



Islands Trust Conservancy - Executive Committee

Liaison Meeting Agenda

Date: Tuesday, July 16, 2019
Time: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Location: Islands Trust Victoria Boardroom
200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Introductions and Context for Annual Meeting

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. MINUTES/COORDINATION

3.1 Review of the July 17, 2018 Meeting Minutes

4. BUSINESS

4.1 Items for Information

4.1.1 Introductions:

- Islands Trust Conservancy (ITC)
- Executive Committee (EC)
- Review of ITC/EC roles

4.2 Items for Discussion/Direction

4.2.1 Working with the Province

- Coordination of advocacy

4.2.2 Working with Trust Council

- Fund Development Advisory Committee
 - FDAC activities to date (Brief ATT1, FDAC ToR ATT2, Governing...ATT3)
- Climate Change Emergency Declaration
 - FireSmart and ecology
 - Regional Vegetation Management Strategy (EML ATT1)
 - Strategic Plan - Climate Emergency Strategy (Brief ATT1, Brief ATT2, Brief ATT3, Brief ATT4)
- Referrals and communication
- Budget:
 - Covenant Management and Outreach Position
 - Property Management Formula
- Canada Nature Fund
- Regional Conservation Plan Reporting (BRF + ATT1)

4.2.3 Working with Local Trust Committees

- Communicating with LTC's
- CDF Tool Kit
- Local Trust Area Profiles

4.2.4 Working with First Nations

- Reconciliation Declaration and Action Plan
- Crown Land Policy

4.2.5 Working with the Public

- Website updates

5. **NEXT MEETING**

To be determined in late 2019; in Victoria

6. **ADJOURNMENT**



Islands Trust Conservancy - Executive Committee

Liaison Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes



Date:	Tuesday, July 17, 2018
Location:	Islands Trust Victoria Boardroom 200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC
Time	1:00 – 2:30 pm
ITC Board Members Present	Tony Law, Chair Hoops Harrison Kate-Louise Stamford Robin Williams Susan Morrison
EC Members Present	Peter Luckham, EC Chair George Grams Laura Busheikin
ITC Board Members Regrets	Ronald Bertrand
Staff Present	Jennifer Eliason, ITC Manager Corlynn Strachan, Administrative Assistant Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services David Marlор, Director, Local Planning Services Julia Mobbs, Director, Administrative Services

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm. Chair Law acknowledged that the meeting was being held in traditional territory of the Coast Salish First Nations.

1.1 Introductions and Context for Annual Meeting

Chair Law welcomed the guests and initiated introductions.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By general consent, the agenda was approved as presented.

3. MINUTES/COORDINATION

3.1 Record of the July 18, 2017 Meeting Minutes

The following edit to the minutes was presented for consideration:

- Correct the wording under Item 5. NEXT MEETING to: "To be determined in Victoria in early 2018."

By general consent, the minutes were approved as amended.

4. BUSINESS

4.1 Items for Information

4.1.1 Name Change Implementation

ITC Chair Law acknowledged and thanked the Executive Committee for their pursuit of the legislative amendment. The ITC Manager reported on the process to change the organizational name, and provided a Name Change Communications Plan for information.

4.1.2 Funding

ITC board members reported on current and future funding needs of the organization.

Chair Luckham commented that many moving pieces need to work together; including budget requests and a communication piece about “who we are and what we are doing”. Trustees noted the audit and budget shows ITC is in a great position and that ITC brings in significant assets to this organization.

4.2 Items for Discussion/Direction

4.2.1 Working with Trust Council

Trustee Orientation for Next Term

Trustees discussed the importance of providing new trustees with a clear message on the mandate of the Islands Trust and Islands Trust Conservancy. ITC board members recommended a separate orientation session for trustees and the importance of getting trustees on board as ambassadors for ITC.

Budget

The ITC Manager commented on a need to increase the property management budget due to new property acquisitions and upcoming changes to the annual monitoring program.

ITC trustees discussed potentially adding a staff position, and trustees commented that the ITC does an exceptional job with limited staff.

4.2.2 Working with Local Trust Committees

Regional Conservation Plan

ITC board members and EC members discussed the following:

- Trustee Stamford noted that LTCs and Bowen Island Municipality will soon receive a briefing from ITC that outlines how the Regional Conservation Plan can support land use planning and be integrated into Official Community Planning
- Chair Law suggested the briefing might be added to a resource page on the website for trustees and LTCs
- Director Marlor reported that reference to the RCP is being added into all planning staff reports to incorporate consideration of the RCP into each project/application

ITC Reports and LTC Agendas

ITC board members and EC members discussed the following:

- Trustee Morrison recommended ITC and trustee reports be placed earlier on LTC meeting agendas
- Chair Luckham noted LTCs can be instrumental in forwarding the ITC message. The workload of LTCs is a challenge; we need to get LTCs to embrace work of RCP, but there is fundamental bylaw work required for many LTCs

4.2.3 Working with First Nations

Relationship Building

ITC board members noted it would be helpful to work collaboratively with LTCs on relationship building with First Nations.

Chair Luckham suggested it would be beneficial to have a guideline for LTCs to share with First Nations, demonstrating “how can we align our work with you?” The ITC Manager noted possibly using the RCP Summary, which describes ITCs work and current goals around First Nations engagement.

Trustee Busheikin suggested trustee training or orientation on working with First Nations should include conservation-related topics.

4.2.4 Working with the Province

Request to Meet with Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

ITC board members and EC members discussed:

- The importance of collaboration between the Executive Committee and the Islands Trust Conservancy board, and having a clear, well prepared message
- Potential for the ITC chair and an appointed ITC trustee to participate in meetings with minister, possibly at UBCM
- The importance of relationship building, and possibly with other ministers as well as Minister Robinson

5. NEXT MEETING

To be determined in early 2019 in Victoria

6. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent, the meeting adjourned at 2:26 pm

Tony Law, Chair

Certified Correct

Corlynn Strachan, Administrative Assistant (Recorder)



BRIEFING

To: ITC/Executive Committee Liaison Mtg **For the Meeting of:** July 16, 2019
From: Fund Development Advisory Cmt, Chair **Date Prepared:** July 12, 2019
SUBJECT: Fund Development Advisory Committee activities to date

PURPOSE: To provide avenue of discussion around initial recommendations from Fund Development Advisory Committee.

BACKGROUND:

The Fund Development Advisory Committee (FDAC) comprising of Kate-Louise Stamford (Chair) Robin Williams, Doug Fenton and Linda Adams have met 3 times to develop a Terms of Reference, resolve the structural difficulty of a sub-committee within the ITC and begin the discussion around approaches to fundraising for the Conservancy .

On June 24th the FDAC attended a 5-hour session with Jan Garnett, former Regional VP of the Nature Conservancy of Canada, to more fully flesh out the strengths and challenges of pursuing stronger fundraising strategies for the Islands Trust Conservancy. Staff also attended and participated.

On December 5, 2017 the Islands Trust Council passed a resolution endorsing the [ITC's 5-year plan](#). This plan was approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in July 2018. The 5 goals of the organization in the 5-year plan are outlined as follows:

1. In the next five years: The Islands Trust Conservancy will seek to establish and deepen relationships with First Nations and will work towards building trust by finding opportunities to collaborate with First Nations to integrate Traditional Ecological Knowledge into management planning, reconnect youth with island ecosystems and other mutually beneficial initiatives.
2. In the next five years: The Islands Trust Conservancy will continue to refine the scientific foundation for its decision making by developing a renewed 10-year Regional Conservation Plan to ensure that the organization's time and resources are directed towards high-priority land protection projects.
3. In the next five years: The Islands Trust Conservancy will continue to pursue new and innovative sources of funding to ensure that it can seize time-sensitive land securement opportunities and prevent further loss of the rare and fragile ecosystems of the Islands Trust Area. The Islands Trust Conservancy also intends to increase funding available for property management and restoration of its protected lands.
4. In the next five years: The Islands Trust Conservancy plans to increase its effectiveness as a fundraising organization by collaborating with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to achieve its name and corporate structure change. *Achieved, May 31, 2018.*

The board will continue to promote legacy gifts as a way to fund the protection and stewardship of ecologically significant lands in the region.

- 5. In the next five years: The Islands Trust Conservancy will continue to promote its programs to island landholders, focusing its outreach efforts on the highest priority landscapes. The board of the Islands Trust Conservancy will welcome conversations with the provincial and federal governments about new or innovative tools that might motivate increased land stewardship in this region and will look to these governments to partner on such programs.**

The majority of goals are related to expanding the funding capabilities of the organizations. For instance goal four – change of name, was completed in mid 2018 as a joint initiative between the ITC and the Islands Trust Executive Committee with support of the ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The primary objective of this goal is to communicate more clearly to funders the purpose of the organization.

To date, the discussion at FDAC meetings revolves around more fully realizing the commitments made in the 5-year plan primarily through Major Gift/Planned Giving to bolster specific fund programs including the Opportunity Fund. Major Gift/Planned Giving is a long-term strategy, but the Advisory Committee recognizes this is an opportune time given the expected transfer of wealth from the baby-boomer generation over the next 10-20 years. Externally, the ITC is also considered an attractive organization to fund given that 100% of administrative costs are covered by island property tax.

A more challenging option but equally opportune, is developing a coordinated ask with the Islands Trust to specific sections of the provincial government in the areas of First Nation engagement and climate change mitigation actions.

The Conservancy's property management costs are expected to increase given the important goal of comprehensive First Nations engagement in all aspects of land maintenance. Although ITC-held lands will also be challenged by the ongoing climate crisis, the organization is in a good position to respond in a real way with the appropriate funding support. This could be an excellent tool to support the Islands Trust climate emergency strategies and priorities.

The Fund Development Advisory Committee (FDAC) recognises any financial ask to the provincial government requires significant staff time and resources as well as coordination with the Executive Committee. It also understands that money received through government programs often requires onerous reporting and other commitments. Even so, the provincial government has not shown more interest and support for the Islands Trust/Islands Trust Conservancy in decades and this should not be ignored with an election coming up in a year.

The FDAC has considered raising the ITC profile with Provincial ministers and would like to discuss opportunities for including discussions about the ITC at the Islands Trust hosted breakfast with ministers at the annual meeting of the Union of BC Municipalities. There are several other ideas that FDAC may consider but given the timing of the joint meeting with the Executive, these are what are notionally being considered.

ATTACHMENT(S):

FDAC Terms of Reference

Briefing regarding training session for BC Government board appointees – May 25th 2019

FOLLOW-UP: The ITC Board will convey the discussion of the ITC/EC Liaison meeting to the FDAC. Ongoing work related to Fund Development may require further liaison with the Executive Committee and the Financial Planning Committee. The FDAC and the ITC Board will follow up as per the outcomes of the ITC/EC discussions.

Prepared By: Kate-Louise Stamford, FDAC Chair and ITC Chair

Reviewed By/Date: Kate Emmings, A/ITC Manager, July 12, 2019



Fund Development Advisory Committee Terms of Reference and Operating Guidelines May 21, 2019

BACKGROUND

At its 2017 Board Retreat, the Islands Trust Conservancy Board (ITC Board) (Trust Fund Board at that time) discussed follow up for its Long-term Funding Strategy. In 2018, the ITC Board approved its 2018-2027 Regional Conservation Plan and completed its name change from Islands Trust Fund to Islands Trust Conservancy. With these two large projects complete, the ITC Board is well poised to consider ongoing funding.

At its January 2019 meeting, the ITC Board created a Fund Development Advisory Committee (the Committee) and requested and received funds from the Trust Council, to fund the Committee.

1. PURPOSE

1.1 To provide advice to the ITC Board, the Committee will focus on the creation of a strategy and an action plan to meet ITC funding needs, including:

- clear statement of funding need;
- financial analysis;
- key fundraising strategies;
- staff roles;
- ITC Board member roles;
- Budget requirements; and,
- timelines.

2. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

2.1 The Committee will be guided by the general principle that efforts to secure funding should respect the values of the Islands Trust and local trust committees (e.g., retaining the social diversity and rural character of the islands).

2.2 The Committee will adhere to bylaws and be guided by policies of the Islands Trust Conservancy, including policies that address communications with other agencies of the Islands Trust.

2.3 The Committee will remain committed to maintaining the ITC's positive relationships with other conservancies by being sensitive to the competitive nature of fundraising.

3. ADVICE

3.1 The Committee is an advisory body of the ITC Board. The Committee's advice will inform decisions of the ITC Board.

4. MEETINGS

4.1. Notification

- 4.1.1 The date, time and agenda for an upcoming meeting will be provided to Committee members at least five working days in advance.

4.2. Type

- 4.2.1 As required by the *Community Charter*, Committee meetings will be open to the public and will be subject to public notice. The Committee may move to close meetings to the public in order to discuss matters pursuant to s. 90 of the *Community Charter* (meetings that may or must be closed to the public).
- 4.2.2 When the Chair considers an issue to be urgent and that calling a regular or special meeting to conduct the voting is impractical, the Committee may hold a vote on an urgent matter and pass a resolution without meeting.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

- 5.1 Communications with the media and members of the public regarding the activities of the Islands Trust Conservancy, including the activities of the Committee, are the responsibility of the ITC Board Chair. The ITC Board Chair will be the designated spokesperson regarding the activities of the Committee, unless otherwise determined by the ITC Board.
- 5.2 While other members of the Committee are free to have informal conversations with members of the public regarding the activities of the Committee, they will refer media enquiries, formal enquiries from organized groups and correspondence regarding the activities of the Committee to the Chair of the ITC Board.
- 5.3 The ITC's Communications and Fundraising Specialist will provide communications assistance to the Committee in regards to any communications plans, news releases, website postings and other communication matters requested by the Committee.
- 5.4 Staff will coordinate the public postings of Committee meeting agendas and minutes.
- 5.5 The ITC Board will coordinate political liaison with other governments regarding the work of the Committee, including liaison with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, other provincial ministers, chairs of Regional Districts and political heads of First Nations.
- 5.6 The Islands Trust's Chief Administrative Officer or the ITC Manager will coordinate liaison with the staff of regional districts, provincial agencies, First Nations and other third parties.

6. MEMBERSHIP

- 6.1 Membership is voluntary. The Committee will consist of at least three ITC Board members, one of which shall be the ITC Board Chair, at least one Trust Council member and at least one resident of

the Trust Area. The Committee may invite additional members of the ITC Board, Trust Council or members of the public to join the Committee.

6.2 The Committee Chair shall be the Board Chair for the term of the Committee.

6.3 An election will be triggered if a vacancy in the Chair position arises for any reason. Elections for Chair shall be guided by the procedures outlined in ITC Policy 1.2 Election of ITC Board Chair policy.

7. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

7.1 The Chair of the Committee will be responsible for the coordination of meeting agendas and for conducting meetings in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

7.2 Committee members will attend meetings as agreed and will participate in the work of the Committee as assigned by the Committee. Missing two consecutive meetings may trigger replacement on the Committee.

8. STAFF RESOURCES

8.1 The ITC Manager and/or the Communications and Fundraising Specialist will provide staff support to the Committee, subject to other on-going responsibilities and other requests of the ITC Board.

8.2 All Islands Trust staff activities in regards to the Committee require resolutions from the Committee. Staff may not respond to requests from individual Committee members.

9. TIMELINES

The Committee will work to meet the following deadlines by March 31, 2020, at which point the Committee will dissolve:

July 1, 2019	Recommendations to ITC Board regarding any activities that would require additional resources in the 2020-2021 fiscal year.
July 16, 2019	Report out to the ITC Board / Executive Committee Liaison Meeting regarding the progress of the Committee
November 10, 2019	Draft action plan complete
January 2020	Finalize an action plan with achievable, assigned activities and present it to the ITC Board for approval.
March 31, 2020	Committee dissolution

10. BUDGET

10.1 The Trust Council has allocated \$4,000 to the ITC Board for use by the Committee. The ITC Board will allocate funds from this budget for the operations of the Committee.

10.2 Annually, the Committee will approve a budget for its activities. An honorarium of up to \$100 per meeting may be available to Committee members for meeting preparation and attendance. Committee members will be reimbursed for ferry costs and vehicle travel at the Trustee rate established by the Islands Trust.

¹ At its March 2019 meeting the Trust Council voted to allocate \$4,000 to the ITC Board to support honoraria, travel and meeting costs associated with the Committee in the 2019-2020 fiscal year. The ITC Board will decide on how to allocate these funds to the Committee.

Briefing to the Islands Trust Conservancy

Robin Williams

RE: Training session for BC Government board appointees – May 25th 2019

In May I was invited to attend a BC Government training seminar and Chair Stamford requested a written outline of the event.

The B.C. Government has over 2200 appointed board members and for the first time they have created a training session titled “Governing in the Public interest”. The idea is to provide a standardized set of modules so board decisions are made in a consistent manner.

There are four primary modules, General, Financial, Human Resources and Risk Management. Each attendee had a specific agenda created by the Board Resourcing office and I attended additional sessions on First Nation reconciliation, electronic information security and an open session with Deputy Ministers from Health, Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, and Finance.

One of the most significant take-aways for the ITC is that this government’s new direction for Boards and particularly Board Chairs to have a direct relationship with the Deputy Ministers and staff and that they should avoid going the political route through a Minister or other Ministerial Assistant. This is a marked departure from the traditional approach in my experience where direct contact with the civil service was discouraged.

It was stressed that we should communicate “early and often”; offer solutions; “tell the topic and get on with it”; and that priority would be placed on the Board's written mandate.

The event was hosted by Finance Minister Carol James, who is a strong Islands Trust supporter and the Deputy Minister to the Premier, Don Wright. I was able to make a strong connection with Mr. Wright as he served a President of B.C.I.T. my Alma Matter

This training session also turned out to be a great networking event as there were over 700 board members ranging from I.C.B.C. to Universities and agencies such as B.C. Housing. I was also able to have a good discussion with the new Deputy Ministers of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Kaye Krishna who was surprising well informed about the Conservancy through the effort involving the name change.

Finally two issues were made clear:

First, that the B.C. Government regards the ITC as a provincial government board with IT members, not the reverse, and as such, the future sessions should be open to all six members.

Second, the government is on our side, and very receptive to hear our case particularly since we are operating in the significant areas of climate change action.

Look forward to discussing this with the board.

Robin

From: Scott Colbourne <scolbourne@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2019 1:58 PM

To: Trustees <Trustees@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Cc: Russ Hotsenpiller <rhotsenpiller@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Clare Frater <cfrater@islandstrust.bc.ca>;

David Marlor <dmarlor@islandstrust.bc.ca>; Mike Richards <mrichards@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Subject: Regional Vegetation Management Strategy: A Low Carbon Resilience (LCR) approach to address tree canopy death with respect to fire risk, flood mitigation, and carbon sequestration

Hello all. As discussed at Trust Council meeting this week, I'm sharing this invitation from Highlands Council (near Victoria/Saanich) to take part in a collaborative grant project in the CRD area to address tree canopy loss, fire and floods risks, and carbon sequestration.

I think the Highlands Councillors leading this, Ann and Gord Baird from the [Eco-Sense regenerative farm project](#), have done a great job grouping together a number of issues (emergency planning and interface fire prevention, climate crisis and vegetation science) that were front and centre during our strategic planning discussions.

There are contact details for the Bairds and Highlands Council in the attached PDF.

Happy trails,

Scott

To: Council Members
From: Councillor Gord Baird
Subject: **Regional Vegetation Management Strategy: A Regional Low Carbon Resilience (LCR) approach to address tree canopy death with respect to fire risk, flood mitigation, and carbon sequestration**

File: 0530.01
Date: January 16, 2019

Our bio-region has observed an alarming increase in die-off of Douglas Firs and Cedar trees, both in number of tree deaths and speed of individual tree death. This has been predicted in climate models; however this climate impact is occurring much sooner than expected. Research from Northern California, Oregon and Washington has observed similar trends, with Oregon State having performed the most research to date.

The cause of the die-off is initiated by drought stress, which the trees are not able to overcome, that then leads to a variety of secondary afflictions from fir beetle to various fungi that take advantage of the weakened trees and expedite their death. The result is rapidly increasing areas of dead trees that become an increased fuel load in both the rural and urban areas.

These natural assets are relied upon for ecological services including temperature management, soil stabilization, storm water management, water filtration, air cleaning, and supporting intact wildlife habitat including fish bearing streams.

With hotter drier summers, fires move faster, burn hotter and are more destructive as recently witnessed in the past several years throughout BC, Washington, Oregon and most notably, California.

Fire Smart BC has been working to educate community policy makers that vegetation management is the single biggest action we can perform to reduce fire risk. Communities ravaged by fire have focused on fuel reduction and planting deciduous buffer strips in replacement of highly flammable coniferous forests to mitigate the wildfire interface to protect communities (Gov. of Alberta, 2012; Prov. of BC, n.d.; "Tree Species List - Wood Buffalo," n.d.).

In the CRD region we have been spared to date, but the risks associated with wildfire continue to rise. In addition to the direct human impacts including the potential loss of life, smoke inhalation, and infrastructure loss that wild fire poses, there are several other impacts often not considered:

- **Temperature moderation:** Loss of forest canopy leads to increased regional temperatures. Tree canopies provide the natural asset of keeping areas cooler – reducing energy use in cities, (Alexander & McDonald, 2014).
- **Storm water management and water filtration:** Increased soil erosion occurs due to direct rainfall upon soils that have lost the 'calming effect' that vegetation and tree canopies offer during heavy rain events. Additionally, damaged soils from wildfire are less infiltrative (due to less carbon) and hence more susceptible to soil erosion. Additionally, we observe less filtration of surface waters. We have seen repeatedly that flooding follows wildfires, (Moench & Fusaro, n.d.)
- **Ground and surface water contamination:** In areas of wildfire fighting activities, where retardants are used, we see rapid infiltration of retardants into aquifers, and hence we see Health Authorities across the province with new testing procedures. Fire retardants used in wildfire fighting are not the toxic halogenated ones we use on clothes, personal items, and

building materials but they will still render groundwater and surface waters non-potable until enough precipitation has occurred to flush them out the aquifers. This could result in rural areas with no access to potable water (“Island Health - Recommended Precautions for Water and Food Affected by Fire Retardants,” n.d.)(Wilson, n.d.)

- **Impacts to Riparian areas:** Loss of stability and ecology in watersheds most notably impact the salmon bearing streams. Increased silty runoff due to lower canopy impairs spawning beds while decreased tree canopy increases stream temperatures. Increased stream temperatures lend to impaired fish spawning and lower stream levels and higher predation on fish species in streams.
- **Loss of wildlife habitat** for large areas.
- **Social and health implications** of communities suffering impacts of wildfire show trends of higher drug and alcohol use, higher rates of domestic violence, and higher rates of mental illness. Mitigating risk is directly linked to maintaining the health of a community (Financial Post, In the Shadow of the Beast, 2018).
- **Loss of sequestered forest carbon:** The loss of the forest canopy is a loss of sequestered carbon. Using ecological methods to increase eco-sequestration is becoming a mature science, (Nijnik, 2010).
- **Loss of sequestered soil carbon:** The loss of forest canopy exposes the soil and results soil carbon loss that stems from lower soil moisture and enhanced nitrification of stored carbon, (Achat, Fortin, Landmann, Ringeval, & Augusto, 2015).

The Ask

Request the CRD and the participating municipalities co-apply for a grant application to the Community Resiliency Investment program’s (CRI) Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative. This grant is up to \$100k per municipality, per year, and local/regional governments can co-apply and receive more funds. Potentially the region could leverage \$1.5 million over three years to fund a three-year, three phase regional Vegetation Management Strategy and draft Policy.

The three phases:

1. Research and draft a vegetation management strategy
 - Research the rate of actual tree species die-off
 - Review research on replacement species (deciduous fire-resistant species) which both environment Canada and the BC Forestry Centre have completed, as well as the research from Oregon State
2. Test vegetation management strategy
 - Design one or more pilot projects based on the draft strategy
 - Implement the pilot project
 - Review results and lessons learned
3. Finalize vegetation management strategy
 - Based on the results of the pilot project, update the management strategy
 - From the strategy, draft a model policy that municipalities can implement
 - Draft a framework for implementing policy through an implementation plan.

Elephants to consider

As we move into a predictably hotter, dryer future with a robust scientific imperative for a rapid timeline of 11 years to make drastic cuts to emissions. We must simultaneously seek solutions to decrease GHGs, sequester carbon, and build local resilience. Our choices are limited and we must act rapidly. We are faced with the dilemma of reforesting using native species that are no longer suited to handle our changing climate versus using non-native species that are better suited for a hotter, dryer climate. We have to be aware that we do not have the luxury of time on our side. Delaying action will result in greater fire impacts to our communities.

Another issue relates to private forested lands and working with these private land owners to participate in reforesting their changing lands. This issue requires education and incentive programs while developing strategies to aid private property owners.

Motion:

That staff be directed to write letters to the Capital Regional District and all member Local Governments requesting an indication of their interest in participating in a co-application submitted by the CRD on behalf of its members to UBCM's Community Resiliency Investment Program for the development of a regional vegetation management strategy to assess the following:

- forest die-off,
- recommend alternative fire-resistant vegetation replacements,
- initiate a pilot project, and
- use the results to create a regional strategy, model policy and implementation plan,
- and further, pending the responses from the CRD and member local governments, request that the CRD convene a meeting of interested parties to develop and submit an application.

References:

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<https://doi.org/10.1038/srep15991>
- Alexander, C., & McDonald, C. (2014). *Urban Forests: The Value of Trees in the City of Toronto* (Special Report). Retrieved from
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- Gov. of Alberta. (2012). How Different Tree Species Impact the Spread of Wildfire, 2.
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- Nijnik, M. (2010). Carbon capture and storage in forests. *Iss Environment Sci Tech*, 29, 203–238.
- Prov. of BC. (n.d.). Homeowner's Firesmart Manual.pdf. Retrieved January 3, 2019, from https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-andindustry/forestry/wildfire-management/prevention/prevention-homecommunity/bcws_homeowner_firesmart_manual.pdf
- Tree Species List - Wood Buffalo. (n.d.). Retrieved January 3, 2019, from https://www.rmwb.ca/Municipal-Government/municipal_departments/Public-Operations/Parks---Trails/Tree-Species-List.htm
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BRIEFING

To: ITC Board/Executive Committee Mtg **For the Meeting of:** July 16, 2019
From: Staff **Date Prepared:** July 15, 2019
SUBJECT: Climate Change Emergency Strategy

PURPOSE: To provide background information to facilitate a discussion between the ITC Board and the Executive Committee regarding the Trust Council resolution below:

That the reports on the climate emergency received at Trust Council be referred to the Trust Programs Committee, Local Planning Committee, and the Islands Trust Conservancy and that they be requested to make recommendations to Trust Council with regards to developing a climate emergency strategy for inclusion in the Strategic Plan.

BACKGROUND:

At Trust Council in June 2019, trustees indicated that a liaison meeting between TPC and LPC would further development of a climate emergency strategy. In consultation with the Chairs of both committees, staff have organized a TPC meeting that LPC members will call into in an ex-officio capacity. LPC may consider any outcomes at their meeting later that same day as new business if they wish.

As directed through the Islands Trust resolution, the Islands Trust Conservancy Board is also asked to consider this topic and provide input back to TPC for its August 21, 2019 meeting.

Overall, the intention of this exercise is to identify specific climate change measures that constitute a climate change strategy for the Islands Trust and to include those measures in the strategic plan.

Executive Committee met on July 3, 2019 and passed the following motion:

That the Executive Committee request the climate change speaking notes be referred to the Trust Programs Committee and request it provide a statement regarding what a climate emergency looks like in the Islands Trust Area.

Key Questions:

The following questions and attachments were offered to the ITC Board for their consideration at their July 16, 2019 meeting.

1. What is the nature of the climate change emergency within the Trust Area? What are the key local, regional and global factors that required Trust Council make its climate change emergency declaration?

(This information is often found in the 'whereas' clauses of a motion; it provides the rationale for a given decision. Addressing the specific rationale will assist trustees and staff as they deliver climate change programming.)

2. What specific land use planning tools and other organizational climate change tools or actions should be adopted by Islands Trust bodies and incorporated into the Trust Council strategic plan; and,

3. Which Committee should be responsible for ensuring progress on those climate change options that are recommended for adoption?

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. June 2019 Briefing to Trust Council: Climate Change emergency Declaration – Local Planning Tools for Mitigation and Adaptation
2. June 2019 Briefing to Trust Council: Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation strategies by the Islands Trust
3. July 2019 Briefing to Executive Committee: Climate Change speaking notes

FOLLOW-UP: Staff will follow up as directed.

Prepared By: Russ Hotsenpillar, CAO

Reviewed By/Date: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services, July 10, 2019
Lesley Valour, A/Senior Policy Advisor, July 10, 2019
Kate Emmings, A/Manager, Islands Trust Conservancy, July 15, 2019

BRIEFING

To: Trust Council **For the Meeting of:** June 18, 2019

From: David Marlor, Director, Local Planning Services **Date Prepared:** May 30, 2019

SUBJECT: **Climate Change Emergency Declaration – Local Planning Tools for Mitigation and Adaptation**

PURPOSE:

To provide an initial approach in response to Trust Council’s Climate Change Emergency Declaration in respect to local planning tools to address climate change.

BACKGROUND:

At its regular business meeting in March 2019, Trust Council declared a Climate Change Emergency. As part of that declaration, Trust Council requested that staff:

“report back to June 2019 Trust Council meeting on measures and land use planning actions that the Islands Trust can take to advance progress towards Local Trust Committee climate reduction targets and achieve further reductions in carbon from Trust operations”.

This briefing focuses on land use planning actions that the local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality could take to advance progress towards greenhouse gas reduction targets and to adapt to the effects of climate change.

Following the implementation of new mandatory requirements for official community plans to include targets and policies for greenhouse gas reductions, all local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality amended their official community plans to include those targets and policies.

The following table includes a summary of the targets established by each local trust committee and Bowen Island Municipality in their official community plans. Each local trust committee and Bowen Island Municipality also adopted related policies on how to achieve those targets.

Local Trust Committee/Island Municipality	Reduction By 2015	Reduction By 2020	Reduction By 2050	Notes
Bowen Island Municipality	-	33%	80%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
Ballenas-Winchelsea	-	50%	50%	Below per Canadian per capita for 2020/2050
Gabriola	-	33%	85%	Reduction over 2007 emissions

• Mudge	-	50%	50%	Below per Canadian per capita for 2020/2050
• DeCourcy	-	50%	50%	Below per Canadian per capita for 2020/2050
Galiano	-	33%	-	Reduction over 2007 emissions
Gambier	-	33%	85%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
• Associated	-	20%	85%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
• Keats	-	33%	85%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
Denman	-	33%	85%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
Hornby	-	25%	80%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
Lasqueti	-	50%	50%	Below per Canadian per capita for 2020/2050
Mayne	-	33%	-	Reduction over 2007 emissions
North Pender	-	33%	-	Reduction over 2007 emissions
• Associated	-	50%	50%	Below per Canadian per capita for 2020/2050
Saturna	-	33%	-	Reduction over 2007 emissions
SSI	15%	40%	85%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
• Piers	-	-	-	Bylaw is not compliant
South Pender	-	33%	-	Reduction over 2007 emissions
Thetis	-	33%	85%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
Associated	-	-	-	Bylaw contains no targets
Valdes	-	50%	50%	Below per Canadian per capita for 2020/2050

A. Local Planning Actions Since 2010

Since 2010, planning Staff regularly include consideration of climate change mitigation and adaptation in staff reports on planning applications and projects. As a result, all planning decisions by local trust committees over the past eight years have included a climate change lens. In addition to this, local trust committees adopted specific policies in their official community plans related to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Many of these policies have been implemented through land use bylaw amendments. A list of these implemented policies is included in Appendix 1.

Appendix 2 lists the official community plan policies that have not yet been implemented in the land use bylaws.

The remainder of this briefing provides information on land use planning actions that can be undertaken in relation to climate change. Section B addresses actions related to climate change mitigation and Section C addresses actions related to climate change adaptation.

B. Climate Change Mitigation Tools

Climate change mitigation involves actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). In the local trust areas the main source of GHGs is combustion from transportation and combustion from heating and cooling buildings. Therefore, any policies and regulations that reduce the need for transportation, or reduce the need for heating or cooling of buildings will help in reducing GHGs.

The Province committed to providing the Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI) for local governments. For the Islands Trust area there is very little data available. The only metric is residential heating using wood, propane or oil (and this is withheld for Lasqueti and Gambier LTAs). There are no metrics available for transportation or any other source of GHG emissions. The last year CEEI reports were undertaken was 2012. As a result we currently do not have metrics to measure progress towards targets in OCPs. Bowen Island Municipality has Community Energy and Emission Inventories (starting on page 40 of this linked document <https://bowenisland.civicweb.net/document/118760>).

Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality have the following tools available to them to reduce GHGs:

- **GHG Reduction Targets** - Section 473 of the *Local Government Act* – required content for official community plans, inclusion of targets and policies with respect to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Zoning Authority** – Section 479 of the *Local Government Act*.
- **Development Permit Area to Promote Energy Conservation** – Section 488(1)(h) of the *Local Government Act*.
- **Development Permit Area to Promote the Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions** - Section 488(1)(j) of the *Local Government Act*.

Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality could undertake the following to mitigate climate change.

1. **Enact existing Official Community Plan policies** for the mitigation of climate change that are already in the official community plans but have not yet been acted on (Appendix 2 contains a list of these policies).
2. **Update official community plans** to ensure the mandatory GHG reduction targets and policies are relevant and up to date; Galiano Island, Mayne Island, North Pender Island, South Pender Island and Saturna Island local trust committees have targets for GHG reduction set for 2020 with no targets for any future dates, and as such those targets will be out of date next year. The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee has not adopted any targets or policies for the Piers Island OCP. The Thetis Associated Islands OCP contains objectives and policies but no targets. While the Islands Trust has very limited metrics to measure progress, the requirement to have targets and policies in official community plans is mandatory under s. 473 of the *Local Government Act*. These official community plans should be updated within the next year to ensure they remain compliant with required content for an official community plan, and to address targets and policies for GHG reduction. Other local trust committees should review their targets and policies for relevance to current conditions.
3. **Use the zoning authority under s. 479 of the *Local Government Act* to cluster development** and move away from large lots to small compact "villages". This can be accomplished through OCP policies to require this kind of development, rezoning appropriately by increasing density in appropriate locations and reducing in other locations and density transfer to move density to appropriate areas. Some local trust committees already have some form of this in their OCPs. Salt Spring and Gabriola have density transfer that has seen some significant land use changes. While these were not specifically created to address climate change mitigation, they can be

effective in changing the land use pattern to one that is more sustainable and reduces the need for transportation.

5. **Use the climate change development permit areas to reduce the heating and cooling requirements for buildings.** To improve building energy efficiency, land use planning can require landscaping and orientation of buildings in a way to maximize sun in winter and shade in summer. This would be done through a development permit area (DPA), with the justification and objectives in the Official Community Plan and the guidelines in the Land Use Bylaw. Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality may use DPAs to reduce GHG emissions and for energy conservation under s. 488 of the *Local Government Act*. Using these DPAs, local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality may establish guidelines around landscaping, siting of buildings and structures, form and exterior design of buildings and structures, machinery, equipment and systems external to buildings or structures. The DPA may also place restrictions on type and placement of trees and other vegetation in proximity to buildings and structures to provide for energy conservation and reduction of GHGs.

C. Climate Change Adaptation Tools:

Climate change adaptation involves adapting communities to the anticipated effects of climate change. In the Islands Trust area, these effects include sea-level rise, longer periods of drought, more intense storm events, wildfires, warmer summers and warmer winters, and ecosystem changes which may impact plant and animal species.

Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality have the following tools available to them to adapt to climate change:

- **Zoning Authority** - Section 479 of the *Local Government Act*.
- **Runoff Control Bylaw** - Section 523 of the *Local Government Act*.
- **Development Permit Area to Protect Development from Hazardous Conditions** – Section 488(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act*.
- **Development Permit Area to Promote Energy Conservation** - Section 488(1)(h) of the *Local Government Act*.
- **Development Permit Area to Promote Water Conservation** – Section 488(1)(i) of the *Local Government Act*.

Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality could undertake the following to adapt their communities to the effects of climate change:

1. **Sea Level Rise Adaptation Tools**

The Provincial government has established an expected sea-level rise in the Victoria area of 3.1 cm/50 years.

The Provincial (Subdivision) Approving Officer is currently requiring at time of subdivision a covenant for a 15 metres setback and 1.5 metres above the current high high water mark for any buildings or structures. This approach by the Provincial Approving Officer is a broad-brush approach to adapting to climate change and does not consider site specific conditions. Before initiating adaptation measures local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality should have an understanding of the local situation.

- a) **Undertake mapping of sea-level rise** on the islands to provide information to assist with developing policies and regulations to adapt to sea-level rise.
- b) **Enact zoning regulations under s.479 of the *Local Government Act* and flood level regulations under s. 524 of the *Local Government Act*.** Using these provisions, local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality may enact regulations to require setbacks for

buildings and structures from the future anticipated natural boundary of the sea, as well as establish a minimum elevation for buildings and structures above the anticipated future elevation of the sea. Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality could make exceptions for structures that are designed to be moved (not on permanent foundation). Notwithstanding, the Provincial Approving Officer will continue to have independent authority to establish different requirements.

2. **Longer Periods of Drought Adaptation Tools**

Islands Trust Staff currently has little information on groundwater such as the effects of climate change on recharge and capacity of the aquifers to provide water. Research and mapping of aquifers would allow local trust committees to develop policies and regulations that reflect the capacity of the aquifers including anticipated climate change effects. Water storage and alternative water supplies could be considered. Means to reduce water consumption includes using development permit areas for water conservation, requiring drought tolerant planting, and requiring features to reduce water use.

- a) **Undertake research and mapping of aquifers, develop water consumption budgets, and identify salt water intrusion risks**, based on expected climate change effects. This work would then inform the land use planning for future development on the islands. This work is already underway for some islands, and staff is working with the Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development to undertake a robust salt water intrusion risk assessment and mapping for the Islands Trust area.
- b) **Update policies and regulations to align their development potential** – through land use and density provisions – with the anticipated capacity of the aquifers.
- c) **Use the climate change development permit areas under s. 488 of the *Local Government Act* to promote water conservation.** Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality could establish goals, objectives and guidelines related to landscaping; siting of buildings and structures; form of exterior design of buildings and structures; specific features in the development; and machinery, equipment and systems external to buildings and structures to promote water conservation. The guidelines may restrict the type and placement of trees and other vegetation in proximity to buildings and structures in order to provide for water conservation.

4. **More Intense Storms Adaptation Tools**

Climate change is expected to result in more intense storm events, with higher winds and heavier rain than in the past.

- a) **Develop runoff control bylaws** under s. 523 to deal with anticipated flood and runoff from storm events.
- b) **Establish development permit areas for the protection of development from hazard conditions** under s. 488 of the *Local Government Act*. Under this development permit area, local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality could establish areas subject to flooding and require they remain free from development except development may be permitted in accordance with the guidelines. These requirements may vary use and density but only as it relates to health, safety or protection of property from damage. The legislation also allows the local trust committee and Bowen Island Municipality to require a professional report at the applicant's expense to help with determining appropriate development permit conditions.

5. **Wildfire Adaptation Tools**

As climate change results in hotter and longer dryer periods during the summer months, the risk of wildfires on the islands increases. Most islands have a wildfire plan prepared by the fire district or regional district.

- a) **Establish development permit areas for the protection of development from hazard conditions** under s. 488 of the *Local Government Act*. Under this development permit area, local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality could establish areas at risk to wildfires and include requirements respecting the character of development, including landscaping, and the siting, form, exterior design and finish of buildings and other structures, and establish restrictions on the type and placement of trees and other vegetation in proximity to the development. These requirements may vary use and density but only as it relates to health, safety or protection of property from damage. The legislation also allows the local trust committee and Bowen Island Municipality to require a professional report at the applicant's expense to help with determining appropriate development permit conditions.

6. **Warmer Summers and Warmer Winters Adaptation Tools**

Climate change is expected to lead to our summers and winters becoming warmer.

- a) **Establish development permit areas for energy conservation** under s. 488 of the *Local Government Act* to require that the exterior form and design of buildings, and other specific features of the development, reduce the need for energy in summer and winter. Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality could establish goals, objective and guidelines related to landscaping; siting of buildings and structures; form of exterior design of buildings and structures; specific features in the development; and machinery, equipment and systems external to buildings and structures to promote energy conservation. The guidelines may restrict the type and placement of trees and other vegetation in proximity to buildings and structures in order to provide for energy conservation.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Summary of Local Trust Committee OCP climate change policies already implemented
2. Summary of Local Trust Committee OCP climate change policies not yet implemented

FOLLOW-UP:

Further work in specified areas as indicated in the briefing, or as requested by the Trust Council, Executive Committee, Local Planning Committee or local trust committees.

Prepared By: David Marlor, Director, Local Planning Services

Reviewed By/Date: Russ Hotsenpiller, Chief Administrative Officer/

Summary of Official Community Plan policies, listed by local trust area, that have been implemented in the land use bylaws.

Ballenas-Winchelsea Local Trust Area

- Shoreline Development Permit Area (applicable to 30 m upland of the natural boundary of the sea).
- Regulations in the land use bylaw exempts solar collectors, wind generators and water storage tanks from height restrictions.

Denman Island Local Trust Area

- Climate change impacts are considered in staff.
- Providing the dedication of conservation area, consistent with OCP policies for density transfer.

Gabriola Island Local Trust Area

Gabriola Island

- Climate change impacts are considered in staff reports.
- Providing for rainwater collection and storage, trail/path connections and dedication of 300+ acres of parkland.
- Development Approval Information (DAI) Bylaw amended (2013) to include option to address GHG emissions, anticipated energy usage, carbon emissions and groundwater resources in conjunction with bylaw amendment or TUP applications [Criteria for assessing OCP/LUB applications developed.
- Land Use Bylaw (parking regulations and Village DPA guidelines) amended to encourage public transit, smaller vehicles, non-polluting vehicles, and permeable parking surfaces and increase walkability.
- Land Use Bylaw amended to measure the footprint of buildings and structures from the interior walls instead of the outer perimeter of the foundation of the building, so increased insulation is encouraged, and to exclude cisterns from floor area calculation.
- Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw amended to encourage local food production.

Mudge Island

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.
- Land Use Bylaw amended to exclude from the calculation of lot coverage in the RR zone: cisterns and similar structures for rainwater collection and storage; fire-fighting towers; pervious paths, driveways and parking spaces; and garden beds.

DeCourcey Island

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.

Galiano Island Local Trust Area

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports, and inclusion of a policy in the Land Use Policies section of the Official Community Plan applicable to consideration of all applications.
- Amendments to shoreline development permit area to include guidelines to consider and address sea level rise impacts.
- Changes to zoning regulations to permit small-scale renewable energy, specifically height regulations amended.

Gambier Island Local Trust Area

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.

Hornby Island Local Trust Area

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.
- Official Community Plan Water Supply Protection and Water Resource Protection Development Permit Area includes guidelines to protect water resources.
- Official Community Plan Community Service Use Development Permit Area includes guidelines to provide rainwater catchment and storage; and hydrology study.
- Official Community Plan Commercial Development Permit Area includes guidelines to maintain natural vegetation and reduce light pollution.
- Water storage tanks and wind turbines exempt from Land Use Bylaw height regulations.

Lasqueti Island Local Trust Area

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.

Mayne Island Local Trust Area

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.
- Zoning amended to exclude solar collectors, wind generators and water tanks from maximum height regulations.
- Geothermal heating systems permitted.
- Amendments to Land Use Bylaw to permit mixed use (second storey residential) in commercial zones.
- Zoning for employee accommodation in commercial resorts.
- Secondary suites permitted.

North Pender Island Local Trust Area

North Pender Island

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.
- Secondary suites permitted.
- Temporary use permit guidelines amended to include climate change impacts.

North Pender Associated Islands

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.
- Shoreline DPAs include erosion provisions.

Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area

Salt Spring Island

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.
- Secondary suites permitted in select areas.
- Amenity Zoning includes implementation of energy efficient building design criteria that exceeds that required by the B.C. Building Code or other regulations.
- Climate change considered when evaluating suitability of density transfer.
- Rezoning application supporting local food production and storage as a community amenity
- Coordination with local and provincial agencies regarding fresh water demand and supply in relation to climate change.
- Land use regulations require 15m setbacks from natural bodies of water; 1.5 m elevation above natural body of water.
- Pathways and bikeways dedication at time of subdivision as per OCP Cycle Route map.

- DAI Bylaw including development permit checklist (both are drafted but not yet implemented).

Piers Island

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.
- 3.0 m elevation of buildings required if within 30m of water body.

Prevost Island

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.

Saturna Island Local Trust Area

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.
- Geothermal heating permitted.
- Secondary dwelling units (secondary suites amendment in process).
- Sustainability checklist.
- TUP guidelines amended to include consideration of climate change impacts.

South Pender Island Local Trust Area

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.
- Although not a Bill 27 requirement, LUB was amended to limit dwelling floor area and overall floor area on residential lots.

South Pender Island Local Trust Area

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.

Thetis Island Local Trust Area

Thetis Island and Valdes Island

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.

Thetis Associated Islands

- Climate change impacts considered in staff reports.
- Land Use Bylaw definition of floor area excludes any floor area occupied by a cistern used for the collection of rainwater for domestic use or fire protection.
- Land Use Bylaw permits the following uses in all zones: conservation; water supply facilities for the purposes of supplying potable or grey water on an individual island, including cisterns, reservoirs, pipes, treatment facilities, catchment and storage facilities and pumping and intake structures; solar collectors; wind turbines; and ocean geothermal loop exchange systems.
- Solar collectors are exempt from Land Use Bylaw height regulations.

Summary of Local Trust Committee Official Community Plan Policies that have yet to be implemented.

The following is a summary of Official Community Plan policies on climate change that have not yet been enacted in the land use bylaw regulations or through development permit areas. For actual wording of the policies, please consult that relevant official community plan bylaw.

Ballenas-Winchelsea Local Trust Area

- Identify significant un-fragmented forest and non-forest ecosystems and ensure these are noted on mapping for environmental and carbon sequestration value.

Denman Island Local Trust Area

- Review zoning to ensure provisions encourage energy efficiency and the greenhouse gas emissions reduction in new construction.
- Review development permit area guidelines and incorporate provisions to promote energy conservation, water conservation and greenhouse gas emissions reduction.
- Encourage renewable energy, limit fossil fuel consumption, encourage energy-efficient and carbon-efficient building construction.

Gabriola Island Local Trust Area

Gabriola Island

- Consider new development permit area guidelines that promote low impact land uses, alternative transportation, energy conservation, water conservation, and the reduction of GHGs.
- Identify significant un-fragmented forest ecosystems within the planning area and ensure that these areas are noted on mapping both for their environmental values as well as carbon sequestration areas.
- Amend LUB to consider setbacks from the ocean in relation to sea level rise.

Mudge Island

- Establish climate change as a fundamental factor in land use decision making.
- Encourage on-island agriculture and sharing of local food production.
- Encourage all new construction be built at the highest possible energy-efficiency standards.
- Further policies and actions to be considered as part of a future review of the OCP.

DeCourcey Island

- Encourage on-island agriculture and the sharing of local food production.
- Encourage new construction built at highest possible standards to reduce energy needs.
- Specific policies and actions to be included in a future OCP review.

Galiano Island Local Trust Area

- Amendments to parking requirements to require alternatives to parking spaces.
- Requiring new development to utilize building technology that minimizes energy use.

Gambier Island Local Trust Area

Gambier Island

- Develop new criteria for assessing OCP or zoning amendment applications from the perspective of climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- Support protection of forest resources.
- Require water storage with every dwelling unit.

Gambier Associated Islands

- Support actions to minimize GHG emissions.
- Recognize importance of forested lands in removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
- Consider potential impacts on global climate change and GHG reduction targets when considering applications.
- Identify significant un-fragmented forest ecosystems within the planning area and ensure that these areas are noted on mapping for both their environmental value and as carbon sequestration areas.
- Reduce extent of infrastructure (e.g. development of common docks).
- Zoning regulations should support small scale residential solar and wind power generation on residential lots.

Keats Island

- Promote use and development of renewable energy sources.
- Develop new criteria for assessing OCP or zoning amendment applications from the perspective of climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- Support cluster development appropriate for Keats Island.
- Encourage energy efficient buildings.
- Encourage use of alternative energy.
- Encourage water storage for every dwelling unit

Hornby Island Local Trust Area

- Develop criteria for assessing OCP or LUB amendment applications from the perspective of climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- Encourage retention of forest cover except for the clearing of land for farming in the ALR.
- Limit size of buildings and opportunities for attached dwelling units and visitor accommodation units.
- Encourage green building techniques and alternative energy systems (solar, wind, geothermal, or water based) into residential housing.
- Encourage safe multi-use trails and bike lanes to facilitate non-motorized forms of travel.
- Encourage “climate wise” actions, including water conservation, storm water retention, the use of alternative energy sources for home use, and the use of alternative transportation methods.
- Support the local provision of services that residents presently travel off-island to access.
- Review LUB to provide for community gardens and community food processing and storage.
- Encourage local food production.

Lasqueti Island Local Trust Area

- Develop criteria for assessing OCP or zoning applications from the perspective of climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- Encourage energy conserving buildings.
- Encourage cycling and walking trails to permit non-automobile based forms of travel.
- Encourage water conservation and rainwater catchment.

Mayne Island Local Trust Area

- Permitting attached dwellings.
- DPA to manage lot layout.
- DPA for energy conservation.
- Amendments to amenity zoning and density transfer policies.

North Pender Island Local Trust Area

North Pender Island

- A review of overall development potential to consider amendments to zoning where changes could limit or reduce emissions.
- Permitting attached dwellings.
- Amending parking requirements.
- DPA to manage subdivision layout (conservation subdivision design project started but later abandoned by LTC).
- Second storey residential over commercial.
- Requiring cisterns or other water conservation measures in new development.
- Permitting community wood chipping or composting.
- Amend existing DPA to include energy conservation provisions.

North Pender Associated Islands

- Specific policies and actions to be included in a future review of the plan.

Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area

Salt Spring Island

- Calculation of carbon budget at time of rezoning or demonstrated conformity with LEED or similar.
- GHG or energy efficiency specific DPA.
- Amend fees bylaw to support energy efficient building design.
- Mapping and analysis to anticipate potential impacts of climate change on land use.
- Height relaxation for solar and wind power generation on residential lots.

Piers Island

- In progress of updating OCP for Climate Change.

Prevost Island

- No policies on climate change – bylaw requires updating

Saturna Island Local Trust Area

- Amending zoning to allow mixed use, including second storey residential in commercial designation.
- Amending parking requirements.
- Include energy conservation measures in DPA.
- Implement DPA for lot layout and tree removal.
- Permitting attached dwellings.
- Limit floor area of dwellings.

South Pender Island Local Trust Area

- Permit community gardens.

Thetis Island Local Trust Area

Thetis Island

- Develop new criteria for assessing OCP or LUB amendment applications from the perspective of climate change adaptation and mitigation.

- Promote land use that supports local food production to reduce food transportation costs and GHGs.
- Support new forms of housing that include clustering and zero emission housing.
- Encourage local, small-scale generation of alternative non-polluting energy sources.
- Regulate the size, siting and height of wind turbines to minimize environmental impacts and safety risks.

Thetis Associated Islands

- Consider the potential impacts on climate change GHG emissions in bylaw provisions and review of development applications.
- Identify significant un-fragmented forest and wetland ecosystems within the planning area and ensure that these areas are noted on mapping for both their environmental value and as carbon sequestration areas.
- Through bylaw provisions, support residential renewable energy (e.g. micro hydro, solar, wind, waste heat, etc.) use.
- Promote the conservation of forested lands and wetlands as a cost effective and important climate change mitigation strategy.

Valdes Island

- Establish climate change as a fundamental factor in land use decision-making.
- Policies and actions with respect to climate change mitigation will be considered as part of a future review of the Rural Land Use Bylaw.

To: Trust Council **For the Meeting of:** June 19, 2019
From: CAO **Date Prepared:** May 23, 2019
SUBJECT: Report on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation strategies by the Islands Trust

PURPOSE: To provide Trust Council a summary report on current and past actions, and policies adopted by the Islands Trust to address climate change. This report is a companion report to the land use actions report on the current agenda and is offered to provide context for Trust Council as they contemplate a range of potential options to address climate change within the Trust Area.

BACKGROUND: On March 13, Trust Council passed the following resolution:

That the Islands Trust Council:

1. Declare a Climate Change Emergency in the Islands Trust Area.
2. Add climate change mitigation, resilience, and adaptation policies to the Islands Trust Policy Statement amendment project.
3. Direct the Trust Council Chair to write to the Chairs of Regional Districts in the Islands Trust Area asserting Trust Council's full support for declarations of a Climate Emergency;
4. Direct the Trust Council Chair to write to the Provincial Minister of the Environment, asserting the Islands Trust Council's support to help the Province close the 25% emissions gap in the Clean BC Plan, and calling on the Province to provide the powers and resources to local governments;
5. Direct the Trust Council Chair to write to the Federal Minister of the Environment, asserting the Islands Trust Council's support to help Canada meet its Nationally Determined Contribution target made in the Paris Agreement and call on the federal government to provide the powers and resources to local governments.
6. Direct staff to report back to the June 2019 Trust Council meeting on measures and land-use planning actions that the Islands Trust can take to advance progress toward Local Trust Committee climate reduction targets and achieve further reductions in carbon from Trust operations.
7. Direct staff to include a central focus on equitable climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience into strategic planning to provide guidance and support for the Trust Area's efforts to transition away from fossil fuels in ways that prioritize those most vulnerable to climate impacts and most in need of support in transitioning to renewable energy.
8. Trust Council directs staff to work with First Nations and First Nations government agencies to seek support for the climate change emergency and to engage to coordinate climate action strategies with First Nations within the Islands Trust Area.

While the Islands Trust, as a function of its mandate and authority, has included climate change adaptation and mitigation measures in its decision making, including Bill 27 OCP implementation and the application of land use regulations, this briefing provides an overview of specific climate actions that the organization has taken.

1. **Anticipated climate changes within the Trust Area:** Given accessible climate change information for the region, it is anticipated that with an increase in global warming at or above 1.5 C the Trust Area would be impacted in the following ways.
 - i. Wetter fall seasons
 - ii. Dryer, hotter summers, drought conditions
 - iii. More inclement weather, extreme weather events
 - iv. Warmer winters
 - v. No frost
 - vi. Rise in sea level
 - vii. Species shift

2. The following table provides a timeline of key climate change actions by the Islands Trust and Islands Trust Conservancy over the last 15 years.

Table 1. Timeline of climate change actions

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3. BC Climate Action Charter

The Islands Trust is a signatory to the BC Climate Action Charter and has taken a number of steps to honor that commitment. Since 2007, we have reported on our website on our plan to achieve our climate action goals. We participate in the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Plan (CARIP) that requires we summarize our GHG emissions and energy consumption and detail our programming towards carbon neutrality. To summarize, the Islands Trust as an organization generates between 55 and 65 tCO₂e per year. We have traditionally then purchased carbon credits to achieve carbon neutrality from the Community Carbon Marketplace, which we been doing since 2012.

Using 2017 CARIP report as an example, key emissions measures are the following:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------|---------|
| a) Direct emissions | | | |
| a. | Vehicles | fuel | 14652 L |
| b. | Stationary | gigajoule | 346 |
| b) Indirect Emissions | | | |
| a. | Purchased energy | gigajoule | 506 |
| b. | Purchased reported | gigajoule | 126 |
| c) Scope 3 emissions | | | |
| a. | Office paper | packages | 608 |

Please note that while the Province committed to providing Community Energy and Emission Inventory data for local governments, there is insufficient data for the Islands Trust specifically, requiring that we use a conversion factor to approximate some of our emissions measures.

4. **Bill 27 OCP Greenhouse Gas amendments**

Under separate cover a report will be provided to the June 2019 Trust Council meeting that will include the amendments to local trust committees OCPs required by Bill 27. Generally, each LTC/Bowen Island Municipality (except Piers Island) adopted target reductions for their area, either a 50% or 33% reduction by 2020 and a greater, 85% reduction by 2050. Land use bylaws have not been comprehensively updated to reflect OCP direction. There has been no sustained performance measurement of each local trust area/island municipality to determine how successful the OCP amendments have been in reducing emissions. Datasets are limited on an LTA/IM by LTA/IM basis for specific GHG reductions.

5. **Corporate Actions**

- i. In 2007, the Islands Trust adopted a **Corporate Climate Action Plan**. From a corporate perspective, the three areas effecting our emissions levels are travel, paper and building heating and maintenance. The Climate Action Plan provides a reasonably rigorous analysis of these target emission sources as well as others and make recommendations for mitigations. The Action Plan has led to a number of business practices that are still in place including:
 - a. Reduction of printing
 - b. Reduction of color printing
 - c. Double siding of documents
 - d. Not producing paper agendas
 - e. Support for employees to commute by bike
 - f. Increased ride sharing to staff and Trust meetings
 - g. Replacement of the windows and shading of Victoria office
 - h. Revised purchasing policy to emphasize energy efficiency

The plan is now somewhat dated and could be refreshed to find new points of emphasis and education for staff and trustees.

Since 2007 the Trust has monitored its GHG generation and in support of the Action Plan.

- ii. Adoption of **Policy 7.4.5 Carbon Neutral Operations**. This policy formalized a number of Trust wide operations dedicated to GHG reduction, including a carbon reduction goal, identification of carbon emission sources, dedication to using offsets to achieve carbon neutrality (including purchasing criteria) and reporting requirements.
- iii. In January 2013, a Corporate Sustainability Advisory Group (Green Team) was identified consisting of one member of Trust Council and a department representative across the organization. The term was for 12 months and the terms of reference included develop innovating ways to address climate change impacts and GHG reductions and to implement the Corporate Action Plan.

From the available data on Islands Trust operations, it is reasonable to conclude that we are a low carbon producing organization.

6. **Regional and National Context**

It would be impractical to provide a comprehensive overview of regional climate change initiatives; however, it is worth noting that there have been 16 declarations of a climate emergency in BC. Prominent among them is the City of Vancouver who have recently unanimously approved a motion recognizing the climate emergency and passing an ambitious set of six “Big Moves” that will guide

the City's response to Climate Change. The goal is to meet the objective of limiting warming to 1.5C as per the Paris Agreement.

The initial wave of climate emergency declarations occurred in Quebec (2018-2019), with over 300 communities having taken this step.

7. Issues and Opportunities

The following items provide a list of issues, amongst many, that could form the basis for further discussion by Trust Council.

- We do not have accurate Community Energy and Emissions Inventory information which limits our ability to accurately measure how emissions programing is reducing carbon levels.
- Issue of built form density is central to lessening climate change impacts and GHG production within the Trust Area.
- The Islands Trust does not have climate change policy in the Policy Statement but does in Official Community Plans and a variable level of climate regulation in LUBs.
- Corporate opportunities: electronic meetings, carbon friendly foods, further policies on travel.
- We have not liaised with First Nations on climate change in any substantial manner and will need to include this issue in our Policy Statement discussions.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- 1. N/A**

FOLLOW-UP: As directed by Trust Council

Prepared By: R Hotsenpiller

Reviewed By/Date: May 28, 2019

BRIEFING

To: Executive Committee **For the Meeting of:** July 3, 2019

From: David Marlor, Director, Local Planning Services **Date Prepared:** June 28, 2019

SUBJECT: Speaking Notes regarding Local Trust Committee tools for Climate Change

PURPOSE:

To provide speaking notes for trustees to help address climate change

BACKGROUND:

On March 27, 2019 the Executive Committee requested that Staff provide a report containing speaking notes for trustees to help with Climate Change.

This attached report provides speaking notes for climate change mitigation (sections A and B) and climate change adaptation (sections C and D) for trustees to use.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Greenhouse Gas Emission targets for Local Trust Committee and Bowen Island Municipality - from Climate Change Emergency Declaration Briefing provided to Trust Council in June 2019.
2. Attachment 2: Mitigation Tools from Climate Change Emergency Declaration Briefing provided to Trust Council in June 2019.
3. Attachment 3: Adaptation Tools from Climate Change Emergency Declaration Briefing provided to Trust Council in June 2019.

FOLLOW-UP:

The report is provided as draft to the Executive Committee for discussion. Additional content maybe be included as requested by the Executive Committee and then the speaking notes will be forwarded to trustees by email for their information.

Prepared By: David Marlor, Director, Local Planning Services

Reviewed By/Date:

Climate Change Speaking Notes June 2019

A. Local Trust Committee Actions to date (Mitigation):

- Climate Change mitigation is the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) to slow or reverse the global warming caused by these emissions.
- In the Islands Trust Area, transportation is the main contributor to greenhouse gas emissions
- All local trust committee official community plans contain targets and policies related to GHG emission reduction (Attachment 1 contains actual targets by local trust committees and includes Bowen Island Municipality).
- All staff reports to the local trust committees address GHG emission reduction and climate impacts of new development.

B. Local Trust Committee Available Tools (Mitigation):

- **GHG Reduction Targets** - Section 473 of the *Local Government Act* – required content for official community plans, inclusion of targets and policies with respect to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Zoning Authority** – Section 479 of the *Local Government Act*. Could cluster development, protect areas for conservation, limit extent of development, establish building size limits, and prohibit uses that contribute the most to GHG production.
- **Development Permit Area to Promote Energy Conservation** – Section 488(1)(h) of the *Local Government Act*. Can be used to reduce heating and cooling requirements through building siting, systems and landscaping.
- **Development Permit Area to Promote the Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions** - Section 488(1)(j) of the *Local Government Act*.
- **Off-street Parking and Loading Regulations** - Section 525 of the *Local Government Act* – establish parking requirements, electric vehicle and active transportation parking, surfacing and landscaping of parking areas.
- Detailed information on these tools is contained in Attachment 2.

C. Local Trust Committee Actions to date (Adaptation):

- Climate Change adaptation is adapting to the effects of climate change.
- In the Islands Trust Area, these effects are sea level rise, salt water intrusion into groundwater aquifer risks, warmer winters and summers, dryer summers, more intense storm events, and wildfire potential.
- All staff reports to the local trust committees consider climate change and adaptive measures.
- North Pender, South Pender, Galiano, Mayne and Saturna islands all working on a project to assess groundwater and establish water budgets.

D. Local Trust Committee Available Tools (Adaptation):

- **Zoning Authority** - Section 479 of the *Local Government Act*. Require setback from the sea and water bodies, building location and size, appropriate uses and density.
- **Runoff Control Bylaw** - Section 523 of the *Local Government Act*. Regulations to address increased rain events.
- **Development Permit Area to Protect Development from Hazardous Conditions** – Section 488(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act*. Flood plain regulations along foreshore, rivers and lakes. Tree and vegetation retention in areas prone to land slip.
- **Development Permit Area to Promote Energy Conservation** - Section 488(1)(h) of the *Local Government Act*. Siting, landscaping and features for new development.
- **Development Permit Area to Promote Water Conservation** – Section 488(1)(i) of the *Local Government Act*. Water collection and storage, landscaping.
- **Flood Plain Regulations** – Section 425 of the *Local Government Act* – protect development in areas subject to flooding.
- Detailed information on these tools is contained in Attachment 3.

Attachment 1: Greenhouse Gas Emission targets for Local Trust Committee and Bowen Island Municipality - from Climate Change Emergency Declaration Briefing provided to Trust Council in June 2019.

Local Trust Committee/Island Municipality	Reduction By 2015	Reduction By 2020	Reduction By 2050	Notes
Bowen Island Municipality	-	33%	80%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
Ballenas-Winchelsea	-	50%	50%	Below per Canadian per capita for 2020/2050
Gabriola	-	33%	85%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
• Mudge	-	50%	50%	Below per Canadian per capita for 2020/2050
• DeCourcy	-	50%	50%	Below per Canadian per capita for 2020/2050
Galiano	-	33%	-	Reduction over 2007 emissions
Gambier	-	33%	85%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
• Associated	-	20%	85%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
• Keats	-	33%	85%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
Denman	-	33%	85%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
Hornby	-	25%	80%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
Lasqueti	-	50%	50%	Below per Canadian per capita for 2020/2050
Mayne	-	33%	-	Reduction over 2007 emissions
North Pender	-	33%	-	Reduction over 2007 emissions
• Associated	-	50%	50%	Below per Canadian per capita for 2020/2050
Saturna	-	33%	-	Reduction over 2007 emissions
SSI	15%	40%	85%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
• Piers	-	-	-	Bylaw is not compliant
South Pender	-	33%	-	Reduction over 2007 emissions
Thetis	-	33%	85%	Reduction over 2007 emissions
Associated	-	-	-	Bylaw contains no targets
Valdes	-	50%	50%	Below per Canadian per capita for 2020/2050

Attachment 2: Mitigation Tools from Climate Change Emergency Declaration Briefing provided to Trust Council in June 2019.

Climate Change Mitigation Tools

Climate change mitigation involves actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). In the local trust areas the main source of GHGs is combustion from transportation and combustion from heating and cooling buildings. Therefore, any policies and regulations that reduce the need for transportation, or reduce the need for heating or cooling of buildings will help in reducing GHGs.

The Province committed to providing the Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI) for local governments. For the Islands Trust area there is very little data available. The only metric is residential heating using wood, propane or oil (and this is withheld for Lasqueti and Gambier LTAs). There are no metrics available for transportation or any other source of GHG emissions. The last year CEEI reports were undertaken was 2012. As a result we currently do not have metrics to measure progress towards targets in OCPs. Bowen Island Municipality has Community Energy and Emission Inventories (starting on page 40 of this linked document <https://bowenisland.civicweb.net/document/118760>).

Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality have the following tools available to them to reduce GHGs:

- **GHG Reduction Targets** - Section 473 of the *Local Government Act* – required content for official community plans, inclusion of targets and policies with respect to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Zoning Authority** – Section 479 of the *Local Government Act*.
- **Development Permit Area to Promote Energy Conservation** – Section 488(1)(h) of the *Local Government Act*.
- **Development Permit Area to Promote the Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions** - Section 488(1)(j) of the *Local Government Act*.

Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality could undertake the following to mitigate climate change.

1. **Enact existing Official Community Plan policies** for the mitigation of climate change that are already in the official community plans but have not yet been acted on (Appendix 2 contains a list of these policies).
2. **Update official community plans** to ensure the mandatory GHG reduction targets and policies are relevant and up to date; Galiano Island, Mayne Island, North Pender Island, South Pender Island and Saturna Island local trust committees have targets for GHG reduction set for 2020 with no targets for any future dates, and as such those targets will be out of date next year. The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee has not adopted any targets or policies for the Piers Island OCP. The Thetis Associated Islands OCP contains objectives and policies but no targets. While the Islands Trust has very limited metrics to measure progress, the requirement to have targets and policies in official community plans is mandatory under s. 473 of the *Local Government Act*. These official community plans should be updated within the next year to ensure they remain compliant with required content for an official community plan, and to address targets and policies for GHG reduction. Other local trust committees should review their targets and policies for relevance to current conditions.
3. **Use the zoning authority under s. 479 of the *Local Government Act* to cluster development** and move away from large lots to small compact "villages". This can be accomplished through OCP policies to require this kind of development, rezoning appropriately by increasing density in appropriate locations and reducing in other locations and density transfer to move density to

appropriate areas. Some local trust committees already have some form of this in their OCPs. Salt Spring and Gabriola have density transfer that has seen some significant land use changes. While these were not specifically created to address climate change mitigation, they can be effective in changing the land use pattern to one that is more sustainable and reduces the need for transportation.

5. **Use the climate change development permit areas to reduce the heating and cooling requirements for buildings.** To improve building energy efficiency, land use planning can require landscaping and orientation of buildings in a way to maximize sun in winter and shade in summer. This would be done through a development permit area (DPA), with the justification and objectives in the Official Community Plan and the guidelines in the Land Use Bylaw. Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality may use DPAs to reduce GHG emissions and for energy conservation under s. 488 of the *Local Government Act*. Using these DPAs, local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality may establish guidelines around landscaping, siting of buildings and structures, form and exterior design of buildings and structures, machinery, equipment and systems external to buildings or structures. The DPA may also place restrictions on type and placement of trees and other vegetation in proximity to buildings and structures to provide for energy conservation and reduction of GHGs.

Attachment 3: Adaptation Tools from Climate Change Emergency Declaration Briefing provided to Trust Council in June 2019.

A. Climate Change Adaptation Tools:

Climate change adaptation involves adapting communities to the anticipated effects of climate change. In the Islands Trust area, these effects include sea-level rise, longer periods of drought, more intense storm events, wildfires, warmer summers and warmer winters, and ecosystem changes which may impact plant and animal species.

Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality have the following tools available to them to adapt to climate change:

- **Zoning Authority** - Section 479 of the *Local Government Act*.
- **Runoff Control Bylaw** - Section 523 of the *Local Government Act*.
- **Development Permit Area to Protect Development from Hazardous Conditions** – Section 488(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act*.
- **Development Permit Area to Promote Energy Conservation** - Section 488(1)(h) of the *Local Government Act*.
- **Development Permit Area to Promote Water Conservation** – Section 488(1)(i) of the *Local Government Act*.

Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality could undertake the following to adapt their communities to the effects of climate change:

1. Sea Level Rise Adaptation Tools

The Provincial government has established an expected sea-level rise in the Victoria area of 3.1 cm/50 years.

The Provincial (Subdivision) Approving Officer is currently requiring at time of subdivision a covenant for a 15 metres setback and 1.5 metres above the current high high water mark for any buildings or structures. This approach by the Provincial Approving Officer is a broad-brush approach to adapting to climate change and does not consider site specific conditions. Before initiating adaptation measures local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality should have an understanding of the local situation.

- a) **Undertake mapping of sea-level rise** on the islands to provide information to assist with developing policies and regulations to adapt to sea-level rise.
- b) **Enact zoning regulations under s.479 of the *Local Government Act* and flood level regulations under s. 524 of the *Local Government Act*.** Using these provisions, local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality may enact regulations to require setbacks for buildings and structures from the future anticipated natural boundary of the sea, as well as establish a minimum elevation for buildings and structures above the anticipated future elevation of the sea. Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality could make exceptions for structures that are designed to be moved (not on permanent foundation). Notwithstanding, the Provincial Approving Officer will continue to have independent authority to establish different requirements.

2. Longer Periods of Drought Adaptation Tools

Islands Trust Staff currently has little information on groundwater such as the effects of climate change on recharge and capacity of the aquifers to provide water. Research and mapping of aquifers would allow local trust committees to develop policies and regulations that reflect the capacity of the aquifers including anticipated climate change effects. Water storage and alternative water supplies could be considered. Means to reduce water consumption includes

using development permit areas for water conservation, requiring drought tolerant planting, and requiring features to reduce water use.

- a) **Undertake research and mapping of aquifers, develop water consumption budgets, and identify salt water intrusion risks**, based on expected climate change effects. This work would then inform the land use planning for future development on the islands. This work is already underway for some islands, and staff is working with the Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development to undertake a robust salt water intrusion risk assessment and mapping for the Islands Trust area.
- b) **Update policies and regulations to align their development potential** – through land use and density provisions – with the anticipated capacity of the aquifers.
- c) **Use the climate change development permit areas under s. 488 of the *Local Government Act* to promote water conservation.** Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality could establish goals, objectives and guidelines related to landscaping; siting of buildings and structures; form of exterior design of buildings and structures; specific features in the development; and machinery, equipment and systems external to buildings and structures to promote water conservation. The guidelines may restrict the type and placement of trees and other vegetation in proximity to buildings and structures in order to provide for water conservation.

4. **More Intense Storms Adaptation Tools**

Climate change is expected to result in more intense storm events, with higher winds and heavier rain than in the past.

- a) **Develop runoff control bylaws** under s. 523 to deal with anticipated flood and runoff from storm events.
- b) **Establish development permit areas for the protection of development from hazard conditions** under s. 488 of the *Local Government Act*. Under this development permit area, local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality could establish areas subject to flooding and require they remain free from development except development may be permitted in accordance with the guidelines. These requirements may vary use and density but only as it relates to health, safety or protection of property from damage. The legislation also allows the local trust committee and Bowen Island Municipality to require a professional report at the applicant's expense to help with determining appropriate development permit conditions.

5. **Wildfire Adaptation Tools**

As climate change results in hotter and longer dryer periods during the summer months, the risk of wildfires on the islands increases. Most islands have a wildfire plan prepared by the fire district or regional district.

- a) **Establish development permit areas for the protection of development from hazard conditions** under s. 488 of the *Local Government Act*. Under this development permit area, local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality could establish areas at risk to wildfires and include requirements respecting the character of development, including landscaping, and the siting, form, exterior design and finish of buildings and other structures, and establish restrictions on the type and placement of trees and other vegetation in proximity to the development. These requirements may vary use and density

but only as it relates to health, safety or protection of property from damage. The legislation also allows the local trust committee and Bowen Island Municipality to require a professional report at the applicant's expense to help with determining appropriate development permit conditions.

6. **Warmer Summers and Warmer Winters Adaptation Tools**

Climate change is expected to lead to our summers and winters becoming warmer.

- a) **Establish development permit areas for energy conservation** under s. 488 of the *Local Government Act* to require that the exterior form and design of buildings, and other specific features of the development, reduce the need for energy in summer and winter. Local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality could establish goals, objective and guidelines related to landscaping; siting of buildings and structures; form of exterior design of buildings and structures; specific features in the development; and machinery, equipment and systems external to buildings and structures to promote energy conservation. The guidelines may restrict the type and placement of trees and other vegetation in proximity to buildings and structures in order to provide for energy conservation.



BRIEFING

To: ITC/EC Liaison Meeting **For the Meeting of:** July 16, 2019
From: Staff **Date Prepared:** July 10, 2019
SUBJECT: 2018-2020 Work Plan Update, Regional Conservation Plan

PURPOSE: To update the Executive Committee on the progress on the 2018-2020 Work Plan for the Regional Conservation Plan.

BACKGROUND: In January 2018, the ITC Board approved its 2018-2027 Regional Conservation Plan (RCP). In March 2018, Trust Council passed the following resolution:

TC-2018-034

It was MOVED by Trustee Law and SECONDED by Trustee Stamford,
that Islands Trust Council endorse the Islands Trust [Conservancy]'s Regional Conservation Plan (2018-2027).

The ITC has committed to regular reporting to the Executive Committee and Trust Council regarding the Regional Conservation Plan. Highlights to date include:

GOAL 1: Identify, investigate and communicate about important natural areas to generate action on conservation priorities

- Mapped Forage Fish Habitat for Sidney and James Islands
- Continued updates to protected areas mapping, Species and Ecosystems at Risk Occurrence mapping (Provincial) and Species at Risk Critical Habitat mapping (Federal)
- Ongoing data sharing
- Ongoing training to staff and trustees regarding mapping resources

GOAL 2: Strengthen relationships with First Nations to identify and collaborate on shared conservation goals

- Development of ITC Reconciliation Declaration
- Updated conservation covenant language to recognize archaeological and cultural sites
- Drafted template for Management Plan for Areas of Cultural Heritage and Sacred Significance
- Shared terrestrial and marine ecosystem mapping with several nations
- Board and staff training regarding reconciliation and First Nations of the Islands Trust Area

GOAL 3: Continue to secure and manage Islands Trust Conservancy Board lands and conservation covenants to maximize ecological integrity

- Completed acquisition of an addition to the Valens Brook Nature Reserve (Denman) and a NAPTEP covenant over most of Link Island (Gabriola LTA)
- Completed fundraising for the Salish View Nature Reserve acquisition
- Completed two management plans (Thetis)
- Evaluated property management program and established a new staff position (Covenant Management and Outreach Specialist)

- Completed transition planning for property monitoring
- Approved three Opportunity Fund grants to island conservation groups

GOAL 4: Continue to build internal and shared organizational strength and resilience to ensure long-term nature conservation in the Islands Trust Area

- Completed name change transition, including updates to website and communications materials
- Created a Fund Development Advisory Committee to develop an ITC Funding Strategy and Action Plan
- Assisted with the development of the CDF Tool Kit in partnership with Local Planning Services
- Assisted Trust Area Services to develop a business case for a new website
- Provided training to Islands Trust staff and new trustees regarding the ITC and its work
- Reframed Chair report to local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality around the RCP Goals

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. 2018-2020 RCP Workplan Update for ITC and Executive Committee

FOLLOW-UP: Staff will follow up as directed.

Prepared By: Kate Emmings, A/Manager

Regional Conservation Plan (2018-2027)	
2018-2020 Workplan Progress Highlights - July 16, 2019	
Goal 1. Identify, investigate and communicate about important natural areas to generate action on conservation priorities	
Mapping, Data and Analysis	
Complete	Forage fish mapping completed for James and Sidney Islands
Ongoing	Annual updates for Species and Ecosystems at Risk Data and Critical Habitat designations
	Annual protected areas updates
	Maintain information on priority conservation lands
In Progress	Sourcing forage fish mapping for Saturna and Gabriola Islands
Workplan Changes/Notes	Considering mapping expected shift in ecosystems due to climate change for 2050 and 2080 and integrating these predictions into conservation model
	Upcoming work with LPS on mapping for CDF Tool Kit
Information Sharing	
Complete	Local Trust Area/Island Municipality Profiles created with data highlights
	Data shared with 10 agencies
	Annual updates to BC Conservation Areas Database, complete for 2018 & 2019
	Updated internal mapping system (TAPIS) with 2017 sensitive ecosystem mapping and 2018 James/Sidney Islands Forage Fish Mapping
	Provided training to LPS staff and newly elected trustees and ITC Board members
Ongoing	Provide annual information training to LPS staff and Trust Council
	Meet annually with Islands Trust Executive Committee
In progress	Update external mapping resource (MapIT) with 2017 sensitive ecosystem mapping and 2018 James/Sidney Islands Forage Fish Mapping
Workplan Changes/Notes	Considering adding further data to the open data available on MapIT (e.g. Marine and Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping)
	Considering whether pdf Sensitive Ecosystems maps might be helpful to LTCs and BIM.
Goal 2. Strengthen relationships with First Nations to identify and collaborate on shared conservation goals	
Looking internally	
Complete	Updated Conservation Covenant template with language to protect archaeological and cultural sites
	Staff and ITC Board training regarding reconciliation and the Nations in the Islands Trust region

	Budgeted to allow increased First Nations engagement for property management
Ongoing	Continued learning for staff and ITC Board
	Updated Management Plan and Baseline Report templates to improve First Nations information
	Drafted template for Management Plan for Areas of Cultural Heritage and Sacred Significance
	Issue news releases that acknowledge First Nations territory
In progress	Developing a Reconciliation Declaration and Reconciliation Action Plan
Workplan	Implement Reconciliation Action Plan
Changes/Notes	
Working with First Nations	
Complete	Offered mapping resources to First Nations
	Worked to build relationship with Penelakut Tribe with a focus on management of conservation lands on Thetis Island
Ongoing	Continue to identify and pursue opportunities to share resources with First Nations in areas of mutual interest
In Progress	Participating in Sidney Island Forest Restoration Program with Penelakut, Tsawout, Lyackson and Tsartlip First Nations
	Further relationship with Penelakut for land management on Thetis Island
Workplan	Continue to seek opportunities to work collaboratively with Islands Trust to build relationships with First Nations
Changes/Notes	Continue to explore tools to protect cultural and archaeological sites where compatible with ITC land conservation work
Goal 3. Continue to secure and manage Islands Trust Conservancy lands and conservation covenants to maximize ecological integrity	
Property Management	
Complete	Updated Baseline Report and Management Plan Templates
	Completed planning for property monitoring transition, including development of a budget case for a new Covenant Management and Outreach Specialist
	Management Plans for two Thetis Island nature reserves completed, with ongoing work with First Nations
Ongoing	Annual monitoring of seventy-six conservation covenants and twenty-nine nature reserves
In progress	Revisions to five management plans (Gambier and Denman) and development of two new management plans (Denman and Lasqueti)
	Improving TAPIS database for better storage of property management information
	Developing budget formula for property management to submit for 2020-2021 budget
	Invasive species management on Denman, Salt Spring, Galiano, Gambier
	Trail and tree management on Salt Spring, Gabriola and Galiano
	Addressing issues of trespass on three properties

Workplan Changes/Notes	Review property monitoring transition and evaluate Covenant Management and Outreach Specialist position
Land Conservation	
Complete	Valens Brook Nature Reserve addition
	Fundraising for Salish View Nature Reserve completed in partnership with Lasqueti island Nature Conservancy
	Registered NAPTEP covenant on Link Island
	Issued Opportunity Fund Grants for three projects
Ongoing	Meet with landowners interesting in conservation (3 onsite meetings, 2018/2019, respond to 10-15 inquiries annually with detailed information)
	Continue to develop relationships with landowners who have expressed interest in conservation
	Steering Committee member for Coastal Douglas-fir and Associated Ecosystems Conservation Program (CDFCP) and member of Securement Working Group
In Progress	Two covenants and three nature reserve acquisitions in negotiation
	Rare species inventories for Salish View Nature Reserve acquisition project
Workplan Changes/Notes	Plan NAPTEP outreach for 2019/2020 for selected islands
Goal 4. Continue to build internal and shared organizational strength and resilience to ensure long-term nature conservation in the Islands Trust Area	
Strong Finances	
Complete	Created a Fund Development Advisory Committee to work towards external funding supports for large ITC projects
Ongoing	Manage finances and complete annual financial audits
In Progress	Develop an ITC Funding Strategy and Action Plan
	Working on replacement of donor database which is no longer supportable
Workplan Changes/Notes	Contemplate a campaign to replenish the Opportunity Fund
Strong Communication	
Complete	participated in CDF Tool Kit workshop (Galiano)
	Completed name change for Islands Trust Conservancy, including updated website and communications materials
	Assisted Islands Trust with development of business case and RFP for a new website
Ongoing	Updating signage to new logo as appropriate
	Develop image back for communications materials
	Issue Enews regularly and Heron newsletter once each year

In Progress	Participating in website redesign project with Islands Trust
	Planning celebrations for one new covenant and two new nature reserves
Workplan Changes/Notes	Develop an engagement strategy to pull in new audiences
Ongoing Learning	
Complete	Board and staff participated in awareness training regarding working with First Nations
	Staff participated in BC Protected Areas Research Forum
Ongoing	Continue to improve awareness of First Nations and engagement work with First Nations
In Progress	Support Board and staff training related to fundraising and fund development
Workplan	
Changes/Notes	