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File Number: 0400-20; 5020-30

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The Honourable Catherine McKenna  
Minister of Environment and Climate Change  
200 Sacre-Coeur, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Ottawa ON K1A 0H3

The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc  
Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
200 Kent Street  
Ottawa ON K1A 0E6

Dear Minister McKenna and Minister LeBlanc:

**Re: Supporting Parliamentary Motion M-151**

On behalf of the Islands Trust Council I am writing to request that the Ministers of the Federal Government and all members of various parties in the House of Commons support Parliamentary Motion M-151 made by MP Gord Johns and as well to request that Environment Canada and Fisheries and Ocean Canada take positive actions to reduce the influx of plastics and micro plastics into Canadian Water.

The Islands Trust Council represents Canadians who live or own property on the islands in the Salish Sea and thus are keenly interested in the health of marine and fresh water ecosystems of all types. We are aware and thankful that the Federal Government has indicated publicly that it wishes to take a leadership position to address this pressing global problem. In our view this is not something that can wait. Positive action is needed now with leadership from the House of Commons.

Our request is that our federal representatives treat this as a truly non-partisan issue and support and implement Motion M-151. The Motion reads:

*That in the opinion of the House, the government should work with the provinces, municipalities and indigenous communities to develop a national strategy to combat plastic pollution in and around aquatic environments, which would include the following measures:*

- a) *Regulations aimed at reducing*
  - i) *Plastic debris discharge from storm water outfalls*
  - ii) *Industrial use of micro-plastics including, but not limited to microbeads, nurdles, fibrous micro-plastics and fragments*
  - iii) *Consumer and industrial use of single use plastics, including, but not limited to plastic bags, bottles, straws, tableware, polystyrene (foam) cigarette filters, and beverage containers, and*
  
- b) *permanent, dedicated and annual funding for the*
  - i) *Cleanup of derelict fishing gear*
  - ii) *Community-led projects to clean up plastics and debris on shores, banks, beaches and other aquatic peripheries*
  - iii) *Education and outreach campaigns on the root causes and negative environmental effects of plastic pollution in and around all bodies of water.*

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As you may know, there is a recent [report](#) from the Environmental Law Centre at the University of Victoria that provides an excellent summary of the problem and proposes solutions. A good first step is to support Motion M-151 so the federal government can provide the leadership needed to clean up our oceans and freshwater.

Yours sincerely,



Susan Morrison  
Acting Chair, Islands Trust Council  
[smorrison@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:smorrison@islandstrust.bc.ca)

cc: The Honourable Justin Trudeau,  
Prime Minister of Canada  
The Honourable Andrew Scheer,  
Leader of the Official Opposition  
Gordon Johns, MP for Courtenay - Alberni  
Islands Trust Area MPs  
T. Buck Suzuki Foundation  
University of Victoria Environmental Law Centre  
Bowen Island Municipal Council  
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)  
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