

GOVERNANCE RENEWAL PRINCIPLES

LOCAL GOVERNANCE

Island communities should have options for greater local autonomy beyond island municipal incorporation.

The term 'Island Community Council' represents a shift from fragmented to unified local accountability and an integration of local government services.

An island community should be able to determine the size of its 'Island Community Council' through referendum.

Island communities should be able to establish or amalgamate 'Island Community Councils' by referendum, subject to satisfying fiscal requirements that it is able to fiscally support the resulting governance structure.

REGIONAL GOVERNANCE

Regional governance for the Trust Area should focus on the consistency of Trust Area local trust area initiatives with the object of the Islands Trust.

The term 'bi-cameral authority' portrays an effort to make the current provisions of Trust Council and Executive Committee more effective.

The Executive Committee may require increased membership to maintain linkages among island communities and effectively oversee an integrated local service system.

An Executive Committee member should continue to serve as a member of each Island Community Council.

The Trust Council would be responsible for requisitioning and allocating general funds for Trust Area programs and basic services to island communities as well as requisitioning additional service levies at the request of Island Community Councils.

RESOURCE AQUISITION

The taxation formula for the Trust Area should strive for greater equity while preserving a capacity to achieve the object and the basic needs of island communities.

The term 'differentiated tax rate' refers to the use of a base rate for Trust Area programs and a core services for all island communities, with a separate variable rate for island-specific services.

The Trust Council would determine and apply the base rate. Island Community Councils would determine the variable tax rate and user fees. (already determined by Island Municipal Councils).

The Trust Council would apply the base rate uniformly throughout the Trust Area. The variable rate would be applied among island communities according to local needs and decisions.

RESOURCE ALLOCATION

Resource allocation in the Trust Area should reduce the shift of tax levy revenues out of the Trust Area.

The base service level refers to core services to island communities and Trust Area programs.

The term 'service agenda formula' differentiates between the core services needed to meet local needs and discretionary services that an island community may select.

Resource allocation in the Trust Area should reduce cross subsidization among island communities beyond the basic service level necessary to achieve the legislated object.

Island communities should drive their own service agenda. Communities could choose among a variety of options to deliver services through volunteer, private and government bodies.

The Trust Council as requested by Island Community and Island Municipal Councils could facilitate greater efficiency due to economics of scale among island communities as requested.