



## Trust Council Minutes of a Regular Meeting

**Date:** June 17 to June 19, 2025  
**Location:** Harbour House Hotel, Crofton Room  
121 Upper Ganges Road, Salt Spring, BC, V8K 2S2

**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 Mabberley, Galiano Island Local Trust Area
12. Joe Bernardo, Gambier Island Local Trust Area
13. Kate-Louise Stamford, Gambier Island Local Trust
14. Alex Allen, Hornby Island Local Trust Area
15. Mikaila Lironi, Lasqueti Island Local Trust Area
16. Jeanine Dodds, Mayne Island Local Trust Area
17. Aaron Campbell, North Pender Island Local Trust Area
18. Deb Morrison, North Pender Island Local Trust Area
19. Jamie Harris, Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area
20. Mairead Boland, Saturna Island Local Trust Area
21. Lee Middleton, Saturna Island Local Trust Area
22. Kristina Evans, South Pender Island Local Trust Area
23. Dag Falck, South Pender Island Local Trust Area
24. Ken Hunter, Thetis Island Local Trust Area
25. Peter Luckham, Thetis Island Local Trust Area

**Members Regrets:** 26. Grant Scott, Hornby Island Local Trust Area

**Staff Present:**

Rueben Bronee, Chief Administrative Officer  
David Marlor, Director, Legislative and Information Services  
Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services  
Julia Mobbs, Director, Financial and Employee Services  
Joe Elliott, Senior Indigenous Relations Advisor  
Chris Hutton, Regional Planning Manager  
Robert Kojima, Regional Planning Manager  
Chloe Straw, Programs Coordinator  
Alexandra Trifonidis, Executive Coordinator  
Lisa Millard, Meeting Administrator/Recorder  
Sage Dyck, Technician, Pacific Audio

**Others Present:** There were up to 26 members of the public in attendance

## **TUESDAY JUNE 17, 2025**

The in-person meeting was recorded, livestreamed, and made available for electronic attendance.

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Patrick called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. She introduced Tsawout First Nation Chief Pelkey who greeted members of Trust Council with the Paddle Welcome Song.

### **2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Chair Patrick acknowledged the meeting was being held in the territory of Coast Salish First Nations. Each Trustee introduced themselves with acknowledgement of the First Nations territory in which they live and work.

Trustee Stamford left the meeting at 1:08 p.m.

### **3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

#### **3.1 Review of the Agenda**

#### **3.2 Approval of the Agenda**

**By general consent** the agenda and addendum were approved as presented.

### **4. GENERAL BUSINESS ARISING**

#### **4.1 Consent Agenda Items**

##### 4.1.1 Draft March 2025 Trust Council Quarterly Meeting Minutes

THAT Islands Trust Council adopt the minutes as presented.

##### 4.1.2 Resolution without Meeting Report

Receive for information.

##### 4.1.3 Islands Trust Active Priorities Chart

Receive for information.

**By general consent** Islands Trust Council adopted the recommendations as presented in items 4.1.1, 4.1.2, and 4.1.3.

Each Committee Chair provided a verbal report on the work of their respective committees.

##### 4.1.3.1 Executive Committee Work Program Report

THAT Trust Council approve the Executive Committee Work Program Report as presented.

##### 4.1.3.2 Governance Committee Work Program Report

THAT Trust Council approve the Governance Committee Work Program Report as presented.

4.1.3.3 Financial Planning Committee Work Program Report

THAT Trust Council approve the Financial Planning Committee Work Program Report as presented.

4.1.3.4 Regional Planning Committee Work Program Report

THAT Trust Council approve the Regional Planning Committee Work Program Report as presented.

Trustee Stamford returned to the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

4.1.3.5 Trust Programs Committee Work Program Report

THAT Trust Council approve the Trust Programs Committee Work Program Report as presented.

**By general consent** Islands Trust Council adopted the recommendations as presented in items 4.1.3.1, 4.1.3.2, 4.1.3.3, 4.1.3.4, and 4.1.3.5.

4.1.3.6 Accessibility Committee Report

Trustee Gauvreau provided a verbal report.

4.1.3.7 Islands Trust Conservancy Report

Islands Trust Conservancy Chair Lisa Gauvreau provided a verbal report highlighting recent successes and recognized the Conservancy's 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**5. NEW BUSINESS - None**

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

**6.1 2025-03-11 W̱SÁNEĆ Leadership Council - MOU between Islands Trust Council and the W̱SÁNEĆ Leadership Council**

**6.2 2025-03-30 Transport Canada – Reply**

**6.3 2025-05-05 D Ellis - The Status of the Herring Populations Spawning around Denman-Hornby Islands**

**By general consent** item 6.1, 6.2, and 6.3 were received for information.

**6.4 2025-05-16 North Salt Spring Waterworks District - Letter to Minister Kahlon**

Chair Patrick spoke to the contents of the letter and noted the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee passed a resolution at their June 5, 2025 meeting recommending that Trust Council support endorsement of North Salt Spring Waterworks District's request to the province.

Trustee Lironi left the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

Trustee Gedye arrived to the meeting at 1:52 p.m.

**TC-2026-045**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Fast, and SECONDED by Trustee Luckham,** that Trust Council request the Chair to write a letter on behalf of Trust Council in support of the request by North Salt Spring Water District's letter to the province dated May 16, 2025.

**CARRIED**

Trustee Lironi returned to the meeting at 1:57 p.m.

**6.5 2025-05-30 Bowen Island Municipality Mayor Andrew Leonard - Convene Meeting with Ferry Dependent Communities**

Discussion ensued and there was general support for participation; however, it was recognized that trustee and staff capacity issues might interfere with the ability to do so.

**TC-2026-046**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Gedye, and SECONDED by Trustee Barnardo,** that Trust Council reply to the letter, from Bowen Island Municipality dated May 30, 2025, under the signature of the Chair supportive of BC Ferry issues and the process but we are concerned about our capacity.

**CARRIED**

**6.6 2025-06-04 MP Jeff Kibble - A Stronger Future Through Partnership**

**6.7 2025-06-09 Sunshine Coast Regional District - Coastal Flood Mapping Project Update**

**6.8 2025-06-10 Gabriola Ferry Working Group - Communication with BC Ferries**

**6.9 2025-06-11 Trustees Boland & Bernardo - Personal Commentary on Letters to the Minister**

**6.10 2025-06-14 K Langereis - Draft Bylaw 197**

**6.11 2025-06-16 A Forest - Trust Council re Mandate**

**By general consent** item 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9, 6.10, and 6.11 were received for information.

Trustee Campbell arrived to the meeting at 2:22 p.m.

**7. FINANCIAL AND EMPLOYEE SERVICES**

**7.1 Consent Agenda Items**

7.1.1 Director of Financial and Employee Services Quarterly Report

Receive for information.

7.1.2 March 31, 2025 Financial Results - Briefing

Receive for information.

7.1.3 Forgone 2025/26 and 2026/27 Allocated Financial Statements - Briefing

Receive for information.

**By general consent** Islands Trust Council adopted the recommendation as presented in items 7.1.1, 7.1.2, and 7.1.3.

## **7.2 Discussion / Decision Items**

### **7.2.1 March 31, 2025 Islands Trust Audited Financial Statements and Audit Report - Request For Decision**

The Director of Financial and Employee Services summarized the Financial Statements and noted the following:

- A clean audit report was received by the independent auditor;
- net financial assets are just over \$2,000,000;
- the accumulated surplus balance has fallen by \$200,000 due to the use of surplus to pay for operations in the fiscal year;
- total revenue was \$170,000 below budget due to the receipt of fewer application fees and reduced grant revenue; and
- expenses were under budget due to underspending on projects and salaries/benefits associated with employee vacancies.

#### **TC-2025-047**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Elliott, and SECONDED by Trustee Borthwick,**

that Trust Council approve the Islands Trust audited financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2025 and forward them to the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs.

**CARRIED**

## **8. PLANNING SERVICES**

### **8.1 Consent Agenda Items**

#### **8.1.1 Director of Planning Services Quarterly Report**

Regional Planning Manager Kojima provided status updates on Bylaw Compliance and Enforcement Policy work and Official Community Plan reviews.

**By general consent** Islands Trust Council received the Director of Planning Services Quarterly Report for information.

The agenda was reordered and item 18 was discussed following item 8.

## **18. TRUSTEE UPDATES - Community Committee Participation**

### **18.1 Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Convention 2025**

Trustee Peterson indicated that while Islands Trust's resolution for mental health supports failed, it had been supported at other regional conventions and is expected to be put forward at the upcoming Union of BC Municipalities convention.

### **18.2 AtI'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region**

Spring 2025 Newsletter

Received for information.

April 2025 Forum Review

Received for information.

**18.3 Baynes Sound/Lambert Channel Ecosystem Forum**

Trustee Borthwick noted the Forum has become a registered society and recent discussions have focussed on the shipbreaking operation in Baynes Sound.

**18.4 First Nations Relations**

The following updates on First Nations relations and events were provided:

- Chair Patrick spoke to the feast held the previous day which was attended by many trustees, staff, and Tsawout First Nation members and also noted June is National Indigenous History Month and June 21 is National Indigenous Peoples Day;
- Trustee Peterson spoke to the Welcome Mural unveiling hosted by the Xwe'etay/Lasqueti Archaeology Project which was attended by First Nations Elders and representatives, community members, and some trustees and staff;
- Trustee Luckham shared Penelakut Tribes Elder Florence James passed away recently and he acknowledged the legacy of knowledge that she leaves; and
- Trustee Fast reported Squamish First Nation co-presented at the Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region Spring Forum.

**18.5 Freighter Anchorages/Oceans Protection Plan (OPP)**

Trustee Peterson stated Transport Canada presented several informative online sessions through winter and spring about the Oceans Protection Plan.

**18.6 Shellfish Aquaculture Management Advisory Committee (SF AMAC)**

Trustee Lironi provided a verbal update and noted new regulations include the requirement for aquaculture operators to label equipment which can aid in shoreline and ocean clean up should any equipment wash away from structures.

**18.7 Southern Gulf Islands Forum**

No report provided.

**18.8 Transportation/Ferry Group**

Trustee Yates stated a new ferry advisory working group had formed on Gabriola with the goal of continued advocacy with BC Ferries and Trustee Peterson noted that Lasqueti maintains a ferry committee.

**18.9 Vancouver Island Coastal Communities Climate Leadership Steering Committee (VICC-CL)**

No report provided.

The meeting was recessed for a break at 3:04 p.m. and reconvened at 3:30 p.m.

The agenda was reordered and item 12 was discussed following item 18.

## **12. TRUST AREA SERVICES**

### **12.1 Consent Agenda Items**

#### 12.1.1 Director of Trust Area Services Quarterly Report

Receive for information.

The Director of Trust Area Services noted updates to the list of First Nations that Islands Trust is required to engage with and clarified that Nations based in the United States have territorial interests that pre-date the establishment of borders between countries.

#### 12.1.2 Islands Trust Conservancy Report

Receive for information.

#### 12.1.3 March 31, 2025 Islands Trust Conservancy Audited Financial Statements - Briefing

Receive for information.

#### 12.1.4 Notice of Natural Area Protection Tax Exemption Program Application Closure (SS-NAP-2020.3) - Briefing

Receive for information.

#### 12.1.5 Stewardship Education Program - Briefing

Receive for information.

**By general consent** Islands Trust Council adopt the recommendation as presented in items 12.1.1, 12.1.2, 12.1.3, 12.1.4, and 12.1.5.

### **12.2 Discussion / Decision Items**

#### 12.2.1 2024/2025 Draft Annual Report - Request For Decision

The Director of Trust Area Services presented the report for consideration.

**TC-2025-048**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Borthwick, and SECONDED by Trustee Evans,**

that Islands Trust Council approve the 2024/25 Annual Report for submission to the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs.

**CARRIED**

The agenda was reordered and item 12.2.5 was discussed after item 12.2.1.

#### **12.2.5 Policy Statement Amendment Project (PSAP) Meeting Schedule - Request For Decision**

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

**TC-2025-049**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Mabberley, and SECONDED by Trustee Borthwick,**

that Trust Council cancel the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for June 30, 2025.

**CARRIED**

**TC-2025-050**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Mabberley, and SECONDED by Trustee Yates,**

that Trust Council schedule a special electronic Committee of the Whole meeting on July 9, 2025 to review the draft new Islands Trust Policy Statement.

**CARRIED**

**TC-2025-051**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Mabberley, and SECONDED by Trustee Borthwick,**

that Trust Council schedule a special electronic Trust Council meeting on the afternoon and evening of July 29, 2025 to consider First Reading of the draft new Policy Statement.

**CARRIED**

**12.2.2 Policy Statement Amendment Project Update - Request For Decision**

The Director of Trust Area Services summarized the Request for Decision and noted the revised Project Charter reflects the time taken to edit the document through Trust Programs Committee, the referral period, and time allotted for ministerial review.

A Trustee asked if legal counsel will be present to answer questions when the Policy Statement comes back to Trust Council following legal review and the Director indicated they had made the request but had not yet received confirmation of availability.

**TC-2025-052**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Borthwick, and SECONDED by Trustee Gedye,**

that Islands Trust Council endorse Policy Statement Amendment Project Charter V11.

**CARRIED**

**12.2.3 Amendment to Strategic Plan - Request For Decision**

The Director of Trust Area Services summarized the Request for Decision and noted the Strategic Plan did not include a commitment to undertaking further review of the Islands Trust Policy Statement and highlighted the importance of indicating Trust Council's intent of ongoing review and engagement with First Nations around the policy document.

Discussion ensued.

**TC-2025-053**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Peterson, and SECONDED by Trustee Fast,**

that Trust Council amend the 2025-2028 Strategic Plan to include key initiative 1.1.2, colour coded to indicate that the initiation timeline is to be determined, as “Work with Indigenous Governing Bodies to co-design and implement future Policy Statement amendment review processes that ensure ongoing and more regular review and amendment of the Policy Statement”.

**CARRIED**

**12.2.4 Request for Official Recognition Two Place Names on Bowen Island - Request For Decision**

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

**TC-2025-054**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Fast, and SECONDED by Trustee Gauvreau,**

that Trust Council request staff to draft a letter from the Chair expressing Trust Council’s support for official recognition of the Smí7mant Áyalhkw and Xéla7an placenames for beaches on Bowen Island.

**CARRIED**

Trustees Boland and Lironi left the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

**9. ENGAGEMENT / COLLABORATION**

**9.1 Delegations**

**9.1.1 Salt Spring Solutions**

The delegation recently completed a community engagement project on housing which was undertaken following the 2023 publication of *Homes for Islanders: An Integrated Housing Solutions Framework for Salt Spring Island* which provided decision-makers with an integrated approach to addressing the local housing crisis. They noted that the work is scalable to other Gulf Islands and therefore of interest to Trust Council. The report identified five strategy areas, criteria for the strategies, and forty actions. The community engagement project methods included focus groups, phone interviews and an online public survey which garnered 657 responses. The delegation requested Trust Council review the report card included in their submission for an update on where the project currently stands.

**9.1.2 Friends of the Gulf Islands Society**

The delegation spoke to the recent letter from the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs written in response to Trust Council’s request for a review of the *Islands Trust Act*, governance, and structure. They noted support of the principles outlined in the Minister’s letter related to an ecological mandate, environmental stewardship, managing growth and development

without exceeding the carrying capacity of local ecosystems, and preserving unspoiled natural amenities. The delegation presented a petition of almost 1000 signatures supporting their position that the Islands Trust Policy Statement not be approved until it affirms that Islands Trust's top priority is protection of the islands land, marine ecosystems, and rural character, and that the term environment refers to the natural environment.

## 9.2 Public Comments

There were 15 members of the public in attendance during the Public Comments session.

A member of the public spoke to the substandard and unusual living arrangements and accommodations they have experienced during the past four years living on Salt Spring as a young tradesperson and renter and stated the individuals that oppose housing development do not see the unsafe, illegal, insecure housing that people are being forced to live in. They asked that the public allow local trustees to do what they have been elected to do and provide housing for the people while taking care of the environment.

A member of the public stated they are a working resident that moved to Salt Spring to work. They spoke against those that have stable housing who oppose safe housing for working class residents while calling efforts to ease the housing crisis a threat to the environmental protection of the Trust area. They indicated the housing crisis is of equal importance to environmental protection, and preservation of the environment and rural character, while essential, should not be a higher priority over ensuring working people have decent and affordable housing.

A member of the public stated government entities create regulatory environments that are human centric which are hopefully in balance with the natural environment but the natural environment can not exist in communities without structurally coherent government. They expressed that Salt Spring Island should become a municipality rather than be included as part of Islands Trust due to the islands size, population, and amenities and Islands Trust has not created a balance between human needs and the natural environment.

A member of the public stated a vocal minority claims Islands Trust sole purpose is for environmental protection; however, the islands are not just nature reserves but also communities and protecting nature should not mean shutting out those that live and work in the communities. They indicated Islands Trust was created to balance environmental protection with human needs and the Trust must address workforce housing, protect the land, and protect the people who call the land home.

A member of the public spoke to the need for trustees to balance the environment with the needs of the community as the *Islands Trust Act* states protection of the islands is for the benefit of the people. They noted there are gaps between those that have housing and those that don't, artists and artisan residents are leaving due to the cost of living, there is a lack of planning, and impaired health care delivery and services. They disagree that a governance review is not needed and noted a review is necessary to ensure the Trust has the mandate and tools to move forward.

A member of the public spoke to the importance of building consensus and referred to the response to Islands Trust's request for a governance review which points to working toward consensus. They stated the benefit of getting to consensus is that the outcome will be better and where there is a divisiveness within a community on a certain topic consensus building will lead to a better outcome.

Trustee Boland returned to the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

A member of the public spoke to correspondence they sent to Trust Council about the manner in which some trustees reported out on the Minister's response to Islands Trust request for a governance review. They stated the mandate of the Trust, as outlined in the Minister's response, is to protect the natural environment from overdevelopment; however, trustees are trying to redefine what the unique amenities are. They noted there is nothing in the mandate that prevents trustees from working on other key community concerns such as affordable housing and asked that Trust Council respect the mandate.

A member of the public spoke to their concerns with the development permit process which included community members not having the same ability as a proponent to provide expert reports and staff are making decisions about development permits rather than the trustees elected to do so. They suggested Islands Trust hire qualified professionals and charge proponents for the reports to ensure fairness.

A member of the public, a previous trustee, spoke to being involved in the development of the previously revised Salt Spring Island Official Community Plan and noted they had participated in many land use processes. They thanked trustees for sitting at the table, noted the connection between people and land, and that decisions related to that connection can be challenging. They indicated there needs to be agreement to protect the land humans live on to survive otherwise livelihoods will not be successful.

The meeting was recessed for the day at 5:06 p.m.

## **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18**

The morning training session was closed to the public.

Chair Patrick reconvened the meeting at 11:19 a.m.

Trustee Morrison arrived to the meeting at 11:19 a.m.

## **10. EXECUTIVE**

### **10.1 Consent Agenda Items**

#### **10.1.1 Chief Administrative Officer's Quarterly Report**

Receive for information.

#### **10.1.2 Strategic Plan Quarterly Report**

Receive for information.

Discussion ensued regarding Trust Council Strategic Plan Priorities and the following comments were noted:

- Work to be started in the 2026/27 fiscal year requires business cases to be developed now in order to be advanced to the first draft budget in September for review by Trust Council in December;
- the Strategic Plan was presented with the expectation that the work on items marked in green and blue could be done and there is staff capacity to do so; and
- the items in blue are expected to be initiated with a business case approved in the current fiscal year with work beginning in the 2026/27 fiscal year.

#### 10.1.3 Continuous Learning Plan

Receive for information.

**By general consent** Islands Trust Council adopt the recommendation as presented in items 10.1.1, 10.1.2, and 10.1.3.

The meeting was recessed for a break at 11:53 a.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

The agenda was reordered and item 11 was discussed following item 10.1.3.

### **11. JARED "QWUSTENUXUN" WILLIAMS PRESENTATION**

Senior Indigenous Relations Advisor Joe Elliott introduced and welcomed the presenter.

Indigenous Foods Educator, Jared “Qwustenuxun” Williams introduced himself, acknowledged his ancestors, gave recognition to the Elders that provided him with the knowledge he shares with others, and honoured the Elders with the Remembrance Song “Quw’utsun Tzinquaw”.

He told the ancestry story of Stutsun and Swuq’us and the history and reasoning of placenames for the land related to both activity that took place on the lands and legends told of the places. He then spoke of the traditional concept of ownership of land related to rights to harvesting areas and sharing of collective spaces, recognized the relationship of a being to the food of the earth, how cooking language connects to relationship with plants and animals, that food was a currency for trade, and highlighted the need to open the door to revolutionizing the ability to revitalize the traditional food sources of the land.

### **10.2 Discussion / Decision Items**

#### 10.2.1 Minister Kahlon Letter – Briefing

Chair Patrick stated that a response to Minister Kahlon’s letter requesting a meeting had been sent.

Trustees participated in a roundtable discussion about the response from the Minister and key concepts of the discussion were identified as follows:

- The Minister’s response points out the importance of focus on engagement with community and First Nations; however, there are limited tools and minimal financing available to advance reconciliation

and undertake a meaningful referral process with 31 identified First Nations;

- there is a need to identify and prioritize one request be it engagement, governance, structure, or the mandate;
- Trust Council has a new Strategic Plan and should focus on moving forward with the tools available;
- the letter provides a lot of information and clarity on what needs to be done prior to submitting another request for a review;
- the response indicates Islands Trust is empowered to make decisions and states the province will continue to support those decisions;
- the response points to protection of the environment as a focus; however, the original mandate also spoke to community and residents of the Trust Area;
- the province has downloaded *Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People Act* (DRIPA) responsibilities without providing the structure to undertake them;
- the existing structure of Trust Council, local trust committees, Standing Committees, and Advisory Planning Commissions is problematic and external advice is needed regarding the structure;
- the tool kit supplied is inadequate to engage with over 30 First Nations and Islands Trust does not have the financial and staff capacity to do so; therefore, any request for increased provincial funding has to focus on capacity to engage in meaningful relationships;
- there is need to look at the Governance Report and determine what to work on and what not to;
- an ecological mandate, community investment, and equitable housing can be done in tandem; and
- First Nations representation needs to be at the table which requires funds and that should be the clear ask to the province.

Trustee Dodds left the meeting at 3:34 p.m.

The meeting was recessed for a break at 3:34 p.m. and reconvened at 3:50 p.m.

The agenda was reordered and items 16.1, 16.2.1, 16.2.2, and 16.2.3 were heard following item 10.2.1.

## **16.1 Consent Agenda Items**

### **16.1.1 Director of Legislative and Information Services Quarterly Report**

The Director of Legislative and Information Services provided clarifications on Bills 13 and 14.

**By general consent** Islands Trust Council received the Director of Legislative and Information Services Quarterly Report as presented.

## **16.2 Discussion / Decision Items**

### **16.2.1 Trust Council Bylaw 197: Local Trust Committee Meeting Procedures Bylaw**

The Director of Legislative and Information Services stated the Local Trust Committee Meeting Procedures Bylaw was given First, Second, and Third readings at Trust Council on March 13, 2025.

Discussion ensued and the following comments were noted:

- The majority of the language in Bylaw No. 197 was taken from existing meeting procedure bylaws;
- correspondence regarding the proposed bylaw was received and the suggestions are administrative amendments which would not change the substance;
- it was clarified that the language in Section 10 allows two members of a local trust committee to call a special meeting but said meeting can not be called without the third member being aware of the meeting.

**TC-2025-055**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Luckham, and SECONDED by Trustee Bernardo,**

that Trust Council adopt Bylaw No. 197, 2024 as presented.

**CARRIED  
by 2/3 majority vote**

**16.2.2 Draft Policy 4.1.16 Model Public Notice Bylaw - Request For Decision**

The Director of Legislative and Information Services summarized the Request for Decision and indicated the *Local Government Act* stipulates a default notice requirement that certain meetings be published twice in a newspaper that publishes at least once per week and the intent is to draft a model Public Notice Bylaw that local trust committee's can use which does not pre-determine their means of notification.

Discussion ensued and the following comments were noted:

- The cost of publishing in newspapers that community members do not read is high; and
- each local trust committee needs to determine what works best for their community within the criteria specified.

**TC-2025-056**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Bernardo, and SECONDED by Trustee Campbell,**

that Trust Council adopt draft Policy 4.1.16 Model Public Notice Bylaw and forward it to the local trust committees for their consideration in the adoption of a public notice bylaw.

**CARRIED**

Trustee Stamford left the meeting at 4:48 p.m.

**16.2.3 Amendment to Trust Council Meeting Procedure Bylaw 101 Regarding Petitions and Delegations - Request For Decision**

The Director of Legislative and Information Services summarized the Request for Decision and noted Executive Committee requested edits to the

bylaw including the receipt of late correspondence, changes to requirements of a delegation, and disposition of petitions and delegations.

Discussion on the proposed bylaw commenced and, in order to maintain agenda timelines, the discussion was tabled to Thursday, June 19.

### **13. MLA ROB BOTTERELL PRESENTATION**

There were 26 members of the public present for MLA Botterell's presentation.

MLA Botterell spoke to the following:

- The forests, waters, lands, and people within the Islands Trust area are connected;
- there is less old growth, fewer fish, loss of environment habitat, increased fallow deer, invasive species are on the rise, and ecosystems are under threat;
- in 1986 the special amenities of the Trust Area were described as a combination of mild climate, 500 islands, diverse and natural features, continuous tree cover, large undeveloped areas, numerous areas of archeological significance, a compact marine ecosystem, and small communities and Islands Trust has a pivotal role and responsibility to preserve and protect these amenities;
- legal opinions will not change the priority objective which is to preserve and protect the Trust Area;
- each of the 31 First Nations within the Trust Area is a sovereign government and when First reading of the Trust Policy Statement is done it is expected that many Nations will respond and it was suggested that time necessary to find consensus is allowed;
- Minister Kahlon's response letter has noted the Ministry is not in a position to provide a review before next general elections and this should be respected;
- he urges Trust Council to find a way to work with what the Minister has set out in the response;
- there has been a 62% increase in population in the Trust Area since Islands Trust was established and this indicates there has been a lot of development; and
- any future request should be narrowed to one very specific ask.

MLA Botterell answered questions and responded to comments put forth by trustees.

The meeting was recessed for the day at 5:55 p.m.

Trustees Allen, Campbell, Mabberley, Middleton, and Stamford left the meeting.

### **THURSDAY, JUNE 19**

Chair Patrick recalled the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

### **14. CLOSED MEETING**

#### **TC-2025-057**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Evans, and SECONDED by Trustee Fast,**  
that the meeting be closed to the public subject to Sections 90(1)(c) of the  
Community Charter in order to  
(c) consider matters related to labour relations or other employee relations  
and that staff attend the meeting.

**CARRIED**

The meeting was closed to the public at 9:04 a.m. and recalled to order at 10:50 a.m.

**15. RISE AND REPORT**

Chair Patrick rose and report the adoption of the in-camera minutes from the March, 2025 Trust Council meeting.

**16. LEGISLATIVE AND INFORMATION SERVICES**

**16.2.3 Amendment to Trust Council Meeting Procedure Bylaw 101 Regarding Petitions and Delegations - Request For Decision**

Discussion on item 16.2.3 began Wednesday, June 18 and resumed Thursday, June 19 and the following points were noted:

- The rationale for delaying a disposition is to allow staff time to provide advice and any relevant background information to ensure Trust Council is fully informed regarding the delegation topic;
- Trust Council has discretion to respond directly; however, the language encourages that time be allowed for consideration of the subject matter;
- it is important to determine if there are staff capacity or financial implications to consider prior to providing direction; and
- allowing further time to review the draft language and engage the community is needed.

**TC-2025-058**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Morrison, and SECONDED by Trustee Borthwick,**

to postpone item 16.2.3 Amendment to Trust Council Meeting Procedure Bylaw 101 Regarding Petitions and Delegations to the September, 2025 meeting.

**DEFEATED**

**TC-2025-059**

**It was MOVED by Trustee EVANS, and SECONDED by Trustee Fast,**

that Trust Council request staff to replace the words in section 5.9 that read “Where written application has not been received, or a petition or delegation has been refused, as prescribed in section 5.8,” with “To appeal the decision by the Secretary and/or Executive Committee where a petition or delegation has been refused, as prescribed in Section 5.8, or where written application has not been received.”

**CARRIED**

Discussion continued and the following comments were noted:

- The proposed bylaw is relevant to Trust Council meeting procedures and does not address how local trust committees dispose of delegations;
- a Trustee asked who determines if correspondence or a delegation topic is slanderous or defamatory without a legal opinion and it was noted that Trust Council has been given authority to administer the statute and

Executive Committee exercises its best judgement regarding the inclusion of correspondence, or allowing a delegation, and there is opportunity to appeal said decision; and

- the item has been on publicly available agendas for several Trust Council meetings and while public consultation is useful the bylaw is procedural and provides clarity and transparency for delegates.

**TC-2025-060**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Bernardo, and SECONDED by Trustee Fast,**

that Trust Council request staff to amend section 5.8(g) by replacing the word “may” with the word “must”.

**CARRIED**

**TC-2025-061**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Fast, and SECONDED by Trustee Yates,**

that Trust Council Bylaw 199, cited as “Trust Council Meeting Procedures Bylaw, 2004, Amendment Bylaw No. 1, 2025” be read a First Time, as amended.

**CARRIED**

**TC-2025-062**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Fast, and SECONDED by Trustee Evans,**

that Trust Council Bylaw 199, cited as “Trust Council Meeting Procedures Bylaw, 2004, Amendment Bylaw No. 1, 2025” be read a Second Time, as amended.

**CARRIED**

**TC-2025-063**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Fast, and SECONDED by Trustee Yates,**

that Trust Council Bylaw 199, cited as “Trust Council Meeting Procedures Bylaw, 2004, Amendment Bylaw No. 1, 2025” be read a Third Time, as amended.

**CARRIED**

Trustee Morrison left the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

16.2.4 Chief Administrative Officer Performance Evaluation Policy - Request For Decision

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

Discussion ensued.

**TC-2025-064**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Gedye, and SECONDED by Trustee Borthwick,**

that Trust Council adopt Trust Council Policy “2.5.1 Chief Administrative Officer Performance Evaluation”.

**CARRIED**

**TC-2025-065**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Gedye, and SECONDED by Trustee Evans,**

that Trust Council adopt amendments as recommended by the Chief Administrative Officer Performance Evaluation Policy Committee dated June 17, 2025 to Trust Council “Policy 2.3.1 Council Committee System”.

**CARRIED**

**TC-2025-066**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Gedye, and SECONDED by Trustee Elliott,**

that Trust Council adopt amendments as recommended by the Chief Administrative Officer Performance Evaluation Policy Committee dated June 17, 2025 to Trust Council “Policy 2.4.1 Executive Committee Terms of Reference” dated June 17, 2025.

**CARRIED**

**17. DISPOSITION OF DELEGATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENT & CORRESPONDENCE**

A Trustee indicated they would like a response sent to Salt Spring Solutions recognizing the work they have done.

Trustee Harris left the meeting at 12:03 p.m. and returned at 12:06 p.m.

**19. TRUST COUNCIL FOLLOW UP ACTION LIST**

The Follow Up Action List was reviewed and updates provided.

**TC-2025-067**

**It was MOVED by Trustee Fast, and SECONDED by Trustee Yates,**

that Trust Council request staff remove Item 3 “Staff to schedule a Committee of the Whole meeting for Trust Council to discuss the September Meeting Conduct” from the Chief Administrative Officer Follow Up Action List on page 318 of the June Trust Council agenda.

**CARRIED**

**20. NEXT MEETING**

The next Islands Trust Council Quarterly meeting is scheduled to be held in-person on Gabriola Island September 16-18, 2025.

**20.1 Draft September Trust Council Program**

Received for information.

**21. ADJOURNMENT**

**By general consent** the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

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**Laura Patrick, Chair**

**Certified Correct:**

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**Lisa Millard Meeting Administrator/Recorder**