



Transport Canada Transports Canada

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Your File Votre référence

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4 May 2011

RDIMS # 6694935

Sheila Malcomson
Chair, Islands Trust Council
200-1627 Fort Street
Victoria, BC V8R 1H8

Dear Ms. Malcomson,

Thank you for your letter of 18 April 2011 regarding Plumper Sound concerns and the Container Capacity Improvement Program. Transport Canada Marine Safety's objectives are stated in Section 6 of the Canada Shipping Act, 2001 as follows:

6. The objectives of this Act are to
- (a) protect the health and well-being of individuals, including the crews of vessels, who participate in marine transportation and commerce;
 - (b) promote safety in marine transportation and recreational boating;
 - (c) protect the marine environment from damage due to navigation and shipping activities;
 - (d) develop a regulatory scheme that encourages viable, effective and economical marine transportation and commerce;
 - (e) promote an efficient marine transportation system;
 - (f) develop a regulatory scheme that encourages the viable, effective and economical use of Canadian waters by recreational boaters;
 - (g) ensure that Canada can meet its international obligations under bilateral and multilateral agreements with respect to navigation and shipping;
 - (h) encourage the harmonization of marine practices; and
 - (i) establish an effective inspection and enforcement program.

You will note that it is incumbent upon us to promote not only safety on the water, but the protection of the environment and the promotion of effective, economical marine transportation.

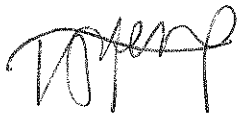
To that end, the Advisory Notice was issued by this office in May of 2010. Furthermore, in the last few months we have answered letters coming from many Gulf Islands residents who were both curious and concerned with the numbers of ships they saw anchored close to their shores. It has indeed been a cycle of increased shipping of our resources (mainly coal and grain) that has been

compounded by delays in the overland shipment of these goods. Perhaps these are a small component of the slightly better economic status of our country. However, this is not indicative of similarly high numbers of ships continuing to use the anchorages in the future.

Gulf Islands Trust and Marine Safety have been working together on issues relating to Plumper Sound and the Southern Gulf Islands for about 25 years now and we value our close working relationship. Our common goals for safe shipping and protection of the environment should be encouraged and augmented. We feel that your members are the ears and eyes of the area and we value your input and thoughts on any solutions you may wish to propose.

In regards to the Container Capacity Improvement Program, I will extend your request to the Port Metro Vancouver and Chamber of Shipping to ensure that you are included in the deliberations for the purpose of future protection of waters within the Salish Sea.

Yours truly,



John Yeung
Acting Regional Director, Marine Safety
Pacific Region

cc: Robin Silvester, President and CEO, Port Metro Vancouver
Yoss Leclerc, Director, Operations & Security and Harbour Master, Port Metro Vancouver
Stephen Brown, President, Chamber of Shipping of British Columbia
George Karras, Manager, Victoria District Office, Transport Canada

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