



Trust Programs Committee Agenda

Date: Monday, November 6, 2023
Time: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Location: Electronic Zoom Meeting

Pages

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **AGENDA**
 - 2.1 **Review of the Agenda**

Late items, new items and re-ordering of the agenda
 - 2.2 **Approval of Agenda**
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**
4. **DELEGATIONS**

None
5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None
6. **ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATION**
 - 6.1 **Draft Minutes of Previous Meetings**
 - 6.1.1 **Draft TPC Minutes of August 28, 2023** 3 - 8

For review and approval
 - 6.2 **Resolutions Without Meeting**
 - 6.2.1 **RWM 2023-01 - Set November 6, 2023 Meeting as an Electronic Meeting** 9 - 9

For information
 - 6.3 **Follow up Action List** 10 - 12

For review
7. **BUSINESS - WORK PROGRAM ITEMS**
 - 7.1 **Policy Statement Amendment Project Update - BRF** 13 - 14

7.2	Stewardship Education Survey Results - BRF	15 - 30
7.3	Wildfire Webinar Resources – BRF	31 - 35
7.4	Living in the Trust Area Project Update - BRF	36 - 46
8.	BUSINESS - OTHER	
8.1	Proposed Trust Programs Committee Meeting Schedule for 2024 - RFD	47 - 49
	1. That Trust Programs Committee adopt the meeting dates of February 12, April 15, May 27, August 26 and November 4 for the 2024 calendar year.	
	2. That Trust Programs Committee schedule all 2024 TPC meeting dates as electronic meetings.	
8.2	Montreal Pledge COP15 Biodiversity Framework and potential impacts for the work of Islands Trust – BRF	50 - 56
9.	BUSINESS - NEW	
10.	WORK PROGRAM	57 - 58
	For review and referral to Trust Council before each quarterly TC meeting	
11.	NEXT MEETING	
	To be determined	
12.	CLOSED MEETING	
	If desired:	
	That the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the Community Charter, Part 4, Division 3, s.90, (quote the pertinent section here, for example, (1)(a) personal information about...) and that the recorder and staff [attend/not attend] the meeting.	
13.	RISE AND REPORT	
	If requested	
14.	ADJOURNMENT	
	*Approximate time is provided for the convenience of the public only and is subject to change without notice.	



Trust Programs Committee Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date: August 28, 2023
Location: Electronic Meeting

Members Present: Kristina Evans, Chair/South Pender Island Trustee
Alex Allen, Vice-Chair/Hornby Island Trustee
Sam Borthwick, Denman Island Trustee
Sue Ellen Fast, Bowen Island Municipal Trustee
Jamie Harris, Salt Spring Island Trustee
Tim Peterson, Lasqueti Island Trustee (EC Representative)
Peter Luckham, Islands Trust Council Chair (Ex Officio)

Staff Present: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services
David Marlor, Director, Legislative Services
Robyn Kefi, Senior Indigenous Relations Advisor
Gillian Nicol, Program Coordinator
Robert Barlow, Legislative Services Clerk/Recorder

Others Present: No member of the public was present

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Evans called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and acknowledged that participants of the meeting were on the territories of many Coast Salish First Nations.

2. AGENDA

2.1 Review of Agenda

No late item nor changes to the agenda were presented for consideration.

2.2 Approval of Agenda

By general consent the agenda was approved as presented.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No member of the public was present.

4. DELEGATIONS

None.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 2023-05-14 (Dunnison) – “Edits to language regarding the CDF zone”

See agenda item 8.1 for staff comments and Committee discussion.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATION

6.1 Draft Minutes of Previous Meeting

6.1.1 Trust Programs Committee (TPC) Minutes of May 15, 2023

By general consent the minutes were approved.

6.2 Resolutions Without Meeting

None.

6.3 Follow Up Action List

Director Frater spoke to the FUAL items that were in progress:

- Crown lands protocol – on hold as there currently is no staff capacity
- amending the Policy Statement Amendment Policy – also on hold pending staff capacity
- criteria for Secretariat Services applications – target date is now April 2024
- Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework – at their next scheduled meeting in September, the Regional Planning Committee will consider identifying two members of that committee to join a trustee working group to consider the topic
- redesign of the Government and Other Services contact sheet – this task is expected to be completed soon.

7. BUSINESS - WORK PROGRAM ITEMS

7.1 Policy Statement Amendment Project – Verbal Update

Director Frater provided an update on the project, indicating that staff have been working on incorporating the 32 Trust Council resolutions that direct both changes to the document and some collaboration to undertake in the project’s development. She stated that staff are close to completing the revised draft for consideration and are working or shortly will be working with other agencies and First Nations to review that revised draft. Staff will bring forward comments from those agencies and First Nations early in the new year on the same agenda as the revised draft.

Committee discussion included:

- possibility of the current Trust Council reviewing the thirty-two resolutions made by the previous Trust Council

- Executive Committee is the body that coordinates the delivery of the project

Trustee Borthwick joined the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

7.2 Stewardship Education Program

7.2.1 2023/24 Speaker Series Project Charter – Request For Decision (RFD)

Program Coordinator Nicol introduced the RFD. Committee discussion included:

- the timing of the wildfire prevention webinar
- potential use of other existing webinars

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request staff to compile a list of applicable wildfire webinar resources for Trust Programs Committee review rather than creating another webinar.

TPC-2023-030

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee amend the motion “that Trust Programs Committee request staff to compile a list of applicable wildfire webinar resources for Trust Programs Committee review rather than creating another webinar” by replacing the words “rather than” with “before”.

CARRIED

TPC-2023-031

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request staff to compile a list of applicable wildfire webinar resources for Trust Programs Committee review before creating another webinar.

CARRIED

TPC-2023-032

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request staff to ask trustees for suggestions on wildfire prevention webinar resources applicable to the Islands Trust Area.

CARRIED

TPC-2023-033

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee endorse the amended Speaker Series Project Charter, dated August 28th, 2023.

CARRIED

7.2.2 Questionnaire re: Potential Speaker Series Topics – Briefing

Program Coordinator Nicol presented the briefing which is in response to the Committee’s request for staff to consider methods to solicit stewardship education speaker series topics from community members. Committee discussion included:

- a need to indicate at the beginning of the material that it is a short questionnaire
- the results will be provided at the next TPC scheduled meeting in November

7.3 Secretariat Role to Forums within the Trust Area

7.3.1 Secretariat Services to the Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership (CDFCP) – RFD

Director Frater presented the RFD, indicating that there is \$2,600 remaining unallocated in the Secretariat Services budget. The Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership had requested \$3,000 and are currently reviewing or have reviewed the accuracy of the text in their documents and on their website.

Committee discussion included:

- the possibility of allowing CDFCP to complete their review of their text prior to any review of their request
- the potential impacts to CDFCP if they have to wait until November for an answer to their request

TPC-2023-034

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee allocate for fiscal year 2023/24 \$2,600 to support the coordination of the Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership.

CARRIED

Trust Programs Committee recessed at 12:05 p.m. and resumed at 12:35 p.m.

8. BUSINESS – OTHER

The Committee addressed agenda item 8.2 prior to 8.1

8.2 Trust Programs Committee Business Cases for FY2024/25 budget requests – RFD

Director Frater presented the RFD that provided the Committee with recommended budget allocations for fiscal year 2024/25. Director Frater noted that the RFD was created at the direction of the Committee and that the two business cases are different than typical business cases as they identify a funding amount not for specific initiatives but rather for use by the Committee during the year to allocate to specific initiatives.

Committee discussion included:

- whether the amount for Secretariat Services is adequate to meet the needs of the organizations who will be making requests for support
- Trust Council may request committees trim their funding requests which would impact the ability to support those organizations
- the positive impact that the stewardship education program and the secretariat services program has for residents, especially new residents, in the Trust Area
- the opportunity to make education fun and enjoyable rather than anxiety provoking

TPC-2023-035

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee forward to the Financial Planning Committee, for inclusion in the Fiscal Year 2024/25 Budget, the business case for \$15,000 for stewardship education.

CARRIED

TPC-2023-036

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee forward to the Financial Planning Committee, for inclusion in the Fiscal Year 2024/25 Budget, the business case for \$15,000 for secretariat services.

CARRIED

8.1 Staff comments responding to May 2023 e-mail from David Dunnison – BRF

Director Frater presented the Briefing, noting that staff contacted various experts in reviewing the material. She also indicated that Staff recognize that it is necessary to be clear about the threats to biodiversity, but also to share positive messages and optimism to inspire action. The Director has encouraged communications staff to consider including positive messages along with land conservation context as they undertake their work, in keeping with communication best practices.

Committee discussion included:

- Committee members are not professional foresters or biologists and therefore also rely on experts
- most of the issues raised relate to topics that the Islands Trust Conservancy would be best positioned to respond to
- the need for a positive tone to communications to encourage and inspire residents
- the need for clarity as to how much does development, climate change and habitat degradation in the Trust Area negatively impact the ecosystems
- how to reconcile a need to develop more housing and wildfire protection with the need to preserve and protect the environment in the Trust Area
- the need for accurate, understandable, useful, and up-to-date information of the health of ecosystems in the Trust Area
- the need for neutral statements

DRAFT

- Committee members may wish to provide comments or recommendations to Executive Committee in regards to the Islands Trust communications strategy

9. BUSINESS – NEW

None.

10. WORK PROGRAM

Director Frater presented the current Work Program (Active Projects and Future Projects).

TPC-2023-037

It was MOVED and SECONDED,
that Trust Programs Committee request the work program be forwarded to Trust Council.

CARRIED

11. NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, November 6, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Nanaimo at the Best Western Dorchester Hotel

12. CLOSED MEETING

The Committee did not close the meeting.

13. RISE AND REPORT

As the Committee did not close the meeting, there was no need for the Committee to discuss this option.

14. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

Kristina Evans, Chair

Certified Correct:

Robert Barlow, Legislative Services Clerk/Recorder

Minutes are not official until adopted at a subsequent meeting.

TRUST PROGRAMS COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WITHOUT MEETING

RESOLUTION WITHOUT MEETING NO. RWM-2023-01

The following matter is considered urgent in order to set the regular Trust Programs Committee meeting scheduled for November 6, 2023, to be an electronic meeting. The meeting is currently set as an in-person meeting in Nanaimo. The rationale for making it in-person was to review the Policy Statement Amendment Project as it was considered that an in-person meeting would be more effective than an electronic meeting for this topic. However, as the Policy Statement will not be ready for the Committee to review by this date, there is no need to meet in-person for this reason.

**It was Moved by Trustee Borthwick and Seconded by Trustee Allen,
that Trust Programs Committee set the scheduled regular meeting of November 6, 2023, as an
electronic meeting.**

TRUSTEES CONTACTED

Alex Allen
Sam Borthwick
Kristina Evans
Sue Ellen Fast
Tim Peterson

DATE VOTE RECEIVED

October 5, 2023
October 10, 2023
October 10, 2023
October 5, 2023
October 5, 2023

VOTE

In Favour
In Favour
In Favour
In Favour
In Favour

TRUSTEES VOTE NOT AVAILABLE

Jamie Harris

FINAL VOTE COUNT

5
0

IN FAVOUR
OPPOSED

THE CHAIR, TRUST PROGRAMS COMMITTEE, DECLARED THE ABOVE RESOLUTION CARRIED PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OF *THE ISLANDS TRUST ACT* on October 10, 2023.

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE

RECORDER'S SIGNATURE

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Programs Committee

29-Feb-2016

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 Implement Crown Land Protocol project charter V2, circulate past RFD to TPC members, keep charter on future agendas until project is complete, and consider inventory of current referrals if it helps demonstrate the need for updating the letter of understanding. ON HOLD pending staff capacity	Clare Frater	Target: 31-Aug-2026	In Progress

05-Nov-2020

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 Staff to refine the Amending the Policy Statement Amendment Policy 1.2.1. RFD, and bring it back to Trust Programs Committee. ON HOLD pending staff capacity	Clare Frater	Target: 31-Aug-2026	In Progress

14-May-2021

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 that Trust Programs Committee request staff to review current criteria, and to provide feedback or suggestions for criteria for future Secretariat Services applications. ON HOLD pending staff capacity	Clare Frater	Target: 01-Apr-2024	In Progress

07-Mar-2023

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
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Follow Up Action Report

Trust Programs Committee

07-Mar-2023

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 Trust Council direct the Regional Planning Committee and the Trust Programs Committee to consider how the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework impacts the work of the Islands Trust and share their thinking back with Trust Council in this calendar year.	Clare Frater Stefan Cermak	Target: 15-Nov-2023	In Progress

15-May-2023

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 Trust Programs Committee request staff to redesign the Government and Other Services contact sheet to have the Land Use Planning contact sheet on the back of it.	Morgana van Niekerk	Target: 28-Aug-2023	Completed

28-Aug-2023

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 that Trust Programs Committee request staff to compile a list of applicable wildfire webinar resources for Trust Programs Committee review before creating another webinar.	Clare Frater	Target: 06-Nov-2023	Completed
2 that Trust Programs Committee request staff to ask trustees for suggestions on wildfire prevention webinar resources applicable to the Islands Trust Area.	Clare Frater	Target: 06-Nov-2023	Completed

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Programs Committee

28-Aug-2023

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
3 that Trust Programs Committee endorse the amended Speaker Series Project Charter, dated August 28th, 2023.	Clare Frater	Target: 06-Nov-2023	In Progress
4 that Trust Programs Committee allocate for fiscal year 2023/24 \$2,600 to support the coordination of the Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership.	Clare Frater	Target: 06-Nov-2023	Completed
5 that Trust Programs Committee forward to the Financial Planning Committee, for inclusion in the Fiscal Year 2024/25 Budget, the business case for \$15,000 for stewardship education.	Robert Barlow	Target: 06-Nov-2023	Completed
6 that Trust Programs Committee forward to the Financial Planning Committee, for inclusion in the Fiscal Year 2024/25 Budget, the business case for \$15,000 for secretariat services.	Robert Barlow	Target: 06-Nov-2023	Completed
7 that Trust Programs Committee request the work program be forwarded to Trust Council.	Robert Barlow	Target: 06-Nov-2023	Completed

BRIEFING

To: Trust Programs Committee **For the Meeting of:** November 6, 2023

From: Trust Area Services **Date Prepared:** October 27, 2023

SUBJECT: Policy Statement Amendment Project Update

PURPOSE: To provide an update on the Policy Statement Amendment Project and to advise that it is likely more time than anticipated will be needed to ensure all input from First Nations can be addressed.

BACKGROUND: Since the last update provided to Trust Council in September, staff have been working with other agencies and First Nations to receive input on the revised draft Policy Statement. Staff intended to bring forward comments from those agencies and First Nations in January 2024 on the same agenda as the revised draft. However, it is likely more time will be needed to ensure all input can be addressed.

In early September, staff provided First Nations (those that had requested capacity funding from Islands Trust) with an early staff revised draft of the Policy Statement. This draft 2 of the Policy Statement incorporated revisions requested by the Islands Trust Council in their [32 resolutions](#) which were in response to the feedback they received from First Nations, referral agencies, and the public.

Since then, staff have been collaborating with the Nations to receive their input. Several Nations have requested an extension from the original input deadline proposed (mid-November) to January 2024. While it may still be possible to conclude the engagement sooner, staff think it prudent to request an extension to ensure the process has the time it needs. Staff anticipate that there is enough give in the current project charter timeline to accommodate this extension without impacting the final delivery of the project.

Activity	Original	Proposed
Current Fiscal (FY 2023-2024)		
-EC/TPC and Trust Council receive draft and recommend any revisions	Jan-Mar 2024	Feb-Apr 2024
Next Steps (FY 2024-25)		
-As requested by TC, EC and TPC develop recommendations for revisions	Apr 2024	May 2024
-TC considers TC/EC recommendations and passes resolutions on actions	Jun 2024	July 2024
-Approval in principle by Trust Council	Fall 2024	No change
-Six month referrals period to LTCs and BIM	Apr 2025	No change
Final Adoption (FY 2025-26)		
-Trust Council receives referral responses, passes resolutions for action	June 2025	No change
-Amendment drafting and amendment/ First Reading by Trust Council	Sept 2025	
-3 month referral to First Nations, ITC Board, regional districts, others	Oct-Dec 2025	
-Review of feedback and preparation for Second / Third Reading	Jan-Feb 2026	
-Second and Third readings (incorporate revisions during same meeting)	Mar 2026	
-Refer to Minister with FN engagement report; six months for review	Apr-Nov	
-Receive approval from Minister (estimated), and Adoption	Dec 2026	

-Final graphic design, distribution, event, implementation planning	Post Dec 2026	
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In addition, through the work with First Nations to date, we have heard strongly and on multiple occasions (including in relation to their initial review of the Draft 2) from several Nations that the Policy Statement work should go further in:

- acknowledging Indigenous desires for self-governance and their inherent rights to be self-governing decision-makers within their respective territories and to be stewards
- co-designing process and timelines with participating First Nations
- reflecting that UNDRIP affirms First Nations' right to participate in decision-making matters and requires the obtainment of First Nations' free, prior and informed consent.

Staff expect these interests to continue to be raised during the Policy Statement review work.

While local government legislation (including the Islands Trust Act) has not yet been amended to be consistent with UNDRIP, other local governments, such as City of Vancouver¹, have begun the work of implementing UNDRIP. This work has led others² to cite an opportunity for other local governments to begin the path toward implementation of UNDRIP, and the relationship-building and goodwill benefits of doing so, even in advance of a local government specific legislated requirements.

Staff also continue work with a communications consultant to prepare communications materials about the revised draft of the Policy Statement.

FOLLOW-UP: Staff will recommend to Executive Committee (as the body that coordinates the delivery of the project) to extend the timeframe for this work in case it is needed.

Staff will follow up as directed and convey any recommendations of Trust Programs Committee to Executive Committee and/or Trust Council.

Prepared By: Mary Storzer, Senior Policy Advisor

Reviewed By/Date: Clare Frater, Director Trust Area Services, October 27, 2023

¹ <https://vancouver.ca/news-calendar/council-approves-groundbreaking-undrip-strategy-for-vancouver.aspx>

² https://www.cwilson.com/vancouver-city-council-adopts-strategy-for-the-implementation-of-undrip/?utm_source=mondaq&utm_medium=syndication&utm_term=Government-Public-Sector&utm_content=articleoriginal&utm_campaign=article

BRIEFING

To: Trust Programs Committee **For the Meeting of:** November 6, 2023
From: Trust Area Services **Date Prepared:** October 13, 2023
SUBJECT: Stewardship Education Program- 2024/25 speaker series survey results

PURPOSE: To provide Trust Programs Committee with an update on the Stewardship Education Program - 2024/25 speaker series survey results.

BACKGROUND:

On May 15th, 2023, Trust Programs Committee passed the following motion:

That Trust Programs Committee request staff to consider methods to solicit topics from Trust Area residents for further stewardship education webinars.

On August 28, 2023, staff presented a briefing to the Trust Program Committee outlining the process for an online survey to solicit webinar topics from Trust Area residents.

Between August 31, 2023 and September 15, 2023, the public were invited to undertake an online survey regarding topics for the Stewardship Education Speaker Series in 2024-2025. At the August 28, 2023 meeting it was discussed that the results will be provided at the next TPC scheduled meeting in November.

A report on the results of that survey is attached.

OTHER: None.

RELEVANT POLICY(S): Communications Policy 6.10

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Results of Online Public Survey re Stewardship Education Speaker Series

FOLLOW-UP: As directed.

Prepared By: Mike Richards, Acting Program Coordinator

Reviewed By/Date: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services/October 27, 2023

Results of Online Public Survey re Stewardship Education Speaker Series

Between August 31, 2023 and September 15, 2022, the public was invited to undertake a survey regarding topics for the Stewardship Education Speaker Series in 2024-2025.

Three hundred and one members of the public completed the survey. One hundred and forty-two respondents supplied extra suggestions for the speaker series topics.

Appendix A features the raw data of all responses to Question 2.

Appendix B of this report includes the full text of the survey.

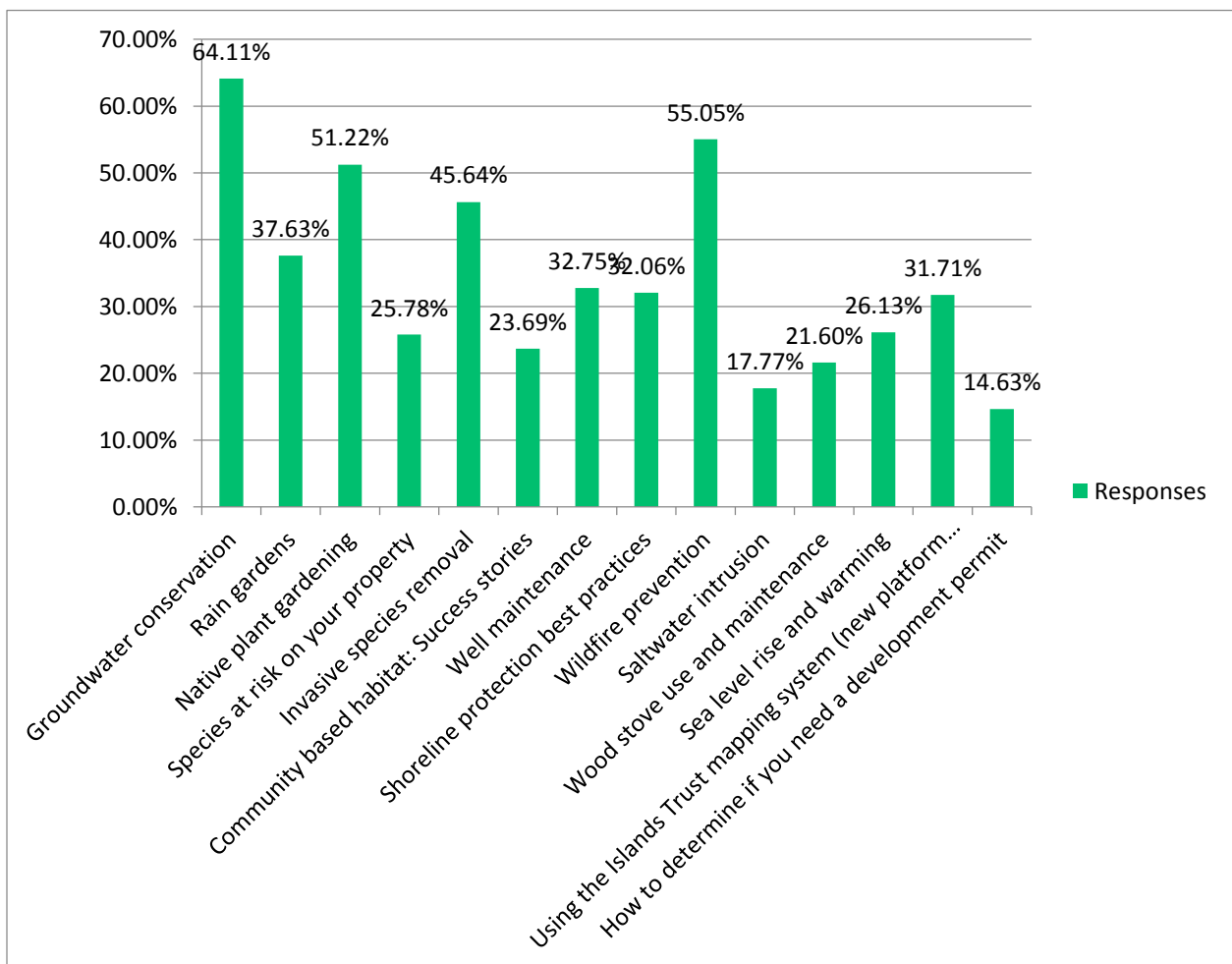
Where duplicate answers exist, they were provided in different survey responses.

Question 1:

In no particular order, below is a list of previously suggested topics.

Which topics would you like to learn more about? Select all that apply.

287 Responses



The top five responses for Question 1 were as follows:

Groundwater Conservation – 184 responses

Wildfire Prevention – 158 responses

Native Plan Gardening – 147 responses

Invasive Species Removal – 131 responses

Rain Gardens – 108 responses

Question 2:

Below, please list additional topics you would be interested in

147 Responses

Comments given can be grouped in several broad themes:

Listed in no particular order

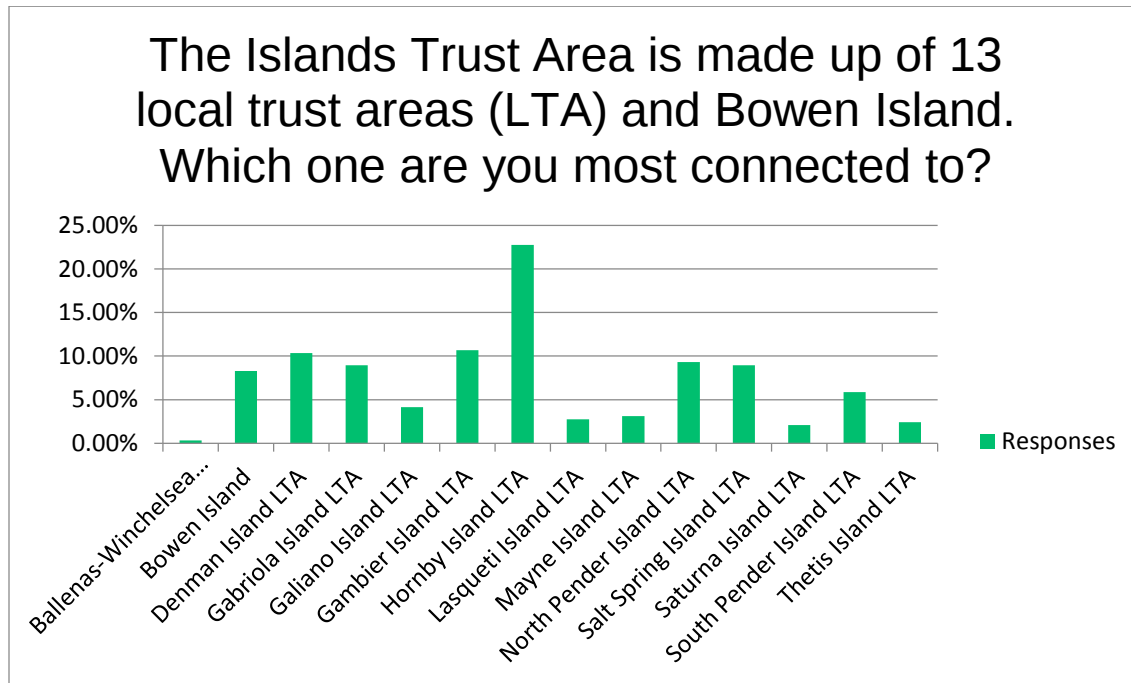
- Wildfires, & FireSmart
- Water collection and disposal
- Septic systems and alternatives
- Ecosystem protection and restoration
- Islands Trust Governance, management and fiscal responsibility
- Affordable Housing
- Marine jurisdiction and protection
- Native History/First Nations
- Tourism
- Transportation
- Electromagnetic radiation (EMF)
- Wildlife
- Planning
- Other

NOTE: The original full text of all comments can be found in **Appendix B** of this report

Question 3:

The Islands Trust Area is made up of 13 local trust areas (LTA) and Bowen Island. Which one do you feel most connected with?

290 Responses



The top six responses for Question 3 were as follows:

Hornby Island LTA - 66 responses

Gambier Island LTA – 31 responses

Denman Island LTA – 30 responses

North Pender Island LTA – 27 responses

Gabriola Island LTA – 26 responses

South Pender Island LTA – 26 responses

Appendix A: Question 2

Below, please list additional topics you would be interested in:

- Carbon Footprint of my home
- No camping on Bowen Island
- All above apply, yet the topic of choice is to secure stewardship in whole -as a path to protect and support health for all. Please support the determination of a council in stewardship - that a community be selected internationally to provide care for land in all communities.
- I think TC would benefit from a presentation by Deborah Curran of the UVIC Environmental Law Society. She is an informative and engaging speaker.
- electrosmog or EMF radiation dangers from cell towers. Please consider licensed EMF professional Chris Anderson from Salt Spring as a virtual speaker.
- electro smog from cell towers
- Rainwater harvesting and water purification systems.
- EMF radiation dangers from cell towers and home routers - who is most vulnerable and what is the actual everyday risk? (check with William Thomas)
- How to protect a small island of finite resources from the ravages of a tourist dependent economy?
- Affordable housing for all full time residents.
- The need for tourist accommodation control on finite-ecology gulf islands.
- Gray water use
- Personal privacy and surveillance cameras.
- Trails along the sides roads for more enjoyable walks, not paved but safe to walk. No ebikes or motorized vehicles, perhaps a few small signs that point out things of interest, like kinds of trees our ant nest types etc.
- Electrical alternatives to burning wood and propane for heat.
- Native history of Hornby Island
- Managing Tourism: i.e How much is healthy for our island? How do we control bad behaviour of tourists? How can we control the number of rentals? (develop a plan and a strategy, no matter how contentious the issue!)
- About Indigenous wildlife
- Greywater systems feasibility and cost
- Trustee engagement with the community:
 - ie: Open hall meetings
 - ie: Q & A sessions without the restrictive formal format of IT meetings.
 - ie: Regular office hours - drop-in access to trustees
 - ie: Opportunities to facilitate open dialogues between islanders and trustees

- ie: A more visible trustee presence within the community.
- Indigenous stewardship and location specific indigenous land relationship and activities.
- Community grant access and disclosure around recipients
- I think it would be great to have a discussion on e-bikes and their (both good and bad) impact on the trust area. e-bikes are allowing many islanders to go car-free for much of their errands, and e-bikes have priority loading on the ferries.
- Greenhouse gas reduction
- Compost curbside collection
- Re-cycling curbside collection
- Waste curbside collection
- Indigenous historical site stewardship.
- Funded Indigenous youth and family engagement programs. Reconciliation efforts to facilitate indigenous relationship to the island. Token events and speakers are not enough.
- Rain catchment - personal and community (reservoir developement)
- Grey water recycling
- Managing air pollution
- Countering automobile dependency - community planning
- Rethinking community planning
- Better understand the role of the islands trust
- How many of the above topics are under the UN Agenda 21? Agenda 2030? I ask as rules are planet wide yet we each live in micro climates. Agenda 2030 is about control, not the environment, not sustainability.
- Riparian Areas Regulations
- EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
 - EVACUATION measures
 - REDUCE WILDFIRE fuel from private and public AND ALR lands
 - GROUND WATER AND WELL WATER issues and concerns
- How to navigate a critical health emergency where you have to leave the island for a hospital.
- Legalizing STVR
- Review of existing bylaws wrt various land categories (alr, residential etc.) and sizes (small lot, large lot).
- freighter anchorage impacts
- I have no idea what the IT mapping system is. Can't check that without information
- In each discussion...would be great if there is a To Do List:
- How to get started?
- How to move forward on issues?
- What can we ask Gov at all levels to do?

- Watershed protection!
- Creating and keeping track of native species inventories and how societies in Keats Island may promote research
- Preserving the forests on public and private land
- Fire-resistant plants for this (Saturna Island) zone. Thank you
- Affordable Housing strategies for Gulf Islanders.
- How the Islands Trust came about and how they fit in with other levels of government.
- prevention and response to interface fires
- How to run government in a maximally efficient manner by shrinking the size of bureaucracy. This survey and the virtual speaker series are a prime example of something that falls well beyond the scope of what most taxpayers want from the Islands Trust. This highlights the extent of the problem, in that the Trust doesn't even for a moment consider this could be a waste of taxpayer dollars.
- Bylaw enforcement procedures
- We, and the Islands Trust, needs a speaker on fiscal responsibility. Also the need to hire some business admin and commerce grads to teach staff about financial planning and expenditures matching 2% inflation targets
- Community cohesion, communication strategies.
- Emergency planning specific to S Pender where we only have one bridge and one road.
- Meaning of "preserve and protect" in the Islands Trust mandate.
- Creating neighbourhood conservation ownership. Neighbourhoods are a common interests group that can be responsible for conservation in their area.
- Affordable housing. Bylaw enforcement against STVRs. Ferries and tourist traffic.
- Emergency planning, preparedness around climate change induced extreme weather events
- Effectively addressing inadequate affordable housing stock and insecure housing
- Changing framework for conservation to include ecological footprint rather than density as currently defined "
- "Mammals, birds, reptiles that we share the island with. Their needs and how we can support their habitat on our properties to offset for fragmenting their habitats.
- Climate change and what direction it is projected to be taking the forest species (plant and animal) on the island.
- Diverting grey water to create swales as firebreaks on the downhill sides of our homes. Would include how to make swales, how to FireSmart a property, how to filter grey water for garden purposes.
- sustainable island tourism
- Relationship between historic zoning and property values, versus contemporary knowledge and trends: groundwater protection, archaeological discoveries.
- Forest stewardship and restoration

- Working towards sustainability but changing our accepted habits and permit processes.
- How do we get CRD to recognize rainwater collection in permitting process?
- How do we get CRD to recognize composting in permitting process?
- Reducing Island Development
- We have a reliable spring and sufficient storage capacity for water and neither have nor need a well. I am not sure what community based habitat means - communities providing habitat for flora and/or fauna? I am not aware that we have any species at risk or significant invasive species. We are currently planning protection for a part of our trail and boat shed. Wildfires are a major concern and we are cautious and well informed. What we cannot control is neighbours and the public. We are located in the 93% of Gambier's private property that is water access only and no public roads or trails at all but that doesn't always stop people from hiking so they are of concern when we have been without measurable rain for so long and the forests are so dry. I might be interested in the mapping systems - what I have found in the past wasn't very useful or informative.
- Protecting water from sewage
- Over tourism and how it negatively impacts small communities.
- Suggestions for what to do with woody debris generated by FireSmarting your property
- composting
- our biogeoclimatic zone
- climate change expectations for our islands and what we can do to mitigate negative impacts
- aquifers
- Protecting forests on private and public lands
- Fostering healthy forest ecosystems
- Permaculture
- Alternatives to burning wood and plant waste
- Ecological trail development
- Historical native plant habitat & usage (indigenous)"
- Wetland protection, restoration, creation, and use (including as green infrastructure)
- Process to disband the Trust.
- Food security and vegetable gardening for climate change
- Alternates to grass that are not a fire hazard but require little to no water.
- The OCP and how it helps us manage our island.
- How to protect your forest/land with selective thinning and berming.
- Water storage - cisterns, rain barrels, dugouts, ponds. How to build them, how to maintain them and regulatory hurdles.
- What our woods and landscape were like pre-contact say 1850's. Then how to restore this condition

- I am concerned that Island Trust has taken on too many issues for its resources and as a result, lacks effectiveness. For instance, when I ask about ship anchorages, I am told about Island Trust official policy and past actions. That is NOT effective when more ships are staying for longer times and the Tsawwassen coal port is expanding. Meanwhile, Puget Sound has much less ship anchorage due in part to a major residents backlash. WHERE IS AN ON-GOING SALISH SEA LOBBY? I would like to see effectiveness measures for each of Island Trust major priorities showing actual to goal measures reported annually.
- I am interested in how we can encourage governments (Provincial) to put policies in place that better protect our forests and oceans. I want to learn more about opportunities for advocacy
- Environmental baselining to measure the effects of climate change.
- The importance of acting locally to do our part in dealing with the climate catastrophe.
- - importance of protecting wetlands on the Gulf Island and ways to protect
- beavers - the new wildfire prevention hero and all round ecosystem protector
- detecting misinformation about our coastal Douglas fir ecosystem
- Deer population control
- Creating habitat like rock and brush piles
- Wildfire risk reduction
- Wildfire fighting on DCDF islands
- Generating Tidal energy for Desalination
- How to be resilient and adaptable in the face of climate change as a topic. Resilient ecosystems. Success stories of our islands forests. And for the education series by Islands Trust, there was not any feedback on the presentations as far as I know. As an example, the Conservancy webinars had to report feedback because half the funding came from the federal government. IT should do the same.
- forest conservation and reforestation for drought tolerance
- Making sense of densities and density transfers
- That's already lots of good topics!
- Bylaw enforcement
- Local economic development opportunities
- How to meet known (2018 housing needs assessments) housing needs within the Islands Trust? The IT has a mandate to preserve and protect nature AND communities. How does the IT make this possible? How will the IT make this possible?
- Citizen Science programs in the Gulf Islands
- invasive species removal including feral sheep
- Building a boat dock
- Effective local governance

- Weirs, Mudge Island tidal road, tidal electric projects, Bridge between Islands, desalination plants, rainwater collection, species overpopulation, grey water black water best practices
 - "Rainwater harvesting - non-potable and potable. How do regulations affect the use of water collection as ""proof of water"" for domestic use.
 - Healthy septic systems. New processing systems and how they can be used.
 - Composting toilets.
 - I would suggest Gord Baird (CRD) for both of these talks.
 - I suggest that the Islands Trust should focus on these kinds of practical issues.
 - (The ITC and Parks Canada cover Invasive Species, Species at Risk etc.)
-
- I like the idea of success stories - what about the statistics that I mentioned in an email I sent to Director Clare Frater (copied to Morgana van Niekerk).
 - Build a presentation around those numbers - and the covenanted areas, the conservancies- and the huge areas of Park.
 - What the Trust looks like really - emphasis on the good !
 - Thanks for this opportunity.
 - Carrying capacity of the islands, how is this determined/defined.
 - importance of wetlands
 - Housing for seniors, housing for employees of Island based businesses.
 - Indigenous land « gardening »
 - Beaver relationship to wetlands"
 - Gabriola Deforestation Policy, Soil Retention on Severe Slopes
 - I believe that transparent education series is a mechanism that will enhance awareness if I.T. Goals and purposes
 - Protecting the lands ability to absorb rainwater so it becomes groundwater
 - An overview of how our islands are governed. How are decisions made? How can individuals have input?
 - No speaker series should be funded with property tax money until the IT's corporate plan is in place. Then no speaker series should be approved or funded until previous speaker presentations have been clearly shown to have explicit goals, performance metrics, verifiable positive outcomes, and annual review for effectiveness.
 - This endeavor is not necessary
 - native bees/pollinators
 - Home solar energy
 - Community clean energy initiatives, mature tree protection on residential properties
 - Alternative housing - Secondary suites with less restrictions - in accessory buildings, above garages, cabins, tiny homes, trailers, etc. RV / Mobile home park. Open your eyes. It is needed and works well all over our province.

- the community/environmental impact of tree clearing and how to best preserve our inhabited forest while making space for housing and gardens
- What is the situation with our island's freshwater sustainability (good, bad, indifferent)?
- Rain Water Collection and how to replace groundwater use with rainwater - no potable water on gardens, using rainwater to flush toilets, etc.
- i would like more of an island based discussion group series regarding issues on our particular island. ie where we can discuss as a group what our goals are both environmentally but also economically, socially. ie how we can develop more affordable housing. how will glow so warming is affecting our island . maybe look at group efforts on invasive species as we could really make a difference in this if we as a group put in more effort. anyway. i think we need some talks looking not just in the environment but also looking at the people. and how people are surviving. and how we could support our businesses andjelo our farms, restaurant etc continue.
- Climate change impacts expected on the islands
- Drought mitigation practices
- Making properties flood and heat-wave resilient
- Effect of tree removal on the water cycle and groundwater supply
- Understanding indigenous world view that was able to integrate with nature - how can we newcomers learn from that
- Limits to population growth on the gulf islands va "buildout"
- How to form groups and inspire/lead positive change and volunteerism
- The role of the Islands Trust...and the complaint process. I'm always surprised at what people get away with (even after being reported) with seemingly little consequence.
- I am interested in the saving of trees to help mitigate the effects of climate change. I realize that property owners are allowed remove trees without additional permission but should this be allowed to continue. Some municipalities no longer allow property owners to remove trees without permission. Is it time tree removal requires permission on our islands?
- How Island Trust can help us with housing for the islands' homeless and/or insecurely housed citizens.
- How to set up a rainwater collection system on your property and associated costs, available grants and suppliers to purchase from.
- Workforce Housing
- "Solar and other alternate energy systems
- Composting toilets and greywater systems
- History and function of Islands Trust"
- Engagement with Aboriginal Nations, vision and impacts to Trust policies. Developing housing security within overall Trust policy and how to ensure OCP's support this issue. Climate Crisis / Wildfire impacts and mitigation.

- Concrete cisterns & rainwater collection. Cleaning of cisterns, recommended water filtration systems.
- Rainwater collection system maintenance
- Putting water collection in all new builds as part of a building permit restricting well use measuring well use charging for well. Use dealing with industrial use Winery's Cidery's and the impact on the water table.
- "Importance of maintaining wetlands, and not draining or filling them
- Importance of forest cover to land, and how to help forests be fire resistant
- Pretty much any other topic on ecological care and importance of maintaining natural ecosystems as much as possible."
- "Importance of Forest protection
- What is the Island Trust & why is it important to preserve & protect?
- How is climate change impacting the Gulf Islands "
- Shore Power and Shore Charging Infrastructure
- "Wildfire response
- Climate change- key effects on Islands Trust ecosystems (forests, wildlife, water supply)"
- rain water harvesting
- Reducing animal ag on gulf islands (while increasing vegetable/fruit/nut farming)
- Reintroduction of native species, indigenous stewardship promising practices, localizing food production, reducing fossil fuel use
- rainwater collection and use.
- Garbage, styrofoam etc washing up on our beaches
- Cohabitation with our water and land wildlife and environment. ie:
- What to do when sea life or eagles, wildlife, etc are in distress.
- Can we spray the shoreline with salt water when super hot temperatures and extra low tides threaten sea life. What to do/who to contact when witnessing illegal dumping, threatening behaviour to sea life by boaters.
- How does being a community within the Islands Trust affect zoning /landuse planning for community ie long term care and low income housing and does the islands trust interact or coordinate with PHC and Island Health...
- Increasing bio-literacy initiatives. OUTREACH.
- Anything restoration or conservation related. Climate effects on biodiversity and ways to mitigate
- Culling fallow deer. They are an Invasive species not native to the gulf islands. They were introduced by early European settlers to hunt.
- Process to remove "problem" trees (dead/dying, dangerous/leaning, damaging foundations or septic field...) including lag time or delays in permitting
- fire fighting water, wild fire evacuation, Emergency Muster locations, Unified command structure

- Affordable housing: What is the Islands Trust's role, what isn't the Trust's role, what are the roles of other levels of government, examples of effective regulations (that support affordable housing while not also opening the door to rampant development, and while protecting groundwater and ecosystems); examples of affordable housing initiatives in the Trust Area
- The importance of trees and forests and how to protect them
- What can we learn from Indigenous Traditional Knowledge that will help us live on our land in more sustainable ways?
- I would likely only participate if it was a topic that was unique to the Trust and the Trust Area. For most of the topics above, I can find plenty of info via a Google search (including good info from the ITC site).
- Protecting native plants on your property. Not cutting down trees, pulling out salal etc, but incorporating them in the landscape
- Conservation covenants and wildfire prevention

Appendix B: Survey Text

About this Survey

What is the purpose of this survey? Islands Trust is seeking feedback on topics for its next virtual speaker series.

Islands Trust has offered online education from time to time. Previous topics included eelgrass protection, ecosystem-based adaptation, and rainwater harvesting. The Islands Trust Conservancy has also completed a speaker series. All recordings can be found on the Stewardship Education webpage.

What happens to your input? Staff will provide the feedback to Trust Programs Committee who will consider topics for future speaker series, and consider whether to support a speaker series in 2024-2025.

Survey length: Two minutes to complete (estimate).

Survey deadline: September 15, 2023 at 11:59 pm

Navigating the survey: Please use the 'preview' and 'next' buttons at the bottom of each page to navigate the survey, answer questions, and review your responses. When finished, please go to the final page and click 'submit'.

Thank you for your participation, we value your feedback!

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and Correspondence Policy

Privacy Protection: Any personal information collected during the survey is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. If you have any inquiries about the collection or use of information in this survey, please contact the Islands Trust's Director of Legislative Services at 250.405.5169.

Personal Information: Islands Trust will not collect, use, or disclose personal information through this Survey Monkey survey. However, please be aware that Survey Monkey itself collects IP addresses.

Content Moderation: Comments and questions will be reviewed to ensure they do not contain defamatory or profane content, personal remarks about individuals, their motives, or intentions, or any other content inappropriate for a general audience.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Share your ideas

Islands Trust has offered on-island and virtual education sessions from time to time since 2017. Islands Trust is soliciting ideas from the public on topics for its next stewardship education speaker series.

1. In no particular order, below is a list of previously suggested topics. Which topics would you like to learn more about? Select all that apply.

- Groundwater conservation
- Native plant gardening
- Rain gardens
- Species at risk on your property
- Invasive species removal
- Community based habitat: Success stories
- Well maintenance
- Shoreline protection best practices
- Wildfire prevention
- Saltwater intrusion
- Wood stove use and maintenance
- Sea level rise and warming
- Using the Islands Trust mapping system (new platform to be launched in 2024)
- Determining if you need a development permit

2. Below, please list additional topics you would be interested in:

3. The Islands Trust Area is made up of 13 local trust areas (LTA) and Bowen Island. Which one do you feel most connected with?

- Ballenas-Winchelsea Island LTA
- Bowen Island
- Denman Island LTA
- Gabriola Island LTA
- Galiano Island LTA

- Gambier Island LTA
- Hornby Island LTA
- Lasqueti Island LTA
- Mayne Island LTA
- North Pender Island LTA
- Salt Spring Island LTA
- South Pender Island LTA
- Thetis Island LTA

[insert Islands Trust Area map]

Thank you for your participation

Stay Up to Date

Want to stay up to date with the Islands Trust and Islands Trust Conservancy? You can sign up for news and information: <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/subscribe/>

Give Us Feedback Anytime

We'd like to hear from you! Any time you'd like to give us feedback, go to:

<https://islandstrust.bc.ca/contact-us/share-your-views/>

Click the **DONE** button below to finalize your survey!



BRIEFING

To:	Trust Programs Committee	For the Meeting of:	November 6, 2023
From:	Trust Area Services	Date Prepared:	October 27, 2023
SUBJECT:	Wildfire Webinar Resources		

PURPOSE: To provide wildfire webinar resources to Trust Programs Committee to support discussions on whether an Island Trust Area property owner has what they need from existing resources to take action on wildfire prevention on their property.

BACKGROUND: In August 2023, Trust Programs Committee passed the following resolutions:

That Trust Programs Committee request staff to compile a list of applicable wildfire webinar resources for Trust Programs Committee review before creating another webinar.

That Trust Programs Committee request staff to ask trustees for suggestions on wildfire prevention webinar resources applicable to the Islands Trust Area.

That Trust Programs Committee endorse the amended Speaker Series Project Charter, dated August 28th, 2023.

As per these resolutions, Islands Trust staff has compiled a list of wildfire prevention materials (Table 1) for review. These include suggestions from trustees. A number of resources suggested by trustees are not included here as they are not intended for a homeowner audience.

In addition to compiling resources, staff spoke with Ruth Waldick at Transition Salt Spring Society and learned that she has been doing research into wildfires in the Islands Trust Area and may be interested in hosting a panel for a webinar.

Staff also spoke Keith Erlickson, a Galiano resident who is an ecologist and biologist. He worked with the Galiano FireSmart group to conduct over 100 home FireSmart assessments with recommendations for how to reduce property risk within the context of the islands. He also worked on a demonstration project that reduced fuel loads around the school while preserving biodiversity and forest restoration projects that look at both biodiversity and fire risk. A tour (and videoing) of this work might be a feasible option. Trust Programs Committee may wish to consider whether a short video featuring property owners/trustees visiting and learning on the site would support TPC's goal of offering education re locally-relevant wildfire prevention information.

Staff was also made aware of fire management materials released by the BC Forest Practices Review Board¹, however, homeowners are not the audience of these materials.

¹ <https://www.bcfpb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/SR61-LFM-Technical-Report-web.pdf>;
<https://www.bcfpb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/SR61-Landscape-Fire-Management.pdf>; and webinar
<https://www.youtube.com/@BCWildlifeFederation>

TABLE 1			
Topic	Agency	Resource Type	Overview and Link
British Columbia FireSmart	BC FireSmart Committee	Website with resources	Significant number of resources to support the property owner – home guide, 1 hour course, FireSmart tips, assessments https://firesmartbc.ca/ ; https://firesmartbc.ca/resource-types/assessments/
CRD FireSmart & Wildfires	Capital Regional District	Website with resources	CRD offers free FireSmart Home Assessments to understand fine-scale hazards (for example, firewood and vegetation placement around your yard). https://www.crd.bc.ca/service/fire-and-emergency-programs/fire-protection/firesmart https://www.crd.bc.ca/prepare-yourself/hazards-in-our-region/wildland-fires
Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands Wildfire Exposure Map project	Capital Regional District and Islands Trust	Maps	The CRD and Islands Trust collaborated on creating the wildfire exposure maps to help prioritize mitigation efforts. This new approach is designed to support wildfire prevention and mitigation efforts across a variety of land ownership classes. Exposure mapping is developed through a simple scientific approach that identifies where wildfires are most likely to impact developed areas. These maps are not education materials on their own but there could be a webinar on how to interpret and use them. https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/news/article/2023/10/03/crd-electoral-area-wildfire-exposure-maps-show-risk • Salt Spring Island Wildfire Exposure • Galiano Island Wildfire Exposure • Mayne Island Wildfire Exposure • Pender Island Wildfire Exposure • Saturna Island Wildfire Exposure (Methodology from Beverly, McLoughlin & Chapman, 2021 - exposure percentage is the ratio of hazard fuels in a 500m circle around a point. Hazard fuels include conifer, mixedwood, and slash fuel type from the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System.)

TABLE 1			
Topic	Agency	Resource Type	Overview and Link
Salt Spring Island Wildfire Community Roundtable Webinar	Capital Regional District	Webinar, 1.5 hr	Local experts discuss the risks with community members and what they can do today to prepare https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7DVh5DwfttU&t=92s
Comox Valley Regional District (Denman & Hornby) Wildfires	Comox Valley Regional District	Website	Tips for getting ready for a wildfire including tips for a property owner https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-management/preparedbc/know-your-hazards/wildfires/before-wildfire
Fire Risk Reduction in the Coastal Douglas-fir Bio-geoclimatic Zone online workshop	Transition Salt Spring	Working Recording: Online Practitioner's Workshop, 5 hr	The event brought together over seventy participants, including regional Fire Smart Coordinators, Fire Rescue, BC Wildfire Services, forest managers, and experts working in the CDF Zone. The many experts at the workshop spoke to the fire risk challenges unique to this area. They identified potential strategies to address these challenges under the current land management realities and limitations. https://transitionsaltspring.com/fire-risk-video/
Why Healthy Forests Matter in Reducing Fire and Drought Risk	Transition Salt Spring	Webinar, 1.5hr	Insights into sustainable forest management practices in the context of climate change and how homeowners can enhance the state of forests. At 43:38 begins discussion on what property owners can do, and Fire Smart and forest management. https://transitionsaltspring.com/why-healthy-forests-matter-video/
Gambier Island Fire Protection	Gambier Fire Equipment Group	Website	Gambier Fire Equipment Group page https://www.gambierisland.org/Fire%20Protection.htm
Harden Your Home Wildfire Prevention Video	National Interagency Fire Centre	Video, 2 min	U.S. resource. This two minute video covers ways to reduce flammable material around homes and communities before a fire occurs to keep property and firefighters safe. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=etzzPiUxRSQ
Indigenous practices are the future and past of wildfire prevention	The Discourse	Newspaper article	Discusses wildfire mitigation efforts in the Westbank First Nation Community Forest. https://thediscourse.ca/okanagan/wildfire-prevention-westbank-first-nation-community-forest

Upcoming Webinar			
Living with Wildfire (Nov 16, 2023)	Coastal Douglas Fir and Associated Ecosystem Conservation Partnership	Upcoming webinar (Nov 16)	Neal Mccloughlin works for BC Wildfire Services in their Predictive Services Unit and will share information on how the condition of the forest can influence how fire behaves and how BC Wildfire Service using maps of fuel type to predict how a fire may move across the landscape under certain environmental conditions. Jason Hutchinson is a Forest Carbon Specialist who works for the Ministry of Forest. The Ministry has been working on projects to increase carbon stored within our forest which includes planting post fire, pest and landslides. Jason will share information about this project including the lessons they have learned relating to when to plant and when not to.
Wildfire Resiliency Plans			
CRD Salt Spring Island Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan	CRD	Wildfire Resiliency Plan	https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/emergency-pdf/saltspringisland-wildfire-ataglace.pdf?sfvrsn=302c28ce_4 (This is not an education material on its own but trustees may wish to see pages 78-86 for education/communication recommendations associated with the report)
2022 Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan for Electoral Area B (Gabriola)	Regional District of Nanaimo	Wildfire Resiliency Plan	https://www.rdn.bc.ca/sites/default/files/inline-files/Community%20Wildfire%20Resiliency%20Plan%20for%20Electoral%20Area%20B%20-%20May%202022_compressed_2.pdf (This is not an education material on its own but trustees may wish to see pages 67-72 for education/communication recommendations associated with the report)

FOLLOW-UP:

Staff will follow-up as directed.

Prepared By: Mary Storzer, Senior Policy Advisor

Reviewed By/Date: Clare Frater, October 25, 2023

BRIEFING

To: Trust Programs Committee **For the Meeting of:** November 6, 2023
From: Trust Area Services **Date Prepared:** October 30, 2023
SUBJECT: Living in the Trust Area Project Update

PURPOSE: To provide an update to Trust Programs Committee on the “Living in the Islands Trust Area” mail-out project.

BACKGROUND:

The 2018-2022 Strategic Plan included a strategy “to develop and implement a Stewardship Education Program directed towards the public, industry and/or stakeholders in the Trust Area”.

On May 15, 2023 Trust Programs Committee adopted the following resolution:

That Trust Programs Committee endorse the Living in the Trust Area Mailing Program Project Charter, dated May 15, 2023.

That Trust Programs Committee request staff to redesign the Government and Other Services contact sheet to have the Land Use Planning contact sheet on the back of it.

Staff have contracted development of a mailing list and have updated two publications for the mailing:

1. Government and Other Services contact sheet to have the Land Use Planning contact sheet - updated
2. Stewardship Tips Brochure – updated in the “Think about Trees” section to provide information specifically tailored for this region on managing forests for ecosystem values while also managing for fire. Staff would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the experts at B.A. Blackwell and Associates Ltd. for their advice to staff on this topic. The new section reads:

Beyond 10m and up to 30m distance from a structure, some fallen trees, logs, and large branches may be left on the ground as habitat for plants, insects, amphibians, reptiles, small mammals, and birds. All branches <12.5cm diameter (these can be considered fine fuels) should be removed offsite, while larger sizes may be retained but must be separated from other woody debris by 3m. Retained logs or large branches should be bucked, with the cut branches removed offsite, so they lay flat and in contact with the ground to help improve soil nutrients and moisture retention.

The mailing will go to 309 new property purchasers (250 properties) in November, 2023.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Government and Other Services contact/Land Use Planning contact sheet - updated
2. Stewardship Tips Brochure –updated

FOLLOW-UP: Staff will continue to implement the project as directed.

Prepared By: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services

Reviewed By/Date:

Bylaws & Zoning Regulations

We're here to help: Learn about your local bylaws and zoning regulations, before you make your plans.

In the Islands Trust Area, permitting may be required for new builds, renovations, tree removal or home-based business development.

Contact Islands Trust to learn about the zoning bylaws that can affect your plans to use and develop your property.

Many of the island regulations reflect community values and are in place to protect the region's unique environment and cultural heritage.

First Nations

The Islands Trust Area is within treaty and territorial lands and waters of many First Nation governments, which may have their own permitting requirements related to land use. Engagement with First Nations may be required. Islands Trust land use decision-making is moving towards greater protection of cultural heritage and sites, ancestral resting places, and culturally significant areas.

Photo: Kris Krug

Calls can be made to Islands Trust toll-free via Service BC:

In Vancouver: 604-660-2421

Elsewhere in BC: 1-800-663-7867

Denman Local Trust Area

📞 250-247-2063

✉️ northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca



SCAN ME



Islands Trust

Preserving and protecting over 450 islands and surrounding waters in the Salish Sea

islandstrust.bc.ca

Denman Island Local Trust Area

A selection of government and other services.

Emergency services

Ambulance, Fire, Police

National 911 Program

☎ 911

Wildfire reporting

BC Wildfire Service

1-800-663-5555 or *5555

Marine search and rescue

Canadian Coast Guard

1-800-567-5111

Rezoning, siting and land-use permits

Islands Trust, Planning

250-247-2063

Land use bylaw enforcement

Islands Trust,
Bylaw enforcement

1-250-405-5175

Land conservation

Islands Trust Conservancy
Denman Conservancy Assoc.

1-250-405-5186

denmanconservancy.org

On-island medical services

Denman Island Health Centre

250-335-2260

Bylaw enforcement – Regional District
(fireworks, noise, unsightly premises)

Comox Valley Regional District

250-334-6000

Parks and protected areas

Comox Valley Regional District
BC Parks contractor (Quality
Recreation Ltd.)

250-334-6000

250-308-4479

Garbage collection

Strathcona Recycling & Disposal

250-207-6500

Additional waste/recycling
information

Waste Management Committee

denmanresidents.com

General Services (Including parks,
docks, internet and more)

Denman Island Residents
Association

denmanresidents.com

Fire inquiries (non-emergencies)

Denman Island Volunteer Fire
Department

250-335-0345

Environmental violations/concerns

Provincial RAPP line

1-877-952-7277

Environmental emergencies
(including marine)

Emergency Management BC

1-800-663-3456

Reporting archaeological sites
and artefacts, permits

BC Archaeology Branch
K'ómoks First Nation

250-953-3334

250-339-4545

Injured or killed deer

Peter Karsten

250-335-1640

Other wildlife issues

Mike Nestor

250-218-0782

Power outages

BC Hydro

1-800-224-9376

Roads and road maintenance

Emcom Service Inc

250-335-2711

Septic systems and fields

BC Environmental Island Health
Registered Onsite
Wastewater Practitioners

250-331-8518

[asttbc.org/registrants/
registrant-directory/#](http://asttbc.org/registrants/registrant-directory/#)

More local contact numbers can be found in the Denman Island Phone Book.



Islands Trust

Visit the Islands Trust web
page for a more complete list
of other government services
in your Trust Area.



Stewardship Tips



Islands 40th Anniversary

Living on the islands, you will make many decisions about how you use, enjoy, and care for your property.

With over 67% of land in the Trust Area privately owned, residents have an important role to play in protecting and stewarding this special place. The maintenance, building and landscaping decisions you make affect your energy use, drought and flood resistance, windbreaks, and fire protection. The decisions you make can also impact plants and animals in your environment, cultural sites, and affect the region's ability to withstand the impacts of climate change.



Encompassing the waters and islands of the Salish Sea between southern Vancouver Island and the mainland, the Islands Trust Area has been home to Indigenous Peoples since time immemorial. The region features spectacular beauty, extensive cultural sites, and some of the world's most precious and endangered ecosystems.



The Trust Area is situated within the territories of the Coast Salish Peoples and includes many gathering places, village sites and cultivated harvesting areas, dating back over 14,000 years.

Get to Know the Land

Plan ahead: identify environmental values and ensure protection of cultural sites before site clearing, planning, and design.

Locate development (new buildings, driveways, landscaping and septic systems) away from areas of cultural significance or with high environmental value, like shorelines, wetlands, rare ecosystems (such as Garry oak meadows), and wildlife trees.

Cluster development in one area to minimize site disturbance, protect natural areas, and save money.

Remove invasive species that can out-compete native species. Invasive plants can also pose threats to human and animal health, fuel wildfires, and devalue a property.



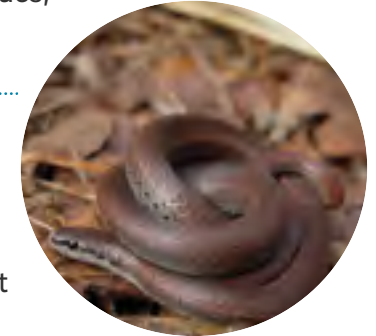
▲ American bushtit
(*Psaltiriparus minimus*)

Think About the Trees

Healthy forests are vibrant, diverse ecological communities with rich environmental and community values. They are also among the islands' greatest natural assets for climate change resilience and water protection.

Minimize tree cutting and soil disturbance. The islands' trees and soils have vital ecological and climate values, important to both people and wildlife.

Protect forests on your property to support their key functions in providing wildlife habitat, absorbing carbon, and storing rainwater. Healthy forests protect against extreme wildfires, drought, and flooding.



▲ Sharp-tailed snake
(*Contia tenuis*)

If you do have to address hazard trees, consider leaving the trunk behind to provide shelter and food for wildlife.

Are there any eagle, heron or other raptor nests on your property? These nests are protected by legislation. Section 34 of the B.C. Wildlife Act prohibits interference with nesting trees of raptors, whether or not the nests are active.

Beyond 10m and up to 30m distance from a structure, some fallen trees, logs, and large branches may be left on the ground as habitat for plants, insects, amphibians, reptiles, small mammals, and birds. All branches <12.5cm diameter (these can be considered fine fuels) should be removed offsite, while larger sizes may be retained but must be separated from other woody debris by 3m. Retained logs or large branches should be bucked, with the cut branches removed offsite, so they lay flat and in contact with the ground to help improve soil nutrients and moisture retention.

Water is Essential and in Short Supply

Natural areas that hold and filter rainwater, such as healthy forests, meadows and wetlands, help protect the islands' precious groundwater.

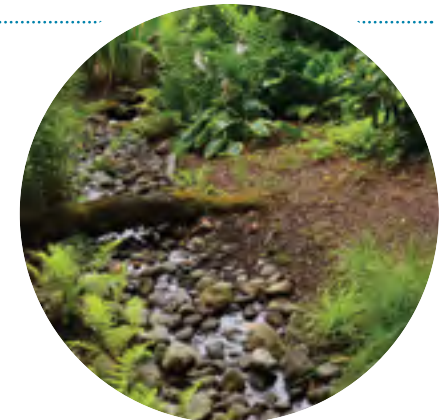
Observe the way water flows over the land and design any landscaping and development to maintain natural drainage patterns.

Landscape with native, drought-hardy plants and shrubs, rather than water-demanding lawns and ornamentals.

Minimize the use of hard impervious surfaces, such as concrete, that promote runoff and negatively impact water infiltration into soils and groundwater reservoirs.

Convert portions of existing lawn or landscaping to rain gardens, designed to hold, filter and slowly release surface water runoff from roads, roofs, or other impervious structures into the landscape.

If your property has a stream or wetland, retain a protective buffer of native trees and vegetation around it.



From clam gardens, to fish weirs, to middens, island shorelines are sensitive ecological and cultural areas that require continued preservation and protection.

Care for Marine Shorelines

Island shorelines are valuable for ecological and cultural reasons. Much of the Salish Sea's marine life, including salmon, whales, and birds, relies on nearshore habitat for spawning, early life, or food.

Locate residences and infrastructure further inland to reduce the need for shoreline protection. Avoid hard shoreline structures, such as seawalls, riprap and retaining walls, that can harm fish and wildlife, and which may not prevent erosion.

Consider 'soft' shoreline designs to reduce erosion, which use natural vegetation, logs, and low slopes to stabilize soils and provide upland drainage and habitat.

Protect critical seagrass habitat. Seagrasses are incredible carbon sinks, provide habitat for fish and wildlife, and protect shorelines from damaging wave action. Consider sharing a dock among several neighbours to reduce the loss of these important ecosystems.



▲ Smolts in sea grass
TAVISH CAMPBELL

Protect Nature

Join the growing community of island landowners who are creating a natural legacy for the future. Consider donating a covenant (easement) on your property if there are ecologically or culturally valuable areas that you want to protect permanently. Conservation covenants are registered on title and can give you significant tax benefits.



Visit Islands Trust Conservancy to learn more ways to protect nature on the land you love



Discover locations of sensitive ecosystems and protected places near you on Islands Trust's mapping platform



Find land stewardship resources to care for habitat, garden with native plants and protect against invasive plants

Contact Islands Trust for more information on natural areas stewardship, protection of cultural and archaeological sites, as well as land-use zoning bylaws that can affect your plans to use and develop your property.

✉ information@islandstrust.bc.ca ☎ 250-405-5151 (Victoria)

🖱 islandstrust.bc.ca





REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Trust Programs Committee **For the Meeting of:** November 6, 2023
From: Legislative Services **Date Prepared:** October 6, 2023
SUBJECT: Proposed Trust Programs Committee 2024 Meeting Schedule

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That Trust Programs Committee adopt the meeting dates of February 12, April 15, May 27, August 26 and November 4 for the 2024 calendar year.
2. That Trust Programs Committee schedule all 2024 TPC meeting dates as electronic meetings.

SENIOR STAFF COMMENTS:

The proposed meeting dates allow for appropriate coordination of financial activities with Executive Committee and Trust Council meeting dates, and allows adequate time for staff and Committee members to perform their duties with appropriate care and due diligence.

1 PURPOSE:

To determine the 2024 meeting schedule for the Trust Programs Committee (TPC); and to make decisions around meeting formats (electronic or in-person).

2 BACKGROUND:

Meeting Dates

Near the end of each calendar year, Trust Programs Committee determines the meeting dates for the next calendar year by way of resolution. Proposed meetings dates for the 2024 calendar year are as follows:

PROPOSED TPC DATE (Year 2024)	ASSOCIATED EC DATE (Year 2024)	TRUST COUNCIL DATES (Year 2024)	ANNUAL TPC TASKS
Monday, February 12	February 28 (agenda February 23)	March 12- 14	
Monday, April 15			Secretariat Services Support - RFD
Monday, May 27	June 5 (agenda May 31)	June 18-20	Annual Report: Approval of TPC Section – RFD Topics for next fiscal business cases – RFD
Monday, August 26	September 11 (agenda September 6)	September 24-26	Budget business cases – RFD

Monday, November 4	November 20 (agenda November 15)	December 3-5	Proposed TPC Meeting Dates - RFD
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Meeting Format

Staff are requesting that TPC determine as early as possible if they wish to continue with electronic meetings for 2024. Early decision making in this regard will help staff with meeting logistics and will inform budget planning.

Electronic meetings create time savings for trustees who do not have to travel, time savings for staff in terms of travel and catering arrangements, generates several thousands of dollars in cost savings to the organization annually, and reduces corporate greenhouse gas emissions in alignment with Islands Trust values. In addition, fully electronic meetings tend to generate higher quality meeting recordings for future public viewings.

Trust Council Bylaw 101 permits Council Committees to conduct fully electronic regular and special meetings. Section 11.11(a) states: *"A regular or special meeting of a Council committee or a special meeting of the Executive Committee may be conducted entirely by means of audio or audio and visual electronic communication facilities if a majority of the members of the committee have agreed by resolution that the meeting may be conducted in this way and provided the Secretary has received sufficient notice and can make the necessary arrangements."*

As the Policy Statement Amendment Project proceeds, staff will recommend to Trust Programs Committee that it hold special meetings to discuss the draft content and development recommendations to Executive Committee and Trust Council.

3 IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

ORGANIZATIONAL:

The proposed meeting dates support appropriate coordination of budget development activities with Executive Committee and Trust Council meeting dates, and allows adequate time for staff and Committee members to perform their duties with appropriate care and due diligence.

FINANCIAL:

The draft 2024/25 budget contains funding of approximately \$3,700 for one TPC in-person meeting. The draft 2024/25 budget will be adjusted to reflect TPC decisions made related to this topic.

POLICY: None.

IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATIONS: Communications with meeting administrative staff will circulate internally for purposes of planning.

FIRST NATIONS: None.

OTHER: None.

4 RELEVANT POLICIES:

[Trust Council Bylaw 101](#)

[Trust Council Policy 2.3.1 Council Committee System](#)

5 ATTACHMENT(S): None.

RESPONSE OPTIONS

Recommendations:

1. That Trust Programs Committee adopt the meeting dates of February 12, April 15, May 27, August 26 and November 4 for the 2024 calendar year.
2. That Trust Programs Committee schedule all 2024 TPC meeting dates as electronic meetings.

Alternatives:

1. That Trust Programs Committee adopt the proposed meeting schedule for the 2024 calendar year with amendments [as directed].
 2. That Trust Programs Committee schedule only the 2024 TPC meeting dates of _____, _____, _____ as electronic meetings.
 3. That Trust Programs Committee schedule all the 2024 TPC meetings as in-person meetings.
-

Prepared By: Robert Barlow, Legislative Services Clerk

Reviewed By: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services/October 25, 2023

BRIEFING

To:	Trust Programs Committee and Regional Planning Committee	For the Meeting of:	November 6, 2023
From:	Trustees Alex Allen, Tobi Elliott, Sue Ellen Fast and Laura Patrick, and provincially-appointed Trustee Risa Smith	Date Prepared:	October 26, 2023
SUBJECT:	Montreal Pledge COP15 Biodiversity Framework and potential impacts for the work of the Islands Trust		

PURPOSE: To share the thinking of the trustee working group considering how the Montreal Charter on Biodiversity impacts the work of the Islands Trust.

BACKGROUND: The COP15 to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Montréal brought together governments from around the world who agreed after much debate to “a historic global framework to safeguard nature and halt and reverse biodiversity loss, putting nature on a path to recovery by 2050.” The K-M Global biodiversity framework consists of four goals and 23 targets to be achieved by 2030, which include:

- Protect 30% of Earth’s lands, oceans, coastal areas, inland waters;
- Reduce by \$500 billion annual harmful government subsidies;
- Cut food waste in half

Trust Council passed a motion responding to a delegation from the Gulf Island Alliance to “consider how the Montréal Charter on biodiversity impacts the work of the Islands Trust and share their thinking with Trust Council.” Four Trustees volunteered to consider and share their thoughts (Allen, Elliott, Fast and Patrick). They were joined by ITC Chair Risa Smith via Zoom in October to discuss the warrants of the Montréal Pledge and its relation to Islands Trust. There wasn’t consensus regarding the pledge and its relevance to the Islands Trust, and it was agreed that each would contribute their thoughts individually. Trustee Elliot compiled them into this document, edits were made, and here it is for consideration of Trust Council.

The K-M Global biodiversity framework consists of 23 targets which “aim to catalyze, enable and galvanize urgent and transformative action by Governments, subnational and local governments, and with the involvement of all society to halt and reverse biodiversity loss”. The Islands Trust, with its unique ‘preserve and protect’ mandate, is well positioned to act on components of this framework.

Target 1: Spatial Planning

Ensure that all areas are under participatory integrated biodiversity inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes addressing land and sea use change, to bring the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance, including ecosystems of high ecological integrity, close to zero by 2030, while respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.

At least three members of our working group agreed that Target 1 seems most applicable to the Islands Trust. The Islands Trust has already recognized that it needs better spatial planning tools, as have local governments in B.C., Canada and globally. Integrated spatial planning is at the heart of “revealing pathways to achievement of multiple nature- based goals at once”, which is what the Islands Trust attempts to do in all of land use planning decisions.

Ensuring our natural habitats are more resilient to the changes that are happening, and can adapt to the changes happening in the near future, requires frequently-updated maps and data that include cumulative impacts and disturbances. Dynamic information is needed now to address the pressures of biodiversity loss and climate change, as well as static information, so that the web of life on the islands can continue to support people and wildlife thriving in the ecosystems we share. Target 1 is a fundamental requirement for strengthened decision-making, better coordination across sectors and increased recognition of nature’s pivotal role in addressing the planetary crisis.

Potential Actions:

Several tools have been developed to help with implementation of Target 1, which may be relevant to the Islands Trust. The Integrated Spatial Planning Workbook (December 2022) by the UN Development Program and the Global Environment Facility may be useful. Google Earth has been developing map-based tools, at a 10-metre resolution, that support local governments in spatial planning, such as “Dynamic World”. Further work on how staff could become trained and make use of google earth products and other tools for spatial planning would be needed. Investments in this type of training would allow us to produce improved maps to support land use planning in the trust area, to support regional planning and conservancy work. We also should be able to work with other agencies’ regional mapping tools, such as the CRD’s Atlas.

One example of how new spatial planning tools are being used in the Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region (which Trust Council supports through the Secretariat function) can be seen with the Wildlife Connectivity project. This collaboration between the Squamish Environment Society (SES), and the Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative, with Skwx̱ wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) as a partner, will identify areas that could be protected as habitat connectivity corridors. See article (easy to read): <https://www.squamishchief.com/in-the-community/creating-connections-helping-wildlife-and-people-thrive-in-the-sea-to-sky-5867911>

Bowen Island Conservancy is looking at some of these new dynamic spatial planning tools too. A first step for Islands Trust might be to ask Murray Journeay (quoted in the article above) to lead or suggest someone to lead a webinar for island conservancies and other organizations who protect places on the islands. Trust Programs Committee could explore this as a stewardship-related workshop, and the Regional Planning Committee could explore the implications to improve spatial data used in its land use planning and mapping.

Salt Spring Island LTC, working in cooperation with UBC’s Forest and Conservation Sciences Department, created a GIS-based relational mapping tool using multiple layers including LiDAR. This tool could assist decision makers in many ways, for example, which part of a land parcel was most important to preserve contiguous forests. However, the tool has disappeared.

Target 3: 30 x 30 Pledge

Ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities including over their traditional territories.

Much attention has focused on Target 3, in which signatories pledge to protect 30% of land, inland waters and marine areas, and to restore 30% of the planet's degraded terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems by 2030. This target seems most applicable to the Islands Trust Conservancy's work, and for the Islands Trust's work in cooperation with local conservancies and not-for-profits.

Table 1 contains percentage of protected area using 2019 data:

<https://islandstrust.bc.ca/conservancy/conservation-planning/achievements/>

Local Trust Area	Protected Area (ha)	% of area protected
Ballenas-Winchelsea Islands	64.14	19.91
Bowen Island	1085.88	21.49
Denman Island	1271.7	24.68
Gabriola Island	701.58	12.06
Galiano Island	1472.05	24.39
Gambier/Keats	1628.67	16.59
Hornby Island	699.85	23.48
Lasqueti Island	989.16	13.44
Mayne Island	196.85	8.31
North Pender	1026.2	19.58
Salt Spring Island	4466.79	22.70
South Pender Island	293.88	32.16
Thetis Island	192.43	3.96
Total	15730.51	19.55

Potential Action

One way the Islands Trust could participate in this work is exploring participating in the newly-launched Municipal Protected Areas Project (MPAP). The project aims to work “with local governments to encourage contributions to the 30 by 30 target and increase protection for natural areas in BC and across Canada.” Their goal is to increase the registration of nature reserves and conservation covenants in the Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database (CPCAD) by assessing and registering municipal lands in the database at no cost.

The project has just started, with a webinar for municipal staff and a brief introduction at the Howe Sound Community Forum in October 2023 (no website yet). Since the project aims to do the work to register protected properties that meet the criteria, staff resources required may be minimal. Participating in this national project will help ensure that Islands Trust is well positioned to seek future support and resources. Contact Andrew Banks: conservation@bcnature.ca

The Islands Trust could also explore, develop and implement planning-based incentives to drive further participation in conserving land, contributing further to 30 x 30.

A Dissenting View

One member of our working group disagreed that the K-M Biodiversity framework is applicable to the Islands Trust. The following contribution outlines some of the potential ethical issues underlying the framework’s goals, and outline the structural issues that may result from the Islands Trust taking on work that may be beyond its scope, capacity or mandate:

First, this comes from a delegation, which has resulted in Trust Council apparently responding immediately by passing some lofty motion that is beyond our jurisdiction or capacity. Secondly, the pledge is about cities taking 15 actions, not islands or small rural communities. In the host’s words, “COP15 was a crucial opportunity that we seized to engage the world’s cities in concrete actions to protect biodiversity.” Canadian cities that signed the pledge include: Laval, Quebec, Sherbrooke, Montreal, Longueuil, Levis, Gatineau, Terrebonne, Trois-Rivieres, Toronto, Mississauga, Windsor and Vancouver. Not islands and not rural communities.

The 15 actions fell under one of the following three categories:

1. Reducing threats to biodiversity.
2. Sharing the benefits of biodiversity.
3. Solutions, governance, management and education.

Reducing threats to biodiversity and generating solutions... all the actions are worthy and lofty. Except it is not what it seems; the actions are all under the umbrella of *nature as capital*. This controversial concept of nature-based solutions was also a dividing issue for many at the convention. The United Nations Environment Assembly defines nature-based solutions as actions that “protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage” ecosystems, that “effectively address social, economic and environmental challenges and also provide human well being, ecosystem services and biodiversity benefits.”

A report by the Friends of the Earth International accused “industry” of trying to “turn nature into a business” and placed the blame on the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The report added that industry representatives often appear at UN biodiversity talks under “promisingly green-sounding names” and advocate or lobby for the inclusion of terms such as “no net loss,” “net gain,” “nature positive” and of course, “nature-based solutions.” It is worth noting that the CBD denied multiple requests to provide a full delegates list and, thus, it is not known how many industry representatives attended COP15. Another partner, the World Business Counsel for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) is

a confederation of approximately 200 of the world's largest corporations that promote their business practices under the cloak of "sustainable development." Members include fossil fuel corporations like Royal Dutch Shell, BP, Chevron Corporation, and Suncor Energy. Mining giant Vale S.A. Syngenta, the maker of atrazine, the amphibian-poisoning pesticide. Bayer, the maker of neonicotinoid pesticides. Five of the top twenty most toxic air-polluting corporations in the US (E.I. du Pont de Nemours, Bayer, BASF, Dow Chemical, and Eastman Chemical) and three of the top fifteen most toxic water polluting corporations (Dow, Eastman, and BASF) are also members.

When biodiversity becomes *nature capital*, it is not protecting biodiversity it is protecting corporations under the guise of "sustainable development." This practice, which in theory should lead to no net loss of nature and biodiversity, leads to an untenable contradiction. It means that nature can only be conserved if it is first destroyed. The single biggest threat to the environment and to nature is the dominance of these nature-based principles and practices. Yet they are promoted by the world's most powerful and entrenched organizations, alongside such "conservation" organizations as the Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, NatCap (the Stanford-based Natural Capital Project), and the world's largest conservation organizations (The Nature Conservancy, the World Wildlife Fund, and Conservation International). The relationships are all too cozy. Nature Conservancy and the Wildlife Fund are partners with NatCap and the chief scientists of both organizations also sit on the NatCap Board.

The common argument made by proponents of natural capital, that it helps to make the value of nature visible, is deeply flawed. The value of nature is perfectly visible to investors. They know that destroying it is far more profitable than saving it. An even more fundamental point is that destruction of nature is increasingly becoming the basis for the conservation of nature. Programs built on natural capital are usually geared towards offsetting the destruction of nature, which becomes the main source of the money needed for investing in conservation. In the logic of natural capital, investments in unsustainable economic activities are therefore "compensated" by equal investments in sustainable activities. What's the economic value of salmon or orcas versus the economic benefit of the Roberts Bank Terminal expansion? How can aquatic life adequately compensate for the Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion?

Donald S. Maier wrote in his paper 'Should biodiversity and nature have to earn their keep?' that these "institutions and their non-corporate supporters embody a tragic irony: While they regard and promote themselves as devoted to conservation of biodiversity, ecosystems, and nature, these organizations follow principles that ensure their destruction." This "nature" creep is everywhere. Exhibit A: In 2006, Nature Conservancy of Canada's mission was "to preserve the plants, animals, and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and water they need to survive." Today, their purpose: "with nature, we build a thriving world to conserve portfolios of functional conservation areas within and across ecoregions. Through this portfolio approach, we will work with partners to conserve an array of ecological systems and viable native species ... nature can better deliver essential services that support life. By connecting landscapes that provide nature-based solutions, we're taking care of places."

In 2010, Cormac Cullinan wrote in *The Legal Case for the Universal Declaration of Mother Earth*, that "existing governance systems are not working. Despite a huge increase in environmental laws and treaties over the last few decades and redoubled enforcement efforts, climate change, the loss of biological diversity and unique ecosystems, the depletion of fish stocks, the over-exploitation of fresh water resources, the loss of soil and desertification are continuing. The evidence that human regulatory systems are failing to prevent the destruction of the living communities and natural processes that are essential to most forms of life, is now overwhelming."

We should all have very deep moral reasons to reject these econometric principles to biodiversity, nature, and other environmental goods. As Maier eloquently wrote, "biodiversity and nature should not have to earn their keep."

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Convention on Biological Diversity, Conference of the Parties, 2022, *Decision Adopted/Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework*: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-04-en.pdf>
2. United Nations, 2022, *Press Release: Nations Adopt Four Goals, 23 Targets for 2030 In Landmark UN Biodiversity Agreement*: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2022/12/press-release-nations-adopt-four-goals-23-targets-for-2030-in-landmark-un-biodiversity-agreement/>
3. United Nations Development Programme, 2022 updated September 2023, *Integrated Spatial Planning Workbook*: <https://www.undp.org/publications/integrated-spatial-planning-workbook>
<https://www.undp.org/publications/integrated-spatial-planning-workbook%20>
4. Thuncher, J. 2022, Thuncher, J. 2022, *Creating connections: Helping wildlife and people thrive in the Sea to Sky*: <https://www.squamishchief.com/in-the-community/creating-connections-helping-wildlife-and-people-thrive-in-the-sea-to-sky-5867911#>
5. Municipal Protected Areas Project (MPAP) brochure
6. Maier D.S. 2018, *Should biodiversity and nature have to earn their keep? What it really means to bring environmental goods into the marketplace*: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5884767/>
7. Cullinan, C. 2010, *The Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth*: <https://www.garn.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Legal-Case-for-Universal-Declaration-Cormac-Cullinan.pdf>

 BCnature FEDERATION OF BC NATURALISTS MUNICIPAL PROTECTED AREAS PROJECT <i>Inspired by Canada's commitment to conserve 30 percent of land and water by 2030 (30x30)</i> The Municipal Protected Areas Project (MPAP) is a collaborative initiative to advance Canada's commitment, under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, to protect at least 30 percent of our lands and waters by 2030 – also known as the 30 by 30 target. The project focuses on working with local governments to encourage contributions to the 30 by 30 target and increase protection for natural areas in BC and across Canada.	2022 Conservation Status in Canada 13.6% of its terrestrial area (land and freshwater) 14.7% of its marine territory 2022 Conservation Status in BC 15.4% of land base 3.2% of B.C.'s marine areas Importance of Local Governments ❖ Municipal natural areas are home to rich biological diversity ❖ Municipal natural areas play a critical role in local adaptation to climate change ❖ Helps achieve Canada's biodiversity commitments in a meaningful way for communities Benefits of Local Governments Participation ✓ Raises the profile of local government's work for biodiversity ✓ Validates local government's conservation policies and approaches ✓ Builds collaboration between local governments and local conservation organizations ✓ Ensures local governments are well positioned to seek future support and resources for conserved areas	Local Government protected areas are under-reported on the Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database (CPCAD) What Qualifies? Natural areas can be added to the Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database (CPCAD) if they: ❖ Have clearly defined geographical boundaries ❖ Achieve in-situ conservation of biodiversity ❖ Prohibit actions incompatible with conservation ❖ Are intended to be protected into perpetuity BC Nature MPAP team can: ✓ Assess municipal lands for registry at no cost ✓ Undertake the registry process for CPCAD at no cost ✓ Engage with local clubs to generate excitement about conservation ✓ Provide resources in the protection of lands ✓ Identify opportunities for new lands to be conserved and protected For more information on MPAP, contact us at: conservation@bcnature.ca
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Further Reading:

- *Natural Capital in BC's Lower Mainland Valuing the Benefits from Nature*. David Suzuki Foundation (Solutions are in Our Nature), Pacific Parklands Foundation (2010)
- *Natural Asset Infrastructure in British Columbia: Barriers and Opportunities*. Municipal Natural Assets Initiative (Making Nature Count) (2023)
- *Legal Primer Natural Asset Management by Local Governments in Canada*. Municipal Natural Assets Initiative (Making Nature Count) (2023)
- *Towards an Eco-Asset Strategy in the Town of Gibsons*. Municipal Natural Assets Initiative (Making Nature Count) (2023)
- *Managing Natural Assets to Increase Coastal Resilience Town of Gibsons British Columbia*. Municipal Natural Assets Initiative (Making Nature Count) (2023)
- *Toward a 2030 Biodiversity Strategy for Canada: Halting and reversing nature loss Discussion Paper*. Environment and Climate Change Canada (2023)
- *Stepping Up on Biodiversity: What the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework means for responsible investors*. UN Environment Programme (April 2023)

Watch:

- *Natural Capital & Ecosystem Services. Natural Capital Project*
- Dr. Anne Guerry, Chief Strategy Officer and Lead Scientist for the Natural Capital Project, introduces the concepts of natural capital and ecosystem services. (YouTube)

FOLLOW-UP:**Response Options:**

- 1) That Trust Council receive this report for information.
- 2) That Trust Council refer this report to ITC board for information.
- 3) That Trust Council request staff to explore the costs and benefits of participating in the Municipal Protected Areas Project (MPAP) and report back.
- 4) That Trust Council refer this report back to Trust Programs Committee and/or Regional Planning Committee for further assessment of the possible actions outlined in this report.
- 5) That Trust Council refer the possible actions outlined in this report to staff for inclusion in Trust Council's strategic planning process.

Prepared By: Trustees Alex Allen, Tobi Elliott, Sue Ellen Fast and Laura Patrick, and provincially-appointed Trustee Risa Smith

Reviewed By/Date:

Active Projects Report

Trust Programs Committee

1. *Policy Statement Amendment Project*

Provide recommendations to Executive Committee on the content of the revised draft Policy Statement.

Responsible

Clare Frater
Mary Storzer

Dates

Rec'd: 21-Jun-2017
Target: 01-Oct-2026

2. *Stewardship Education Program*

Develop and implement a stewardship education program directed towards the public, industry and stakeholders in the Trust Area. (Strategic Plan strategy #4.3). This includes the Living in the Trust Area project guided by the project charter endorsed by TPC.

Responsible

Clare Frater
Gillian Nicol

Dates

Rec'd: 13-Aug-2020
Target: 29-Mar-2024

3. *Secretariat Role to Forums within the Trust Area*

Administer Secretariat Services program. Strategic Plan item 5.2

Responsible

Clare Frater
Gillian Nicol

Dates

Rec'd: 20-Jun-2018
Target: 29-Mar-2024

Future Projects Report

Trust Programs Committee

1. *Update Crown Land Agreements*

Responsible

Date Received

Engage Bowen Island Municipality and the Province of B.C. in updating and consolidating existing agreements into one.

19-Jun-2014

2. *Community Benefit Land Trust Concept*

Responsible

Date Received

Further consideration of the Community Benefit Land Trust Concept briefing presented to TPC on February 5, 2021.

05-Feb-2021

3. *Community Stewardship Awards Program*

Responsible

Date Received

Trust Council Policy 2.1.11 Administration of Community Stewardship Awards Program states: Islands Trust Programs Committee of Trust Council is responsible for initiating Islands Trust Community Stewardship Awards Program in February in the final year of each term.

02-Dec-2021