



News Release

200 - 1627 Fort Street Victoria B.C. | V8R 1H8

Telephone 250.405.5151 | FAX: 250.405.5155

Toll Free via Service BC in Vancouver 604.660.2421 | in B.C. 1.800.663.7867

information@islandstrust.bc.ca | www.islandstrust.bc.ca

July 9, 2021 – for immediate release

2021-14-IT

First reading of the draft new Policy Statement postponed - more engagement to come

Lək ʷəŋən, METULIYE/Victoria, B.C. – Trust Council postponed consideration of first reading of the draft new Policy Statement until December 2021 to allow for enhanced public engagement.

“We are very grateful for the level of interest in the draft new Policy Statement,” shared Peter Luckham, Islands Trust Council Chair. “We want everyone to be engaged and provide input. This update, the first in 26 years, acknowledges present-day realities, and your feedback can help us prepare for the future. The new draft Policy Statement includes consideration of climate change and affordable housing and is intended to strengthen our preserve and protect mandate. The whole document has been written to align with our commitment to reconciliation. We welcome the public’s interest in the Policy Statement and look forward to a new and robust round of Islands 2050 engagement kicking off in the next few months.”

Between now and September, trustees will share the draft new Policy Statement with their communities and ask for feedback to be provided to Islands2050@islandstrust.bc.ca. At the same time, staff will revise plans for the Islands 2050 formal public engagement process, which will include on-line and in-person events and webinars.

Over several months Islands 2050 will involve First Nations, the public and referral agencies, including Bowen Island Municipality, local trust committees, the Islands Trust Conservancy Board, regional districts, improvement districts, and provincial and federal government agencies or departments having jurisdiction in the Trust Area.

View the draft new Policy Statement

The draft new Policy Statement is at: <https://bit.ly/3k3e1a4> and background information can be viewed at <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/programs/islands-2050/>.

Subscribe to updates

Learn about Policy Statement developments, meetings, and engagement opportunities by subscribing to email updates. Pick “Islands 2050 updates” and consider selecting your local trust committee at: <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/subscribe/>.

Provide feedback

Policy Statement input can be provided through email, mail, and phone (if a written submissions is a challenge).

Email: islands2050@islandstrust.bc.ca

Phone: 1-250-405-5151

Mail: Islands Trust
200 – 1627 Fort Street,
Victoria, BC V8R 1H8

- 30 -

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

Bowen, Denman, Gabriola, Galiano, Gambier, Hornby, Lasqueti, Mayne, N. Pender, Salt Spring, Saturna, S. Pender, Thetis

About Islands Trust

Islands Trust is a federation of special-purpose local government bodies representing 26,000 people living within the Islands Trust Area and another 10,000 non-resident property owners. The Islands Trust Area is located within Coast Salish territory and is the homeland to over 28,000 Coast Salish Peoples who have called this place home since time immemorial. Islands Trust is responsible for preserving and protecting the Islands Trust Area's unique environment and amenities by planning and regulating land use, development management, education, cooperation with other agencies, and land conservation. The area covers the islands and waters between the British Columbia mainland and southern Vancouver Island. It includes 13 major islands and more than 450 smaller islands covering 5,200 square kilometres.

Contact:

Peter Luckham, Chair, Islands Trust Council 250.210.2553

Russ Hotsenpiller, Chief Administrative Officer, Islands Trust, via Vicki Swan, Communications Specialist 250.405.5178