

ISLAND
COASTAL
ECONOMIC
TRUST

+



Transforming Governance: A Path to Partnership



Island Coastal Economic Trust is advancing its priority strategic goal to “transform the Trust into a permanent, co-governed, regional development organization for coastal communities.” You are invited to participate in an engagement process facilitated by Sanala Planning, an Indigenous-owned planning company, to provide strategic input and direction on transforming the Trust as a model of shared-decision making. This includes economic development funding decisions, regional strategies, and co-governance of the Trust by First Nations and local governments across Vancouver Island and the surrounding coast.

The engagement process will take place in two phases:

Phase One: Invitation

(Virtual)

Information and invitations are being distributed to all 53 First Nations governments within the region to participate in discussions on co-governance. Virtual roundtable meetings will be hosted on August 13th and September 24th, 2024 to share further information about the project and how it began.

Phase Two: Engagement

(In-Person or Virtual)

Meetings with First Nations governments, offered both in-community and online, will be scheduled to take place from Fall 2024 to Spring 2025. These meetings discussing the Governance and Future of Island Coastal Economic Trust will inform a Strategic Recommendations Report to be shared with participating First Nations as well as the provincial government.

To schedule an in-person or virtual meeting with your Nation’s leadership, please contact: ali.white@sanalaplanning.com



ISLAND COASTAL ECONOMIC TRUST

What is Island Coastal Economic Trust?

Island Coastal Economic Trust is the regional economic trust for Vancouver Island, the Sunshine Coast, and island and inlet communities from Cape Caution to the Salish Sea.

Our vision is that island and coastal communities are thriving with a resilient economy that strengthens the wellbeing of all people and the environment. We strategically invest in inclusive economic development, diversification, and innovation in partnership with communities to strengthen economic prosperity and peoples' wellbeing.

Since our founding in 2005, in partnership with communities, we have invested over \$64 million into economic development projects. The total impact to date of the Trust's investments is over \$338 million.

We invest in Food Security and Agrifood, Cultural and Nature-based Tourism, Innovation and Technology, Renewable and Low Carbon Energy, Entrepreneurs and Local Businesses, Transportation and Logistics, Training and Advanced Education, and Regenerative Forestry.

You can learn more at islandcoastaltrust.ca

Vision for Co-Governance Transformation

Since our founding, coastal people have been uplifting one another and building healthy, resilient, and more sustainable communities through investments with the Trust. We work in close collaboration — forming high-trust relationships — with people and organizations in urban areas, First Nations governments, small towns, and unincorporated communities across the coast.

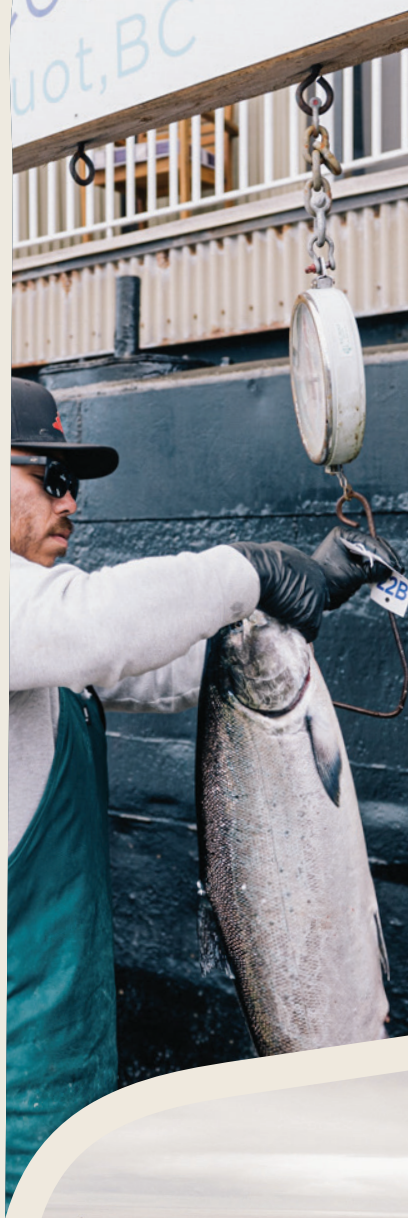
Our vision is to transform the Trust into a permanent, co-governed, regional development organization led by coastal communities.

As we move forward, investing to build a resilient coastal economy, we believe in the power of collaboration among First Nations and local governments to invest in each other and to govern the Trust through shared decision-making.

The Province of British Columbia, who founded and has funded the Trust, has committed to building a mechanism for inclusion of First Nations in the Trust's governance in the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Action Plan.

“It is past time that Indigenous governments have a defined role in Trust governance. There is an opportunity to combine recapitalization with a renewed vision for the Trust that sees it as a 3-way partnership between Indigenous governments, local governments and the provincial government.”

REPORT FROM THE 2022 INDEPENDENT LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE





What would we like to talk about?

We would be grateful to speak with and learn from you on:

- » Your perspectives on transforming the region's economic development Trust into a new co-governance model of shared decision-making led by First Nations and local governments, investing in projects to build the coastal economy and strengthen peoples' wellbeing together.
- » Your insights on regional economic development and leveraging the Trust to create new opportunities.
- » Your interest in serving or appointing individuals to represent your Nation and to make project investment decisions at regional committees and the board of directors of the Trust
- » Your priority economic development projects that we can partner and co-invest in together.

We would love to connect with you

Your voice is crucial to help us build a Trust that honours and incorporates the diverse perspectives of all coastal communities. To schedule an in-person or virtual meeting with your Nation's leadership, or to ask questions about this engagement process, please contact:

Ali White
Planner and Project Lead
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Meet the rest of the project team:

Dana Moraes
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Jessie Hemphill
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To learn more about Island Coastal Economic Trust, contact:

Brodie Guy
CEO of the Trust
brodie@islandcoastaltrust.ca



Island Coastal Economic Trust in 2024

Over the past year, the Trust invested **\$3,469,835** with First Nations, local governments, community organizations, industry associations, and regional economic organizations across the region to attract a total new investment of \$12,589,796 into the region.

Over 40% of our 2024 investments were with Indigenous-led and partnered projects, unlocking \$6.1 million total new investment in First Nations and rural communities

Our priority is to invest in sustainable development initiatives that will strengthen peoples' wellbeing. When we are developing and investing in projects with communities, we seek to create positive impacts to spur economic prosperity, social empowerment, climate resiliency, and cultural vitality.

Recent Partnerships and Co-Investments with First Nations

Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations Floating Lodge | \$300,000

This strategic acquisition of a luxury floating resort revitalized and expanded Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h's award-winning Walters Cove Resort operated by Tiičma Enterprises.

'Namgis-owned Driving School on the North Island | \$25,000

This new driving school is unlocking significant economic opportunities, along with freedom of movement and mobility through safe and reliable transportation options.

Ahaminaquus Welcome House | \$300,000

This new Welcome House will serve as a key component of Mowachaht Muchalaht First Nations' growing development of sustainable Indigenous-led tourism across their territory.

Salish Seas Regenerative Farm Grows into Full-Scale Urban Farm | \$50,000

This expanded farm is strengthening local agriculture through a close partnership with shíshálh First Nation that employs Indigenous youth in Sechelt, BC

Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations Traditional Food Gathering Event | \$30,000

This convening has focused on the vital need to expand food sovereignty and emergency food planning activities across 14 Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations and nearby communities.

Nawalakw Education and Demonstration Farm Improvement | \$25,000

This expanded community garden is creating an engaging, welcoming space for all community members and visitors along with training and employment opportunities for Kwakwaka'wakw youth.

