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November 6, 2017

File Number: 5450-30

via e-mail: mintc@tc.gc.ca

The Honourable Marc Garneau, MP
Minister of Transport
Transport Canada
330 Sparks Street
Ottawa ON K1A 0N5

Dear Minister Garneau:

Re: Islands Trust support for Bill C-352, An Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act, 2001

On behalf of the Islands Trust Council I wish to extend our sincere thanks for your leadership in developing the Abandoned Boats Program. The Islands Trust Council has actively advocated for such a program since 2010 and we are grateful that funding is now available for removal of abandoned vessels. Abandoned and derelict vessels are a significant concern for coastal communities for economic, aesthetic, environmental and safety reasons.

We are also very pleased to see Bill C-64 - 'An Act respecting wrecks, abandoned, dilapidated or hazardous vessels and salvage operations' introduced into the House of Commons. We welcome every effort to address abandoned vessels. On behalf of the Islands Trust Council, I also wish you to know that we also support MP Sheila Malcolmson's Bill C-352 - 'An Act to amend the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001* and to provide for the development of a national strategy (abandonment of vessels)'.

The Islands Trust Council discussed abandoned vessels and the proposed Bill C-352 at their September 2017 meeting and passed the following resolution:

"To support Bill C-352, tabled by Member of Parliament for Nanaimo-Ladysmith Sheila Malcolmson - "An Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act, 2001 and provide for the development of a national strategy for abandoned vessels".

The Islands Trust Council shares MP Sheila Malcolmson's concern that, long-term measures are needed to address abandoned vessels, particularly small pleasure vessels. A 2014 Transport Canada study identified that our region, the area between the British Columbia mainland and southern Vancouver Island, is a hotspot for abandoned vessels. We are concerned that many pleasure craft in our region are nearing the end of their useful lives so the incidences of abandoned and derelict vessels could be expected to increase, beyond the timeframe of the 2017-2022 funding program.

We encourage Parliament to build on the success of the 2017 Abandoned Boats short-term program by supporting both Bills C-64 and C-352.

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The Islands Trust Council is a federation of local government bodies representing 25,000 people living within the Islands Trust Area and about 10,000 non-resident property owners. The Islands Trust is responsible for preserving and protecting the unique environment and amenities of the Islands Trust Area through planning and regulating land use, development management, education, cooperation with other agencies, and land conservation. The area covers the islands and waters between the British Columbia mainland and southern Vancouver Island. It includes 13 major and more than 450 smaller islands covering 5200 square kilometres.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Luckham
Chair, Islands Trust Council
pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca

pc: Sheila Malcolmson, MP, Nanaimo-Ladysmith
Cowichan Tribes
Esquimalt First Nation
Halalt First Nation
Homalco First Nation
Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group
K'omoks First Nation
Klahoose First Nation
Laich-kwil-tach Treaty Society
Lake Cowichan First Nation
Lyackson First Nation
Malahat Nation
Musqueam First Nation
Nanwakolas Council
Pauquachin First Nation
Penelakut Tribe
Qualicum First Nation
Scia'new (Beecher Bay) First Nation
Semiahmoo First Nation

Shíshálh (Sechelt) First Nation
Snaw-naw-as (Nanoose) First Nation
Snuneymuxw (Nanaimo) First Nation
Songhees First Nation
Squamish First Nation
Stz'uminus (Chemainus) First Nation
Te'mexw Treaty Association
Tla'amin (Sliammon) First Nation
T'Sou-ke (Sooke) First Nation
Tsartlip First Nation
Tsawout First Nation
Tsawwassen First Nation
Tseil-Waututh (Burrard Inlet) First Nation
Tseycum First Nation
We Wai Kai (Cape Mudge First Nation)
Wei Wai Kum (Campbell River First Nation)
Bowen Island Municipal Council
Islands Trust Council
Islands Trust website