page. These are recommended, however, Trust Council recognizes that there may be other conditions on the islands that may warrant a different method.

At its June 2025 meeting, Trust Council adopted Policy 4.1.16 Model Public Notice Bylaw. This contains the format for such a bylaw and recommends the use of the Islands Trust website and a social media account to post the notices. As these are recommendations, and each local trust committee must consider the reliability, suitability and accessibility of the form of notice for their islands, variation on the recommendation may be considered.

At the South Pender Island Local Trust Committee regular meeting on February 13, 2026, the South Pender Local Trust Committee amended the model public notice bylaw by including a third requirement to publish public notices:

SP-2026-014

It was Moved and Seconded,

that South Pender Island Local Trust Committee amend Bylaw No. 131, cited as “South Pender Island Local Trust Committee Public Notification Bylaw No. 131, 2025”, by replacing “2 (iii) by posting the notice on South Pender Fire Hall notice board” with “2 (iii) direct email or mailout.”

CARRIED

Staff expressed concern about adding “direct email or mailout” as a requirement for publishing public notices due to the associated costs. The estimated mailout cost is \$1,450 (including postage and administrative time).

In addition, the term “direct email” would require a list to be procured specifically for this purpose; the general South Pender subscriber list cannot be used. A separate public notice subscriber list would need to be created. In addition, adding a third public notice requirement is not consistent with the Trust Council model bylaw.

Legislation requires that the public notification bylaw include two methods of notification, and all public notice requirements listed in the bylaw must be followed. Including a third method is not necessary, as the legislation allows the Local Trust Committee to use additional notification methods outside of the two required in the bylaw.

The distinction is that methods outside the bylaw are optional and, as such, will not invalidate a meeting, permit, or bylaw if those optional notices are not carried out. However, if additional notification requirements are included in the bylaw and are not met, this could result in the meeting, permit, or bylaw being ruled invalid. Therefore, from a risk management perspective, it is best practice to include only the minimum notification requirements mandated by legislation in the bylaw.

RELEVANT POLICY(S):

- [Section 94 and Section 94.2 of the Community Charter](#)
- [Community Charter Public Notice Regulation](#)
- [Trust Council Policy 4.1.16 Model Public Notice Bylaw](#)

ALTERNATIVES

1. Executive Committee approves South Pender Bylaw No. 131 as is.

THAT the Islands Trust Executive Committee approve South Pender Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 131, cited as "South Pender Island Local Trust Committee Public Notification Bylaw No. 131, 2025" in accordance with Section 27 of the Islands Trust Act.

2. Determine that the bylaw is inconsistent with the Islands Trust Policy Statement:

THAT the Executive Committee not approve South Pender Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 131, cited as "South Pender Island Local Trust Committee Public Notification Bylaw No. 131, 2025" due to unacceptable risk, costs, and vagueness.

THAT the Executive Committee recommends South Pender Island Local Trust Committee amend Bylaw No. 131, cited as "South Pender Island Local Trust Committee Public Notification Bylaw No. 131, 2025" by:

- a. Limiting minimum public notification methods to two
- b. Removing "direct mailout"
- c. Removing vague reference to "direct email", or
- d. Replacing "direct email" with "South Pender public notice email subscriber list"

Submitted By:	Jas Chonk, Legislative Clerk	February 17, 2026
Concurrence:	Kim Stockdill, A/Regional Planning Manager Stefan Cermak, Director Local Planning Services	March 18, 2025

ATTACHMENTS

1. EC Submission Cover
2. EC General Checklist
3. Proposed South Pender Island LTC Bylaw No. 131



Local Trust Committee Bylaws
Submission for Executive committee Approval

Local Trust Committee: South Pender Island Local Trust Committee

Bylaw No.: SP-131

Bylaw Type: Administration Bylaw

Date of resolution referring bylaw to Executive Committee: 13-Feb-2026

- ☒ Bylaw Submission Checklist attached
- ☐ Policy Statement Checklist attached*
* not required for administrative bylaws
- ☒ Summary of Bylaw Intent Attached

Received by Islands Trust Secretary:

Signature: _____
Secretary

Date: _____

Deadline for Executive Committee decision (one month after receipt by
Secretary as determined pursuant to the Interpretation Act*): _____

Date bylaw will appear on Executive Committee agenda: _____

- *a month means "a period calculated from a day in one month to a day numerically corresponding to that day in the following month, less one day"*
- *In the calculation of time expressed as clear days, weeks, months or years, or as "at least" or "not less than" a number of days, weeks, months, or years, the first and last*

Distribution: Executive Committee

Director, LPS

Local Trust Committee

Planner

Planning Clerk

Executive Committee

Policy Checklist

Checklist Key:

Consistent	The bylaw is consistent with the Islands Trust Policy Manual Chapter 2, Section 4, Subsection iv
Contrary	The bylaw is inconsistent (contrary or at variance) with the Islands Trust Policy Manual Chapter 2, Section 4, Subsection iv
Not-Applicable	The policy is not applicable with the Islands Trust Policy Manual Chapter 2, Section 4, Subsection iv .

Executive Committee Legislative Role Policy (2.4)

Consistent	i	Bylaw is consistent with the object of the Trust
Consistent	ii	Bylaw is not contrary to or at variance to the Islands Trust Policy Statement
Contrary	iii	Bylaw does not expose the Islands Trust to unreasonable expense in the administration or enforcement of the bylaw
Consistent	iv	Bylaw is not enacted without legal authority, including inconsistency with the relevant OCP (based on legal advice)

Checklist Key:

Requires Resources	Staff resources required to assist with administration.
No Resources Required	No staff resources required.

The Bylaw has been Examined Against Best Management Practices for Delivery of Local Planning Services as found in Section 5.9 of the Islands Trust Policy Manual

Resources Required	B.5	Bylaw is consistent with the object of the Trust
No Resources Required	B10	Bylaw is not contrary to or at variance to the Islands Trust Policy Statement

Comments

Completed By: Jas Chonk

Status

Date Resolution Referred to Exective Committee: 13-Feb-2026

Reading: 05-Sep-2025

Third Reading

PROPOSED

SOUTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE PUBLIC NOTIFICATION BYLAW BYLAW NO. 131

A Bylaw to provide for an alternative means of publishing a public notice.

WHEREAS pursuant to section 94.2 of the Community Charter, the South Pender Island Local Trust Committee may adopt a Bylaw to provide an alternative means of publishing a public notice;

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to section 94.2(3) of the Community Charter and section 2 of the Public Notice Regulation, B.C. Reg. 52/2022, the South Pender Island Local Trust Committee considers the means of publication set by this Bylaw to be reliable, suitable for providing notices, and accessible;

NOW THEREFORE, the South Pender Island Local Trust Committee in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. This bylaw may be cited as "South Pender Island Local Trust Committee Public Notification Bylaw No. 131, 2025".
2. The means of publication for public notice requirements under the Community Charter, *Local Government Act*, or any other enactment may be given by the following methods:
 - (i) electronically by posting the notice on the Islands Trust website;
 - (ii) electronically by posting the notice on Islands Trust's social media platform; and
 - (iii) direct email or mail out.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS 5TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2025.

READ A SECOND TIME THIS 5TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2025.

READ A THIRD TIME THIS 13TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2026.

APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ISLANDS TRUST THIS
_____ DAY OF _____, 20__

ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20__

CHAIR

DEPUTY SECRETARY

Islands Trust Council Highlights March 10-12, 2026

The elected 26-member Islands Trust Council governs the Islands Trust. Trust Council comprises two local trustees from each of the 12 local trust areas and two municipal trustees from Bowen Island. Islands Trust Council meets quarterly to discuss and act on matters that affect the entire Islands Trust Area, including setting the annual budget; creating and monitoring a strategic plan; adopting the Islands Trust Policy Statement; and creating general policies.

The following is a list highlights of Islands Trust Council's activities and decisions from its March 10-12, 2026 quarterly meeting. These highlights are not the official minutes; Islands Trust Council will adopt those at its June 16-18 meeting being held electronically.

Islands Trust Council Welcomed by Cowichan Tribes Chief Sulsulxumaat Cindy Daniels and Councillor Christopher Alphonse

Islands Trust Council was welcomed by Chief Sulsulxumaat Cindy Daniels and Councillor Christopher Alphonse to Cowichan Tribes land and the Khowutzun Heritage Centre.

Islands Trust Trustee Remuneration Policy 7.2.1

Islands Trust Council adopted amended Islands Trust Policy 7.2.1 Trustee Remuneration implementing new trustee remuneration rates, which come into effect April 1, 2027.

2026/27 Islands Trust Budget Approval

Islands Trust Council approved its 2026/27 budget, which supports \$11.8M in planned spending. The approved budget will see an average 8.1% general tax increase to local trust area property owners and a 13.5% increase to the Bowen Island Municipal tax levy base.

Islands Trust Bylaw Compliance & Enforcement Policy 5.5.1

Islands Trust Council approved the revised Bylaw Compliance and Enforcement Policy 5.5.1; the revised Bylaw Compliance and Enforcement Best Practices Manual; and the Bylaw Compliance & Enforcement Policy Review and Portal Implementation Plan, which concludes the project led by the Regional Planning Committee.

Species at Risk Presentation

The Islands Trust Planning Services Biologist and Islands Trust Conservancy Species at Risk Program Coordinator presented a summary of work completed over the last year on Species at Risk in the Trust Area by both the Islands Trust Conservancy and Islands Trust.

Islands Trust Draft Indigenous Relations Action Plan 2026-2028

Islands Trust Council gave its endorsement to the new Islands Trust draft Indigenous Relations Action Plan for 2026-2028 and requested staff to undertake more internal engagement and return a revised version to Trust Council for approval in June 2026.

Islands Trust Policy Statement Amendment Project Update

Islands Trust Council received a status update on the project advising that the project will not be concluded during this term of office, and that staff will provide a summary of feedback received to date and options at the May 13, 2026, Committee of the Whole meeting.

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Council

Chief Administrative Officer

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
50%	1 Staff to engage with the Province to analyse Section 7 of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act to see how it pertains to Islands Trust Council, Islands Trust Conservancy, the Local Trust Committees, and Bowen Island Municipality. (Note: any further action is paused pending potential legislative changes to DRIPA anticipated to be introduced during the Spring 2026 legislative session.)	Rueben Bronee	Meeting: 25-Sep-2024 Target: 12-Jun-2026	In Progress
0%	2 Staff to include portions of the report dated August 14, 2025 prepared for the September 2025 Trust Council on the Housing Strategic Action Plan, specifically pages 115-117 of the September, 2025 agenda, in the next strategic planning session of Trust Council.	Rueben Bronee	Meeting: 17-Sep-2025 Target: 26-Feb-2027	In Progress
0%	3 Staff to develop options for the potential relocation of the Victoria office prior to the end of the current lease in September 2029.	Rueben Bronee	Meeting: 03-Dec-2025 Target: 30-Sep-2028	In Progress

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Council

Director Legislative Services and Information Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
25%	1 5.2.2 Review of Trust Council Policies - Undertake review and and recommend updates and consolidation of policies. Bring one or more policies back to each Trust Council. Work with relevant director. Underway as part of the Governance Committee on-going project to review Trust Council policies.	David Marlor	Meeting: 26-Sep-2023 Target: 01-Dec-2026	In Progress
75%	2 That Trust Council request Staff to prepare a draft amendment to the Trust Council Meeting Procedures Bylaw under Section 11 of the Islands Trust Act so that it also applies to all 13 local trust committees, and add amendments to require release of local trust committees' agenda outlines a minimum of two days before release date of full agenda. (COMPLETED) THAT Trust Council request staff to prepare a draft Local Trust Committee Development Procedures Bylaw under Section 11 of the Islands Trust Act that will establish standard procedures applicable to all local trust committees. (Work on this bylaw has not begun. As per Trust Council December 2025 resolution not to start new work this term, this item is DEFERRED.) THAT Trust Council request Staff to prepare a Public Notice Policy with a model Local Trust Committee Public Notice Bylaw, and a draft Trust Council Public Notice Bylaw (COMPLETED)	David Marlor	Meeting: 07-Dec-2023 Target: 09-Jun-2026	In Progress
50%	3 Rename 'Islands Trust Council Goals' chart to 'Islands Trust Council Strategic Plan Goals' in the IT App and corresponding report. pending updates to ITApps, then code modification	David Marlor	Meeting: 24-Sep-2024 Target: 01-Dec-2026	In Progress

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Council

Director Legislative Services and Information Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
0%	4 Staff to provide an analysis of the position of secretary as per the 2022 Governance Report, and request for analysis on current roles and gaps needed to be filled (including Corporate Officer ie. Bowen). Work on this has not started. As per Trust Council December 2025 resolution to not start new work this term, this item is DEFERRED.	David Marlor	Meeting: 18-Sep-2025 Target: 02-Jun-2026	In Progress
30%	5 Staff to prepare a five-year Information Technology and Information Management Plan to be presented to Trust Council for approval, and that no new non-essential technology projects be initiated until completion of this five-year plan.	David Marlor	Meeting: 03-Dec-2025 Target: 16-Jun-2026	In Progress
0%	6 Staff to work with the Governance Committee to provide Trust Council with options to improve the current committee structure in advance of the 2026 election.	David Marlor	Meeting: 03-Dec-2025 Target: 01-Oct-2026	In Progress
100%	7 Staff to amend draft amended Policy 7.2.1 Trustee Remuneration second Section 5.2, dated March 10, 2026, by replacing the word "may" with the word "will".	David Marlor	Meeting: 10-Mar-2026 Target: 31-Mar-2026	Completed
100%	8 Staff to amend draft amended Policy 7.2.1 Trustee Remuneration Section 5.3, dated March 10, 2026, by replacing it in its entirety with "The review will be conducted in accordance with the principles and methodology identified in this Policy."	David Marlor	Meeting: 10-Mar-2026 Target: 31-Mar-2026	Completed
100%	9 Staff to amend policy 7.2.1 Trustee Remuneration by removing the words "or special" from the second Section 6.3.	David Marlor	Meeting: 10-Mar-2026 Target: 31-Mar-2026	Completed
100%	10 Staff to amend Policy 7.2.1 Trustee Remuneration 6.3 by changing the values \$375 to \$400, and \$750 to \$800.	David Marlor	Meeting: 10-Mar-2026 Target: 31-Mar-2026	Completed

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Council

Director Legislative Services and Information Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
0%	11 Staff to add deferred item 7.2.3 Trust Council Public Notification Bylaw - Request for Decision to the June Islands Trust Council Quarterly Meeting agenda.	David Marlor	Meeting: 11-Mar-2026 Target: 16-Jun-2026	In Progress
0%	12 Staff to add the deferred item 7.2.4 Trust Council Policy 2.1.15 Secretariat Services - Update - Request For Decision to the June islands Trust Council Quarterly Meeting agenda.	David Marlor	Meeting: 11-Mar-2026 Target: 16-Jun-2026	In Progress

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Council

Director of Planning Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
49%	1 Staff to: a) evaluate the implications of a longer referral response window, and; b) consider how Trust Council and local trust committees (LTC's) might consult with First Nations to better understand what changes to the current referral process should be made to both improve communication and to further reconciliation, and report back to Trust Council.	Stefan Cermak	Meeting: 29-Jun-2023 Target: 31-Mar-2026	In Progress
65%	2 Staff to: 1. Solicit First Nations to get their feedback about the referral processes, concerns and new initiatives; 2. Develop a work plan that captures planned actions advancing from this Referrals to First Nations - Request for Decision; and 3. Include this initiative in the Draft 2025-2028 Strategic Plan and the amended Reconciliation Action Plan.	Stefan Cermak	Meeting: 26-Sep-2024 Target: 31-Mar-2026	In Progress
0%	3 Staff to prepare a bylaw to rescind Bylaw 154 should staff be unable to resource the coordination of the Salt Spring Watershed Protection Plan in the 2026/27 budget.	Stefan Cermak	Meeting: 03-Dec-2025 Target: 31-May-2026	In Progress
0%	4 Planning Services staff to provide a report on the evaluation and changes of the referral process to consult with First Nations, to both improve communication and further reconciliation, and report back at a future Trust Council meeting.	Stefan Cermak	Meeting: 11-Mar-2026 Target: 18-Aug-2026	In Progress

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Council

Director of Planning Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
0%	5 Staff to amend Policy 5.5.1 Bylaw Compliance and Enforcement Section 6.1.6 by replacing the word "involves" with "poses a significant risk to" so that it reads: 6.1.6 If the Officer has facilitated a mediated solution between the parties that satisfactorily addresses the concerns, even if a contravention may remain, except in cases where the contravention poses a significant risk to health, safety, or the environment.	Stefan Cermak	Meeting: 11-Mar-2026 Target: 31-Mar-2026	In Progress
0%	6 Staff to amend Bylaw Compliance and Enforcement Best Practices Manual, page 7, by updating the reference and replacing bullet 2 as shown below so it reads: As listed in Trust Council Policy 5.5.1, Section 7, this system gives priority to those bylaw infractions of greatest concern to island communities: 1. When directed by a local trust committee 2. Significant health and safety issues... 3. ... 4. ...	Stefan Cermak	Meeting: 11-Mar-2026 Target: 31-Mar-2026	In Progress
0%	7 Staff to amend Bylaw Compliance and Enforcement Best Practices Manual, page 7, by adding the word "significant: to the first bullet concerning starting an investigation without a compliant so it reads: - Contraventions may cause significant health or safety risks.	Stefan Cermak	Meeting: 11-Mar-2026 Target: 31-Mar-2026	In Progress
0%	8 Staff to amend Policy 5.5.1 Bylaw Compliance and Enforcement by: - adding "or" to the end of the sentences contained in bulleted sections: 3.13.2, 3.15.3, and 6.1.6 - removing "or" from Policy 6.1.3".	Stefan Cermak	Meeting: 11-Mar-2026 Target: 31-Mar-2026	In Progress

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Council

Director of Planning Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
0%	9 Staff to amend Policy 5.5.1 Bylaw Compliance and Enforcement by: - moving Policy 6.1.6 to follow 6.1.4 and - moving Policy 6.1.5 to 6.2 and renumbering Policy 6.2 and 6.3 accordingly.	Stefan Cermak	Meeting: 11-Mar-2026 Target: 31-Mar-2026	In Progress
100%	10 Staff to inform relevant Planning staff that Islands Trust Council approved financial sponsorship of \$2,282.00 for Temporary Use Permit application MA-PL-TUP-2026-0035.	Stefan Cermak	Meeting: 11-Mar-2026 Target: 13-Mar-2026	Completed
0%	11 Staff to explore opportunities to establish a partnership with UBC's Conservation Lab for addressing priority needs in incorporating biology into decision making in land use planning and with the Conservancy.	Clare Frater Stefan Cermak	Meeting: 12-Mar-2026 Target: 31-Aug-2026	In Progress
100%	12 Staff to inform relevant Planning staff that Islands Trust Council approved reimbursement of application fees associated with PLRZ20260093 for registered charity Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust Society in the amount of \$4882.00.	Stefan Cermak	Meeting: 12-Mar-2026 Target: 13-Mar-2026	Completed

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Council

Director, Financial and Employee Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
0%	1 Staff to implement new Trustee Remuneration rates effective April 1, 2027, using 2026 published remuneration, population and folio data.	Julia Mobbs	Meeting: 10-Mar-2026 Target: 01-Apr-2027	In Progress
0%	2 Staff to include coverage for Clinical Counsellors to the trustee benefit plan, and to increase the health coverage limit to \$1,000 annually, aligning the coverage and annual dollar limit with provisions provided to staff and that the change be implemented April 1, 2027 in alignment with changes to Trustee Remuneration.	Julia Mobbs	Meeting: 10-Mar-2026 Target: 01-Apr-2027	In Progress
100%	3 Staff to add \$7,125 to the proposed 2026-27 budget for the purpose of reinstating a portion of the Secretariat funding that supports essential funding for Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Community Forum, the Southern Gulf Islands Forum and the Coastal Communities Climate Action Leadership Plan Steering Committee.	Julia Mobbs	Meeting: 11-Mar-2026 Target: 12-Mar-2026	Completed
100%	4 Staff to reduce the Contracted Temporary Staffing services line item in the draft 2026/27 budget by \$5,000.	Julia Mobbs	Meeting: 11-Mar-2026 Target: 12-Mar-2026	Completed
0%	5 Staff to forward the Islands Trust Council Bylaw 204, cited as the "Islands Trust Council Financial Plan Bylaw 2026-2027", to the Minister of Municipal Affairs for approval consideration.	Julia Mobbs	Meeting: 12-Mar-2026 Target: 31-Mar-2026	In Progress
0%	6 Staff to forward the Islands Trust Council Bylaw 205, cited as "Islands Trust Council Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw 2026-27", to the Minister of Municipal Affairs for approval consideration.	Julia Mobbs	Meeting: 12-Mar-2026 Target: 31-Mar-2026	In Progress

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Council

Director, Trust Area Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
85%	1 Policy Statement Amendment Project - Amend draft Bylaw No. 183 as directed by adopted resolutions. (ONGOING)	Clare Frater	Meeting: 21-Sep-2022 Target: 07-Sep-2026	In Progress
5%	2 Coordinate the provision of expert advice and training to the incoming Trust Council, early in the new term, on the theme of public engagement and consultation, building on lessons learned from the first three phases of Islands 2050 public engagement from 2019 - 2022.	Clare Frater	Meeting: 21-Sep-2022 Target: 30-Jun-2027	In Progress
0%	3 Staff to report to the Executive Committee on options to support renewed advocacy with San Juan County and Indigenous Governing Bodies that is directed to our respective federal and state/provincial bodies on oil spill prevention in the Salish Sea.	Clare Frater	Meeting: 05-Dec-2024 Target: 03-Jun-2026	In Progress
0%	4 Staff to undertake more internal engagement and return a revised version of the draft Islands Trust Indigenous Relations Action Plan 2026-2028 to Trust Council for approval in June 2026.	Clare Frater	Meeting: 12-Mar-2026 Target: 26-May-2026	In Progress
0%	5 Staff to inform the Executive Committee that Islands Trust Council direct Executive Committee to undertake a strategic planning public engagement prior to development of the draft 2027/28 budget.	Clare Frater	Meeting: 12-Mar-2026 Target: 31-Aug-2026	In Progress
0%	6 Staff to add deferred item 13.2.4 Budget Process Policy Amendment - Request for Decision to a future Islands Trust Council Quarterly Meeting agenda.	Clare Frater	Meeting: 12-Mar-2026 Target: 26-May-2026	In Progress

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Council

Director, Trust Area Services

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
0%	7 Staff to forward the report "Hypothetical Tax Shift Analysis: Projected Impacts of an Increased Property Tax Exemption Through the Natural Area Protection Tax Exemption Program (NAPTEP)" to the Islands Trust Conservancy Board to consider recommendations to Trust Council.	Clare Frater	Meeting: 12-Mar-2026 Target: 01-May-2026	In Progress
10%	8 Staff to: ·request service contracts for 2026/27 for ·\$4,000 to support the coordination of the Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Community Forum, ·\$3,000 to support the coordination of the Southern Gulf Islands Forum, and ·\$125 to Southern Gulf Islands Forum and the Coastal Communities Climate Action Leadership Plan Steering Committee. ·inform the relevant parties of Trust Council's decision re allocation of secretariat services support to coordination groups.	Clare Frater	Meeting: 12-Mar-2026 Target: 15-Apr-2026	In Progress
0%	9 Staff to explore opportunities to establish a partnership with UBC's Conservation Lab for addressing priority needs in incorporating biology into decision making in land use planning and with the Conservancy.	Clare Frater Stefan Cermak	Meeting: 12-Mar-2026 Target: 31-Aug-2026	In Progress
0%	10 Staff to invite Dr. Tara Martin to attend a future Trust Council or Conservancy board meeting to present research on the impacts of hyperabundant deer, and strategies for managing hyperabundant deer to restore keystone places in the Gulf Islands.	Clare Frater	Meeting: 12-Mar-2026 Target: 26-May-2026	In Progress



REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Trust Council

For the Meeting of: June 16, 2026

From: Executive Committee

Date Prepared: March 5, 2026

SUBJECT: Change of dates for Regional Planning Committee and Trust Programs Committee November meetings.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Trust Council request staff to reschedule the November 26, 2026 Trust Programs Committee meeting to ____, 2027, and the November 27, 2026 Regional Planning Committee meeting to ____ 2027.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER COMMENTS:

Due to the election, there is a desire for local trust committees to meet sooner than later for orientation. The council committees' meetings also need to occur, but those can occur early in 2027. Priority should be given to local trust committees given their legislative role. Because the Financial Planning Committee (FPC) is made up of the chairs of the other council committees, the full FPC membership will not be complete until all council committees have met and decided the chair and representative on FPC.

1 PURPOSE:

To resolve a conflict between meeting dates in November 2026.

2 BACKGROUND:

At its regular meeting on February 25, 2026, the Executive Committee reviewed the schedule of local trust committee and council committee meetings scheduled for November and early December in 2026. As these meetings are the first meetings of these committees, they are intended to be orientation sessions. There are two conflicts in the meeting schedule:

- November 26 Trust Programs Committee meeting conflicts with the Saturna Island Local Trust Committee meeting.
- November 27 Regional Planning Committee meeting conflicts with the South Pender Island Local Trust Committee meeting.

The Executive Committee passed the following resolution:

that Executive Committee recommend to Trust Council that the November 26 Trust Programs Committee meeting and the November 27 Regional Planning Committee meeting be rescheduled.

3 IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

ORGANIZATIONAL:

The change will allow trustees appointed to the two committees to attend regardless of the local trust committee they are from.

FINANCIAL:

There are no financial implications.

POLICY:

There are no policy implications.

IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATIONS:

Staff will find alternative dates for the two committee meetings, and then conduct a resolution-without-meeting to adopt the new time and dates for the meetings.

FIRST NATIONS RELATIONS:

There are no First Nations Relations implications.

OTHER:

There are no other implications.

4 RELEVANT POLICY(S):

Trust Council Meeting Procedures Bylaw 101

5 ATTACHMENT(S):

No attachments.

RESPONSE OPTIONS

Recommendation:

THAT Trust Council request staff to reschedule the November 26, 2026 Trust Programs Committee meeting, and the November 27, 2026 Regional Planning Committee meeting to early 2027, and ask staff to identify appropriate dates for Trust Council to consider at its June 2026 meeting.

Alternative:

As requested by Trust Council

Prepared By: Director, Legislative and Information Services

Reviewed By/Date: Chief Administrative Officer/March 5, 2026

REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Executive Committee

For the Meeting of: March 25, 2026

From: Trust Area Services

Date Prepared: March 10, 2026

SUBJECT: 2026/27 Meeting Decorum Materials

RECOMMENDATION:

That Executive Committee approve the meeting decorum poster and presentation slide for use at public meetings.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER COMMENTS: Staff recommend that Executive Committee approve updated meeting decorum notices as one step to ensure Islands Trust public meetings provide an appropriately safe, respectful and welcoming environment for all participants.

1 PURPOSE: To seek Executive Committee approval for updated meeting decorum notices.

2 BACKGROUND:

Executive Committee last approved changes to the meeting decorum materials in December 2018. Due to concerns regarding an increase in anti-Indigenous racism and general conduct at some public meetings, staff have drafted revised language for a meeting decorum poster and PowerPoint slide for use at public meetings.

3 IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

ORGANIZATIONAL: The work can be accommodated within the communications specialist's work program. The new materials will be distributed to all staff responsible for setting up public meetings.

FINANCIAL: Printing meeting decorum posters for use at in-person committee meetings is estimated to cost approximately \$250.

POLICY: None.

IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATIONS: Staff will distribute the communication materials to committees and support their use during Islands Trust meetings.

FIRST NATIONS RELATIONS: Implementation of the materials is intended to support elimination of racist comments at meetings and support culturally safe meeting where everyone feels welcomed and respected. This is expected to support relationship building at the government-government level.

OTHER: None.

4 RELEVANT POLICY(S): The [Executive Committee Terms of Reference](#) set out the following relevant duties:

6.2 To coordinate an effective public relations program through the development of targeted public communication efforts.

- 5 ATTACHMENT(S):** DRAFT Meeting Decorum Poster, 2025
DRAFT Meeting Decorum Slide, 2025
Meeting Decorum Poster, 2018

RESPONSE OPTIONS

Recommendation: That Executive Committee approve the meeting decorum poster and presentation slide for use at public meetings.

Alternative: That Executive Committee approve the meeting decorum poster and presentation slide for use at public meetings, as amended

Prepared By: Morgana Van Niekerk, Communications Specialist

Reviewed By/Date: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services/March 19, 2026
Rueben Bronee, CAO, March 19, 2026

Islands Trust Meeting Decorum

Welcome and Thank You for Participating

DRAFT Islands Trust values public engagement to inform decision-making, planning, and program development. Effective public dialogue depends on an environment that is **safe, inclusive, culturally respectful, and free from racism and discrimination** for everyone. Every participant brings valuable opinions, ideas, knowledge and lived experience. All voices deserve to be heard.

To ensure constructive and respectful engagement:

- Comments must focus on the issue, not individuals
- Participants must allow others to speak without interruption
- Tone and language must remain courteous and non-abusive
- No clapping, booing, or cheering

Islands Trust has **zero tolerance for bullying, harassment, racism, anti-Indigenous racism, discrimination, hate speech, personal attacks, or disruptive behaviour** that interferes with others' ability to participate. **Anyone engaging in such behaviour will be required to leave the meeting immediately, and additional action may be taken if necessary.**

When addressing trustees, speakers are requested to speak to the issue at hand, and not to other individuals. Speakers must be clear, concise, and respectful.

In the spirit of Reconciliation, Islands Trust strives to host meetings that promote cultural safety, inclusion, and acknowledgement of Indigenous Peoples, for whom the lands and waters of the Islands Trust Area have been home since time immemorial.

An Islands Trust meeting is also a place of employment. Trustees and staff have the right to a safe and respectful workplace.

Thank you for helping us create a respectful and productive environment in which all participants feel safe and able to contribute.



Islands Trust Meeting Decorum



Islands Trust

DRAFT

Islands Trust values public engagement to inform decision-making, planning, and program development. Effective public dialogue depends on an environment that is safe, inclusive, culturally respectful, and free from racism and discrimination. Every participant brings valuable opinions, ideas, knowledge and lived experience. All voices deserve to be heard.

Islands Trust has zero tolerance for bullying, harassment, anti-Indigenous, racism, racism, discrimination, hate speech, personal attacks, or disruptive behaviour that interferes with others' ability to participate. Anyone engaging in such behaviour will be required to leave the meeting immediately. Additional action may be taken if necessary.



Islands Trust

Meeting Decorum

A local trust committee (LTC) meeting is an official forum for elected trustees to make decisions about land use planning matters and discuss relevant business.

There are times assigned on the agenda when the public can speak to issues.

When addressing the LTC, speakers are requested to:

- Direct comments to the LTC and not the audience or staff
- Speak to the issue at hand and not other individuals
- Be clear, concise, and respectful

Islands Trust is committed to healthy dialogue and making sure that everyone's opinions are both heard and valued. We appreciate your helping us to create an open and respectful environment during this meeting.

In the spirit of Reconciliation, Islands Trust ensures that all public meetings promote inclusion and acknowledgement of Indigenous peoples.

An LTC meeting is also a place of employment. Islands Trust staff have the right to a safe and respectful workplace, as do the trustees and members of the public.

BRIEFING

To: Executive Committee **For the Meeting of:** March 25, 2026
From: Trust Area Services **Date Prepared:** March 24, 2026
SUBJECT: ISLANDS TRUST PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT NOTICE INSERT FOR 2026/27

PURPOSE: To seek approval on the revised Islands Trust property tax assessment notice insert for 2026/7.

BACKGROUND: In August 2019, Islands Trust learned that Islands Trust was eligible to include a Rural Tax Notice Insert in the mailing of Rural Property Tax Notices by the Ministry of Finance, with the mailing costs paid by the Ministry of Finance. The Islands Trust sent its first Rural Tax Notice Insert to local trust areas in 2021, and continues to do so on an annual basis.

A finalized tax notice insert must be submitted to the Province by April 1 each year. The notice will be printed on white legal sized paper in greyscale.

The notice provides general information about the Islands Trust and basic budget information.

Staff provided the 2026/27 property tax insert notices to Financial Planning Committee for feedback on November 12, 2025, and to Executive Committee for initial feedback on the content on February 4, 2026. The attached revised draft incorporates feedback received by staff via email, and the final budget figures as approved during the Islands Trust Council meeting in March 2026. The house graphic this year is for a typical house value rather than the average house value used in 2025. The house graphic includes the average levy increase estimated for a property valued similarly to the typical house. It does not include a total levy figure as this may cause confusion for readers if actual levies on their tax notice do not align with the estimated figure in the accompanying insert.

The rural property tax notice insert is for local trust areas only. A tax notice insert for Bowen Island cannot be included in the Bowen Island Municipality tax notice as space does not allow for additional content. A printed advertisement about the Bowen Island tax contribution will be placed in the Bowen Island Undercurrent. This content will be presented to Executive Committee at a later date.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. DRAFT revised local trust area tax notice insert for 2026/27

FOLLOW-UP: Staff will integrate feedback received and send to the graphic designer for revisions. Staff will then send to provincial staff before the April 1 deadline.

Prepared By: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services, March 24, 2026
Reviewed By/Date: Rueben Bronee, CAO, March 24, 2026

The Islands Trust Area is located within the treaty and territorial lands and waters of the BOKÉĆEN, Cowichan Tribes, K'ómoks, Lyackson, MÁLEXEL, Qualicum, scə́wəθən, sə́lilwətał, SEMYOME, shisháłh, Skwxwú7mesh, Snaw-naw-as, Snuneymuxw, Songhees, Spune'luxutth', STÁUTW, Stz'uminus, łəʔəmen, Ts'uubaa-asatx, Wei Wai Kum, We Wai Kai, WJOŁŁŁP, WSIKEM, Xeláltxw, Xwémalhkwu, Xwsepsum, and xʷməθkʷəyəm First Nations/Nations.

Islands Trust



The Islands Trust is a special-purpose government mandated to preserve and protect the Trust Area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the Trust Area and of British Columbia in cooperation with municipalities, regional districts, improvement districts, First Nations, other persons and organizations and the government of British Columbia.

The Islands Trust Area is the homeland of many Coast Salish Peoples who have called this region home since time immemorial. Covering 5,200 square kilometres of land and water in the Salish Sea, the Trust Area has over 30,000 residents and 10,000 non-resident property owners. The region features spectacular beauty, extensive archaeological and culturally significant sites, and habitats for an exceptional variety of species.

Governance

The 26-member Islands Trust Council is comprised of two elected trustees from each local trust area (except the Ballenas-Winchelsea Local Trust Area) and two trustees from Bowen Island Municipality. Local land-use planning decisions are made by local trust committees except on Bowen Island, which is an island municipality with a municipal council. The three-member local trust committees are comprised of two locally-elected trustees and an appointed chair. All decisions made must be consistent with the Islands Trust's legislated mandate to preserve and protect the Trust Area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the Trust Area and British Columbia generally. The Islands Trust Conservancy is governed by a board comprised of three elected trustees and three trustees appointed by the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs.

Islands Trust meetings are generally open to the public, and community members are encouraged to view or attend. Meeting dates and times are available at islandstrust.bc.ca.



Implementing the Preserve and Protect Mandate

Islands Trust works to fulfill its preserve and protect mandate through land use planning, land conservation through the Islands Trust Conservancy, and programs in cooperation with municipalities, regional districts, improvement districts, First Nations, other persons, organizations, the government of British Columbia, and you.

Land Use Planning

Land use planning contributes to preserving and protecting the environment, cultural heritage, and communities through the maintenance of 20 unique official community plans, hosting community information meetings to help islanders understand land use planning, rezoning, and application processing. Islands Trust also develops and delivers longer-term projects to support strategic goals.

Region-wide Programs

The Islands Trust Council supports the preserve and protect mandate through region-wide programs such as public education sessions; stewardship education resources; advocacy about decisions and initiatives that affect the islands; ecosystem and freshwater mapping; and cooperating with other governments, including Indigenous Governing Bodies, to benefit the Islands Trust Area.

Islands Trust Conservancy

The Islands Trust Conservancy's mission is to protect special places in the Islands Trust Area by encouraging and assisting voluntary conservation initiatives. To date, 1,385+ hectares of land across 115 conservation properties have been protected, including 81 conservation covenants and 34 nature reserves.

Islands Trust Budget 2026/27

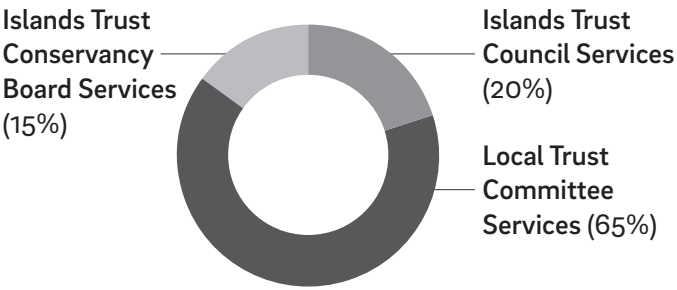
Islands Trust Council approved its 2026/27 budget in March 2026. The budget approves spending of \$11.8M, with \$11.0M directed to operations, \$588,484 directed to special projects, and \$208,700 directed to the purchase of new capital assets.

Highlights:

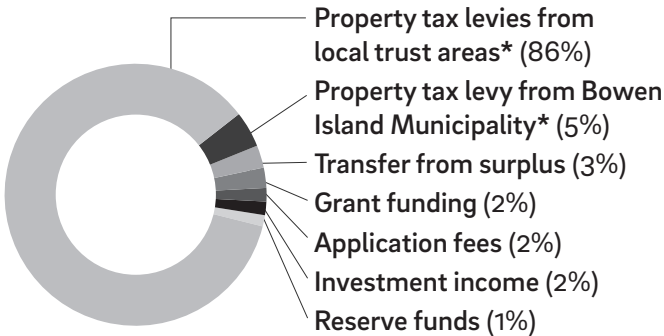
- \$10.1M – local trust area property taxes (excludes Bowen Island)
- \$528,690 – Bowen Island Municipal taxes
- \$285,359 – external grant funds
- \$477,400 – transfers from Island Trust surplus and reserve funds
- \$198,100 – fees and sales
- \$193,000 – investment and other income
- 5.1% increase in total planned spending

The 2026/27 budget anticipates that revenue from external sources (i.e. fees, grants, investment income) and internal funds (i.e. surplus, reserve transfers) will decrease significantly.

The budget is spent on:



The budget is funded by:



*Includes tax revenue from new construction

Islands Trust Area Levy



Typical residential property value (2026)



\$35–\$45**

Tax increase on typical property (vs. 2025)

**Actual tax increase and total levy will vary based on factors such as the distribution of property values within the Islands Trust Area, and individual property value changes.

Elections 2026

Trustees elected in the next election will serve in two roles – as a member of a local trust committee or Bowen Island Municipal Council, and as a member of Islands Trust Council. Trust Council will then elect three of the 26 elected trustees to serve on the Islands Trust Conservancy Board and four to serve on the Islands Trust Executive Committee.

Trustees make important decisions that guide how Islands Trust preserves and protects the Islands Trust Area and its unique amenities and environment for residents and all British Columbians.

Vote to help shape the future of your island on Saturday, October 17, 2026. For more information, visit islandstrust.bc.ca/about-us/accountability/elections/.

To find out about registering to vote, check with the Regional District in your area.

Contact Islands Trust if you have questions:

-  250-405-5151
-  info@islandstrust.bc.ca
-    @IslandsTrust

NOTE: The Provincial Surveyor of Taxes issues your Rural Property Tax Notice, and the BC Provincial Government receives your tax payment. Please refer to your Rural Property Tax Notice for payment options. Questions about your property tax notice should be directed to 1-888-355-2700.



REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Executive Committee

For the Meeting of: March 25, 2026

From: Legislative and
Information Services

Date Prepared: March 2, 2026

SUBJECT: Appointment of Treasurer

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Executive Committee appoint Director of Finance and Employee Services, Derek Cockburn to the office of Treasurer.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER COMMENTS: The Islands Trust is required to appoint a Treasurer under the *Islands Trust Act*. With the hiring of an interim Director of Finance and Employee Services to cover the leave of the Director, Finance and Employee Services, this appointment will fulfill that requirement.

1 **PURPOSE:** To appoint the office of Treasurer consistent with legislation.

2 **BACKGROUND:**

Section 17 of the *Islands Trust Act* requires the Islands Trust Council to appoint a person to the office of Treasurer. Through Section 1(a) of Trust Council Bylaw 3, the Islands Trust Council has delegated the authority for appointment of officer positions to the Islands Trust Executive Committee.

Neither the legislation nor policy require the Treasurer to be a particular individual or staff position. However, the Director of Finance and Employee Services is, by job description and role, the person best suited in the organization to be designated as Treasurer for the Islands Trust.

The current Director, Financial and Employee Services will be on leave effective March 23, 2026. To ensure compliance with Section 17 of the *Islands Trust Act*, the Executive Committee should appoint the Director, Financial and Employee Services, Derek Cockburn, as Treasurer. Under the *Interpretation Act*, once this new appointment has been made, the previous appointment is automatically terminated.

The *Islands Trust Act*, other related provincial Acts, and Islands Trust office practices and procedures outline the duties of the Treasurer.

Officer appointments, like all decisions of Trust Council, continue into the next term and are valid until changed by Trust Council (via the Executive Committee for officer appointments).

3 IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

ORGANIZATIONAL:

No organization implications.

FINANCIAL:

No financial implications.

POLICY:

Ensures legislative requirements for appointment of Treasurer is met.

IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATIONS:

Staff will be advised through normal channels.

FIRST NATIONS:

No First Nations implications.

OTHER:

No other implications.

4 RELEVANT POLICY(S):

- [Islands Trust Act \(s.17\)](#)
- [Interpretation Act \(s.22\)](#)
- [Trust Council Bylaw No. 3](#)

5 ATTACHMENT(S):

No attachments.

RESPONSE OPTIONS

Recommendation:

That the Executive Committee appoint Director of Finance and Employee Services Derek Cockburn to the office of Treasurer.

Alternative:

The Executive Committee could appoint another staff employee that it deems appropriate to the role of Treasurer.

Prepared By: David Marlor, Director, Legislative and Information Services

Reviewed By/Date: Chief Administrative Officer/March 18, 2026

Subject: FW: Formal Submission – Deer Overabundance and Ecological Integrity in the Gulf Islands
Attachments: Islands_Trust_Deer_Letter_with_References_March_3_2026.pdf

From: Dylan Wallinger <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 1:37 PM
To: information <information@islandstrust.bc.ca>
Cc: gabriola@islandstrust.bc.ca; Susan Yates <syates@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Tobi Elliott <telliott@islandstrust.bc.ca>
Subject: Formal Submission – Deer Overabundance and Ecological Integrity in the Gulf Islands

Dear Islands Trust Council Members,

Please accept the attached letter and reference package as a formal submission regarding deer overabundance and its documented ecological impacts across the Gulf Islands.

Peer-reviewed research conducted on coastal BC islands demonstrates clear trophic cascades resulting from high deer densities, including understory collapse, declines in songbirds and invertebrates, and impacts to endangered Garry oak ecosystems. Ecological thresholds for recovery are well established. What is needed now is policy leadership aligned with your mandate to protect ecological integrity.

I respectfully request confirmation of receipt and that this submission be circulated to Council and the Gabriola Local Trust Committee. I would also appreciate information regarding whether and when this matter may be scheduled for discussion.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our communities and these islands,

Sincerely,

Dylan Wallinger
Gabriola Island
[REDACTED]

To: Islands Trust Council (and relevant Local Trust Committees)

Subject: A science-based call for decisive deer population reduction to restore island ecosystems

Dear Islands Trust Council Members,

I'm writing as an island resident who loves the Gulf Islands for what they *are supposed to be*: living, layered ecosystems—wildflowers and shrubs, seedlings and deciduous regrowth, birdsong close to the ground, healthy pollinator webs, and forests that can actually regenerate.

Right now, on many islands, that reality is **collapsing under hyperabundant deer**.

This is not a “gardens are getting eaten” complaint. This is an ecosystem-level emergency: chronic overbrowsing strips the understory, prevents tree and shrub recruitment, simplifies forests into green deserts, and triggers cascading declines in birds and insects that depend on the first 1–2 meters of forest structure for food and nesting habitat. [A landmark island study in coastal BC showed understory-dependent birds were hit hardest—declining dramatically on islands with long-term deer browsing.](#)

Deer overabundance is driving a trophic cascade—right here in coastal BC

The science is not speculative. On BC islands with high deer densities, researchers have documented:

- [Understory collapse and loss of structural habitat, which then reduces understory-nesting and understory-foraging birds.](#)
- [Sharp reductions in invertebrates, which ripples through food webs and bird diets.](#)
- [Long-term “going from bad to worse” outcomes for songbird communities when deer impacts persist over time.](#)
- [Direct impacts to endangered Garry oak ecosystems, including reduced floral resources and indirect negative effects on bumblebees—exactly the kind of slow-motion biodiversity loss people fail to notice until it's gone.](#)

This isn't abstract. It is literally the removal of the next forest—and the next generation of biodiversity—one bite at a time.

The “Bambi problem” is real—and we've already named it

If you've read [“Giving Bambi the Boot.”](#) you already know the pattern: deer densities can reach levels that erase the understory and hollow out ecosystems, while communities struggle emotionally and politically to respond.

That public conversation is important—but Islands Trust has a governance mandate to protect the ecological integrity of these islands. It’s time to match the science with your mandate and take action.

“Pre-colonization levels” is not a slogan—it’s an ecological necessity

We don’t need perfection to act. We need an *evidence-based target* and the will to pursue it.

One Gulf Islands-focused report (Sidney Island) notes [deer densities around 62 deer/km² at one point, while citing research indicating that densities compatible with persistence of native plant communities typical of the region prior to European settlement are below ~10 deer/km².](#)

[On some islands, deer \(including introduced fallow deer where present\) have been reported at over 20 deer/km², a level associated with severe understory loss.](#)

In plain language: **if we want functioning ecosystems back, we need deer densities far below what we’re tolerating now.**

This is also a climate and resilience issue

When deer remove deciduous and broadleaf regeneration, they push landscapes toward simplified, stressed vegetation structures. [Across forest systems, broadleaf/deciduous dominance is associated with different fire behavior and often lower severity outcomes compared to conifer-dominated systems](#) under similar conditions (context varies by region, but the direction is clear: vegetation composition matters).

At minimum, deer-driven failure of regeneration reduces the ecological “options” islands have as the climate shifts.

What I am asking Islands Trust to do—now

I’m asking Islands Trust to treat deer overabundance as a core biodiversity and ecosystem integrity threat, and to lead with urgency. Specifically:

1. [Adopt explicit deer-density and ecosystem recovery targets \(grounded in island science and local monitoring\), and publicly report progress annually.](#)
2. [Champion and enable large-scale, sustained population reduction, not symbolic removals—because the ecological evidence shows recovery requires meaningful decreases.](#)
3. [Partner with Coast Salish Nations to support Indigenous-led management as a central strategy—because recent research grounded in Indigenous knowledge systems identifies Indigenous-led hunting as the most effective and cost-efficient approach when ecological and cultural values are fully considered.](#)

4. [Work with the Province to remove barriers \(where they exist\) to effective, humane deer reduction on islands—regulatory, logistical, and funding barriers.](#)
5. [Fund monitoring that measures what matters: understory recovery, seedling recruitment, floral abundance, pollinator response, and bird community recovery—paired with deer-density estimates.](#)

Humane, ethical, and responsible—without pretending the status quo is “kind”

I know culling is emotionally charged. But allowing a slow-motion ecosystem collapse—starving out native plants, simplifying habitat, and driving measurable declines in pollinator and understory bird communities—is not compassion. It is avoidance. And it’s not the way we should be acting if we care about future generations.

If Islands Trust leads, it can insist on **humane standards**, transparent oversight, and respectful collaboration with Indigenous stewardship approaches—while being honest about the ecological stakes.

Closing

The Gulf Islands are not museum pieces. They are living systems—and right now, they are being browsed into silence.

In public commentary on research she co-authored, Dr. Tara Martin stated, [“For most people these islands look beautiful and natural, but they are entirely degraded... hyperabundant deer are one of the major drivers of this change.”](#)

Slow ecological collapse must not be mistaken for natural beauty. The thresholds are known. What is required now is leadership. Garry Oak meadow ecosystems are at risk of irreversible collapse due to overbrowsing.

I am asking you to act with the seriousness this requires: set targets, support Indigenous-led and science-based deer reduction, and commit to measurable ecological recovery. [Give “Bambi” the boot](#)—not out of cruelty, but out of responsibility to the entire web of life these islands are meant to sustain.

Please act now, before it is too late.

Sincerely,

Dylan Wallinger
Gabriola Island

██████████

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From: David Dunnison <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2026 4:31 PM
To: Trustees
Subject: The Islands Trust Area is Uniquely Beautiful, but Perhaps not Ecologically Unique
Attachments: Comments on Charles Kahn Letter to the Exchange 4 March 2026 v1.3.pdf

Dear Trustees,

I have been following the recent public dialog in our local news regarding the Object of the Trust as well as the review of Salt Spring's OCP.

In particular, a submission in last week's Exchange from Conservancy Board Member Charles Kahn caught my attention. I have just submitted a response to the Exchange for their consideration regarding Mr. Kahn's article. Please find my response enclosed for your information.

The reason that I have sent a copy of this submission to you as Trustees is that the topics discussed in last week's Exchange article by Mr. Kahn on the extent of the Coastal Douglas-fir zone, ecosystems at risk in the Trust area and related items were topics of my 2021 and 2022 Delegations to the Trustees.

Notably, following those Delegations, Trust staff performed extensive edits to Trust materials and did arrange for Trustees to meet with domain experts such as Del Meidinger on these topics.

It remains critical, particularly with debate over items as fundamentally important as the Object of the Trust and our OCP's, that dialog regarding the Trust area's environmental richness not inadvertently promote invalid information.

Regards, David

[REDACTED]

+1 [REDACTED]

The Islands Trust Area is Uniquely Beautiful, but Perhaps not Ecologically Unique
Submission to the Salt Spring Exchange, 9 March 2026
David Dunnison

Last week Charles Kahn responded to a George Gram article on the unique language contained in the object of the Islands Trust with broad claims of ecological uniqueness in the Trust area. Unfortunately, many of the statements made in that response were in error. The science-based, definitive resources that expose those errors are easily accessed and readily available.

Mr. Kahn may have based some of his assertions on erroneous information that was unfortunately presented in some older Islands Trust publications. Note that Islands Trust staff conducted extensive corrective edits to Trust materials in 2023 on these subjects. Their diligence was captured in item 8.4 Coastal Douglas-fir Biogeoclimatic zone language and potential education session – Briefing of the May 2023 Trust Programs Committee meeting.

Mr. Kahn's response to George Grams could be dismissed as personal opinion, save one important fact. That fact is that Charles Kahn is serving a second term as a Provincially appointed Board member of the Islands Trust Conservancy. As such, it is troubling that Mr. Kahn is promoting errant facts about our natural environment as this unavoidably reflects poorly on the Conservancy.

It is important to note that Mr. Kahn's stated reference in his response article, the Coastal Douglas Fir Conservation Partnership (CDFCP) is not a recognized authority. The CDFCP was founded to try and facilitate conservation cooperation between local governments. The CDFCP is not a recognized authority on the CDF zone, nor its range of ecosystems, nor its extent. Nor is the CDFCP a recognized authority on endangered ecosystem or species classification. Unlike the BC Conservation Data Centre (BC CDC), for example, the CDFCP is not a member of NatureServe, the authoritative source for biodiversity data throughout North America.

Contrary to Mr. Kahn's assertion, the Trust Area does not contain 97% of all BC ecological communities considered to be at risk. Rather, 11% of all the at-risk or endangered ecosystems in BC might be found in the Islands Trust Area (including both IT Area CDF zone and Coastal Western Hemlock, or CWH, zone portions). Not 97%.

Mr. Kahn's claim is overstated by ten-fold. With no disrespect intended, this statement is absurd given the vast size of our province with its extensive natural geographic diversity and the comparatively small size of the Islands Trust area. Please consider that the province's ecosystems range from the Sonora Desert to the Great Bear Rainforest to alpine meadows and to the boreal forest. In comparison to the Islands Trust Area (both the CDF and CWH zone portions), according to the BC CDC's data the neighbouring CWH zone may contain twice as many at risk ecosystems as are found in the Islands Trust Area.

Please note the qualifier "might be found."

The BC CDC carefully notes that results from searches of its database "reflect the species or ecological communities that occur or potentially occur in your selected area of interest (emphasis added)." Thus, the BC CDC errs on inclusiveness where there may not be confirming data. And, when one drills down on the BC CDC data, many of the ecological communities that they indicate

might be found in the Trust area actually have no corresponding observations here. Thus, the data returned for a search on the Trust area could well include an overcount.

All that said, according to the best research we have conducted as is included in the BC CDC database, there are no endemic, or exclusively occurring, at risk or endangered ecosystems in the Islands Trust Area.

Mr. Kahn's letter focuses on the word unique, employing it ten times. Thus, the lack of uniqueness of our local natural environment is striking in the context of his letter. No matter how much we local Trust residents may love our islands paradise and their unique beauty, such touted environmental uniqueness of the Islands Trust Area is not supported by science. The IT Area is geographically unique by its location and configuration, but it is not ecologically unique according to science.

The science does not support the assertion that the Islands Trust's environment and amenities are ecologically unique.

With respect to Mr. Kahn's assertions in terms of natural or ecological uniqueness it is notable that Mr. Kahn proposes that we change the dialog to focus on "the environmental amenities of the Gulf Islands." This proposed dialog focus employs more restrictive language than is embodied in the object of the Trust.

By trying to more narrowly specify the language, Mr. Kahn has provided the strongest argument yet that the original reference to environment and amenities within the Islands Trust object was meant to be broad and should be interpreted as such. His proposal fundamentally illustrates and confirms that the reference to "environment and amenities" in the original wording of the Trust object was intended in the broad and general sense that George Grams had observed.

On this point of an overly restrictive point of view, let's also consider Mr. Kahn's assertion that the Islands Trust Area is in the heart of the Coastal Douglas-fir (CDF) zone and that it is found nowhere else in the world. This is also untrue.

According to the subject experts at the BC Ministry of Forests, the CDF zone extends through Washington and Oregon state into California. The range of coastal Douglas-fir extends to the Monterey Bay area in California. The Islands Trust area represents about a third of the BC portion of the CDF zone and is but a small portion of the overall CDF zone, the range of Coastal Douglas-fir or the extent of Coastal Douglas-fir forests. Setting aside how extensive the actual range of the CDF zone is, we need only consider the much larger nearby islands in Washington state's Puget Sound with forests virtually identical to ours. Not considering our close island neighbours furthers the errant view that ecosystems are somehow restricted by political boundaries. Ecosystems are not politically bound.

Being part of an ecological area with a larger range does not make the Islands Trust Area itself any less environmentally unique, less environmentally wonderful or less environmentally beautiful. The Islands Trust environment is uniquely beautiful but not ecologically unique.

From: "Steve Wright" <[REDACTED]>

Subject: SP Bylaw 129 decision

Date: March 14, 2026 at 9:22:41 AM PDT

To: <patrick@islandstrust.bc.ca>, <tpeterson@islandstrust.bc.ca>, <dmaude@islandstrust.bc.ca>, <telliott@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Members of the Executive Committee,

To say I am disappointed in your recent decision to approve South Pender Island Bylaw 129 is an understatement. To begin with, it's obvious that you did not educate yourselves on the history of this project or you would have been aware that there was several blatant inconsistencies in the public process and broken commitments by the local trustees. More importantly, the public record clearly shows the majority of the community were not in favour of this amendment.

Secondly, you failed to explain how the previous Bylaw 122 was approved by the previous EC, (Chair Patrick being one of those), on the basis that the provisions contained in that bylaw were consistent with, and advanced, a number of policies in the TPS and South Pender's OCP. and yet, Bylaw 129, by reversing those policies can be achieving those same goals. That contradiction was pointed out but you failed to address it or ignored it because you couldn't.

Your decision to approve Bylaw 129 indicates that you do not comprehend your role as a member of the EC, or the mandate and legislation under which you serve. Trustee Elliott's remarks are particularly disappointing because, as Chair, I had expected a greater level of comprehension of the issues as they relate to the Act. Throughout the past 3 years of this process Elliott has been inconsistent in her remarks and her justification for approving this bylaw was so weak as to be laughable.

The Islands Trust, as an organization, is quickly losing its credibility for several reasons, and your ambiguous decision is an unfortunate example of why. To witness what happens to reasonable people who become a "public official" and then sacrifice their integrity for the sake of a bloated sense of their importance is always disturbing. You have such a simple job, and you have proven to be incapable of carrying it out.

The decision you made took seconds, but the implications will last a lifetime at the expense of the island's character and environment. That is a legacy no one should be proud of.

Steve Wright

South Pender Island

Active Projects Report

Executive Committee

1. <i>Finish and adopt Islands Trust Policy Statement in accordance with project work plans (Strategic Plan key initiative 1.1.1)</i>	Responsible	Dates
Activity: Project underway guided by Trust Council project charter. Anticipated project completion by November 2026.	Clare Frater	Rec'd: 26-Feb-2020 Target: 01-Nov-2026
2. <i>Update and implement Reconciliation Action Plan (Strategic Plan 5.1.1)</i>	Responsible	Dates
Activity: Initiation timeline: Staff drafting underway	Clare Frater	Rec'd: 02-Sep-2020 Target: 31-Mar-2026
3. <i>Guide the development and implementation of the Islands Trust Strategic Plan. New Strategic Plan approved by Trust Council March 2025.</i>	Responsible	Dates
Activity: Implementation ongoing for active projects. Initiation of new work on hold per the accepted recommendation of the Operational Review Report	Rueben Bronee	Rec'd: 03-May-2023 Target: 31-Mar-2025

Future Projects Report

Executive Committee

1. *Pay Transparency Report Submission & Posting*

The Pay Transparency Act became law on May 11, 2023. Under the legislation, beginning in 2026, Islands Trust must prepare and submit a Pay Transparency Report by November 1 annually. These reports must be posted publicly on the Islands Trust website.

Responsible

Julia Mobbs

Date Received

11-May-2023

2. *Improve bylaw enforcement policies and procedures to be administratively fair, reasonable and transparent with the aim of restoring public confidence (Strategic Plan Initiative 1.2.3) (joint with RPC)*

Trust Council endorsed Policy 5.5.1 and Best Practice Manual amendments. RPC to draft Implementation Plan and final amendments. Present to Trust Council for adoption and subsequent monitoring and reporting.

Responsible

Stefan Cermak

Date Received

12-Mar-2025

3. *Explore new engagement models (virtual and in person forums) to reach more community members (Strategic Plan Initiative 1.2.2)*

Initiation timeline TBD

Responsible

Clare Frater

Date Received

12-Mar-2025

4. *Review all Trust Council and local trust committee agreements and where appropriate, amend, combine or rescind (Strategic Plan Initiative 1.2.6)*

Initiation timeline: 2026/27: (May 2023 EC asked for priority to Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure)

Responsible

Clare Frater
Rueben Bronee

Date Received

12-Mar-2025

5. *Design a plan to advocate to enhance community access to funding for housing in the Trust Area (Strategic Plan Initiative 2.3.2)*

Initiation timeline: Priority for this Council term

Responsible

Clare Frater

Date Received

12-Mar-2025

Future Projects Report

Executive Committee

6. <i>Advocate for the development and implementation of a fallow deer strategy, including advocacy for deer harvesting (Strategic Plan Initiative 3.1.1)</i>	Responsible	Date Received
Initiation timeline: Priority for this Council term	Clare Frater	12-Mar-2025
7. <i>Create a grant program to increase public understanding of the impact of climate change to the unique amenities and environment of the Islands Trust Area (Strategic Plan Initiative 4.2.2)</i>	Responsible	Date Received
Initiation timeline: TBD	Clare Frater	12-Mar-2025
8. <i>Amend legislation to increase the percentage of NAPTEP to act as an incentive for the protection of forest cover for climate change (Strategic Plan Initiative 4.2.4)</i>	Responsible	Date Received
Initiation timeline: Priority for this Council term	Clare Frater	12-Mar-2025
9. <i>Clarify opportunities for co-governance and co-management of the Trust Area (Strategic Plan Initiative 5.1.2)</i>	Responsible	Date Received
Initiation timeline: Priority for this Council term	Clare Frater Rueben Bronee	12-Mar-2025
10. <i>Develop a schedule and plan for leader-to-leader meetings with Indigenous Governing Bodies (Strategic Plan Initiative 5.1.3)</i>	Responsible	Date Received
Initiation timeline: 2026/27	Clare Frater Rueben Bronee	12-Mar-2025
11. <i>Develop tailored public engagement processes that acknowledge preferred engagement methods of Indigenous Peoples (Strategic Plan Initiative 5.2.2)</i>	Responsible	Date Received
Initiation timeline: Priority for this Council term	Clare Frater	12-Mar-2025

Future Projects Report

Executive Committee

12. <i>Implement activities assigned by the future Reconciliation Action Plan (2025-2028) implementation plan (To be assigned by TC) (Strategic Plan Initiative 5.1.5)</i>	Responsible	Date Received
To be determined. Staff is drafting new Reconciliation Action Plan and associated implementation plan for Trust Council approval.	Rueben Bronee	12-Mar-2025
13. <i>Implement activities assigned by the Freshwater Sustainability Strategy (2022-2032) implementation plan (To be assigned by TC) (Strategic Plan Initiative 2.1.3)</i>	Responsible	Date Received
To be determined. Regional Planning Committee is developing a Freshwater Sustainability Strategy Implementation Plan for Trust Council approval.	Clare Frater	12-May-2025