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July 21, 2020

File No.: 5020-30 Anchorages

Via email: Paul.Manly@parl.gc.ca

Mr. Paul Manly, Member of Parliament
Nanaimo-Ladysmith
495 Dunsmuir Street
Suite 103
Nanaimo, British Columbia
V9R 6B9

Dear Mr. Manly:

Re: Delegation to June Trust Council – Freighter Anchorages in the Southern Gulf Islands

The Islands Trust Council and staff wish to thank you for taking the time to make a presentation at the June 2020 Trust Council Meeting held electronically.

We greatly appreciate your continued leadership on the issue of freighter anchorages on the Southern BC Coast, an issue which the Islands Trust Council has held front and centre since 2008. We could not agree more that longstanding supply chain issues and port inefficiencies need to be addressed in order to ensure that First Nations, coastal communities and the Salish Sea do not continue to bear the brunt of an inefficient and ever expanding maritime shipping industry. This year has witnessed the largest number of ships at anchor in the Southern Gulf Islands to date. At this rate, it appears that we are going to exceed the record 2018 totals. Needless to say, this trend is deeply alarming.

As you are well aware, the Islands Trust Area is one of the most productive marine ecosystems in the world and includes the highest density of species at risk in Canada. We are critically aware of the impacts these freighter anchorages are having on First Nations and coastal communities, local marine ecosystems and food webs, the endangered Southern Resident Killer Whale, not to mention the ever-looming risk of catastrophic fuel spills in this environmentally sensitive region. A Transportation Safety Board investigation into the March 30th freighter collision in Plumper Sound is only one of the many actions needed at this time. Islands Trust Council continues to call on the federal government to take all measures possible to reduce, and ultimately eliminate, the use of the 33 commercial freighter anchorage sites located in the Southern Gulf Islands; to assess the cumulative risks and impacts associated with projected vessel traffic increases in the Salish Sea; and to develop an innovative twenty-year mitigation plan.

Thank you again for your presentation. Islands Trust Council greatly appreciates your work on this issue and many other matters of concern in the Islands Trust Area. We look forward to further collaboration with you in the days to come.

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The Honourable Paul Manly

July 21, 2020

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Yours sincerely,



Peter Luckham

Chair, Islands Trust Council

pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca

cc: Islands Trust Area MPs
BOKÉCEN (Pauquachin) First Nation
Cowichan Tribes
Halalt First Nation
Homalco First Nation
Klahoose First Nation
K'ómoks First Nation
Lake Cowichan First Nation
Lekwungen (Songhees) Nation
Lyackson First Nation
MÁLEXEŁ (Malahat) Nation
Penelakut Tribe
Qualicum First Nation
Sci'a'new (Beecher Bay) First Nation
SEMYOME (Semiahmoo) First Nation
shíshálh First Nation
Snuneymuxw First Nation
Sḵwǝwú7mesh (Squamish) Nation
Snaw-naw-as (Nanoose) First Nation
SḶÁUTW (Tsawout) First Nation
Stz'uminus First Nation
SXIMEŁEŁ (Esquimalt) Nation
Tla'amin (Sliammon) Nation
Tsawwassen First Nation
Tsleil-Waututh Nation
T'Sou-ke Nation
Wei Wai Kum (Campbell River) First Nation
We Wai Kai (Cape Mudge) First Nation
WJOLÉLP (Tsartlip) First Nation
WŚIKEM (Tseycum) First Nation
x^wməθk^wəyəm Musqueam
First Nations Leadership Council
Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group
Laich-kwil-tach Treaty Society
Nanwakolas Council
Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council
Te'mexw Treaty Association
Gabriolans Against Freighter Anchorages
Anchorages Concern Thetis
Cowichan Bay Ship Watch Society Plumper
Sound Protection Association
Stuart Channel Anchorages Protection
Chamber of Shipping of British Columbia
Shipping Federation of Canada
Nanaimo Port Authority
Pacific Pilotage Authority
Vancouver Fraser Port Authority
Cowichan Valley Regional District Board
Town of Ladysmith Mayor and Council
Bowen Island Municipal Council
Islands Trust Council
Islands Trust website