



# Friends of Clayoquot Sound

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Summer 2018

## Pipeline Colonialism In A Time of Climate Crisis: Resistance Grows Like Clayoquot Blockades



Getty Images

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, or "Crudeau", will be remembered for perpetuating resource colonialism, climate change, and rape culture for his attempts to expand the Kinder Morgan pipeline with no consent from local communities.

**W**ith falling share prices, Kinder Morgan, the Texas-based pipeline company, set a May 31st deadline for the Canadian Government to provide some assurance that their Trans Mountain Pipeline could be built. Considering the scope of the resistance, unable to provide assurance Justin Trudeau gambled instead to use taxpayers' money to purchase the existing pipeline at a cost of \$4.5 billion, while hoping to commit taxpayers to spending another \$7 billion to complete the controversial Trans Mountain Expansion Project.

Politically, legally, and on the ground the Kinder Morgan pipeline was beat before the Government of Canada approved 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 permit the pipeline. While on the ground, movement-based direct action reminiscent of the Clayoquot Blockades 25 years ago continues to grow.

Trudeau's proposed pipeline breaks Canada's commitments to Indigenous rights and reconciliation, while declaring a war on the climate and coastal ecosystems. The pipeline and tanker project would release 100 million tonnes of carbon annually, negating climate commitments made by the Canadian government at the UN Climate Summit in Paris. The pipeline would also mean 400 tankers a year, putting communities and ecosystems at much greater risk of

catastrophic oil spills.

Friends of Clayoquot Sound stands with Indigenous Nations, municipalities, and environmental activists across B.C. to stop the expansion of Trudeau's pipeline. Supporting the strategies of Indigenous rights, movement building and direct action, that we utilized in the massive Clayoquot protests, will help to ensure the Kinder Morgan pipeline is never built. We, like future generations, will remember Justin Trudeau as "Crudeau", a visionless pawn captured by big oil - the most greed ridden, reckless industry in the planet's history.

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**Clayoquot**  
**Salmon Festival**  
**RETURNING THIS**  
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**focs.ca/salmonfestival**

# Big Wins for Environmental Justice!



The Canadian Press

Thousands march outside Kinder Morgan facilities on Burnaby Mountain.

## Kinder Morgan Pipeline Resistance

**O**n March 9, Kinder Morgan manipulated the colonial courts to give them an injunction against actions resisting their tar sands pipeline. This created an “arrestable” injunction zone around Kinder Morgan facilities and work in Burnaby on the unceded Coast Salish territory. The following day, thousands marched into

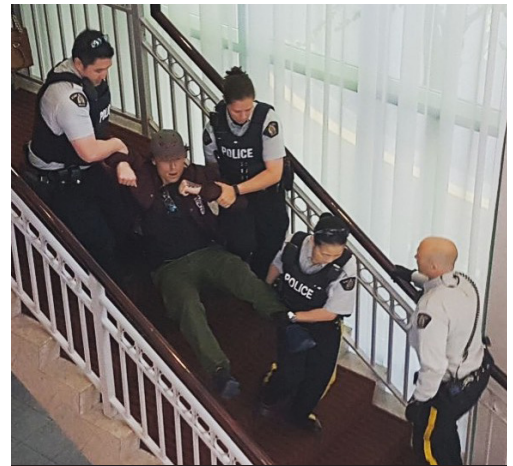
that injunction zone led by the Elders in ceremony, and held space while the Kwekwecnewtxw Watch House was built by Coast Salish grassroots activists on the path of the pipeline expansion on Burnaby Mountain. The Watch House is closely situated to the Camp Cloud, across from the gates of Kinder Morgan’s tank farm, to keep a close eye on operations. A totem pole has been erected there and a sacred fire burns to warm all those who respond to the call to “Warrior Up!”

[www.stopkmllegalfund.org](http://www.stopkmllegalfund.org)

## Holding Imperial Metals Accountable

**F**riends of Clayoquot Sound continue to engage in shareholder activism at Imperial Metals Annual General Meetings with the Imperial No More network. We have supported Indigenous land defenders who oppose mining in their unceded territories, in their efforts to hold Imperial Metals’ decision-makers accountable for the mining corporation’s disrespect for Indigenous

rights and ongoing environmental damage. Specifically, the Secwepemc Nation in opposition to continued devastation from the Mount Polley Mine as well as the proposed Ruddock Creek Mine, the Ahousaht Nation in opposition to the proposed Catface Mine, and the Tla-o-qui-aht Nation in opposition to the proposed Pandora Mine (read more on Page 6).



The Canadian Press

FOCS Campaigner, Jeh Custer, being removed from the 2017 Imperial Metals Annual General Meeting by police.



Alexandra Morton

Sea lice attached to a juvenile chum in Clayoquot Sound.

## Washington State Bans Salmon Farming

**T**his spring Washington state’s senate finalized legislation to end Atlantic salmon farming in open-net pens off its coast by 2025. Legislative action was spurred on by the escapement of more than 300,000 Atlantic salmon into

Pacific ocean habitat in August, 2017. BC is the only jurisdiction of the Americas to continue risking salmon farming in Pacific ocean waters. The evidence that fish farms are devastating for wild salmon is blatant, yet governments remain unresponsive to the crisis on the west coast (read more on Page 3).

## Calling Out Cermaq’s Conflict of Interest

**U**ntil recently, local Atlantic salmon farming company Cermaq was Co-Chair of the Clayoquot Salmon Roundtable. Friends of Clayoquot Sound addressed how the integrity of the Clayoquot Salmon Roundtable is made questionable when an Atlantic

salmon farming corporation is chairing, leading, steering, or representing the best possible plan for the recovery and sustainable management of Clayoquot Sound’s wild salmon stocks. The reasoning for this is quite simple: conflict of interest. As a corporation, Cermaq has an interest in attaining

profits through the production of farmed salmon which can compromise both transparency to and accountability for the impacts of farming operations on wild salmon. At the following meeting, Cermaq stepped down as Co-Chair.



# Salmon Solidarity Update: Washington Salmon Farm Ban & New Evictions from Coastal First Nations



Jeh Custer

Tsimka Martin of Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation accompanies Laich kwil tach Hereditary Chief George Quocksister Jr. to deliver salmon farm eviction notice and conduct monitoring.

**A**t last year's Clayoquot Salmon Festival, Dr. Kristi Miller discussed a new study by DFO scientists that proves the Piscine orthoreovirus (PRV) is a risk to vulnerable populations of wild salmon. Their research concluded that the PRV-1 strain of the virus causes red blood cells in Pacific salmon to rupture, spreading toxins that damage the kidney and liver, weakening and killing wild salmon.

A report by the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Finfish Aquaculture, tabled this spring in Parliament by Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development Julie Gelfand, shows that DFO has been reluctant to study the effects of Canada's \$1 billion salmon-farming industry on wild fish, and is not doing enough to prevent the spread of infectious disease. The audit concludes that DFO has failed to put limits on the amount of drugs and pesticides that salmon farms can use, and has limited capacity to enforce its own regulations.

Currently there are 130 salmon farms in BC, but the pens are not the only possible source of PRV transmission. Underwater footage by Tavish Campbell showed the discharge of 'bloodwater' from two fish processing facilities that service the farmed fish industry, the Brown's Bay Packing plant near

Campbell River and the Lions Gate Fisheries plant in Tofino. After inspecting the fish processing plants, the B.C. Ministry of Environment's laboratory results confirmed the presence of PRV. Currently, there are 109 fish processing plants in BC, 28 of which have provincial permits under the Environmental Management Act to release effluent into ocean waters.

This spring, the province also granted a permit for Cermaq Canada to use up to 2.3 million litres of a pesticide to remove sea lice infestations from fish at 14 salmon farms in Clayoquot Sound. Under DFO regulations, salmon farms must make sure their adult fish aren't infected by more than three active sea lice which can weaken and kill their host. Yet in Clayoquot Sound, according to Cermaq's March and April reports, fish at its facilities were infected by up to 30 sea lice. The pesticide Cermaq proposes using, called Paramove 50, is a mixture of hydrogen peroxide and other chemicals that can harm other species and weaken the immune system of farmed fish, making them more likely to contract diseases that could infect wild fish.

Coastal First Nations continue to assert their sovereignty and jurisdiction to protect wild salmon by issuing eviction notices to salmon farms in their territories and telling the governments

of BC and Canada to revoke the illegal and invalid permits for uninvited fish farms which do not have First Nations consent. Chief Ernest Alfred, who represents the 'Namgis, Mamalilikala, Lawit'sis First Nations, has been relentlessly leading the Swanson Island Occupation to protect the Broughton Archipelago from Marine Harvest and Cermaq operations since August 2017.

On Earth Day Hereditary Chief George Quocksister Jr., of the Laich Kwil Tach First Nation near Campbell River on Vancouver Island, issued eviction notices and conducted monitoring of the Cermaq and Marine Harvest fish farms in his territory. Friends of Clayoquot Sound were honoured to accompany members of the Ahousaht and Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations, as well as Chief Ernest Alfred, and numerous environmental allies for the action.

The industrial salmon farming practices pushed by these Norwegian corporations are not aligned with reconciliation and demand immediate action from the BC Government and the Government of Canada, specifically DFO. Failure to act will have serious consequences as the Norwegian-owned corporations operating ocean-based fish farms in BC that are pushing wild salmon populations to the brink of extinction.



# "So Many People Giving A Damn" War in the Woods Resonates 25 Years Later



Megan Thomas/ CBC

Joe Martin of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation has been involved in forest protection in Clayoquot Sound since the 1980s.

Adapted from Megan Thomas' CBC article.

Swatting at a mosquito, Joe Martin puts down his chainsaw and leans on the end of a red cedar log that's as tall as he is. This tree, more than 500 years old, was found lying in a creek in the forest along the highway before the junction to Tofino and Ucluelet. Martin is transforming it into a traditional canoe.

"Many tribes on Vancouver Island don't have access to red cedar anymore," Martin says. "This is my way of helping them so the future generations will have something that they can ride in that their ancestors rode in too."

Martin, a Tla-o-qui-aht carver, doesn't know how this giant old-growth tree wound up in the creek. But he believes it was spared, in part, by the outcome of a mass protest 25 years ago to save the old-growth forest on Vancouver Island's west coast.

At its peak in 1993, the War in the Woods drew celebrities and focused international attention on the ancient forests of Clayoquot Sound, 265,000 hectares of old-growth rainforest that surrounds the towns of Tofino and Ucluelet.

Although tensions over logging in Clayoquot Sound had been simmering for years, the mass protests were sparked by a provincial land use decision in April of 1993. In an attempt to balance conservation and forestry, the government increased the amount of protected forest, but decided two-thirds of Clayoquot Sound would

remain open for industrial logging.

In the months that followed, thousands of people flocked to the area to join the protests. Following the lead of Friends of Clayoquot Sound, organizations such as Greenpeace also joined the campaign, shining an international spotlight on the blockades. Robert Kennedy Jr. made an appearance in solidarity. While the Australian rock band Midnight Oil arrived to play a unique concert in the Peace Camp.

The blockades themselves were set up at a bridge over the Kennedy River. It was a choke point for logging trucks heading into Clayoquot Sound. The tactical focus for the mass protest was peaceful civil disobedience. The logging trucks were blocked, people were arrested, but eventually the trucks went through. Before the summer's end, more than 900 forest protectors would be arrested, and the clash made headlines around the world.

It was a moment Lee McNamee will never forget. Just nine years old in the summer of 1993, McNamee spent countless days in the peace camp. In an era before cell phones and social media, his mother's Tofino bakery, The



Two protesters block logging trucks to a Clayoquot valley as police prepare to move in near Tofino in July 1993.

Megan Thomas/ CBC Chuck Stoddy/CT Images





Lee McNamee of Tofino says he will never forget being arrested in Clayoquot Sound. He was nine years old at the time.

Common Loaf, was a key gathering spot for organizing the mass demonstrations. One day, McNamee and other children joined the blockade and were removed by police.

"They couldn't arrest me or fingerprint me, which is what they were doing with the rest of the people there, but they could just transport me off of the blockade and wait for my parents to come and pick me up," he says. "People were waking to the fact that this was everybody's fight."

The blockades peaked in August of 1993 when more than 300 people were arrested in the same day. As the summer drew to a close, so to did the protests. But the point had been made and logging practices did change in the years that followed. The rate of cut dropped drastically, and forestry policies were also revamped to better manage ecosystems. In 2000, the region was declared a UNESCO biosphere reserve to recognize that it is a globally significant ecosystem.

Friends of Clayoquot Sound still works to protect the forest, but fish farms and the potential of mining in Clayoquot Sound are also on the radar. So too is the new battle on the BC coast — Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline. The Friends of Clayoquot Sound have been providing training for people wanting to take a stand against the controversial

project. Many who stood in front of logging trucks in Clayoquot Sound have also joined demonstrations and rallies against the pipeline.

Christine Lowther of Tofino is among them. She was arrested at a 1992 logging blockade and continued to support the Friends of Clayoquot Sound through the hectic summer the next year.

"It was so many people giving a damn," she says of the protests that became a watershed moment for the environmental movement. The War in the Woods also signalled the start of a better understanding of Indigenous rights and territory, Lowther says. It's another reason she supports the

current fight against the pipeline. "It's time for us to give back. We did then, and we are again now."

The tactics and passion on Burnaby Mountain harken back to the summer of 1993 in Clayoquot Sound. The blockades galvanized BC's environmental movement and inspired a new generation of environmentalists who are now fighting an emotional battle against a pipeline expansion through the province. Jeh Custer, campaigner for Friends of Clayoquot Sound, says that's not a coincidence. "When I'm out in the ocean surfing and I look back toward the mountains, I think, wow, people fought for this place," Custer says. "They were so in love with it that they organized to protect it. That's beautiful."

Back at the creek beside the highway to Tofino, Joe Martin will spend the next several weeks carving this fallen old-growth red cedar. "It's a log that was standing for over 500 years as a tree," he says. 25 years on, Martin says the War in the Woods has stood the test of time. Cars carrying tourists stream past on the highway to Tofino and Ucluelet — rather than logging trucks.

"All these mountains would be bare by now if we didn't stop it," he says, getting back to work carving a canoe from a tree that may well have been spared by the battle for Clayoquot Sound.



Christine Lowther was arrested in Clayoquot Sound in 1992. She has also rallied against the K.M. pipeline expansion.



# Still No Legal Consequences For The Worst Mining Disaster In Canadian History



Bev Sellars and Jacinda Mack outside the Provincial Court of British Columbia in Vancouver

Last summer, on the third anniversary of the Mount Polley mine disaster, and deadline for Provincial charges, Indigenous advocate Bev Sellars filed a private prosecution against Imperial Metals Mount Polley Mining Corporation at the Provincial Court of British Columbia in Vancouver. Sellars was Chief of Xat'sull First Nation when the disaster struck near her community three years earlier. Imperial Metals tailings pond was overcapacity causing it to fail releasing 25 million cubic meters of toxic mining waste in the territory of the Secwepemc Nation. Toxins flooded into the Fraser River watershed, one of the largest salmon spawning grounds in the world.

Sellars, who is a grandmother, laid private charges against the company on the deadline for provincial charges - August 4, 2017. This kept the door open for the Province to take over the prosecution, although Sellars was prepared to proceed on her own if necessary. With private charges laid, BC Premier John Horgan said: "To have three years pass without any consequences is disturbing to me personally and, I think, disturbing for all British Columbians."

Then in late January, 2018, the BC Prosecution Service announced that they were taking over and quashing the

private prosecution of Mount Polley Mining Corporation over the tailings dam disaster. The press release on their decision to dismiss the case said: "After conducting its review, the BCPS concluded that the material provided does not meet the charge assessment standard for approval of charges." One of Sellars' 15 charges was simply that there was a spill, and anyone can watch the video of it online.

"The Crown would have had access to public reports regarding the spill, plus all the evidence supplied by Ms. Sellars and her legal team, and all

the evidence gathered by the BC Conservation Officer Service over the last three years. Yet, we're told that there wasn't enough evidence to prove what we could all see with our eyes," said Jeh Custer, campaigner for the Friends of Clayoquot Sound, who has been fundraising for and supporting Sellars' quest for justice.

Fines under applicable BC legislation go up to \$1,000,000 per count for some of the charges that were laid. The Environmental Management Act also makes allowance for court orders to recover funds spent by the Province on remedial or preventive action taken as a result of the commission of the offence. Federal Fisheries Act charges can get as high as a \$6,000,000 fine for a first offence, and a \$12,000,000 fine for a second offence.

Patrick Canning, counsel for Bev Sellars, said, "This is a very disappointing decision that does not reflect a commitment to the environment or reconciliation with First Nations. The province had the ability to let Ms. Sellars conduct the prosecution, and that is what should have happened."

"It is so frustrating that there have still been no fines, penalties or charges against the company responsible for this disaster that impacted our community," said Sellars, "We will decide soon our next steps. But if our current BC laws do not provide for a prosecution for the biggest mining spill then they are grossly inadequate. John Horgan and the BC NDP have the power to change them, and I hope they do. No one else should have to go through this."

Federal charges under the Fisheries Act can still be made until August 4, 2019.



Imperial Metals Mount Polley Mine Disaster from August 4, 2014.



# BC's Biggest GHG Emitter? Steelhead LNG in Neighbouring Barkley Sound

Barkley Sound Alliance



Is this what the future of Barkley Sound looks like?

From Ucluelet to Bamfield, Barkley Sound is a spectacular and thriving marine environment. It is prized around the world for its breath-taking beauty, recreational opportunities, and clean air, water and beaches.

Sarita Bay, a jewel in Barkley Sound just outside of Bamfield, has the

highest possible value rating for an estuary. It is here that Steelhead LNG is trying to secure a foothold for one of the largest LNG export facilities in Canada. It is also here that the Port Alberni Port Authority (PAPA) is reaching its long arm outside of its own jurisdiction to establish one of the largest container shipping terminals in Canada.

The Port Authority is proposing a choking volume of ship, tug, and truck traffic and paving over hundreds of acres including 1.8 km of shoreline, dredged down to 60 feet below high water. Steelhead's dream is based on processes that are excessively polluting to air, land, and water - from the fracking fields of Northern BC to a loud, polluting flaring

stack that will likely be visible by boat more than half way across Barkley Sound.

Connecting to a network of dangerous, leaking wells and pipelines, this \$18 billion facility will be BC's largest source of GHG emissions, making it impossible for the province to meet its greenhouse gas emissions reduction commitments. This flagrant disregard will contribute to the expected sea level rise of up to 6 feet by 2100 – a slow-motion tsunami that will devastate coastal communities.

Residents and visitors are invited to join the Barkley Sound Alliance to help protect all life in this beautiful place and create a better, more sustainable future for Barkley Sound and planet Earth. For more information, please visit:

[www.barkleysoundalliance.com](http://www.barkleysoundalliance.com)

## Earth Keepers: Harnessing Musical Elements

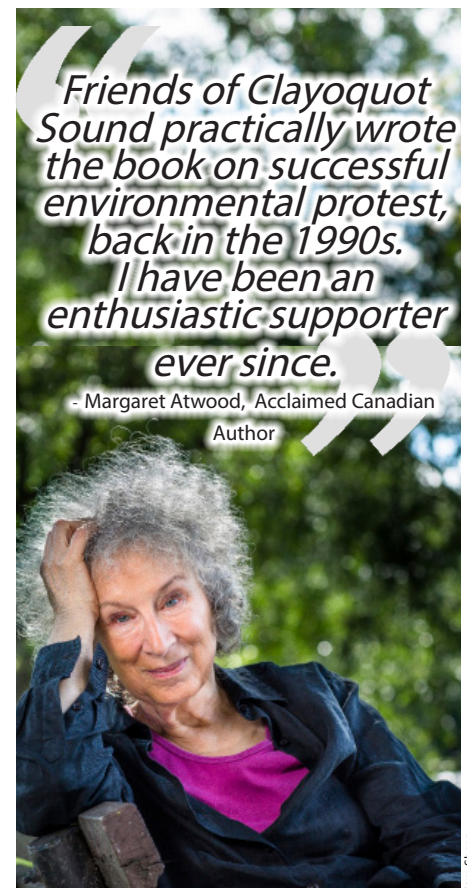
Earthkeepers is a FOCS initiative engaging local youth in the creation of artistic projects to strengthen youth leadership, artistic voice, environmental stewardship, and regional connectedness. Engaging youth in creative ways about sustainability issues is important for empowering their ability to have their voices heard on the issues facing the coming generations.

Since 2017, Cypress Seitcher of Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation has been working as the Earth Keepers Organizer. With his passion for music as a DJ, Cypress has helped coordinate and facilitate Elemental Hip Hop Workshops to empower youth and young adults (ages 10-25) in local Tla-o-qui-aht and

Ahousaht communities.

Each workshop is themed around song writing basics, beat production, positive lifestyles, storytelling, lyric writing, and performance. Collectively, the workshop series aims to foster youth belonging and social connectedness within and between communities by developing skills for communication, media literacy, harm reduction, cooperation, identity, and performance.

Elemental Workshops will run through the summer in both Ty-Histanis and Ahousaht. We hope the series will culminate in community performances that will bring together youth performers from local communities.



Liam Sharp

# 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](http://www.focs.ca)

Send your donation to:

Friends of Clayoquot Sound

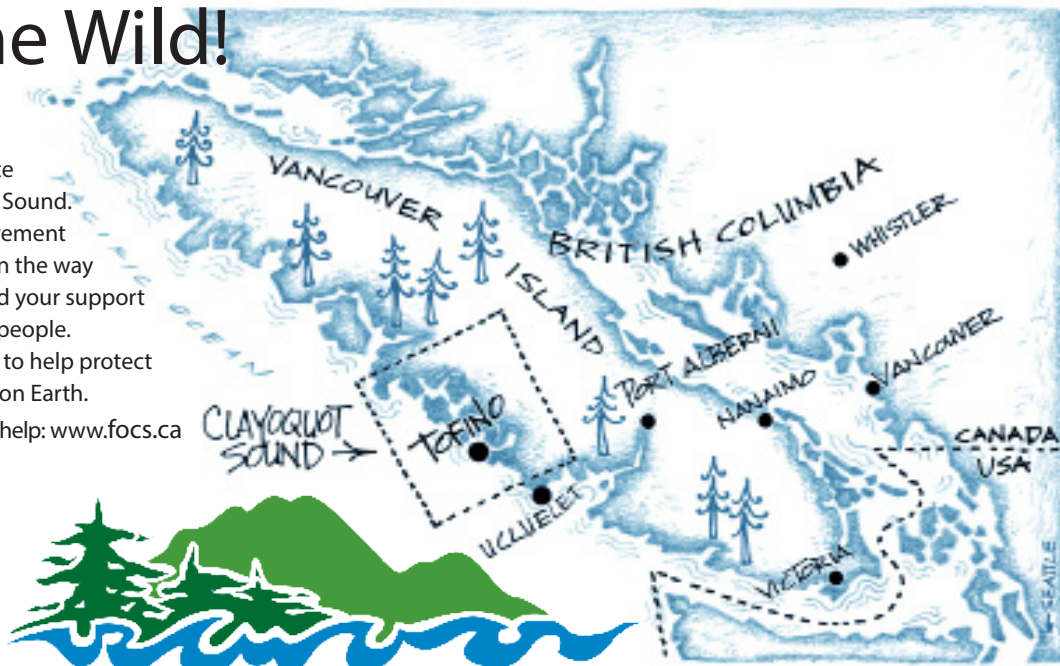
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## Ensure Your Legacy!

Since founding in 1979, Friends of Clayoquot Sound have relied on donations from individuals who love this special place. We have immense gratitude for our donors, who are the true sustainers of our work to protect the life that thrives here. Legacy giving is a generous way our supporters have contributed to our protection work. Hilary Stewart, famed author of many books about the coast, and Ruth Masters, long time dedicated environmental advocate, are amongst those who have chosen to include us in their wills. Making a bequest to Friends of Clayoquot Sound is a powerful way to ensure that our values continue on.

We invite you to share in our Legacy.

Together we can build a movement for environmental justice!



## Join our Wilderness Team by becoming a monthly donor!

Includes annual membership.

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

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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](http://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.

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