



Islands Trust Council

Quarterly Meeting Agenda Addendum

Date: Tuesday, December 3, 2024
Time: 1:00 p.m. Start time
Location: Coast Victoria Hotel, Ballroom
146 Kingston Street
Victoria BC, V8V 1V4

	Pages
18. CORRESPONDENCE	1:45 PM - 2:00 PM
18.3 <u>2024-11-25 Islands Trust Conservancy Board - Trust Council Provincial Review Request</u>	2 - 3



November 25, 2024

File No.: 0110-20-ITC

Via email: execadmin@islandstrust.bc.ca

Trust Council
Islands Trust
200-1627 Fort Street
Victoria BC V8R 1H8

Dear Members of Trust Council,

Re: Consultation on Provincial Review Request and the Role of the Islands Trust Conservancy

I am writing on behalf of the Islands Trust Conservancy (ITC) Board regarding your letter to the Honourable Anne Kang, the former Minister of Municipal Affairs, dated October 16, 2024. In that letter, you requested a provincial review of the Islands Trust mandate, governance, and structure.

The ITC Board would like to share its thoughts on this request and the recent discussions surrounding a provincial review of Islands Trust governance. While we understand the importance of exploring ways to strengthen governance, we want to address some procedural concerns related to ITC's role.

The ITC Board's work focuses on acquiring, holding, and disposing of land and property to protect the unique ecosystems in the Trust Area. It's essential that any initiatives potentially affecting our responsibilities involve consultation with the Board.

Bylaw No. 86, Section 4.1, clearly states:

"Where the Executive Committee of the Council considers that a legislative proposal that is to be submitted to the Council may have an impact on the responsibility of the Board, the Executive Committee will refer that draft legislative proposal to the Board for comment. The Executive Committee will consider Board comments on the legislative proposal before the legislative proposal is submitted to the Council."

Trust Council's letter to the Province, dated October 16, 2024, concluded that "without systemic change the Islands Trust cannot meet the challenges of our time." This statement underscores the significant and potentially far-reaching implications of the proposed review. Given this context, it seems clear that Bylaw No. 86 should have been invoked, ensuring the ITC Board had an opportunity to provide input on such an impactful initiative.

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To date, the ITC Board has not been consulted on this matter. Nor have we had the opportunity to assess whether the current governance model is hindering our work and whether a different governance model might facilitate future work, particularly as we are faced with new and emerging issues. Additionally, staff have noted that no assessment has been made to determine whether the request for a provincial review qualifies as a "legislative proposal" or how it might impact ITC's responsibilities. This raises concerns about whether proper protocols have been followed.

We respectfully ask Trust Council to:

1. Ensure that the ITC Board is included in discussions about initiatives that might affect its statutory responsibilities; and
2. Reconsider this letter and its implications, particularly ensuring that the views of ITC Board and other affected entities are incorporated.

The ITC Board is committed to open dialogue and collaboration with Trust Council to support our shared mission of protecting the Trust Area. Following consultation processes not only strengthens our governance but also ensures that all perspectives are included in shaping the future of the Islands Trust.

While it is regrettable that neither the ITC Board nor Bowen Island Municipality were consulted before the letter was sent, we see this as an opportunity to enhance collaboration and ensure that future initiatives benefit from shared perspectives and collective expertise.

We look forward to your response and to continuing to work together for the benefit of the Trust Area.

Sincerely,



Risa Smith
Chair, Islands Trust Conservancy
rismith@islandstrust.bc.ca

cc: Islands Trust Conservancy Board