



**Islands Trust Conservancy - Executive Committee
Liaison Meeting
Minutes of Regular Meeting**



Date: Tuesday, July 13, 2021
Time: 1:00 pm
Location: Electronic Zoom Meeting

ITC Board Members Present Kate-Louise Stamford, Chair
Sue Ellen Fast, Vice Chair
Doug Fenton
Linda Adams

EC Members Present Dan Rogers, Vice-Chair
Laura Patrick, Vice-Chair
Peter Luckham, Chair
Sue Ellen Fast, Vice Chair

Regrets Donald Clarke

Staff Present Carla Funk, Acting Fundraising Specialist
Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services
Corlynn Strachan, Administrative Assistant/Recorder
Devin Hentschel, Conservation Technician
Erin Coulson, Acting Communications Specialist
Kate Emmings, ITC Manager
Kathryn Martell, Ecosystems Protection Specialist

Regrets Russ Hotsenpiller, Chief Administrative Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Introductions and context for annual meeting

Chair Stamford called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm, acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the territory of many Coast Salish peoples and noted it is important to speak to the devastating yet sadly unsurprising news that 160 undocumented and unmarked graves have been discovered on the grounds of the old Kuper Island residential school, on what is now Penelakut Island. She stated that she hopes we can find ways as an organization, and as part of our island communities, to acknowledge the effect of the ongoing trauma that the residential school system has had on our friends, neighbours, staff and community members who are First Nations. She stated that we should never become immune to these atrocious discoveries.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By **general consent** the agenda was approved.

3. MINUTES/COORDINATION

3.1 Review of the July 14, 2020 meeting minutes.

4. BUSINESS

4.1 Items for Information

4.1.1 ITC 2020/21 Year in Review (presentation)

Islands Trust Conservancy staff provided a presentation on the following topics:

- Islands Trust Conservancy staff and board
- Regional Conservation Plan updates
- Species at Risk Program
- covenant and nature reserve management
- restoration activities
- communications – social media, new website, Heron newsletter, annual report
- fund development and donor engagement
- climate change project
- engagement and reconciliation with First Nations

Executive Committee members thanked staff for their work and discussed:

- ways local trust committee chairs can do a better job of spreading key messages, about the Conservancy and sharing Conservancy communication products such as the Heron newsletter
- Islands Trust Conservancy topics are lost in local trust committee meetings and that Islands Trust Conservancy staff could attend local trust committee meetings annually to increase exposure
- role of the Islands Trust Conservancy in the BC Parks Foundation acquisition of Saturnina Island in the Gabriola Island Local Trust Area
- timeline of Sandy Beach Nature Reserve management plan development
- potential Islands Trust Conservancy involvement in the Howe Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve project
- mapping, habitat creation and wetland restoration, watershed protection
- the importance of providing opportunities for Islands Trust Conservancy to have exposure in local communities in ways other than local trust committee meetings
- impact of climate change

4.1.2 2020/21 Executive Committee Updates (verbal)

Director Frater provided the following updates:

- Provincial Funding Request

There has been no new action since the last liaison meeting, Trust Council passed a model fees bylaw which should strengthen any ask that does take place. We are in a good position to make a request but due to other Trust Council and Executive Committee priorities, work has not been completed on this. Executive Committee members expressed their support for continued work and will pursue as opportunity arises.

- NAPTEP Exemption Increase
No further work has not been done on this due to a lack of staff time. Next steps would be a potential budget request for next year for development of a business case to provide to affected governments and the Province. Contract assistance may be required. The change would be a regulation change compared to an act change, which could be achieved quickly.

4.2 Roundtable - Focus on Collaboration

4.3 Items for Collaboration

4.3.1 Strategic Fund Development – Briefing

The Acting Fundraising Specialist highlighted that the Conservancy is on a quest for relationship building to help people understand what the Conservancy is achieving, and goals for the future.

Executive Committee members recognized Carla Funk for her great work and for bringing national attention, discussed results and the importance of developing long term connection, and suggested using a simple graphic that shows the Conservancy does not compete with local conservancies but works in partnership to protect the land.

4.3.2 Working with Crown Agencies for Forest Protection

Director Frater advised we are continuing to work with Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development Ministry staff to talk about developing an updated protocol agreement and letter of understanding, and merge the ones the Islands Trust already has in place. This is an ongoing process in relationship building. This is at the introductory stage with intent to achieve something within the year.

4.3.3 Policy Statement Amendment Project (verbal)

Director Frater advised Trust Council received a draft new Policy Statement and recommend it be put forward to public engagement, referral agencies, and First Nations, with intent to be consider First Reading in December.

Board members and staff discussed assistance with communications, Islands Trust and Islands Trust Conservancy connection, potential negative brand implications, and Board members offered positive feedback on the Conservancy being acknowledged in the draft new Policy Statement.

Executive Committee members encouraged the Conservancy to provide feedback on what they feel is important to maintain, and why.

4.3.4 Islands Trust Strategic Plan / Regional Conservation Plan Overlap – Briefing

The Islands Trust Conservancy Manager presented the briefing and highlighted six areas of overlap.

Discussion ensued on:

- Coastal Douglas-fir forest protection
- Conservancy education
- carrying the stewardship message
- collaborative items across Trust Area, what the Conservancy can contribute
- planners have conversations with landowners and offer ITC resources
- the need to build a case for particular ask to Province in respect to tree cutting

4.3.5 Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund Grant Application – Briefing

Director Frater presented the briefing noting more details will be released in the fall, including eligibility and selection criteria and highlighting that staff are currently at maximum capacity for managing initiatives, so would need to ensure that there is sufficient capacity to do any funded work.

5. NEXT MEETING

To be determined in late 2021.

6. ADJOURNMENT

By **general consent**, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Kate Louise Stamford, Chair

Certified Correct:

Corlynn Strachan, Recorder