



Islands Trust

July 2019

Gabriola Island Trustee Report

This year Trust Council will be undertaking 2 major initiatives: developing a “Strategic Plan” and reviewing the “Islands Trust Policy Statement”.

Strategic Plan:

After each election, Trust Council establishes a new Strategic Plan setting out the Council’s priorities for the next 4 years. To quote the Islands Trust website: “The Islands Trust Council's priorities are guided by the Islands Trust Act, the Islands Trust Policy Statement, by advice from each of council's three standing committees, the Islands Trust Conservancy Board, local trust committees, Bowen Island Municipality and by public input now and throughout the term”.

So, in the coming months when the Islands Trust initiates its public consultation, you will be given an opportunity to provide input. To get an idea of the range of topics addressed in the Strategic Plans of previous Councils , please use the following link: <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/trust-council/strategic-plan/> .

In preparation for giving feedback on the priorities, you may want to consider the following general questions:

- What are the biggest challenges to achieving the Trust Object and how could they be addressed?
- Is the Trust operating in an efficient manner and if not, how could it be improved?
- Are there other advocacy issues that should be addressed?
- How can the Trust address the climate emergency declaration?

Islands Trust Policy Statement:

The Islands Trust Policy Statement (Policy Statement) sets out Trust Council’s general policies to achieve the Islands Trust Object of preserving and protecting the trust area and its unique environment and amenities.

The Policy Statement applies to all local trust areas and local land use bylaws must be consistent with the Policy Statement.

There have been minor amendments to the Policy Statement over the years, but it has not undergone a complete review since its inception over 20 years ago. While most policies may still be relevant to today's circumstances, there may well be dated or missing policies.

The Policy Statement review and consultation will begin later this year and is anticipated to be a multi-year process. The current Policy Statement can be found at the following link:

<http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/trust-council/policies-and-procedures/1-policy-statement/>

Some general questions that may be of use as a starting point:

- Are there particular policy areas that should be given a higher priority?
- Are there Island Trust policy areas that need to be strengthened?
- Are there missing or incomplete policies?
- What climate emergency policies could or should be included?

The above relates to the formal consultation process for both initiatives, but at any time you can also ask questions and provide feedback on these initiatives or other Trust matters directly to your local trustees.

Wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable summer.

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