



## Islands Trust Council Highlights March 7 – 9, 2023

The following is a list of [agenda](#) highlights of Trust Council's activities and decisions from its March 7-9, 2023, quarterly meeting. These highlights are not the official minutes; Trust Council will adopt those at its June 27-29, 2023, meeting being held in-person on Gabriola Island at The Haven. [Visit the March 2023 Trust Council meeting site to view the recordings.](#)

### **Adopted Budget 2023/24**

This [news release](#) summarizes highlights of the \$9.7 million budget Trust Council approved to continue operations and undertake select projects.

### **Third Quarter Financial Results**

Received and approved by Trust Council, the third quarter financial results show Islands Trust has spent 70% of its approved budget as at December 31, 2022, slightly less than planned. The primary drivers of the underspending against plan are staff vacancies and project delays.

### **Tree Cutting Advocacy Rescinded**

Trust Council rescinded its September 2020 request to the Province to enhance the Trust's jurisdiction over tree cutting under section 8 of the Community Charter and removed the task from its work program.

### **Office of the Ombudsperson Review**

Trust Council has initiated a comprehensive review of Islands Trust enforcement related policies and practices requesting recommendations for improvements in keeping with best practices for local governments.

### **Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee Special Property Tax Requisition**

Trust Council passed a request to include a special property tax requisition for the Salt Spring Island Trust Area in the amount of \$43,000 to preserve and protect the quality and quantity of water resources within the local trust area.

### **Policy Statement Amendment Project**

Trust Council adopted a plan to advance the Policy Statement Project.

### **Committee/Learning Group Updates**

- Trust Council requested interested trustees work with Director of Legislative Services Marlor to provide input and revision to the draft Accessibility Committee terms of reference and bring it back to June Trust Council.
- Trust Council tasked the Governance Committee with a review of the current method of appointment and membership of its standing committees.
- A Reconciliation Learning Group will be initiated to develop a reconciliation learning plan through virtual monthly meetings.
- Trustee Mikaila Lironi was appointed to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans [Shellfish Aquaculture Management Advisory Committee](#) with Trustee David Graham as alternate.

### **Revisit Provincial Funding Grant Formula**

Trust Council has asked Executive Committee work with staff on a coordinated strategy and prepare a request that the Province revisit its grant funding formula for Islands Trust.

### **2023/24 Trust Council Meeting Locations**

These locations will host the next in-person Trust Council quarterly meetings: June 27-29 on Gabriola; September 26-28 on North and South Pender; December in Victoria and March 2024 on Salt Spring.