



Friends of Clayoquot Sound

www.focs.ca // info@focs.ca

FREE SUMMER NEWS 2019

PHONE: 250-725-4218

Linking Arms & Holding The Line

Celebrating the Frontlines of Environmental Conservation
Movement Building & Actions for 40 Years!



Aya Tousekani / Surfrider Pacific Rim Volunteer

Friends of Clayoquot Sound and Surfrider Pacific Rim partnered to host Hands Across the Sand to kick off the week of Global Climate Strike actions in May. Participants locked hands and arms to spread out across the shore of Clayoquot Island to promote the movement to #ENDFOSSILFUELSUBSIDIES.

Striking Balance Together

Film & Photo Presentation
Wednesdays @ 8PM
for July & August

Clayoquot Sound Community Theatre
Co-Presented with Tribal Parks Allies

WHAT'S UP in this issue

Assessing the
Wild Salmon Emergency

The Green New Deal
& Global Climate Strike

August Deadline for
Imperial Metals Charge

Remembering Meares Island

Aug 31st - Sept 6th, 2019



PROTECT • EDUCATE • CELEBRATE

more info @
www.focs.ca/salmonfestival

Big Wins for Environmental Justice



Youth climate strikers at the Global Climate Strike in Vancouver.

Youth Climate Strike Invites Adults to Step Up for September 20th #GlobalClimateStrike

The youth of the world are declaring a climate emergency and demanding climate action. Having organized global days of actions in March and May with millions participating, leading youth climate strikers are asking for all adults to join a global general strike on September 20th, 2019 before the UN summit at which nations are being urged to declare much stronger ambitions to tackle the climate emergency. Learn more about climate action in Canada on Page 5.

We're asking adults to step up alongside us... we need everyone. It is time for all of us to unleash mass resistance... if we demand change in numbers we have a chance.

- Greta Thunberg, Youth Climate Strike Leader

Steelhead's Kwispaa LNG (Liquified Natural Gas) Project Deactivated

Over the winter, Steelhead LNG submitted a project description to the Canadian and BC environmental assessment agencies for the Kwispaa LNG project. Steelhead proposed the 730 hectare natural gas liquefaction

and export facility on Sarita Bay in Barkley Sound, next door to Clayoquot Sound. Their proposal sought to export 24 million tons of liquid natural gas per year at full build-out, requiring six to seven LNG carrier ships weekly. In defense of climate justice, Friends

of Clayoquot Sound partnered with the Barkley Sound Alliance to oppose the project, advocating for cumulative environmental assessment. Months later Steelhead announced a halt to the project citing investor uncertainty. See Page 4 to read about the Green New Deal.

17 Salmon Farms Being Phased Out from Broughton Archipelago

In the Broughton Archipelago at the north end of Vancouver Island, 17 salmon farms will be closed or moved to create a safer migration path for wild salmon by 2022. Years of advocacy and direct action by the Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis, 'Namgis and Mamalilikulla First Nations prompted the agreement with the federal and provincial governments, and two Norwegian salmon farm corporations, Marine Harvest and Cermaq. Previously, the Government

of B.C. announced that by 2022 all salmon farms will require local First Nations consent as well as federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) licensing in order to operate. In Clayoquot Sound, DFO is currently involved in a first-ever marine ecosystem risk assessment for wild salmon through the Clayoquot Sound Salmon Roundtable which Friends of Clayoquot Sound are engaging in. Read more about the Wild Salmon Emergency on Page 3.



FOCS in solidarity with Wild Salmon Warriors at the Swanson Island Occupation in the Broughton Archipelago.

Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations Launch Tribal Parks Allies Certification

Over the winter, the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations launched the Tla-o-qui-aht Tribal Parks Allies Certification Standard. This invites businesses operating in Tla-o-qui-aht Tribal Parks territory to

become Allies and participate in the shared stewardship of the territory. The Tla-o-qui-aht say that Heshook Ish Tsawalk (everything is one and all are interconnected). It is the responsibility of environmentally conscientious

people around the world to support the leadership of Indigenous Nations who are protecting 80% of ecosystems globally. Read more about Tribal Parks on Page 7, and check out the Tribal Parks Allies website to learn more: tribalparksalliance.com

Assessing the Wild Salmon Emergency



ruled that DFO is failing to consider the health of wild salmon and violating the Fisheries Act by not meeting “the precautionary principle” for protection. Strickland gave DFO four months to undertake a risk assessment and come up with a new policy to ensure that farmed salmon are not transferring PRV to wild salmon. At the deadline on June 4, Jonathan Wilkinson, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, announced that DFO will finally require testing PRV for all salmon farms.

Currently there are 130 salmon farms in B.C. with 20 located in Clayoquot Sound. But salmon farms are not the only possible source of PRV transmission. After inspecting the fish processing plants in 2018, the B.C. Ministry of Environment’s laboratory results confirmed the presence of PRV. Of the 109 fish processing plants in B.C., 28 have provincial permits under B.C.’s Environmental Management Act to release “bloodwater” effluent into ocean waters, including Lions Gate in Tofino.

A Deadly Virus: Piscine Orthoreovirus (PRV)

In a recent study, Department of Fisheries and Oceans scientist, Dr. Kristi Miller, found that migratory Chinook salmon are at risk of disease from exposure to the high levels of piscine orthoreovirus (PRV) occurring on salmon farms. PRV causes red blood cells in Chinook salmon to rupture, spreading toxins that damage the kidney

and liver, weakening the wild salmon.

Early in 2019, Canada’s Federal Court overturned the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) policy permitting fish farms to transfer salmon farm hatchery smolts to ocean net pens without screening for PRV. Justice Cecily Strickland

Deadly Parasites: Sea Lice Infestations

Fish farms in Clayoquot Sound have effectively become breeding grounds for sea lice, putting an entire generation of wild salmon at risk. In the last year, half of Cermaq’s 14 salmon farms in Clayoquot Sound reported sea lice levels at or above the threshold that requires chemical treatment under the federal licence.

When will the Minister of Fisheries and Ocean, Jonathan Wilkinson, and the Department of Fisheries and Ocean step up to protect wild salmon? Read the sea lice monitoring update . These crisis level conditions are unacceptable!

Sea Lice Monitoring Update

By Mack Bartlett

For another year out-migrating wild juvenile salmon in Clayoquot Sound have been put at risk by sea lice infestations. Juvenile salmon in Clayoquot Sound migrate from their natal streams beginning in the early spring. In May at our continual juvenile salmon monitoring sites, we found that there was a major spike in sea lice prevalence and abundance on smolts. We observed 70-100% prevalence of infected salmon and we were seeing a weekly average of 3 and 12 lice per fish during May at these locations,

with some individuals having 20, 30 and 50 lice on them.

Research conducted on sea lice induced mortality found approximately 1 louse per gram of fish can be lethal. Studies in BC found 1-3 lice correlated to 60-98% lice induced mortality on salmon fry. Lower levels of sea lice can impact predator avoidance and the ability to feed effectively, reducing chance of survival and ultimately leading to decreased population productivity.



Sea lice monitoring in Clayoquot Sound revealed a 70-100% infection rate in wild juvenile salmon during the sensitive out-migration period in the spring of 2019.

The Vision for a Green New Deal

**WE HAVE A ONCE IN A
LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY
TO SAVE OUR PLANET.**



Let's be real, the climate crisis is here. Climate changing pollution and environmental destruction have exacerbated systemic injustices, and states of emergency are becoming commonplace. Current global, federal, and provincial climate change plans and agreements fall disastrously short of what is necessary. But scientists are crystal clear about what it will take: the next decade must see "rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society".

We have until 2030 to cut our emissions in half while protecting our remaining cultural and biological diversity. Otherwise, we face catastrophic impacts and this crisis

moving beyond our control. This level of change is indeed a matter of survival, and it will take historic leadership and ambition to get there. But it is also an unprecedented opportunity to build justice in prosperity: a Green New Deal for all.

A Green New Deal is a vision of rapid, inclusive and far-reaching transition, to slash emissions, protect critical biodiversity, meet the demands of the multiple crises we face, and create over a million jobs in the process. It would involve the full implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) including the right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), dozens of

other pieces of legislation, new programs and institutions, and a huge mobilization calling on the creativity and participation of all of us.

We know that when the state perceives an emergency, rapid transformations occur. Banks are saved, auto companies are bailed out. We have the ability to build a 100% renewable economy based on public ownership and dignified, well-paying work. We know that the federal government, in collaboration with Indigenous Nations and all other levels of government, has the capacity to pull this off. But we also know that only the people - in a deep, wide, and transformational process - can give it the legitimacy and true diversity it needs to succeed.

We call on all politicians and political parties to respond to the demands of the people with a Green New Deal:

- Beginning with the foundational rights and sovereignty of Indigenous communities, and implementing UNDRIP, FPIC, and the 94 Calls to Action from Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- Ensuring that solutions are universal and far reaching as we transform our systems of transit, energy, housing, agriculture, and public services, and that we're creating dignified work that can support families.
- Making all our communities healthier, reconnecting, and feeling safe again.
- All of society heeding the call from young people, and coming together with a plan to sustain this generation and the seven that come after it.

A Green New Deal must lift us all, together.
Learn more @ www.greennewdealcanada.ca

Something to consider...
IN THE CANDIAN ELECTION THIS OCTOBER, VOTE FOR
GREEN & DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES WHO TAKE THE
CLIMATE CRISIS MORE SERIOUSLY.



TELL TRUDEAU:

**"WALK THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY TALK,
NO TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPELINE!"**

Youth all over the world are rising in the millions to demand the world's nations protect our Earth home and the web of life that sustains us all by taking bold and immediate action to avoid catastrophic climate collapse. Because the world's scientists are clear: we have less than 11 years to cut our emissions in half while protecting our remaining cultural and biological diversity. Otherwise, we face catastrophic impacts and the climate crisis moving beyond our control.

Purchasing the proposed Trans Mountain pipeline is an example of Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau lacking moral clarity and blundering in the wrong direction. Instead of making urgent and meaningful investments in green jobs, energy efficiency, sustainable transportation, and renewable energy projects, Trudeau has led the Government of Canada in committing billions in taxpayer funds toward expanding pipelines for liquified natural gas (LNG) and tar sands extraction - the most carbon intensive energy on the planet. The Canadian government needs to wake up to the climate emergency and #ENDFOSSILFUELSUBSIDIES.

The Trans Mountain pipeline expansion breaks Canada's commitments to Indigenous rights and reconciliation, while declaring a war on the climate and coastal ecosystems. The pipeline and tanker project proposes to release 100 million tonnes of carbon annually, negating climate commitments made by

the Canadian government at the UN Climate Summit in Paris.

Considering the plastic industry uses 8% of the global oil supply, 600,000 more barrels of oil per day means more plastic marine debris. In Clayoquot Sound, the pipeline would also mean 400 tankers a year traveling past Long Beach putting communities and ecosystems at greater risk of catastrophic oil spills. With increased summer temperatures, western red cedars, salal bushes, and mountain rivers are drying, rainforests are burning, glaciers are melting, and the orcas and salmon are struggling.

Politically, legally, and on the ground the proposed Trans

Mountain pipeline was doomed before Trudeau led the Government of Canada in approving it in 2016. The pipeline still has no consent from entire Indigenous Nations, major municipalities including Vancouver, Burnaby, and Victoria, and the Government of British Columbia. With no treaties

and no purchase of the unceded territories from the Indigenous Nations within B.C., Canada has no legal jurisdiction under International Law to even permit the pipeline and will face continued court challenges.

In B.C. hundreds have already been arrested to stop the Trans Mountain pipeline, and thousands more are lined up. An entire generation is growing up with Extinction Rebellion mindsets. If politicians like Trudeau continue to disregard the climate emergency, movement based direct actions inspired by "war in the woods" and the Clayoquot Blockades over 25 years ago will only continue to grow.



Tla-o-qui-aht Chief Moses Martin speaking beside FOCS Campaigner Jeh Custerra at the No Pipelines Solidarity Rally in Tofino.

Marnie Recker

You Deal With It:

Landslides from Logging in Hesquiaht Harbour



Debris around Hesquiaht Lake from the historical logging that destabilized mountain slopes and caused numerous landslides over the winter near Hesquiaht Harbour.

by Josh Charleson

At the northern end of Clayoquot Sound, the big rain events this past winter devastated the territory of Hesquiaht First Nations. The rain events hit Hesquiaht territory hard due to the history of industrial logging in Clayoquot Sound. Since the 1950's

Hesquiaht Harbour has been taken advantage of by numerous logging companies including Interfor, Mamook, Isaak, Western Forest Products, and MacMillan Bloedel. The mass deforestation that has occurred in Hesquiaht territory has effectively destabilized our, once forested, mountain slopes.

On November 3rd, when 94 millimetres of rain fell within 24 hours, we witnessed a total of 9 landslides into 3 salmon bearing streams, and 2 lakes around Hesquiaht Harbour. From the time the landslides happened until today there has been no assistance from the federal or provincial governments for the restoration of our critical salmon bearing streams. We contacted the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the provincial Ministry of Forests and Natural Resources, the federal Member of Parliament, Gord Johns, and the provincial Member of the Legislative Assembly, Scott Fraser. We heard repeatedly that there is no process to report or deal with a landslide that impacts critical wild salmon habitat.

Since industrial logging began in Hesquiaht territory these levels of government have accumulated wealth from logging, licensing, and stumpage fees. Yet who is left to clean up this mess after our trees have been taken and our streams destroyed by industrial logging? "I don't know Hesquiaht, you deal with it," is not an acceptable answer.

Environmental Protection Laws at Stake as Deadline Looms to Charge Imperial Metals

This August marks 5 years since Imperial Metals' Mount Polley mine disaster. To date, Imperial Metals has not been held accountable for causing 25 billion litres of toxic mining waste to flood into Hazelton Creek, Quesnel Lake, and the Fraser River watershed. All within the territory of the Secwepemc First Nation, the area is one of the largest salmon spawning grounds in the world. Legal charges under Canada's Fisheries Act remain a possibility until August 4, 2019. So what's at stake here?

No charges, fines or penalties means Imperial Metals gains greater potential to expand their unsustainable

mining operations. Within Clayoquot Sound, Imperial Metals holds the mining rights to assess the development of a gold mine, called the Pandora project within the unceded territory of Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations, as well as an open-pit copper mine on Catface Mountain in Ahousaht First Nation's unceded territory. Both Nations are adamant that mining will not be allowed in their territories.

In the last year, Imperial Metals share price has doubled from \$1.27 to \$2.63, meaning that their mining operations are becoming more lucrative for investors. With no enforcement of environmental

protection laws, Imperial Metals share price is being propped up by Indigenous Nations, taxpayers, and future generations. The shares are further inflated by Imperial Metals holding mining rights in Clayoquot Sound with no jurisdiction or consent.

Imperial Metals shareholders and executives have been held accountable at their Annual General Meeting (AGM) by Friends of Clayoquot Sound in solidarity with Indigenous land protectors from Secwepemc, Tla-o-qui-aht, and Ahousaht territories. For 2019, Imperial Metals moved their AGM online to avoid and remove their public accountability. Now, it's time for the federal government to step up and charge Imperial Metals.

Celebrating the 35th Anniversary of the Meares Island Tribal Park Declaration

FOCS Archives



The late Robert Martin Sr (Nuukmiis), Hereditary Chief of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations, in regalia celebrating the victory of Meares Island Tribal Park with Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations members.

By Nora O'Malley, reprinted with permission from Westerlynews.ca.

The 35th anniversary of the Meares Island Tribal Park Declaration of 1984 was celebrated over the Easter long weekend.

Chief Moses Martin, elected Chief of Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation, was also the elected chief 35 years ago. In April 1984, he declared Meares Island in Clayoquot Sound near Tofino a "Tribal Park" during a blockade to stop Canadian forestry company MacMillan Bloedel from logging the area's ancient forests.

"35 years ago. It seems like yesterday. I remember so vividly that day we all stood up and said, 'No,'" Martin told the audience at a community potluck event hosted by the Tin Wis in Tofino.

"We need to continue to do that," he said. "We need to support each other in trying to protect this beautiful place that we call home." As a result of the Tribal Park Declaration of 1984, the old-growth forest that exists on Meares Island remains standing to this day and protected for future generations.

Michael Mullin, long time resident of Tofino and Friends of Clayoquot Sound Founder and Board Member, gave a speech during Friday's celebration. Mullin took part in the anti-logging protests and was there for the birth of the historical Tribal Park Declaration.

"This Tribal Park vision should be a model for the entire region. With climate change upon us, the worst thing we can be doing is be cutting down forests," said Mullin. "It has become very clear that enlightened

Indigenous stewardship and control of the land, is always the best hope for the future. People who know who they are, know where they live, know where their ancestors come from, are always going to be better for their region than people who either invade or extract resources for profit."

Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations' Natural Resources Manager, Saya Masso, told the crowd that Tribal Parks is a vision for Tla-o-qui-aht territory, which includes creating space for old growth, salmon restoration, and cultural gathering areas.

"We need to get value for trees standing," Masso said. "Tourism as an economic industry is 'in'. We can't have countervailing pressures

to log, or to have unsustainable land use that goes against tourists' wishes. As First Nations that are landowners and trying to guide the land vision, it's in our economic interests to come together to help deliver it."

Tofino Mayor Josie Osborne was invited to speak at the celebration. "This community couldn't be what it is if it wasn't for the work of the people in this room and so many others who have fought and who have passionately advocated for the ways that we need to be in synergy with this land," said Osborne. She reflected on the totem pole raising ceremony that took place at Anchor Park in downtown Tofino in September to honour First Nations Chiefs. Learn more @ tribalparkalliance.com



Thank You to this group who stood in solidarity to protect Meares Island old growth forest from logging in 1984. They came together again for a nostalgic photo during the 35th anniversary celebration on April 19 in Tofino.

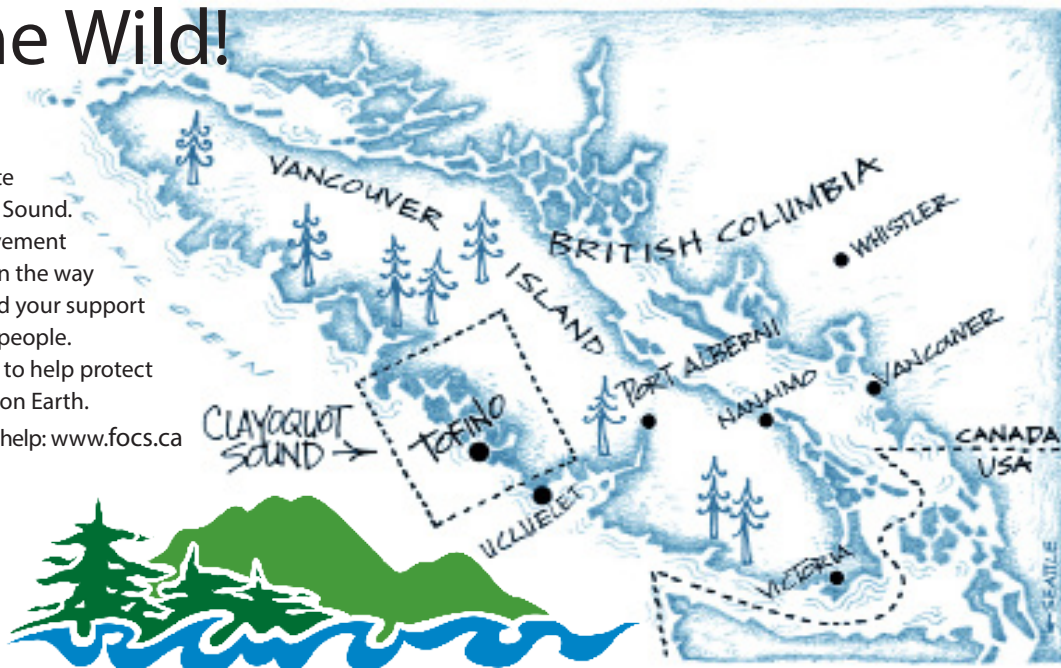
Jeh Custer

Support the Wild!

Friends of Clayoquot Sound is a grassroots organization advocating protection for the ancient temperate rainforest ecosystems of Clayoquot Sound. We are part of an international movement calling for a shift of consciousness in the way humans relate to the Earth. We need your support to continue to educate and inspire people. Please send in your donation today to help protect one of the most spectacular places on Earth. Visit our website to find more ways to help: www.focs.ca

Send your donation to:

Friends of Clayoquot Sound
Box 489, Tofino, BC,
Canada V0R 2Z0
Ph: 250-725-4218
Office: 1160 Pacific Rim Hwy, Tofino
focs.ca // info@focs.ca



Sustain Our Legacy!

Since 1979, Friends of Clayoquot Sound have relied on donations from people who love this place. We have immense gratitude for our donors, who are the true sustainers of our work to protect the life that thrives here. Become a donor today! focs.ca/donate

“Friends of Clayoquot Sound practically wrote the book on successful environmental protest, back in the 1990s. I have been an enthusiastic supporter ever since.”

- Margaret Atwood, Acclaimed Canadian Author



Join our Wilderness Team by becoming a monthly donor!

Includes annual membership.

Monthly donation: ☐ \$15 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$35 ☐ Other _____

☐ Credit card (please write details below)

☐ Direct debit to my chequing account
(please attach a VOID cheque)

SIGNATURE OF ACCOUNT HOLDER _____

DATE _____

Thank you! Payments will continue automatically on the first of each month until you notify the Friends of Clayoquot Sound of any changes or cancellation by calling 250-725-4218 or emailing info@focs.ca. You can also donate by credit card on our website: www.focs.ca

Become a Friends of Clayoquot Sound member!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Annual donation: ☐ \$25 ☐ \$40 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other _____

All members receive the informative Friends of Clayoquot Sound newsletter hot off the press!

☐ Check here if you prefer to receive the newsletter by email.

☐ VISA

or

☐ MASTERCARD

CARD NUMBER _____

EXPIRY _____

CVV NUMBER (3-digit number on back of card) _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____