

Adopted



Islands Trust Conservancy Board

Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date: Tuesday, July 22, 2025
Location: Islands Trust Victoria Boardroom
#200 - 1627 Fort Street
Victoria, BC V8R 1H8

Members Present: Lisa Gauvreau, Chair
Tanner Timothy, Vice Chair
Jeannine Georgeson, Trustee
Risa Smith, Trustee
Susan Yates, Trustee
Tobi Elliott, Trustee

Staff Present: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services
Kathryn Martell, Ecosystem Protection Specialist
Joe Elliott, Senior Indigenous Relations Advisor, Trust Area Services
Rob Kroeker, Planning Services Admin Assistant/Recorder

Staff Regrets: Jemma Green, Covenant Management and Outreach Specialist
Nuala Murphy, Property Management Specialist
Wendy Tyrrell, Acting Manager

Members of the Public Present: No members of the public were in attendance.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. Chair Gauvreau initiated introductions and expressed thanks on behalf of the Islands Trust Conservancy Board for the service of Board member Charles Kahn, and welcomed the newly Provincially-appointed Trustee Jeannine Georgeson to the Board.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair Gauvreau acknowledged that the meeting was being held in traditional territory of the Coast Salish First Nations.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3.1 Review of Agenda and Introduction of New Items

The following items were added to the agenda:

- World Conservation Congress discussion – add to new business as item 9.2
- Consideration of changing a regular meeting date – under item 10

Adopted

3.2 Approval of Agenda

By general consent the agenda was approved as amended.

4. RISE AND REPORT DECISIONS FROM PREVIOUSLY CLOSED MEETING

Chair Gauvreau reported on the following item from the Islands Trust Conservancy closed meeting of May 27, 2025:

- ITC has approved a \$12,000 Opportunity Fund grant to Mayne Island Conservancy to support costs associated with a new conservation covenant on Mayne Island, including title searches, drafting, legal costs, and registering the covenant.

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

5.1 Draft ITC Board Meeting Minutes of May 27, 2025

The following amendment to the minutes was presented for consideration:

By general consent the minutes of the May 27, 2025 meeting were adopted as presented.

6. FOLLOW UP ACTION LIST

Received for information.

7. BUSINESS

7.1 Items for Approval

7.1.1 Amendment to Koontz NAPTEP Covenant, Gabriola Island – Request for Decision

Ecosystem Protection Specialist Martell presented the Request for Decision, noting that the description of the “Driveway” was not specified in the registered covenant Baseline Report and this request is to approve the covenant amendment and updated Baseline Report, sign the Modification Agreement and authorize staff to pay for associated costs of notarizing signatures. Committee discussion included:

- the legal costs of the amendment

ITC-2025-025

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board authorize the Chair or any available ITC Authorized Signatory to sign the Modification Agreement to amend covenant CB1650359 registered on the land described as PID 005-788-447, That Part of Lot 3, Section 5, Gabriola Island, Nanaimo District, Plan 6986, Lying To The North West Of A Road Dedicated By Plan 17829, Except Those Parts In Plans 21783 And 26145.

CARRIED

Adopted

ITC-2025-026

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board authorize expenditure of up to \$300 to support the landholder and GaLTT in obtaining notarized signatures for registering the Modification Agreement.

CARRIED

7.2 Items for Discussion/Direction

7.2.1 Discussion on Appointment of an ITC Board member to the Conservation Fund Working Group (verbal)

Chair Gauvreau introduced the discussion, indicating that the conservation fund working group is an informal joint venture between the Islands Trust Conservancy Board members and Executive Committee members to explore a regional conservation fund in the Trust Area to partner with First Nations and support conservation and restoration. Committee discussion included:

- a workshop with other stakeholders sponsored by the Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership was held to explore supporting funds for conservation from the tax roll, such as is done in other jurisdictions
- the vision for the above model is that the Capital Regional District (CRD) would be the holder of funds
- this new fund could result in funding for conservation or donors going directly to the CRD initiative instead of Islands Trust Conservancy
- a key task of a conservation fund working group would be to understand how to interact with this emerging CRD conservation fund
- a conservation fund would be donations-based
- conservation on private lands is the target of this initiative
- there are similar models on the San Juan Islands and Lummi Nation territory regarding co-working relationships with First Nations
- if such a fund were on the tax roll it could be an opportunity to co-purchase properties with First Nations
- the spirit of the fund is to expand work with Indigenous partners, and having those partnerships in place first may be a consideration
- Islands Trust Conservancy should keep informed of this emerging CRD-conservation fund
- Limited staff capacity to track related initiatives could be addressed by a board member making inquiries, though tasks may evolve to be best suited to staff work
- these points will inform discussion with Executive Committee in the upcoming liaison meeting

7.3 Correspondence

7.3.1 2025-04-14 Letter from Senkpiel Litigation regarding Crystal Mountain Society Board Decision

Received for information.

Adopted

7.3.2 2025-07-02 Letter from Minister Kahlon regarding ITC Five-Year Plan

Director Frater introduced the letter as a response confirming a date of December 2027 to submit the Islands Trust Conservancy Five-Year Plan to the Minister, giving time to work collaboratively with First Nations. Discussion included:

- reaching out to Ministry staff for guidance on incorporating UNDRIP Principles
- the cabinet shuffle, the new Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the Minister's previous work as Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

7.4 Updates for Information

7.4.1 Public Acquisitions Report

Received for information. Discussion ensued regarding:

- Crystal Mountain on Galiano Island
- an emergency access route proximate to ITC land

7.4.2 Public Covenants Report

Received for information.

7.4.3 Budget Report (verbal)

Director Frater indicated that budget submissions are still being developed and a special meeting in August is scheduled for consideration of budget submissions for next year and a budget status update.

7.4.4 ITC Quarterly Report to Trust Council

Discussion ensued regarding database management software, which manages contacts and donor relations.

- there is a need to better manage referrals and contacts with First Nations with a centralized database
- Islands Trust Conservancy's current software is supported for a few more years, but a centralized solution is desired
- Staff are seeking a software that is the right fit between cost, services and not an American company

Discussion continued regarding communications and outreach, anniversary communications for Islands Trust Conservancy, and Islands Trust Conservancy Board members attending fall events such as the Galiano market with promotional materials.

Adopted

7.4.5 Executive Committee Update (verbal)

Trustee Elliott provided an update on the following topics:

- Executive Committee had a special meeting July 17, 2025 to approve an agenda for July 29, 2025 Trust Council special meeting for first reading of Policy Statement
- the next stage after first reading is public engagement and referral to Indigenous Governing Bodies and referral agencies/organizations, including Islands Trust Conservancy Board
- surveys, a webinar, and a virtual town hall-style session are being planned to invite the public to express their thoughts on the Policy Statement

7.4.6 Financial Planning Committee Update (verbal)

Trustee Yates advised that there is no new reporting as there has not been a recent Financial Planning Committee meeting. Director Frater indicated that a summary of pre-budget survey results will be included in the August Financial Planning Committee agenda. Chair Gauvreau indicated that she would share links with the ITC Board.

7.4.7 Trust Council Update (verbal)

This report was combined with item 7.4.5.

7.4.8 Governance Committee Update (verbal)

Chair Gauvreau reported that there is nothing new to report because there has not been a recent Governance Committee meeting.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DELEGATIONS

No members of the public were in attendance.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Approval of an ITC Board Special Meeting Date (verbal)

Director Frater indicated that staff propose a special meeting be scheduled for August 27, 2025 to address matters including budget considerations and other matters arising in the interim.

ITC-2025-027

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

That Islands Trust Conservancy schedule an electronic special meeting for August 27, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. to discuss matters that need to be addressed ahead of the Board's October meeting.

CARRIED

Adopted

9.2 World Conservation Congress (discussion)

Trustee Smith provided background on the 2025 World Conservation Congress. She noted that her attendance presents an opportunity to connect with leaders of forums at the Congress and present on behalf of Islands Trust Conservancy. Discussion included:

- climate change management and carbon sequestration
- leveraging climate change funding for protected areas management: there is more funding devoted to climate change than biodiversity
- funders are present and it is a good opportunity to advertise Islands Trust Conservancy
- Islands Trust Conservancy's 35th anniversary is a great story to tell there
- parts of the proceedings will be livestreamed, but Trustee Smith's forums will not

ITC-2025-028

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board endorses Trustee Risa Smith to seek opportunities at the upcoming World Conservation Congress to speak to and promote the Islands Trust Conservancy.

CARRIED

10. NEXT MEETING

Discussion ensued regarding the next meeting date, due to Trustee Smith's attendance at the World Conservation Congress. Director Frater noted that a regular business meeting cannot be rescheduled, but must be cancelled with a special meeting convened on the desired date. Friday, October 3, 2025 was put forward as a potential special meeting date.

ITC-2025-029

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

That Islands Trust Conservancy cancel the regular meeting scheduled for October 7, 2025.

CARRIED

ITC-2025-030

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

That Islands Trust Conservancy schedule a special meeting for October 3, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in place of the regularly scheduled October 7 meeting.

CARRIED

The next meeting will be held electronically on August 27, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.

11. CLOSED MEETING

11.1 Motion to Close the Meeting

ITC-2025-031

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

Adopted

that the Islands Trust Conservancy meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the Community Charter, Part 4 Division 3, section: 90 (1) (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, as the board considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the Islands Trust Conservancy Board; and that staff remain in the meeting.

CARRIED

12. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent, the meeting adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

Lisa Gauvreau, Chair

Certified Correct:

Rob Kroeker, Administrative Assistant/Recorder