



Islands Trust Council Highlights March 10-12, 2020

Despite the current pandemic situation, the following is a list of highlights of Trust Council's activities and decisions during its March 10-12 meeting held on Salt Spring Island. These highlights are not the official minutes of the Trust Council meeting; Trust Council will adopt those at its June 2020 meeting.

Adapting to Coronavirus Threats

Staff were requested to prepare a business continuity plan on how Islands Trust will adapt to the unfolding coronavirus pandemic and to send out a subscriber information notice and news release that would reference information available regarding COVID-19.

Islands Trust Council Adopts its 2020/21 Budget, Financial Plan Bylaw No. 178 and Borrowing Bylaw No. 179

Trust Council amended the draft budget, as presented, by adding a project, "Northern Islands Groundwater Sustainability Strategy," with an amount of \$50,000 and that work on this project not to commence until products of the Southern groundwater study project have been peer reviewed and deemed useful to Trust Council. Trust Council also increased the amount allocated to the development of a regional fresh water strategy by \$16,000 for a total of \$20,000, and that the increase of \$66,000 to the budget to be funded from surplus. Trust Council gave Third Reading to the amended budget (Financial Plan Bylaw No. 178) and request staff forward it to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for approval consideration. Trust Council also adopted Borrowing Bylaw No. 179 as is customary when adopting its yearly budget.

Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance

Trust Council approved a special property tax requisition for the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area in the amount of \$75,500 in its 2020/21 annual budget, to fund additional operations of the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) in preserving and protecting the quality and quantity of water resources within the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area.

Statement of Islands Trust

Islands Trust Council voted in favour of adopting the following statement:

Statement of the Islands Trust

The Islands Trust area is a community in which Indigenous People were forcibly removed and disenfranchised from their village sites and gathering places, and the history of that legacy continues to this day, not only in the Trust area but throughout British Columbia and Canada.

We ask that the Federal and Provincial Governments take steps to uphold the guiding principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples signed by the Government of Canada in 2010, and the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act adopted by the Government of British Columbia in 2020. We ask the Governments to engage and work together to maintain and strengthen the relationship with Indigenous Peoples and we ask the Governments to look to the guiding principles of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action 2012 and the Calls for Justice tabled by the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in 2019 as a way forward.

The Islands Trust remains committed to strive toward relationships that are respectful of human rights, and human dignity, and the work of reconciliation, and acknowledges that Indigenous, Metis, and Inuit have lived on these lands since time immemorial.

Proposed Amendments to Trust Council Meeting Procedures Bylaw 101

Trust Council directed staff to prepare an amendment bylaw to implement changes to its Meeting Procedures Bylaw No. 101 allowing for Consent Agenda portions to be added to its standard agenda. The amended bylaw will be brought back to June's Trust Council for readings.

Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee – Development Approvals Information (DAI) Bylaw No. 175.

Trust Council adopted Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee DAI Bylaw No. 175, which clarifies the information applicants must provide when applying for bylaw amendments, development permits, and temporary use permits.

Redress of Historical Wrongs Against Japanese Canadians in British Columbia

Islands Trust Council voted in favour of requesting the Chair send a letter of support to the Premier of British Columbia for redress of historical wrongs against Japanese Canadians.

Bylaw Enforcement Report

Staff were requested to prepare a report on bylaw enforcement capacity and the number of active cases.

Processing Planning Applications

Staff were requested to prepare a report for Executive Committee and Financial Planning Committee outlining the Trust Policies relating to processing planning applications and whether or not those are being followed.

Trust Council requested Financial Planning Committee provide a report detailing the full staff costs associated with processing land-use applications, by application type.

Regulating Forestry

Trust Council requested Executive Committee follow up with the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD) around forest management.

Extending Break After Town Hall and Delegations

Trust Council requested that the meeting break be extended from 15 minutes to ½ hour following the Town Hall and Delegations session.