



Trust Programs Committee Agenda

Date: Wednesday, May 22, 2024
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 **Trust Programs Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of April 15, 2024** 3 - 5

For review and approval
 - 6.2 **Resolutions Without Meeting**

None.
 - 6.3 **Follow up Action List** 6 - 6

For review
7. **BUSINESS - WORK PROGRAM ITEMS**
 - 7.1 **Survey Results Reports from January – March, 2024 webinars - Briefing** 7 - 23

7.2 Stewardship Education Program - Request For Decision 24 - 43

1. That Trust Programs Committee endorse the Living in the Trust Area Mailing Program Project Charter, dated May 15, 2023.
2. That Trust Programs Committee direct staff to develop a project charter(s) for XXX webinars.

7.3 Trust Programs Committee 2025/26 Business Cases - Request For Decision 44 - 48

That Trust Programs Committee request staff to draft the following fiscal year 2025/26 business cases for consideration at the next regular business meeting:

- Secretariat Services (\$15,000)
- Stewardship Education (\$15,000)

8. BUSINESS - OTHER

8.1 Recommendations for Trust Council's Strategic Plan - K-M COP15 Biodiversity Framework - Draft Trustee Request For Decision for Trust Council 49 - 51

8.2 2023/24 ANNUAL REPORT – Approval of Trust Programs Committee Section - Request For Decision 52 - 55

That Trust Programs Committee approve the attached text for inclusion in the 2023/24 Annual Report for approval by Trust Council and submission to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

9. BUSINESS - NEW

10. WORK PROGRAM 56 - 57

For review and referral to Trust Council before each quarterly TC meeting

11. NEXT MEETING

Monday, August 26, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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: April 15, 2024
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
Tim Peterson, Lasqueti Island Trustee (EC Representative)
Peter Luckham, Islands Trust Council Chair and Thetis Island Trustee
(Ex Officio TPC member)

Member Absent: Jamie Harris, Salt Spring Island Trustee

Staff Present: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services
David Marlor, Director, Legislative Services
Tyler Brown, Senior Policy Advisor
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 9:00 a.m. and acknowledged that attendees of the meeting were in locations across the traditional territories of the Coast Salish people. Trustees and Staff introduced themselves.

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

None.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATION

6.1 Draft Minutes of Previous Meeting

6.1.1 Trust Programs Committee (TPC) Minutes of February 14, 2024

By general consent the minutes were approved as presented.

6.2 Resolutions Without Meeting (RWM)

None.

6.3 Follow Up Action List

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

Trustee Fast stated that she will be creating a meeting with the trustee working group in regards to the Montreal Pledge COP15 Biodiversity Framework and potential impacts for the work of Islands Trust, and that the working group will report to the Committee at the next scheduled Committee meeting.

Director Frater indicated that the Executive Committee will be reviewing the next steps of the Policy Statement Amendment Project, which may include a number of Committee of the Whole meetings. It was noted that communication about the process will be critical for the success of the project.

7. BUSINESS - WORK PROGRAM ITEMS

7.1 Secretariat Services to Coordination Groups in the Trust Area - Request For Decision

Director Frater introduced the Request For Decision. Committee discussion included:

- The Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership provides resources and leadership to the Islands Trust Conservancy and to the Islands Trust planning department, and that the Province of BC, Environment Canada, and other agencies, organizations and land managers are all involved with the Partnership.

TPC-2024-006

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

DRAFT

that Trust Programs Committee allocate for fiscal year 2024/25:

- \$1,500 to support the coordination of the Rural Island Economic Partnership,
- \$2,500 to support the coordination of the Baynes Sound Lambert Channel Ecosystem Forum,
- \$3,000 to support the coordination of the Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership,
- \$4,000 to support the coordination of the Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Community Forum
- \$3,000 to support the coordination of the Southern Gulf Islands Forum, and
- \$250 to support the coordination of the Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Climate Leadership Steering Committee.

CARRIED

8. BUSINESS - NEW

None

9. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, May 22 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

10. CLOSED MEETING

The meeting was not closed.

13. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Kristina Evans, Chair

Certified Correct:

Robert Barlow, Legislative Services Clerk/Recorder

Minutes are not official until adopted at a subsequent meeting.

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Programs Committee

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

14-Feb-2024

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 that Trust Programs Committee refer the report "Montreal Pledge COP15 Biodiversity Framework and potential impacts for the work of Islands Trust" back to the working group for specific recommendations.	Clare Frater	Target: 22-May-2024	Completed



BRIEFING

To: Trust Programs Committee **For the Meeting of:** May 22, 2024
From: Trust Area Services **Date Prepared:** April 17, 2024
SUBJECT: Survey Results Reports from January – March, 2024 webinars

PURPOSE:

To provide insights to Trust Programs Committee on the three webinars held January – March, 2024.

BACKGROUND:

In January and February 2024, Islands Trust held two webinars focused on freshwater and groundwater, hosted by Islands Trust Freshwater Specialist William Shulba.

In March 2024, Islands Trust organized a webinar titled Living with Wildfire: a panel discussion for those living in the Salish Sea. The webinar aimed to provide information and actionable steps for building resilience in communities, including techniques like ecological thinning, and wetland restoration to create a more fire-resilient future. The panel discussed the current state of forest health, fire risk, and actionable steps for building resilience in communities.

Registrants to all three webinars were emailed a link to a post-event survey for their opinion on the content of the webinar/s and how they could be improved. Insights from the public help staff understand what worked well and address areas for improvement, and will be taken into considerations for future webinars.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Freshwater Groundwater Webinar Survey Results
2. Living with Fire Webinar Survey Results

FOLLOW-UP: Staff will follow-up as directed.

Prepared By: Morgana van Niekerk, Communications Specialist

Reviewed By/Date: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services, April 17, 2024

Results of Online Survey for the 2024 Water Webinar Series

In 2024, Islands Trust held two webinar focused on freshwater and groundwater, hosted by Islands Trust Freshwater Specialist William Shulba.

The Islands Trust Freshwater Sustainability Strategy and Online Atlas webinar was held on January 42, 2024 from 7:00 – 8:30 PM. There were 190 registrants.

The Groundwater: Our Shared Responsibility! webinar was held on February 13, 2024 from 7:00 – 8:30 PM. There were 161 registrants. The recordings of both webinars are available on the Islands Trust Stewardship Education webpage [here](#).

Registrants were emailed a post-event survey links on February 23, 2024 for their opinion on the content of the webinar and how it could be improved. Insights from the public help staff understand what worked well and address areas for improvement. The survey was completed by 41 respondents.

The full text of the survey is included below alongside the results, including the raw data of all responses submitted through the survey process. Language errors in the Open Comments were not corrected, but content was moderated for defamatory or profane content, personal remarks about individuals, their motives, or intentions, or any other content inappropriate for a general audience.

Survey Introductory Text

Thank you for attending one or both of the freshwater webinars!

What is the purpose of this survey? Islands Trust is seeking your feedback on the webinars Freshwater Sustainability Strategy & Online Atlas, held on January 24, 2024, and Groundwater: Our Shared Responsibility, held on February 13, 2024. All recordings can be found on Islands Trust's 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.

Survey length: Two minutes to complete (estimate).

Survey deadline: March 8, 2024 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:



Islands Trust

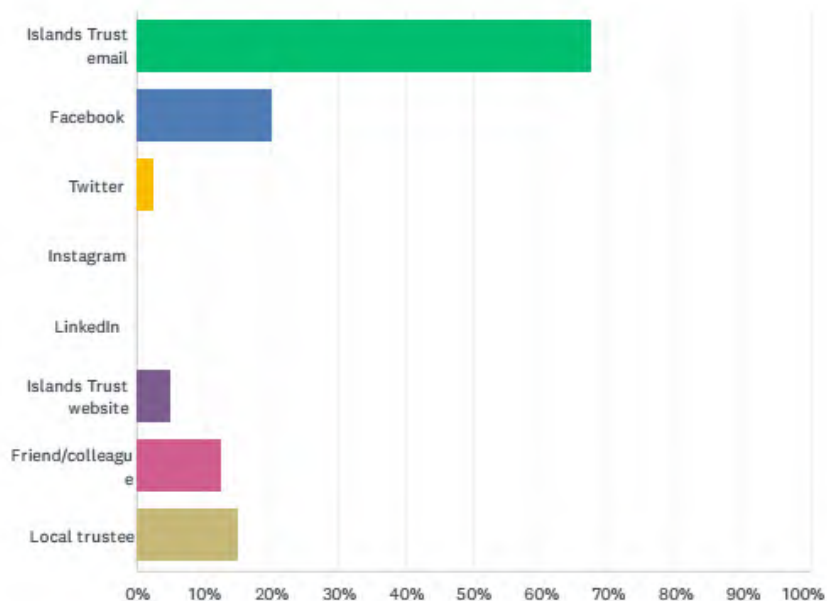
Any personal information collected during the survey is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. If you have any inquiries about the collection or use of information in this survey, please contact the Islands Trust's Director of Legislative Services at 250.405.5169.

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.

Q1 How did you hear about the webinar series?

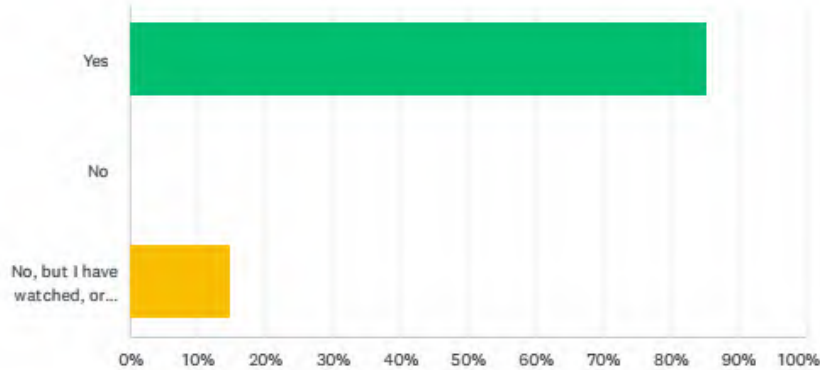
Answered: 40 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Islands Trust email	67.50%	27
Facebook	20.00%	8
Twitter	2.50%	1
Instagram	0.00%	0
LinkedIn	0.00%	0
Islands Trust website	5.00%	2
Friend/colleague	12.50%	5
Local trustee	15.00%	6
Total Respondents: 40		

Q2 Were you able to attend the webinar/s you registered for?

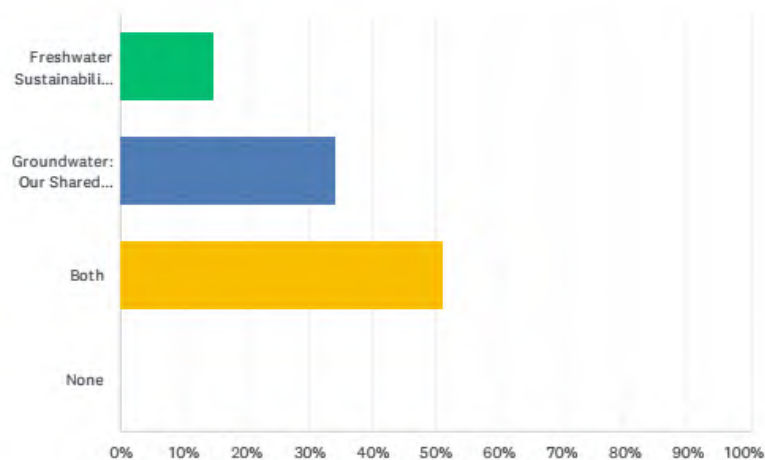
Answered: 41 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	85.37%	35
No	0.00%	0
No, but I have watched, or plan to watch, the recording	14.63%	6
TOTAL		41

Q3 Which webinars did you attend?

Answered: 41 Skipped: 0

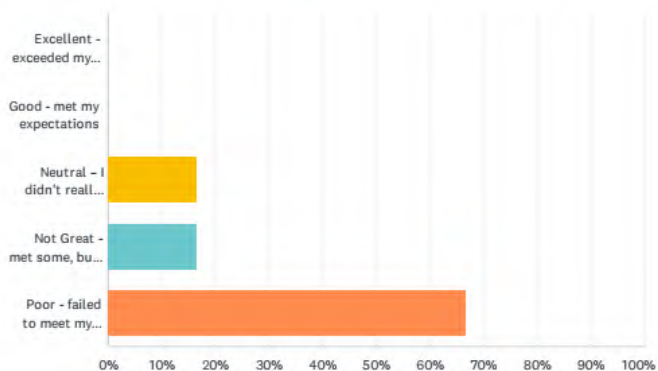


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Freshwater Sustainability Strategy & Online Atlas (January 24, 2024)	14.63%	6
Groundwater: Our Shared Responsibility! (February 13, 2024)	34.15%	14
Both	51.22%	21
None	0.00%	0
TOTAL		41



Q4 We would like to know if the Freshwater Sustainability Strategy and Online Atlas session met your expectations. How would you rate the session compared to your expectations?

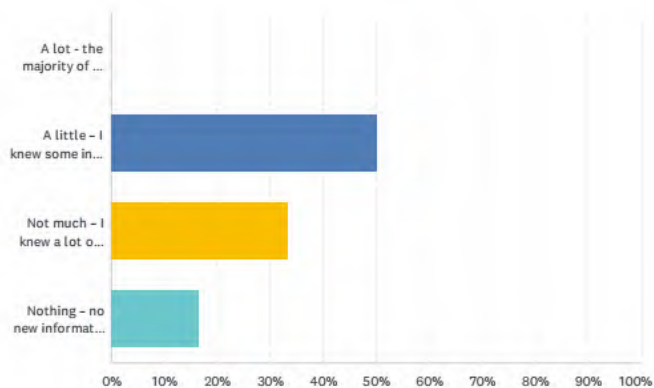
Answered: 6 Skipped: 35



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent - exceeded my expectations	0.00%	0
Good - met my expectations	0.00%	0
Neutral – I didn't really have expectations for today	16.67%	1
Not Great - met some, but not all of my expectations	16.67%	1
Poor - failed to meet my expectations	66.67%	4
TOTAL		6

Q5 We want to know how much new information was presented to you in the session. Select which statement best reflects how you felt about the session(s) you attended: I learned _____ from attending.

Answered: 6 Skipped: 35



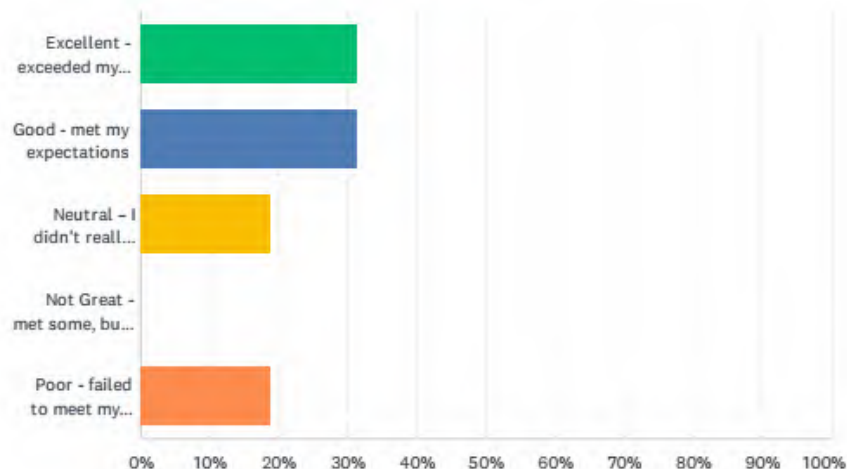
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A lot - the majority of the session was new information to me	0.00%	0
A little – I knew some info already, but not all	50.00%	3
Not much – I knew a lot of what was presented prior to attending	33.33%	2
Nothing – no new information was presented to me	16.67%	1
TOTAL		6

Q6: Other comments on the Freshwater Sustainability webinar:

- The presentation was way too long.
- The content was excellent, but the speaker was unfortunately not very engaging.
- I was disappointed about the content. I was hoping for a more practical, science based/backed session. I was also hoping for more on how the Atlas work will be added to for the other islands in North Pender.
- The presenter went on mostly about the politics and was selling groundwater conservancy. Anyone attending was most likely in attendance because they are already sold on the need for groundwater conservation and proper management so why waste everyone's time focusing on the need. Because of this you completely lost me and I did not attend the second session.

Q7 We would like to know if the Groundwater: Our Shared Responsibility! session met your expectations. How would you rate the session(s) compared to your expectations?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 25



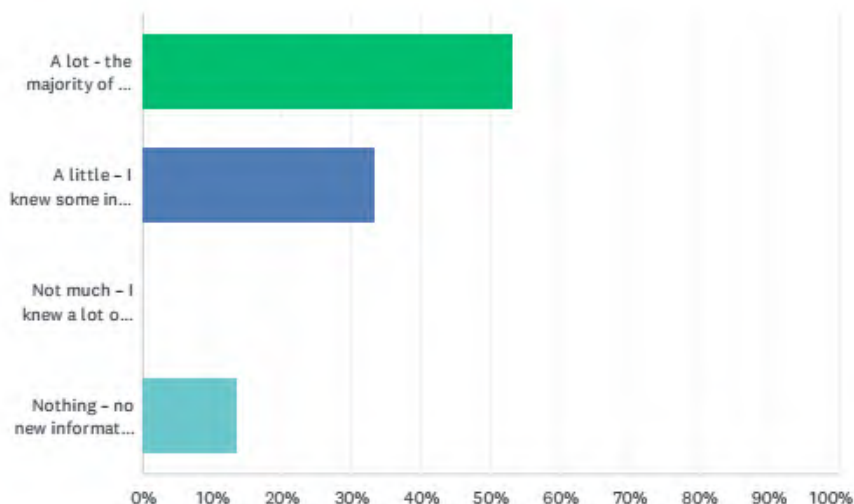
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent - exceeded my expectations	31.25%	5
Good - met my expectations	31.25%	5
Neutral – I didn't really have expectations for today	18.75%	3
Not Great - met some, but not all of my expectations	0.00%	0
Poor - failed to meet my expectations	18.75%	3
TOTAL		16



Islands Trust

Q8 We want to know how much new information was presented to you in the session. Select which statement best reflects how you felt about the session(s) you attended: I learned _____ from attending.

Answered: 15 Skipped: 26



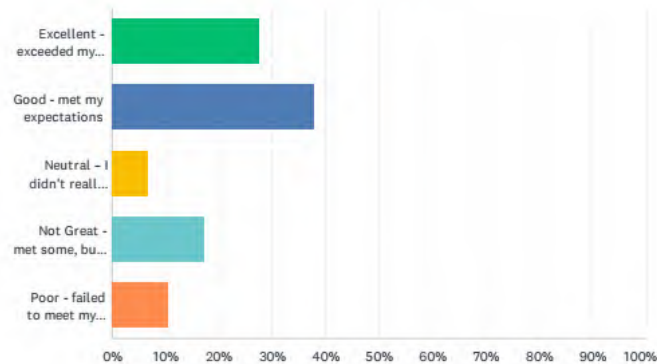
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A lot - the majority of the session was new information to me	53.33%	8
A little - I knew some info already, but not all	33.33%	5
Not much - I knew a lot of what was presented prior to attending	0.00%	0
Nothing - no new information was presented to me	13.33%	2
TOTAL		15

Q9: Other comments on the Groundwater: Our Shared Responsibility! webinar:

- Some of the information was over my head but, overall, the presenter did a good job explaining basic groundwater concepts.
- Well presented! Important information.
- Much better and more informative.
- I recommend you consider the Private Well Network <https://www.cmnbc.ca/atlasgallery/private-well-network/> as a useful resource for the Islands Trust Islands.

Q10 We would like to know if the session(s) met your expectations. How would you rate the session(s) compared to your expectations?

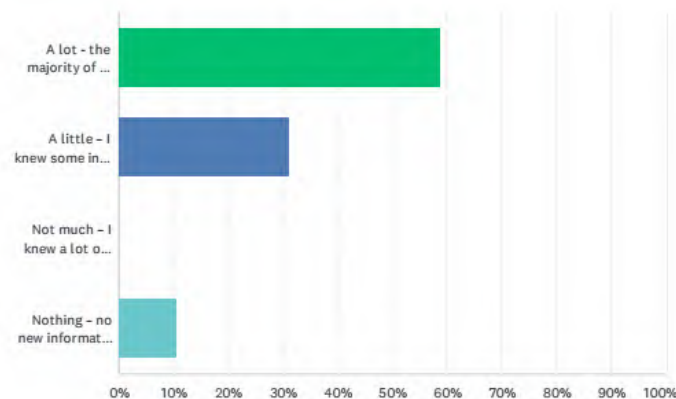
Answered: 29 Skipped: 12



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent - exceeded my expectations	27.59%	8
Good - met my expectations	37.93%	11
Neutral - I didn't really have expectations for today	6.90%	2
Not Great - met some, but not all of my expectations	17.24%	5
Poor - failed to meet my expectations	10.34%	3
TOTAL		29

Q11 We want to know how much new information was presented to you in these sessions. Select which statement best reflects how you felt about the session(s) you attended: I learned _____ from attending.

Answered: 29 Skipped: 12



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A lot - the majority of the session was new information to me	58.62%	17
A little - I knew some info already, but not all	31.03%	9
Not much - I knew a lot of what was presented prior to attending	0.00%	0
Nothing - no new information was presented to me	10.34%	3
TOTAL		29

Q12: Final comments:

- I missed this webinar but intend to watch the recorded version.
- I really appreciate both the content and the pace of the meetings; also the format where William Shulba spoke for about an hour and then Q&A ensued. Interesting, informative, and inspiring!
- Preparation of another webinar concerning groundwater such as salt water Intrusion, Volume extracted, treatment and methods of recharging
- Great presentation; I could listen to William forever.
- Because I'm just starting to pay attention to this topic, it was all really relevant to me, and heightened my awareness of how critical preserving fresh water on the islands is... I didn't understand how the geography of the islands impacted salt water infiltration. That was really interesting
- I found the graphics of the aquifers and wells and geology most impressive
- I found out about these webinars thru the local paper the driftwood, question 1 does not allow me to convey that information to you.
- Consider offering the "Private Well Network" <https://www.cmnbc.ca/atlasgallery/private-well-network/> to Islands Trust Islands
- Main learning: interplay of salt water lifting the fresh water aquifers.
- This was an incredibly disappointing waste of my time. The presenter went on mostly about the politics and was selling groundwater conservancy. Anyone attending was most likely in attendance because they are already sold on the need for groundwater conservation and proper management so why waste everyone's time focusing on the need. Because of this you completely lost me and I did not attend the second session.
- The information presented was not new and can be seen in different reports. What would have been interesting if idea of carrying capacity and water demands were explored in more depth. The Trust needs to take immediate action to protect the groundwater recharge areas on the larger more developed islands. This does not appear to be happening. A water budget that is based on out of date, inaccurate information that does not include the effects of climate crisis is not going to help the islands that are at the tipping point of environmental health.
- You should let people know that this is their last opportunity for comments. I was disappointed because there were so few specifics given on how the information being gathered is actually being used by LTCs. My observation is that it is not being used at all. I know of not one example of a proposal turned down because of water supply concerns. I know of no bylaw passed as a result of the studies. This is the information MOST needed by the public.
- Very informative!
- Who doesnt love data?!?!?!?

Results of Online Survey for the 2024 Living with Wildfire Webinar

In 2024, Islands Trust organized a webinar titled Living with Wildfire: a panel discussion for those living in the Salish Sea. The webinar aimed to provide information and actionable steps for building resilience in communities, including techniques like ecological thinning, and wetland restoration to create a more fire-resilient future. The panel discussed the current state of forest health, fire risk, and actionable steps for building resilience in communities. The session began with a welcome from Elder Robert George and was moderated by Ruth Waldick, PhD, of Salt Spring Island and featured three panelists:

Panelists:

1. Conor Corbett – Registered Professional Forester, Frontera Forest Solutions
2. Robert W. Gray – AFE Certified Wildland Fire Ecologist, President of R.W. Gray Consulting Ltd.
3. Becky Miller – Forest Ecologist, Parks Canada Agency

The Living with Wildfire webinar was held on March 26, 2024 from 7:00 – 8:30 PM. There were **372 registrants**. The recordings of both webinars are available on the Islands Trust Stewardship Education webpage [here](#).

Registrants were emailed a post-event survey links on March 24, 2024 for their opinion on the content of the webinar and how it could be improved. Insights from the public help staff understand what worked well and address areas for improvement. The survey was completed by **55 respondents**.

The full text of the survey is included below alongside the results, including the raw data of all responses submitted through the survey process. Language errors in the Open Comments were not corrected, but content was moderated for defamatory or profane content, personal remarks about individuals, their motives, or intentions, or any other content inappropriate for a general audience.

Survey Introductory Text

Thank you for attending the Living with Wildfire webinar!

What is the purpose of this survey? Islands Trust is seeking your feedback on the Living with Fire webinar held on March 26, 2024. All recordings can be found on Islands Trust's 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.

Survey length: Two minutes to complete (estimate).

Survey deadline: April 8, 2024 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 participation, we value your feedback!

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and Correspondence Policy Privacy Protection:

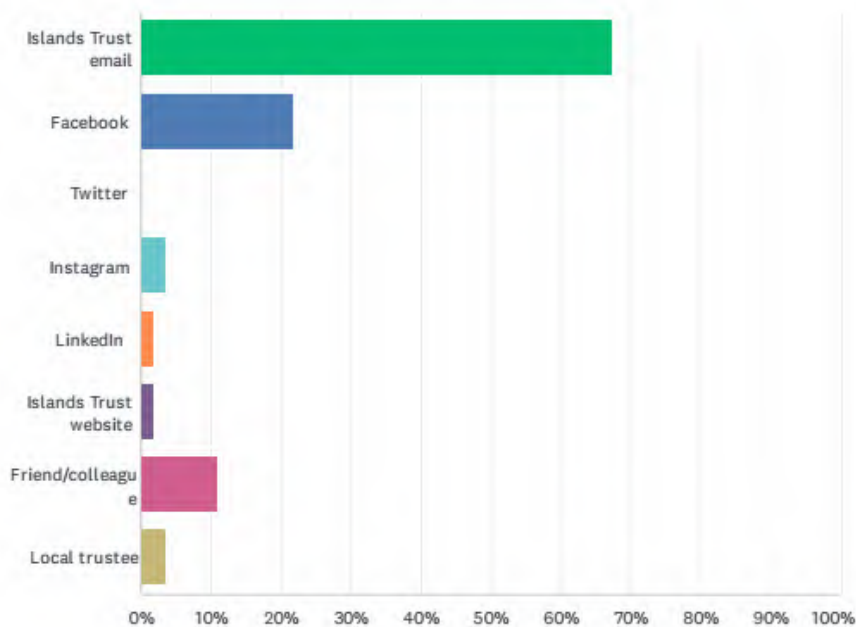
Any personal information collected during the survey is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. If you have any inquiries about the collection or use of information in this survey, please contact the Islands Trust's Director of Legislative Services at 250.405.5169.

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.

Q1 How did you hear about the webinar?

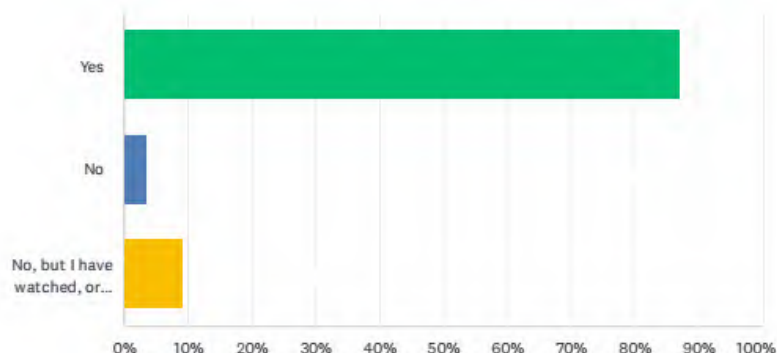
Answered: 55 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Islands Trust email	67.27%	37
Facebook	21.82%	12
Twitter	0.00%	0
Instagram	3.64%	2
LinkedIn	1.82%	1
Islands Trust website	1.82%	1
Friend/colleague	10.91%	6
Local trustee	3.64%	2
Total Respondents: 55		

Q2 Were you able to attend the webinar?

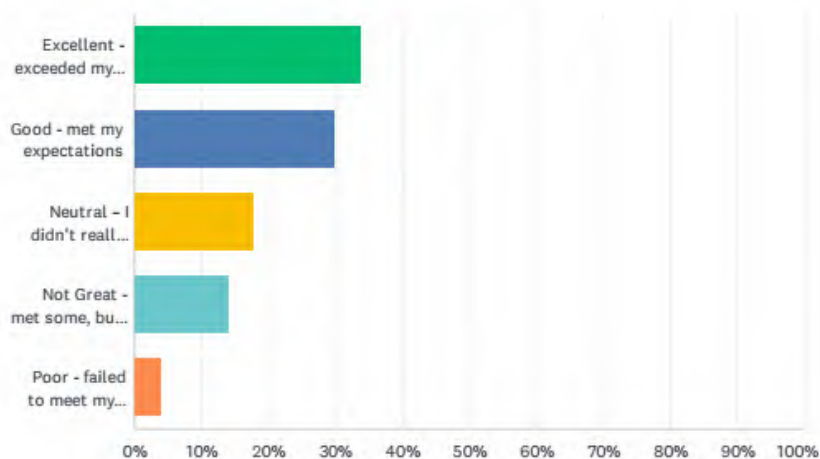
Answered: 55 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	87.27%	48
No	3.64%	2
No, but I have watched, or plan to watch, the recording	9.09%	5
TOTAL		55

Q3 We would like to know if the Living with Fire webinar met your expectations. How would you rate the session compared to your expectations?

Answered: 50 Skipped: 5

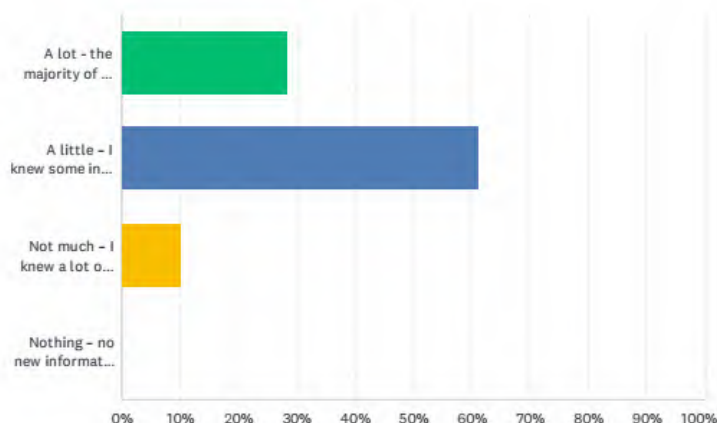


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent - exceeded my expectations	34.00%	17
Good - met my expectations	30.00%	15
Neutral - I didn't really have expectations for today	18.00%	9
Not Great - met some, but not all of my expectations	14.00%	7
Poor - failed to meet my expectations	4.00%	2
TOTAL		50



Q4 We want to know how much new information was presented to you in the session. Select which statement best reflects how you felt about the session(s) you attended: I learned _____ from attending.

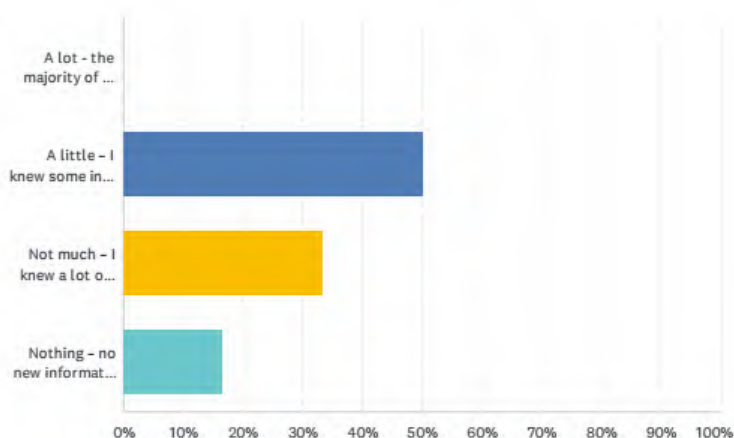
Answered: 49 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A lot - the majority of the session was new information to me	28.57%	14
A little – I knew some info already, but not all	61.22%	30
Not much – I knew a lot of what was presented prior to attending	10.20%	5
Nothing – no new information was presented to me	0.00%	0
TOTAL		49

Q5 We want to know how much new information was presented to you in the session. Select which statement best reflects how you felt about the session(s) you attended: I learned _____ from attending.

Answered: 6 Skipped: 35



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A lot - the majority of the session was new information to me	0.00%	0
A little – I knew some info already, but not all	50.00%	3
Not much – I knew a lot of what was presented prior to attending	33.33%	2
Nothing – no new information was presented to me	16.67%	1
TOTAL		6

Q5: Other comments:

- I would like to watch the webinar if/when it is available.
- One suggestion would be to have Becky Miller on her own since she was providing the most useful information for the Gulf Islands and ways to sensitively manage our properties from a holistic ecological perspective. We know many people who are very fearful of fire and now rake the forest and remove almost all organic matter that hits the ground dramatically increasing evaporation drying out the soils. With no organic matter there is no hope of a fire resistant understory establishing itself and the existing oaks and arbutus are even more stressed during dry periods. Is this not creating an unhealthy stressed unbalanced ecosystem? Sharp tailed snakes used to be abundant here but their habitat is being removed not to mention the other flora and fauna that can no longer survive. Our local fire department has suggested to us that we jump on small woody debris to break it up and leave it on the forest floor. Becky touched on hydrology and how important it is in maintaining healthy ecosystems that are also fire resistant. Our question is: Isn't it important to promote healthy ecosystems on our properties that are fire resistant?
- I was left confused about the third session. It didn't hit me until two days later that it was meant to show an ecology based approach to Firesmart/management. I appreciated both 1st and 2nd talks, and the Q&As.
- Thank you for organizing this webinar. I was hoping for more practical information on how best to manage my 10 acres of forest to help prevent the risk of fire. Also I wanted more resources made available to consult for the same purpose. Overall an interesting introductory presentation (I liked the panel approach) but maybe a more in depth presentation is now required.
- The seminar was WAY too long. The presenters and their message would have been better served by being more succinct and speaking to ways to reduce fuel loads on properties. This aspect was only brought up once, but by basically saying that this should be done. Example, I have 5 acres with a bunch of windfall that I can't deal with in my own. How might I approach this type of fuel reduction?
- Wonderful speakers and great info shared with the community. Knowledge empowers.
- It was really interesting hearing about the ecological impacts both positive and negative of 'good' and 'bad' fires. I learned so much. Thank you
- Although the experts were very knowledgeable about wildfires and I do appreciate them sharing their knowledge in the webinar I found it to be very dry. Lots of wordy slides which were then read aloud and elaborated on. It was an extremely static presentation. I also found it to be coastal mainland focused, I had expected it to be island focused. There is no BC wildfire service readily available to help remote island communities. Overall I was disappointed .
- The info presented, while interesting, was at a higher level than I was interested in. Thank you for all the work you put into these webinars.
- Expertise also has professional jargon & I am very glad it was recorded so that I can refer back to it sufficient to understanding and be able to refer others. Also the maps used d/n include the islands in Howe Sound which is very unfortunate when trying constantly to convince taxpayers here that this is worth paying for!

- Well presented with clear, concise explanations and examples
- I found the Moderator, Ruth, tried to move the discussion to practical matters, as did Conor. Becky seemed to wander a bit. I appreciated Robert's scientific base but his audio was not up to the standards for a professional presentation with an IT budget! As president of the Gambier Island Community Association we spent some effort to promote this topic to our 600 member base on Gambier Island. I am sure Keats Island did the same. However, there was NOT one acknowledgement of those of us living in the Howe Sound portion of the Salish Sea! If the Islands Trust wishes to represent this area you need to be better.
- Really well organized and captivating. Fantastic job
- Liked panel discussion format - good to hear different perspectives on issue
- Thanks for organizing this! It was very informative and it is always great to hear about what is on the horizon, from professionals
- Beavers and cisterns are no-brainers. We need more sessions on *surviving* wild fire/interface fires (similar to Lytton, Lahaina), evacuation plans etc. We cannot count on BC Ferries.
- It was very informative. I really liked the prehistoric fire information, about the cultural burning and how the ecology was more fire resistant or were good fires. I feel like I am less stressed about extreme fires after hearing from the panel. Really really good (less the audio problem). I am onto the Fire Smart strategy and will spread the word. Thank you
- Thank you to the presentors for giving their time and expertise.
- Most commentary discussed the Southern Gulf Islands. It would have been useful to have heard about the other islands. For instance, the rain shadow slides were about the Southern Islands.
- good info in the q&a about how to mitigate fire spread in our forested land
- Weather cycles, wind and it's affect, small undergrowth fire fuel, plant hardy green foliage that doesn't dry out - such as arbutus plants.
- Lots of interesting trivia about forest science.
- the information was of great benefit
- I really liked the detail but I would have liked one of the presenters to have said these are the specific 3 things you can do. The moderator simply said that SSI people had prepared their properties already and it was the wrong season now to do anything. As I am a Gambier Islander I found that to be a bit off putting - glad SSI is ahead of many other islanders (it is far dryer than Gambier so we are perhaps late to the table) but this was an Islands Trust presentation. I would suggest that there are in fact things that could be done now but with fire precautions i.e. cleaning up dry fuel but for composting only, don't stack and don't use a chain saw etc.
- Excellent webinar, thank you! The practical focus - what can we as landowners do to protect ourselves and the forest - was appreciated. Stewardship is so important. I believe we want to do the right things, we just don't always know what they are. I would have appreciated a broader discussion though, beyond the Gulf Islands and the CDF ecosystem. A number of islands like Gambier don't have fire departments to draw on, like many of the gulf islands do, and have very limited resources to encourage FireSmart work. It's encouraging to see this kind of attention being paid to the topic and hopefully it opens doors for greater support in remote island communities!



- What were pre-1850 forest conditions and how to emulate them, especially with understory for more fire resiliency, yet keep a multi-aged stand?
- I was expecting useful information for island residents about how to reduce their risks from fire. Most of the content was advocacy for better forest management policies and practices with little useful applicability for residents and small communities
- Loved the scientific approach and learning about how sites differ plus historical context.
- I would like to learn more.
- The 3 panelists that spoke obviously care and are knowledgeable about fires. Unfortunately, they spoke as if they were talking to a peer with scientific jargon and terms. Terms were not defined, such as different fuel types, and converted ecosystems. What I needed and hoped I would get was how to identify and understand the fire risks around my non-residential/recreational property. Gambier Island had had 2 fires last year near me! The fear I have is real. What can I do to reduce my risk of a wildfire? I came out of that session with more questions than answers. I was so hopeful!!! I wanted info on wildfire community preparedness.
- The info was good and very interesting but it seemed to relate to the Gulf islands more. Would like perhaps more info about my area. But we were encouraged to go to the Fire Smart website for more info which will perhaps be more specific to my area of concern.....namely my own "backyard". Well done overall, except first presenter mic garbled quite a bit of presentation. The info was good, and given the historical perspective of millennia ago, our forests are over stocked and not very fire resistant at all. Who knew that Arbutus flourished after a fire. Thanks for the effort and hope to attend more in the future. Education is good. We genuinely fear fire in our adjacent forests!
- As an islander, I've spent a lot of time understanding fire risk in our area...the way it was presented last night was really helpful. It was clear and easy to understand, yet with enough detail to give us a lot to think about. All 3 speakers were very knowledgeable and great to listen to. The one thing I was a bit disappointed in was that the focus was on the southern islands - I was curious to know whether they would expect any other considerations on the northern islands, or those in Howe Sound.



REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Trust Programs Committee **For the Meeting of:** May 22, 2024
From: Trust Area Services **Date Prepared:** May 15, 2024
SUBJECT **Stewardship Education Program in 2024**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That Trust Programs Committee endorse the Living in the Trust Area Mailing Program Project Charter, dated May 15, 2023.
2. That Trust Programs Committee direct staff to develop a project charter(s) for XXX webinars.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS: The recommendations provided would further efforts to advance education in the Trust Area about responsible stewardship in the Islands Trust Area. This list of webinar topics does not include a webinar about the Islands Trust's history, purpose, and activities. This webinar will be held by the Executive Committee after the Island Trust's 50th anniversary. Staff-suggested topics for webinars based on survey results: saltwater intrusion, living with fire (Howe Sound focus), invasive species removal, native plant gardening, or groundwater conservation.

1. **PURPOSE:** To seek endorsement and direction for the Stewardship Education Program
2. **BACKGROUND:** The 2018-2022 Strategic Plan set out a plan to develop and implement a stewardship education program directed towards the public, industry and/or stakeholders in the Trust Area.

Living in the Trust mailing program

The Living in the Trust mailing program (also known as the "newcomers" mailing program) began in 2021/22. It was originally proposed by Financial Planning Committee as a bylaw enforcement prevention project. The discussed intent was to raise awareness of the Islands Trust among residential property purchasers within the Islands Trust Area, prevent bylaw infractions and misunderstandings, and provide information on different government services in each local trust area/Bowen Island. It was noted that numerous land transactions in the Trust Area were resulting in many new landowners who may not have been aware of Islands Trust. The following materials were produced and reviewed by Trust Programs Committee through a part-time community communications specialist position in 2022/23:

1. Cover Letter (new)
2. Islands Trust brochure (new)
3. Islands Trust Conservancy rack card (update)
4. Land-use planning information and contact sheet (new)
5. Trust Area Stewardship tips guide (new)
6. Government and other services' contact sheets for 12 LTAs (new)
7. Groundwater conservation brochure (update)
8. Evaluation survey
9. Magnet design: 'You have to be more careful with an island' (only provided until 2022/23)

The packages have been mailed to approximately 2000 new home purchasers to date.

Staff recommend continuing with the 'Living in the Trust' mailing program, and have prepared a draft project charter for the Committee to consider for approval (attached).

Stewardship Education webinars

Trust Programs Committee also has a history of offering educational webinars. At the request of Trust Programs Committee, Trust Area residents were surveyed between August 31, 2023, and September 15, 2023, about their topics of interest for the Stewardship Education Speaker Series in 2024-2025.

The following topics were amongst the most popular.

1. Potential Topic: Groundwater Conservation

Description: Water conservation was one of the top concerns. People are deeply concerned about growing water supply/demand issues, and many have an interest in rainwater harvesting. Islands in the Trust Area have a limited ability to store surface and groundwater. Rainwater harvesting offers islanders the opportunity to supplement their current source of ground or surface water. Staff suggest a maximum of one or two presenters and one moderator to stay within the optimal 90 minute webinar structure.

Potential Presenter: William Shulba, Islands Trust Freshwater Specialist and rainwater harvesting system owner, and other presenters knowledgeable of rainwater systems.

2. Potential Topic: Living with fire (Howe Sound focus)

Description: Living with Fire: a panel discussion for those living in the Salish Sea took place on March 22, 2024, and was well received with more 372 registrants. Feedback from the post-webinar survey suggested that this webinar was focused on southern islands and did not provide specific considerations for northern islands or those in the Howe Sound. A second wildfire webinar focused on addressing conditions on northern islands would likely be well-received. Staff suggest a maximum of one or two presenters and one moderator to stay within the optimal 90 minute webinar structure.

Potential Presenters: Local fire experts, Fire Smart BC, BC Fire Service, Native Plant Specialist, Local Group (e.g. Gambier Fire Equipment Group), Traditional Ecological Knowledge holder.

3. Potential Topic: Invasive species plant removal

Description: Invasive species are considered one of the greatest threats to biodiversity worldwide.

They can out-compete a diversity of native species, taking over entire sections of your property and pose threats to human and animal health, fuel wildfires, and devalue property. This session would educate participants on how they can help to stop the spread of invasive species. Staff suggest a maximum of one or two presenters and one moderator to stay within the optimal 90 minute webinar structure.

Potential Presenters: Local invasive species experts.

4. Potential Topic: Native plant gardening

Description: Invasive, introduced plants escaping from gardens quickly change natural habitats for the worse. Planting native species is part of the solution to habitat loss. A changing climate and population growth are putting increased strain on scarce water resources. Because native

plants have developed in this dry coastal climate, they have adapted to summer drought which reduces the need for watering. These plants will attract songbirds and pollinating insects, creating important habitat right in your own backyard. This webinar would provide more information and resources for those wishing to begin a native plant garden, or improve their current gardening efforts. It has been recommended that this webinar take place in September so participants can start their native plant gardens in the Fall as this is the best time to plant native plants. Staff suggest a maximum of one or two presenters and one moderator to stay within the optimal 90 minute webinar structure.

Potential Presenters: Kristen Miskelly, [MeadowMakers Program](#), Pender Island Conservancy Association or Mayne Island Conservancy.

5. Potential Topic: Saltwater Intrusion

Description: Risk of saltwater intrusion is of special concern for coastal aquifers. The likelihood of saltwater intrusion in groundwater wells increases with pumping demand and from coastal hazards such as rising sea levels and storm surges. This webinar would provide more information and resources to help educate Trust Area residents on the risks of saltwater intrusion. Staff suggest a maximum of one or two presenters and one moderator to stay within the optimal 90 minute webinar structure.

Potential Presenters: William Shulba, Islands Trust Freshwater Specialist, and academic experts.

3. IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION:

ORGANIZATIONAL: The program will be implemented by the Program Coordinator, with support as needed from the Communications Specialist. The Stewardship Education Program is not expected to negatively impact other ongoing work.

Living in the Trust mailing package: Coordination of updates and the mailing of materials three times a year is expected to take three weeks of the Program Coordinator's staff time, and up to two days for the Communications Specialist to update printed materials as well as the materials on the Islands Trust website. Researching organizations that could reach renters and arranging to get materials to them is expected to take one to two days. Generally, the mailing itself does not have a significant impact on staff time as the budget includes costs for BC Mail to take on this service.

Webinars: The number and the topic of webinars/workshops requested by TPC will determine the amount of staff time needed. Generally, a webinar/workshop can require two to four days of Program Coordinator time and two to three days of the Communications Specialist time, but this varies depending on the topic, number of speakers, and whether follow-up is required (e.g. participant evaluation, published Q and A document, additional educational materials).

FINANCIAL: In March 2024, Trust Council approved a budget of \$15,000 for this program. Staff have proposed a budget of \$7,500 for the Living in the Trust Area mailing program and \$7,500 for webinars.

Speaker honorariums for non-staff speakers generally range from \$100 - \$1,000, depending on speaker and/or topic. Publicity costs range from \$100 - \$200 for social media boosts to \$300 - \$1,500 for Trust-wide newspaper advertising.

POLICY: N/A

IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATIONS: Staff will implement TPC's decisions as directed and will provide project charters for consideration in August 2024 for selected webinar topics. Staff will also develop a communications plan to support requested programming. Communication materials in support of past programming included: news releases, website content, emails to subscribers, emails to community groups and past participants, social media posts, and weekly and monthly newspaper advertisements. Staff also provide content to trustees so they could promote programming through their own channels.

Webinar dates will be determined based on speaker availability as well as staff availability.

FIRST NATIONS: Depending on the topics chosen, some Nations might either be interested in collaborating on programming, and/or inviting their community members to participate.

OTHER: None.

RELEVANT POLICY: [Communications Policy 6.10](#)

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Living in the Trust Project Charter
2. 2023 Speaker Series Survey Results

RESPONSE OPTIONS

Recommendations:

1. That Trust Programs Committee endorse the Living in the Trust Area Mailing Program Project Charter, dated May 15, 2023.
2. That Trust Programs Committee direct staff to develop a project charter(s) for XXX webinars.

Alternatives:

1. Endorse the project charter with amendments
2. Request a project charter for a different activity
3. Request that staff provide additional reporting at a future meeting
4. Do not endorse the project charter

Prepared By: Morgana van Niekerk, Communications Specialist

Reviewed By/Date: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services, May 15, 2024

Purpose To guide the implementation of the mail-out, which includes informational materials for community members living in the Trust Area, specifically purchasers and renters of land.

Background: Since 2021/22, Islands Trust has mailed a series of materials to more than 2300 new home purchasers. The materials created and updated included: Cover Letter (new); Islands Trust Brochure (new); Islands Trust Conservancy Rack Card (update); Land-use Planning Information and Contact Sheet (new); Trust Area Stewardship Tips Guide (new); ‘Government and Other Services’ contact sheets for 12 local trust areas (new); Groundwater Conservation Brochure (update); and, in the first mailing, a magnet: ‘You have to be more careful with an island.’

In addition, staff propose distribution to organizations and community locations that will provide additional packages to new renters. Budget estimates assume that no new publications are added to the packages and that the Trust Area Services Communications budget pays for any graphic design changes.

Objectives

- To improve awareness of the Islands Trust/Conservancy and the history and values of the region
- To provide new purchasers with information about preserving and protecting in Trust Area
- To promote awareness and compliance with bylaws

In Scope

- Updates and printing costs for publication materials
- Postage and packaging costs
- Distribution to organizations and community locations that will provide the packages to new renters

Out of Scope

- Mailings to new purchasers in apartment buildings/building stratas
- Development of new materials

Work plan Overview

Deliverable/Milestone	Date
Send mailings three times per year at regular intervals (June, November and March)	May 2024 — March 2025

Project Team	
Director, Trust Area Services	Project Manager
Program Coordinator	Project Lead
Information Services Manager	Adviser
Communications Specialist	Adviser

Approved by:
Clare Frater
Date: May 5, 2024

Endorsement:
TPC resolution # :
Date:

Budget		
Budget Source: Stewardship Education Program		
Fiscal	Item	Cost
2024/2025	Address list development via contract	\$2,000
2024/2025	Printing, envelopes, packaging and postage	\$5,000
2024/2025	Shipping print materials to BC Mail	\$150
2024/2025	Mailing costs of print materials to organizations that reach renters	\$350
	Total	\$7,500



Results of Online Public Survey re Stewardship Education Speaker Series

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.

The survey was completed by 301 members of the public. 142 respondents supplied extra suggestions for the speaker series topics.

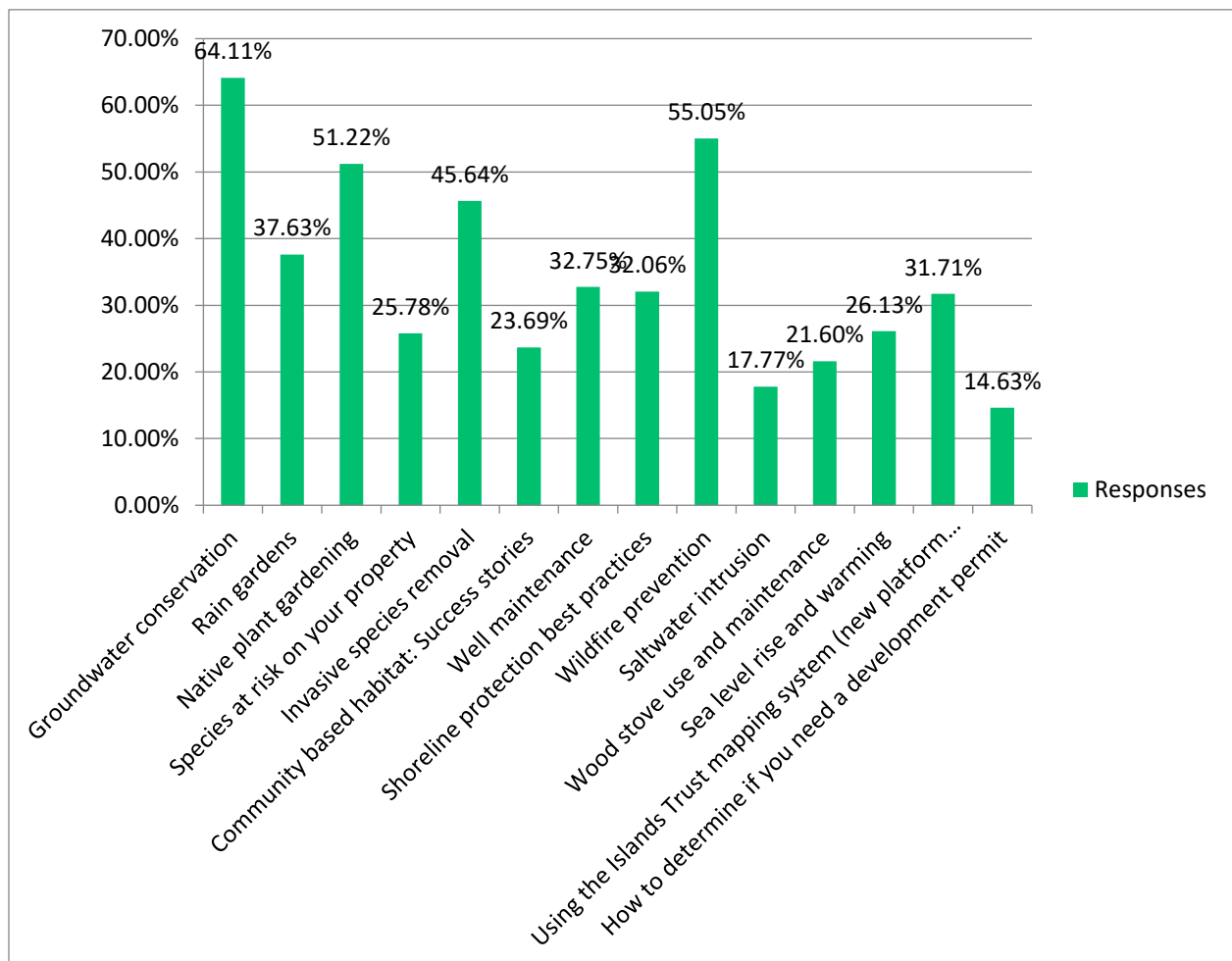
So that some context is provided, in **Appendix A** of this report, the full text of the survey has been included. **Appendix B** features the raw data of all responses to Question 2 submitted through the survey process.

Where duplicate answers are provided, they were recorded 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 5 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

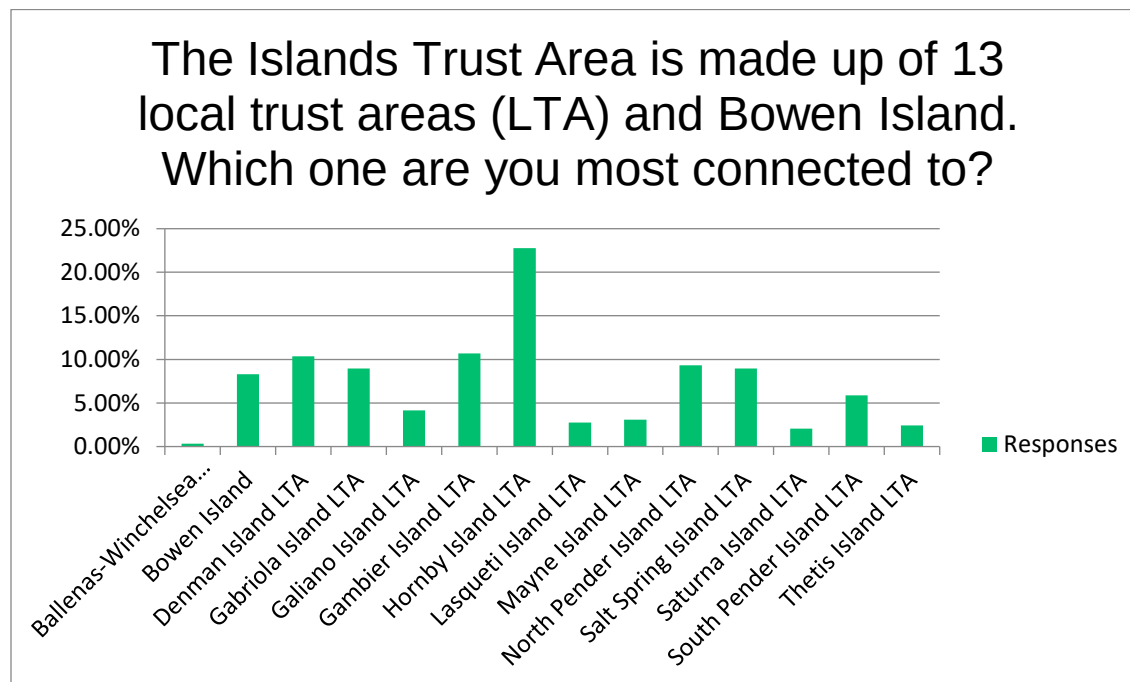
- Wildfires, & Firesmart
- Water collection and disposal
- Septics and alternatives
- Ecosystem protection and restoration
- Islands Trust Governance, management and fiscal responsibility
- Affordable Housing
- Marine jurisdiction and protection
- Native History/First Nations
- Tourism
- Transportation
- 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 6 responses for Question 3 were as follows:

Hornby Island LTA - 66 responses

Gambier Island LTA – 31 reponses

Denman Island LTA – 30 responses

North Pender Island LTA – 27 responses

Gabriola Island LTA – 26 responses

South Pender Island LTA – 26 responses

Appendix A: 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!



Appendix B: 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 -2353)
- 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 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.



Islands Trust

- 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



REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Trust Programs Committee **For the Meeting of:** May 22, 2024
From: Trust Area Services **Date Prepared:** May 15, 2024
SUBJECT: Trust Programs Committee 2025/26 Business Cases

RECOMMENDATION:

That Trust Programs Committee request staff to draft the following fiscal year 2025/26 business cases for consideration at the next regular business meeting:

- Secretariat Services (\$15,000)
- Stewardship Education (\$15,000)

DIRECTOR COMMENTS: The recommendations advance current Islands Trust Council Strategic Plan Objectives and continue to build on the existing Trust Programs Committee Work Program. Trust Council has discussed proposed topics for an updated Trust Council Strategic Plan for the 2022-2026 term which the Committee may wish to consider as it considers budget requests for 2025/26.

- 1 **PURPOSE:** To request staff to draft business cases for Trust Programs Committee (TPC) consideration at the next regular TPC meeting and to consider allocating resources to advance the current work program.
- 2 **BACKGROUND:** The next scheduled regular TPC meeting is August 26, 2024. One purpose of the August meeting will be to advance business cases to the Financial Planning Committee and Trust Council for their consideration to include in fiscal year 2025/26 budget. Staff seek TPC guidance as to what business cases it would like to develop.

The Islands Trust Council has begun a new strategic planning process for the new 2022-2026 term. The Islands Trust Focus Areas and Strategic Directions 2025-2028 document informed by Islands Trust Council discussions in March 2024 is attached to inform discussions about potential budget requests.

Proposed Business Cases

Stewardship Education Business Case for \$15,000: to request funds to support stewardship education activities (e.g. educational webinars, workshops), including the Living in the Trust Area mailing to new residents.

Draft Strategic Plan focus area:

- Improve opportunities for resident and landowner involvement in land, marine and freshwater stewardship
- Prepare for and communicate climate change preparedness

Financial history of the program since 2020/21:

Fiscal year	Actual Expenditures	Budget	Unspent Budget	Deliverable
2020/21	\$5,816	\$15,000	(\$9,184)	TPC successfully delivered Phase 1 of the program - a series of three climate action stewardship education webinars on the topics of rainwater harvesting, ecosystem-based adaptation, and eelgrass/blue carbon. The budget was underspent as the education was delivered virtually instead of in-person.
2021/22	\$14,910	\$24,000	(\$9,090)	TPC supported development of a “ Living in the Trust Area ” package which was mailed to 1,000 new property owners across the Trust Area in March 2022. The package included newly designed Islands Trust brochures, stewardship tips booklets, groundwater conservation brochures, as well as localized government service contact lists. The budget was underspent as the committee was not able to offer webinars or other education programs due to staff resources being allocated to the Islands 2050 Policy Statement Phase 3 engagement.
2022/23	\$10,398	\$13,000	(\$2,602)	TPC adopted a project charter allocating the budget to three mailings of the Living in the Trust Area package and distribution of the materials to renters via community groups. The full budget was underspent as the project experienced delays due to staff vacancies and challenges developing the mailing list.
2023/24	\$7,800	\$15,000	(\$7,200)	TPC adopted a project charter allocating the budget to three mailings of the Living in the Trust Area package and distribution of the materials to renters via community groups. The full budget was underspent due to fewer home sales than expected, no staff time to reach out to community groups, and two of the three webinars delivered featuring only staff which reduced costs.

Secretariat Services Business Case for \$15,000: to support the secretariat services program.

This program is directed by the [Secretariat Services policy](#) which states in section 1.1 “By September of each year, the Trust Programs Committee will recommend to the Financial Planning Committee an allocation for the Secretariat Services budget for the following fiscal year (the “Secretariat Services Budget”).”

Financial history of the program since 2020/21:

Fiscal year	Actual Expenditures	Budget	Under/Over Budget	Deliverable
2020/21	\$9,396	\$12,000	(\$2,604)	Contract and staff support provided to requested coordination groups
2021/22	\$12,186	\$12,000	\$186	Contract and staff support provided to requested coordination groups
2022/23	\$12,513	\$15,000	(\$2,487)	Contract support provided to requested coordination groups
2023/24	\$11,986	\$12,000	(\$4)	Contract support being provided to requested coordination groups

Other business cases advanced by TPC in the 2022-2026 term:

Climate Change Indicators Project:

Fiscal year	Actual Expenditures	Budget	Unspent Budget	Deliverable
2020/21 (Phase 1):	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	Deliverable: Completion of the Islands Trust Climate Indicators Scoping Exercise to Identify Climate Change Indicators for the Islands Trust Area
2021/22 (Phase 2):	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000 (funds redirected by Trust Council to the Policy Statement Amendment Project)	Deliverable: None - funded for 2021/22 but funds not spent on this project as project partners did not secure grant funding. At the outset of Phase 2, staff received an invitation to collaborate with My Sea to Sky Society, BCIT, and a group of partner agencies including Climate Caucus, the University of Victoria, and the Climate Action Secretariat, to develop a Climate Action Report Card Tool for Trust Area communities as a pilot project for a broader national project. However, these organizations have yet to secure the multimillion dollar funding required for this work.

3 IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

ORGANIZATIONAL:

FINANCIAL: Requested amounts will be provided to Financial Planning Committee for inclusion in the draft 2025/26 budget.

POLICY: N/A

IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATIONS: Development of business cases will be as requested by the TPC and provided to the Committee for review and approval in August 2024.

FIRST NATIONS: Any projects undertaken will use respectful language and include Indigenous Peoples and First Nations governments as appropriate.

OTHER: None

4 RELEVANT POLICIES:

[Policy 2.3.1 Council Committee System](#)

[Policy 6.2.1 Priority Setting/Review Guidelines](#)

[Policy 6.7.1 Work Program, Follow-Up Action List and Priorities Report](#)

5 ATTACHMENT: Islands Trust Focus Areas and Strategic Directions 2025-2028

RESPONSE OPTIONS

Recommendation: That Trust Programs Committee request staff to draft the following fiscal year 2025/26 business cases for consideration at the next regular business meeting:

- Secretariat Services (\$15,000)
- Stewardship Education (\$15,000)

Alternative:

1. That Trust Programs Committee request staff to draft the following FY 2025/26 business cases for consideration at the next regular business meeting:
 - List items...

Prepared By: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services/May 15, 2024

Islands Trust Focus Areas and Strategic Directions 2025-2028

Focus Area	Governance & Organizational Excellence	Growth Management & Community Resiliency	Ecosystem Health & Integrity	Climate Change	First Nations Relations & Reconciliation
Strategic directions (higher priority)	- Update the Policy Statement - Include First Nations relations and reconciliation lens - Include climate imperatives – mitigation, adaptation - Include strong engagement principles - Develop corporate plan - Include initiatives to improve organizational systems	- Review and update OCP and LUB processes - Include policies and bylaws to support a diversity of housing types, increased access to housing for working residents and for lower income/workforce workers - Include climate action and resiliency policies - Clarify/better understand Islands capacity and constraints and their implications - Research and understand data on growth trends, projections; geological and hydrological capacities; infrastructure; current development rates and timing - Research into evidence-based constraints/thresholds that need to be understood for informed land use (place protection) planning for islands - Set limits to growth rooted in science	- Update and implement freshwater strategy - Develop strategy for protecting and restoring ecosystems - Set targets for ecosystem restoration - Increase support for ITC - Protect and maintain forests and farmland - Improve opportunities for resident and landowner involvement in land, marine and freshwater stewardship - Increase/work with other partners	- Develop innovative climate action strategy - Understand our (IT) role in climate action - Prepare for and communicate climate change preparedness	- Increase recognition of co-governance - Strengthen relationships and engagement with First Nations - Update the Reconciliation Action Plan
Strategic directions (lower priority)	- Strengthen relationship with province - Secure increased funding and protocol agreement - Improve public engagement and communications - Improve transparency	- Support diverse communities and businesses - Support sustainable businesses and employment opportunities - Ensure sufficient amenities and food security, including housing for aging and increasing population	- Develop policies and bylaws for marine and foreshore protection - Protect marine and foreshore in cooperation with First Nations		- Update/create protocol agreements - Transfer ITC properties to First Nations



TRUSTEE REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Trust Council
For the Meeting of: June 18, 2024
From: Trust Programs
Committee/Regional Planning
Committee
Date Prepared: May 13, 2024
SUBJECT: Recommendations for Trust Council's Strategic Plan - K-M COP15 Biodiversity Framework

RECOMMENDATION:

That Trust Council request staff to explore options for including an Integrated Spatial Planning approach within the strategic planning process, and report back with recommendations by August 2024.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER COMMENTS: To be completed

1 PURPOSE:

To present specific recommendations for inclusion in Trust Council's strategic planning process.

2 BACKGROUND:

This recommendation to request advice from staff is the product of over a year of discussion and advancement among Trustees:

Mar 2023 Trust Council received a delegation from Gulf Islands Alliance
Mar 2023 In response, Trust Council requested advice from committees on impacts
May 2023 Trust Programs Committee discussed, formed working group, invited other Trustees
Nov 2023 Trust Programs Committee discussed and advanced Trustee briefing to TC
Dec 2023 Trust Council requested details for inclusion in the strategic planning process
Feb 2024 Trust Programs Committee requested specific recommendations from Trustee working group by the following resolution:

That Trust Programs Committee refer the report "Montreal COP15 Biodiversity Framework and potential impacts for the work of Islands Trust" back to the working group for specific recommendations.

Since then, Trustee Fast has been further involved in marine spatial planning in Átl'ka7tsem / Howe Sound (<https://howesoundguide.ca/gac/>), and has spoken to various experts. They confirmed an answer to the main question discussed in February 2024 at the Trust Programs Committee meeting, "How is 'Integrated Spatial Planning' different from what the Islands Trust does now?":

- it's dynamic, focused on trends and what is changing, and requires frequently-updated maps and information
- objective-oriented, focused on a purpose
- science-oriented

The hunt for a graphic to share with Trustees was on. This diagram illustrates the differences most clearly, from <https://indigenousoceans.ca/en/marine-spatial-planning/>:

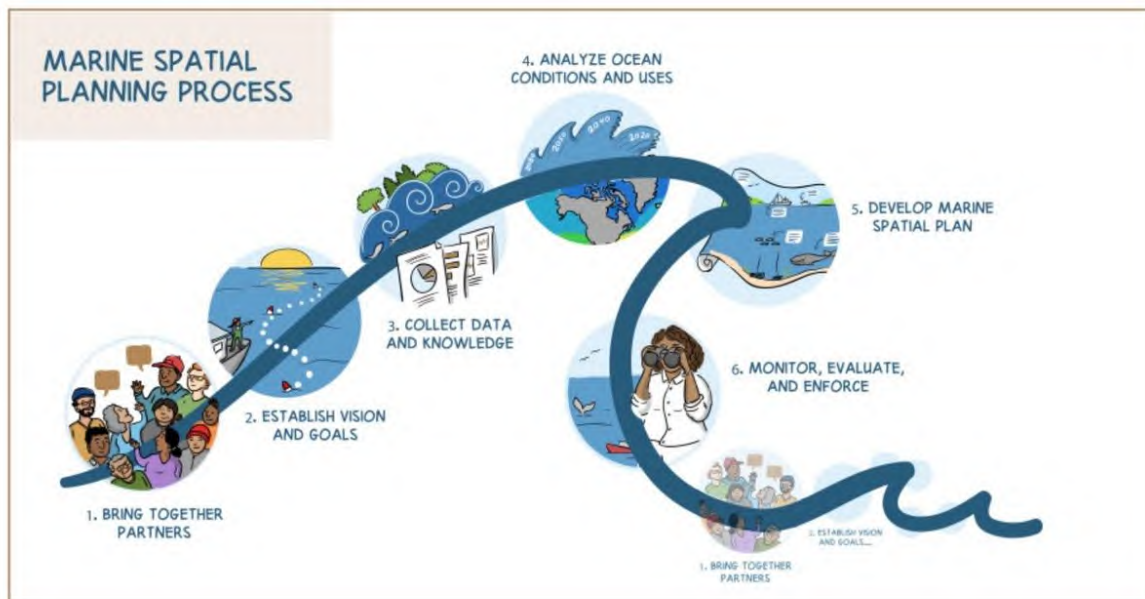


Figure 1: Marine Spatial Planning Process illustration retrieved from National Indigenous Fisheries Institute website: <https://indigenousoceans.ca/en/marine-spatial-planning/> on May 7, 2024.

More details are available at the website, hosted by the National Indigenous Fisheries Institute. The marine spatial planning page illustrates an alternative to the usual land use planning processes we are so familiar with on our islands. Salish Sea is mentioned, and the results of a Nanaimo session under the engagement menu might also be of interest to Trustees.

Of course, this is marine spatial planning, starting almost from scratch without many maps let alone plans. Terrestrial spatial planning inspired by the marine version has just been launched for Átl'ka7tsem / Howe Sound (<https://www.howesoundbri.org/oecm-projects/2023/terrestrial-atlas>). These graphics and links may assist trustees to envision what an Integrated Spatial Planning process on land might be like, and whether it would be valuable to ask staff for options for including it in Trust Council's strategic planning process.

In the briefing in the December 2023 Trust Council agenda, most working group members agreed that Target 1 about Integrated Spatial Planning was most applicable to the Islands Trust. Trust Council responded by asking for specifics, see pp. 30-36 of <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/trust-programs-committee-regular-meeting-agenda-14/>, which includes, "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 land use planning decisions."

Trustee Fast drafted this specific recommendation to request advice from staff. Travel, Trust Policy Statement business and tight timelines precluded input from other Trustees in the working group, but responses were supportive and none were negative.

Target 3 about registering protected places for the 30% by 2030 goal is already being done. Islands Trust Conservancy sends an annual update to the BC NGO database, which is then wrapped into the Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database. So no additional specific recommendation is needed.

3 IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

ORGANIZATIONAL: Staff time to staff to explore options for including an Integrated Spatial Planning approach within the strategic planning process

FINANCIAL: None.

POLICY: None.

IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATIONS: Staff to develop a report for Trust Council about explore options for including an Integrated Spatial Planning approach within the strategic planning process

FIRST NATIONS: Exploring options for including an Integrated Spatial Planning approach within the strategic planning process may reveal opportunities to work with First Nations.

OTHER: None.

4 **RELEVANT POLICY(S):** Priority Setting/Review Guidelines Policy 6.2.1

5 **ATTACHMENT(S):**

None

RESPONSE OPTIONS

Recommendation:

That Trust Council request staff to explore options for including an Integrated Spatial Planning approach within the strategic planning process, and report back with recommendations by August 2024.

Alternative:

Other options as determined by Trust Council.

Prepared By:

Trustees Elliott, Fast, Patrick and Smith

Reviewed By/Date:

REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Trust Programs Committee **For the Meeting of:** May 22, 2024

From: Trust Area Services **Date Prepared:** May 15, 2024

SUBJECT: 2023/24 ANNUAL REPORT – Approval of Trust Programs Committee Section

RECOMMENDATION:

That Trust Programs Committee approve the attached text for inclusion in the 2023/24 Annual Report for approval by Trust Council and submission to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

1 PURPOSE: Committees are provided with their draft sections of the Annual Report for review and approval so that Trust Council is able to easily approve its Annual Report at the June Trust Council meeting without further editing from staff or trustees.

2 BACKGROUND: Preparation of the Islands Trust Annual Report is undertaken by Trust Area Services Communications staff, reporting to the Executive Committee and consistent with Trust Council's [Annual Report Policy 6.10.1](#). The Executive Committee approved the format and outline of the 2023/24 Annual Report at its meeting on February 23, 2024.

3 IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

ORGANIZATIONAL: Under Trust Council's policy, all local trust committees and council committees are expected to review and approve their sections at regular meetings in order to have the report approved by Trust Council at its June 2024 meeting.

FINANCIAL: None.

POLICY: No implications for existing policy

IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATIONS: The process for development of the Annual Report is outlined in [Trust Council's Annual Report Policy 6.10.1](#). Once each committee has approved its section, staff will create a draft Annual Report for review by the Executive Committee on June 5, 2024, and consideration of Trust Council at its June 18-20, 2024 meeting. Upon approval by Trust Council, staff will send the Annual Report to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and circulate it as indicated in Trust Council's policy.

FIRST NATIONS: Information about activities with First Nations may be included within committee reports.

OTHER: None.

4 RELEVANT POLICY: Trust Council's Annual Report Policy 6.10.1

5 ATTACHMENT: Trust Programs Committee input to Annual Report (draft)

RESPONSE OPTIONS

Recommendation:

That Trust Programs Committee approve the attached text for inclusion in the 2023/24 Annual Report, for approval by Trust Council and submission to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Alternative:

That Trust Programs Committee approve the attached text as amended for inclusion in the 2023/24 Annual Report, for approval by Trust Council and submission to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Prepared By: Morgana van Niekerk, Communications Specialist

Reviewed By/Date: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services, May 15, 2024

Trust Programs Committee

The Trust Programs Committee provides policy advice to Islands Trust Council on Trust-wide issues related to the committee's areas of responsibility including resource management, land conservation, water management, marine environment, sustainable communities, conservation strategy, and public awareness and education, and to propose amendments to the Islands Trust Policy Statement.

Members serving for the 2023–2026 term:

Kristina Evans, South Pender Island Trustee, Chair

Alex Allen, Hornby Island Trustee, Vice-Chair

Sam Borthwick, Denman Island Trustee

Sue Ellen Fast, Bowen Island Trustee

Jamie Harris, Salt Spring Island Trustee

Tim Peterson, Lasqueti Island (Executive Committee Representative)

Peter Luckham, Thetis Island, (Ex Officio Member)

2023/24 Highlights

Trust Programs Committee (TPC) met five times in 2023/24. The Committee's primary focus this year was to create and implement stewardship education resources and programs.

Once again, as part of Trust Council's Secretariat Services Program, the committee approved secretariat services to the following coordination groups:

- \$1,500 to support the coordination of the Rural Island Economic Partnership
- \$2,500 to support the coordination of the Baynes Sound Lambert Channel Ecosystem Forum
- \$3,000 to support the coordination of the Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership
- \$4,000 to support the coordination of the Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Community Forum
- \$3,000 to support the coordination of the Southern Gulf Islands Forum
- \$250 to support the coordination of the Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Climate

Leadership Steering Committee

The Committee also supported distribution of a "Living in the Trust Area" information package, which was mailed to 731 new property owners across the Trust Area. The package included a letter from Chair Peter Luckham, Islands Trust brochures, stewardship tips booklets, groundwater conservation brochures, as well as localized government service contact lists. (see electronic versions at <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/programs/stewardship-education/>).

Wildfire Resources

The Trust Programs Committee prioritized adding wildfire resources specific to islands within the Trust Area from the Government of British Columbia, regional districts, and other organizations to the Islands Trust website. These resources aim to empower residents and visitors alike in wildfire prevention and preparedness, with valuable insights, practical tips, and essential information to build resilient communities and to preserve and protect ecosystems in the Trust Area.

Furthermore, the Trust Programs Committee instructed staff to host a webinar regarding fire risks in the Trust Area. The 'Living with Fire: a panel discussion for those living in the Salish Sea' webinar was held on March 26, 2024, and provided an opportunity for attendees to find out more about the current state of forest health and the interconnections between healthy watersheds, native biodiversity, and fire resilience in the Trust Area. The

webinar included actionable steps for building resilience in communities, including techniques like ecological thinning and wetland restoration to create a more fire-resilient future.

Freshwater Webinars

The Trust Programs Committee instructed staff to host two webinars focusing on water in the Trust Area. The first webinar was held on January 24, 2024, and focused on the Islands Trust Freshwater Sustainability Strategy and online atlas. Information was provided about how the strategy set out goals and objectives to address freshwater supply challenges, support climate action, and ensure watershed security.

The second webinar in the series was Groundwater! Our Shared Responsibility, which focused on groundwater resources and best practices for well management on the islands. It included information about the risk of saltwater intrusion, which increases with pumping demand and from coastal hazards such as rising sea levels and storm surges. This webinar was held on February 13, 2024.

All webinars are recorded and available to view on the Islands Trust website (electronic version: <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/programs/stewardship-education/>)

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
Tyler Brown

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: 22-May-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: 22-May-2024

Future Projects Report

Trust Programs Committee

1. *Update Crown Land Agreements*

Responsible

Date Received

Implement Crown Land Protocol project charter V2 and engage Bowen Island Municipality and the Province of B.C. in updating and consolidating existing agreements about Crown land into one agreement.

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