

The Gulf Islands Alliance

P.O. Box 795
Ganges, BC V8K 2W3

February 28, 2007

Linda Adams, Chief Administrative Officer
Islands Trust
2nd Floor, 1627 Fort Street
Victoria, BC V8R 1H8

Dear Ms. Adams,

I write to you on behalf of The Gulf Islands Alliance. The Gulf Islands Alliance is a non-profit, grassroots organization with members based on islands under the jurisdiction of the Islands Trust. Among our objectives is to increase the effectiveness of the Islands Trust in fulfilling its “preserve and protect” Object.

The Gulf Islands Alliance notes with interest the present initiative: Islands Trust Governance Task Force. We are pleased to see the first two statements in the “GUIDING PRINCIPLES”:

- *The Governance Task Force will have regard for the object of the Islands Trust.*
- *Activities of the Governance Task Force will aim to improve governance in the Islands Trust Area and to improve the ability of the Islands Trust to implement its provincial object throughout the Islands Trust Area.*

The Gulf Islands Alliance wishes to submit to the Governance Task Force members and Consultant Allan Neilson-Welch, the BC Court of Appeal decision in *MacMillan Bloedel v. Galiano Island Trust Committee*, [1995] BCJ No. 1763. We do so because we believe this is the seminal decision interpreting the *Islands Trust Act*, and because it provides direction regarding the unique powers and responsibilities that the Object of the Islands Trust [s. 3 *Islands Trust Act*] places in the hands of the Local Trust Committees. The decision can be found at www.courts.gov.bc.ca/jdb-txt/ca/95/04/c95-0495internet.htm.

We thank you for placing this critical Appeal Court decision before the Governance Task Force and Consultant Allan Neilson-Welch.

Sincerely,

Christine Torgrimson, Chair
Gulf Islands Alliance

Sent by mail and email: ladams@islandstrust.bc.ca