



ADOPTED

## Islands Trust Conservancy Board Minutes of a Regular Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, January 20, 2026  
**Time:** 10:00 am  
**Location:** Electronic Meeting

**Physical Location to view the livestream of the meeting:**  
**Islands Trust Victoria Office**  
**200 - 1627 Fort Street,**  
**Victoria, BC V8R 1H8**

### Board Members Present

Lisa Gauvreau, Chair  
Tanner Timothy | nənqəm, Vice Chair  
Tobi Elliott, Trustee  
Jeannine Georgeson, Trustee  
Risa Smith, Trustee  
Susan Yates, Trustee

### Staff Present

Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services  
Wendy Tyrrell, Manager, Islands Trust Conservancy  
Jill Allan, Acting Administrative Assistant, Recorder  
Jemma Green, Team Lead, Protected Areas Management  
Kathryn Martell, Ecosystem Protection Specialist  
Mike Richards, Strategic Fund Development Specialist  
Erica Wheeler, Species at Risk Program Coordinator  
Joe Elliott, Senior Indigenous Relations Advisor  
Jill Marrack, Senior Policy Advisor  
Jason Youmans, Senior Policy Advisor  
David Marlor, Director, Legislative & Information Services

### Regrets

None.

### Members of the Public Present

No members of the public were present in the meeting.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gauvreau called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

### 2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair Gauvreau acknowledged that the meeting was being held in the territory of several Coast Salish First Nations. As a part of the acknowledgement, the Chair shared a quote by Chief Calvin Craigan|híwús from a documentary called [\*The shíshálh Story\*](#).

## ADOPTED

### 3. ELECTIONS

David Marlor, Director of Legislative & Information Services, administered the elections for the Islands Trust Conservancy Chair and Vice Chair.

#### 3.1 Election of Chair

[Policy 3.1.2 Islands Trust Conservancy Board and Committee Elections](#) states the elections for Chair and Vice Chair will be held at the first regular meeting of the Board of each calendar year.

Director Marlor reviewed the election process and asked for nominations for the Islands Trust conservancy Board Chair. Trustee Yates nominated Trustee Gauvreau and Trustee Elliott seconded the nomination. Trustee Gauvreau accepted the nomination.

Director Marlor called a second and third time for nominations and, hearing none, declared Trustee Gauvreau acclaimed as Islands Trust Conservancy Board Chair.

#### 3.2 Election of Vice-Chair

Director Marlor asked for nominations for the Islands Trust conservancy Board Vice-Chair. Trustee Yates nominated Trustee Tanner Timothy | nənqəm and Trustee Gauvreau seconded. Trustee Tanner Timothy | nənqəm accepted the nomination.

Director Marlor called a second and third time for nominations and, hearing none declared Trustee Tanner Timothy | nənqəm acclaimed as Islands Trust Conservancy Board Vice-Chair.

### 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

#### 4.1 Introduction of New Items

None.

#### 4.2 Approval of Agenda

Agenda was amended to present agenda item 9.1.3 'Islands Trust Conservancy 2028-2032 Five-year Plan Logic Model RFD' before 9.1.2 'Islands trust Conservancy 2028-2032 Five-year Plan Project Charter'.

**ITC-2026-001**

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

that the Islands Trust Conservancy agenda be accepted as amended.

**CARRIED**

### 5. RISE AND REPORT DECISIONS FROM PREVIOUSLY CLOSED MEETING

None.

### 6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

#### 6.1 Draft November 18, 2025 ITC Board Regular Meeting Minutes

## ADOPTED

**By general consent** the Islands Trust Conservancy meeting minutes of November 18, 2025 were adopted as presented.

### 6.2 Draft July 22, 2025 ITC/EC Liaison Meeting Minutes

**By general consent** the Islands Trust Conservancy/Executive Committee Liaison Meeting minutes of July 22, 2026 were adopted as presented.

## 7. FOLLOW UP ACTION LIST

### 7.1 Follow Up Action List Report

Manager Tyrrell presented the Follow Up Action List for information.

## 8. CLOSED MEETING

### ITC-2026-002

**It was MOVED and SECONDED,**

that the Islands Trust Conservancy meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the Community Charter, Part 4 Division 3, section: 90(1)(i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

**CARRIED**

**Regular meeting reconvened at 10:33 a.m.**

## 9. BUSINESS

### 9.1 Items for Approval

#### 9.1.1 Section 11 Conservation Agreement between Islands Trust Conservancy and Environment and Climate Change Canada RFD

SAR Program Coordinator Wheeler presented the request for decision.  
Discussion ensued:

- S.11 agreement is a conservation framework and does not come with funding;
- This agreement provides an increased opportunity to access funding streams as they become available through Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC);
- Funding we receive now has significantly enhanced the work with species and ecosystems at risk;
- the Islands Trust tax-base budget was used as inkind match funding for the Priority Places contribution agreement funding; and
- We don't have internal staff expertise for species at risk surveying and monitoring; with our current proposed budget, this work will be reduced once the Priority Places grant ends.

### ITC-2026-003

**It was MOVED and SECONDED,**

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board request staff to finalize a Conservation Agreement between Islands Trust Conservancy and Environment and Climate

**ADOPTED**

Change Canada and to obtain the Chair or Authorized Signatory to sign on behalf of the Islands Trust Conservancy Board.

**CARRIED**

**ITC-2026-004**

**It was MOVED and SECONDED,**

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board request staff to pursue opportunities for funding from Environment and Climate Change Canada for the continued operation of the ITC Species at Risk Program, beyond March 2026.

**CARRIED**

**9.1.3 Islands Trust Conservancy 2028-2032 Five-year Plan Logic Model Request For Decision**

Senior Policy Advisor, Jill Marrack presented on the 2028 - 2032 Five-year Plan Logic Model. Discussion ensued:

- Logic Plan appears to be specific to engagement with First Nations;
- Speaks to only one aspect of Five-year Plan, not entire Plan;
- Importance of incorporating engagement with local conservancies in Logic Plan;
- Discussion on title of Logic Model; and
- Recommendation to amend title to reflect focus on the intention to engage with First Nations.

**ITC-2026-005**

**It was MOVED and SECONDED,**

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board approve the use of the 2028-2032 Five-year Plan Logic Model to facilitate dialogue with First Nations during the drafting of the Islands Trust Conservancy Five-year Plan with the following amendments:

1. Include local conservancies in the logic model.
2. Change the title to “Islands Trust Conservancy 5-year Plan Logic Model to facilitate First Nations Collaboration on the Five-year Plan”.

**CARRIED**

**Break 11:44 - 11:58 a.m.**

**9.1.2 Islands Trust Conservancy 2028-2032 Five-year Plan Project Charter Request For Decision**

Senior Policy Advisor Marrack presented the 2028-2032 Five-year Plan Project Charter and the three phases of the process. Discussion ensued:

- Phase two of the process, in-person meetings, critical to success of engagement;
- Public engagement on Five-year Plan, not within scope or capacity;
- Adding language in project charter on climate change adaptation and mitigation; and

**ADOPTED**

- First Nations as contributors rather than having to accept what is presented – not just embedded in western science, but left open to contributions from other perspectives and knowledge.

**Break for lunch: 12:25 – 12:56 p.m.**

**ITC-2026-006**

**It was MOVED and SECONDED,**

that the draft Islands Trust Conservancy 2028-2032 Project Charter in-scope section on high-level review be amended so that the sentence reads “High-level review (philosophy of the Conservancy and approaches to preservation and protection in the Trust Area; consideration of climate change mitigation and adaptation).”

**CARRIED**

**ITC-2026-007**

**It was MOVED and SECONDED,**

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board approve the Islands Trust Conservancy 2028-2032 Five-year Plan Project Charter dated January 2026, as amended.

**CARRIED**

**9.1.4    2025 NAPTEP Covenant Monitoring Report Request For Decision**

Team Lead Green presented the ITC 2025 NAPATEP Covenant Monitoring Report for information.

**ITC-2026-008**

**It was MOVED and SECONDED,**

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board accept the Islands Trust Conservancy NAPTEP Covenant Monitoring Report 2025 including its recommendations.

**CARRIED**

**9.2    Items for Discussion/Direction**

**9.2.1    Trust Council 2026-27 Budget Review Request Briefing**

Manager Tyrrell presented the 2026-27 Budget Review Request from Trust Council Briefing. Discussion ensued:

- Concerns about raising taxes;
- Areas to consider for cuts;
- Clarification on new staff positions;
- Reducing land securement to offset expenses;
- Securement being most important work of ITC;
- Ongoing management and monitoring costs of protected lands;
- Unsolicited funds and fund management;
- Request staff to convey to Trust Council, on behalf of the board, stating that the Board discussed the request to review and reduce

## ADOPTED

the 2026-27 ITC budget, and that after an in-depth and heartfelt discussion, the Board decided not to make any reductions in the budget; and

- Discussion was delayed to move through other agenda items.

### 9.2.2 Islands Trust Policy Statement (Bylaw No. TC 183) Briefing

Manager Tyrrell presented Islands Trust Policy Statement (Bylaw No. TC 183) Briefing. Director Frater and Senior Policy Advisor Youmans were present to answer questions. Discussion ensued:

- Lacking information on Indigenous relations, ecological balance/carrying capacity of islands;
- Lack of reference to no linkages between islands and Vancouver Island and the mainland (was in first draft); and
- Definitions around conservation, environment and climate change; and
- Key guiding principals missing.

### 9.3 **Correspondence**

None

### 9.4 **Updates for Information**

#### 9.4.1 Public Acquisitions Report

Received for Information

#### 9.4.2 Public Covenants Report

Received for Information

#### 9.4.3 Budget Report – Late Item

Received for Information

#### 9.4.4 World Conservation Congress – Trustee Smith (verbal)

Trustee Smith delivered a verbal briefing on the World Conservation Congress in October in Abu Dabi, with approximately 15,000 attendees. Happens every four years.

Topics of interest were:

- Nature-based solutions, private protected areas and species at risk
- Reconciliation and Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs)
- Other issues – such as the use of AI, the controversial use of synthetic biology for conservation – new policy, still controversial
- Lots of relevant information for Islands Trust Conservancy to glean from

## ADOPTED

- Mention of the presentation of a new report published by the IUCN World Commission called “*Enhancing Climate Change Mitigation in Protected Areas*” outlines how climate change mitigation can be incorporated into protected areas management and planning. Lead author is ITC board member Dr. Risa Smith.

### 9.4.5 Executive Committee Verbal Update – Trustee Elliott

Trustee Elliott delivered the Executive Committee Report. A short meeting was held on January 14, 2026. Items of interest included:

- Stephanie Atleo a member of the elected Chief and Council with Cowichan Tribes, presented to staff and Trustees on co-governance with Indigenous Governing Bodies; and
- Presentation was recorded and will be available to all staff and Trustees.

### 9.4.6 Financial Planning Committee Verbal Update - Trustee Yates/Elliott

- Financial Planning Committee had not met since last update, no verbal report was given.

### 9.4.7 Trust Council Verbal Update – Trustee Elliott

Trustee Elliott delivered the Trust Council Update. Items of interest included:

- 2026-27 Draft Budget and CAO Bronee’s Operations Review;
- Brodie Guy, Chief Executive Officer of the Island Coastal Economic Trust presented on approach and methodology for engagement with First Nations and co-development of their model. Presentation is available to the public on the Islands Trust website;
- Presentation by Hannah Rabinovitch, Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs regarding the impacts of short-term rentals in the Islands Trust Area;
- Appreciation to Trust Council for the motion inviting Islands Trust Conservancy’s appointed Board members to attend and participate in the December 2025 Trust Council meeting; and
- Vice Chair, Tanner Timothy | nənqəm’s perspective and advice about GIS technology was well received.

### 9.4.7 Governance Committee Verbal Update – Trustee Gauvreau

Chair Gauvreau delivered the Governance Committee Update, was ex-officio, but is now a full voting member of the Governance Committee.

## 10. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DELGATIONS

None

**ADOPTED**

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

None

**12. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on March 17, 2026 at 10:00 am.

**13. CLOSED MEETING**

**13.1 Motion to Close the Meeting**

**ITC-2026-009**

**It was MOVED and SECONDED,**

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board 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**

**Regular meeting closed at 2:43 pm**

**Regular meeting reconvened at 3:17 p.m.**

Continuation of:

**9.2.2 Islands Trust Policy Statement (Bylaw No. TC 183) Briefing**

The ITC Board considered Trustee Elliott's proposed motion for the response to Trust Council on the IT Policy Statement (Bylaw No. TC 183). Discussion continued:

- ITC Board's role and responsibility to respond to the draft Policy Statement; and
- Request staff to schedule a special meeting to allow additional time for discussion and decision on the referral response to the draft Policy Statement, prior to referral response deadline of February 6, 2026.

Continuation of:

**9.2.1 Trust Council 2026-27 Budget Review Request BRF**

The Board continued the discussion on the 2026-27 Budget Review Request from Trust Council. Discussion continued:

- Direction from the board for staff to come back with recommendations to update the Fundraising and Donations Policy;
- Strong message from Trust Council to make cuts to the budget;
- Staff will provide a request for decision on some options for reducing the budget with the least impact for Board consideration;
- Provide a review to the board on:
  - Updates to the Fund guidelines



**ADOPTED**

- options to utilize funds for operating costs
- allocation of unsolicited donations
- need to incorporate better language in policy and guidelines on access to funds for Indigenous Governing Bodies and Indigenous-led conservation proposals

**ITC-2026-010**

**It was MOVED and SECONDED,**

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board request staff to bring policy options to the Islands Trust Conservancy Board at its next meeting to guide allocation of funds of private donations, and provide policy options regarding undirected donations.

**CARRIED**

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 p.m. by general consent.

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Lisa Gauvreau, Chair

Certified Correct:

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Wendy Tyrrell, Manager, Islands Trust Conservancy