

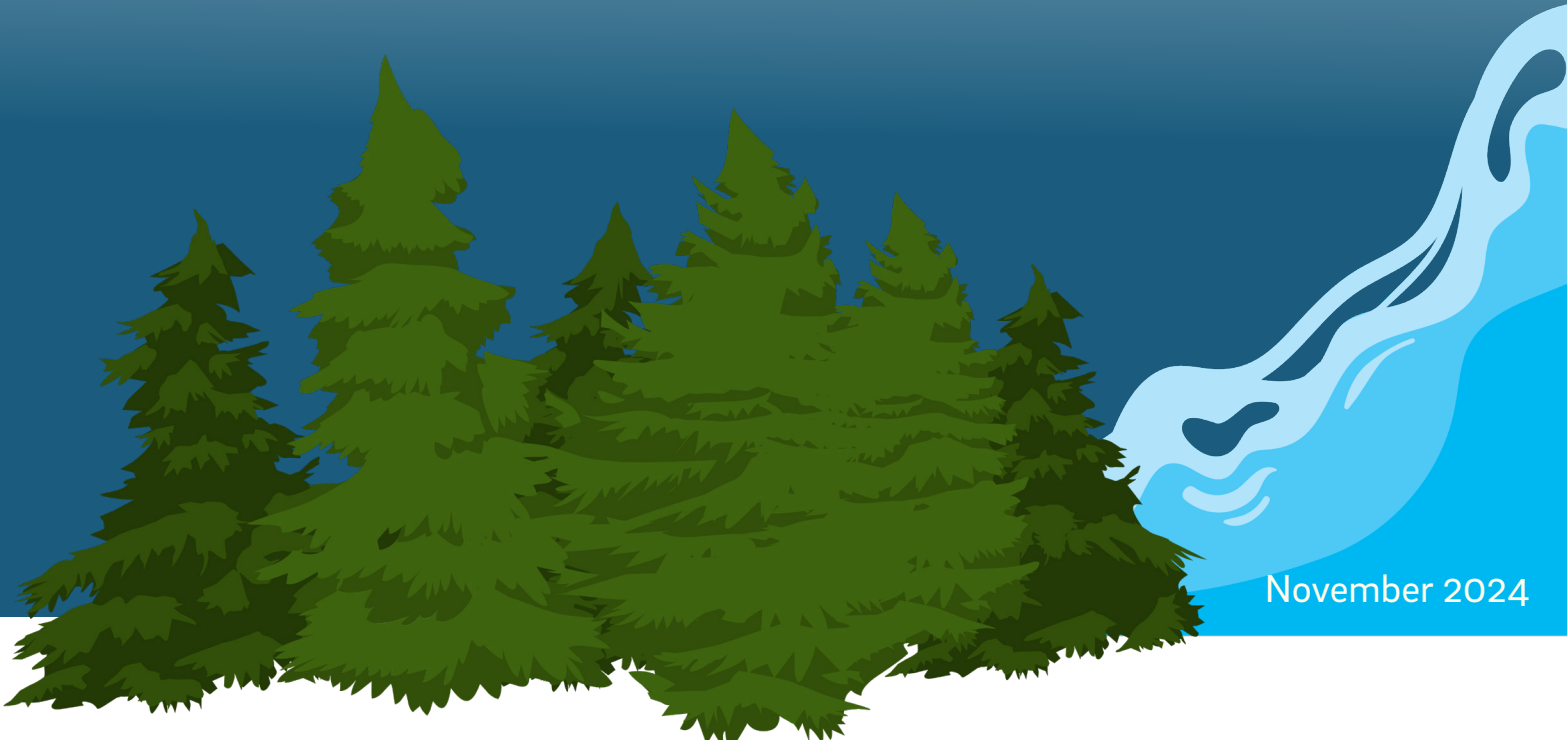


Islands Trust

GABRIOLA OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN REVIEW

Discussion Guides

CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION



November 2024

Integrating Indigenous perspectives and safeguarding Indigenous cultural heritage is a central focus in developing policies for the Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw updates. Accordingly, the engagement process has been thoughtfully designed to weave this lens into every topic area.

What is a Discussion Guide?

The Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee is updating the Official Community Plan (OCP) – which guides development to align with the community’s vision and values on a variety of topics.

Share your thoughts through focus groups, direct communication with the Local Trust Committee and the Gabriola OCP Review Topic-Focused Engagement online survey (December, 2024 - April, 2025).

What is an Official Community Plan (OCP) for Gabriola Island?

The OCP implements the community's vision.

It provides a long-term strategy for land use management, outlining broad objectives and policies to guide future growth and development of the community.

The OCP must align with higher level policies.

These include the Local Government Act, the Islands Trust Act, and the Islands Trust Policy Statement. This ensures that local plans are consistent with regional and provincial directives.

What is NOT part of an Official Community Plan for Gabriola Island?

The OCP is not a zoning bylaw or detailed regulatory document. Specific regulations and enforcement mechanisms are found in the Land Use Bylaw (LUB) and must be consistent with the OCP.

The OCP does not include the provision of infrastructure or services. Infrastructure such as sewer, or roads, and community services within the Islands Trust Area are the responsibility of other levels of government.

What does the current OCP say about Heritage Protection?

The OCP identifies that Gabriola is part of the traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation who have had an active presence on Gabriola for over 3,000 years. It also states that Gabriola is home to 100+ archeological sites and that there are two reserves on Degnen Bay.

The OCP states that both known and unrecorded archeological sites are protected by the Province through the Heritage Conservation Act. This means that landowners must have a provincial heritage permit to alter, or develop within, an archeological site. A number of other measures, like subdivision regulations and zoning tools, that can protect archeological sites are also encouraged.

Exploring Cultural Heritage Perspectives and Cultural Heritage Protection

While the existing OCP focuses on the protection of archeological sites, work that the Islands Trust has engaged in with First Nations throughout the Islands Trust Area has identified cultural heritage interests beyond known archeological sites. Staff and trustees have initiated conversation with the Snuneymuxw First Nation to explore their interests in more detail.

The Islands Trust Council is committed to establishing and maintaining mutually respectful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Peoples. The Islands Trust has committed to reconciliation with the understanding that this commitment is a long-term relationship-building and healing process.

Focused discussion related to the preservation of cultural heritage and Indigenous perspectives will involve the Snuneymuxw First Nation and Islands Trust staff and trustees. The options emerging from these discussion will be shared with the Gabriola Island community.

What we heard

The related principle emerging from feedback received through the Gabriola Visioning 2050 process is “Advancing reconciliation with First Nations and Indigenous Peoples, recognizing their rights, and integrating their perspectives into land use and governance practices. Building respectful partnerships and promoting cultural understanding”.

Learn more about next steps in the OCP review process



Participate in the topic-focused survey



GABRIOLA VISIONING 2050

Community Engagement | 23 March 2024

Live Digital Graphic Facilitation by Athulya Padakkal

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

REDUCE climate impact

WATER monitoring & **ASSESSMENT** for the coming GENERATIONS

OCEAN Stewardship
What does this mean for SEWERAGE??

#VALUE

WILD LIFE CORRIDOR
PROTECT THE FORESTS and the FURRED, FINNED & FEATHERED & SLITHERY

SPECIES at RISK ENDANGERED
LEARN about specific SPECIES!
ISLANDS TRUST Should PRESERVE + PROTECT

ACCESSIBLE & DIVERSE WORKSPACES and HOUSING

LIMITS TO GROWTH? NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & BUILT ENVIRONMENT THEY ARE INTERDEPENDANT!!
LIMIT URBANIZATION?

PARTNERSHIPS WITH FIRST NATIONS & Building Relationships
EDUCATION REGULATION
VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

DATA DRIVEN DECISION MAKING
ARTS

ACCESSIBLE & DIVERSE WORKSPACES and HOUSING

LIMITS TO GROWTH? NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & BUILT ENVIRONMENT THEY ARE INTERDEPENDANT!!
LIMIT URBANIZATION?

COMMUNITY
continued community conversations

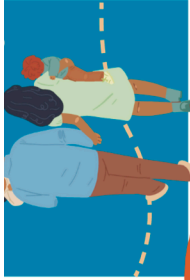
INCLUSIVE ways to provide **AWARENES** ATTRACT TO THE ISLAND

DATA DRIVEN DECISION MAKING
ARTS

BUILT ENVIRONMENT
RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES for everyone

SAFETY of BIKING & WALKING paths improved
Improved PUBLIC TRANSIT

CLIMATE LENS



Athulya Padakkal