



Islands Trust Conservancy - Executive Committee

Liaison Meeting Agenda

Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2026
Time: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Location: Islands Trust Victoria Boardroom
200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC

Pages

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
 - 1.1 **Introductions and context for annual meeting**
2. **TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
4. **MINUTES/COORDINATION**
 - 4.1 **ITC Board / Executive Committee July 27, 2025 Minutes of the Liaison Meeting** 2 - 6
For Information.
 - 4.2 **Executive Committee - April 15, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes** 7 - 15
ITC/EC Joint Session (pages 7-9) - For Information.
5. **BUSINESS**
 - 5.1 **Roundtable: Focus on Collaboration**
 - 5.1.1 ITC 2026-27 Highlights and Updates
 - 5.1.2 Executive Committee 2026-27 Highlights and Updates
 - 5.2 **Topics for Discussion**
 - 5.2.1 Reconciliation and Engagement with First Nations
 - 5.2.2 Updating ITC's Regional Conservation Plan
 - 5.2.3 Discussion on Artificial Intelligence at the Islands Trust
6. **NEXT MEETING**

The next Executive Committee Joint Session with the Islands Trust Conservancy Board has not been scheduled, but will likely be in April 2027.
7. **ADJOURNMENT**



ADOPTED

Islands Trust Conservancy – Executive Committee Minutes of a Liaison Meeting



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

Board Members Present: Lisa Gauvreau, Chair, Trustee
Tanner Timothy | nənqəm, Vice-Chair, Appointed Trustee
Jeannine Georgeson, Appointed Trustee
Risa Smith, Appointed Trustee
Susan Yates, Trustee
Tobi Elliott, Trustee and Vice-Chair, Executive Committee

Executive Committee Members Present: Laura Patrick, Chair, Executive Committee and Islands Trust Council
Timothy Peterson, Vice-Chair, Executive Committee
David Maude, Vice-Chair, Executive Committee

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

Guest Regrets: Eamon Gaunt, Cowichan Tribes
Stephanie Atleo, Cowichan Tribes

Staff Regrets: Jemma Green, ITC Covenant Management and Outreach Specialist
Nuala Murphy, ITC Property Management Specialist

Members of the Public Present: One member of the public attended.

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Introductions and context for annual meeting

Chair Gauvreau called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Chair Gauvreau indicated that the purpose of the meeting was to increase coordination between Islands Trust Conservancy Board and Executive Committee, and to work on common business.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

ADOPTED

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Gauvreau reported that Eamon Gaunt and Stephanie Atleo of Cowichan Tribes, the presenters of item 5.1, were not able to attend the meeting. Senior Indigenous Relations Advisor Elliott indicated the strong interest of learning about co-governance from Cowichan Tribes. Chair Gauvreau proposed that a discussion regarding mapping opportunities, gaps, and strategies for funding be initiated at item 5.1.

By general consent the agenda was approved as amended.

4. MINUTES/COORDINATION

4.1 July 18, 2023 ITC-EC Liaison Meeting Minutes (Adopted, for information only)

Received for information.

4.2 April 24, 2024 Executive Committee Regular Minutes (Adopted, for information only – agenda item 12)

Received for information.

4.3 April 23, 2025 Executive Committee Regular Minutes (Adopted, for information only – agenda item 15.1)

Received for information.

5. BUSINESS

5.1 Mapping – Discussion

Trustee Elliott introduced the discussion, indicating that the purpose was to explore mapping opportunities, gaps, and funding strategies from the perspectives of Islands Trust Conservancy Board and Executive Committee.

Discussion included:

- capacity for seeking current data sources and aggregation of data;
- a gap analysis and ecosystem mapping strategy are needed prior to acquiring specific mapping products;
- there is potential to partner with universities, such as UBC's Martin Conservation Decisions Lab;
- student practicum work could support data initiatives and aggregation;
- in the past, graduate students have produced useful work for Islands Trust;
- local First Nations may have datasets they would be interested in sharing;
- the Integrated Cadastral Information (ICI) Society aggregates data from local governments, municipalities, and utilities into one online portal;
- access and/or membership to ICI Society could be beneficial;
- ESRI software (Islands Trust's platform) provides for ease of ICI Society data integration;
- there is a need for a dedicated staff role with the capacity to work on data analysis and integration with regard to mapping and data sets, joining planning and conservation needs;

ADOPTED

- conservancy priorities rest on establishing and updating baseline inventories of current data layers;
- an overall strategy to direct procurement and budget decisions should reflect that data has a lifespan and will need to be refreshed on an ongoing basis;
- bringing parties together requires administration, logistics, and partnership agreements;
- updating mapping data enables moving beyond a snapshot in time to an understanding of trends over time, critical to conservation planning;
- a reserve fund would make ongoing funding requests easier than a large lump sum budget request competing with other big projects;
- a strategy coupled with a reserve fund would go a long way in addressing identified implementation challenges;
- a corporate plan could take multiple areas of work and integrate implementation with funding over years;
- talk to others about their data, including First Nations and overlapping government and conservation agencies;
- high biodiversity is a priority for Islands Trust Conservancy strategic decision-making;
- understanding carbon storage and biomass in ecosystems is important;
- climate change mitigation and adaptation should inform data collection on a fundamental level;
- key areas for this emerging data acquisition/aggregation plan and funding include freshwater, mapping, official community plan and land use bylaw renewal and the ITC's Regional Conservation Plan;
- this comprehensive approach could be helpful with regards to reconciliation and co-governance with First Nations;
- the title of "Comprehensive Conservation Plan" was proposed
- "Master Plan for Ecological Data" may be another appropriate title
- connections with university graduate programs are an opportunity to accelerate GIS capacity, including: BCIT post-graduate GIS program practicums for students, or Trinity Western University, which has a research property on Salt Spring Island;
- there is a surprising lack of provincial and federal funding support for terrestrial ecosystem mapping;
- another approach to a comprehensive plan could be starting with a small component such as mapping, completing the background work, and then demonstrating why a bigger integration is necessary;
- support for initial work on one element of a comprehensive plan, as a case study to give credibility to a larger initiative;
- unattributed donations could potentially be used for starting a reserve fund;
- decision-makers need sound, current data for confidence in decision making;
- Trust Council's Strategic Plan includes key initiatives that support future land use decisions being informed by data and ongoing monitoring to manage and adapt to climate risks;
- development of environmental indicators regarding biodiversity and a growth management framework are needed;
- there is a strong volume of data on environmental indicators existing and available outside of the organization as a place to start;

ADOPTED

- historical datasets provide a temporal snapshot useful for comparison;
- Islands Trust Conservancy Board can affirm in a motion that mapping terrestrial ecosystems, and collaborating with others doing so, is of great value;
- the Board can request ongoing support and funding for robust mapping and identifying indicators of ecosystem health to be maintained by Trust Council in the future;
- would be beneficial to include the importance of trends and trend analysis in a motion;
- an explanatory briefing to accompany this motion will be useful for Trust Council; and
- choosing the right indicators to monitor in natural ecosystems will incorporate climate change mitigation and adaptation in practice.

ITC-EC-2025-032

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

THAT the Islands Trust Conservancy Board indicate its strong support for a robust geographic information system, supported with long-term sustained funding and strategic direction by Islands Trust Council, to assist analysis of trends and development of indicators of ecosystem health, to support sound decision making in planning, conservation, and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

CARRIED

ITC-EC-2025-033

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

THAT the Islands Trust Conservancy Board request Executive Committee to express support for Trust Council to resource geographic information systems as articulated in resolution ITC-EC-2025-001.

CARRIED

5.2 Conservation Fund Informal Working Group - Discussion

Chair Gauvreau introduced the discussion, noting that the item is about establishing an informal working group with partners and First Nations to discuss co-development of a regional conservation fund supporting long term conservation, restoration and stewardship. Committee discussion included:

- Islands Trust Conservancy Board has capacity to support the working group;
- WSÁNEĆ Leadership Council staff may participate to explore what “co-create” means;
- explore synergies with Washington State Department of Ecology, and San Juan Islands acquisitions and conservation, which prioritizes relationships with Indigenous groups;
- the Salish Sea Ecosystem Initiative exists to share information across borders;
- these informal working group meetings will not need quorum, and exploratory meetings with anyone interested could be sought.

ADOPTED

Director Frater shared that the ITC Board received correspondence from Minister Kahlon, prior to his portfolio change, confirming that the submission deadline of the Board's Five-Year Plan has been extended to December 2027 in order to co-develop it further with First Nations.

Trustee Smith drew the Board's attention to an International Union for Conservation of Nature publication, recognizing territories and areas conserved by Indigenous Peoples and local communities overlap with protected areas.

6. NEXT MEETING

Director Frater inquired about points of discussion for the next liaison meeting between ITC Board and Executive Committee. She noted that the ITC Board meets again in late August, and recommendations that an additional ITC Board-Executive Committee joint session date could be brought to that meeting. Senior Indigenous Relations Advisor Elliott indicated that he will follow up with Cowichan Tribes regarding the co-governance presentation, and options for rescheduling hosting their co-governance information session.

The next liaison meeting date is scheduled to be in-person on July 28, 2026 at the Victoria office.

7. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent, the meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Lisa Gauvreau, Chair

Certified Correct:

Rob Kroeker, Administrative Assistant/Recorder



Executive Committee Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

Location: **Electronic Meeting, and a physical location to view the livestream of the meeting:**

**Islands Trust Victoria Office
#200 - 1627 Fort Street
Victoria, BC V8R 1H8**

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

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

Member Regrets: Laura Patrick, Chair, Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area

Guests and members of the public present: Lisa Gauvreau, Chair, Islands Trust Conservancy Board
Tanner Timothy | nənqəm, Vice-Chair, Islands Trust Conservancy Board
Jeannine Georgeson, Islands Trust Conservancy Board Member
Risa Smith, Islands Trust Conservancy Board Member
Susan Yates, Islands Trust Conservancy Board Member

No members of the public were present.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

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

2. **TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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

Trustees and staff were introduced.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

3.1 **Introduction of New Items**

No new items were introduced.

3.2 Approval of Agenda

By general consent the agenda was approved, as presented.

3.2.1 Agenda Context Notes

Received for information.

4. RISE AND REPORT DECISIONS FROM PREVIOUSLY CLOSED MEETING

Nothing to report.

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

5.1 Draft Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of March 25, 2026

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

6. FOLLOW UP ACTION LIST AND UPDATES

6.1 Follow Up Action List/Director/CAO Updates

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

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

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

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

6.3 Islands Trust Conservancy Liaison Update

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

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

EC-2026-048

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

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

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

7. BYLAWS FOR APPROVAL CONSIDERATION

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

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

EC-2026-049

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Islands Trust Executive Committee approve Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 321, cited as “Gabriola Island Official Community Plan (Gabriola) Bylaw No. 166, 1997, Amendment No. 1, 2025” in accordance with Section 27 of the *Islands Trust Act*.

CARRIED

EC-2026-050

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Islands Trust Executive Committee approve Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 322, cited as “Gabriola Island Land Use Bylaw, 1999, Amendment No. 1, 2025” in accordance with Section 27 of the *Islands Trust Act*.

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

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

8. TRUST COUNCIL MEETING PREPARATION - None

9. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING PREPARATION - None

10. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PROJECTS

10.1 Trust Council Initiated

10.1.1 Executive - None

10.1.2 Trust Area Services

10.1.2.1 Educational Webinar for Realtors - Request for Decision

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

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

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

Discussion ensued on:

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

EC-2026-051

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Executive Committee request staff to plan and host an educational webinar for realtors working in the Islands Trust Area.

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

10.1.3 Planning Services - None

10.1.4 Financial and Employee Services - None

10.1.5 Legislative and Information Services - None

10.2 Executive Committee Initiated

10.2.1 Executive - None

10.2.2 Trust Area Services - None

10.2.3 Planning Services - None

10.2.4 Financial and Employee Services - None

10.2.5 Legislative and Information Services

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

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

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

EC-2026-052

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Executive Committee request the Trust Programs Committee to reschedule November 26, 2026, Trust Programs Committee meeting to January 7, 2027, and that Executive Committee request the Regional Planning Committee to reschedule the November 27,

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

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Executive/Trust Council - None

11.2 Trust Area Services

11.2.1 2026/27 Communications Strategy - Request for Decision

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

Discussion ensued on:

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

EC-2026-053

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Executive Committee approve the 2026/27 Islands Trust Communications Strategy, as amended, and forward to Trust Council for information.

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

11.3 Planning Services - None

11.4 Financial and Employee Services - None

11.5 Legislative and Information Services - None

12. CORRESPONDENCE (for information unless raised for action)

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

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

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

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

Received for information.

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

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

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

EC-2026-054

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Executive Committee request staff to provide a request for decision with options regarding overspending with regards to the secretariate services function.

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

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

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

12.4 2026-04-02 Southern Resident Killer Whale Bulletin

Received for information.

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

Received for information.

13. WORK PROGRAM

13.1 Review and amendment of current work program

Received for information.

14. NEXT MEETING

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

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

EC-2026-055

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Executive Committee request staff change the location of the following Executive Committee meetings from Islands Trust Victoria Office to electronic:

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

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

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

EC-2026-056

It was MOVED,

that Executive Committee request staff change the location of the following Executive Committee meetings from in-person to hybrid:

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

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

EC-2026-056

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Executive Committee request staff change the location of the following Executive Committee meetings from in-person to electronic:

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

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

15. CLOSED MEETING

No closed meeting was held.

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

16. ISLANDS TRUST CONSERVANCY BOARD JOINT SESSION

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

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

16.1 Islands Trust Conservancy 5-year Plan – Update

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

Discussion ensued on the following:

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

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

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

Discussion ensued on considerations for workshop content, including:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Discussion ensued on the following topics:

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

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

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m.

Timothy Peterson, Acting-Chair

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Alexandra Trifonidis, Executive Coordinator and Recorder