



ISLANDS TRUST CONSERVANCY

# News Release

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## **Lisa Baile of SDĀY,ES/North Pender Island donates Islands Trust Conservancy's 31<sup>st</sup> nature reserve The Lisa Baile Nature Reserve is Islands Trust Conservancy's 25<sup>th</sup> ecological gift donation**

*Lək'wəḡən*, METULIYE/Victoria, B.C. — British Columbians can benefit today, and in the days to come, from the creation of Lisa Baile Nature Reserve on SDĀY,ES (North Pender Island), the most recent protected place to come under the care of Islands Trust Conservancy.

Medical researcher, author, long-time Pender Island resident, and B.C. mountaineer Lisa Baile made this latest nature reserve possible through her generous gift of mature Coastal Douglas-fir forest to Islands Trust Conservancy – a donation that Baile had intended from the moment she purchased the four-hectare undeveloped property in 2019. The federal Ecological Gifts Program, which provides income and capital gains tax relief for gifts of qualifying, ecologically sensitive land, also contributed to reaching this milestone – making this the 25<sup>th</sup> property donated to Islands Trust Conservancy as an ecological gift.

Lisa Baile donated this land to become the Lisa Baile Nature Reserve on February 25, 2021. It is home to a mixed mature forest of largely Douglas-fir and western redcedar, and rises steeply to a ridge with small rocky bluffs and Garry oak and arbutus woodlands, with patches of native wildflowers such as fairy-slipper, camas (a lily), chocolate lily, and fawn lily. Several veteran, old-growth Douglas-fir trees – including one measuring almost four metres in diameter – were previously protected under a small conservation covenant along Clam Bay Road. Pender Islands Conservancy Association, co-holder of the existing covenant with Islands Trust Conservancy, worked with Lisa Baile and Islands Trust Conservancy to expand the protected area and create the new nature reserve, which will provide increased protection to the forest and woodlands on the entire property.

The Lisa Baile Nature Reserve expands an existing nine-hectare grouping of conserved lands, increasing this network of [protected places](#) in the Salish Sea to nearly 13 contiguous hectares that will provide habitat for regional species in perpetuity.

Islands Trust Conservancy has protected and manages over 1,300 hectares or 107 protected places (nature reserves and conservation covenants) in the Islands Trust Area. These biodiverse and culturally significant lands in the Salish Sea are cared for through detailed stewardship plans created in collaboration with community.

### Quotes

“Our lives depend on the lives of flora and fauna, so we’d best act now. Nature bats last, as my friend John Clarke used to say.”

– Lisa Baile, landholder, donor, and author of the book ‘John Clarke: Explorer of the Coast Mountains’

“The vision and generosity of donors like Lisa Baile will be crucial to seeing the islands of the Salish Sea, and their surrounding waters, through the climate crisis and concurrent development surge that we are currently experiencing. She deserves our thanks. Our next step will be preparation of the management plan for this site, in collaboration with

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### **A Conservancy for islands of the Salish Sea**

Ballenas-Winchelsea · Bowen · Denman · Gabriola · Galiano · Gambier · Hornby  
Lasqueti · Mayne · North Pender · Salt Spring · Saturna · South Pender · Thetis

First Nation governments with shared territory on SDÁY,ES/North Pender Island and island residents.”

– Kate-Louise Stamford, Islands Trust Conservancy Board Chair

### Quick Facts

- [Lisa Baile Nature Reserve](#) is Islands Trust Conservancy’s 31<sup>st</sup> nature reserve and we are currently in the Conservancy’s 31<sup>st</sup> year (established in April of 1990)
- Lisa Baile purchased the property in 2019 with the intention of protecting it from future development
- Lisa Baile Nature Reserve is the 25<sup>th</sup> protected area brought under the care and management of Islands Trust Conservancy (in part) thanks to [Canada’s Ecological Gifts Program](#), an income and capital gains tax-relief program established in 1995; see also [this testimonial](#) about the program
- SDÁY,ES/North Pender Island is one of 13 major islands in the [Islands Trust Area](#), a region within the Salish Sea that covers 5,200 square kilometres
- Islands Trust Conservancy will provide opportunities for public input and engagement on the management plan for Lisa Baile Nature Reserve through a combination of surveys and open-house events
- The islands within the Salish Sea are part of the creation stories of the Coast Salish Peoples and are deeply interconnected to the oral history, well-being, and place that Coast Salish Peoples have now, and have called their homelands for over 14,000 years
- Islands Trust Conservancy has committed to the protection and preservation of the islands through processes that respect and honour reconciliation and mutually respectful relationships with Coast Salish Indigenous Peoples

### Photo Gallery

*All images are high-resolution and downloadable [online](#). Please use only in support of this story.*

- Islands Trust Conservancy donor Lisa Baile pictured with old-growth Douglas-fir tree
- Douglas-fir tree measuring four metres across
- Douglas-fir tree stretching to the sky, with nature reserve donor Lisa Baile

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### About

Islands Trust Conservancy is the conservation land trust for over 450 islands of the Salish Sea and is a part of Islands Trust. Since 1990, Islands Trust Conservancy has protected more than 1,300 hectares of island ecosystems. This success is thanks to the vision, support, and generosity of donors and partners. Learn more online at [islandstrust.bc.ca/conservancy](http://islandstrust.bc.ca/conservancy).

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