



Policy Statement Amendment Project

2022 Trust Council Resolutions on Draft Policy Statement Revisions & Next Steps

Background: In June and September 2022, after receiving engagement feedback from First Nations, referral agencies, and the public, the outgoing 2018-2022 Trust Council passed a number of resolutions requesting staff to undertake the following work on the draft new Policy Statement Bylaw No. 183, for review by the new 2022-2026 Trust Council and its committees in early 2023:

Part 1 – Structural Revisions:

1	<i>Reformat the draft Trust Policy Statement to simplify the structure and shorten the length to improve readability and understanding, for example, separate the mandatory directive policies from the remainder of the text. (June 2022)</i>
2	<i>Develop a Glossary of Terms used in the Trust Policy Statement to be an appendix to that document. (June 2022)</i>
3	<i>Remove detailed coordination policies from each subsection and instead develop more general coordination principles in accordance with the object of the Trust. (Sept 2022)</i>
4	<i>Remove detailed “commitments of Trust Council” from each subsection and instead develop more general guiding principles in accordance with the object of the Trust. (Sept 2022)</i>
5	<i>Add a new category of “recommendation policies” that local trust committees and island municipalities should address in addition to the existing category of “directive policies” (must include in local official community plans and regulatory bylaws). (Sept 2022)</i>
6	<i>Draft a companion handbook to foster better understanding for Trustees and across the Trust that includes greater detail on the rationale for policies and how local trust committees and island municipalities are expected to implement each policy. (Sept 2022)</i>
7	<i>Separate out introductory/history sections from the official bylaw and place them in the companion handbook. (Sept 2022)</i>
8	<i>Explore updating and integrating Trust Council’s Policy Statement Amendment Policy 1.2.1 and Policy Statement Implementation Policy 1.3.1 into the draft Policy Statement bylaw. (Sept 2022)</i>

Part 2 – Revisions to Existing Content:

9	<i>Remove the draft directive policy to prohibit new desalination plants. (June 2022)</i>
10	<i>Change the term “Indigenous ways of knowing” to “Indigenous Knowledge”. (June 2022)</i>
11	<i>Reword “seven generations” language to better reflect relationships to past, present, and future generations. (June 2022)</i>
12	<i>Refine the draft directive policy and recommendation policies prohibiting new private docks to highlight areas of concern, for example prohibiting or limiting new private docks in areas that have been identified as culturally significant for First Nations, identified for community use, or in locations that provide critical habitat for species at risk, and/or requiring cumulative effects assessments prior to approval of applications. (Sept 2022)</i>
13	<i>Refine the draft agricultural policies and recommendation policies to highlight the value of sustainable agriculture in the Trust Area, while also suggesting preferred approaches that are aligned with the object of the Trust, and First Nations’ rights and interests. (Sept 2022)</i>
14	<i>Refine the draft directive policy and recommendation policies prohibiting new seawalls or hard shoreline armoring to instead direct local trust committees and island municipalities to consider guidelines as found in Green Shores or other soft shoreline approaches to set requirements for shoreline preservation. (Sept 2022)</i>
15	<i>Remove the draft commitment/coordination policies and recommendation policies advocating for authority to regulate tree cutting, acknowledging that Trust Council may continue to advocate for this irrespective of the topic’s inclusion in the Policy Statement. (Sept 2022)</i>
16	<i>Explore the inclusion of general guiding principles, recommendation policies, and/or directive policies that aim to ground all decision-making in the ‘Precautionary Principle’, with a clear definition of this term in the Glossary and related implementation guidelines in the companion handbook. (Sept 2022)</i>

Part 3 – Development of Additional Content:

17	<i>Provide options for draft policy language for the draft Policy Statement to encourage preservation of forest cover in the Trust Area, this will include reference to sustainable forest management practices. (June 2022)</i>
18	<i>Reaffirm Trust Council’s Reconciliation Declaration of March 2019 and its inherent commitment to be responsive to First Nations engagement on the Trust Policy Statement as dictated by the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. (June 2022)</i>
19	<i>Provide more explanatory context on First Nations rights and responsibilities, and implications of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, with corresponding “recommendation policies” to guide First Nations engagement and reconciliation work. (Sept 2022)</i>
20	<i>Add greater detail on First Nations’ co-governance interests and the need for collaborative frameworks to work together at all stages of policy development and implementation, and in all decision-making. (Sept 2022)</i>

21	<i>Strengthen policy language around First Nations’ constitutional rights to access culturally significant areas and healthy ecosystems for their cultural, spiritual, and economic uses. (Sept 2022)</i>
22	<i>Strengthen policy language around preservation and protection of the coastal and marine environment to support First Nations’ food security in Indigenous marine harvesting areas. (Sept 2022)</i>
23	<i>Strengthen policy language around engaging with First Nations and cultural monitors to better protect known and unknown cultural heritage sites, through clearly defined collaborative frameworks. (Sept 2022)</i>
Part 4 – Coordination with Referral Agency Partners:	
24	<i>Work with Bowen Island Municipality staff and Islands Trust Conservancy staff to integrate their specific amendment requests. (Sept 2022)</i>
25	<i>Work with Ministry of Agriculture & Food, and Agricultural Land Commission staff to refine the wording of the draft agricultural policies. (Sept 2022)</i>
26	<i>Address regional district staff recommendations for revisions to policies relating to active recreation, active transportation, trails, and climate emergency preparedness, as appropriate. (Sept 2022)</i>
27	<i>Address improvement district recommendations around water management, including rainwater harvesting, septic filtering, and water conservation, as appropriate. (Sept 2022)</i>
28	<i>Postpone the deferred referrals to local trust committees until the next draft of the document has been received by the incoming Trust Council and its committees. (Sept 2022)</i>
Part 5 – Engagement, Reviews, and Next Steps:	
29	<i>Continue to build staff-to-staff relationships with First Nations who provided input to the Policy Statement Amendment Project in Phases 1 and 2 of early and meaningful engagement, and provide additional capacity funding to support continued First Nations engagement on this project. (Sept 2022)</i>
30	<i>Coordinate the provision of expert advice and training to the incoming Trust Council, early in the new term, on the theme of public engagement and consultation, building on lessons learned from the first three phases of Islands 2050 public engagement from 2019 – 2022. (Sept 2022)</i>
31	<i>Prepare a new Policy Statement Amendment Project Charter for the consideration of the incoming Executive Committee and Trust Council in early 2023. (Sept 2022)</i>
32	<i>Prepare a Policy Statement Amendment Project Communications Strategy for the consideration of the incoming Executive Committee and Trust Council in early 2023. (Sept 2022)</i>