

The Pender Island Recycling Society has indeed played a significant role for residents of both North and South Pender Island.

The South Pender local trust area is unique in the Islands Trust as we are the only island physically connected to another local trust area. It allows South Pender residents easy access to all the amenities a community needs such as shopping, schools, medical facilities etc and a recycling facility such as the one you run, enabling the area to retain its rural identity. However, I feel that if our community continues to rely on the services of North Pender, we must take an active role in providing input. We cannot ignore the need especially to look at a long range plan for Solid Waste Management.

Having been a trustee previously on South Pender, I recognize that we do not have any control over the process that is the responsibility of the North Pender trustees, so it is difficult to answer some of your questions as listed below. The SP local trust committee gets a referral as part of any application process and can indicate if it's affected in any way. That is the extent to which it can officially participate. That does not mean that we trustees (personally) could not participate in discussions surrounding a plan for Solid Waste Management.

I believe that there has to be dialogue involving as many groups as possible; CRD, Islands Trust, Chamber of commerce and conservancy groups to name a few. It should definitely involve our communities, both North and South Pender. One possible way to accomplish this is to have the Advisory Planning commissions of both islands come together and determine a process of consultation and cooperation. This would need a resolution from both local trust committees. Currently, the South Pender community is in the process of a significant review of its land use bylaws. This would be the highest priority on my list.

If the SP trustees were asked to participate in the process however, I would definitely try to be part of the dialogue and planning. Regarding the question on funding, I think it would depend a lot on the overall plan as to whether the community self - funding is feasible.

I hope this answers at least a few of your questions.

Bruce McConchie Candidate for trustee, South Pender local trust area.