

# A petition to the Government of British Columbia

*Generated June 18, 2026*

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To the Honourable Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs of the Province of British Columbia, and to all Members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

We, the undersigned residents and property owners of Denman Island, British Columbia, and our connected community, respectfully petition the Government of British Columbia to commission a Restructure Study under the Local Government Act for the purpose of evaluating the incorporation of Denman Island as a self-governing municipality within the Islands Trust, on the model of Bowen Island Municipality.

We make this request on the following grounds:

- Denman Island has grown by 19.4 percent between the 2016 and 2021 censuses - nearly three times the BC provincial average growth rate over the same period;
- Denman Island is currently governed by a fragmented patchwork of overlapping authorities including the Islands Trust, the Comox Valley Regional District, the BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, BC Ferries, and at least seven separate community organizations and improvement districts, none of which is directly elected by and accountable to Denman residents as a single coherent local government;
- The Islands Trust Council has itself, in 2022 and again in 2024, formally requested a comprehensive provincial review of the Islands Trust Act and its governance structures;
- Both Bowen Island (1999) and Okanagan Falls (2025) provide clear, recent precedents for a Restructure Study leading to local incorporation under the BC Local Government Act;
- A Restructure Study is the lawful, evidence-based first step in this process, providing residents and the Province with the financial, demographic, and governance information necessary to make an informed decision at a referendum.

We therefore respectfully request that the Province commission a formal Restructure Study for Denman Island, with funding from the Restructure Planning Grant program of the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs, and conducted by an independent consultant in collaboration with Denman residents, the Comox Valley Regional District, the Islands Trust, and - in recognition of the K'ómoks Treaty currently being implemented - the K'ómoks First Nation, with appropriate acknowledgement of the Pentlatch People whose traditional territory includes Denman Island.

We are prepared to do the work alongside you. We are asking only for the chance to ask ourselves the question.

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**Confirmed public signers (5)**

**Tony Aly** - Resident, Denman Island

**John Andrew** - Resident, Denman Island

**Sergio A.** - Resident, Denman Island

**Maxwell J.** - Resident, Denman Island

**Patrick Rousseau** - Property owner, Denman Island