



Islands Trust Council Committee of the Whole Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2026

Location: Electronic Meeting

Executive Members Present:

1. Laura Patrick, Chair, Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area
2. Tobi Elliott, Vice-Chair, Gabriola Island Local Trust Area
3. David Maude, Vice-Chair, Mayne Island Local Trust Area
4. Timothy Peterson, Vice-Chair, Lasqueti Island Local Trust Area

Members Present:

5. Sue Ellen Fast, Bowen Island Municipal Trustee
6. Judith Gedye, Bowen Island Municipal Trustee
7. Sam Borthwick, Denman Island Local Trust Area
8. David Graham, Denman Island Local Trust Area
9. Susan Yates, Gabriola Island Local Trust Area
10. Lisa Gauvreau, Galiano Island Local Trust Area
11. Ben Maberley, Galiano Island Local Trust Area
12. Mikaila Lironi, Lasqueti Island Local Trust Area
13. Jeanine Dodds, Mayne Island Local Trust Area
14. Mairead Boland, Saturna Island Local Trust Area
15. Kristina Evans, South Pender Island Local Trust Area
16. Ken Hunter, Thetis Island Local Trust Area
17. Peter Luckham, Thetis Island Local Trust Area

Members Regrets:

18. Joe Bernardo, Gambier Island Local Trust Area
19. Kate Louise Stamford, Gambier Island Local Trust Area
20. Lee Middleton, Saturna Island Local Trust Area
21. Dag Falck, South Pender Island Local Trust Area

Members Absent:

22. Alex Allen, Hornby Island Local Trust Area
23. Grant Scott, Hornby Island Local Trust Area
24. Aaron Campbell, North Pender Island Local Trust Area
25. Deb Morrison, North Pender Island Local Trust Area
26. Jamie Harris, Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area

Staff Present:

Rueben Bronee, Chief Administrative Officer
Stefan Cermak, Director, Planning Services
Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services
David Marlor, Director, Legislative and Information Services
Alexandra Trifonidis, Executive Coordinator
Jason Youmans, Senior Policy Advisor
Lisa Millard, Meeting Administrator/Recorder

Guests Present:

Natalie Chan, President, Be The Change Group
Ange Cullen, Senior Researcher, Be the Change Group

Others Present:

There were no members of the public present

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1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Patrick called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By general consent the agenda was approved as presented.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Draft Committee of the Whole Special Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2026

By general consent the Committee of the Whole Special Meeting minutes of February 18, 2026 were adopted.

5. FOLLOW UP ACTION LIST

5.1 Committee of the Whole Follow Up Action List

Received for information.

6. PRESENTATION

The Senior Policy Advisor introduced Be the Change Group representatives Dr. Natalie Chan, President and Co-Founder and Ange Cullen, Senior Researcher and Project Manager who presented an overview of the survey and analysis of public correspondence received on Phase 4 Community Engagement.

7. BUSINESS

7.1 Discussion / Decision Items

7.1.1 Policy Statement Amendment Project: Public Engagement Phase 4 Report - Briefing

The Senior Policy Advisor provided a presentation detailing the methods used during Phase 4 Public Engagement and noted the number of referral responses received and those remaining outstanding.

7.1.1.1 Q & A

It was clarified that trustees should consider feedback received in all phases of public engagement undertaken throughout the project when determining next steps.

A trustee requested First Nations referral responses be coded for clarity.

7.1.2 Policy Statement Amendment Project: Next Steps – Briefing

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The Senior Policy Advisor summarized next steps and detailed potential actions for trustee consideration.

The meeting was recessed for a break at 10:13 a.m. and reconvened at 10:23 a.m.

7.1.2.1 Trustee Roundtable

A trustee roundtable was undertaken and the following themes emerged, with diverse views expressed within each theme:

- Draft Trust Policy Statement
 - The document is complex, should be condensed to a few pages that contain broad, simple guidelines and/or general high-level principles;
 - It is meant to be a guiding document that land use bylaws align with;
 - The document should be fulsome;
 - Enforcement of the document through Executive Committee fetters discretion of local trust committees.
- Outstanding First Nations and Agency Referrals
 - Weight the feedback from ministry referrals;
 - Put greater emphasis on agency referrals;
 - Meet with Indigenous Governing Bodies in person to discuss the document and honour the collaborative process;
 - Further work on the Policy Statement should not be undertaken until First Nations referrals are received;
 - Organize agency referral responses based on Policy Statement sections.
- Survey and other public feedback
 - Surveys open to bias and are opinions;
 - Negative comments regarding reconciliation are often a response to the Cowichan court decision;
 - There is need to listen to, and integrate, public feedback and not just agency referrals;
 - Regardless of comments received, it is important to maintain Islands Trust commitments to reconciliation.
- Draft Implementation Plan and Companion Handbook
 - Both components will provide clarity on the Policy Statement and help answer questions and concerns from the public.
- Incoming Islands Trust Council
 - Continue refining referral responses for incoming Islands Trust Council members;

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- The outgoing Islands Trust Council could provide a letter to incoming trustees on the work of the project to date.

Trustees Boland and Hunter left the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Trustee Dodds left the meeting at 11:38 a.m.

Discussion ensued regarding work that can be done in the coming months, need for additional Committee of the Whole meetings and content of said meetings.

Trustee Maberley left the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

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It was MOVED by Trustee Gedye, and SECONDED by Trustee Luckham,

that Committee of the Whole recommend to Executive Committee to request staff to reorganize the agency referral responses according to the sections of the draft Policy Statement, and continue working on the Agency Referral Responses table (Attachment 1, May 1, 2026).

CARRIED

8. **NEW BUSINESS** - none
9. **CLOSED MEETING** - none
10. **RISE AND REPORT** – not applicable
11. **NEXT MEETING**

The next Islands Trust Council Committee of the Whole meeting will take place electronically on Wednesday, July 22, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Be general consent the meeting was adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

Laura Patrick, Chair

Certified Correct:

Lisa Millard, Meeting Administrator/Recorder

Minutes are not official until adopted at a subsequent meeting.