

Results of Online Public Survey re DRAFT 2021/2022 Budget

Between January 22 and February 7, 2021, the public were invited to comment on the Islands Trust draft 2021/22 budget through an online anonymous survey.

The survey was completed by 941 members of the public and took, on average, 9.5 minutes to complete with a 66% estimated completion rate.

So that some context is provided, below the full text of the survey has been included alongside the results, which also features the raw data of all responses submitted through the survey process.

Survey Introductory Text

We Need Your Input!

Thank you for taking the time to complete our Budget 2021/22 survey.

Before you start, there are some things you need to know:

Survey Closes

Sunday, February 7th, 11:59 p.m.

Anonymous Survey and Personal Information

When you complete the survey you are anonymous.

Survey results, and any other input we get about Budget 2021/22, may be shared publically at Islands Trust meetings, on our website, through social media, or in our publications or documents.

Any personal information gathered through this survey is subject to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Enquiries about the collection or use of information in this survey can be directed to the Islands Trust's Legislative Services Manager at 250.405.5188.

The Islands Trust will not collect, use, or disclose personal information using this SurveyMonkey survey. Please be aware, however, that IP addresses are collected by SurveyMonkey itself.

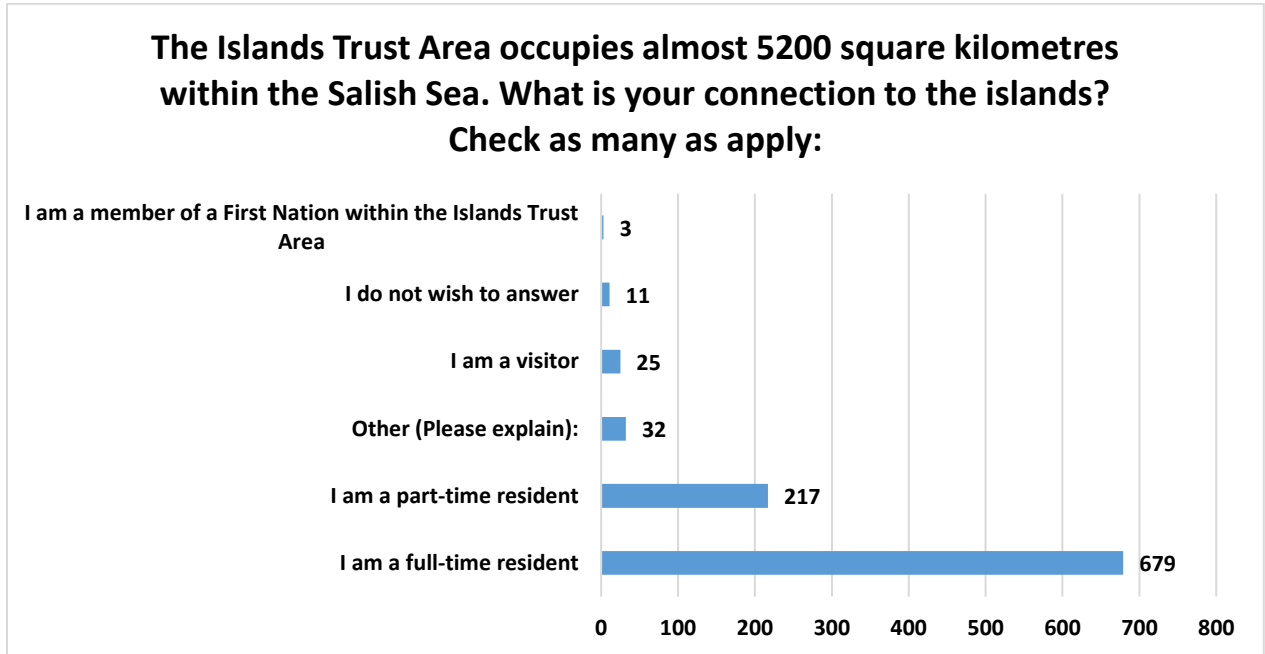
There can be only one survey response per computer. If you share a computer with someone who also wants to respond, please work together on your response, or email your comments to us at budget@islandstrust.bc.ca.

Tell us about yourself

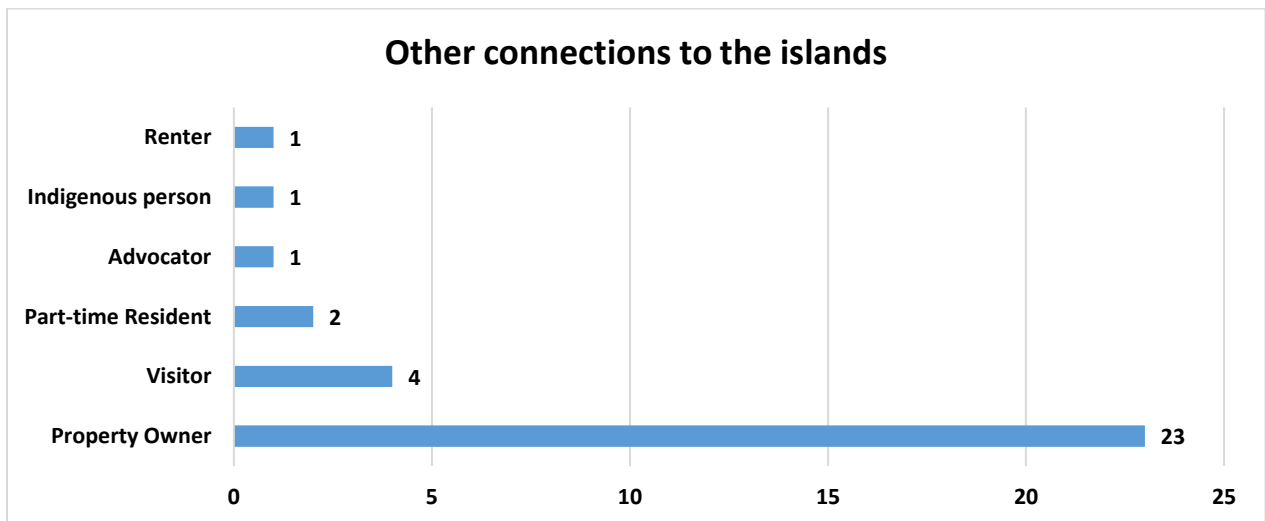
Question 1

- 941 out of 941 completed (100%) who participated in the survey completed question 1

The Islands Trust Area occupies almost 5200 square kilometres within the Salish Sea.



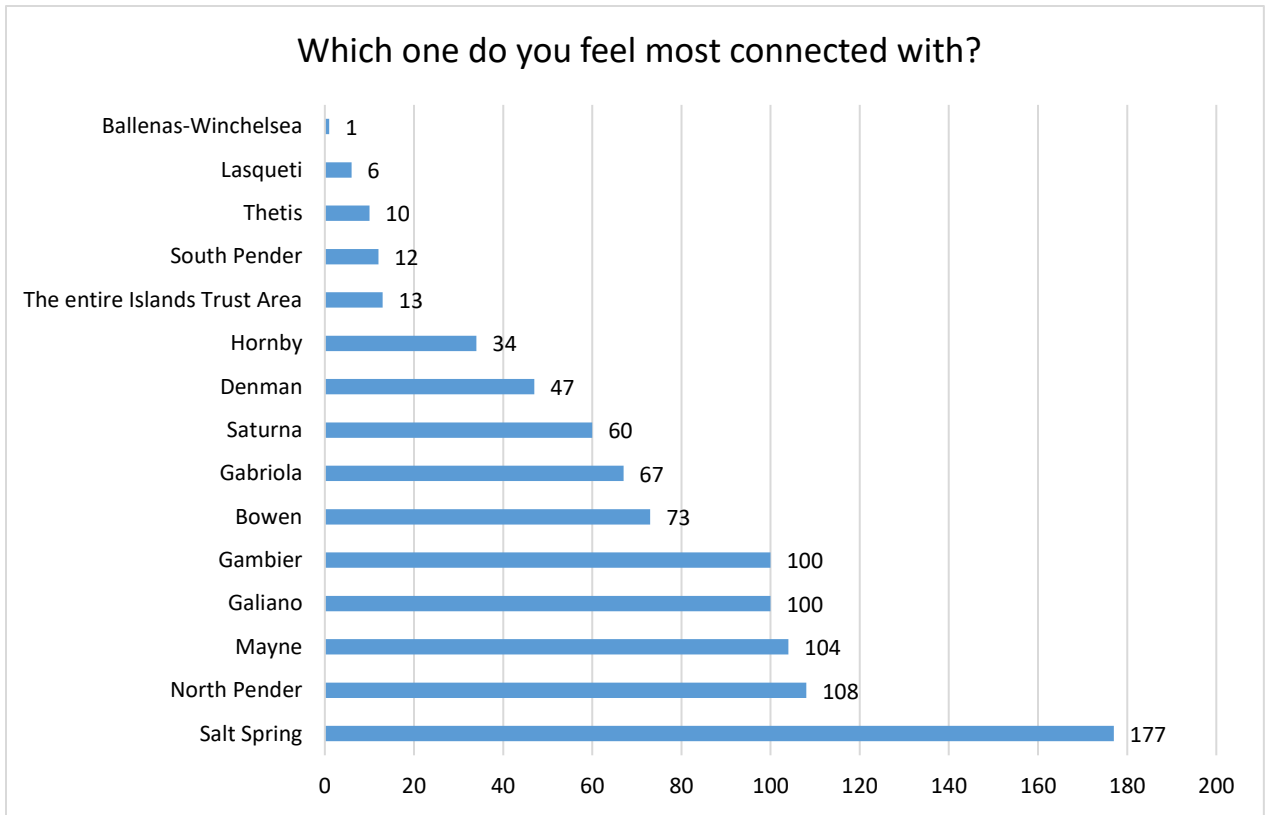
In the graph below, 32 participants had an opportunity to provide other reasons why they were connected to the island.



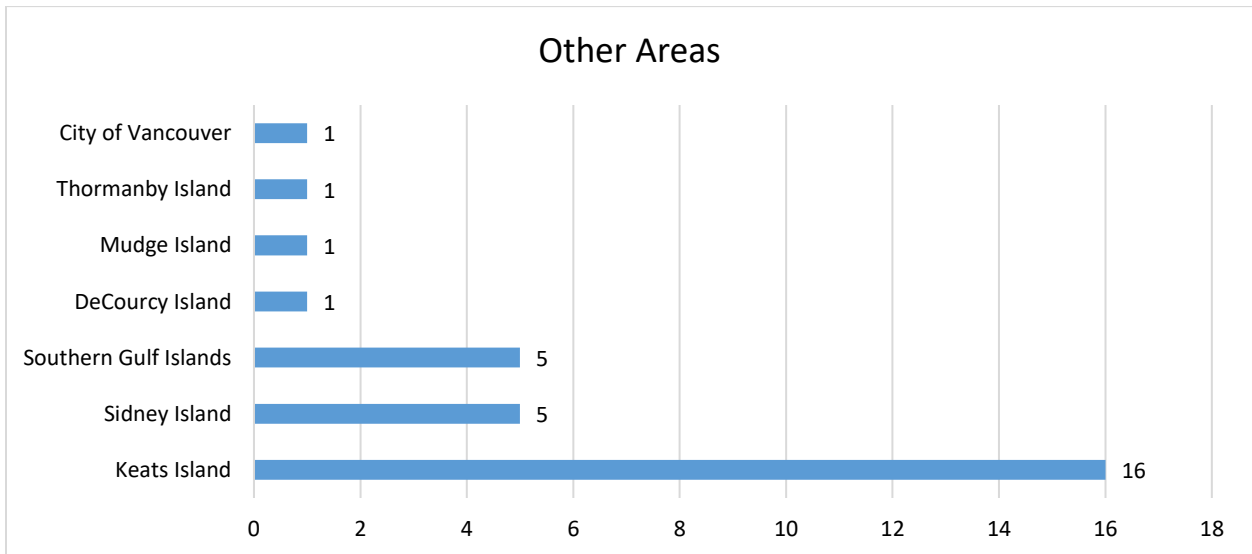
Question 2

- 941 out of 941 (100%) who participated in the survey completed question 2

The Islands Trust Area is made up of 13 local trust areas and Bowen Island Municipality.



In the graph below, 30 participants provided other areas they feel most connected with.



Proposed 2021/22 Budget

Islands Trust works to preserve and protect over 450 islands in the Salish Sea with First Nations, residents, property owners, and all British Columbians. Each year, the Islands Trust Council develops our budget in consultation with the people we serve. This year, COVID-19 has impacted families, businesses, and the operations of the Islands Trust so, more than ever, we want your input.

In developing the proposed operating budget for 2021/22 (\$8,838,460), the Islands Trust Council assumes that the Islands Trust will maintain existing service levels and implement the 2018-2022 [Strategic Plan](#). View breakdown of the draft budget numbers [here](#).

Highlights of the proposed 2021/22 budget:

- 3.26% (\$221,130) projected tax increase overall for the Islands Trust Area (other than Bowen Island Municipality), plus 0.87% (\$59,013) in new tax funds from new development and construction.
- 4.78% (\$14,496) projected tax levy increase to Bowen Island Municipality, of which 1.1% (\$3,273) will be generated from new development and construction.
- 4.6% (\$407,000) of overall budget funded by approved grant funding.
- 9.2% (\$741,890) increase in total operating expenditures (including expenditures covered by grant funding), of which:
 - 4.87% (\$394,803) represents an increase in salaries and benefits costs due mainly to four new staff positions (two temporary, paid for by grant funding for specific projects), and staff wage increases per union agreements/BC Public Service policies which includes a 2.0% wage increase for all union staff and an up-to 1.5% effective wage increase for excluded staff.
 - 0.1% relates an increase of 1.2% to trustee base remuneration. [Learn more](#).
 - 2.0% (\$163,500) represents an increase in Local Trust Committee project spending mainly associated with work in the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area.
 - 1.0% (\$75,000) relates to an increase in amortization expense.
 - 0.8% (\$62,350) relates to an increase in spending associated with Strategic Plan and Council-directed projects
 - 0.7% (\$53,615) relates to rising insurance and legal costs.
- 66.3% (\$65,400) reduction in spending for capital assets.
- \$602,000 draw from accumulated surplus funds to pay for:
 - Climate-focused and other Strategic Plan projects (\$288,000),
 - Local trust committee projects (\$159,000),
 - Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee freshwater projects (\$80,000), and

A Council-directed review of Islands Trust governance, management, and operations (\$75,000).

Annual % change in property taxes (excludes Bowen Island Municipal levy), approved budget expenditures, and actual expenditures since 2012/13.

Fiscal Year	% Property Tax Change (excludes increase due to non-market increase)	Approved Operating Budget Expenditures¹	Actual Expenditures²
2021/2022 (proposed)	3.26%	8,838,101	-
2020/21	nil	8,096,211	Not Available
2019/20	2%	7,753,986	7,672,619
2018/19	2%	7,658,134	7,339,845
2017/18	nil	7,667,011	7,131,865
2016/17	nil	7,260,509	6,588,536
2015/16	nil	7,134,445	7,092,373
2014/15	nil	7,054,080	6,835,277
2013/14	1.30%	6,892,192	6,500,914
2012/13	nil	6,762,473	6,347,261

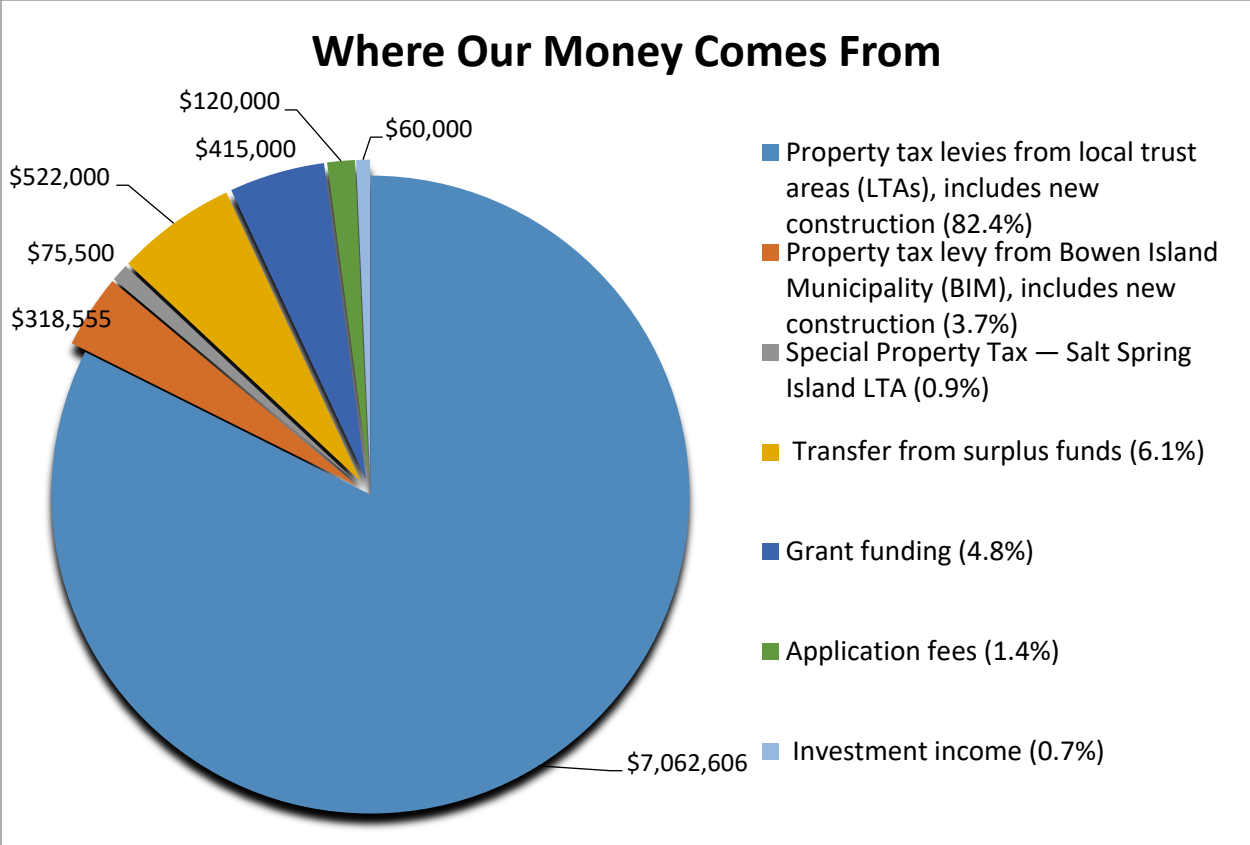
Revenue: Where We Get Our Funding

In the 2021/22 fiscal year, our proposed budget would be funded from:

- Property taxes in local trust areas
- Bowen Island municipal property tax levy
- Grant funding
- Applications fees (development permits and rezoning applications)
- Transfers from Islands Trust accumulated surplus funds
- Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area special tax levy

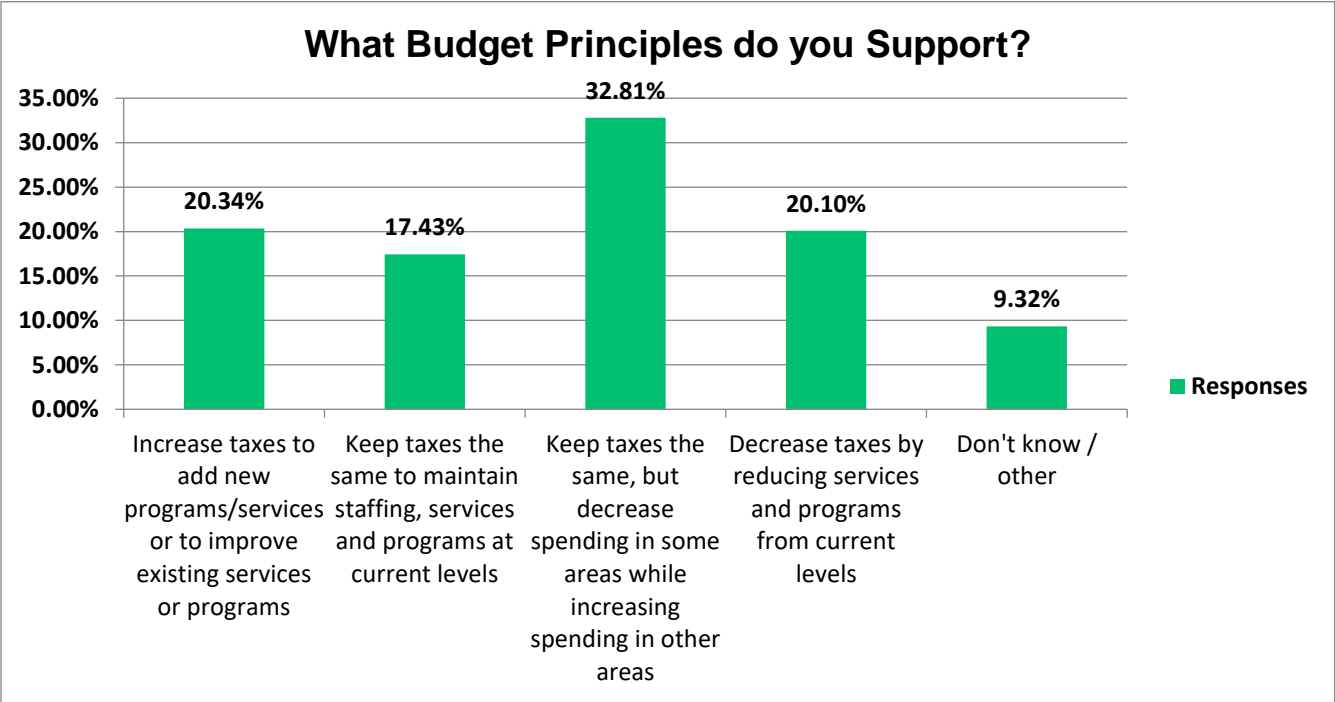
¹ The operating budget excludes purchases of tangible capital assets and includes amortization expense, which aligns with financial reporting for Actual Expenditures

² As reported in the annual audited financial statements

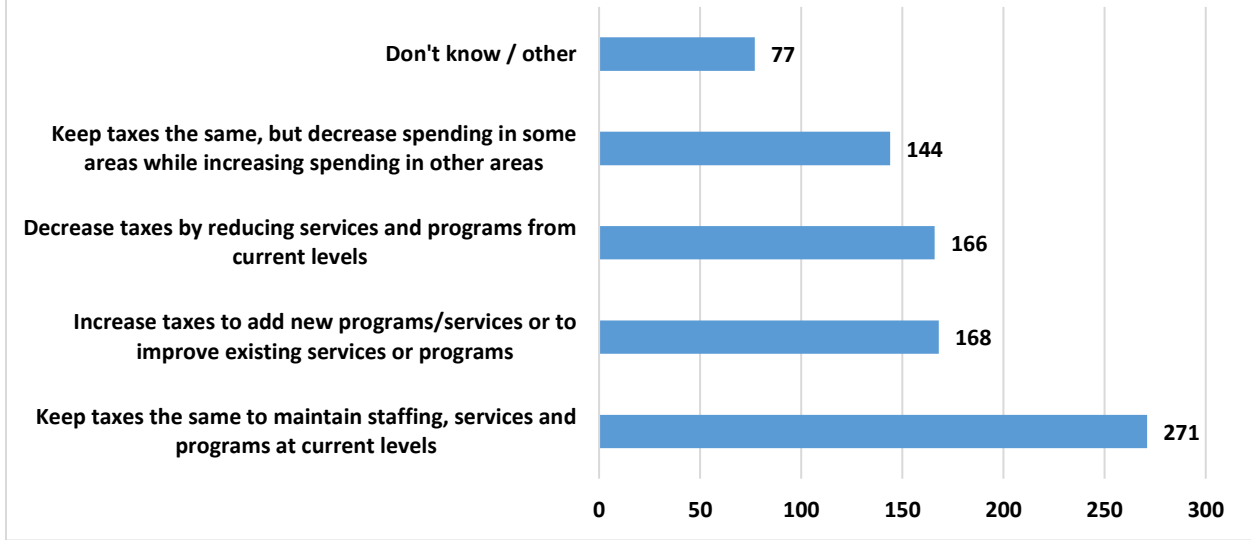


Question 3

- 826 out of 941 (87%) who participated in the survey completed question 3



What Budget Principles do you Support?



The following tables show the comments from 397 participants who explained their choices to question 3.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase taxes to add new programs/services or to improve existing services or programs
I am concerned that the Trust is not doing enough to preserve and protect our fragile environment.
Costs increase and service requirements also increase
I'm educated
I feel that those who can afford land should support programs and services that help the more vulnerable in our communities.
We need more housing and solutions for the downtown Ganges crime area. this cost money
Social and mental health services must be a higher priority
Local trust committees should be able to support more than two top priorities and may need more staff support to do this
because we desperately need improvement in existing services
There is a lot to improve. Maintaining current levels is important and would be great if they were better supported
Services are a great investment that pays back
Because we are at a critical or tipping point with climate change and preserving and protecting our special and unique islands.
Population increases - infrastructure requires sustainable planning
Because most of the programs are necessary and shouldn't be cut.
Taxes should increase to reflect the rate of inflation
Re-investment in your own community is paramount to its success in meeting the regions demands and keeping the environment's homeostasis intact.
Increased operating expenses and special projects

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase taxes to add new programs/services or to improve existing services or programs
<p>Grants should not be funding local government, which, in effect, Islands Trust acts as in the Gulf islands in lieu of municipality designation</p>
<p>I am hoping that policy changes will be regenerative, transformative, and nature optimized. In addition to optimizing current levels of funding, I believe the success of strong policy will require additional funding.</p>
<p>There seems to be a higher need for programs with the pandemic, and those who can pay a bit more should.</p>
<p>We need more public docks. More island development.</p>
<p>There are no services. Maybe if we paid more, we would get some</p>
<p>Believe in keeping up with inflation and good maintenance or the costs are higher later, plus important to have services.</p>
<p>More services!</p>
<p>8 million doesn't seem so much considering the breadth of location and multitude (I expect increasing) issues the Islands Trust deals with.</p>
<p>Because we need to prepare these our island communities for climate change, increased stress and expanding populations as people leave the cities, as well as an aging demographic overall the Islands Trust communities.</p>
<p>I don't want a decrease in services and given the objectives outline recognize that more money will be needed.</p>
<p>Seems reasonable</p>
<p>The more knowledge locals have about the Trust Mandate to Preserve and Protect the better. Spend more on information dissemination and collection.</p>
<p>Because rich entitled people are destroying these places with no oversight by a toothless Trust</p>
<p>The choice I made is only because I think improving existing services and programs is critically necessary. Gradually the quality of planning services work, including attention to important details, comprehending OCP principles and policy and respecting them, gathering of quality information, in support of LTC decision making has gone downhill steadily and shockingly. The most important item on your budget highlights is a Council led review of Governance, Management and Operations!</p>
<p>I value the services the Island Trust provides</p>
<p>Seems like the only sensible choice.</p>
<p>Services are critical to the health and growth of a community. Communities who have cut services see an increase in crime, poverty, addiction and a decrease in all areas of health.</p>
<p>Population is growing. IT Policy Statement and Act needs to be reviewed to reduce the environmental impact on the islands.</p>
<p>While I support increasing taxes to add/improve existing services/programs, I believe 3.26% in one year is too much.</p>
<p>I am in a position financially to pay increased taxes and want to see the community thrive</p>
<p>Our island is growing rapidly</p>
<p>Because I support having good continuous programs and services</p>
<p>Makes sense. We need some new services such as basic garbage collection.</p>
<p>Need for safe cycling, better bylaw enforcement, tree protection</p>

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase taxes to add new programs/services or to improve existing services or programs
More programs, improvements to existing service, and adding new ones are important as our island community grows
Because too much is run by volunteers here and it makes things dysfunctional or not get done.
I agree with the choice to increase property tax, however I do not agree with increasing it above standard inflation.
I'm from Scandinavia— I understand that taxes are the way we pay for the services and programs we need. And that's ok with me.
It is difficult to do more with the same level of funding. Issues facing Islands in the Trust Area have become more and more complex. Climate change and reconciliation for example.
Galiano is severely lacking in community infrastructure and I am sure other Outer Gulf Islands are in the same situation
I believe in the work and the importance of the Islands Trust
It's important to enhance the programs IT supports, especially as it relates to climate change/sustainability initiatives and studies.
All warfs need upgrading. Forget wasting money on trails. Etc
We need a bridge or a car ferry
The majority of islanders are multiple property owners. I wish to avoid a revolution the poor.
I believe the Island Trust needs to expand their role of oversight/protection and preservation of key environmental and ecologically sensitive sites.
I support more salaried jobs if they are in my region, and for those people to be well paid. Ideally someone in my Pender community. And climate change prep.
Because in order to get further ahead we need to grow our resources, making Pender less reliant on outside relief initiatives.
So long as those on fixed income receive full allowances this option would benefit everyone
Provided that improving the existing services and programs are done with forward thinking and in a manner that stays true to the islands trust mandate.
I support a major increase on taxing high-wealth property owners
Lots of room for improving quality of life on the islands, eg housing for locals incl seniors, low income others. Environmental supports. Reconciliation with indigenous population.
It is important to keep pace with the needs of Islands Trust
Trust work is crucial; Budget is not very high at \$8.8 M for a large geographic region
More proactive planning to protect the environment and fulfill the mandate is necessary
I want more capacity for local governance and am willing to pay for it.
Bylaws are not being enforced and new owners are finding out that their purchased property is non-compliant. We desperately need a bylaw review, to discard unenforced bylaws, and create the desired enforceable bylaws. THEN ENFORCE THEM.
Can't afford it, but the place needs replanting.

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase taxes to add new programs/services or to improve existing services or programs
<p>There is a climate emergency and also our demographics and economic realities on the island are changing drastically. it's important to adapt. We need to refocus EVERYTHING through the lens of decolonization. Saying we won't do that because it is expensive is just us perpetuating the problem. OCPs and LUBs are out of date and need to be amended. We need to know a lot more about the health of our aquifers and ecosystems, and respond nimbly. We need to inspire and require everyone to lower their impacts, and to make sustainable choices. So we need to fund this.</p>
<p>I can accept a 3.2% increase given the needs and goals outlined above. In particular I hope the increase related to Salt Spring will mean we receive a more equitable share of services based on population.</p>
<p>I am in favour of property taxes</p>
<p>Programs to protect the islands are beneficial.</p>
<p>Need to build rental housing for working locals</p>
<p>New programs are important, service improvement always welcome, where else is funding to come from if not from residents who benefit from it? Increase is modest and there has not been one for a while.</p>
<p>I value the work of the Trust and appreciate efforts to control costs where ever possible</p>
<p>It is needed and can be paid for by those who can afford to pay</p>
<p>Need is high and ability of property owners to pay is high</p>
<p>Professional interest in water resources</p>
<p>Because we need better services offered including continued water studies as well as ACTUAL change in policy and SUPPORT of affordable housing</p>
<p>There are many items that need to be moved forward</p>
<p>Add a vacant home vacation home property tax</p>
<p>Nothing happens without money these days.</p>
<p>The Island Trust is vital to protecting and preserving the islands natural environment</p>
<p>Taxes should be increased only to the extent they cover services and programs that have been fully vetted and approved by the Islands Trust Council.</p>
<p>We have pressing housing, climate, and economic priorities that require innovation and help.</p>
<p>residents need to invest in keeping our islands economically and socially vibrant. Adequate funding to meet the current and anticipated challenges need consistent financial support.</p>
<p>I am very sad to see how little budget is set for projects engaging communities in looking at better ways to do affordable housing, beyond the ineffective density transceivers the IT seems stuck On. On the other hand! I am dismayed by the approach in the governance, management and ? (I forget the 3rd topic) review.</p>
<p>important to maintain and enhance Trust services in support of our fragile environment.</p>

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep taxes the same to maintain staffing, services and programs at current levels
<p>We may be hit with more RD taxes for the New Brighton dock</p>
<p>Out of awareness of public outcry when taxes are raised. I would love to see more services and infrastructure in the Gulf islands, buy understand the population won't tolerate higher taxes</p>

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep taxes the same to maintain staffing, services and programs at current levels
Increasing salaries by raising taxes is not the answer
To keep steady while creating a new plan...a plan that works. i.e new ways of thinking to build appropriate spending on infrastructure.
Need to maintain what we have. But don't like more taxes.
2020/2021 bad years due to covid-19
Local committees have personal agendas.
Satisfied with current status
awaiting results from any upcoming policy statement changes
Covid means less dollars from unemployment
With Covid-19 times are difficult
I am currently a part time resident, planning to become a full time resident when I retire. I have been planning this move for over 10 years. I am looking forward to being an active participant and volunteer on Galiano Island. Recently I have been concerned that there will be unprecedented pressure to develop the gulf islands into a suburban setting by those wishing to find more affordable housing close to the major cities of Vancouver and Victoria. I truly believe that there is a desperate need for affordable housing solutions for LONG time island residents, I am concerned about a trend that I see of persons that have lived on the islands for five minutes demanding subsidized affordable housing and queue jumping our island residents , such as seniors and single parent families and disrespecting land covenants. I am hoping that the Islands Trust will protect the urbanization of the islands at nature's expense! If the Islands Trust can do this, I will be happy to pay increased taxes.
Satisfied with how things are going.
It's not an appropriate time to increase taxes. Instead, taxes that go to services not used by the islands should be funneled to Islands Trust.
I deem it important to maintain the well-being of our communities so as not to add to the Covid-related economic problems.
Already taxed to death. Be more effective with your money.
If it's not broken, don't fix it.
Everything is working fine as it is.
Most services & programs should be already up & running smoothly within the budget.
I do not believe that now is the time to increase our property taxes. And that what we receive now in services and programs is sufficient.
I reviewed the focus areas covered in the budget and believe the environmental issues are being addressed
Money is tight this year
Looks like most of the money goes to admin, not island services and improvements.
If you have the option to not raise taxes at this point in time, that would be the best for the communities which you serve
The year of a pandemic is not the time to raise taxes.
LIMITED FINANCES, PENSION ONLY
given the current financial situation with Covid-19 we feel the status quo is the fairest situation
I'm retired. I'm on a fixed income. I can't afford higher taxes.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep taxes the same to maintain staffing, services and programs at current levels
3.26 seems like a large hike given the increases constantly going up. Also why is Bowen not taxed as much?
it seems sufficient. the trust is doing good work. i don't want my property tax any higher.
taxes are high enough, especially in this era of economic hardship.
Costs, strain in COVID times
No need to add more taxes right now given the pandemic. Definitely services should be maintained and staff wage increases are reasonable.
Because of Covid and the financial burden many are experiencing at this time.
Because of Covid we are entering into difficult times for many people financially. Perhaps this coming year should be played safe.
I think it should always be considered that some services are not needed or needed less and taxes can levels can be maintained and fine tune their distribution
Property taxes in local trust areas should not go up right now due to loss in the populations revenue due to COVID and impacts such as decreased tourism.
F funds were used towards hiring more IT Planners I would support an increase, however, I'm not in support of increasing our taxes to pay for a bylaw officer
My income is static, no longer working.
I am sick of paying more, more , more.
to be fiscally responsible
You are milking us every year and we do not receive a commensurate level of value from your organization
They are doing an adequate job with current services
I think the IT is doing a good job with its current services
I am satisfied with current services
Tax increases at this time are inappropriate. We have suffered a covid induced recession, unemployment is up, most incomes are down, even though union agreements contract for wage increases far exceeding inflation, these are never the less contracts that must be honoured. At this point in time it is the responsibility of government at every level to put a hold on expanding services. both provincial and federal governments have necessarily added to their debt loads, and we are headed for uncertain financial times.
Salary increases are ridiculous this year. So many folks out of work and the Government is not supporting so how could you possibly be considering a raise and adding more employees?
I'm happy with the current level of services

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep taxes the same, but decrease spending in some areas while increasing spending in other areas
its time for all levels of government to stop just increasing their own fiefdoms and take a look at cutting in some areas and increasing in others.
We can't increase taxes now as many are suffering financially; landlords will pass on the expense to renters. However some prams, such as reconciliation and environmental protection need attention

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep taxes the same, but decrease spending in some areas while increasing spending in other areas
Adjustments in services are necessary
There is absolutely no need for more bylaw enforcement officers harassing people in times of crisis at tax payer's expense, while the bylaws do not align with the OCP and do not support rural livelihood. What we need is a planner who is dedicated on reworking the bylaws to actually make sense and align with the OCP - such as housing security, making a living on one's properties, ecological land stewardship, community farming.
Given the fact that planning department of Bowen island Municipality has been developed in the past years to provide the necessary service on the island, the part of budget of the trust directed to planning should potentially be decreased and the amount obtained be transferred to other well needed assignments such as protection and safeguard of Bowen Island shorelines and marine foreshores (restrictions on docks in sensitive areas) as well as the protection and preservation of our forested areas on Crown Lands against the potential decision of the provincial government to make it available for logging.
Prioritize the needs using existing staff (no new hires!)
More environmental conservation please
I would like to see changes in bylaw enforcement: move away from a "complaint-driven" system to one in which complainers are investigated before those they report. This would cut WAY DOWN on complaints!
Covid put financial strain on many
difficult times
Some services need improving, but no matter how much is spent nothing changes
No increase in taxes
A huge portion of the budget actually seems to go to staff of various sorts and not actually to doing things. Although this fact is hidden quite well in your highlights
Something is not working well at Islands Trust and needs to be better examined
some programs I support are under funded
I think the Trust should be a stronger, more public, advocate for its mandate, in particular respecting Bowen Island and Howe Sound.
Because money spent on bylaw enforcement is money spent on KILLING community spirit!
Because I feel the by laws are put dated and need work. It is possible to have a win win
Honestly we haven't recovered from the pandemic yet and can't spend more money on this island
Housing is already challenging and having to pay more in property taxes makes it that much harder to stay here. Frustrating that the extra revenue is also going to projects on salt spring...
too big jump in operating budget. why 4 new staff?
I believe we need to divert funds from bylaw enforcement to peacemaking and restorative processes. In my experience, also, planning staff are grossly inefficient because they're approach to the citizenry is antagonistic rather than collaborative. They don't work with citizens in the interests of good planning. Instead, they focus on a myriad of ways to say no. We need a community-oriented overhaul of the system. Adding more officers and planners, without changing their approach, is a waste of money, and very harmful to our community.

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep taxes the same, but decrease spending in some areas while increasing spending in other areas
Take care of the islands, reduce spending on offices and overhead, etc.
We do NOT need more bylaw enforcement officers!
Extra funds harder to come by during pandemic conditions. Also, pandemic conditions shift focus of spending to timely causes.
should be less spent on travel, offices etc. due to covid, more can be done remotely, decrease spending in bylaw enforcement, increase in staffing to support problem solving and community harmony
I feel that there are some areas where the Trust could spend less..eg: here a local staff liaison who actually lives on each of the bigger islands... save on staff travel, overtime etc. Invest locally...
I've been through a DP/SUP process recently: there was an extraordinary over production of work. Staff could have saved IT and parties many thousands of dollars by working from evidence on the ground instead of applying abstract regulation from above. Until the overproduction of work is curtailed, I don't see why we should invest more into a system that fails to observe and integrate local conditions and contexts.
In a time of economic struggles for many residents it would be appropriate to put the tax payer into a better position of coping with financial responsibilities.
this is not the time to increase taxes for any reason. Ma y people are hurting badly
can't afford more taxes...
The IT is trying to do too much in too many areas, stick to your mandate to preserve and protect
I do not support increasing bylaw enforcement officers. WE don't need more enforcement. We need to change the bylaws to make it living here harmonious. We need to reduce bylaw enforcement and add a position that can HELP property owners interpret and build/develop/problem solve in accordance with the bylaws that are NOT planners. This is the most ridiculous budget increase proposal I have seen yet.
I feel the Islands Trust is very top heavy. Too much admin.
Any increase needs to be fully justified and subjected to a rigorous community vetting process. Predictably, there are some expenditures with which I agree, and others with which I would take issue.
The budget appears top heavy, funding administration costs and deficient in island services and project enhancement deliverables.
Prudent fiscal management during unprecedented times.
The Eastbourne float is too heavy to accept a helicopter and floods in the winter making it dangerous when boarding watercraft
COVID impacts to household income is hard to justify increased expenditures
Covid prevented increase in jobs, pay for young residences
Given the size of the budget, and the fact that the trust is conducting a study of its operations, management and governance it would be silly to add new programs and services today without knowing what the current services should cost.
In a year that has families hurting for income and loosing jobs not everyone can afford an increase which may cause some severe financial urdens

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep taxes the same, but decrease spending in some areas while increasing spending in other areas
<p>In this time of global pandemic and economic uncertainty, raising taxes should not be considered. With current levels of taxation, spending priorities should be reevaluated rather than just maintaining the status quo.</p>
<p>top heavy administration. cut back admin spending</p>
<p>Property Tax Change table is misleading. 20/21 nil change with 4.4% increase in Operating Budget. Do MORE to eliminate Fallow Deer!! Are there not some programs that are at end of life and can be terminated?</p>
<p>Focus on priorities without increasing taxes.</p>
<p>Taxes are extremely high.</p>
<p>It doesn't seem that we are currently greatly benefiting on Gambier Island / would like to see where \$ is going</p>
<p>While I'm hugely in favour of the Island's Trust's work, so many people are really struggling during this time of pandemic that I think it a poor choice to increase taxes now. Looking for ways to cut costs without compromising important work (and letting everyone know that you're doing that!) would be a very wise step at the moment, I imagine. When the dust settles, it'll be time to raise taxes, I think. I would very much like to see Island's Trust programs & services expand in the future, of course.</p>
<p>What is to be gained by a Council-directed review of Islands Trust governance, management and operations???</p>
<p>Because it's not the time to increase the amount coming out of pockets when there isn't the ability to visit owned properties due to public health and the economy of island businesses is depressed</p>
<p>Use taxation revenue responsibly. For instance, virtual trust council meetings are adequate. No need for taxes paying for travel to weekend long meetings.</p>
<p>We have very few direct services for residents so should not be burdened with projects that have limited direct value.</p>
<p>There seems to be a heavy amount in savings, and lack of funds going back to the communities. The monies are focused on conservancy and nature with very little towards community development.</p>
<p>Logical</p>
<p>Because the systems need to renewed to include a much more holistic, caring, accessible approach</p>
<p>Taxes paid already are higher then they should be. Needs always change from island to island</p>
<p>I support the IT, but it believe if it is efficient and adaptable (as it should be), tax increases can be avoided</p>
<p>Too much bureaucracy in the organization. No new staff needed</p>
<p>Being on an island, the expectations are different than living in an urban area</p>
<p>Difficult economic times, total increase should be in line with inflation</p>
<p>Time to reevaluate which projects to go forward with and which to continue</p>
<p>Prudent fiscal management during unprecedented times.</p>
<p>Tax increases are not the best solution, better to cut costs where possible</p>

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep taxes the same, but decrease spending in some areas while increasing spending in other areas
<p>I think priorities need to be re-visited and funds focused on preserving the islands as rural regions and not building them up as mini cities. Islands cannot be all things to all people. Trustees are not mayors, responsible for ensuring population growth (impossible on an island... where's the limit?) or growing the local economy. They must make sure that the islands can continue to exist "as planned", raise awareness where sustainability is compromised, and ensure the natural resources are protected. A couple of decades ago, growth mandates may have been reasonably within scope, but I don't think they apply any more.</p>
<p>Redistribution of wealth for the Environment is critical.</p>
<p>Our fire department is grossly overpaid</p>
<p>i want a greater emphasize on the Islands. Staff is a huge cost plus all union and etc. By on the Islands I mean projects that gather information from residents about preserve and protect and keep more money on the Islands</p>
<p>It is hard to reconcile such a larger budget increase during these difficult times.</p>
<p>I think certain Spending is not for proper purpose and should be reallocated</p>
<p>The financial pressures related to COVID-19 have led to loss of income so now is a time for restraint</p>
<p>Amortization is only a book expense, it is not a cash outflow, why are you taxing people on it?</p>
<p>This is a massive budget and I don't see where it's being spent anywhere on Gambier Island.</p>
<p>COVID presents a difficult time to raise taxes. Although we need stimulus, we could adjust where we spend to support island needs as best we can (I know, you already do a good job at that!)</p>
<p>We cannot afford a tax increase. Keeping them the same however means that adjustments will have to be made.</p>
<p>I live on Bowen, please start to take interest in our island</p>
<p>We are tapped out with taxes at the moment</p>
<p>We pay a lot in taxes for very little service. Our roads are a disaster.</p>
<p>I'd like to see more enforcement of current rules. I don't think the Trust is particularly effective within its mandate. It should focus on using the tools it does have within its narrow mandate and stop trying to solve problems that aren't in its jurisdiction.</p>
<p>when using public money responsibly, budgeting should include areas where cost cutting can be done, in addition to areas of growth that require increased funding. I see no effort in this document to outline areas that have become bureaucratic and inefficient. If you do this in a fair and responsible manner, the 3.2% increase which is large should be reduced.</p>
<p>shift focus so people on island feel supported</p>
<p>I don't agree with increase tax for 2021-22</p>
<p>increasing taxes during or hopefully just after covid feels like a poor choice</p>
<p>Always easy to simply increase taxes instead of doing a hard needs analysis and zero based budgeting.</p>
<p>Tough year financially for a lot of local businesses and individuals so even steady taxes means increased proportion of income for most. Ongoing adjustments are always needed so some govt programs get more relative to others that get less over time.</p>
<p>Lack of data to support how spending more money is essential to support Island Trust mandate</p>
<p>Prudent. Priorities change with unforeseen circumstances such as Covid 19.</p>

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep taxes the same, but decrease spending in some areas while increasing spending in other areas
Spend on ecological initiatives, not on the development of the day.
Evolve services to match new ideas and programs
Lower expenses, Govt needs to limit their activities to the level the represent
Covid has been particularly devastating to incomes and livelihoods. Not a good time to raise taxes or implement new services.
It was the best fiscally responsible choice.
Too much money is spent on analyzing and not enough on actual doing.
Would like to see more spending on the environment and reduced spending on lower priorities
All areas/services should be reviewed and funds re-allocation as required
Within reason, some increase to taxes is justified but I would like to see some reflection of those taxes in services and support to Gambier
Its time to work smart and not aggressively expand programs. Protect those that are important and shift funds/defer activities in non-essential areas
Can't afford increases
Property taxes go up with no obvious direct benefit to tax payer.
Every level of government is increasing its taxes. They all say only 3 or 4%. Well that adds up and no one is focusing on controlling costs because they can tax more.
Bylaw enforcement over consultation services by islands trustees is a broken way of protecting the islands. Increasing taxes to increase budget amounts isn't the solution.
I believe more tax dollars should go towards helping the islands' housing issues
Decrease funding to BEN enforcement, and increase to update OCP to reflect housing situations on the island. The Trust has lost touch with social issues.
I think there is over spending in areas as with all government bodies. The people need to come first.
It is not nessesary to increase taxes to deliver a balanced budget.
Not sure why the roads are not kept in better shape, I feel the money spent on constant repairs only to be for not only a day later could be saved for paved roads, especially on Northwest Road
I would like fewer by-law enforcement officers
Because affordable housing likely requires more staff time I would imagine and I see that as essential.
Would like to see more money go to climate change response
The Trust needs more transparency, more efficiency. Do more with less
Because we're all making sacrifices at this time
priorities, cost sharing w private businesses
It's not the time to raise taxes however there can probably be adjustments made to spending.
Raising taxes flies in the face of affordable housing. Decrease money spent on programs that the IT have no jurisdiction over & look after keeping the OCP & Land Use Bylaws up with the changing times. Respect each & every vastly different communities in the IT area instead of creating Policy Statements that try to make them all the same.
limited benefits to Bowen, not supported by trust operations. al expenditures and overheads

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep taxes the same, but decrease spending in some areas while increasing spending in other areas
Due to many of the unknowns of COVID and changes to Provincial and Federal taxes. I'm on a fixed income.
There should always be a process of review and renewal. Demonstrate that efficiencies have been realized and I will support new investments.
reprioritisation is surely needed to deal with some of the pressing issues.
Every year property taxes increase. 11 PERCENT THIS YEAR. Yet no new services to homeowner. We need recycling pick up. Much smaller populated towns have this, why not SSI??
There is always room to improve effectiveness.
We are in the middle of a very tough time economically. It is likely to get a lot worse once the vaccinations are done and government support funding dries up . This is not the time to increase costs . This is the time to hunker down and spend less
I think it is important to review programs to focus on the most "important "
Bureaucracies have a tendency to just keep growing.
Improvements fiscally can always be made. Surpluses should be used first
Property assessment are rising and more people are building which should result in more revenue for Island Trust. Should also look at inflation as a guiding factor.
Need to re-evaluate priorities
I believe the Trust serves a very valuable purpose. However, I unfortunately--along with many of my Bowen neighbours do not get a sense of value for the tax revenues we contribute. Is it a communication problem? Administrative? I'd cut admin costs and increase 'protection' costs
Increase spending for protection and preservation of the fragile island eco systems. Decrease spending for any form of development or urbanization. Keep islands rural
im not seeing or hearing enough on protections and development restrictions
We cannot sustain endless growth!
To provide flexibility in the services without costing the tax payer more during COVID times
Quality of life is good but strengthened bylaw enforcement could benefit more.
gov keep increasing expenses and services without getting approval from people
some of the initiatives are enormous wastes of money and if we quit doing them we could actually get useful things
Fund spending in the simplest form has to be supported by tax payer before tax increased.
The need for installation of cell coverage here is critical.

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease taxes by reducing services and programs from current levels
Over the past 9 years, the Islands Trust budget has increased at twice the rate of inflation. Why is that necessary, and why should it be allowed?
Reduced spending and services would allow for individual property owners to develop voluntary community based support systems.

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease taxes by reducing services and programs from current levels
<p>The Trust has not done much of anything to preserve and protect our islands over the past two decades, but managed to spend well over \$100 million in growing its bureaucracy and growing its scope. It now way outside its wheelhouse and rather than preserve and protect, probably does more net harm to our islands than good. I'm sure we'll intentioned, but with such a blurred and unfocused direction, it isn't working.</p>
<p>I feel the trust provides little value</p>
<p>The taxes paid by owners on Sidney Island do not appear to result in any tangible services or benefits or value-add for owners. Doesn't make sense to have that wealth transfer determined and managed by IT rather than existing municipalities where many of us actually get our services when off island.</p>
<p>Corona economy requires reductions in discretionary spending</p>
<p>wasted money through inefficient governing structure</p>
<p>The value proposition for the spend has not been realized to date. I am generally in favour of higher taxes to enable government to provide collective services, but in this case, there is a negative impact from the services IT provides, rather than an overall benefit.</p>
<p>The Trust has become an increasingly material cost for property owners, and the service levels are declining - i.e. longer time to do anything, more "professional" reports required for questionable added value, and activist agendas being funded to further the interests of vocal minorities.</p>
<p>I believe Islands Trusts initiatives overlap or are duplicated in some part by other agencies. These are not symbiotic associations they are just duplications. Islands Trust should narrow its mandate and remove itself from matters such as building. Co create policy with the CRD and have then administrate as they are in a better position to be on the islands actually seeing the realities.</p>
<p>Current sphere of control is invasive</p>
<p>Because I believe the trust is a very irresponsible spender getting itself into many territories it should stay out of</p>
<p>Too many by laws and enforcement officers</p>
<p>SSI only needs to support the requirements of land owners and tenants. Items such as homelessness, etc are beyond your remit and to spent trust or municipal money is highly responsible. Think Oak Bay municipality in what services you should it should not support. I don't support one cent of property taxes supporting the most basic of municipal/village infrastructure and schools. Otherwise you don't have social license to spend my money otherwise. That's why I vote at a provincial and federal level.</p>
<p>Due to the current financial situation for most people caused by the pandemic. Incomes are reduced at this time and all taxation should consider this. A modest increase or even maintains current levels will be a struggle for most people.</p>
<p>We have been hit hard by covid and are struggling. We can't pay more taxes</p>
<p>we are barely able to pay our taxes now and hope to defer tax payments this year. we are struggling financially and can't pay more</p>
<p>Costs are too high for services provided.</p>
<p>Don't think Trust supports Bowen Island. WE have an elected municipal counsel who are/should be leading the wqy re your mandate for Bowen</p>
<p>Government just keeps expanding for little or no benefit.</p>

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease taxes by reducing services and programs from current levels
Because your governance model is flawed, anti ecological and hostile to democratic engagement undemocratic
Taxes are too high
More should be done to make greater efficiencies. COVID has been hard on everyone, and the average income in the Gulf Islands is less than the rest of the CRD area.
We have ZERO services on Gambier Island since we have been there for 15 years..
Islands trust deliver zero value. I have lived on Saturna for the past six years and I honestly can't point to one single improvement that can be dedicated to the Islands Trust
Because the Trust hasn't protected our islands, we have
COVID-19 pandemic causing financial hardship
The services Bowen Island receives from the IT are not reflective of the requisition amount. Bowen benefits from the services the IT provides, but not to the level of the requisition amount.
The current level of spending is too high for what we receive from our LTC
The Islands Trust has become a huge and growing bureaucracy which collects an inordinate amount of funds from property taxes and delivers few real services.
With the pandemic and more job losses and loss of tourists, people cannot afford increasing taxes.
Too much govt. Salaries should be reduced/eliminated.
because the current use of tax dollars is extremely inefficient - once the trust learns to be efficient with what they currently provide, then and only then should the budget look to increase / programs change. The island trust has a perfect opportunity to be a model of successful government and is currently failing at their mission.
Consistently see these tax dollars being squandered
More money = more 'services' = more restrictions such as roadside ditches being declared reparian areas... which requires a 30m (100') setback! This conflicts with zoning bylaw setbacks... What a waste of time and energy... so now we need to spend on a study and report to try to justify such stupidity. A creek is a creek... it may have fish in it.. but a ditch is a ditch
Because the Islands Trust is an unneeded level of oversight that delivers no value to Bowen Island nor has it ever.
nobody in their right mind votes new taxes on themselves
I am not seeing the value based on the Islands Trust mandate for the existing services and programs, so prior to spending more money on new ones, fix what is supposed to exist. Additionally, each island is vastly different, therefore how can a flax tax increase amongst islands work. Additionally, with property values and taxes increasing annually, there is already an increase in amount generated by property tax.
I am not sure that the Islands Trust provides taxpayer value at current expenditure levels.
on Keats we are paying taxes for services not available to us
You evil bureaucrats are criminals
I don't see the island trust doing any real work with the community . The representatives go to a lot of meetings but don't do any REAL work

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease taxes by reducing services and programs from current levels
<p>Islands trust has become a bloated castle building bureaucracy pursuing projects and special interests outside its primary function. It should return to delivering effectively its primary function and not engage in wasted efforts such as climate change. Climate change is a significant issue we all should attend to it but it is not within the jurisdiction of islands trust.</p>
<p>I am unconvinced that the IT provides beneficial local governance.</p>
<p>To streamline services so what needs doing is done, with less overhead.</p>
<p>The economy is in shatters. The financial support is very unevenly allocated and basic foods and household costs have risen. Most people have had to make major changes to their financial health. "We" should not be adding to the burden. It is the time to cut some fat. In business the people at the top are bid adieu!</p>
<p>We have too many levels of government doing the same thing, creating an inefficient system.</p>
<p>Taxes too high</p>
<p>There's a pandemic people have lost jobs are you crazy putting tax up 3%</p>
<p>Lots of islanders subside daily living costs by offer services through tourism with Covid restrictions feel a decrease may help to support islanders during these uncertain times.</p>
<p>The only service we get is having our garbage picked up once a year. Enough is enough!</p>
<p>Lack of value</p>
<p>We get nothing for our taxes as is. Can't use the park to many homeless everywhere. My taxes have doubled in 5 years for a working family this is not feezable</p>
<p>All money collected in the trust area should be spent there. Not in Victoria or outlying communities</p>
<p>\$ spend on salary and nonessential projects is outrageous</p>
<p>Too much is spent on staffing for the benefits we get.</p>
<p>Islands Trust has gone well beyond mandate and is overstaffed.</p>
<p>We are governed by too many. Provincial, Federal, CRD and Trust.</p>
<p>Taxes are too high for the level of service</p>
<p>The bylaw compliance & enforcement dept is wasting too much of the budget, policy statement has consumed far too much for a number of years this project needs a much greater level of real community engagement compliance & enforcement dept Is using far too not rather than spending all funds on staff proposals re the new IT agenda.</p>
<p>Bowen Island assessment is excessive when compared to other islands and not in line with any services provided to them by the Islands Trust.</p>
<p>Overall IT is ineffective, not meeting its mandate. No value for money.</p>
<p>The mind-set that continual incremental increases in taxation is wrong-headed. The current trend of unending increasing bureaucracy needs to be reined in. We need lees, not more. Islands Trust is out of hand.</p>
<p>Wish to see Island Trust reduce activities outside its remit, sharpen focus and greatly eliminate your employee count and cost of operation.</p>
<p>It seems that the trust is very bureaucratic and does not operate efficiently. A priority needs to be placed on ensuring that taxpayers are getting value for money. A 9.2% increase in operating expenses is outrageous.</p>
<p>42% tax increase on my property with zero added services.</p>

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease taxes by reducing services and programs from current levels
Don't agree with such a large tax hike this year. People are financially tapped put due to Covid
We already have a municipality. Tax money paid to island's trust could be better used to support our own island
I don't believe the Island Trust is worth its cost for Bowen Island
My income has been drastically reduced first by the 2018 crash and now by the pandemic - why do I not see my IT taxes reduced to compensate. In what parallel world are you operating in?
It seems to me that Islands Trust is exceeding it's mandate of Preserving and Protecting through land-use planning. Significant funds are being spent on altruistic programs that are not your responsibility. At the same time, the land use planning mandate is woefully inadequate, with exceptions to the OCP implemented for little valid reason.
your budget is showing a deficit... not fiscally responsible
The Islands Trust has strayed from its original mandate and is involved in too many non-mandated activities and has also become far too overburdened with bureaucrats and other staff. We are over governed and the oversight is inefficient and often incompetent (e.g. authorizing a new STVR on North Pender during a pandemic!;how idiotic is that?, not to mention a direct contravention of Public Health orders not to enable non-essential travel!!).
I feel the Islands Trust has outlived its use and needs to be dissolved
Decrease taxes by decreasing bureaucracy at the top, review the need of the SGICRC and whether 1) we have value for money 2) there is replication of services from other provincial and federal sources
The negative economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic needs to be recognized as many property owners are suffering financial hardships. Also the Strategic Plan contains too many projects.
Your "services" cost me too much to comply with as is. I do not need or want any more of your "services".
ever increasing government waste of tax funds
Simply put, Bowen Island resident receive ZERO VALUE from being a part of Islands Trust. We have our own municipality and planning resources. You are not required and we must be released from this preposterous, annual waste of taxpayers money.
We don't need the I.T. on Bowen Island, we're a Municipality, & we do everything to safe guard our Island !!
Current taxes are too high without demonstrated value to residents
On fixed income and I cannot sustain increases at this ongoing level. Many programs are duplication of other government and NGO initiatives.
The islands trust is a waste of money
Funds are needed on Bowen for local programs
Because Bowen Island is its own municipality with its own local government, planning dept, environmental & parks staff and its own OCP that is already addressing the issues that Islands Trust focuses on. No need to pay extra to the Islands Trust for services we already have
The current range of Island Trust programs and staffing to administer them far exceed the original "preserve and protect" mandate of the Trust and should be reduced.
Bowen property tax levy should be reduced by 80%
Questionable value from vague programs, can't keep adding, must eliminate some and prioritize

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease taxes by reducing services and programs from current levels
Appears to be low hanging fruit savings
Feel that Bowen Island get NOTHING from being member
Bowen Island does not get fair value for its contribution
I don't understand the need for Bowen to be taxed at a higher rate than other Gulf Island since we are also a municipality and don't use all of the trusts services
DO not believe Bowen should be in the trust
Bowen Island does not need Islands Trust services. You have become a bloated bureaucracy. Bowen Island should be allowed to withdraw entirely.
You are going thru a Strategic Planning Process. DO NOT increase anything until it is complete!
Many individuals have lost Jobs and income due to Covid 19 And cannot afford any increase this year.
I believe we should be working within
The trust and its staff provide a little benefit to our community and should be dramatically reduced or eliminated. The idea of property tax increases to support this is deeply disturbing.
IT has done nothing for me and my family. IT has been disingenuous about what is allowed on property, ie. secondary suite only to disallow which was originally verbally approved by IT office. Went ahead and built secondary stand alone suite at great expense later to be denied. Seems if you have a lot of money to buy crappy land to later be used as density swaps you can win in their rigged game. If you are only trying to provide housing for the community and try to have a bit of rental income forget it. IT serves and protects the wealthy developer not the average citizen of the trust area. Generally amongst my peers the IT is looked upon as basically not for the average citizen but is beholden to big money.
I think all discretionary expenditures should be eliminated, including new staffing, with a view to reducing taxes. Also do not touch any of the surpluses from previous years. These times require fiscal responsibility. One way or another all taxpayers are going to pay dearly for the government excesses and necessities over this past year. We definitely do not need more taxes and better yet - lower taxes. Islands trust expansion is not a luxury we can afford at this time.
I know it's difficult, or impossible, for Islands Trust to understand why the organization is bloated given the inherent biases. From this outsiders perspective, there are so many inefficiencies, too many staff conducting reviews of each others work and too many projects of marginal benefit. How many years and how much money has been spent on the eel grass mapping for example? And to what effect? Sure, it's nice to know things, but when the decisions are obvious at the beginning, this is not much more than an expensive research project.
1. Economy is hit hard this year, neither taxes nor your expense should be passed onto people. 2. You should continue reducing all travel to almost zero. The Zoom process works fine, especially in a Covid climate. 3. Don't just automatically increase your costs and taxes by X% because you can, get creative like every other organization, business and individual has done: do more (or the same) with less.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't know /other
I'd like to see more spent on supporting affordable housing initiatives on Galiano Island, and the southern gulf Islands in general. But don't claim to know how to accomplish this. If it means raising taxes, I am supportive of that.
I would like to know what the actual services and programs are.
Not a taxpayer in the region
renting here - either maintain or increase would be choices as taxpayer here
i find administrative salaries/expenses to be too costly ut i approve of some programs
I am dismayed with the amount unreasonable of bylaw enforcement on the islands and would like to see enforcement tamed to meet the mandate of preserving and protecting the unique eco-systems and culture of the islands. I see a lot of logging, including in watersheds and clear cuts on SSI with no reprimands and yet property owners who are working with the ideals of preserving and protecting are being harassed and fined in ways that are not reasonable or in keeping with the intention of the bylaws.
New property owners and have not been involved long enough to fully understand the services the Island Trust supports
I would probably support an increase (though a more consistent increase each year vs. a large one once and awhile would be nice), but I would like to know which programs or services are proposed as being added or improved.
Don't have enough information to make an informed choice
Not enough information/experience.
This summary is not clear to me and the terminology is (what are the new staff positions?)
I don't know enough about what you do and I was not able to view the detailed breakdown
I can't choose because u don't link expenditures with getting anything done to meet the mandate
I'm 6 months as a new resident to SSI. Just getting my feet wet in the community.
I do not know enough to make a decision
I strongly support the IT mandate and work, and am happy to pay taxes to support them. Of particular importance to me are biodiversity/conservation and affordable housing. I appreciate the careful management shown historically. I do want to be sure, though, that for 2021 and forward we don't end up with compounding rapid property value increases and tax rate increases, making the islands less affordable to lower and fixed income residents. It would be good to see a five year projection as part of this consultation in the future.
Taxes need to be revised. As a resident with little to no services what so ever the taxes we pay are outrageous. Our minimum island infrastructure is not adequately maintained and yet you want more and more money.
whichever choice I make, I get the short end of the stick.
I'm a new resident and unfamiliar with how everything affects me
Denman Island is long overdue for an OCP review and some LUB changes. I don't know how you do it, but give the Denman LTC the money to do this or you are dooming the community of Denman to gentrification.
Because I live on Bowen Island and we don't pay our fair share, I feel that it's not my place to comment.

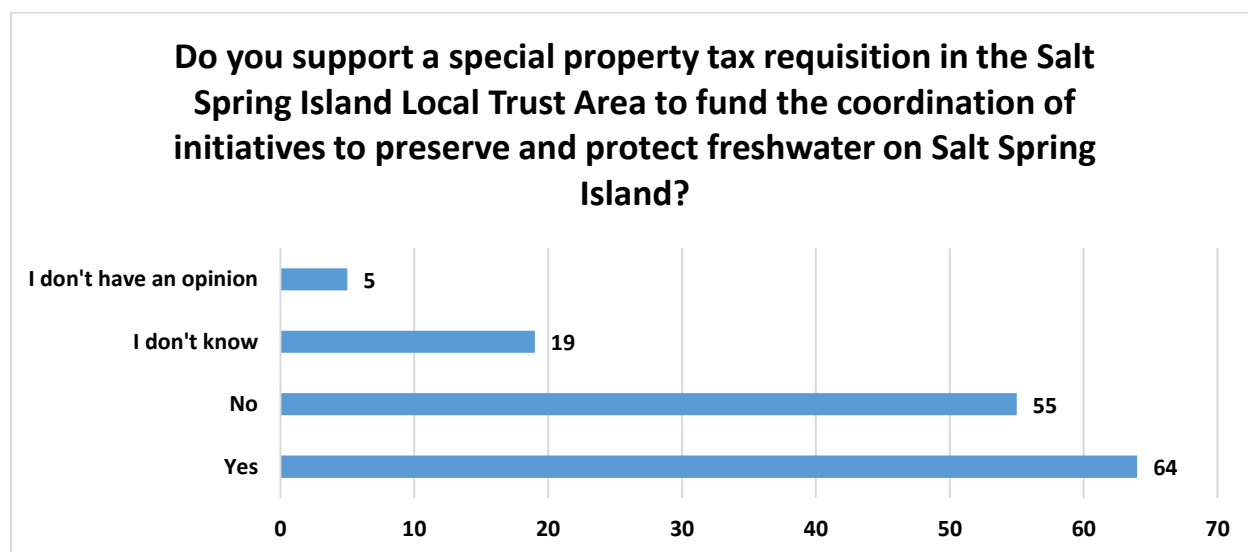
Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't know /other
Ensure costs of new development expense are fully covered by applicants
I support the work of the Trust. I wish the budget to support the vision. I believe in evaluation of services. This might mean increasing taxes or decreasing them. I appreciate accountability.
Doesn't include my choice
I don't think Bowen needs the Island's Trust
Because I support adding/increasing empty home/vacation home taxes and that option was not available.

Salt Spring Island Special Tax Levy

A special property tax levy is a mechanism by which the Islands Trust funds a special initiative taking place in a single local trust area through a tax levied on property owners only in that local trust area. This taxing power can be used when a local trust committee wishes to undertake a large initiative with local significance or to take on additional operations. Since 2014, the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee has funded, through a special local tax requisition, the [Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance](#) to support work related to the preservation and protection of freshwater resources on Salt Spring Island. [Backgrounder.](#)

Question 4

- 148 participants (17%) of 178 who participated in the survey completed question 4 (Note: Participants who chose 'Salt Spring' for Q2 only saw this question.)



The following tables show the comments from 65 participants who explained their choices to question 4.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes
I assume this covers water catchment in rainy winters?

Comments from participants who chose:
• Yes
Water is a huge issue here. We need to find ways to sustain
water is important
yes, as long as this doesn't end up with more bylaw enforcers disturbing the peace and imposing regulations which are likely in violation of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.
As long as the funds are spent on an ecology backed initiative.
Only a qualified "yes". Very nearly ticked "no". This needs careful over by an agency or unaffiliated third party that is not influenced by special interest groups. I don't think the Water Preservation Society can look at the issues objectively.
Preserving and protecting freshwater is critical in our region
Well, it's important.
This scarce resource needs to be well managed and protected.
The preservation and protection of freshwater on SSI requires increased coordination.
I am grateful for a way to act on these issues
Must ensure all involved agencies are coordinated
The island needs to develop a prioritized plan for water management, both services and resources
Water is the single biggest concern that islanders will raise next to fire risk, and the two are inextricably linked. From the point of view of climate action, we urgently need to improve our freshwater supplies to ensure our community's and our ecosystem's resilience in the challenging decades to come. To do so we will need to build hard and natural infrastructure to build/conserv supply. This infrastructure needs to be built to withstand increasing winter rains and summer droughts. We also need to implement aggressive water conservation including mass implementation of water conservation and reuse including rainwater diversion/storage, greywater and blackwater (i.e., composting toilets and/or on-island composting along with chipped wood and other biomass).
Coordination is key to sustainability. Remove the silos and act collaboratively and strategically on behalf of all water needs.

Comments from participants who chose:
• No
add a fuel surcharge for that purpose
Environmental practices of local property owners will make a difference for protecting these areas, not axes.
burden on community
There are other more important places to spend our money right now.
more taxes
there is enough being done already in this area
we should not have to pay additional tax to ensure our water is safe
History of many studies much talk no action
They can't explain the use of the funds expended. Useless!
If water catchment was encouraged rather than discouraged / banned we would have PLENTY of water.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No
I'm on a well. I know my well is good. I don't support any municipal water or sewer system unless it involves all residents. If one runs out of water then it can be purchased. Otherwise too bad. I don't pay for water service and I don't support any tax money I contribute to study water issues for people who made poor decision where they live. Do a study in the island and solving all our needs it none.
I would support it if I trusted the Trust and it's staff to include and support the people who live here. Because I do not trust the Trust, I am against giving more money. Local government needs to win the respect of the citizenry before taking more money from us.
Same as above
again, right now we are not concerned with this issue. we are trying to stay afloat
there should be more taxes to those who use the services and less to those who have to rely on wells and water harvesting, and don't use the freshwater supply. Those that have to rely on their own sources spend a lot of money already to maintain their systems.
not the time to add new taxes
personal money is limited
I have to manage and maintain my own well and harvesting water supply. It is costly enough as it for me to manage my own water.
We already pay usage fees and any coordination should be done through municipal government
We already support this through the payment for consumption of water. Better coordination of resources can be performed through a municipal government.
Again, more money isn't the solution. Efficiency and a strong management team with clear goals and guidelines will solve this issue. Throwing more money at the current situation will only buy a little more time, and in a couple years more money will be requested.
I believe the trust should be done away with
We don't need this. What we need is a plan to recycle water on the island. We have way to many committees we need some action and this is not it.
Yet more taxpayer funded, Inefficient bureaucracy
It would seem that a simple low cost solution would be the imposition of a single water authority by the appropriate level of government. A more unified, approach that would consolidate funds and policies should be the first step.
This is North Salt Spring Waterworks responsibility.
Time for and end to tax increases....where are the tax decreases. We are drowning in ever higher taxes.
If you fix the leaks in the system there is no shortage
Power grab
Worthwhile project but I don't have enough trust in IT to oversee this project.
Hard choices need to be made, if you support the SSIWPA then something else needs to be cut back. How is the effectiveness of this expenditure evaluated and monitored. How do you ensure there is value for money?
Should be under primary umbrella of Trust. More specific deliverables. Lame duck group that can't authorize anything.
No more taxes
This should be a provincial funded lobby

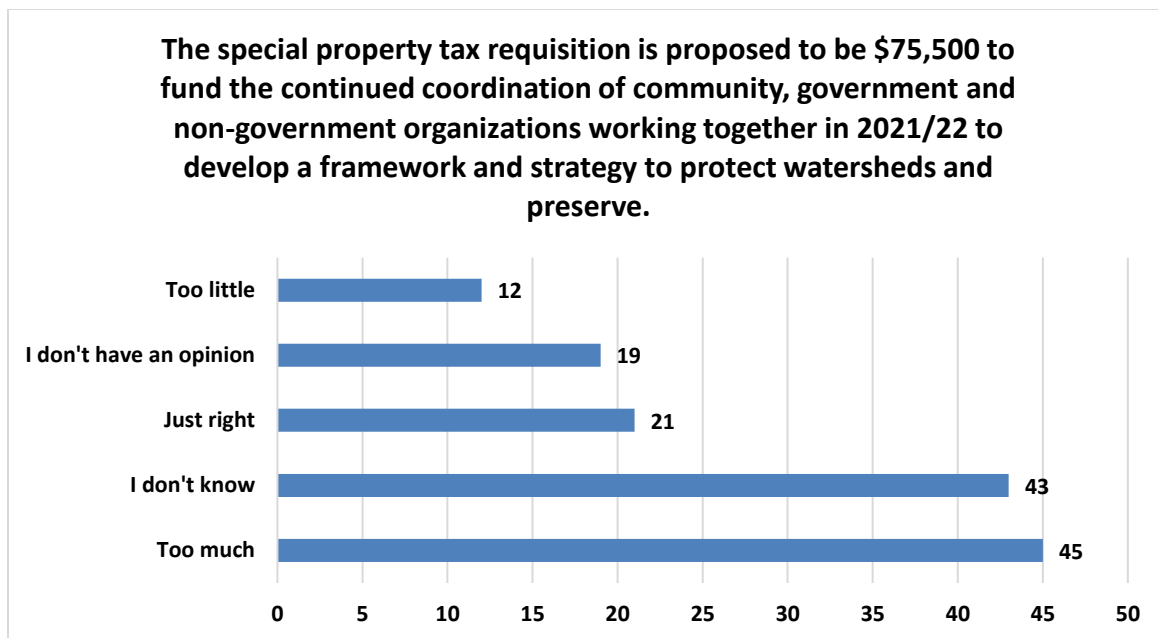
Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No
NSS Water does do most of this...don't need the names of every stream on the island
This is a challenging year to add a special property tax to all residents.
The NSWDC has done an excellent job so far in my area.
Surplus should be used first.
By law enforcement of fresh water use by properties with multiple dwelling who claim farm status makes it unfair for single family dwellings.
I believe there is enough information available already on the areas with issues. When don't need to look for problems where there are none.
I believe a study would be appropriate but I would like an independent body -- not Islands Trust -- to initiate, undertake and monitor the study

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I don't know
I would support it if it meant considering and encouraging water saving practices such as composting toilets, rainwater harvesting, ponds etc. as water supply and lowering the per-person or per-dwelling water requirements where these practices are in place.
I am taxed extra for the water I have on SSI on St.Marys Lake. Charged for a bunch of mistakes and ongoing problems while there are still open sewage fields on waterfront properties. I'm not sure I trust the initiatives.
I don't understand what SPECIFICALLY is being done in this regard, and think we need to do more to upgrade/relocate old septic systems around St Mary's Lake for example. Also given the water STORAGE issues on Salt Spring, I wonder what is being done to store more of the water we have during the winter so more is available in the summer? Can we encourage ways of managing water SHORTAGES through land zoning?
It is not apparent from the information links provided whether or not the alliance has achieved outcomes which justify the expenditure
Not enough information
probably support but have just started reading about it
I think some organized response would be helpful but don't want to see governments role and authority increase.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No opinion
I'm not there all the time yet I do feel that protecting fresh water should be considered is raising taxes the answer I'm not sure

Question 5

- 148 participants (17%) of 176 who participated in the survey completed question 5 (Note: Participants who chose 'Salt Spring' for Q2 only saw this question.)



The following tables show the comments from 58 participants who explained their choices to question 5.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Too much
Projects proposed are not desired, requested or suitable to all those paying taxes.
individual burden
This has already been studied and worked on over the years. use a study that has already been done
again it seems money will be spent on people and not the problem
We still have not forced water storage on new builds- until we do a measure like that, everything else is just window dressing
I would like to see the funds spent elsewhere
Why are we being taxed to protect our water this should be an inherent right to all Canadians
see above
Property taxes are already ridiculously high
see above
How many families could one feed with this money?
Won't provide any benefit to me and us a waste of taxpayer money.
Why is extra coordination needed? The current funding and staff should be able to support this initiative.
We no longer need the trust as other government agencies can do the job
There is enough water on SSI. What you need is to require every house to have a 30m3 reserve and the problem will be solved without new taxes. This is how Australia solved the problem, we don't need a study we need implementation.
See above

It is not clear why this could not be done without the additional funding if there was a single water authority.
This should be done by volunteers
You have all the information needed to fix the leaks
Continuous funding of bureaucracy with little results.
Not sure on this one as I see no plan to ensure the money is well spent.
Cut back on your staffing
Surplus should be used first
No by-law enforcement makes it unfair.
Simple solutions for simple problems.
It is too much if Islands Trust is the coordinating body.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too little
add fuel surcharge
If the residents and the Islands Trust are going to use the argument that they are basing their decisions on water protection, then they need to back that up and provide concrete solutions. This comes at a cost b
Where are Indigenous land stewards?
The preservation and protection of freshwater on SSI requires increased coordination.
"Water is life."
Addressing water issues on SSI is critical for the economic, environmental and social resiliency of the island. The water issues on SSI are complex and require multiagency coordination and innovative approaches. We have to address water if we ever hope to tackle climate adaptation and affordable housing.
I can't imagine you can do much with that amount, but OK
If a plan is to be excited additional funding will be needed
Too little if it's a one year expense. We need a long term plan and a long term spend along with it. Addressing this problem is key to our island's viability in the coming decades.
safe, drinking water is our lifeline. Investment in water quality management is key to the survival of our island.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just right
My understanding is that recent work by this group has been effective.
Preserving our drinking water is paramount.
Could be higher if planned and budgeted

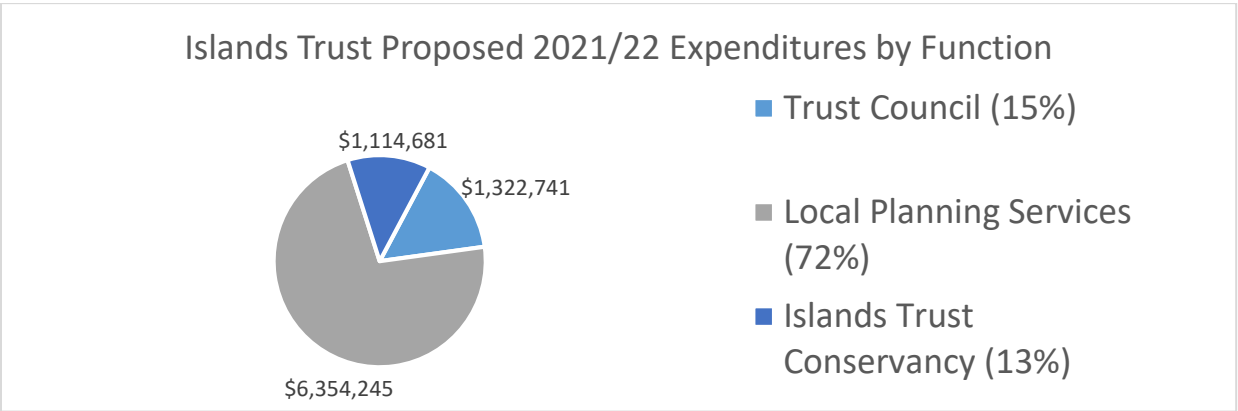
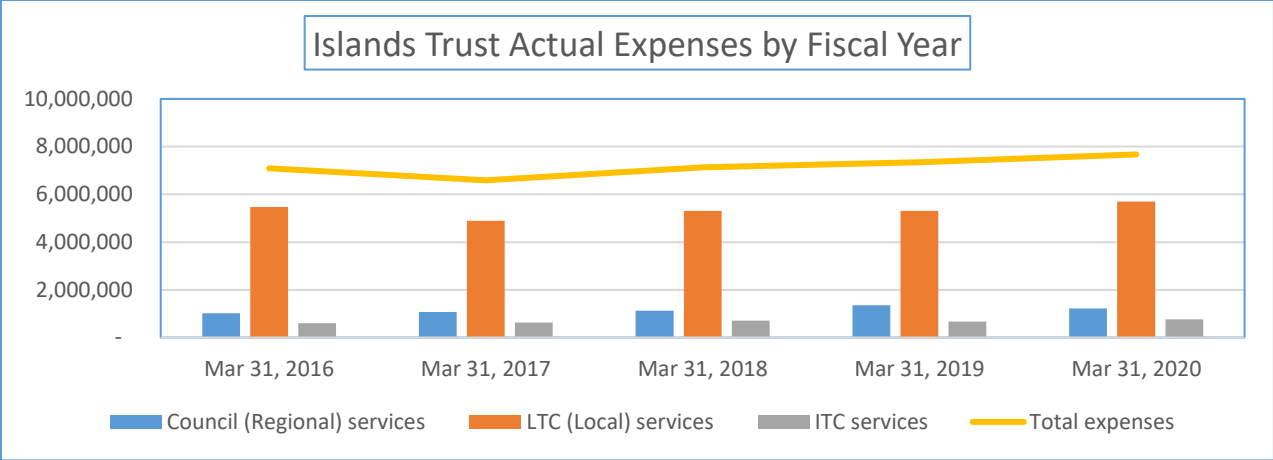
Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I don't know
I don't know what it is actually being spent on?

How does a number evolve for coordination to work together?
What are the cost?
It needs to be effective.
I'd need to know where the money will be spent , to have an educated opinion
wondering how much is for administration
not sure who is getting paid and how much
I don't have a lot of knowledge about this
Same reason as above
Is this an increase or decrease over previous years? How long has this been in place? What has been accomplished? What is the long term objective and timeframe? Allowing it to go on indefinitely with little or no reported results is a no-go. Produce, or go away.
What exactly is the money spent on?
good if it goes to individual or company on SSI, not if off island contractor
I get no sense of how the \$75,000 is to be spent
So ... if water quality and/or supply is improved - then what ... an even denser amount of population!? W/out pop. control and build permit reductions, your proposals for an 'island nirvana' will contribute to Salt spring eventually becoming Singapore North!!!!
I don't know enough about the project to comment on cost.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I don't have an opinion
I would need more detail to have an opinion. In the meantime, I support the initiative.
As above
Need more info and context

Expenditures: Where Our Money Goes

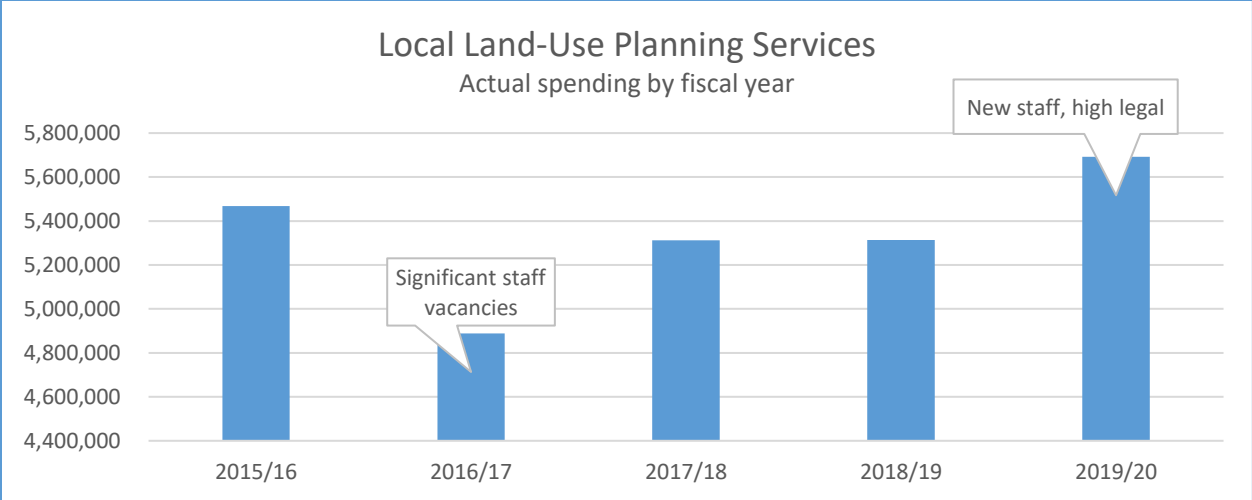
The Islands Trust preserves and protects the Trust Area through: environmentally sound land use planning, land protection through the Islands Trust Conservancy, and working locally and across agencies to collaborate, plan, and advocate on important matters in our jurisdiction. Actual historical spending trends help to inform the draft budget.



Local Planning Services

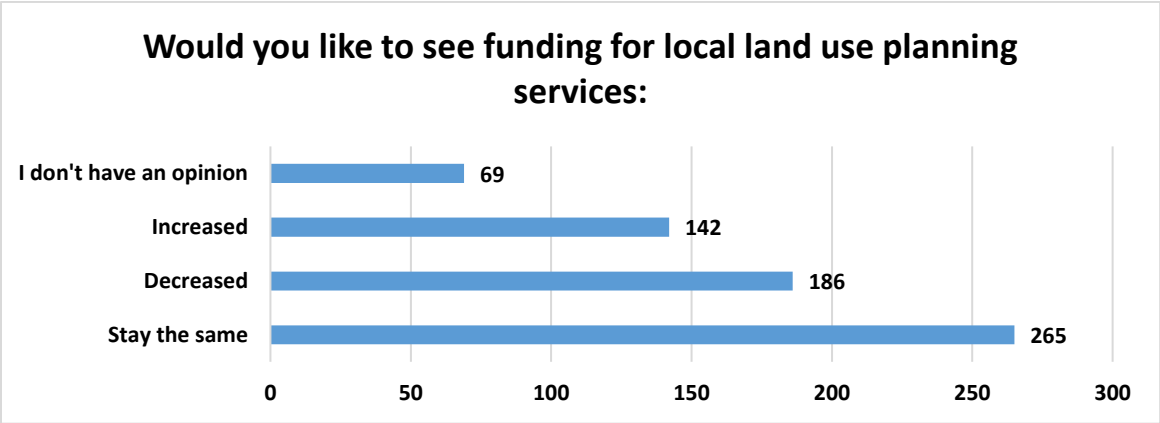
In the Islands Trust Area, the focus of all land use planning is the preservation of the environment, cultural heritage, and community sustainability. Land use planning activities include:

- Proactive land use planning (maintain and update 20 official community plans and 20 land use bylaws)
- Application processing (e.g. property rezonings, development permits, public hearings about proposed bylaws)
- Local trust committee meetings
- Community information meetings (e.g. land use planning issues, freshwater protection issues and options, climate change)
- Bylaw compliance and enforcement



Question 6

- 662 out of 868 (76%) who participated in the survey completed question 6 (Note: Participants who chose 'Bowen' for Q2 would not have viewed this question, as they do not pay taxes for these services.)



The following tables show the comments from 262 participants who explained their choices to question 6.

Comments from participants who chose:	
• Increased	
These decisions if not properly made, and lack of bylaw enforcement, breed lack of trust and fracture the community	
I would support an increase if it could mean more climate savvy planning	
The current pressure of people leaving the cities means more planning needs to go into land use if we are going to protect environment, rural nature, food security, and access to affordable housing.	
Community Plans need updating at least every ten years.	

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased
Speaking with a Galiano perspective, there are two purpose built housing projects with a lot of potential to address the housing crisis. The planner is doing his best but his capacity is limited, Galiano needs another planner/support to efficiently handle the demands of rezoning process
K would support snb9ncrease in this area if it meant quicker turn around times on various land use applications to the Trust
AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS ARE TIME SENSITIVE AND COMPLEX. THEY NEED EVERY PERSON ON DECK AS THE FUNDING WINDOWS CLOSE. BC Housing shuns Trust projects as the extra costs and time discourage them. In the office of BC Housing when a Trust area project is presented there are groans.
Development on Hornby will soon outstrip the island's available fresh water.
So many delays, not enough staff!
Local land use should be planned by locals specific to each island. One size does not fit all.
Need to actively decrease our climate footprint and preserve biodiversity with extra staff
Delay for initiatives in our local area is often blamed on lack of planning resources (planning staff time). Needs to be increased to meet demand, so that projects can progress in a timely manner.
more focus on rural issues, less development of large homes
We need oversight and engagement, with protection for the essential nature of these islands..
Concern for Gambier land usage. Want it protected well.
The Islands Trust needs to be responsive to communities.
More community information sessions (when we can) or zoom seminars with information on local issues and policies. More information and education on First Nations too. I would love to see signage in the local FN language.
Hire some biologists, water specialists, and holders of Indigenous knowledge
There needs to be a reconfiguration of islands trust, policies and bylaws
To effectively make any significant changes, the backlogs and inefficiencies need to be addressed. Make certain that the new staff is able to make a long term commitment to the tasks and projects put before them.
I would like to see more funding for affordable housing solutions.
The planning services are so understaffed that any answers take weeks or months to get back, and are often changing. Makes it very challenging to get anything done on the island.
How much "strength" is there to ensure that planning is taken notice of?
Goat removal from Saturnas island trust lands
I foresee more development requiring more services.
With COVID19 people have realized the importance of living on islands and have moved there in droves. so more and better planning is required now and in the long term
Population has increased and local planning needs a update
I think the more you know about each Island, and the more you inform locally - all the boats float.
More residents mean you need more staff
We need to preserve and protect our unique, fragile eco systems.
there are complex issues that merit consideration
the delay in approving land use changes is unacceptably long. It will affect our community's ability to pivot after the financial crisis that will follow COVID.
More effort needs to be put in the housing crisis in our communities. If we want to have healthy eccllectic community we must find ways to house the lower income folks.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased
Land use planning is becoming more complex with climate/sustainability/ecology issues
For a bridge to langdale or Vancouver
More demand = more funding
Airbnb's have destroyed all the islands. Bad job islands Trust.
We need more staff for enforcement of the OCP and LUB
By law enforcement
Need more active engagement to apply best practices only each local island - seems ad hoc response to development versus a consistent and coordinated approach
Applications should be approved in a timely manner.
Include more expert input into land planning. Less petty by law enforcement, more big picture action
Hard to understand how much is spent on a particular island. Wanting more spent on denman.
The planning for the Trust Area is integral to ensure development is within the scope of the mandate
Logged areas need rehabilitation/replanting.
Only if it leads to less development being approved and less density being approved and more environmental protection happening.
Every community is different & their local planning should reflect & honour that.
There is no crd bylaw violations enforcement.
Continue preserving the environment.
How about considering the prospect of NO further land USE! Check out the Scilly Isl.s of the coast of Cornwall!
Need more bylaw enforcement
My observation has been that planning services (particularly applications) take longer tha they should due to staff constraints.
Local land use planning seems to be a growing concern.
We can move more quickly
Deal with bylaw infractions.
to keep land use planning proactive it's important to understand the factors that influence an increase in spending. I would support this increase if there is a standardized process to assess the changing needs?
Increase qualified and local planning staff to implement policies
I think the hugely outdated OCPs on most islands must be overhauled, not piecemeal but fully.
land use planning crucial to maintaining environmental concerns.
Peter Grove says we do not have enough staff

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
This survey is self serving your interest in expanding your reach is unnecessary and is only a cost to the taxpayers. Reduce your services and staff and lower our taxes!
these should be funded by more local assessments
The Islands Trust needs to be more efficient, not simply add more and more staff.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
Planning staff is operating super inefficiently and not helping people do what they need for their livelihoods. We don't need more bylaw officers. I would support an increase or it staying the same if there was a competent planner dedicated to bylaw changes that align with the OCP and make livelihoods on salt spring more accessible - not just a playground for the wealthy retired who are currently the only ones able to live within the dysfunctional, classist and outdated bylaws!
Land use by-laws aren't determined in order to have a low footprint or meet basic income needs.
You say proactive planning but after 45 years of no real planning, just reacting, you're not fooling me.
difficult times
on my island we have set aside conservancy zones and have limited use on much of the island. Putting more money towards local land use planning in our circumstance doesn't make sense. Our existing covenants and rules dictate the protection of that land and how it can be used. IT does not need to be yet another layer of bureaucracy to "help manage" that....little to no value add for Sidney Islanders.
This process is geared to stop innovation and creative solutions
Land use planning should be the responsibility of the municipality. Multiple layers of bureaucracy are unhelpful.
Similar to the answer above. As an example get out of application processing and hand that off to the CRD. This again speaks to a mandate that is too broad and collides/overlaps with other agencies.
This is an unnecessary level of government
There's no provision for social and rural planning in the islands trust mandate. For the reason I do not feel I have local political representation in this area. I would love to see some changes to the entire mandate for more complete representation and decision making around issues that are not concerned with land use.
We need more independence with planning not tied to islands trust
Make it more efficient
Concentrate on core services only. As far as I can tell fro the SSI housing committee it's mainly vast I competence resulting in report after report after report. Nothing to help people but to cause administrative nightmares. What I've seen to date on land use is total incompetence. Go big it give up. Too long too late to assist anyone.
Funding should be decreased while the planning departments undergo radical revamping and staff re-training. Once staff are able to genuinely facilitate good community involvement processes, and have the well-being of the community as a guiding principle, then it will be time to increase funding. Currently, the planning services are so outdated, unfairly antagonistic, and invasive, that increasing them only serves to further harm our livelihoods and communities.
from what we know, the process is already too costly and brutal.
We don't need more by law enforcement officers. We need creative people in charge for new ideas for the changing world and the changing island and our needs!
simply process applications and stop the make work projects
We do not need more bylaw enforcement. We need more collaborative problem solving, listening to the issues, helping property owners resolve them in a non-threatening manner and create a process for exceptions or pilot projects for creative land and building use. The bylaws do not promote community harmony or make it joyful for property owners to enjoy freedoms and liberty on their own land.
Under NDP government significant increases

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
bad land use policies by Islands Trust
costs really jumped this year...
I'm guessing that as much NECESSARY work happened in 2016/17 amidst significant staff vacancies as would need to happen now, so cut costs
There is no way I support an increase to bylaw enforcement. We don't need more power hungry men harassing people to comply with antiquated and next to unlive-able bylaws. What we need is a change and frequent review of the bylaws and failing that, a different type of position that would HELP property owners find solutions to problems with bylaw infringement OR grant exceptions. NOT more expensive permits or ridiculous hoops to jump through.
In-person meetings and the booking of meeting rooms and halls has been minimized during COVID. There is no need for an increase. The number of applications has decreased. Your legal costs are high because you are ineffective in dealing with real issues, the Trust has become draconian.
Why 20 OCP and 13 communities? Every other organization has to watch their expenses. Streamline your plans and you will find you can accomplish the same with less money.
Good utilization of resources
A pandemic is not the time for spending, local land use planning services, Trust committee meetings or Community meetings. The only spending should be on bylaw compliance and enforcement.
Would like to be CVRD instead
I feel the Island Trust has too much power now
Reduce expected work from staff, thus reducing staff costs.
I see the planning to be fragmented and in-efficient: 20 community plans! We all like to think that the islands are individually unique but that is just not true. I doubt if each island was an individual municipality there would be this much government activity and overlap. We need standardized plans for the islands by standardized bands: ie population or ease of access, rather than individually unique plans. There seems to be no economy of scale here.
top heavy admin
Not impressed with current communication efforts
It is outrageous that small lot owners can't build a hone
Job loss, business closures, why increase spending?
looks like the office reno has been completed, should be able to save some money now
I have not really understood how having an extra level of government such as the Islands Trust has actually benefited the Islands. Our local non profit groups seem to do more for our Island than the Trust. Perhaps I'm missing something?
The current staffing should be able to provide a clear guidelines and figure out (ie simplify) the current zoning craziness (why are their so many zones it's ridiculous and just causes such a waste of \$)
Remove the trust we no longer need it
Unnecessary governmental overreach
They seem to have too much time on their hands. Much of what they do interfere with what residents want and need.
we are over planned and over governed.
Office renos are a one year project
too much spent on bureaucracy

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
Ineffective use of the resources that already exist, so do not believe that the funding is the issue - the policies, the seemingly indiscriminate application of policies need to be fixed prior to additional funding.
I am not seeing value at current expenditure levels. For example, I am concerned about anchorages, however don't see IT action on this file. Also, Airbnb's should either be made legal or existing rules enforced.
All this planning reduces supply and affordability
Too much overhead and a lot of waste.
You criminals should try and get real jobs. Climate change? Really? What exactly do you mean? Show me your holy "science ".
The planning here is one big joke
Office reno?
Bring down to 2018/19 levels don't need to absorb the additional costs of office renovations and staff training into future years
It's redundant when you already have a Municipality to work with. It's all just extra cost. The island trust don't really represent the islanders . It's just another governing body that requires more and more funding each year to support their important meetings
It is disgraceful the Thatch development was approved given the First Nations remains found on site and historical significance of the location.
I don't see the current process working to the Trust mandate and I would hate to see this process move any faster or we won't have any trees or water left on this island. Planners approve whatever complies with the LUB's and OCP, but the bylaws are poorly written and don't seem to legally hold to the intent. The development of new language or amendments is swayed in favour of development and growth, every time. The density "bank" is a joke and any developer with a good lawyer can drive a truck through the loopholes in the process to meet their ends. How is this effective?
I am unconvinced local land use planning services are effective or desired by many residents on the Trust Area.
To much overhead.
I found the community plans to be vague and verbose.
The less government we have the stringer our society.
After watching the trust screw over the ██████████ on Galiano for 2 decades and waste thousands of dollars and hours, I do not feel the current funds are being used appropriately.
Taxes too high
Your focus needs to be on low income housing. All the other micro managing and time wasting on petty inconsequential minutia need to be eliminated. Clearly our taxes are being wasted at present.
My taxes are going up but I don't see better roads on Pender Island. The weeds beside the road weren't cut until September.
"office reno"????
It seems the actual planning is becoming bureaucratic instead of helpful. Too many staff and policies simply bog down progress. Work on streamlining,
Completely ineffective in our area
Too many committees and consultations add to expenses with little to show

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
The majority of the world is working remotely. Thus reducing office expenditures. This should be reflective moving forward. Time to go lean like the rest of us have had to. Meetings can and will be virtual for much of the future thus reducing the expenditures.
Land planning on Pender is feeling increasingly invasive
Incorporation would reduce duplication of administration
It is rare to hear trustees determine land uses as the majority of residents actually want, so why fund them?
What has all the Planning accomplished? Seems like just more Planners.
The focus must be in cost control not taxing more. Discipline is required to do the same for less or cut.
leave this to the local Trustees as each Island is different with different needs
I feel we are being nicked and dimed for every improvement we want to make on our own private property
Professional Planners seem to impose their city plans onto the rural landscape unnecessarily in such a low density.
IT planning dept needs to be smaller and not interfere so damn much in LTC decisions.
Funding is already relatively high while showing low performance.
From what I have read in the media the planning services department is incredibly in-efficient. It seems that there philosophical bent to obstruct growth and development and generally be obstructionist leads to wasteful expenditures of resources (staff time/hard expenses). This wasteful utilization/ poor efficiency probably stems from lack of time management software and not ensuring each expenditure of resources is working towards the strategic goals of the trust.
Increase in 2019-20 was due to one-time costs and should not be the new normal
become more efficient.
We don't need more planning.
Charge the applicant fully
Rather than endlessly overspending relative to income and making up the deficit by raiding reserves why not cut expenditure in line with your electorate's reduced financial circumstances.
Reduce the workload.... do you really need books written in order to make staff presentations.... you are making simple issues very complicated to justify your high cost infrastructure.
total admin as a % of total expenditures out of line with equivalent agencies and private sectore
The complete failure for Islands Trust to intervene in the IR7 Clearcut on Saturna indicates that the money could be better spent elsewhere.
We have had a plan for years which the local trustee ignore as they try to reshape our islands to their vision. We don't need to waste more tax money rehashing the plan. Stick to the original plan to "preserve and protect" by not handing out development permits and STVR permits when the islands are already experiencing failures of our water and sewer infrastructure. We don't need more development and more tourism! We need less.
I am not anti-development but I believe that development should pay for itself.
I believe lowering taxes spent on bureaucracy and increasing capacity building in community would give better results and cost less.
We are being overcharged and underserved. Top priorities shift so often and no real changes occur.
We have conservation groups - leave it to them

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
I think there is too much red tape. Applications are far too complicated - look at the agenda and see how many pages each simple app has to be.
With covid-19 travel restrictions this year, much of the planners work can be accomplished without travel.
I am not willing to financially support your efforts to make my life more difficult.
this is not local planning, this is some thing else. Please
no need for by-law officer
I don't think Islands trust does a good job in this area.
Emergency scenarios such as we are in require decreasing wherever we are able.
Seems high versus amount of new construction...what is the cost per permit for permits above say \$100,000
Office Reno's.
Reduce the No. of meetings, The e-mails, and staff time. Be far more efficient with your time and personnel. You are extremely wasteful with both.
Too much bureaucracy and administrivia!
same as #3
Reduce or eliminate staff and needless expense
all they do is lick the boots of developers
IT is compliant with UN agenda 2030 which does not serve humanity well.
where most of us wfh, why we need high cost for office reno
Local Trust keeps changing the current bylaw to allow for more development.
Pandemic so slow down
Were the office renovations really necessary? I was in the office a few years ago and it looked just fine to me. And isn't everyone working from home now anyway? I would not be surprised if IT reno'd their office only to now find it's empty. I know you'll have trouble accepting my opinion given your impossible bias and for this reason, any feedback I give feels meaningless and a complete waste of my time and unfortunately yours too. If an independent efficiency expert or an intendent value-for-money audit was to be completed, I am sure significant cost savings would be made apparent.
Bring it back to the historical minimum (2016/17) through staff reductions if necessary.
Needs of the islands are not being acknowledged or dealt with
It's disappointing to see adding staff and office renovations happening in a pandemic year. Zoom meetings, reduced (zero) travel. By the way, you don't describe your trustee salaries in your explanations, just the percentage increase. You should be more transparent.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay the same
As someone who has recently taken an interest in planning on Galiano, I am concerned about how little real planning is actually occurring and how unresponsive and actually uninformed the planner is regarding land use concerns particularly as they impact the environment and significant changes to a neighbourhood. I am not sure more money will change this. It seems to me to ber more about a change in attitude and priorities.
Developers need to pay more! Don't saddle everyone with their profit-taking!

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay the same
find ways to make processes easier quicker and save money that way
Local services should be sustained. Planners should not be reallocated from local planning to "regional" planning as is proposed presently. The logic given for the transfer is to advance "agendas" and is footnoted by "it might actually slow down development." Hardly a service oriented Trustee approach.
office renos???
Greater efficiency (required) does not require more \$\$
again, anticipating other tax hikes
It depends on what the proposed use of land is for and would want public consultation on any proposed uses
I don't feel like the land use bylaws work for our varied needs.
Lock down on new development, approve replacement dwellings or structures only. Encourage virtual workspaces where able, reducing need for "office renovations".
Only if it helps land owners find creative ways to use the land and help us
this has been an ongoing discussion and additional funding not needed
I'm concerned about preserve and protect
see tax reason ?2 answer
2020/2021 bad years due to covid-19
Staff need to find means to integrate local perspectives and listen to Local Trustees so as to build local trust in the Islands Trust.
Not the time to increase taxation
I am tempted to opt for a decrease but will settle for asking your staff to get more accomplished with the budget you have already.
Status quo is satisfactory.
There are more people moving to the island and this should expand the tax base.
The services provided have become much too bureaucratic and cumbersome. Minor issues could be resolved prior to bringing them to LTC meetings.
Expenses should be curtailed.
If we received actual and real service I might have a different opinion.
awaiting results of any proposed policy statement changes
Zoom meetings will reduce travel costs
no added bureaucracy
I think the Council driven review of how the Governance and planning services of the Islands Trust is being managed and delivered should happen before increasing anything. .
We have enough people working on this & it will come down to a vote with the community.
Use existing staff more efficiently.
Most land is private. Most parks are not really parks, just bare land.
Planners should live within the community they plan!
I think the portion of funds allocated is on the mark
Land use planning and zoning is the primary mandate and tool of violence trust. It should be its only budget item.

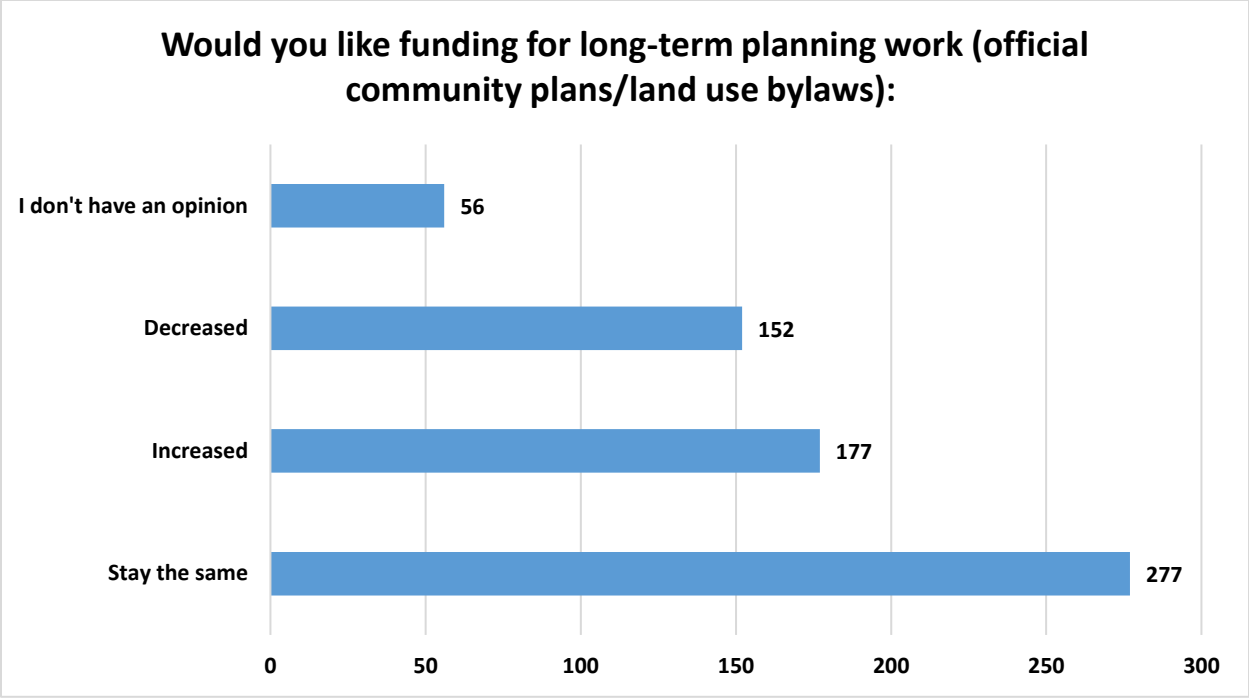
Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay the same
I would need an explanation of what factors have changed to warrant an increase.
This is not the time to increase taxes.
With the increase in 2019/20, we could budget accordingly to get through...
until such time as life returns to normal
I don't think local land use planning is particularly effective in its current model. Too slow. Too cautious.
Funding should stay the same but focussed on things like road maintenance and support for community
Explanations for why funding needs to be increased is poor. Again working through the various responsibilities it would be helpful to outline where certain areas could be cut back.
I found this year that [REDACTED] is very inefficient
What is the point of Community Planning when they do not stand up to pressures from developers seems to work
Hopefully the high legal costs were a one-time issue. Re-allocate those funds to other land use issues.
We don't want to create too much red tape.
No increase until Covid resolves.
More affordable rentals needed
If there was a significant increase in the last fiscal year, it would seem foolish to continue that. Let the growth settle.
Status quo in a world that is focusing on non-essential.
Maintain existing funding
Land Use Planning is based on a lacking OCP and LUBs on Denman. Fix those first please.
Given the pandemic and its impacts such as significantly decreased tourism and long term decreased economic activity it should stay the same for the next 2 years or decrease. I ma not sure Trustees really understand the short and long term imacpst that the pandemic is having on tourism and the local economy's
"High legal costs" & "office reno" is a red flag. Why? Islands Trust application approval process is out of hand when it takes YEARS & \$100Ks to process an appl. and then reject it on the final vote. If something obviously has no hope, kill it up front and say so. Too much silly politics and wasted money.
It's all we can afford
I'm assuming this is different than 2, below, and means ongoing planning services like processing applications and referrals. I think this is working pretty well.
Many have not earned much income this year because of Covid. It's particularly galling to pay an 11% increase in property taxes.
Decrease the number of Directors on the Trust Council and decrease their salaries and benefits
Too much spent on planning, not enough on actions.
If developers want to develop.... make them carry the full costs
A pragmatic balance is required and, given the information provided, it is not clear that any item that should be increased
Be more efficient with use of current funding.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay the same
If what we mean by this is the folks at the counter, then the same. What we need MORE of is policy vision and innovation.
Increase funding % to protecting islands fragile eco systems. Decrease and cease funding for development applications.
COVID.affect. Don't see a lot of people moving around
This is the function of day to day life, we should try to maintain that as best we can.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No opinion
I would like to see you support for affordable housing increased, but I'm not sure how to make that happen.
I don't know if there is a need.
Depends on where the increase/decreases are allocated
i need to study this more
I would need to more deeply understand where the money is going to to be able to answer this question.
Nothing has been done on our part of the Island. Zero .
I lack information.
Depending upon the services.
Climate change is last on your agenda after getting an office Reno. I'm sorry that is [REDACTED] up.
It depends on outcomes achieved and it's not apparent what outcomes if any are being achieved from the money spent
I don't have enough information.
again, if the planning accomplished something I could decide
I don't know enough to judge this.
Despite the explanation above, it isn't clear what this is!
There is insufficient information provided for me to make a call
I fully support robust funding for local land use planning but am unsure if more is needed, especially given the big jump in last year's costs. I'm curious what created the high legal costs.
Please see my previous budget answer

Question 7:

- 662 out of 868 (76%) who participated in the survey completed question 7
(Note: Participants who chose 'Bowen' for Q2 would not have viewed this question, as they do not pay taxes for these services.)



The following tables show the comments from 228 participants who explained their choices to question 7.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased
I see little long term planning being done on the local level. The Planner seems to mainly function as a facilitator for any rezoning applications brought forward rather than paying much attention to larger issues of sustainability, climate change, water use planning, etc. Perhaps more resources for long-term planning would help but again its seems more about attitude and vision. the Planner seems to function as an agent for the rezoning applicant.
As I stated above, the Land Use Bylaws need a MAJOR overhaul to make the align more with the OCP (which is still very valid, and does not need to be updated, the LUB needs to be updated to align with the OCP, and to make living on rural properties in harmony with the land actually possible. Right now the LUB supports a classist system that only caters to the wealthy and (mostly)retired - and makes it very hard for working class, farmers, land stewards, to make a living and have community.
As per above
Revision to bylaws is desperately needed
These are the sources that guide land use decisions - they should be reviewed regularly, kept up to date, reflect community needs, address the ongoing climate crisis, housing crisis. and systemic injustices and inequities that are written into government policies.
If it helps our community flourish
Only if the bylaws are reviewed and changed. The bylaw and the OCP are not aligned. The bylaw is open to interpretation on so many levels and contradict in some ares. The bylaw needs to reflect current demographics and living situations
This a great investment in wise development of our resources
increase if there is a need.

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased
I would like to see a new and progressive hire to talk to the citizenry about their struggles with the way planning unfolds here, and provide recommendations to the Trust for progressive change.
Work to strengthen ability to replace existing structures without building more. Protect land that is in its natural state at all costs. If it is woodland, wetland, or farmland (actually being farmed!), etc., keep it that way. No clearing for new developments, homes, etc.
hoping for more environmental protection and bike paths
More protection for trees, less development
otherwise we are seeing 27 trailers on a half acre property
Need to engage and consult with local residents to ensure education for nature based climate solutions.
community plans, done well, ensure a vibrant and cohesive community. Some by-law issues seem a bit zealous
We need an updated community plan
As I said - oversight and engagement...
The Official Community Plans/land use bylaws lack foresight and have not been updated for many years.
no added bureaucracy; meaning staff
Need to speed up planning processes
The OCPs are literally systemic racism and lock in destructive land use patterns
Many new people moving to islands. Long term planning is needed to ensure resources and sustainability
The current plan is antiquated, we need to increase density in villages in order to keep relieve the pressure on the country side. the current plan does not do that at least for the one I know best SSI.
Change to bylaws to allow for cluster housing and/or secondary dwellings for low income islanders.
We need consistent reviews of the OCPs, and that never seems to happen. I believe the last big overhaul on Denman was 20 years ago, and it is supposed to be done every 5 years.
see above
This is where the attention is needed. The whole process needs revisited in light of island communities reaching the saturation point for population, consumption of resources, waste, policing levels, rural road agreements, ferry services, etc. You can't increase population without looking at the whole package. The excuse that the services are all handled by different agencies outside of the trustee's jurisdiction don't hold water. If you don't have the authority to match the amenities to accommodate increased population, then don't allow it to increase. Or work out a new arrangement. But this is crazy.
Inadequate tree protection and too common "Wild West" attitude by some landowners
I support the Trust in many ways. It is unique and has to do a lot of research to figure out how to preserve this ecosystem whether by slowing development or by showing people how they can leave their land to the conservancy or to advocating for specific changes.
Population growth on islands
Same as above.
It is important to have proper long term planning.

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased
I don't mind paying more provided we see more benefit.
Same reason as above
this is one of the most important things that will impact the islands over the next several years. Anything developed needs to be considered a framework, not an absolute as we see the changes from Climate change to be fast and ongoing, so flexibility is needed.
See above... housing crisis
Get on affordable housing. It is outrageous the fact that BC has so little.
A really important issue for Gambier residents. Issue of old growth and logging, residential land development increase, riparian water rules and impact from new developments are all critical issues that could polarize factions in the community. Clear understanding of Islands trust positions and plans facing these critical issues will be important.
Stop development on ALR land- good luck 😊
Denman OCP review keeps getting put off because of "lack of funds" enough already. Make it happen!
Land use bylaws (and enforcement) need to be more reflective of the realities of our islands and their people.
Crucial area of work - need to apply best practices more uniformly across the region - forest preservation; shore line and shore to land interface; application of more control on land based development that impacts the shoreline (eg. drainage, sedimentation, clear-cutting, shore development)
We need a proper plan for growth of our town. We are no longer in the 1990's. Our infrastructure cannot support all the residents.
The first community consultation on the 2050 policy plan captured very few voices. I support more spending to improve this if this is done responsibly thoughtfully and efficiently
Bylaws need review - current funding does not seem to provide for this.
Same as above
Logged areas need rehabilitation/replanting.
This is the core function of the Islands Trust and the main way it can ensure the islands are developed in a appropriate ways at an appropriate pace, to serve the preserve and protect mandate.
There is too much development that is unsustainable environmentally and will lead to more crowded ferries and a lack of resources/insufficient amenities and we shouldn't be adding things like more grocery stores or storefronts.
Housing is critical to the island's health and the Trust is the chief obstacle
Long-term planning is critical to preserve and protect this special region.
Preserve and protect the islands requires planning.
Local land use planning seems to be a growing concern.
We need to develop current long range community plans once Covid is done. If you proceed now during Covid only a tiny proportion of the population will participate yielding a false perspective that will be ignored
SSI OCP and LU Bylaw are out-of-date and desperately needed updating.
We need new guidelines to allow low income individuals and families to remain on Denman and Hornby

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased
So many issues need time to address them
Bylaw 355 has not been updated to meet the 2008 OCP. Rather late doing work.
Only if this will lead to coherent and clearly executable plans
The process of granting or denying approval of applications might be sped up.
Denman desperately needs to update its OCP ASAP.
We desperately need visionary work in this area. A key problem the Trust faces is the salary grid for local planners. The Trust is well known as a place for young planners because they CAN'T AFFORD TO STAY! That has to change. Otherwise we lack institutional memory AND the necessary vision and experience to address our multiple problems.
same as above
Salt Spring needs to update its OCP to meet the current challenges from climate change to insuring sustainable communities in a protected rural environment
see above
Focused planning on projects of importance to communities
Increased provided that there is an independent committee, which would incorporate more economic planning, running the process.
community plans and land use bylaws important and need to be updated in response to new pressures.
Think this is the most important
Same as #6

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
Official Community plans have been created and revised, so the major work should all be done by now. The work previously done in these areas were the heaviest workload, and were done with far fewer resources than presently exist.
Community plans do not currently include more small dwelling density and sustainable communal living.
You haven't done much in 45 years, so why would I want you to continue with such an abysmal legacy
difficult times, community can manage
Same as previous answer. Little to no value for Sidney Island owners in this work. Would rather pay lower taxes and have our strata increase the budget to do more fire remediation, tree planting, invasive species removal, etc. Don't need more IT involvement or bureaucracy for that.
Until SSI is a municipality
Same as above
There is enough to do without trying to determine more rules and regulations to restrict land owner activity further as is the thrust of the current Trustees.
Trustees should work on a volunteer basis. The whole island trust should be abolished

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
Many islands are doing this on their own and funding it themselves. This long term planning work is not accessible to all islands and only serves a few of the larger islands. IT could be a stakeholder in that process but should not be funding it.
You waste money
Really? There are too many zoning areas on SSI. Reduce and simplify will make it easier.
Too much \$ spent planning, versus action
same as above
you need to deal with present crisis.
I support good governance not what the what the islands' trust has become
These plans seem futile, and I am guessing that unnecessary grants were spent on this work
Adequate plans and by-laws already in place.
Why should we be funding study and surveys when nothing has been done.
See above
Not required. What we have works.
I think the Islands Trust has a long record of being ineffective and the result is wasted funding. Services would be better delivered through a municipal government.
As explained previously the cost of running g and maintaining the IT has become too great an expense. the original premise for which the Trust was created is still alive but the Add ons were not meant to
see answer to #4
Not helpful
The existing plans are bad for the community
decrease/eliminate salaries - more in taxpayers pockets.
You just need to step back for a moment and rethink the process and planning. the need for so many variances (due to the zoning bylaws being unwieldy) needs to be addressed
Trust isn't what it was intended
we are over planned and over governed. People come here to avoid over regulation
as above
Review the work being done to enable everyone to do more - LEAN principles.
For funding to be increased I would need to see specific goals established that set targets protecting our local environment. For example, not allowing clear cutting of new properties.
it appears that monies are being spent for staff and reports, etc that are of no benefit to anyone other than the recipients
Need more day to day use of existing plans. No point in making new plans if existing plans are not used.
You couldn't organize a birthday party
They do not need any more funding
This is an important function but it is overbuilt at this point. Review of OCPs should only take place when needed or once every 20 years.
I am unconvinced long-term planning work as practiced by the IT adds value to the area.
As above

Comments from participants who chose:
• Decreased
“Planning” is not well informed. We have issues of land use which require more scientific input and less amoefous public opinion and self interest
Same as above. People are under stress. Adding political stress is unreasonable. It is something we can controlable
They are presently satisfactory
Same as above, the Galiano Trust respresentatives spend time and money in a wasteful manner.
Taxes Too High
The current system is broken an ineffectual.
I feel the islands trust isn’t creating bylaws and plans that the community as a whole wants
Generally OCP are not actually followed once in place so don't worry about major updates
See above
Cuts need to be made. Go lean.
Same thing, some of the land planning efforts recently discussed on Pender seem too aggressive
To many hands and differing opinions in the pot.
As above. Until trustees actually reflect wishes of the majority of residents, cut the funding.
As above. Discipline on cost control, do the same or more with efficiencies.
same as #4
Same problem as above.
Official community plans are the responsibility of the "community" and their LTC, Homogenizing and dictating to our formerly independent and autonomous LTC, is not the purpose of the policy statement..
other matters are more urgent. Housing people.
An island this size only needs so much long range planning. Why does it need to keep increasing?
Existing funding is already on the high end.
It seems that each island has a slightly diffent set of by-laws. This seems like a duplication of effort and resources. A clear concise set of bylaws for all the islands maybe useful. le cut the amount of regulation.
Talk about updating, when was it last done?
Don't need more planning & money wasted on plans.
The IT needs to reduce its bloated expenditure.
see above; the whole infrastructure is bloated relative mandates
The island residents should lead the long-term planning for their island, not a Victoria based administration.
see above. Too many bureaucrats does not produce better planning!
reduce top priorities...finish something
You seem to enjoy making rules and make work projects for yourselves to keep yourselves employed. 15% of all revenue goes to your office
I would support more funding if it would result in fewer requirements and enhance respect for private property rights
These communities are over planned and underserved.
Again not sure if trust does a good job in this area.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
Same as above, communities, particularly Island ones are more than capable of doing much if not all of the planning. Approval of plans freely constructed should not be very costly.
Should be handled by local govt as a policy developed now will have no path to implementation
After some 20 years...we must have a pretty good base plans
Reduce funding for land development and increasing densities on all the islands
abandon long term planning for now. Wait till something demands it to be assessed.
Although this is an important area, if some thing must be cut to maintain current budgets perhaps this is an area that can be put on hold
Islands trust has little value
As above
Local Trust keeps changing the current bylaw to allow for more development.
see above
These should be deferred.
See above
Defer what you can. People have been hard hit this past year and will continue in 2021

Comment from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay the same
I like the work done so far in recognising the climate emergency
I believe local island residents need to do work on their OCPs and land use bylaws
I would like to see council members be guided by the qualified staff that work for them rather than by their own personal prejudices.
I would need to know how much an OCP costs
Only if it will change the very outdated and restrictive bylaws
the bylaws need a big overhaul and need to align with the community plan
but to focus on creative projects and land use that reflects the changing demographics and response to COVID-19. for example, the traditional bed and breakfast needs to be reviewed...very few visitors want to stay in a home anymore. they want privacy and protection. we need to support other ways to offer unique accommodation options for tourists, which supports our economy. we need to separate housing from vacation rentals. the two should not be in conflict.
2020/2021 bad years due to covid
The long term plan needs to include retaining legitimacy in the eyes of the governed: people will gladly support increased costs when they see implementation that supports local priorities—for example, cultural heritage and community sustainability which includes arts culture poverty and more which have all fallen off the table within the context of development regulation (a worthy cause, but not the only one).
I refer to my previous answer - this should be a time of financial care and attention to a stressed community
I want funding for hands on...and some change to bylaws...long term planning and official community planning has been done

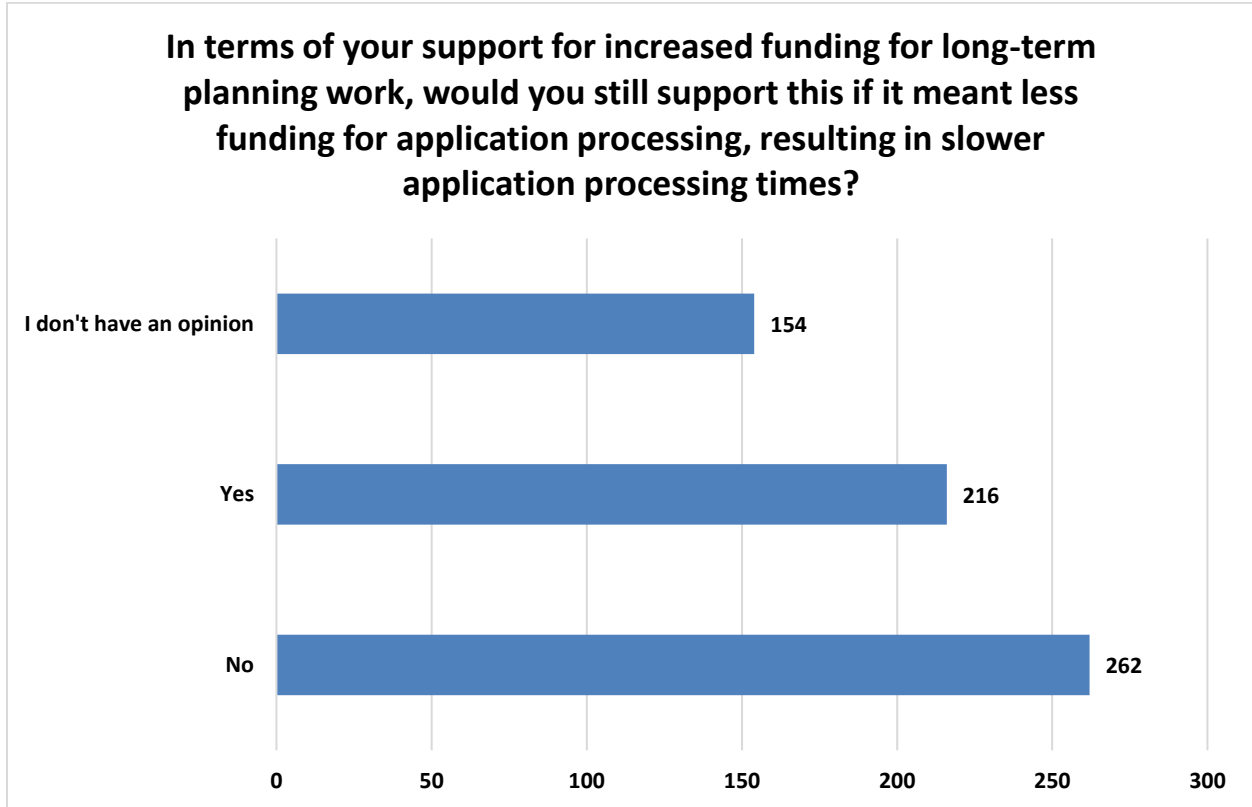
Comment from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay the same
I would like the SSI Trustees to ensure that our OCP is inline with the bylaws and that the bylaw enforcement men are interpreting them in ways that are in keeping with the spirit of the bylaws. That is not happening at this time from what I can tell.
This is your job, planning. Do a good job.
Again, not a time to be increasing operating costs that have already gone up significantly.
awaiting results from policy statement changes
This is important work.
Find a way to limit overhead and rein in increasing bureaucratic process.
Our present system seems to work.
Only if residents are consulted on these plans in a meaningful way.
again, you need to review how this is being delivered in terms of the quality of the community process, information and data gathering and reporting. Also until planning staff are fully respecting the OCP as a legitimate representation of the communities collective voice, AND letting it guide their recommendations to LTC, don't spend any more on it. The Trust in the past has worked on community engagement but until these community processes are being conducted really well and respected it would be a waste.
Seems to have been done well within the polices
Same reason as above.
My impression is that it is currently working
No need for increases.
Already in place.
See my response to question 6.
We don't need more permits etc.
would like to see value, make island residents feel supported
See above
also seems to work
Averaged over the long term, consistent funding
Let's avoid the always increasing tax levies
Is anyone looking to the future to solve issues.
This is not an opportune time to increase budgeting or manhours on long range planning work until Covid resolved and the community at large can participate under less stressful conditions.
Land use expanded so people can build rentals
Need to continue to look to future.
Why do we need more planning of our plans?
Maintain
Same as above. I find it reprehensible that Trustees are reviewing by laws now when it is challenging in multiple ways for local residents to provide feedback. The decisions they are trying to make have long term significant financial ramifications. Many cannot attend meetings because they happen during working hours, notices are not being mailed due to expense yet the that is necessary as the word is not getting out and input that Trustees are looking for is not happening. How can 60 people on one Zoom provide sufficient input for a population of over 2000?
I believe the work can be done with the present funding

Comment from participants who chose:
• Stay the same
I see no change with the money being used.
As above
Make the plan and stick to it!
No increases in taxes.
Long term planning is important , OCP needs to be better implemented and LUB revised to support the OCP better.
Same as above (4)
There already seems to be ample planning
Be more efficient with use of current funding.
More engagement of residents, less cost to admin.
same as #3

Comments from participants who chose:
• I don't have an opinion
Whatever creates the best support for The development of new affordable housing.
Where is the funding coming from and is it fir the betterment of community? Long term planning is important
Not informed on the matter
It depends who is doing the planning! Community input, YES, increase. Keep the community out, NO. i do not know the details
not for more old school planning by people who don't have creative ideas. We need to engage the whole community on alternative ways to live and work that supports the changing demographic, the new world of Covid
It would depend on the priorities of the said plans... If it's housing initiatives - yes. If it's more preserving and protecting the environment, no.
Same as prior question.
Forestry practices don't need to abide by the same bylaws as residents so I don't see the point policing something that doesn't matter.
Same answer as above
u haven't succeeded in 50 years. what's long term to u?
These take such a lot of time to complete and can be fractious. Our OCP is long overdue for redoing.
Not sure. I am not a fan of increasing bureaucracy
Long term planning seems nonexistent...
What is the current gap that needs to be addressed?
Need more info
Don't have enough information to comment.
I do, but it is not one you want to hear.

Question 8

- 632 out of 868 (72%) who participated in the survey completed question 8
(Note: Participants who chose 'Bowen' for Q2 would not have viewed this question, as they do not pay taxes for these services.)



The following tables show the comments from 200 participants who explained their choices to question 8.

Comments from participants who chose:
• Yes
Long term planning work is more important to ensure sustainability, real climate change action and protection of the environment. I see all these things being sacrificed for development.
How could your current system be any slower or more complex?
i still support lowered costs. I also think that the process of applications for development on Sidney Island should just be through one entity - the CRD, not two or more.
Too much planning and no action
Revision to OCP and bylaws would facilitate more efficient application processing
Gambier is 90 recreational and now only rich people can build. Make them wait.
Yes, on a reasonable timeline. And ideally this would not interfere with critical applications for housing rezoning and other priority agenda items
The application process can be expedited and simplified. It is too onerous and wasteful
Trade off.... Worth it in the long run
less funding, less need for ridiculous applications that are meaningless

Comments from participants who chose:
• Yes
Less building, more trees
there should be less applications because if there was a process for exceptions or leniency then there would be less applications for permits that do not serve a purpose except to appease an outdated bylaw.
the slower the better
The application process needs to change. and be simplified.
There are fewer applications anyway. It is too costly, difficult and stressful.
application processing times are already too long and I don't believe it has anything to do with budget
Suggest funding envelope be allocated where needed so existing services are not impeded.
land use must include protection of forest for the future
The government is already increasing taxes as well as hydro and gas. We cannot afford more!!
Less and free applications.
Only if the long term planning work is done well...to a high standard of information delivery and consultation with community.
I've seen significant local (and seemingly uncontrolled - based on the clear cutting I've witnessed) development.
Would really appreciate it if we could stop uncontrolled expansion until someone has looked at the current population's consumption (and destruction) of natural resources, infrastructure/services limitations, and the current "state" of the island's ability to sustain the current OCP. It's time to determine a maximum and set some limits. I thought that was what the OCP was intended to do, but that is not what I've seen in the last 5 years. The answer is not to get more services (traffic lights, ferries, police) so we can have more houses and businesses. The answer is that we need to know when to stop growing and why, so everyone understands. One more person in the boat will sink it.
Long term planning is essential
Put the additional costs on those who request rezoning or development permits. Just fine if it takes longer.
It would allow more time to weigh out the request
this puts the onus on the people involved in the work to see areas that are not productive and could be cut back.
I prefer that the Islands Trust will fulfil their mandate: to protect and preserve by stop the speed of development
how much longer?
There should be a strategy to resist pressures for development that are not in support of Community Plan
it's the gulf islands, what's the rush?
It is time to increase efficiency at Islands Trust.
No excuse to slow application processing times if status quo. Not the time to introduce changes.
Be efficient. It is amazing how people will get innovative when there isn't the option of more funding

Comments from participants who chose:
• Yes
However, need some means to prioritize - basic permits(fast) vs large development applications (more thoughtful process takes time)
Applications generally are for increased development
Not likely to apply.
Why does that have to be the result? Work faster and more efficiently.
Something has to give
lots of places have more complex application processes that take longer. I wouldn't want to see hugely long waits, but a couple of months is ok
I don't think there should be more development or increased density so the longer approvals take, the better.
Application processing times should not be affected if the applicant paid the true cost of their application process.
Previous information from the LTC indicated that the application fees covered a very small percentage of the actual costs to process the applications. In other words we have been subsidizing developers at the expense of long-term planning. this needs to be corrected.
Since when is 'preserve and protect' time-dependent?
How much slower could it get
Slowing down development is desirable
Developers do not pay enough or their share
Preserving and protecting is better served by moving slowly.
Allows the cottagers more time to assess before applications are approved.
Applications seem to trump resources for community planning
No point building without a proper plan in place
Application fees are too low and taxes subsidize applications

Comments from participants who chose:
• No
Application processing should be sped up by simplifying and streamlining the process. At this point it looks like all the planners do is be nit-picky and have ridiculous requirements for changes that are just plain common sense. if the LUB was changed in a way that allows more freedoms for livelihoods and ecological, communal land stewardship and small-scale businesses, there would not be a need for so many applications!
Application process needs to at least stay the same or somehow carefully be completed more quickly
Enabling the application process should be the priority.
Application processing needs triage. Applications that favour OCP goals should come before some guy who wants to build a shed, for example.
I don't support more funding for any part of your organization and I'm offended by the way this question presumes a given opinion
not in support of increased funding

Comments from participants who chose:
• No
applications should be looked at and decided on much quicker. perhaps a "common sense" approach for simple or routine applications
The only thing slower than now is dead stop
It seems to me that long term planning is not related to "application processing time." This seems to be a sleight of hand.
Application processing should be removed from your purvue.
I don't support more spending and would prefer you out of this
Any and all application should be processed in no more than 2 weeks.
The application process needs to change too. It needs to be more efficient, collaborative, and respectful of the input and knowledge of the applicants.
Don't support
Cut the new projected by law enforcement officers, and get people working CREATIVELY on new ideas. This is not just Saltspring's problem, this is many communities problems. We need to find a way to make it possible for the average Joe and Jo to live and work here and be clean, safe and healthy! if not, what will happen to this island?? We need living places for nurses, care aids, grocery store workers, gas station attendants, let alone teachers and doctors and optometrists! Come on guys, we need a full vibrant community that includes EVERYONE.
I'm was totally unimpressed with the delay tactics I saw put into use: there must be means to put local interests and community interests above private interests. Not all projects before the trust should be dealt with in the same manner—some should even be expedited with faster processing times!
ridiculous leading question. please focus on getting present crisis solved
There is no reason to slow the processing time with less funding.
This is a shockingly poorly worded question... who wrote this question?
but I don't support increased funding
I don't see how long term planning and application process are in the same ball park
The application process is not the issue--relying on constant planning is the issue
The current application processing time is excessive.
I don't see why times would be reduced. The process should remain the same.
I am convinced the better use of people resources should be the target.
The application process was already very slow, so it would discourage residents taking permits for work if it takes even longer.
Processing times are ridiculous slow right now!
I said to decrease funding for planning work, not increase...
There is already too many levels of government involved in getting anything done. As someone who has renovated my house I have seen the costs of having to apply for the same thing to multiple government agencies combined with a bizarre application of rules that appear at the last minute after initial approvals have been given.
awaiting results of policy statement changes
There is already such a slow process for planning applicants; a streamlined, much speedier process is needed - not more delays.

Comments from participants who chose:
• No
Planning time is already far too slow
I don't support increased funding.
I expect processing times for routine requests to be reasonably short.
Same trust needs to go
Need to speed up not slow down planning processes
Planners seem to know little about our community and give us theories of planning.
That is a hard one. I like a thorough review process on all application...not just community projects like Affordable Housing.
No increased funding for planning please.
Less red tape and simplified processes would alleviate the issue
I don't support increased funding.
Applications already take years to get through on every project that our community fully supports - especially any type of low income housing. Why isn't there a tax like Vancouver - extra tax on any home that is someone's non-main residence? We have tons of houses that are mainly empty for the year, and no low income housing for the folks that live and work here year round, it is a disgrace.
question is confusing/increase funding in first part and less in second
It's already stupidly schlerotic
Time is of the essence.
Streamline your process with clearer regulations and guidelines.
Just prioritize the work.
I don't understand why the two can't happen together
Silly question . What would be your answer ?
I have been through this process. It is tediously slow already.
Odd wording
This is a leading question suggesting I support....when I just answered in the negative to the previous question.
My opinion is that a reasonable amount of time must transpire. Most delays add to cost. Processes need to be fair to the question at hand and the larger good and fair to the person attempting to accomplish a goal.
You should be able to increase it all with more taxing I would assume. Don't rob Peter to pay Paul
It is important to process applications on a timely and fair basis otherwise people will avoid the application process altogether by a variety of means undermining the reasons for planning policies in the first instance
in my taxes I pay \$75 for RCMP, \$53 for the Langdale dock, \$80 for the hospital and \$513 fir the Islands trust. Enough said!
I think most of the slow down is due to ever increasing requirements with virtually no benefit
sorry but services still need to be maintained. However, if the slow down in speed was due to more care being taken in terms of the review of the application, then that would be a good thing.
Move away from complaint driven enforcement.
Red tape is too long now
Sooner is better!

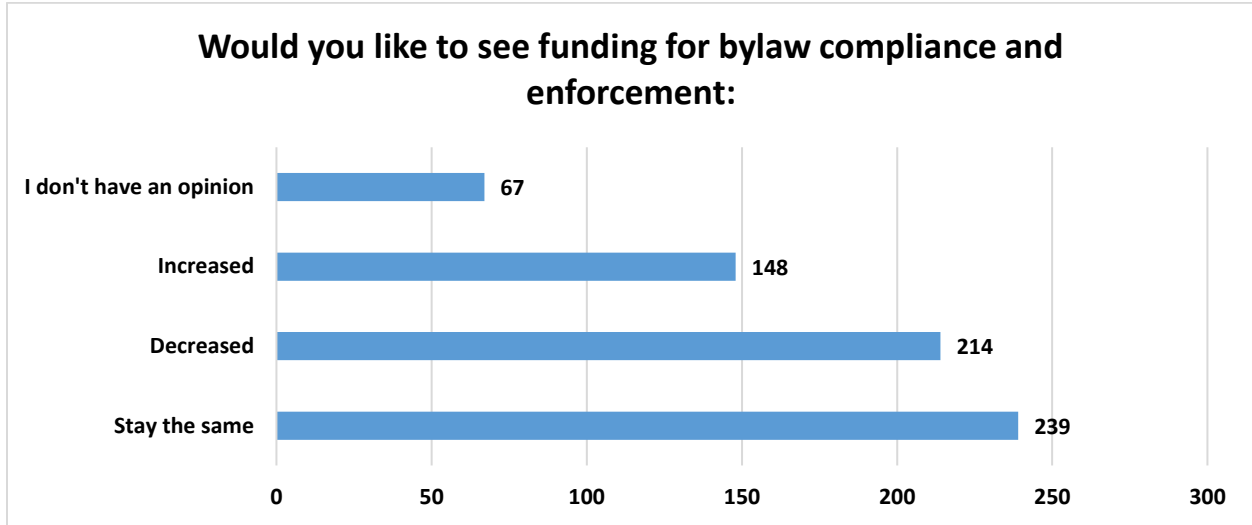
Comments from participants who chose:
• No
I do not support increased funding
I noted I DON'T support increased funding. This is a slanted questions.
More efficiently not more funding
Move resources from BEO/BEN to free it up for OCP and LUB allocations. If the bylaws are not in keeping with community will (as on Denman) then bylaw enforcement is a waste of tax-payers money.
I see that as causing more issues for our residents.
Just slow down the planning for 2 years until the pandemic settle down!
Processing times are already very lengthy for projects currently underway
There appear to be other areas to find savings.
As it is I feel the application process is sometimes onerous for applicant
Turnaround time of permit applications has ben too slow
I don't support increased funding.
Simply, speed up the process by being less intensive in staff studies and presentations
The two aren't mutually exclusive
The IT need drastic budget cuts.
It doesn't need a tradeoff.... reduce costs everywhere and the process will speed up.
Applications are already too slow & costly to the applicant.
I do not support increased funding for long-term planning work.
the application process need to be redesigned to be simpler, quicker and less restrictive for small scale projects.
With increased funding there should be a fair process to deal with applications in a timely manner.
Not sure how long processing takes now but understand it's slow
Slow application processing is a problem, please don't reduce resources there.
Wake up folks. It high time you learn to reduce spending.
Application processing is one of the major interactions withe community and should be a program focused on quick response. Can this be optimized to improve efficiency. Eg standard/routine applications dealt with almost by rote
see 7
Depends on how long we're talking
Already takes forever to get applications approved.
Frustration leads to non compliance
Be more efficient with use of current funding.
Public service is a public service. Taxes pay for public service. I support taxation.
What objectives or incentives do planning staff members have to meet set approval time objectives but it depends on how much slower the application processing time would be; 6 months, a year...?
the IT is underfunded. is there any way to get money from the provincial government to compensate for the low level of municipal/provincial property taxes going to the IT?taxes
Reduce processing times by eliminating
Same reason as before. If you got the big bucks you got IT's ear.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No
slower application processing time isn't sustainable
The only excuse for slow processing times is too much red tape. I think much of the problem stems from the IT not properly understanding its role and how to design its operations to fulfill its mandate in an efficient manner than employs the local community even more than it already does..

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No opinion
I'm not sure
How can it get any slower, you mean more bureaucracy?
Depends on the application purpose
What are we planning for?
Strangely worded question. And leading. Without knowing how long it takes to process an application and how that would change if the budget doesn't increase, is impossible to opine on.
The question presumes my support, which is false
Don't have a sense how long it takes now and consequences of delays
Why would you take funding from application processing in order to increase funding for long-term work? What is this strange ultimatum?
I am not affected by timelines with this, nor will I be
It only takes long now because the trust keeps tabling the applications.
Not much happens here...
I support a decrease in funding therefore this question is not applicable.
I support decreased funding for long term planning work therefore this question is not applicable.
this is a terribly worded question and not clear
haven't supported anything
I had no opinion regarding long term planning work.
I am not in support of any increases at this time. There needs to be a hold on some expenditures.
Don't know enough about the application processing and the ramifications of this slowing down
It seems the response requires a choice between a rock and hard place. I don't have enough information to make a definitive decision without fully understanding the impact of my vote on my island and its people
I say move the processes along more speedily.
I don't support increased funding
Can't
again, I do ,but I ask, where are you doing a good job now with the funds you are receiving already
I don't know how long it currently takes
This question is a leading question and in its nature confusing
I don't see why these are either/or choices
I don't support increased funding?
This is a poorly framed question so I will decline answering it.

Question 9

- 668 out of 868 (77%) who participated in the survey completed question 9
(Note: Participants who chose 'Bowen' for Q2 would not have viewed this question, as they do not pay taxes for these services.)



The following tables show the comments from 276 participants who explained their choices to question 9.

Comments from participants who chose:
• Increase
I think we need better enforcement to protect the environment. Too many people are not in compliance with bylaws and it seems not to matter.
as above: lack of enforcement breeds cynicism and hopelessness in those negatively affected
We need more responsible accountability
This is urgent. There are so many non compliant situations
after this summer we need more RCMP and actual consequences for people who cause serious disruptions and openly sell drugs
We need our parks to be useable again and not taken over
The situation in the Ganges Park is out of control
As populations grow in each are, there will likely be more need for bylaw enforcement
No point in having bylaws if they can't be enforced.
If there is a need to ensure bylaws are enforced on a timely basis.
Enforce the rules.....
I like to read about the Wild West, not live there.
In particular, there is no point in having a by law about short term rentals if it isn't enforced. It only puts a strain on limited community resources and island lifestyle.
Too many time people say one thing and do another without any consequences.
The increase of population on our island necessitates more monitoring and enforcement
There are unlicensed vehicles and children driving golf carts and motorcycles. Someone is going to get hurt

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase
The trust makes lots of rules which they tend to only apply to new construction only (and then only those who follow the process). It does not take much of a drive around any of the islands to see the hodgepodge of bylaw infractions that are out there to which the trust seems to turn a blind eye.
Again, circumstances have changed significantly in the past two years and we need some updates
more bylaws that would ensure that Contractors were well schooled in Islands Trust land use policies. Fines levied to Contractors for contravention of Land Use bylaws.
Folks are just doing what they want right now because there are few real consequences
Our bylaws need to be defended vigorously
Enforcement is the wrong way to go. We need everyone cooperation to get a plan to work. It cannot be based on an adversarial relationship.
This is an area that is admittedly neglected.
So many parts of Gabriola have been clear cut or loyalty cut those people don't care or have a "city attitude".
It currently takes too long for bylaw officers to respond to complaints
The answer is in the question, to actually enforce compliance & enforcement
Too many folks going rogue impacts everyone.
Reallocate some staff
more development means more opportunity not to follow the bylaws. enforcement is important.
Want better enforcement, not the same as more funding for enforcement.
Need to start enforcing bylaws
Very slack enforcement of flagrant bylaw violations--this is even more important than long-term planning. Insufficient enforcement has severely affected the quality of life on North Pender.
STVR Issues
Short term rentals
I would like it to be increased in regards to land use permits (specifically for STVR properties), covid has made it clearer than ever that those illegally operating STVRs can get away with murder, endangering our communities with unnecessary risks, and most of all disregarding environmental concerns in relation to land use.
get control of bylaws
There are some people who do first then ask for forgiveness. Any new property owner should be given copies of the OCP and LUB. No excuses for doing things that are illegal. And consequences for doing things that are illegal. Islands Trust needs the tools to pursue this.
Bylaws are pointless without enforcement
If this will mean an increase in inspections and enforcement
On Galiano there is not any real enforcement of illegal accommodations
See above
I think this will become more important as the islands become increasingly populated
Trying to operate within the rules is a mugs game. I see more noncompliance than compliance.
Way too many of us follow the rules, while those that don't never get truly stopped.
Bylaw enforcement seems to be too relaxed
Airbnb's are a cancer. Get on it.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase
Greater presence is required to protect our environment.
We definitely need more enforcement!
If residents don't like a bylaw they should try to use the official channels to change it - not do what they wish.
we need existing bylaws enforced, not more bylaws
Have not seen any evidence of bylaw enforcement to date - so increase from zero to something would be good - an annual or bi-annual sweep of the islands with a focus on key priorities for each sweep may be an effective way to do this
Many non-conforming violations are not being addressed.
The teeth of the land use bylaws.
What is the point in having bylaws if they aren't enforced? We need these bylaws to protect the island! There are many challenges working against bylaw enforcement by some outspoken and opinionated people who do not represent the island! They just represent themselves. It is necessary to try and counter this vocal group using the laws that are in place and have been developed over the years for good reasons.
A persistent failure to enforce, leads to a persistent failure to comply. Creating new bylaws becomes an exercise in futility and a waste of money. For example: A failure to enforce set backs here on Denman has lead to building right to the property line. Unwitting new owners are now stuck with the problems.
Zero tolerance for clearcutting on private or other land.
What is the point of having rules if they are not followed?
There is basically no bylaw enforcement on Gabriola, especially with loose dogs. It is leading to problems.
It needs greater vigilance
Residents continue to build first and ask later.... residents are allowed to hire their own professionals to back up their applications.... that makes NO sense. Who is going to hire a professional to write a report that does not support their application? more fluff and more churn. Get rid of it and make intelligent decisions. If someone builds first, make them take it down. If someone wants to encroach on a protected area, just say no.
The enforcement is not effective. It is a joke, very sad. What is the point of having bylaws to protect the environment and then not enforcing them. All developers know they have freedom to destroy ecosystems without any consequence.
We need a more effective bylaw enforcement officer.
Increased to include supports for mental health issues that are arising on the island.
No use passing bylaws if there is no associated compliance through enforcement. Also leads to cynicism by those following the rules when the see others not (without consequences).
Lack of bylaw enforcement is one of the Trusts biggest problems
We need careful enforcement of bylaws.
Disorder in. Centennial park which is near children's playground
The need for increased bylaw compliance and enforcement seems to be a growing concern. planning seems to be a growing concern.
Bylaw enforcement should not be (only)complaint . We need boots on the ground
We on Lasqueti have none . Some enforcement options aside from vigilantism would be nice

Comments from participants who chose:
• Increase
Too many land owners are breaking the bylaws. They will continue to do this if enforcement does not happen. There is no sense having a bylaw if it is not going to be enforced
Twenty people live next me in a riparian zoned area and no enforcement.
Very difficult to get action on egregious problems
STVR need to be fined and corp groups buying blocks of homes for profit need to be exposed.
not proactive, resulting in many illegal rentals with terrible conditions and rentals used as Airbnbs instead of being available to the local community
a increase of development pressure on the islands
Your success in this area has been very poor to date. Slow to react and unwilling to be persistent to eliminate the violation.
It's currently a tedious and often time consuming process to file a complaint and see results.
pointless to have bylaws unless properly enforced!
Bylaw infractions diminish quality of life for others.
1 staff person has been insufficient

Comments from participants who chose:
• Decreased
The Islands Trust has more than enough funding to handle bylaw compliance and enforcement.
We do not need more officers harrass the population especially in these difficult times - at our own expense! Enforcing a dysfunctional bylaw is a complete waste of money and energy. the bylaw needs to be more functional, so that enforcement only needs to take place when necessary i.e. pollution etc.
The current by-laws need updating based on more low income and small foot print dwelling structures and zone density increased.
I don't think much of the way your bylaws are created and the arduous process required for simple changes. To enforce such a system must be hellish for both bylaw people and those being enforced on.
We need to focus on how to work together vs rely on an outsider to settle our disputes.
burden on individuals during difficult times
I don't think this is good value for money. Just another layer of bureaucracy.
this program is deeply flawed, and needs to be eliminated
Toothless now and little prospect for improvement
Bylaw enforcement should be a responsibility of the municipality or the strata, in the case of Sidney Island.
Ridiculous on an island where everyone does anyway what they want. Illegal actions are normal and transparency is punished
It is ineffective and not applied equitably to all islands.
Ridiculous level currently; needs major overhaul
You are ineffective
Bylaw enforcement triggered by anonymous "complaint" is a Fascist / Community wrecking device.
By laws are out dated and dont serve to times of pandemic and newer generationa

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
Too many by laws
How can you possibly think this is a good idea? We need people who can engage in conscious dialogue, listen and seek to understand. Not harass, threaten and intimidate. We don't need more enforcement. We need change and creative problem solving people
I am not aware about compliance being an issue
Haven't noticed any to date.
We need to replace the antagonist complaint-drive system with a peace-building and restorative system.
Honestly we can't believe you would actually consider this given our current state during the pandemic. Many people are 'non-compliant' right now as we pivot to make ends meet. This is a heartless idea
absolutely not. we have left our home in the hands of a property management company and most likely breaking several bylaws. I am sure there are short term vacation rentals, commercial rentals and who knows what else. we only want to see a revenue so that we can keep our property. There is no way we will rent it out long term. we have been landlords before and will never do it again. short term rentals are the only way we will go now. we don't need bylaw compliance and enforcement. we need an overhaul of the bylaws and the bylaw enforcement process.
Too many bylaws
There are such creative ways to build new projects. New water systems/ enactment. Divide up big houses into smaller apartments. Small building/s on larger lots. People just want a clean warm safe place to live, they are NOT asking for mansions or extravagance. WE NEED AFFORDABILITY AND THAT TAKES CREATIVITY AND OPEN MINDS. We can do this. Just like we need to get into new energy sources. We as human beings, CAN DO THIS. Let's do it! Together! The world is changing!!!
Instead of focusing enforcement on anonymous complaints, get rid of the anonymous complaint system. This would reduce the work of bylaw enforcement officers. their work should focus on the high abuse of land situations that impacts many, not the piddly little neighborhood complaints that need to be resolved with a different process..such as talking with each other for a start, and/or a facilitated conversation to resolve issues. this should not be a bylaw enforcement officer job. Furthermore, bylaw officers need to be reigned in. they have too much power for what they are tasked to do. It is completely out of control
again...because the housing crisis is not your priority people are living in illegal trailers, etc. Make housing your number 1 and 2 and 3 priority.
In general people are usually trying to do the right thing knowing they are leaving a footprint for generations to come. So the enforcement of bylaws shouldn't be in very high demand.
The class biases in your bylaws are distressing.
CRD should be in charge of land use, and building permits
Enough gentrification already, thanks
Bylaw compliance and enforcement should be reserved for egregious breaches only and not petty infringements
We need enforcement that works functionally and upholds the values outlined in the OCP.

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
<p>we don't need more bylaw compliance and enforcement. We need people who can actually engage in dialogue, seek to understand, help solve problems and not instill fear in the population for mild bylaw infractions. This process does NOT preserve communities. It divides communities. The anonymous reporting and 'guilty' until proven innocent process is not conducive to collaborative community problem solving. NO WAY to bylaw enforcement. This is the most ridiculous proposal in this budget and only continues to drive a wedge in the community. The word compliance alone needs to change. Compliance is a power over word and act. It does not belong in teh same vein as preserving community. It is patriarchal and old style of working.</p>
<p>Way too draconian. Beyond complaint driven now, it is a total witch hunt. It should be focused on education and support. Bylaws are changed on a whim by Trustees who are often not even elected, but are acclaimed because nobody will run in this toxic atmosphere.</p>
<p>We are living in extra ordinary times and enforcement of some by laws is forcing people to become homeless. We need less regulations not more.</p>
<p>Streamline the bylaws and you'll find you don't need to spend more money on enforcement</p>
<p>Again, the Trust is ineffective in what it does</p>
<p>it is applied so incoherently and politically, why increase the expenditure?</p>
<p>Some issues could be resolved before investing in a resolution process that greatly complicates the issue.</p>
<p>There is no real enforcement of bylaw compliance.</p>
<p>Extra enforcement has stopped long term renters from their homes, bylaw enforcement seems to be quite problematic for Denman 's community diversity.</p>
<p>A lot of the bylaws are kind of pointless and seem to be designed to make things on the islands more difficult. This is particularly true for all but putting the pub, store, gas pumps and other businesses on Saturna Island out of business... they keep jumping through the hoops and you guys change the rules</p>
<p>In these times of global pandemic and housing insecurity, bylaw compliance and enforcement should be suspended.</p>
<p>We don't need more bylaw officers, we need less taxes.</p>
<p>really?</p>
<p>No t effective</p>
<p>Most bylaw enforcement is just a money grab</p>
<p>unnecessary bylaws, heavy handed 'nazi' enforcing</p>
<p>I feel like the Trust is very separated from the island community. More bylaws amd outside enforcement means we start acting more like a city people who don't talk to our neighbors when something is wrong, but instead call the by law officer.</p>
<p>All you need to do is simplify the bylaws and then figuring out compliance wouldn't be complicated and the funding could shift from figuring out the issue to enforcement</p>
<p>Trust isn't what it was intended to do</p>
<p>Unnecessary governmental overreach</p>
<p>Most of the issues I am aware of are silly and should not have been pursued in the first place.</p>
<p>This should be a position in our local trust, not someone far away and not part of the trust communities</p>

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
just leave us all alone!
The people who are affected by these bylaws are often the most vulnerable community members.
The new bylaw officer here is ruining our community. People no longer talk to each other - just make complaints to the bylaw officer. Now all the poorer folks are getting kicked out of their RVs and trailers, and have no where to go. And during a pandemic - you should be ashamed of how the IT is putting undue pressure on the poor - at the hands of the rich who are moving here in droves. We will soon lose the uniqueness of the islands when the rich from Vancouver and Calgary use the bylaw officer to try and make this place into a suburb.
Bylaw enforcement is currently ineffective. Example - a complaint is received by Islands Trust, letter forwarded to home owner advising them to change something without any due diligence being done on the part of islands trust. Waste of time and money by by-law enforcement not performing this due diligence to review the issue, the permits in place, etc - end result, hours of time spent on a non-issue. Fix the existing system from a procedural and efficiency perspective before putting more money towards it.
Based on the # of Airbnbs competing with IT approved short term rentals, I feel that existing bylaw enforcement is either unfocused or ineffective. I can't support a funding increase of an ineffective service.
One problem at a time. We don't need to be micro managed.
I don't think the small number of compliance infractions warrants much being spent on enforcement
Things go fine without bylaw enforcement. Stop reacting to a few "Karen's" out there
Not as necessary as some might think.
Don't get me started!
The island trust doesn't enforce bylaws or do anything to lay out bylaws for locals. No prevention, nothing at all
Bylaw enforcement and compliance is generally conducted on a complaint response basis. That has worked for all these years there's no need to increase add staff or any more bureaucracy.
Bylaw enforcement is not in accordance with the cultural heritage of the trust region.
We don't need a nanny state.
I don't like a lot of your bylaws, and how people can report each other anonymously
What does bylaw enforcement look like?
The money would be better spent on providing free services to help people plan for compliance proactively
Prefer less regulatory policing
Current bylaw compliance and enforcement is ineffective and mostly unnecessary.
I feel the Islands Trust spends too much energy on bylaw enforcement. One of the reasons many of us like the GI is because we want less rules.
The complaint driven nature and favouritism shown by the trust towards certain community members is despicable.
Building inspector needs to stop over reaching
Do we have bylaw enforcement??

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
Local bylaw officers don't understand even the current rules, so why increase ineffective departments.
Bad bylaws are expensive to enforce
Incorporation would effectively deal with this
I do not see bylaw infractions as a problem here.
The BEN has been a disaster for people living on Denman
Housing is a human right and we need to stop wasting money enforcing disconnected building codes. Enforce Mansion limits, not tiny homes
Be efficient. Do what must be done, not what would be nice to do.
Stop enforcing on housing issues and allocate the funds to help make sensible housing bylaws that reflect true community values. Also, replace the BEO with binding arbitration between neighbours. Some off island person doesn't have a clue how to address the actual nature of a neighbour's complaint. They can only check for "compliance". The current anonymous complaints procedure does not address original matters complained on, and it doesn't support functional community or neighbours.
I don't believe the type of bylaw enforcement I am seeing lately is reflective of the plans in place and is hurting our residents.
It is too costly to enforce bylaws that result in such little impact in terms of compliance. Why not make better informed bylaws with more community input so there will be compliance. The regulations are getting a bit out control frankly.
The BEN thing is a fiasco. It is destroying the islands.
Our bylaws need updating. You cannot enforce outdated bylaws
Too much petty enforcement- people being evicted with no housing solutions available. Not the answer
bylaw enforcement is causing problems for my community.
Bylaw has caused more issues than solutions on denman. The lack of alignment between the bylaws and community vision is huge leading to conflict
the BEN is destroying community relations all over the island
I don't like what they've been doing re housing
Unless dAmage results, if there is a complaint or a letter of violation would suffice
over zealous enforcement has been causing a great deal of problems and hardships in our community, Reign in your empire building bylaw cops!y
The current bylaw enforcement need to be discontinued It has created a divide on the island Islanders against each other.
This department in particular seems to spend a lot of time picking fights with local property owners. Some of these may be justified some are not. The approach seems to be to throw the book at all the complaints and see what "sticks" This ends up in fighting a lot of battles that have no real impact or end up costing the trust to waste resources (staff time, adjudication, legal expense) for little benefit in terms of advancing the strategic plan. Many of the items I have read about (Saltspring exchange/driftwood) demonstrate little regard for working to resolve issues but rather to win at all costs. Wasteful.
Compliance & enforcement isn't working.

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
<p>If the bylaws were updated regularly, people wouldn't break them as often. If people knew more about the Trust and had more engagement with its processes, they'd be more likely to follow bylaws</p>
<p>Islands Trust is over heavy-handed when it comes to enforcement & seems to function as a 'hit squad' for the wealthy & elite complaining about properties & owners that don't fit their vision of what our islands should be</p>
<p>ditto above</p>
<p>Bylaw enforcement should be locally driven. Rural communities should try reconciliation before by-law police are called.</p>
<p>I have never seen Islands Trust enforce any bylaws.</p>
<p>Bylaw enforcement should be focussed on large scale projects, not sheds and fences.</p>
<p>Some files are open for years...move towards restorative justice, eliminate anonymous complaints</p>
<p>Just get out of the kitchen. There are already too many levels of government. We have a bylaw officer and the CRD. Why is Islands Trust getting involved.</p>
<p>Some of your prohibitions are ridiculous as well as discriminatory such as the prohibition of safe access on Ruxton Island.and should not be enforced.</p>
<p>The current bylaw enforcement approach is detrimental to our community cohesiveness, rural culture, affordable housing and social equity. It supports the rich and penalizes the poor and working class. Enough already.</p>
<p>Too much enforcement already. I would like to see "no harm - no foul" policies developed</p>
<p>I do not support enforcement. Compliance is quite simple, clear solid teachable fair community values</p>
<p>Bylaw enforcement is being applied without context or values. It should be applied to discourage AirBnB's, not long-term renters.</p>
<p>Enforcement is not, historically, a good method re compliance or protection.</p>
<p>I haven't seen a bylaw officer in years and yet there are endless infractions</p>
<p>IT has seriously Hurt so many people with their busy body complaint system. People and their businesses have been driven from the island to the detriment of the esprit de corps of the population. Only the core supporters support the IT everyone else reviles you.</p>
<p>Local trust is too biased</p>
<p>Do not see it as needed at current level. I am not seeing infractions that would need enforcement to correct.</p>
<p>With the proper incentives and disincentives and community involvement, compliance with bylaws could almost run itself. Also, I hope you recognize that a great deal of this survey is asking people for their ill-informed opinions, which is yet another problem. Some of these opinions will be worthwhile and others will be worthless. The problem is that IT staff won't know which is which or how much weight to give varying opinions, some of which are well informed and most of which are poorly informed.</p>
<p>Pick your battles and do less enforcement if necessary.</p>
<p>In the words of Dr. Bonnie Henry, be kind, be calm, be safe. Perhaps you could consider reduction of punitive and repetitive enforcement inspections</p>

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I don't have an opinion
I am not sure how much is enforced now.
Bylaws are worthless unless enforced
I think the rules seem to be very strict....but again, they tend to stop many people from making a living here...people with solid community ideas.
-increase if need be -
Some other solution is needed here. The reporting system doesn't reflect what our island actually wants but does serve private interests.
I don't know if bylaw compliance and enforcement needs more people...how would I know that?
need more info
Recently I have seen to much misguided bylaw enforcement on perfectly legal B&Bs. Whilst I agree that whole house vacation rentals deplete our community and support bylaw enforcement over these, I have got tired of watching ill-informed and ill-advised enforcement letters go out to good people who are not breaking the bylaws. So I think bylaw enforcement needs to be kept a closer eye on/perhaps have more managerial oversight...
At the moment when we have talked to the bylaw enforcement officer we are told they essentially won't enforce bylaws, so I would only increase this if this attitude changed.
Only enforcement I'm aware of is vs [REDACTED]
One should not be able to complain anonymously.
don't see much compliance or enforcement
I would like to see things enforced but, I don't trust it at all. I've witnessed the RCMP destroy the otter habitat and build directly in road allowance. Nobody is going to stop them. Why police and ruin citizen's last ounce of livelihood.
I can't follow the bylaw enforcement issues.
i don't know if this specific department needs more financial support to be effective.
I have an opinion! I would like to see a breakdown of where these officers are based and where they are actually covering. You have hired more officers according to your budget/breakdown.
Don't know if it is currently meeting the needs. If not, then increasing the budget is important. If there are no teeth regarding enforcing bylaw compliance then it gives a green light for some to ignore the bylaws
All I hear of is neighbour complaints, and that seems to be CRD?
definitely would redesign how bylaw enforcement works and reallocate funding resultingly
I don't have enough information on this, and am unsure whether more funding or a different approach is needed.
I don't know enough about existing budget, workload etc.
We don't see the results of any bylaw enforcement.
#6
does this mean that there is no current funding
Increased appearance of multiple trailers on a single property is an issue that with difficult economic times is likely to get worse(increase)

Comments from participants who chose:

- **I don't have an opinion**

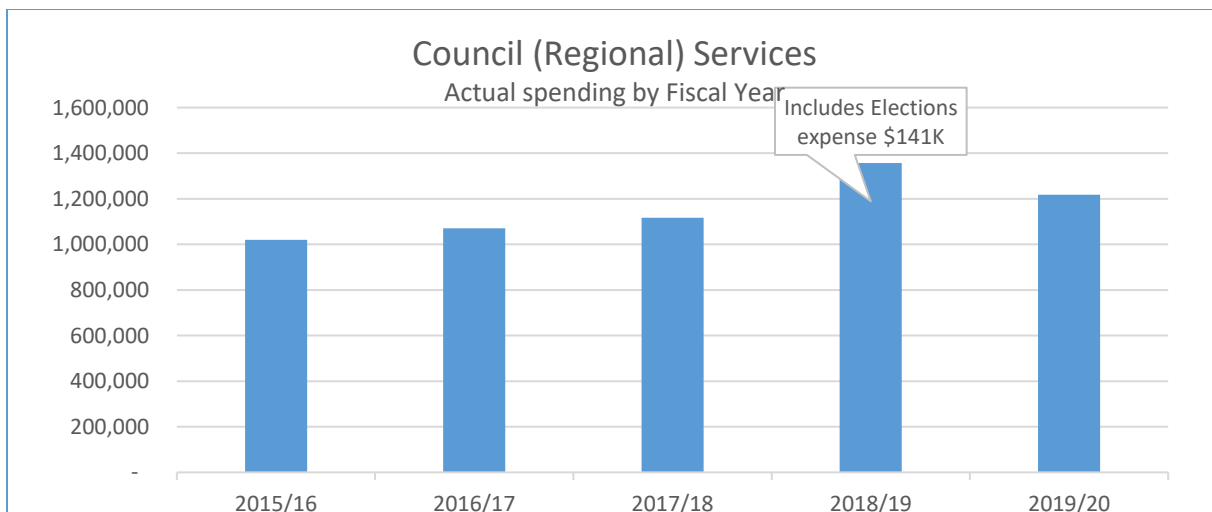
I do have an opinion. I am of very mixed minds about bylaw enforcement. Let's enforce the right bylaws to build the community we want. Shutting down small dwellings used for rentals is crazy in a housing crisis. Work with the province to change codes. Similarly with greenhouses. I shouldn't have to hire an engineer for a fucking greenhouse! Barrier to entry is too high.

I don't know enough about this issue.

Regional Programs

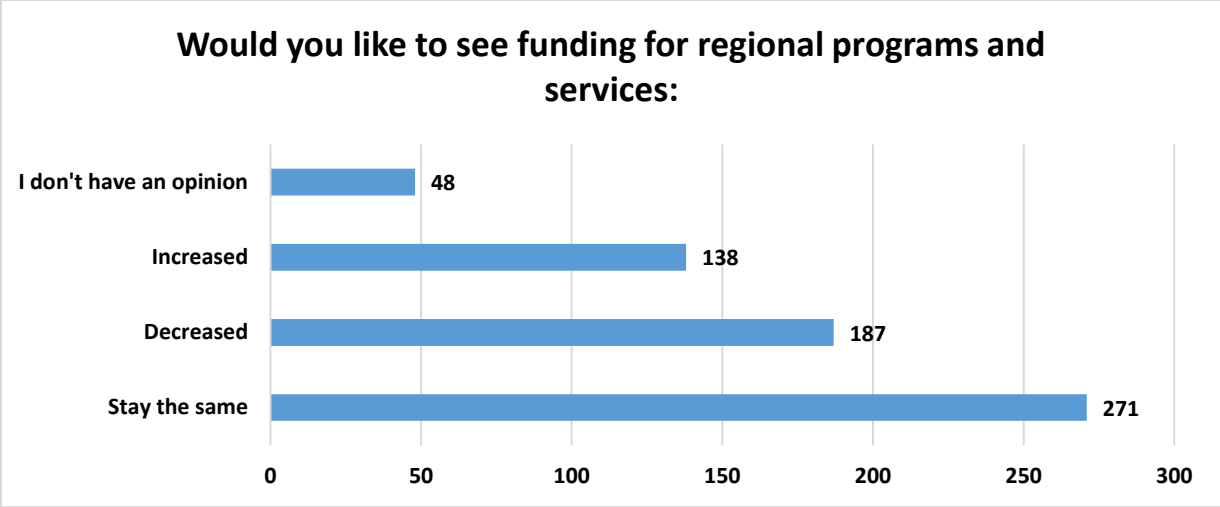
The Islands Trust Council supports the preserve and protect mandate through region-wide programs and services. These include:

- Public education programs (e.g. Community Stewardship Award program; educational workshops on topics such as water, climate action, species at risk)
- Legislative services (e.g. Freedom of Information requests)
- Communications (e.g. website, social media, advertising, publications, news releases)
- Intergovernmental relations (e.g. reconciliation, agreements with other levels of government, hosting of coordination events)
- Trust Area-wide policy management, including the Policy Statement (e.g. updating, interpreting)
- Advocacy (e.g. lobbying about topics such as marine shipping safety, climate action)
- Islands Trust Council meetings and Council committee meetings



Question 10:

- 644 out of 941 (68%) who participated in the survey completed question 10



The following tables show the comments from 229 participants who explained their choices to question 10.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased
Again, we need more information and clout to protect the environment especially in the face of increased development pressure and climate change.
Funding for regional programs and services would require some well directed increase in the actual time of extremely costly consequences of climate change, also because of the overall apathy of to many people and particularly politicians. But it is a difficult thing to obtain the necessary funding in the actual period of non performing economy.
to address strategies to deal with climate change (public education), and more sustainable living
what programs? People need secure long term housing and Landlords need to not feel bullied due to the RTA. can you work something out there?
Increase funding but offset by decreases in other aspects of the mandate so that the overall tax impact is less than now. This is a valuable role for IT.
The intergovernmental communication should definitely be increased. Local concerns I have had about social equity I have brought to past island trust Representative s have been met with me being told that it's card or provincial jurisdiction. So Ive started writing letters about my concerns elsewhere. I feel a large part of political representatives work is advocacy. I would love to see more advocacy for islanders needs and representation of our culture.
Our island can share it's uniqueness more proactively.
modernizations needed
I believe that the Islands Trust is under-funded and can't carry out the necessary projects in a timely manner. We need to advocate for additional funding from the province for all the programs and projects.
You have completely missed anything in support of local economy and small business. Is the island trust area just a residential development or actually meant to function as a self sustaining community with earning potential?
This is where the enforcement money should be going. Understanding and caring about your impact is the best policing possible.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased
This is a time to really step up on regional programs and services and shape the future of the Islands Trust relevance for the trust area.
We need to support our nature ecosystems however we can.
Reconciliation and Biodiversity conservancy including local wildlife wellness initiative deliverables should be increased and specifically as they relate to indigenous world views.
This top level bureaucracy is obviously creeping up in expenditure yearly - local funding should be the priority.
we need to be designated rural for internet
Help build communities
At least to match inflation
Education is key.
More people living here, more programs needed
Islands Trust as a resource and guide and clearing house for the community on good ecological practices
I think increased public education is needed, and way to reach the environmental luddites.
We need more active engagement/ empowerment, on a local level.
I want citizens to know and understand the key work being done on their behalf
Some services listed above are required parts of the island's trust function such as meetings communications etc other functions listed above are a complete distraction from the core duty of islands trust to protect the islands. These include things like reconciliation climate change and workshops, or any other activities that would be considered lobbying. Islands trust is to protect the islands not serve special interest groups.
More protection of our waters eg marine protected areas
All regional service need more resources
We are a region by many definitions, Coastal Dry Douglas Fir, Islanders, GINPR, we cherish local and are proud to be residents in one of the most gorgeous parts of the world.
Updating polices is important especially in regard to forestry practices/development
Again it's mostly run by volunteers so the community Center website for example has completely outdated information.
There is so much work in this area that needs to be done.
Regional programs are very important especially in this time of increased pressure on our Gulf Islands
I think community connections are important in terms of healing from Covid
If climate change and reconciliation are included in here.
I would like you to address crown lands, to preserve. I would like you to pay attention to developers. So far you are not on the ground looking after our island, we need better bylaws and control to protect not meetings.
Importance of Advocacy
More funds required to address marine shipping safety. ie. anchorages in the Gulf Islands
Communities need more help for this work
More locally increased.
I believe education and advocacy are important.

Comments from participants who chose:
• Increased
We need road repairs
working towards climate action
More investment in health services needed.
This area is important to me, especially reconciliation efforts and relationship with First Nations.
Public education: people need to understand that they live in a special protected area, and that means they are entitled to less destructive behaviour than they would be anywhere else.
Regional education programs are positive if they are supporting people being able to make better choices for themselves that align with the trust mandate therefore reducing need for enforcement.
Maintain the overall preserve and protect mandate
more \$ for bylaw enforcement needed
The key to 2050 is effective communications, particularly multimedia
You need to show up more and provide your value here to Bowen Islanders before they petition to have us out of the Trust.
Would like to increase lobbying and education
I support the tax requisition for coordination of freshwater policy on SSI for instance. I believe this would be an increase.
Seems necessary according to the grant
Without increased funding, new initiatives cannot be undertaken.
As long as these goals have clear outcomes that support a better community and are grounded in a long term vision, I support this.
Bowen has its own Planning Dept. We get no perceived value from the Trust in terms of Planning. I think we need Bowen specific programs (i.e/, protection of Crown Lands on the island)
I'm in support of being proactive on development and implementation of these programs and services
For coordinated policies, programs and implementation that is efficient and strategic is the key to preservation and protection of the Islands Trust territory
focus on reconciliation as much as you can
all of these activities needed and must be fully supported.
Let's get something for our money

Comments from participants who chose:
• Decreased
The Islands Trust has more than sufficient resources to handle these areas.
Much of this is designed to self-perpetuate and grow the Trust rather than deliver any real positive outcome to our island.
difficult times
These programs, while maybe beneficial in theory/concept, have produced little to no benefit or tangible outcomes or service or advocacy on behalf of Sidney Island owners. I see more value add coming from local advocacy groups, First Nations, Regional Districts and local municipalities than I do from IT.
No point in duplication spending
Not responsive or responsible to local populations (each island)

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
It seems to me this part of the budget allocation should be cut by 50%. More rules and intergroup love fests all aimed at putting more regulations in place do little but increase landowner costs and ultimately may serve to increase rather than decrease collaboration.
A number of these areas are ineffective or redundant. Advocacy would be the one area of spending that would make sense as a focus for IT and worth funding.
Absolutely no need. Most if these items you fail on so just give the majority of it up. Concentrate on self serve for citizens and abandon the rest.
I agree with funding these kinds of programs. If I had no experience with Islands Trust, I would support increasing funding to these kinds of programs. However, given the Trust's lack of legitimacy in the eyes of the public, and given that the existing programs do not sufficiently engage with, learn from, and respect the public, I cannot support funding them.
we find ample information on our own. we don't need more education programs
Cost recovery should be made from region receiving services.
Expenditures should be made by local muni counsel
I would to support increased finding in this area but I honestly am not sure how effective the current funding is.
too much government
again...this is not a priority.
The IT is taking on too many activities and functions
Focus on what you are supposed to do, planning for land use. Work with other government agencies.
The opportunity for inefficient and ineffective spending is the greatest in this expenditures category.
I am so not in favour of having my tax dollars used for lobbying, particularly in areas that are way outside the scope of the Islands Trust. Here is a golden opportunity for improved efficiency
The Islands Trust has always had the preserve and protect mandate and they have proven to be ineffective in supporting it. A municipal government model would be better suited and more effective in providing regional programs and services.
None of these should be in your wheelhouse. A waste of resources.
these programs would be better delivered through a municipal governance model. The Trust should not pretend to be a municipality.
Policy and advocacy are the most important functions at this level -- funding for these should be increased or remain the same, while other areas are reduced
The Trust does not need to grow, it needs to return to more of its original work.
Seems to have very little effect on actual decisions being made
way too many levels of govt.
Let the. CRD handle it
We have MLAs and MPs who should be doing this job for us.
Until the Trust has First Nations included in its decision making process, the Trust should stop speaking for these places
We pay for water that is unusable
this is like asking me if I would like to pay more taxes so staff can find more ways to increase the restrictions on my life here... Leave us alone!
We need focus on local policies, regional talking group are expensive and serve little purpose.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
just more wasted money
I am concerned about freighter anchorages in the southern gulf islands, however don't feel that the IT is adequately addressing my concerns with either the Provincial or Federal governments.
Too much overhead for these services.
Most of these seem directed at increasing this bureaucratic layer. Let people speak for themselves
none of this really effects people on the island
Cap the expense at a million dollars
It's a smoke show to have another meeting and create nothing or not much comes out of it but maybe lunch if you participate
I think this is a time for internal review and external activities would detract from that focus.
I've attended public education programs and don't support the pedagogy. Beurocracy costs more than its worth.
People are under stress. Political changes are stress. Back off for a few years till this settles down. We have been failed by our political positions. Back off.
I don't think these activities are the responsibility of the local government
We have found the islands trust ineffective and out of touch as an organizing body and therefore do not support more mismanagement.
Taxes Too High
There are other groups that can take on these initiatives. (Parks Canada or non profit groups)
Too much gov't regulations already.
We have been left to our own devices for over sixty years. What is it you think you can do for us?
these all seem like extras
Too much money is spent on the process, not enough on the doing
The programs and services provided by the IT are a waste of resources
The trustees are not very effective in achieving results from the 7 areas of focus as noted above. Why would we give them more money?
We have hit the wall of the small increases adding up every year. We can't be all things to all people. Innovate and focus on the bare essentials. Taxpayers have many obligations, not just this.
Focus on planning issues first
Too much complexity has evolved with too many employees as ideas continue to be generated and layers upon layers of programs and services are generated over time.
Regional programs and services should not be the responsibility of the IT!
We are part of Metro Vancouver so need for Bowen to contribute.
At Bowen we want no part of your costs - period!
The regional district is doing a great job without IT. They are for the people. Spend this on something islanders can see.
Reduce burearocracy
Savings should b directed at actual conservancy protection. Land purchase etc.
Re the 7 bullet points above, out Municipality covers off so do not involve Bowen Island with these activities.

Comments from participants who chose:
• Decreased
Efficiency increased.
You can't keep raising taxes. We don't need more of anything.
I can do my own advocacy. I also think it ridiculous to have 4 or 5 IT staff attending monthly LTC meetings...
These are all great but planning is meant to be the main work of the Trust. However, the functions above, such as communications, education programs, trust-wide policy, are important. I wonder though about advocacy. Does anyone really know if it has any impact?
Same reason as initial answer
As I said I believe Bowen Is. would do better apart from the Trust
ditto above
Too much advocacy expenditure
Cut out the programs that are not within the IT's jurisdiction.
I am on Bowen and you don't do anything for us
Focus on advocacy. Governance model is very expensive and it is unclear what has been learned during pandemic. reliance on technology including online trustee meetings should be the norm.
The best regional programmes on our island have been developed by Parks Canada and by local volunteers, without any Islands Trust support.
Again, we have duplication of many of these services in the CRD. Why do we need the Trust to mimic what the CRD does? Stop funding these unnecessary projects that our trustees relish and stick to the basics.
the new positions for media specialist are a joke, these surveys leave little room for opinion and the IT 2050 is foolish...loads of money for little effective outreach
Trust Council can reduce its meeting schedule to only 3 meetings per year i.e. remove the June meeting. Also narrow the IT advocacy to issues that it has jurisdiction over. The community stewardship award program should be discontinued and replaced by a simple local trust committee recognition of local stewards.
The culture at the regional Trust (staff and trustees) is stagnant. Policy and planning routinely work lacks innovation, efficiency and seems to be tone deaf to what is needed by our communities and in these times. It is known across the province as one of the most conservative and status quo planning agencies in BC. The culture needs to change and better leadership identified before more resources are wasted.
I have to shack my head, it might cost less to give the funds back to tax payers
There is no discernible benefit to Bowen Islanders.
Bowen will do our own programs
the trust should focus on issues that matter.
I would like to see funds used for encouragement and education. Very simple things like a working relationship between the Trust and BC ferries. Being that we are islands within the Trust and almost all who arrive must do so on a ferry. Simple reminders that living or visiting requires an awareness of garbage limits, water use awareness would go a long way towards lessening the trusts workload.
\$1.2 M -you've got to be kidding -for largely fluff? Those funds could help or resolve the number of more important issues in the community.
We just get increased costs every year, I see nothing for this but a bloated bureaucracy

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
Duplication of many IT programs covered by other forms of government.
This funding would be better spent if it was allocated to non-profits doing educational work here on Denman.
cost to Bowen should be reduced
Bowen Island has its own local government, and therefore there is no need to pay Islands Trust for the services we already have
Basic budgetary reduction based on assessment of which programs actually deliver measurable results/value
Bowen property tax levy and funding should be reduced by 80%
The Islands Trust spending and cost levels are out of control
Don't see value in many of the Trusts programs
Seems we have of program consultation from other institutions
Islands Trust is not the forum for either reconciliation or climate action expenses
As a Bowen Islander feel we have absolutely NO need to be a member of the Islands Trust
Living on Bowen I feel we should not be part of the trust
The majority of your "services" are make work activities for your bureaucracy. They are of no value to Bowen Island -- we have municipal staff performing same services
Again....do nothing until the Strategic Plan is developed. CUT where possible....especially the hiring of 2 full time staff and 2 part timers unless 100% of their pay is by grants by other organizations.
Bad timing. Not until Covid 19 is behind us.
Bowen needs non of your costs
surely you can do most of your meetings online now?
If necessary, again seems less important than maintaining day to day functions
Waste of taxpayer money
As before all programs designed to dis-empower the citizen.
Trust likes development.
Not as important as local services
For the same reasons as the others. You simply should not, morally, continue to add staff and add expenses and add taxes as if the islands, islanders and the province is fine. We are not.
see above; For example, you could eliminate the FOIs by simply becoming completely transparent. Maybe there are a very small number of things to keep secret, but in general, almost all information sought through an FOI request could simply be placed in an organized manner online for anyone to view. \$1.2M seems like an awful lot for that list of activities above. I appreciate much of this work and think it can be done much more efficiently.
I'd prefer to see more at the LTC level than Regional spending/programs
STOP the advocacy role on climate change and other pet projects. This scope is better left at a higher level of government.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay the same
they seem to be doing a good job

Comments from participants who chose:
• Stay the same
Will Island Trust continue to use Zoom as a form of cutting costs for meetings. Maybe some of the annual meetings?
I am content with our level of service
This may be a year for drawing upon resources of locals who can volunteer some time and expertise here
Depends on areas independent needs
meetings can be held virtually with less dollars being spent on travel or other office expenses for meetings
Just until we get through this covid hump
Again, these activities need to be tested against efficacy. Spending is fine: what are the results? Is the IT the best fit for this work, or should it focus entirely on what it can get a complete grip on?
it's work OK
Funded by the province and by taxes, not grants
Asked and answered on previous pages.
This level of activity is necessary for the trust to operate effectively.
I am not terribly well informed about this
I think you currently do a fine job at the above and don't think it needs changed
The programs have existed for sometime and additional funds do not appear to be needed.
This is why we have clubs/volunteers for our community to learn together.
Education and information is they key to being informed on issues, and positive change resulting from that knowledge and understanding.
Feels to be working.
We have good existing programs. Too many programs just spreads the money too thin.
Redirected away from election expenses of advertising to real education.
Again, explanations of what is driving the requested increase would be helpful.
Money is tight this year
It could be more cost effective from what I have seen.
and reallocate resources within this group to more effective education
what "public education programs" are in place?
Consistent delivery of services, updated over time, longer planning horizons
Because of Covid this may be an area to reduce funding and reallocate to bylaw enforcement or other areas in greater need.
Seems adequate at the moment
Less for communications, more for policy management
Having meetings, writing policy statements etc may give bureaucrats a warm feeling but in reality the contribution is difficult to measure at the taxpayer level.
Where is the recognition of affordable housing? It is in your policy statement, but not programs and services? The Province of BC has said all municipalities must have a housing assessment and action plan. Yet the CVRD says that Denman and Hornby fall under the Islands Trust. Yet the Islands Trust says that is not in their mandate. Y'all need to clear that one up! Who is responsible for action on affordable housing??? That is a regional program and service we NEED to preserve and protect our islands.

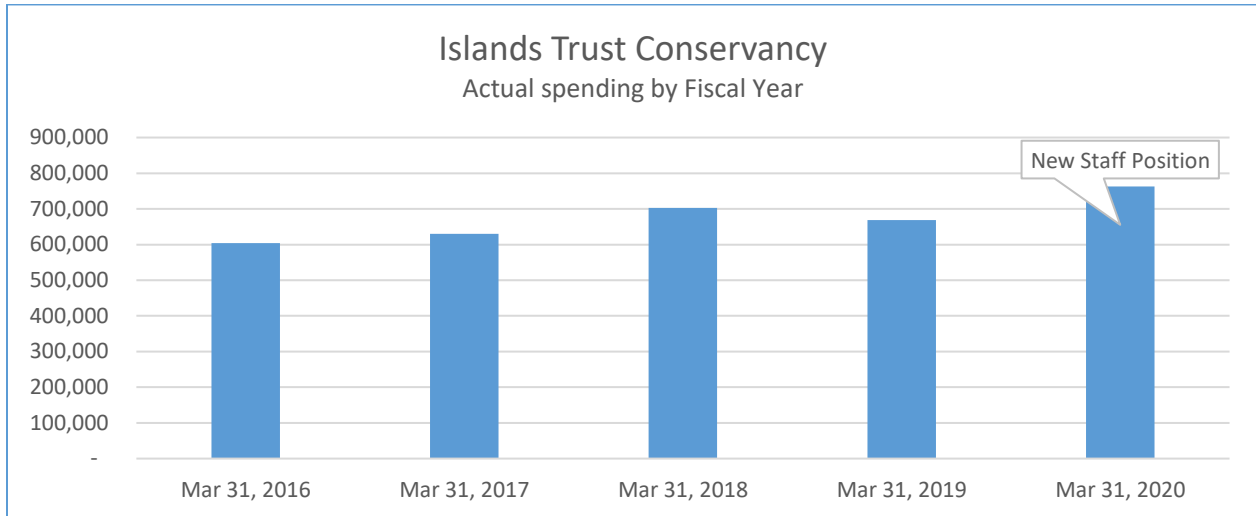
Comments from participants who chose:
• Stay the same
Decrease advocacy and intergovernmental relations and increase communications
No issues.
Current pace is fine
This is probably where the trust gets the most "bang for the buck" . I would support a shift of dollars from planning/bylaw enforcement to these activities, especially advocacy and education.
Hold the line
I don't think these things need an increased budget.
funding seems adequate
Advocacy not activist - focus on the needs of the residents and stay in the local government lane.
Enough already.
Your organization is like a gigantic oil tanker: chugging along and very slow to react to change. Fix funding and find ways to do more!
currently satisfied
It is not clear where the additional spend might be utilized to advance one or more of the above
Be more efficient with use of current funding.
Would like to see more funding channeled into educating visitors and purchasers about the history and sustainable personal practices while living on or visiting the islands and less spent on promotional IT information.
More advocacy for climate action, protecting and preserving the islands and prohibition on development, logging, mining, industry on the islands
Focus on maximizing resources through collaboration with other entities including NGOs

Comments from participants who chose:
• I don't have an opinion
I really don't know what programs and services are offered. I'm not clear on the value the trust is adding
I think it is clear i think the Islands' Trust needs a total review and improvement
I don't know enough to answer.
I don't know how much more this would get in public participation.
I would need more information
As with other answers to similar questions- before you can properly decide to spend more or less you need to be able to measure the related outcomes and no information is provided in that regard
hasn't worked so far
Bowen does not need the island trust
I don't know what these programs are

Islands Trust Conservancy

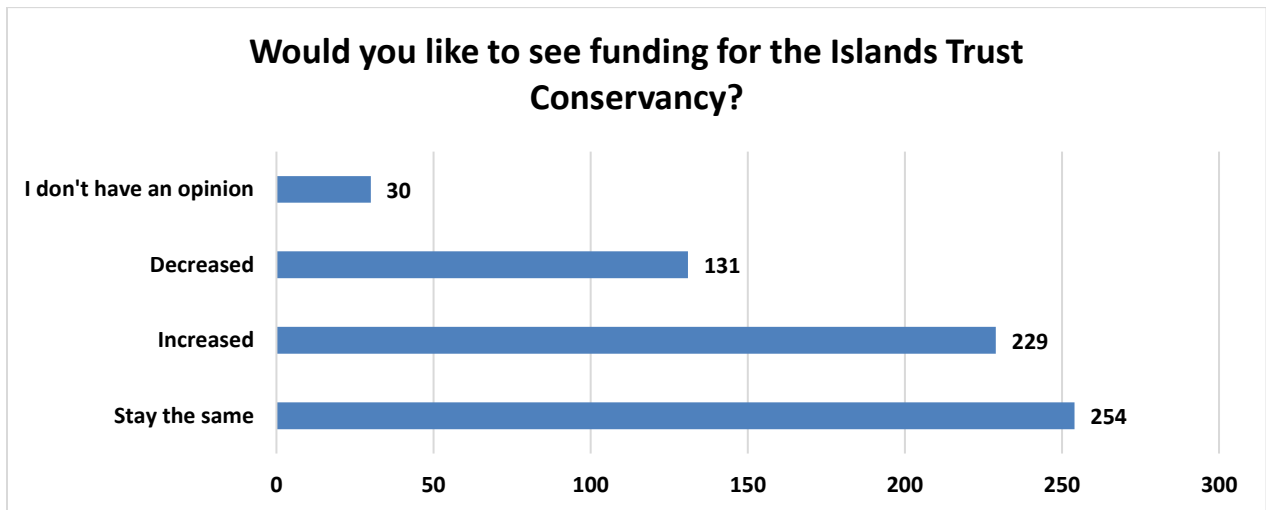
The ecosystems of the Islands Trust Area are among the most at risk in Canada. The Islands Trust Conservancy protects natural landscapes (1,307 hectares) across the region within 30 nature reserves and 76 conservation covenants. Islands Trust Conservancy empowers property owners to protect

private land through innovative programs, covenants and volunteer conservation initiatives. The Conservancy’s administration costs, including the costs of managing the 106 protected areas, are paid for through the Islands Trust budget. Land purchases and covenants are generously funded through donations and grants. As of July 1st, 2020, the Conservancy’s nature reserves had a combined BC Assessment Value of over \$19.2 million. In 2021-22, the Islands Trust Conservancy will also receive \$205,000 in external funding for a Species at Risk Program through Environment and Climate Change Canada which is part of a three-year grant totalling \$597,000.



Question 11:

- 644 out of 941 (68%) who participated in the survey completed question 11



The following tables show the comments from 225 participants who explained their choices to question 11.

Comments from participants who chose:
• Increased
More protection is badly needed.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased
if possible
Again the islands are growing in popularity and unrestrained development is going to have an impact.
Increases should go towards programs not salary increases.
A significant portion of the total Trust budget should be directed to land acquisition for conservancy. This way the purpose can be promoted by taking land out of private hands.
preserve more land for greenspace
There is good work here and it is chronically underfunded.
Again...this increases value in our island.
If needed.
Protect more land in it's natural state.
only if it truly empowers property owners. right now, the bylaws only restrict property owners and land use
this is underfunded
Let's preserve the forests we have.
We need to preserve as much land as possible in the face of climate change and development
Increased freighter traffic issue of high priority
and decrease bylaw enforcement funding
This should be straight forward action.
important work
once it's gone, it never comes back
very important work
This is truly "preserve and protect" and worthwhile
No time to slow down. This is the time to show strong presence and deliver the Trust's objectives.
The conservancy has the expertise to guide us through the climate emergency with nature based solutions and education.
I would appreciate seeing conservancy lands increased. Additionally, island specific species census should be regularly collected into a regionally data suppository for management & analysis. We cannot protect those we do not know. To these ends budgetary allowances should be increased accordingly.
From my perspective this should be the primary activity of the Trust.
protect wild spaces. we dont want to be a bedroom community to to 2nd homes
Do SOMETHING about the Fallow Deer
The conservancy program is key to protecting unique and valuable areas
Extremely important.
We are becoming increasingly aware of the impact of human activities on our ecosystems. We need more initiatives to preserve.
As island populations grow this work seems more crucial
The natural spaces and places, the local ecosystems are under seige. Increased human impact plus the heavy burden of deer (both invasive and native), are wearing down the environments. Loss of forest cover, risk to fresh water... these islands NEED PROTECTING!

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased
More information for residents to get a clear understanding of issues
Island conservancy work is VERY important to many who choose to live on these islands.
Funding for implications of IT properties may not cover the work that has to be done. Visits from staff and visitors help the donors of the properties to remain caring enthusiastic to be "partners" in the care of donated properties. As a nature reserve property donor, I would like more time with staff and have more resources allocated to the nature reserve.
Prevention is key to long-term sustainability.
This is one of the few areas where I see the IT has been effective, and I therefore support increased spending.
This area needs to be protected
Hornby is the last stronghold of herring spawning habitat in Canada, we need more protections in place :
Most important.
Conservancy of protected areas and habitat is very valuable.
Without stronger protection, the islands will lose their special qualities
My personal passion. I love this area. It by data has more species of plants and animal species than anywhere in Canada. I see people struck dumb by the beauty. This is a powerful gift we have. I think I have a duty to tread lightly and share, advocate, and teach, Go Islands Trust you are a big part of the reason that the Islands aren't all Magic Lake Estates!
Increased development threatens environment
Increase would need to be proportional to the increased workload.
It's important to protect our green space from development/logging
Conserving what land is already protected is extremely important
Nothing is more important than the Conservancy.
Conservation is key. Not everyone gets this. Will need significant PR...
I think the ITC does good work
Increasing population and development demand thus required better protections and land conservation
Considering the importance of preserving the ecosystem of our Islands and the cost of living increasing annually, I support a slight increase in budget to safeguard our environment
Land is not getting cheaper, therefore whatever is bought today is going to be more expensive tomorrow.
This to me is the most beneficial use of tax dollars, and the most environmentally sound practice.
Make this a higher priority within the Islands Trust, reducing expenses elsewhere
Need is great, but concerned that my choice of response will result in a rob Peter to pay Paul scenario
increased protection of ecosystems in IT areas
Probably your most important mandate. Stock of pristine coastal environment is quickly diminishing
The Conservancy does so much to uphold the Trust mandate and vision
conservation is one of the more firmly beneficial actions possible
I believe this is one of the important mandates for the islands Trust.
Clearcut areas need to be expropriated and replanted ASAP.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased
Focus on land acquisition
This should be the number one mandate of the Trust. Instead, it seems the Trust is moving towards approving more and more development and density. This is a long-term mistake that everyone is going to end up regretting let happen. Trustees who support this need to be weeded out and not voted in again.
This is the one area that the Trust can live up to it's original mandate of 'preserve & protect'
Don't kid yourselves... you are not 'conserving' anything. You are simply turning these areas in to tourist entertainment. Tourists are trampling the conservation areas and parks. Furthermore, we have just lost most of our cedar trees through the drought. New plants and trees can not replace them as our infestation of deer is eating anything that grows that is not a fir tree. We are now a mono-culture of douglas fir trees just waiting for the equivalent of the Pine Mountain Beetle to find us. Fix the deer problem will do more for 'conservancy' than anything else.
I support this if associated operational funding is put in place. Manage things like the growing rat problem, help get rid of invasive animal/plant species, mobilize volunteers and help them succeed, et cetera.
If IT focused more on protecting wild lands that could result in more focus and perhaps less need to spend time and energy on infrastructure issues.
I think there needs to be more incentives for property-owners to protect their lands.
Good use of funds.
i value long-long-term thinking.
I value the important work of the ITC
Ban the leg hold trap
We need to conserve more specialized / rare environments
THis is a critical function
Some opportunities to save land come only once
I think the nest use Of increased funds would be cash insensitive to land owners to not log, and to build multiple small dwellings that share infrastructure rather than SFD. Therefore more forest can be conserved throughout pst Ella, less clearing, and community by in for protection of forests.
We need to do more in this area
A worthwhile endeavour
The ITC is vstal to protecting and preserving the islands natural environments
More money for acquisitions please.
very important for our future
The islands are the social and cultural assets of BC and the world. We have a duty to preserve and protect these assets in perpetuity. This takes funding, staff and strategy.
Would like to cap development, logging and such on all the islands now before everything of value is gone
due to the climate crisis and human population levels
important functions here that need adequate support.
This is a beautiful place let's keep it that way

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
<p>Your conservancy sounds great until you compare it to island-based conservation groups or the big non-profit conservation groups, all who manage to protect vastly more land at a fraction of the per acre cost. Your surveys has almost no value as they benchmark against nothing, so comparisons require huge effort. All these surveys are effective at is generating platitudes from Trust fans who like the preserve and protect mandate but are clueless as to what it even means and where the Trust has its part to play - which is very narrow, not in trying to duplicating the work of other governments who actually have the responsibility and authority to do it</p>
<p>We say no to increased densities in the town cores, while at the same time allow Mc mansion to clear the hillsides. The entire premise of IT right now is in a state of hypocrisy</p>
<p>See above</p>
<p>If we were assessing performance in this area, I do not believe that IT has been successful in that mission. Much of what is being done should be embedded in the policies, by laws, initiatives of the CRD, the municipal or other governance structure and not administered by IT.</p>
<p>No need. You e failed to date with existing programs. Put on hold and figure a more cost effective path going forward.</p>
<p>I would like to see the Islands Trust Conservancy take a hard stand against the oppressive weaponization of environmental regulations by Trust planning and bylaw enforcement staff against landowners. Of course I want our fragile eco-systems protected, and of course I want funds put toward respectful and meaningful and inclusive stewardship education. Not in the absence, however, of support for the citizenry, and their freedom to live on their own land in their own ways. If you want support for the Conservancy to grow, then you need to start standing up for the huge diversity of lifestyles that are compatible with responsible land stewardship.</p>
<p>appears too high for level of staffing that could be reduced.</p>
<p>Bowen is unique as it has its own government</p>
<p>Again - i have no confidence in your governance practices</p>
<p>Taxes should not support this</p>
<p>It looks like it went up a lot in the last year. Please conserve our tax dollars with the same zeal that you (try to) conserve the Trust area.</p>
<p>There is more than enough funding for this and that is in addition to the grants, donations, and external funding.</p>
<p>Better to put money in other conservation organizations who protect more land for way less money</p>
<p>Stem your growth overall. Why is yet another staff position being added?</p>
<p>More focus on people since large portions of our lands are well conserved</p>
<p>more money = more restrictions</p>
<p>I am very disappointed with the conservancy. Lots of talking very little support for land owner that ask for help. I cannot support it in its current form.</p>
<p>as above</p>
<p>Spend the money on the Gulf Islands, Bowen has a lot of conservancy areas already.</p>
<p>If anything this where the island trust can shine but I see the locals land owners doing this regardless</p>
<p>Pass it to other levels of government</p>
<p>Taxes Too High</p>

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
let them fund themselves like all other conservancies
Isn't this what Parks Canada does?
Too much gov't invention already.
The covenant policy is a farce. How could you spend more on it?
Turn it over to BC PARKS for efficiencies & equitable approach.
I feel that this work should be carried out by a privately funded enterprise, not taxpayer funded.
We are drowning in taxes....all taxes need to be decreased by 10% per year for several years and wean ourselves off big government
This is an expensive extra
Instead of IT Conservancy funding I'd rather have my road repaved
I agree with funding a Species-at-Risk program. But if land is purchased through private sources, what exactly is the rest of the money going toward?
Do the same with less taxes. Reduced taxes doesn't mean reduced services or programs. Find a way to do the same for less. Don't add on more.
I do not live in a park but a rural community. It is by lawed to death and has increasingly become anti development of any kind which is already affecting who can continue to live on the islands much less find work and support themselves.
Too much money is being spent destroying ecosystems to stop people from utilizing the land
They raise money to purchase land and should fundraise to administer.
On denman particularly and the other islands to a smaller degree all land conse3rvation has been accomplished for many years far more effectively and economically That the IT could ever hope to accomplish.
I can't speak for other local trust areas but here on Denman more than 50% of the land base is protected by, parks, ITC, Local conservancy, and the ALC.
We can look after lands at far less costs.
Our Municipality will make these decisions.
Its looking after itself.
Reduce bureaucracy
Total waste of time an money - one of the biggest scandals on Bowen. Conserving special areas is a great idea - the Trust not needed to manage - Metro and the Muni can do a better job.
I don't feel that the Islands Trust does its job.
Turn over mgmt to local conservancy groups
The IT's core mandate is land use management - stick to this and leave conservancy to charities.
ratio of admin expenses relative to lands under management is higher than comperable agencies in BC doing the same thing; you have to get "leaner"
Again, the Islands Trust did nothing to prevent a large clear cut logging operation on Saturna Island. Local residents raised the funds to legally stop any further logging after 1/3 of IR7 had already been stripped.
\$ should instead go to LTCs to update local OCP bylaws with policies, zoning and incentives for forest and ecosystem protection on private land.
who thinks you are doing a real job?

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased
No Value to Bowen island.
the I.T. is like a ship without a redder, we don't want you on Bowen Isl. !
The Trusts past use of funds has resulted in a decreased awareness in many communities. I would prefer to see resources freed up to be accessed by community groups already well established with proven track records re conservation. This would strengthen communities and lessen resentment toward IT.
I would like to be out of this Island trust
I absolutely support the work of the IT conservancy. I cannot see how management of properties needs that kind of budget. More details please
Duplication of other government and academic work
many initiatives already exist on Bowen
Bowen has its own local government and its own active, worthy & long-standing stewardship groups
Bowen property tax levy and conservancy funding should be reduced by 80%
As above
Must reduce budget of Islands Trust
Surely the IT bureaucracy is large enough to preclude the addition of yet another position
No need to spend money with ITC we have our own services on Bowen Island
Living on Bowen I feel we should not be part of the trust
Your entire budget must be reduced; make this proportionate
WHY a new position???? How much new land is there? How many staff are already involved in this initiative.
We cannot afford any additional costs in this area at this time.
We can maintain our lands for a few lessor cost
As Before
To restate, you simply should not, morally, continue to add programs and expenses and add taxes as if the islands, islanders and the province is fine. We are not. You need to do your part
I imagine a value for money audit and/or an efficiency audit conducted for the Conservancy would reveal many areas where costs can be decreased while improvements are made to the overall program.
Pivot instead to land-owner based conservation and NO NEW STAFF!

<p>Comments from participants who chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay the same
Actions seem effective as they are
With the Species at Risk grant there doesn't need to be an increase
Would need to know more about what these services look like. I do however support the concept of preserving as much of the natural landscape as possible for future generations. Where I struggle is how this fits in with the multitude of other organizations who are doing similar work....starts to feel like a patchwork quilt of entities doing the same thing but all struggling a bit to get the order of magnitude funding and momentum needed to preserve large parcels of precious land for the future.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay the same
One decent program
This is not a funding issue, it is an issue of clarity of mandate and principles. Private land owners are definitely not "empowered" as stated above. There is a lack of clarity of how IT accomplishes these goals, under what actual authority (other than self stated mandate), and no attempts are made at creating shared vision and partnership.
fund through grants and individual donations
In light of covid and ppl losing jobs and uncertainty about their economic future I don't think raising fees and enforcing bylaws is the answer
Our local conservancy does great work too
Until covid is controlled
some good work here
Again, funded by taxes or the province
Manage it better.
If this truly will help empower property owners. Then i would say increase. But unless you decrease bylaw enforcement, you can't increase empowerment to property owners. Bylaw enforcement makes it near impossible for land owners to have freedom and empowerment.
No need to change.
I think there is too much focus on the environment (while it is VERY important) I think the priorities are skewed.
I would like thinking in conservancy to include encouragement of land usage for sustainable/regenerative economic systems for people on the populated areas of the islands.
Asked and answered on previous pages.
The level seems about right.
Would like to see staying the same or decreasing no need for another staff spot
I think this is very important but it looks like there is outside funding for this.
There are many other Land Conservancies that protect places on Mayne.
Again you currently do a fine job at this and there is no need to change
What you do is wonderful, but climate change and education need priority at the moment, I think.
publish wages and job descriptions for staff for more accountability
Maintain.
Donations & fundraising is always on going.
It's critical that we maintain what is already in place.
Too much overhead. Islands Trust should operate more efficiently not less.
Another way to decrease supply and affordability. The islands aren't just for privileged, rich white people
Rely on more donations.
However, if the areas under protection increase, the budget needs to increase
Stay in line with COLA, CPI.
Some of what the conservancy does is good, some is not good. I would like to see responsible government with responsible use of funds. Each individual conservation covenant has its own individual issues, really they cannot be commented on as a whole.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay the same
But there needs to be some action. My experience with the Conservancy is disorganized and ineffective. When it gets its house in order it can put positions forward to other sources of funding. It acts like it doesn't need people. That should change before I would support increased funding. Let us see some active protecting going on!
In a non-pandemic year I would like to see this increased, but this year we need financial restraint
We like the protection of green space that everyone in the province can enjoy.
What innovative programs (plural) that empower property owners to protect their land?
important work but this is not the time to increase budgets
how come we always hear from our trustee that these types of issues are "beyond her mandate"? Messaging from IT is very confusing.
also, not the year....
Progress is being made with the additional staff member. Let's see how it works out over the next year and then in 2022 add another person.
As stated previously. Status quo.
Adding new staff = adding more bureaucracy
Much of Denman Island is already in conservation. Hooray for all the hard workers. Now can we conserve the social fabric of the island before it is too late?
as above
Last year's increase was substantial.
It's working well! Keep the grants coming.
Conservancy should work closer with Parks Canada, Regional Parks & like organizations.
unclear why this requires additional staffing.
With the new staff position, funding should only reflect cost of living.
amount seems appropriate now
The provincial government has to recognize the large budget needs of the conservancy and make a much larger contribution to the Islands Trust budget or make it a separately funded enterprise
they are doing good work
currently satisfied
Be more efficient with use of current funding.
Using the information provided, the current budget - which is said to cover administration and management costs of the protected areas - appears to be over \$700K and the Conservancy's nature reserves have a combined BC Assessment Value of over \$19.2 million. Without knowing more details, I'm thinking the current funding in place should cover the necessary administration/management work.
More recognition and encouragement of resident and visitor on the ground responsibilities. These are free for all to participate in.
One of the more important functions of the Trust

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I don't have an opinion
Depends on the demand, essential service.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I don't have an opinion
The most at risk in Canada? Please back this up with good science. I want to live in a community that balances sound environmental policy with strong support for the local economy. Help people in the Islands Trust areas support themselves or your tax base will disappear as people are forced to leave and find work elsewhere.
I support this activity, but really, how could I comment on funding level with such little knowledge
Not enough information provided for me to make a call
Important function but not sure it needs more money as it already seems quite effective
Don't want to participate in Island's trust
Bowen does not need two masters
not sure about the implications

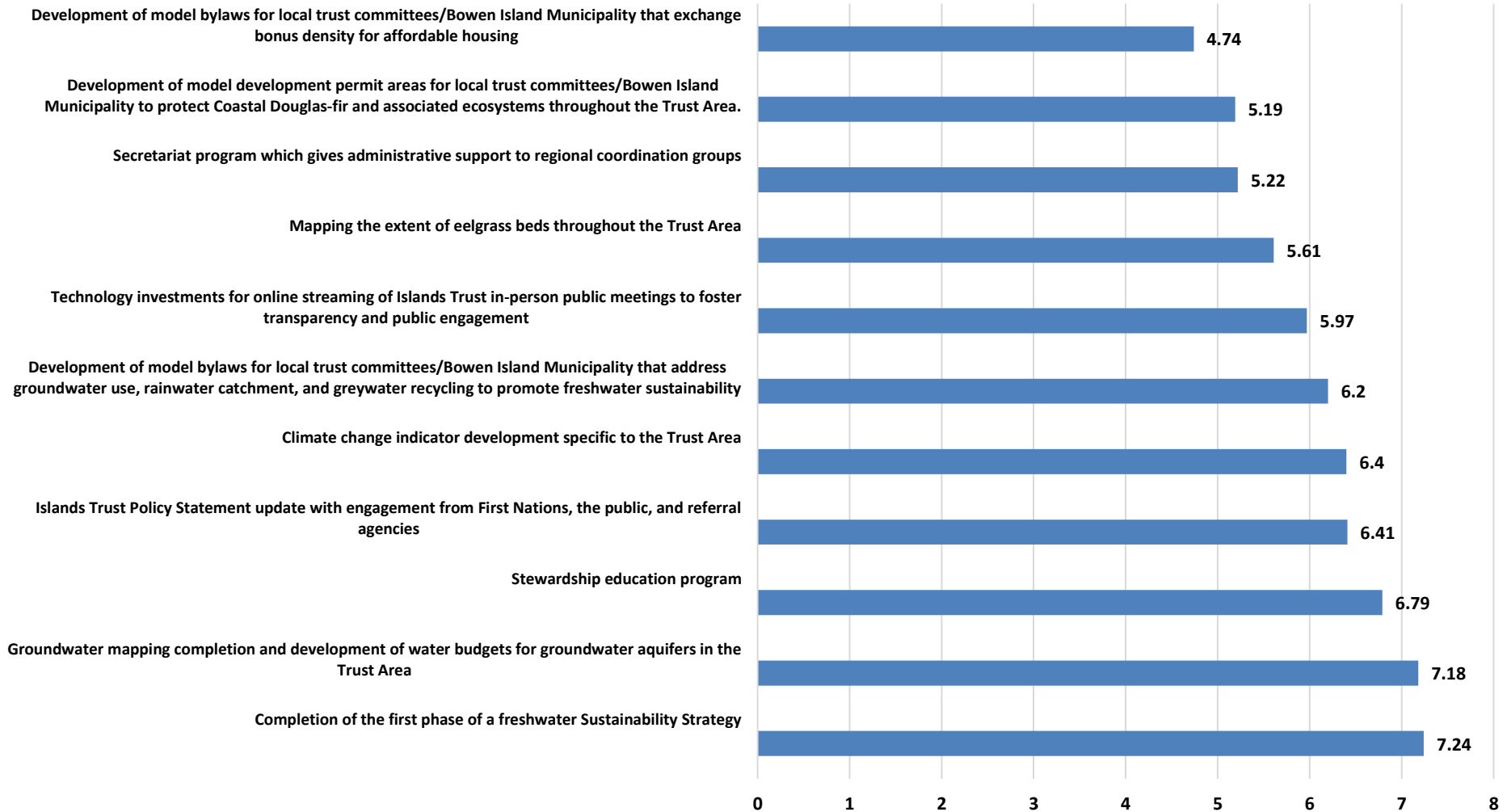
Climate Action

The Islands Trust mandate to preserve and protect the Islands Trust Area has a climate action focus that is strengthened by the [Islands Trust Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022](#). The following strategic climate action projects are proposed for 2021/22 for a combined cost of \$241,000 (excluding overhead costs such as staff resources associated with the projects).

Question 12:

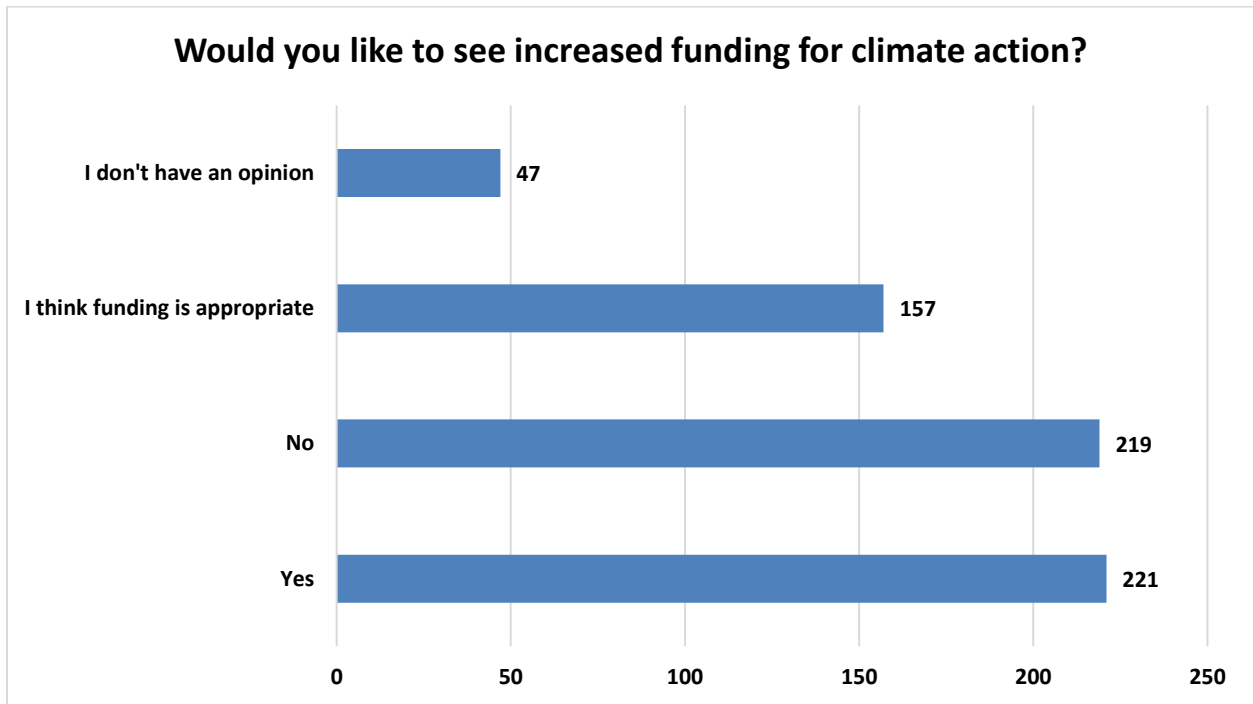
- 562 out of 941 (59%) who participated in the survey completed question 12

Please rate (1 through 11) the following planned climate-action activities according to their importance to you (1=highest ranked, 11 = lowest ranked):



Question 13:

- 644 out of 941 (68%) who participated in the survey completed question 13



The following tables show the comments from 231 participants who explained their choices to question 13.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes
But I would also like to see ANY acknowledgement in land use planning considerations of the reports already written. They are ignored by the Planner.
This is the most existential crisis imaginable; no time to waste!
if possible
what is needed to achieve the prioritized activities
Seabed preservation, fresh water usage and preservation of species should be a focus. should be a priority.
We are getting close to the tipping point.
Only if perspective is broadened to recognize the contribution of local food and other production to reduced emissions.
Climate change will impact everyone and islanders are not really prepared for the myriad changes and impacts that will result. We need to build in resiliency, which means more funds.
Once the pandemic subsides (it may take a couple years!) CLIMATE CHANGE action MUST take first priority. New energy sources. New ways of living, cohabiting, sharing space with others. SHARING not just OWNING homes. There's not enough land/housing for everyone we must SHARE and not be so greedy and selfish.

Comments from participants who chose:
• Yes
But only if it will give concrete, long term results.
very important
Consider the options not to step up the work on climate action!
Climate action to me means preparing for the effects of climate change with more education and policy around: food security, water security, regenerative land use, and how to build and maintain healthy sustainable small communities.
This is the most pressing issue facing the trust area -- but any increase in spending should favor real, tangible protection (i.e. not administrative support, overhead, unfocused education)
Need to develop sustainable and doable actions now!
Yes, but not necessarily for the activities identified above.
If you're referring to the \$75k noted in the Strategic Plan. yrs 2021-22, points 11&12, it is likely to be deficient in funding delivery of a data base, analysis, forecast & plan of required actions.
We have salmon, orca, drinking water to worry about
climate change will impact our resources, fires water food
Important to start calling climate crisis or emergency
I really did not like the above rating system. I wanted to be able to rate each one at a number I felt reflected it's true importance to me.
i think education on easy and not so easy changes people can make as well as access to govt \$\$ for initiatives,
It's vitally important right now.
It's the most important issue on the planet.
with reports and input from the public on actions taken on projects
If we don't fix climate emergency, everything else stops working
Our major long term crisis is climate change. We must adapt
It's a given, right?
We are at the tipping point, we need to turn things around rapidly
Changes are here already, need "teeth" to air on plans, not just suggestions.
Along with more marine protected areas
We are safeguarding 25% of the earth's rainforests in 0.02% of Earth's landmass in BC. That' future value is priceless.
Most of our trees are dying, increasing risk of forest fires, droughts, dangerously hot weather.
Very important as our earth changes
This is the central issue of our time.
If funding can actually promote policy change, then yes I support an increase, because these matters are urgent and crucial
But not by much.
as soon as possible in a post Covid world
Possibly a new function.

Comments from participants who chose:
• Yes
No more meetings, action please. Your administration costs look out of sight for a few meetings and no teeth in protecting the islands
We need to effectively address the climate crisis.
We need to deal with climate issues now.
this is urgently needed
I think awareness of climate change is essential to our future
because we need more action and education
But perhaps defer until next budget re: Covid crisis
With a particular focus on understanding and addressing impacts of climate change on our ecosystems, which create feedback loops (emissions from ecosystem change) as well as significant human and ecological risk (increased fire, extensive forest cover change, etc.)
Climate collapse is here. Thanks boomers.
We are running out of time regarding addressing these important issues and we need to respond before the tipping point.
Make it a higher priority, reducing expenses elsewhere
Yes but believe higher government agencies should provide funding also
as above
Self explanatory
It's the single biggest threat to us and our ecosystems.
We need action.
Surely the defining issue of our time
issue is of global importance
Climate action as sustainability is everything we need to do.
Of course as it is necessary.
It is an emergency.
Private land logging needs more regulation and oversight
Climate action in the Trust area is one of the rare issues that engender broad based support and agreement.
We're going to pay anyway.
So much work to be done
Planning work for executable deliverables is required
The most important problem now
Climate change is the major threat to life and society of our time.
Only if it supports local initiatives that are connected to specific islands, rather than paying salaries of IT staff.
It is our key issue. The risk we face will affect the viability of our community.
this I believe is essential to our future
Also, freeze on development especially in high density, water stressed areas. Support for protection of all groundwater recharge zones and forested areas on the islands .
its a crisis

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes
we are all dependent on an adequate and informed and enforceable policy on climate action
<p>However, most of the above projects miss the mark on taking climate action. The lion's share of any climate action spending should be spent on education for all ages and this really doesn't have to cost a lot. The rest of the budget could provide incentives to those who lead lives with a small ecological footprint. For example, an obvious solution to water conservation is simply to reverse the current policies on water billing. Instead of 90+% being a fixed charge that everyone pays equally and less than 10% of the costs being paid for through actual user fees of excessive water use, simply reverse that. 10% fixed charge and 90% of the revenue needed to run the water systems is funded through water meter billing according to usage. Fair, simple and effective. This obvious solution is but one example off the top of my head that seems to have eluded IT and the CRD. Instead governments will spend thousands of dollars mapping water, which is fine for areas where wells might run dry, but mapping any other areas is a waste of money.</p>

Comments from the participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No
This is not your mandate!
General clean practices are required first
<p>No, it's not a big problem on my island so why are you wasting resources that are better spent elsewhere in dealing with root causes of climate change. You waste scarce resources with little to no effect when those resources could be better spent elsewhere in preserving or protecting. And I strenuously object to question 10, which should allow for dismissal of any of those initiatives. Instead I'm sure it will be used to rank how important one is over another as justification to spend more in a given area. These survey techniques are just another reason that the Trust has lost its way.</p>
This need to happen at Federal levels or its just a. waste of resources
<p>This will just add additional overhead and continued increasing expenses. If this truly is part of the IT mandate (questionable) then just take the existing budget and provide grants to those who are already doing climate change work. IT cannot and should not embark on this work as yet one more entity that will need to support and pay for the administration of climate change activities in a microcosm that will not really make a difference to the areas you serve. Spend the precious budget wisely and don't try to be all things within a narrow mandate.....I personally do not interpret the initial mandate of IT to include embarking on this type of service....you're starting to open up a whole new body of work and then where does it stop? Climate change is real, we need to act, but this is NOT what IT should be focused on. Let others do that and support them with grants and cap how much of our tax \$ you provide. That will keep it nimble and manageable on year/year basis. Hiring staff is slippery slope that just builds your annual costs and increases and once that bus leaves the station it is very difficult to bring it back.</p>
Job for other levels of government
I would like to see this energy put to funding economic development/sustaining communities
<p>I do not believe any funding should be directed here. We now have "climate" action showing up in everything. Yes, we need to address our way of living. This is far bigger than the Trust, and I do not see any value whatsoever in the Trust putting a climate change lens on every activity in the Trust area.</p>
taxes are already too high for taxpayers

Comments from the participants who chose:
• No
The focus is too broad and thus the funds are being spread over too many initiatives. Pick the most critical (freshwater sustainability as an example) and fund appropriately. Do an exceptional job at one initiative rather than trying to do a minimal job at all.
We need to act as individuals, all I see are bigger and more boats, vehicles and houses
I will only support increased funding if and when the Trust can include land use rights and freedoms for individual land owners.
enough is already been done.
Put money into the economy. No one can put food on the table through Climate Action.
We are in a long term small human influence climate cycle
I think other agencies are better at this. It's a priority, but leave the pros to it.
I work in the area of climate change - the above is nonsense
Let other groups fund climate action
This is not a jurisdiction the IT should be engaged in
It should be included in your regular budget. No regional secretariat duties, we already use the CRD for that.
You are unable to correctly forecast climate change.
I don't see this as the highest priority of a land-use management body.
I think the Trust's Climate Action plan is poorly developed and will not be successful in most areas.
This is yet another Trust "flavour of the month". After 45 years of land use planning, you should have got it right
This is not a function of the islands trust
The Islands Trust should not involve themselves in climate change issues. Just look after zoning and compliance.
Frankly there is little if anything that the Trust can do related specifically to Global warming within its mandate. This is a Federal/Provincial issue (and really a EU/USA/China/India issue when you look at where CO2 comes/will come from.
If you can't predict next week's weather how can one predict climate change for years?
don't agree with focus on climate action
please explain climate action
\$241,000 is more than enough to work on these items - maybe they all can't be completed in a year but that is OK
CRD can do it
Not something we can influence in any meaningful way - just advocacy.
focus of climate action needs to be placed on larger communities where behaviour change will have a bigger impact
move funding from talking shops to concrete action, water collection and recycling, increase housing density in villages.
That is what governments are for.
only increased funding if zero sum
This would be duplication of work at higher levels of govt.
I have other climate action priorities that are not listed.

Comments from the participants who chose:
• No
As mentioned in earlier comments, I am concerned about the environmental impact of freighters in the SGIs. These freighters needlessly emit significant GHG emissions, however this issue is not a priority of the IT climate plan (as evidenced by the list of 11 priorities).
Other governments are already on this
Why would the trust deal with provincial issues.
We have so many levels of government doing this already. stop wasteful duplication
The First Nations People are better at doing this
A lot of words and meeting but no real work is being done right now. I would like to hear what and how the representatives are dealing with this is their families
Climate issues are not the responsibility or jurisdiction of violence trust. Of the 11 issues stated above the only issue that may be considered an island's trust issue is that of addressing groundwater and drinking water sources. Everything else is out of the jurisdiction and should not be on the budget
This should be managed at the federal level
Other than groundwater mapping and forest preservation, I don't think any of this is the responsibility of Islands Trust
We believe in climate action however, again, we have not been impressed with the Island Trust's ability to serve the community in general and do not believe putting more money toward the majority of Island Trust initiatives would be a waste.
Waste of tax dollars
nothing u can do and in the above questions they're dumb
Not until a pragmatic approach is taken. How about making Galiano safe for cyclists? I've never heard a single mention of this from our trustees. They are too busy on petty law suits.
Climate change is a hoax
Too much gov't
not your jurisdiction or mandate
Waste of time and money.
Leave it to the Provincial Govt. inefficient for the Gulf Islands to be segregated
again, not the time...
This should not work paid for by the islands. It should be handled by the district, provincial, and federal gvt.
There is a lot being done at the national and provincial level already
The points previous to this question are very unclear and complicated
Global issue
This is well beyond Trust mandate - I do not support any of the above programs, so would rate all of the items under question 10 as lowest ranked.
Climate action = make tiny homes and "illegal" renters legal. They have tiny environmental/climate footprint compared to oceanside houses of >2000+sqft. Islands Trust Council is still dropping the ball. I've lived on Denman for 25 years and still no action on housing. Ridiculous when held up against the mandate to preserve and protect.
There are bylaws already in place to protect many of these issues. And Many of these topics need to addressed at a higher level of scientific study than is possible in budget from small islands. Can this actually be done affectively at the local level

Comments from the participants who chose:
• No
What have you actually accomplished that has shown any regulation of IT's contribution to global waqrm9ng...
Climate action is already being taken care of by Metro and Bowen Island.
Already covered and better by our Municipality
We have at Metro and our Municipality Climate Action committees. Classic example of duplication and wastage. We can manage our response and do not need your involvement.
Some of the things in the list may be worthwhile - ie Coastal Douglas fir but they all come at a cost. There needs to be a transparent cost/benefit analysis process to evaluate the effectiveness of each of the actions listed above in terms of advancing the strategic plan. Ie each dollar spent must have the maximum return. That may mean spending all of it one or two items and none on the rest.
Change it to climate adaptability. We cannot control climate change.
No more taxes
I think it will just go to studies that won't mean anything because there will be no leverage to actually do anything. It's the province and the federal government who has the power in this and also they need to be funding it.
Bowen can look after itself
The above work scope duplicates actions better handled by senior government - why should a poorly resourced municipality waste my money duplicating it?
Wrong level of government! All this is expensive fluff and will result in little or no change.
Not in the Trust's remit
All levels of gov't are doing this & IT would be duplicating
Don't need it
use current funding more effectively. eliminate in person meetings and facilitate on-line forums and trustee meetings
should not a cornerstone to your policy statement; adjunct to other goals, "yes", but IT lacks meaningful expertise in this area
Use the money for something tangible.... an electric inter island ferry... discounted solar panels for residents... wind mills... grants for any kind of sustainable, green energy production.
Climate change and related issues need to be funded by bigger governments, not the trust. Too many cooks spoil the broth. The Trust is too small to make a difference and wastes tax money which could be better utilized by co-ordinated municipal governments and not duplicated by self-serving trustees.
While I think climate action is important, I don't think that government at the IT/regional district has very limited powers to enact change on this topic, and as such, I don't support any increased funding here.
Not sure how bonus density for affordable housing is a climate action in our context. Bonus density as part of a transit oriented development strategy (ie, in an urban context) makes sense but I don't see the linkage here.
our communities are dying, housing crisis, business closing and who knows what will happen...
Enough with raising our taxes!
We are duplicating services offered elsewhere
Reduce your projects to manageable levels
What would you do with the money?

Comments from the participants who chose:
• No
this has to be a joke, right?
Our carbon footprint in minuscule on a world wide basis.
Bowen Island Muni will take care of these issues !!
Climate Action requires a decrease in funding (funding ultimately comes from earths resources
I don't believe there's a demonstrated value in our dollars invested in this small population base. We will take our own individual action as set by senior levels of govt and don't see and a role at this funding level for you
There is no end to the money you could spend on this to no end
Leave this work to Feds and province and use funds on something that serves us locally.
Because Bowen Island has its own government and elected officials to address this
Not enough info to rank these but both I have ranked look like bad ideas. Suspect a lot of money can be wasted in this entire area.
Other organizations are better suited to advocate for global climate action
Reallocate budget, do NOT increase budget
Lots already spent by other levels of gov t and society itself is much more aware
No expenditures whatsoever on any of these
Living on Bowen I feel we should not be part of the trust
these are make work projects that have 0 impact on climate change
What is the plan? This is such a broad request... so NO!!
Focus existing resources in coordination with others
BIM does it better
Question 10 has no open response, and demonstrates to me that there is little understanding of the past climate
Most choices either unclear (what is "bonus density"?) or too nebulous.
What could we do without support from all levels of government? Might as well spend the money where it can actually do something
Climate change is a natural process, not human caused.
As long as wood stoves are used to such a high extent; why bother
You simply must find ways to do more with less, like everyone else.
I think it is sufficient.
I think this whole initiative should be scrapped or deferred until we can afford it. I have thus been unable to answer your ranking as they would all be "11".

Comments from participants who chose:
• I think funding is appropriate
I hope the Trust can do this work within the budget
Flooding and dykes may seem appropriate when looking at climate change and rising sea levels
This is more a provincial thing
I e seen absolutely nothing concrete from island trust. Leave it to the professionals. Not your job.
we need the federal and provincial governments to guide this

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I think funding is appropriate
SSI does a great job of climate action...it needs to be directed more from a Federal and Provincial level. SSI is probably one of the best. We should have a common compost collection though.
I believe the action had to be bigger, provincial or federal, to have any effect
Control invasive species first, then biodiversity and forest growth will recover naturally
I will be willing to increase my taxes to fund climate action if the Islands Trust leads by example and promises that no virgin land will be densities and affordable housing will be built near ferry terminals, grocery stores, schools and other pre existing amenities, to decrease the carbon footprint of new development so vehicles will not be necessary.
Stay in line with COLA, CPI.
The trust area, has good climate management already
This is an open-ended question, especially since I don't know how existing funding is being used. I think that it is critical that IT begin to get a handle on the impacts of climate change and create a set of indicators (my #1 on the list). Of the ranked list, I think items 1 to 5 would be a healthy set of objectives to achieve for the year. No point biting off more than you can chew.
Federal issue really
There has to be massive duplication across various organizations on this topic and us being so small, we should be able to leverage other organizations research.
Depends what. Mostly I think this is the purview of other levels of government
?
What would "climate action" look like? We don't need studies. We need subsidies to buy e-cars and refit homes.
No one listens anyway
Do more with less. Less funding doesn't mean less can be done. It's an opportunity to get creative. You can't be all things to all people. Maybe other groups should be doing some of the projects like mapping eel grass.
Enough is enough
Everything should be seen through a climate lens
Overall the population on the island that can afford to meet many of these targets are doing so.
too little too late
I am in favour of climate action. I don't know costs
As long as it includes and not excludes healthy people and resilient community as part of the plan. We can't have a healthy resilient natural landscape if we are importing all our food and labour!!!!!!
Again promoting available facts and awareness as to over building, over using. Awareness as to energy use reduction and working cooperative models. (As values needing protection within the Trust) such as transportation reduction.
I would like to see what the plan is -- not just a statement but action plan that has deliverables
The SCRDP is looking for more underground sources of water in our area.

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I don't have an opinion
Would need more information to support more funding. Climate action is important, just don't know if more funding is necessary.

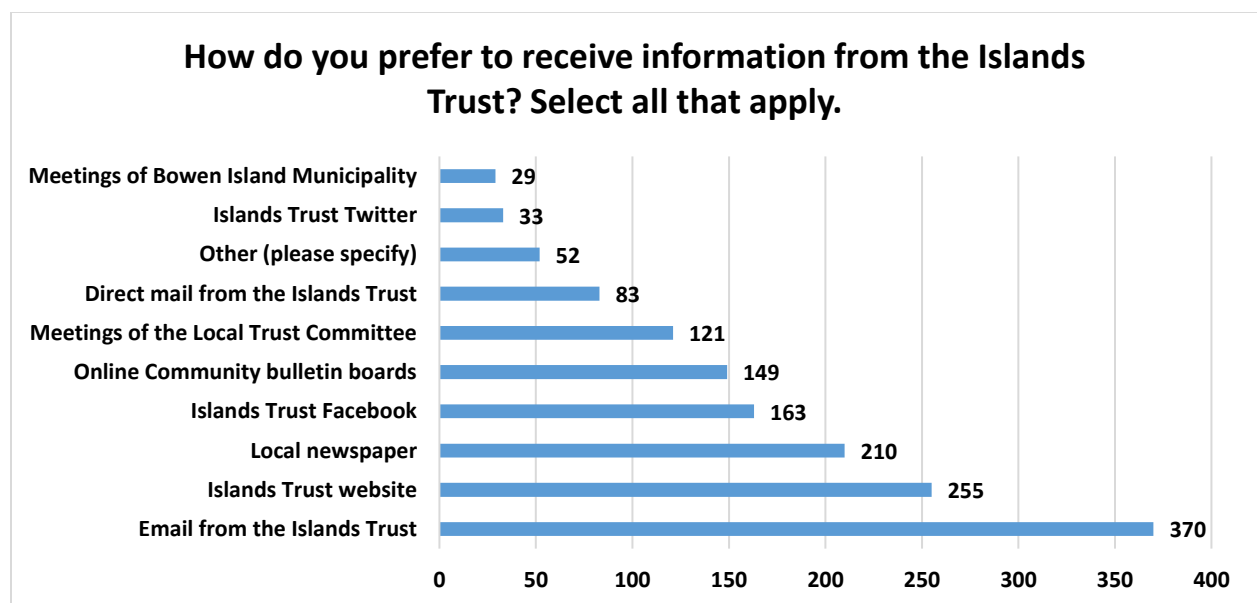
Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I don't have an opinion
I don't know enough about this topic to express an opinion.
Duplication of other government stuff work
I'm unaware of the needs.
Ranking 11 choices for funding priorities is not a reasonable thing for us to answer
What action
i need to know more
I don't see any action programs. How long do we have to do and redo mapping and inventory
It depends on how climate action is defined. The 2050 policy document suggested more time needs to be spent researching the relationship between actions and climate impact so that the trust b better design actions and prioritize spending
Depends on the proposed initiatives
I'm not sure. What is the unique role the Trust can play?
The pull down option for ranking priorities did not work on my phone. Not sure what the Trust policy is on residential foreshore protection is. I.e. what is the preferred method rock walls? Concrete walls other?
Bowen Island should not be a part of the trust

Tell Us More

There are so many ways to communicate. We want to know what works best for you.

Question 14:

- 618 out of 941 (65%) who participated in the survey completed question 14



The following tables show the comments from 52 participants who chose other for question 14.

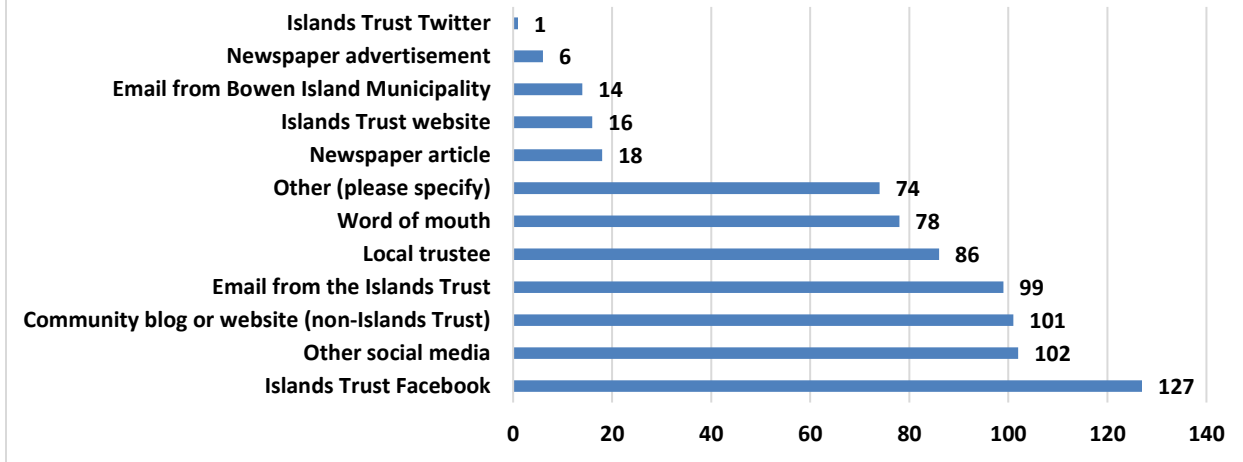
Comments from participants who chose:
• Other
saltspringexchange.com
Staff reports to planning commissions.
I prefer to receive information such that I can answer survey questions intelligently, with adequate information for comparison.
Very frequent and interactive town hall meetings. That is the only thing that would connect with people.
On Salt Spring, there is the Exchange
the website could be improved. difficult to find information. too many clicks. need a more user friendly website. hardly anyone uses Twitter in my generation and younger. and the older population. I don't even know anyone who uses Twitter
Pick one venue, save money, make the only one, do it well.
clearly you don't know our island we don't have a newspaper and your meetings appear to deliberately silence public participation
I find the website difficult to navigate, if it were easier, that would make sense.
Trustee forums, community meetings
As little as possible, but if so by email
I find Facebook creates a culture on the islands that is detrimental and rejects newcomers
MayneLiner
Mayneliner
Just don't spend stupid money printing things out - it all ends up in the waste anyway
Bulletin boards at the Grocery Stores on-island
Trustee reports at other community meetings
the less I hear from you the better
Ferry Bulletin Board
Meetings of the local trustee committee - but not so long or trying to cover everything. The local trustees work their "butts" off.
To the various island Facebook pages
Get instagram
here are the sources I use
u never listen
Instagram
email direct from our Islands trust rep
Action, let me here you have protected crown land and trails from forestry leases
Gambier island Facebook group
connect with people where they are, on local FB groups
Meetings that do not take place during the standard work day
Please make the Island Trust website easier to navigate.
I don't care for this communication. The IT will do whatever it decides anyway.
Mayne Island Info FB page

Comments from participants who chose:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other
Tell us more? Tell us how you want us to tell you more - is way more accurate. I have tried to engage with my LTC by facebook. Only one trustee responds. I've tried making presentations at the LTC and I get cut off after 2 minutes. How exactly do I tell you more in a functional way?
I really think a direct mail out is the best way. The first mailout should give the option of continuing to receive mail (hard copy) or to switch to email
Denman Bulletin Board Facebook page DIBB
LTC
gossip
I would like to be able to get assistance and advise from local trustee. Currently this is hard to do. No firm answers
Really happy if you do not communicate - few here know who you are anyway.
Have meetings once a month but restrict them to 2 hours. Publish a very short one or two page agenda . The agenda cover is useless in terms of telling us what is to discussed. The Agenda itself is so huge and full of fluff that no-one wants to read it. The meetings themselves are way too long, laborious, meaningless regurgitations that no-one wants to sit through. Putting them on-line doesn't help. Who is going to sit down to watch hours of this?
SS Exchange
Stop holding meetings that no one else can attend while working
Trust communications seem to have imprved this year in the sense that they seem more comtemporary, pro-active, targetted and far reaching. This is a start but more can be done. Narrative-driven multi and cross media communication targetted to stakeholders can have far-reaching impact. Note, the Islands Trust social media accounts have no evident presence or links on the Trust website. Why not? Did you know the Trust has a youtube channel? Neither did I before I searched for it just now and found it. More effort ant cross platform communications can have big payoff. Take for example the video "Islands 2050: The Future of the Trust Area" IT reuies greater exposure and communication.
I don't
Salt Spring Exchange
Emails should contain information not a pointer to a webpage with no information
Posting within or at ferry terminals. Utilizing BC ferries video screen would be ideal.
Disband the islands trust
From one of Bowen Islands trustees
Save taxpayer money by stopping your own self promotion
Too many ways. no constant methods of engagement. Why is this with all the available technology. be consistent and support Canadian innovations.

Question 15:

- 618 out of 941 (65%) who participated in the survey completed question 15

How did you hear about this survey?



The following tables show the comments from 74 participants who chose other for question 13.

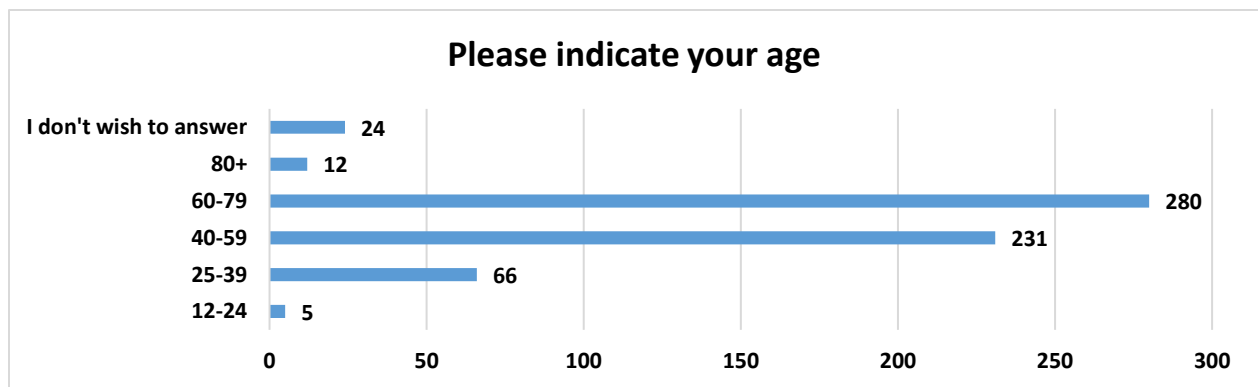
Comments from participants who chose:
• Other
postal mail out
Email from friend
facebook share
Sidney Island Strata communications
Council
Facebook post by [REDACTED] (Thank you D.)
A friend sent the survey to me.
friend in the community
Mailout
am a trustee
Gambier Island Facebook Page
I don't know if you have any appreciation of how many people who care about the environment and social justice and live here are profoundly alienated from the Islands' Trust, can you not try to do better
friend sent it to me
shared to community Facebook page
from a Trustee.
Galiano X Facebook Group
Local FB blog.
Mail out
Fellow local committee members
Mayne island community facebook page
Mayne Info Facebook
Mayne Island Info Facebook

Comments from participants who chose:
• Other
FB share from other islanders
local facebook page
was posted on mayne island facebook group
Flyer
Gambier Islanders Facebook Group
online forum
Mayne Island info page
Saturna Facebook
Online community bulletin board
Forwarded into our local island page
Posted on the gambier island FB
Driftwood and our Island newspaper
Saturna Facebook forum
Island fb group
Gambier Facebook page
who cares
personal facebook
Islands Trustee email encouraging comment
Bowen Island Conservancy
Mail out
Gambier FB page
Gambier island Facebook group
someone posted on our island FB group
Posted on facebook by local person.
Pender island online market Facebook repost
Gambier Group Chat
Local Facebook forum group
Pender Island Forum on Facebook
Pender forum facebook
Facebook post unrelated to islands trust page
One trustee on Denman Island is proactively engaged with the Denman community. That is simply not enough. That is too much on that one person, and our community is very upset with the recent actions of your BEO against housing. How. Do. We. Communicate. With. You?
Only because I attended a meeting that I heard about at the last minute because there were little notices given and I was told I could sign up on line to get info
Hornby Island Community Facebook Page
DIBB Facebook page
Facebook
local Trustee on local facebook
Salt Spring Exchange

Comments from participants who chose:
• Other
Salt Spring Exchange
Saltspring exchange
Email from ratepayers association
Transition Salt Spring newsletter
Transition Saltspring Newsletter
Transition Salt Spring
Salt Spring Exchange Notice by concerned citizen.
Facebook Pender
mail out
Email from a friend
DIBB
local mail flyer
From a friend
email from chamber of commerce
Chamber of Commerce

Question 16:

- 618 out of 941 (65%) who participated in the survey completed question 16



Question 17:

- 202 out of 941 (21%) who participated in the survey completed question 17

Did we forget to ask something that is meaningful to you?

Comments from participants:
• Please provide any additional thoughts
Reduce costs don't expand your reach

<p>Gambier island has some logging that is about to go on in some old growth forests and create damage to the ability of our soil to absorb groundwater and pollute and change the flow of groundwater in West Bay where I live.</p> <p>Aside from that we are in need of a good source of crushed gravel for the construction of new homes and shops.</p>
<p>Conflict of interest and bias education need more emphasis when it comes to the Trustees and the APC. More transparency and clarity of process is also needed when it comes to land use planning. It is a confusing process for most residents.</p>
<p>Potential revenue source: As an islander living in a 1970s home which has had no interior update renovations (only appliances replaced, and a new metal roof), the property assessment (and tax levied) does not reflect the value of the building(s) on the property and what improvements have been made to them. During this time of covid, people who have financial means have renovated their homes (many, extensively, and some to accommodate offspring and/or extended family members coming to reside in a self contained suite) yet their assessment does not reflect this value added, so that residents of older homes are paying higher taxes than residents in homes built at the same time but who have renovated and improved their home. This is not fair, and island (and provincial municipal) governances seeking revenue sources should revamp the property assessment formula so that the value of the building (house) is a true value of what improvements have been made to it (and not based on the year it was originally built). People are doing extensive and expensive renovations for the long term to be able to accommodate family members living in a separate suite, or to be able to rent out a suite for an income source. The inequity in property assessments and the property tax should be addressed, and can provide more revenue for island / municipal coffers.</p>
<p>homelessness and housing affordability, tiny-house villages, island speed-limits and traffic infractions, logging due to real-estate development, men's shed for people living rough or minimally, women's independence enhancements</p>
<p>Inquiry into if the public wants an increased task force before hiring!</p>
<p>Bylaw enforcement is a mess. Centennial Park has dogs running loose, while nosy neighbours cause havoc with a few ill-housed people living in campers. Dump the complaint-driven system for a "complainer gets investigated first" system!</p>
<p>Question. Do you believe the Trust requires a reassessment of its purpose and its structure? Answer: Yes, it's time to either enact the sunset clause or justify further existence based identifying what precisely has been accomplished and at what cost.</p>
<p>The budget is increasing faster then inflation, that is unsustainable.</p>
<p>you didn't talk enough about bi-law enforcement and housing the people who WORK here. (nurses, RCMP, vets, waitstaff etc)</p>
<p>It is very difficult to tell exactly what the tax \$ are paying for from the information included here or in the budget summaries and graphics. Ideally, further definitions and more detailed descriptions should be included with this information to fully inform the reader. Also, while this survey is specific about budget it would be REALLY interesting to see the results of not only this survey but any subsequent IT survey broken down by Island and by groups of islands. I suspect that Bowen Island results may be very different than Saltspring, Pender etc and also very different once again for islands that are not accessible via BC Ferry routes. Does that type of breakdown already exist and can you/will you sort these types of surveys to show that type of breakdown....would be very interesting!</p>
<p>I feel strongly that the complaints based system of reporting infractions is completely wrong and needs to be changed or eliminated. I have been involved in false claims made against me by</p>

disgruntled past employees, who happen also to be dealing with mental illness. This system needs to change.
You forgot workers & businesses
Yes, there is no ability to provide feedback on how well services have been delivered thus far and no justification of why we would support further tax increases in absence of said value.
Allow property owners to have long term RVs or tiny homes depending on property size and with services provided only (water, hydro, septic)
Perhaps some meaningful savings and efficiency could be found by cutting the number of Local Trust Areas in half. For instance, why are 2 LTCs necessary for North and South Pender?
How are you supporting land owners and community to thrive in these challenging times? How are you making it easier for land owners to be creative to build local economy? How are you supporting fostering local, resilient economies and helping create collaborative solutions for many?
Yes, I was not asked about what my greatest concerns were, or if I feel represented at local level. The fact is I don't feel politically represented as a non land owner. I can't imagine going to the islands trust with any concerns. So I feel alienated and unrepresented, and have recognized this for a long time, and the implication is a sense of a lack of local governance and advocacy.. I really feel the island trust needs to balance social concerns with conservancy concerns, and up both it's advocacy for gulf island communities and it's community programs. The only social cultural resources we have are entirely the result of grassroots efforts.
The slide selection (rate #1-11 question) is not very user friendly on mobile platforms.
There is nothing here about covid response or consideration. .?..
As far as I am concerned the island trust must stick to their remit. Homelessness, social housing, etc are well beyond your authority. These are provincial government matters. I pay my taxes to support the hospital, the schools, the emergency services and the roads. Add some minor zoning maintenance - 20 area plans fir a town of 10 thousand people is irresponsible. I support maybe 5. That is your remit so please stick to it. That is all a property tax payer should expect. Anything otherwise is stealing my hard earned money.
Keep the Preserve and Protect Mandate as #1 Priority
You forgot to ask what we, the people filling out this survey, want you to spend our money on.
There is nothing in here about managing the pandemic and any funding for creative ways to help people. There is a severe mental health issue here and is worse from the pandemic. More funding should be allocated towards this...we are in crisis here and it makes it hard to focus on education a d climate when people are trying to get through each day
islands trust focuses too much on short term vacation rentals as a source of reduced housing. where is the data on this? Most homeowners I know would not rent out their suites and rooms long term. We like flexibility with our homes and properties and do not want to be landlords. The housing issue is a completely separate issue from short term vacation rentals. Stop wasting money adn time trying to curb this, and spend more money and time on housing projects
Basically, the islands trust is under-funded. The province needs to fund at a higher level, instead of simply raising taxes, because many of the projects are regional in scope (groundwater, eel grass, climate change, etc) but every island is different, so a regional plan needs to be tailored for each island.
You forgot to ask how the Islands Trust can better support the business community

The LUB and the OCP are not in alignment. The LUB needs drastic overhaul and engagement from multiple stakeholders. The LUB also contradicts itself in many statements. The LUB and the bylaw enforcement process promotes divisiveness, finding workarounds to use the land, reduces transparency and collaboration. Landowners are living in fear and secrecy to just survive on their land. The bylaws are so messy now that they can be interpreted in several ways, and the bylaw officers should not be the ones to interpret them to subsequently issue notices without a prior conversation/dialogue that seeks to understand and help, not fine and be punitive. Bylaw officers are not skilled enough to have this sort of dialogue and therefore should be the last person that interfaces with a property owner when all else has been exhausted. The LUB has made it a horrible place to live and raise a 'family' that is not in the traditional box of being a family. There is very little tolerance for unique living situations where they may need to be 2 or 3 kitchens, or use existing buildings to renovate into suites. There are so many old barns and workshops that could be converted in to really unique living spaces. They already occupy space on the land and are in disrepair. Property owners with old buildings could be supported to renovate them into housing options. We need more creativity, inclusivity and alternative ways of living, working and housing people. We need to learn from the year of Covid and realize that the LUB does not promote healthy distancing or separate living spaces. We need to stop using the 'STVR' as an excuse for less housing. they are separate issues. We need to acknowledge that people will want to travel to SSI to get away from the city, and travel in BC for quite a long time to come. Covid is here for a while and Destination BC is promoting travel around BC, workcations, staycations. SSI is one of those places people will come to get away. and they want to get away to a safe, private place. We need to acknowledge this and come to terms with it and not pretend that we can keep tourists away. There are more people on the planet. SSI will get more busy. We need to come to terms with this and if we put more restrictions on STVRs or tourist accommodation, property owners will find workarounds. Let's stop promoting secrecy and fear. The planet belongs to everyone. We need to stop thinking that we own SSI and that we can keep people away. This is a scarcity way of thinking and not inclusive. We need to share responsibly.

I'm a long time environmentalist with a PhD in environmental studies. I see that the IT needs to reign in what it wants to do and focus on what it has to do. On the whole, it is a development regulation body. It needs to do that exceptionally well, it needs to do it better than other options and be the model, globally, for environmental governance. It needs to do that by putting local knowledge above abstract regulation and by placing public interests and public bodies above private ones. Support what the community wants, not what individuals want, and keep it as simple as possible with an eye to slashing make-work projects, and legitimacy should be maintainable with the generations to come.

Care for our Elders/seniors in these areas, through better transportation options and medical clinics. Because let's face it, there has got to be about 70% of the island trusts domaine in their senior years!

sorry...but again I must say being a champion for affordable housing is something you are not demonstrating. Your budget of 8 million and yet an application takes an average of 5 years. please make this an emergency. people are dying.

Why not ask us what we feel about the Islands Trust governance? People will support good governance. I expect Trust staff dismiss and belittle those who criticize the trust rather than listen to criticism - but of course there are no avenues for genuine public engagement. I expect the participation rate in the survey will be low.. the questions were so pre-framed that one can only remind those designing the survey of the methodological issues shaping the responses by the questions posed

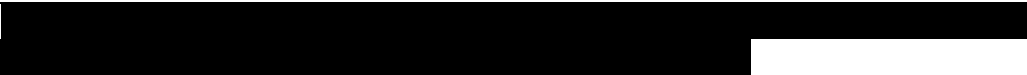
<p>The islands demographic is changing and this makes it difficult for those of us who have been here for decades to continue to feel included in our culture and community. I'm not opposed to change, but change should be inclusive of those who have been here awhile.</p>
<p>Please make it easier to find these surveys on your website. They should be front and center with a easy one-click to get to.</p>
<p>Land use planning, that is what the Trust is supposed to do.</p>
<p>I would like to see much more emphasis on affordable housing, particularly aimed towards families and those providing essential volunteer services (fire, SIR etc) and keep our essential businesses going. Biggest need in reserve and protect.</p>
<p>Thank you for your service.</p>
<p>I think the trustees and island planners work hard and do a great job with limited resources. I think this focus on climate emergency is great - but I also struggle to see how it became such a top priority for a land-use body. I also think bylaw enforcement needs more oversight in some areas.</p>
<p>After having paid in excess of \$43000 in property taxes for the last 15 years we have never seen any services or an officer from the SCRD... what or where is the funding going. No garbage collection, no road maintenance things that Islander need.</p>
<p>There is a survey every year and as far as I know the results have never, ever made a difference to the Islands Trust. I have a long history of working in government and the Islands Trust is one of the least transparent, most inefficient and ineffective public bodies I have ever come across.</p>
<p>The overall size of the budget is not mentioned. Its far too high for what you accomplish, particularly in the last two decades</p>
<p>Too long. Needs to be simple</p>
<p>The biggest threat to the ecological integrity and sustainability of trust area remains development. Strategic control of land use -- both public and private -- continues to be the key role for the trust, and the key to protecting our islands.</p>
<p>Need more island specific environmental liaison to help residents to ensure ecosystem protection and enhancement.</p>
<p>Thank you for the continued mandate to preserve and protect.</p>
<p>There were no questions specific to trust planning work and the budget allocations for that service. For example, Bowen Island has its own planning department with its own planning tools and engagement process that doesn't benefit from the IT planning, but it's not clear as to how much of Bowen Island's requisition goes to planning support vs regional initiatives.</p>
<p>Thank you for this opportunity to participate and for the ongoing work you do.</p>
<p>I am of the opinion that the Islands Trust could make major cuts in spending by reducing staff and relocating their office to a less expensive facility.</p>
<p>Thanks for asking for our opinion.</p>
<p>With a world pandemic, looking to take more money out of ratepayers pockets should not be the priority. Please view the organizations priorities with a worldwide lens.</p>
<p>Please consider ways to streamline the bureaucracy that is Islands Trust. So much time and money is spent with trustees and the local and executive level meeting with each other, recording their meetings, but actually accomplishing very little. Our Island communities have no elected local voice and need one. Local trustees should be accountable to their communities, and Executive Council should consider ways of streamlining rather than expanding their role. In the not to distant future, Islands Trust should consider if this the best model of governance, and be open to phasing itself out.</p>

more self sufficiently for rural living
<p>The islands trust needs to rethink their goals. People do not need to have more of their hard earned money clawed away from them now. This pandemic has and will continue to financially cripple people. This talk of more funding should be put off until 2023. Review this then and let things be now. Nobody is going anywhere or doing anything now.</p> <p>This is the last thing the islands need now!!</p> <p>The islands trust should look at bringing more tourists to the islands, promoting small business ,getting affordable housing for residents and supporting airbnbs. Tourists are life for the islands and we are hurting badly!</p> <p>Please reconsider putting this off until people can afford to pay more tax 🙄</p>
I think we need to start allowing more airbnbs. Allow others and tourists to see our islands. The islands do no belong just for a few old rich white folk.
Focusing on affordable housing and more variations of building codes to allow for affordability is essential to island like Mayne island being more than retirement communities. Tiny homes and multiple smaller dwellings on a property should be allowed in the right circumstances. These sorts of development rules really should be looked at otherwise young people will continue to struggle to find a future on the island.
More recognition and engagement with WSÁNEĆ Leadership Council should be a priority. Educating current residents about Indigenous history, culture and most importantly about their world view on land and sea conservation would be in line with the Trust's mandate of environmental conservation.
I meant "its" not "it's"
I have read that Staffing is an issue for Islands Trust. It would be well received to post all the positions on the website listing if they are open or filled, what their role/responsibilities are and how long the current person has been in that position. (not asking for who the person is) Also, something given the budgetary issues, posted salary ranges for each position would go along way.
Myself and many of my neighbours on Gambier would like to see more of our tax dollars being spent on matters that are important to us, and that are actually used by us (i.e. Islands Trust). So much of our tax dollars are spent on services we don't use. I'm happy to keep paying taxes, but I want more of those dollars directed to Islands Trust. That's something you can help with, right?? ;)
<p>When I suggested not raising taxes and instead trying to find ways to reduce costs, I was thinking of increasing efficiency and cutting bureaucratic costs wherever possible, rather than reducing programs/services. I do not know how possible this is for the Island's Trust. if it's not, then I would be in favour of increasing funding (and corresponding taxes) for Climate Change initiatives.</p> <p>Incidentally, I'm curious about why Bowen Island's tax burden is higher. Is it because it's a municipality? Why would that make a difference.</p> <p>Thank you for making this effort to receive public comment. It is very much appreciated.</p>
<p>You need to go back to what the trust was created to do</p> <p>Trust has become too intrusive</p>
<p>Do not appreciate social media providing updates or information before the website. The community should not be relying on having social media accounts to get current updates. Some folks don't even have internet due to unreliable connection.</p> <p>Would have chosen direct mail and email as additional options to Q 12, but your survey parameters will not allow more than one choice selected in order to be submitted.</p>
Affordable housing #1. I would prefer to be a full time resident but need to travel off island for additional housing and work

<p>The complete failure to provide any neighborhood commercial/residential zoning is a fine example of the folly that has ignored gambier islanders needs... but I guess I need to be thankful that all the roadside ditches have been kept safe for the non existent ditch fish or DP area 3 will require that I seek permission to pee on a tree...for a small application fee naturally.</p>
<p>Garbage and recycling removal, less permitting required for building, less police .</p>
<p>The public dock at New Brighton is a significant concern to us and we want the Islands Trust to take a more active and direct role in facilitating maintaining it in the public domain as an operating dock where the bc ferries contracted foot passenger ferry can continue to provide regular service to islanders.</p>
<p>Please keep focus on the important issue, water collection and recycling, climate change (energy management) and increasing density in villages in exchange for affordable apartments.</p>
<p>changing logging permits to better protect watersheds (especially on Gambier Island!)</p>
<p>Yes - the biggest issue concerning the island today is the lack of affordable housing. The people who live and work on the islands are not able to afford to buy property any more. Unless you have sold a place in Vancouver, or Calgary, the housing prices are not attainable for anyone who actually works on the islands. These folks are getting pushed into leaking RVs, buses, and shacks that are not safe and comfortable. We should have an extra tax on all 2nd homes (like Vancouver) that can help fund permanent rental housing for lower income folks, or we will lose all future artists, creative folks, and front line workers that keep our islands unique and alive. We are losing the culture of these lovely little paradises, and are becoming just play lands for the rich. With the new bylaw enforcement officer on Denman, the amount of complaints have gone from 100 a year to 600. This is making our community more fragmented and more like living in a city, where neighbors don't feel the need to talk to one another, and sort out their issues and differences. This is a depressing turn of newer folks deciding they want to change the community to fit the idea in their head of what the island should be, instead of them becoming part of the existing community, which was working fine already. The complaints should either not be anonymous, so everyone knows where they stand with their neighbors, or should require a complaint from 2 neighbors, so one person can't decide to change the character of a whole neighborhood.</p> <p>We need safe and affordable housing for our seniors who don't already own a place, for the young folks who want to move here and make this place vibrant, and to take care of the folks who don't have an inheritance but want to live in a great, tight knit community. Without a big push towards this - which is in our OCP - we will become a retirement village. Every project that has tried to go through with this is always blocked for years by the IT, and is exhausting all the volunteers, and the thousands of hours of work, and all the money fund raised by the community to make it happen. Lets look after the people in the community, not just the trees. I do love the trees, but the humans need help too.</p>
<p>How on earth can the Trust do everything without "teeth"? Many of the new comers are "Gabriolian" islanders and have no intention of following conservation policies or relate with locals. I have heard of rudeness. Buy and cut, make the purchase into a city block. I have friends whose property is surrounded by new neighbours.</p>
<p>If it is not clear already, I don't believe that the Island's Trust adds any value to those of us who live on Bowen Island. Just cost and headache.</p>
<p>Many of my comments relate to the performance of existing services and the establishment of priorities. I think there should be more taxpayer engagement on these fronts.</p>
<p>Question 10 was virtually impossible to answer in a thoughtful manner without knowing more about each point.</p>
<p>I fully endorse the mission of the Trust but feel that it is very inefficient.</p>

keep up the good work!
We need a model that shows what each island is going to look like after all the allowed subdivisions have happened. While we talk about climate change mitigation and nature conservation, we are slowly but surely working towards a land use pattern that ensures fossil fuel consumption will increase, remaining natural areas are lost/fragmented, and freshwater resources are poorly managed through loss of natural infrastructure and increased demand. We are strong on planning and weak on action.
Local residents strongly support the Islands Trust mandate and ongoing work. Many are on fixed incomes. Future budgets should take into account the current COLA and CPI, aim for increases in line with inflation. Thank you.
We need local funding and a sustainable plan for the New Brighton dock on Gambier Island! It's the only way on and off the island for most of us.
Good job islands trust, keep us green.
The current process for consideration of the housing association proposal is crazy requiring an expenditure of 70k to provide reports rather than granting an ok and then providing contingent-based consultations. It puts the Islands Trust in the position of discouraging the application to subdivide at risk for failure. If this was a private proposal then it would be treated differently.
The island trust is a redundant governing body that requires funding to pay for a lot of words and meetings . I see NO real work in our community from the representatives and if I see them , they are very opinionated and that is not what it is all about. I think the island trust talks a good talk but that's it .When ever I've had a concern for planning or anything I would do towards stewardship to the land ? My representatives would always defer me to the municipality. No action, no follow up , no nothing
Basically, I believe that the islands trust budget is bloated and the staff have conducted a castle building strategy over the last 15 to 20 years and many many budget items are not within islands trust jurisdiction and should simply be eliminated. Islands trust should return to its core which is to protect the unique nature of the islands. In the beginning that was sold to us that regional governments such as regional districts cannot address the unique nature of the islands so we needed islands trust. but islands trust has now become a bloated bureaucracy that is not addressing the issues on the island but rather unrelated issues such as climate change which is a worldwide event and first Nations reconciliation which is for the province and the federal government to deal with these are not issues within the island's trust jurisdiction amongst many of the other items on the budget. The budget is bloated wasteful and controlled by Castle building staff, there needs to be a change. There is only one taxpayer and our wallets are empty, stop wasting money
I think the Trust has a difficult, but critical, role to ensuring the health of the island communities. I commend everyone for the work they are doing, but as an outsider, I see how the process seems to have been bloated and distorted to be more than the original mandate, I think in attempt to fill the leadership void at the "island level" (except Bowen, presumably). A noble intent to be sure, but I think it may have taken some of the focus (and funding) off track. I see the assumptions that people have about the "powers" of a trustee and the scope of their influence, which results in many expectations put on our LTC that just aren't appropriate. Clarity of scope and purpose, with an updated process that would make better use of planners experience to advise trustees with how things may "go wrong" with proposed OCP/bylaw changes, balanced with more influence from trustees on approvals and enforcements to better reflect "the community's intent", could avoid some missteps. Improved coordination with other agencies, e.g. MOTI, BC Ferries, to work within their budgets and their "rural provisioning rules", could match the OCP to the amenities. If 2020 taught us

anything, it is that the old ways don't serve us well and "more of the same" (and more of everything) is not a healthy, sustainable approach.
We were not made aware that the Comox First Nation opposed the Thatch development, given this fact, it is disgraceful the project has been given approval.
The island trust must involve other communities or it is doomed to fail tackling the climate issue quickly enough to safeguard from untold disaster.
Stop [REDACTED] from infringing on private land for their commercial business
The neglect of our native ground nesting bird and lizard and newt populations is unforgivable. I would vote for more money to see conservation measures like removal of all feral species for a start..racoons, feral cats and government funded neutering of all domestic cats with a view to the complete removal of cats from island life. We have to do it.
I have long wished that more technical people of just staff lived on the /gulf Islands. I think it s very informing to live in the area you are designing policy for. I think a vital part of doing a job to preseve and protect the land is to live here. You can't understand at a deep level what island living is about, on my opinion unless you have skin n the game. Thanks for this oppportunity to express my opinions and judgements. My greatest area of concern at this moment is clearcuts on large private parcels. I also think that signs need to go us that say we live in the Island /trust area. And that realtors need to inform prospective buyers up front that you are buying into a trust area which has certain restrictions
Transparency when significant bylaws, land use or zoning is changing - perhaps additional public input is needed between island's Trust meetings of proposed changes and with the local community who it also affects
People are afraid of the trust and therefore avoid it with various adverse results. For example [REDACTED] [REDACTED] taught people to avoid approaching the trust - you apply for one thing (a kitchen) and end up with a series of problems bigger than you started with.
Would love to see the ocp on gambier exclude clearcut logging and objectives set out in the current on with regards to forestry highlighted better
Include funding for docks on gambier island that are no longer managed by federal/provincial gov
I really wish the Island Trust would let our current garbage service continue as is without further harassment.
Folks shouldn't be involved in islands trust government merely to make an income. They should be compensated for their work, of course, but it seems like the income is a draw to the wrong kind of candidates who aren't invested in making positive and meaningful changes to the way the islands trust governs these regions.
For the thousands of dollars we pay in taxes, our water system and roads are in disarray. On Keats island the community relays on both of these government entities to be sustainable and one excavator a year and a handful of wells for a growing population and use is not adequate anymore. Roads serviced by hydro need severe maintenance and the water storage or supply needs to be addressed. Value of cabins are rising, with that is tax revenue. The same status quo system from the 1980's is no use. Please take this into consideration as we have no means to fix it ourselves. Concerned member, to what we actual pay taxes for.
The budget is getting to unsustainable level.
Help with Grants and initiatives for Level 3 Electric Car charging stations on the islands, to allow more zero mission travellers to visit our lovely islands.
do the environment. do the environment. do the environment. do the environment.
thanks you for the oppportunity to do this and thank you for your efforts on our behalf

For the areas a respondent suggested an increase in budget it would be interesting to ask the priority order in the respondent's mind. Likewise, a priority order for decreases in budget.
How satisfied are you that island trust is protecting crown lands from forestry leases, is cleaning up beaches from logs, is enforcing cistines on new builds, is restricting VRBO, is looking after your island? This was not asked. I am so disappointed in the trust.
We would all like to have responsible, competent trustees. One way of showing that is to be transparent in your process which you have tried. Another way (not mutually exclusive) is to reflect to citizens ...some of whom are struggling and have had to cut back... the areas that you have cut back and tightened your belt. I understand this would be unique for a gov't organization but it would sure make you stand out and citizens would notice the responsible approach.
Affordable stable housing is in crisis right now and the real estate industry is primarily to blame(lack of oversight and regulation)
I'm with the Sea Ranch and the islands Trust is making oursimple subdivision extremely tedious to do. Too much information and way too long a process.
Taking care of access to Gambeir. Upgrading all warfs
As we receive almost no services why do you think we would support spending more money?
There is really not enough relevant information or data here to make informed budget decisions
Yes you did. I find it extremely difficult that the trust has its office in Victoria. The management and employees should be based in the jurisdiction that they serve. This is the equivalent of Victoria City hall being in Vancouver.
I recognize that there are valid reasons for proposed budget increase, however, I feel the percentage increase is too high at this time. I feel there could be an improved delivery of services without increasing cost.
Suggest you ask about how to improve the governance structure and role of the trustees. Often the stated goals of the LTC suddenly change when a new project comes forward and all the other projects go the back burner. Affordable housing is a great example. Very important but we need to deal with the STVR issue and ecological restoration as the priority stated in the work plan.
Yes where are the proposals for tax cuts. I have never seen any.
I do feel that we as the IT are too reliant on Official Community Plans (i.e. negative "what is allowed/not allowed" statements) as a modality for achieving goals, and too little on specific actions to address issues (i.e. positive actions to catalyze change).
Each level of government should focus on solving issues based on whom they represent and their place in the line up of various levels of governance. Islands trust is about the islands not global warming even though we all know that the global warming issue is extremely important
Please fire 
The staff and governance review is a total waste of money and will get nowhere
The statement just below is a load of BS.
Comment: I feel like the trust is wasting both our time and theirs with regard to looking at new bylaws, etc. Reduce positions and spending and reduce taxes. This is the general feeling of the majority.
We are already taxed far higher than many areas, and we have to also pay for our own septic, water, fire & health services, and transportation, that many other municipalities include in taxes, in whole or in part. If you want more of our money, you need to convince us of the benefit. That evidence to this point is missing.

The playground at dinner bay has been destroyed for over a year. Whatever grant/ category/ funding/ it falls under, it needs to be fixed immediately
Remember to enjoy the gulf islands. Have a sense of humour about all this. No one is following the rules anyway.
Housing??? Where are any budget allocations to get functional housing bylaws??? That it didn't even make it to your budget is a serious lack of accountability. The Province of BC requires all municipalities to have a housing assessment/action plan. Y'all did your assessment (which showed the need for significant action) in 2018. Where is the allocation for housing action? Arguing that you are not a municipality (except for Bowen) is a cop out. Y'all are responsible to engage in this. So get on with action!
Where to see the full budget
Clarification for people new to the Islands Trust area as to who to reach out to for guidance on land use, bylaws, etc or what services (if any) are available to land owners.
Nothing should be decided or planned without the input from indigenous peoples, if you want to know how to steward land, don't ask the white affluent people that predominantly populate the islands of the trust. Seek out indigenous peoples. They protected and thrived on these island and given the opportunity and the support from the trust, they will be your strongest assets. The inability to do so would be coming from a place of immense ignorance and capitalistic greed.
Budget breakdowns should be more specific to include costs allocated to bylaw enforcement and include actual funds per category in models, not just percentages, for clarity sake. More time should have been given to advertise the survey, recommend two weeks. Many people aren't on Facebook, I missed the ad in the paper, didn't get a Flagstone delivered last month. Seeing a detailed budget breakdown before the actual survey gives people more time to provide more detailed feedback on allocation of funds.
Get rid of the BEN bylaws. Go back to complaint-based system. The IT is tearing the communities apart.
The proposed budget reflects your priorities. It does not appear to address issues facing my community such as how to balance the need for affordable housing with a strong environmental protection mandate. Asking me whether an areas budget should be increased decreased or stay the same without showing what initiatives are proposed with an increase and what would be shut down with a decrease seems like an empty consultation.
The mandate is to protect for all but increased taxes every year with a proposed increase of over 11% in the next two years is making the Islands expensive so they will no longer be for the young working folk but only for the rich.
I did not like the ranking 1-11 question, I would have ranked most of them 9-11 but could not, I would not choose to do most of them,
Thanks for asking. Existing laws should be reviewed carefully to see if it doesn't cover some of the issues already. There is a reason people move to rural area. Creating more layers of bureaucracy doesn't engender better community.
Wish the applicants for development proposals would pay what's more in line with other regions
Bowen Island has a huge influx of new residents, and many do not even realize we're a part of the Island's Trust, never mind why it benefits us. Please help us get the word out so that we can remain so!! Thank you!

<p>I feel so privileged to live simply on a Gulf Island but I am increasingly seeing the Islands become the domain of the affluent. 4,000+ sqft homes, with a four or five bedrooms, swimming pools, and the associated embodied energy that goes into the creation of such is, in my mind, incongruent with the Trust's stated 'object'. While that horse may be out of the barn, I believe the Trust, through targeted relaxation of regulation, could encourage more sustainable ways of building and living. Specifically I'm thinking of tiny homes, designed to house one or two individuals. With appropriate rainwater harvesting, grey water disposal, and solid waste composting, I am certain that the long term terrestrial environmental and climate impacts would be greatly reduced compared with the housing being permitted now. If we let anything be built, then limiting growth to build-out does nothing to limit the environmental impacts of unsustainable buildings and lifestyles. I would ask that you reread the Islands Trust object and consider the importance of low impact sustainable housing and the associated lifestyle.</p>
<p>Please put more energy towards the relationship with First Nations. I would like to see a place names project, or street signs/landmark signs project for Denman Island - other islands as well. Language mapping is urgent work, should be done with First Nations in the lead.</p>
<p>Since Bowen Island became a Municipality the island has contributed in excess of \$4,000,000 which is needed by many projects on our island.</p>
<p>If we wanted to stay in the Trust</p>
<p>Probably</p>
<p>Incensed about deforestation, on Beddis Road especially. I hope there's something that can be done.</p>
<p>Do you support the mandate of the IT? Yes</p>
<p>More conversation recently about the Islands Trust - given the age annual cost the best thing would be to hold a plebiscite / vote and remove Bowen Island from the Trust. As an extension of West Vancouver we are more urban than rural.</p>
<p>Encourage your mgmt people to find ways to get things done more efficiently, and faster, and accept less detail in the planning. This attitude will shift community response to IT positively and start changing general attitudes towards IT.</p>
<p>Don't spend \$75,000 on a governance, operations and management study. Spend it on climate-related initiatives, finishing the ITPS review, and planning initiatives.</p>

Affordable housing when it comes to causing more development and not actually meeting the needs (and the only real need should be housing for people who work in essential businesses not just because they want to live here. I'm a renter who will have to leave (due to housing shortage and prices too high for most people to afford to buy) if my landlord decides to sell or take back the house. And I STILL think the environment and not adding population densities to these islands is the most important thing. The reality is, rural communities are not appropriate for affordable housing projects. We don't have the community resources and often with the rules (especially from BC Housing) the affordable housing complexes don't make more than a tiny dent in the problem. Affordable housing should ONLY be for people who work in our grocery stores etc. And I say that as a renter who will probably have to leave here due to unaffordability but I'm fine with that given the problems and added population and more development and too many residents that going down the building affordable housing plans are going to cause. I am very much against it. Developers are going to have a field day with this (no matter what people supporting it tell us) as bylaws are changed to accommodate these projects. And the islands will become overpopulated given the very sensitive ecosystem. The ecosystem of these precious islands is more important than moving more people here. I accept, as should everyone, that the reality is not everyone can afford to live in these islands. Even if I have to leave myself I'd still believe that. The problem with affordability is the insane value and prices of houses in the first place relative to salaries, and that is a huge problem everywhere that is at the root of it all. Building affordable housing is not the answer in any of the Gulf Islands. Environment needs to be the most important thing for all the Trustees, over the desire for people to live here.

More work should be done on individual Trust Committee control rather than forcing the different & diverse communities into cookie cutter molds.

Why is Bowen Island even in the I.T.

Do not see why there is a 4.78% increase to Bowen residents who do not receive any benefits from trust operations excluding conservation and environmental activities which should require limited operational costs and an effective governance model. Trust governance budget is very high and should be addressed.

Money for enforcement of environmental violations.

During this pandemic, many people have lost their jobs or had their working hours reduced. Yet, Islands Trust has announced it is hiring more people. If the Trust is truly concerned with the islands, which are really protected by the people who live on them, then the Trust would also lay off staff and reduce the amount of funding taken from property taxes.

You didn't broach the issue of whether or not the Islands Trust has outlived its usefulness. It has become a overly bureaucratic, dysfunctional and wasteful entity which has been taken over by overzealous, politically motivated and entitled environmentalists who ignore the opinions of the vast majority of Penderites. We would be better off having the CRD administer the islands and have our outrageous taxes reduced.

Most of the money from the islands get spent on Victoria staff and benefits and rent...we are being ripped off

<p>Your laudible intentions are relatively meaningless in view of the reality of having a desirable piece real estate available for anyone to move here & more or less do and build what they want, providing they have the \$\$\$\$. What possible hope is there when it is perfectly legal to build a 5.2 mil. house, leave it vacant but fully heated and serviced, for 46 weeks of the year, but when here contribute to the seasonal overloading of various infrastructures of the Island, and the capacity to accommodate this 'overload' in undesigned commercial centres (Ganges and Fulford) whose origins were from a century and a half ago.</p> <p>In short, if you 'improve', they will come = reboot the same old problems!</p>
<p>I have been very underwhelmed by the ILT response to supporting Denman Island attempting to get the go ahead for their Project.</p>
<p>Please be vigilant and aware of the background to the Stop the Islands Trust petition. This is using the same dog-whistles as the ultra-conservative movements in the US and other parts of Canada, working from the same playbook. Don't disregard this. If they use the slogan "protect your freedom" this is a clue that there are strong associations behind their divisive initiative.</p>
<p>A few more graphics to clearly illustrate where the money comes from and specifically where it goes would be helpful. Thanks.</p>
<p>There was almost nothing about affordable housing.</p>
<p>Yes. Does Island Trust have your support and your confidence in their role within the community? You should have started with this one and made the questionnaire appropriate based on the response. It's called a 'qualifying' question</p>
<p>Tax and spend in the name of preservation and protection.</p>
<p>Local trust over the last number of years seems to try and increase their mandate. Should be Preserve and Protect. Period.</p>
<p>discourage tourism and housing for people coming from off-island-we can't service the people we already have</p>
<p>We need more co-facilitated community engagement. The social contract continues to erode due to the pandemic. This could take upwards of 5-10 years to heal from (as has been noted by the terribly divisive incorporation debate, where ideological lines were drawn and 'weaponized' on line with vitriol and hatred, which in turn stymied necessary social debate. Preserve and Protect includes our intersectional cultures living here, and demands we protect the most vulnerable from the most angry. We have the local talent to do it, but next to no political will to support.</p>
<p>Time to start reducing your burden on the community. Reduce, do not increase the cost of your "services"</p>
<p>There is an ongoing schism between full time and part time residents. Bridging g this gap is essential to get good policy.</p> <p>Part time residents offer a wider political base to influence provincial and federal policy simply because they reside in many ridings . They have money</p> <p>if they continue to be shut out of the full time resident community eventually they will revolt and take over or refuse tax increases .</p>
<p>There is not enough detail here to make informed opinions and provide good feedback. For example, what would the Trust do with more \$ for climate action? Which communities need to update their OCPs and Bylaws? Etc.</p>
<p>I do not, in any way, support Bowen Island being a member of your "club.</p> <p>Bowen Island of being a "stand alone island" and has absolutely no need for Islands Trust.</p>
<p>Metrics for the success of your planning.</p>
<p>I am very concerned that efforts to force low-income people out of their homes seems to have increased recently. We need policies to allow these people to remain a part of island life.</p>

<p>we asked for a review of the I.T., & still no review, so you shouldn't be looking to add 4 more positions, when you have too many staff now. Hold your budget & make sure you help get that review done asap !! We don't need the IT on Bowen Isl. !!</p>
<p>Addressing ship traffic and parking . Changing land use to around house size -- allowing two small units (tiny houses, small duplex, etc) on a one property instead of one huge house or a house with a B&B</p>
<p>RW1 land on Salt Spring Island should not have the principal use as agriculture. It should have stayed as water protection. There are too many lots with agriculture as the principal use and these lot are not in the ALR. The Island Trust is losing tax dollars because people are games with the rules in my opinion. There are not enough assessors to check receipts to make sure that the land is actually used for food production and that they sell the required gross amount. There is not going to be a tree left to protect water if the Island trust does not get a tree cutting bylaw in place. Especially when new land owners are encouraged to get their land assessment reduced by clearing the land for agriculture. Maybe there are too many lots with agriculture as the principal use on Salt Spring Island.</p>
<p>I would like to see Island Trust facilitate a mechanism which would better enable local residents to communicate directly with first nations.</p>
<p>Zoom video information sharing sessions are valuable To encourage public engagement/involvement consider reducing LTC reports from > 400 pages!</p>
<p>Budgets for large outside bodies (of which the Islands Trust is now) must be decreased. That renovations were taken on with a climate emergency looming stuns me. That funds are being spent on enforcing and harassing residents attempting to live sustainably while approving massive mansion builds on beaches breaks the Trust the IT is to uphold. Rewarding and encouraging this direction would be folly. Back up, use less of our resources, not more. Thank you who can understand.</p>
<p>I am very frustrated that we on Bowen are constantly asked for more money, which comes out of our pension dollars to pay the taxes, ever increasing, yet no benefits to me. I have never lived anywhere with such poor or negligent services for such high cost</p>
<p>These broad spectrum questions are not conducive to nuanced answers. More spending details needed for meaningful public input</p>
<p>If taxes continue to increase on all forms of local government we will have to lower our standard of living and or move from our island home. Eventually the trust area will be the exclusive domain of wealthy part time residents. Thanks a lot!</p>
<p>The islands trust is not a useful organization. Look after the BC coast away from metropolitan areas- there is no need for an island specific organization</p>
<p>I strongly oppose inclusion in the Islands Trust, as Bowen Island is a municipality with its own government, elected officials, OCP and staff that already provide the services the Islands Trust provides. The costs incurred by an entity that is not providing anything unique is not sustainable for local residents.</p>
<p>Yes, our thoughts on Bowen paying 46% more than the rest. Frankly, irresponsible.</p>
<p>On Islands Trust staff: The Trust needs to seek a change in status for the unionized employees at the Trust. The current union salary grid is too low relative to other planning staff in munis across BC. This ends up skewing the staff to new entrants who don't stay for lack of competitive compensation. We shoot ourselves in the foot if we don't pay the same as other neighbouring regions, and everyone suffers as a result. This is a key organizational issue for the Trust.</p>

As a municipality and part of Metro Vancouver, Bowen gets virtually no financial benefit from the Islands Trust. Bowen's property tax levy should be reduced by 80%.
Need to focus on reducing the budget and eliminating nebulous programs that have minimal value in a challenging economic environment; Less not more
1)why not cut the number of Trustees in half...most effective Boards are getting smaller..like 7 to 9...ripple effect of cutting staff support time and speed up meetings
I favour Bowen Island Municipality withdrawing from the Islands Trust
It is disgusting and disgraceful that Bowen Island is FORCED to remain a member of the Island's Trust. Life is change - move with change.
At this time to increase your budget is stupid and living on Bowen and being a municipality we have better things to spend our hard earned money on than some useless trust that has use to those of us living on Bowen
As the Islands Trust was created in the 1970's to preserve and protect, a historical timeline from the beginnings of the Trust until present would be extremely helpful for all. (Populations, land use changes, lands protected by the Trust and by resident groups) I'd support staff funding for IT research) Engaging residents of each island to contribute to their home island timeline/information. This would help a great deal to keep us all focused on preserving and protecting. Thank you.
Please re-evaluate and re-consider your expectation for Bowen Island to pay so much money into Islands Trust. As an independent municipality we have no need for Planning services. Residents of Bowen Island are fed up with these increases. Most people are happy to support conservancy initiatives, but the tax payments for Bowen are out of balance with what we receive. I encourage you to consider lowering Bowen Island tax payments before Bowen residents become completely disenfranchised with Islands Trust.
We pay our taxes to BIM, What value do we get from being in the trust? Keeping you employed?
The Trust's work is critical. We need to see tangible, Bowen specific results
The islands Trust has over the years lost sight of its original objective to preserve and protect the fragile island eco system and has become a density administrator. To be current Islands Trust Policies must reflect the environmental issues and amend current policies to meet the extraordinary needs created by climate change, global warming, overpopulation. The strengthening of ecosystem policies and amending current policies to protect groundwater recharge areas, fresh water, forests, alr lands and parks has become extremely important. Not everyone can live on the islands. More densities equals more destruction: and, with the steady intensification of the development for any reason this process will continue until there is nothing of value left. The Gulf islands are under unprecedented threat and it is critical to act now! We have come to a threshold where we need to make changes to the existing policies to prohibit: development of new densities, density transfer, hanging densities, logging of wood lots in private or public forests and removing trees from groundwater recharge or in environmentally sensitive areas, contamination of groundwater by private or public sewage or industry.
Bowen Islanders have made it clear for the past 3 years that your tax grab amounts to exploitation. Eventually your overreach will result in a referendum and your bureaucracy will be voted off the island. Good Riddance.
There is no recognition of COVID restrictions on activities. There is no way a lot of the INCREASED activities can be done in person... so CUT the budget. Commit to reality instead of just looking for more. DO what you've promised you would do and do it well... don't continue to only look at new, expensive, unnecessary activities that BOOST your budgets and infrastructure!

Change the number of years a LTC member can be in office. 4 years Minimum to 8 years Maximum. Fresh ideas and a different perspective is beneficial to all of our communities.
Why does the Islands Trust think it is entitled to increase the money we are required to give you us when many of us are on fixed or decreased incomes? What are we supposed to cut back on to pay for this increase? What actual noticeable difference will it make on the ground on our islands?
I think this a valuable exercise - but important to keep the issues as simply stated as possible since we are not all informed on the complexities of administration etc!
The Islands Trust is an important organization for myself and my community, and I do not advocate budget or tax cuts for government as an objective in itself, but now is not the the time to increase spending.
No
Ending the Islands Trust and amalgamation with the CRD instead
Do not allow subdivisions on first nation heritage area for density transfer that has happened on Gabriola for the 707 park
Yes, you forgot to mention how and when you will present this survey information.
Islands trust needs to take care of the concerns of all the islands. Not just their home island. I feel we are not getting attention. Letters go unanswered.
Survey Monkey is an American Company. Why doesn't the IT support Canadian. Especially during the pandemic.

Thank you for taking the Budget 2021/22 Survey. Gathering input from the people we serve helps us to understand different viewpoints and make decisions that reflect them. Your contribution to the budget process is greatly appreciated!

Send Us Feedback Anytime

We'd like to hear from you! Any time you'd like to give us feedback, go to:

<http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/connect/share-your-ideas/>

You can connect with our Conservancy at: <http://www.islandstrustconservancy.ca/contact-us.aspx>

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Want to stay up-to-date with the Islands Trust? You can sign up for news and information at:

<http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/connect/stay-informed/subscribe-or-unsubscribe/>

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<http://www.islandstrustconservancy.ca/subscription/>