



# Friends of Clayoquot Sound

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Summer 2017

## Celebrating Ahousaht First Nation's Vision for the Future Mining and Industrial Logging Banned!



Nora O'Malley

Ahousaht Chiefs announce the Land Use Vision for their territory in Clayoquot Sound as representatives from Clayoquot Sound Conservation Alliance and The Nature Conservancy show support.

**A**housaht First Nation territory sits in the heart of Clayoquot Sound, which remains the largest area of old-growth rainforest on Vancouver Island. In early 2017, the Ahousaht First Nation's Hawiith (Hereditary Chiefs) publicly announced their nation's new comprehensive Land Use Vision for their 171,000 hectares of territory, within the heart of the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

The new Land Use Vision identifies different land use designations for their territory. The bold vision moves Ahousaht First Nation away from old-growth logging, mining, and other unsustainable industries in ecologically important rainforest areas, while prioritizing low-impact, community-led economic development by and for the Ahousaht people. The vision follows the declaration of a moratorium on old-growth logging in Ahousaht territory, made by the Hawiith in 2015.

The Ahousaht Land Use Vision steps up to meet the environmental and social

imperatives of the 21st century with solutions for rainforest conservation and community benefits within their famous territory, located in one of the most beautiful and ecologically rich landscapes in the world. Under the Land Use Vision, over 80 per cent of Ahousaht territory will be set aside as cultural and natural areas "to conserve biological diversity, natural landscapes, and wilderness, and to provide for Ahousaht continued spiritual, cultural and sustenance use."

Representatives of the Clayoquot Sound Conservation Alliance (CSCA) - comprised of Friends of Clayoquot Sound, Greenpeace, Sierra Club BC, STAND.earth, and Wilderness Committee - were present to support the hawiih for this initiative. The organizations that form the Clayoquot Sound Conservation Alliance have been advocating for the protection of the region's globally significant temperate rainforest for more than three decades.

### WHAT'S UP in this issue

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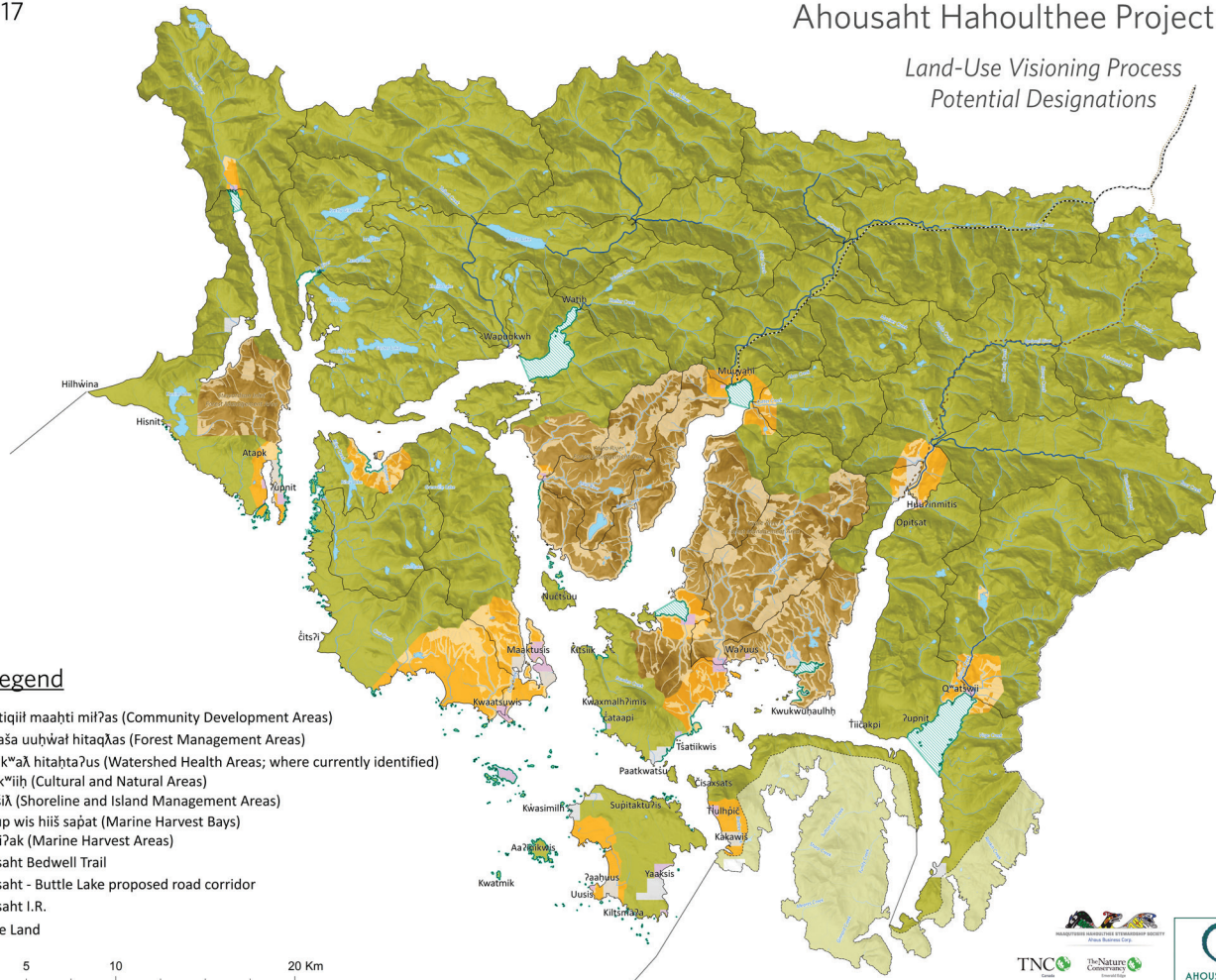
# IISAAKSTAŁ

## Celebrating Ahousaht First Nation's Plan for the Future

1.17.2017

Ahousaht Hahoulthee Project Area

Land-Use Visioning Process  
Potential Designations



### Map Legend

- Maahtiqiił maahti miłʔas (Community Development Areas)
- łašłaaša uułwał hitaqʔas (Forest Management Areas)
- listak\*aał hitahtaʔus (Watershed Health Areas; where currently identified)
- Wiklak\*iił (Cultural and Natural Areas)
- Muułšiił (Shoreline and Island Management Areas)
- Histuup wis hiiš saʔat (Marine Harvest Bays)
- Taqwiłak (Marine Harvest Areas)
- Ahousaht Bedwell Trail
- Ahousaht - Buttie Lake proposed road corridor
- Ahousaht I.R.
- Private Land



Land use designations for Ahousaht Hahoulthee, the homeland of the Ahousaht muschim.

by Tara Atleo "hahuula", Maaqutusiis Hahoulthee Stewardship Society CEO

**IISAAKSTAŁ**, the title rightly given to the Ahousaht Land Use Visioning Process by the Ahousaht people, means to respect one another. This title was chosen as it reflects the Ahousaht teaching of hišuuikiš cawak, meaning everything is one and interconnected, and the importance of treating the land and all within it with the same respect.

The Ahousaht Land Use Visioning Process included several facilitated sessions in the Ahousaht village of Maaqutusiis, as well as in urban centers such as Victoria and Port Alberni, where many Ahousaht people reside today. The Ahousaht people, muschim, were asked to share their dreams and aspirations for the future traditional territories, hahoulthee. They helped identify specific development values to guide the management of

resources and areas. Our partners at The Nature Conservancy provided financial and technical support for the visioning process, and have committed to supporting the implementation of the vision and the sustainable management and economic development in the region.

The release of this vision represents over two years of work by the community, led by the Maaqutusiis Hahoulthee Stewardship Society governed by the Ahousaht Hawiih, Hereditary Chiefs, and in partnership with the elected Chief and Council and The Nature Conservancy. The vision is for all of Ahousaht territory, including lands and waters, and provides greater economic and environmental certainty for Ahousaht people and the region. The Ahousaht believe that the diversification of the local economy is

critical to the health and well-being of our community.

This vision is a recognition and celebration of Ahousaht people and culture, conservation and stewardship of the world-class forest and marine resources, the development of a more diversified and sustainable local economy, and new partnerships. Ahousaht have been stewards of their traditional territory since time immemorial, and the completion of this process recognizes Ahousaht's role in the stewardship and management of the territory, and the support for the health and well-being of the Ahousaht community through economic development and recognition of our interconnectivity with mother earth - on which all life depends.

Visit [www.mhssahousaht.ca](http://www.mhssahousaht.ca) to follow future developments with Ahousaht First Nation's land use vision.

# MORE BIG WINS of 2016 for Clayoquot Sound

## 2,000 km Wild Salmon Fundraiser



Simon Behman

**W**ild salmon are in precipitous decline in BC due to human activity, so Simon Behman decided to act. In the summer of 2016 he undertook a mostly solo kayak voyage of 2,000 km – from Victoria, BC to Glacier Bay, Alaska. For three months, he followed the BC coast along which wild salmon migrate to reach their natal streams and spawn. His remarkable feat was a fundraiser for Friends of Clayoquot Sound’s salmon conservation and education efforts.

Reflecting on his journey of a lifetime, Simon wrote, “As the health of the natural world continues to decline due to human activity, it is up to us to take actions to address those wrongdoings and develop a personal relationship with nature.” His paddle is an inspiring example of empowered action. Thanks and kudos!

**A**t Imperial Metals’ 2016 Annual General Meeting, the Imperial No More activist network of Indigenous land defenders and allies confronted shareholders and executives. They did so to hold Imperial’s decision-makers accountable for the mining company’s disrespect for Indigenous rights and ongoing environmental damage. The Clayoquot contingent to the demonstration included Joe Martin of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation supported by Friends of Clayoquot Sound activists.

Imperial Metals is responsible for the largest mine spill in Canadian history, which occurred in 2014 when a faulty tailings dam at its Mount Polley mine in interior BC spilled toxic mine effluent into salmon-bearing waters of the Fraser River system. In Clayoquot Sound, Imperial Metals has explored mineral claims that could be developed into two mines.

*(See article on page 4 for more info.)*

## Imperial Metals Shareholder Activism



German Ocampo

Imperial No More activists disrupting the Imperial Metals’ Annual General Meeting.

## Weeping Cedar Woman Comes Home



Eileen Floody

Weeping Cedar Woman was installed in Tofino’s Village Green in 2016.

**I**n September 2016, Weeping Cedar Woman was installed in Tofino’s Village Green as the town’s first piece of public art and a reminder of the successful campaign over thirty years ago by First Nations and Friends of Clayoquot Sound to save Meares Island from clearcut logging.

Godfrey Stephens carved the wooden statue in 1984, just in time for the “Easter Festival” during which Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation declared Meares Island a Tribal Park. Tears flow from her eyes as she holds one hand up saying, “stop the destruction,” and points down to Mother Earth with the other.

FOCS led the effort to refurbish Weeping Cedar Woman and return her to Tofino after a long absence. She stands as a symbol of Tofino’s continuing commitment to protect the old-growth temperate rainforests of Clayoquot Sound.

# Imperial No More

## On the Front Lines Against Mining



Skookum Lennie John of the Ahousaht First Nation & Kanahus Manuel of the Secwepemc First Nation outside the AGM.

*It is clear that there are major human rights and Indigenous rights violations happening within Canada.*

- Kanahus Manuel of the Secwepemc First Nation

Imperial No More is a movement led by a coalition of the Secwepemc, Tla-o-qui-aht, Ahousaht, Wet'suwet'en, and Tahltan First Nations. Imperial No More is calling for an end to all mining operations of the Imperial Metals on the unceded Indigenous lands of so-called British Columbia.

"It is clear that there are major human rights and Indigenous rights violations happening within Canada," said Secwepemc land protector, Kanahus Manuel. "This is especially the case with the Imperial Metals' Mount Polley mine disaster. The August 2014 tailings pond spill desecrated and destroyed a sacred area known as Yuct Ne Senxiyemtkwe in unceded Secwepemc Territory. The spill

has not yet been cleaned up and because of BC's shoddy mine regulations, the company is now discharging toxic mine wastes directly into Quesnel Lake."

Within Clayoquot Sound, Imperial Metals acquired the mining rights and an exploratory drilling permit to assess the development of a gold mine, called the Pandora project within the unceded territory of Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation. The corporation also has an exploration permit for a potential open-pit copper mine on Catface Mountain in Ahousaht First Nation's unceded territory.

Following recent attempts by Imperial Metals to push mining locally, Friends of Clayoquot Sound have been engaging in activism targeting major shareholders and executives in solidarity with Imperial No More. Following the Mount Polley disaster, we have supported delegations of Indigenous land protectors and solidarity activists from Secwepemc, Tla-o-qui-aht, and Ahousaht territories to attend and disrupt the Imperial Metals Annual General Meetings. Last year, we

accompanied Joe Martin of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation, and this year we accompanied Skookum Lennie John of the Ahousaht First Nation.

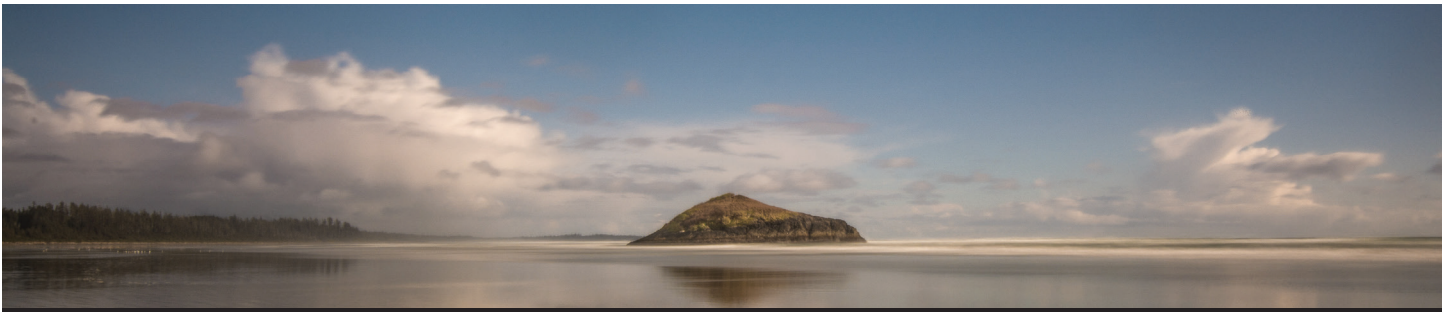
"It's a sacred mountain that they're trying to mine. For it to be sold for money, come on." said Skookum John outside the Annual General Meeting in Coquitlam.

Collective Indigenous consent has never been achieved by Imperial Metals for any of their operations across British Columbia and there are multiple legal proceedings going on against the company. The Indigenous land defenders and water protectors have warned the Imperial Metals investors they should be aware of the serious financial risks in investing in poorly run companies like Imperial Metals.

Imperial Metals has been met with constant direct actions, disruptions and confrontation. In addition to the Annual General Meeting actions, mine roads have been blockaded and the Vancouver headquarters of Imperial Metal has been occupied. The Indigenous-led actions are being carried out under the legal protection of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), which states that Indigenous peoples have the right to block extractive projects on their land that was undertaken without their free, prior and informed consent.

*We've got to think about our children and the next seven generations. I'm backing up what our Ahousaht Chiefs told Imperial Metals: they are no longer welcome in our territory and they can push all they want — when push comes to shove, our warriors will be there!*

- Skookum Lennie John of the Ahousaht First Nation



Martine Ryer

# Get Ready to Stop the Kinder Morgan Pipeline: 3 Things You Can Do

Last summer, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau vacationed in Tofino with his family, but with his continuing destructive betrayals, he can expect to be greeted by angry crowds on the west coast if he ever returns. Chief Councillor Elmer Frank of Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation indicated Prime Minister Justin Trudeau was no longer welcome in the Tla-o-qui-aht territory until his bureaucracy and government lawyers begin reflecting the Prime Minister's promise of reconciliation with the First Nations of this land.

The approval of the Kinder Morgan pipeline by Canada breaks Trudeau's commitments to Indigenous rights while declaring a war on the climate and coastal ecosystems. The Kinder Morgan pipeline and tanker project would release 100 million tonnes of carbon annually, negating climate commitments of the Canadian government at the UN Climate Summit in Paris. The pipeline would amount to an additional 400 oil tankers on the ocean every year, putting coastal communities and ecosystems at much greater risk of catastrophic oil spills.

The government of Canada does not have the consent of local communities nor the free, prior, and informed consent of First Nations. The government of Canada is, therefore, acting in discordance with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to which Canada is a signatory. The pipeline runs through unceded First Nations territory, meaning that Canada has no legal jurisdiction under International Law as there has been no treaty or purchase of the lands from the Indigenous Nations. Numerous Indigenous Nations, including the T'sleil Watuth First Nation, are already in court to stop the project, and we need to stand with them.

Provincially, the NDP and the Green Party are opposed to the Kinder Morgan pipeline saying they will do everything in their power to stop the project. Some environmental groups have already started mobilizing for a Citizens' Initiative to initiate a referendum to stop the provincial permits Kinder Morgan needs from BC for logging along the pipeline route.

At a municipal level, the mayors of Vancouver and Burnaby have made it clear that their constituents fundamentally oppose this project. The Tofino Chamber of Commerce was a local intervenor in the National Energy Board hearings as the pipeline would result in a three-fold increase in tanker traffic passing within a 50km distance from Long Beach. This puts Clayoquot Sound on the front line of a tanker accident, yet the west coast of Vancouver Island lies outside the spill response area for the Kinder Morgan pipeline.

Friends of Clayoquot Sound stand with First Nations, municipalities, and environmental activists across B.C. to stop the expansion of the Kinder Morgan pipeline. Supporting the strategies of Indigenous rights, movement building, and peaceful direct action, which we utilized in the massive 1993 Clayoquot protests, will help to ensure the Kinder Morgan pipeline is never built.

Kinder Morgan's schedule for the tar sands pipeline expansion shows construction work starting as early as this September. To attempt to force this pipeline onto the west coast is disrespectful to Indigenous rights, coastal communities, and climate science. Stop-

ping the Kinder Morgan expansion is crucial to transitioning Canada's energy sector away from dependence on fossil fuels and toward economic alternatives that protect coastal communities and coastal livelihoods.

## 3 Actions You Can Take

### 1. Make Your Voice Heard

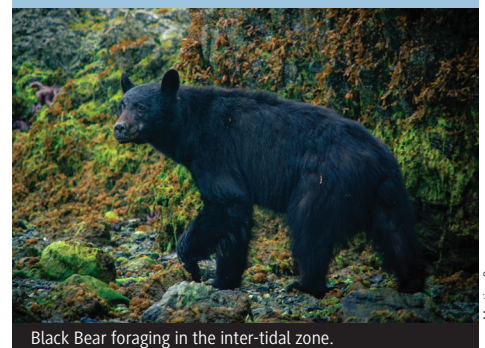
Educate yourself, family, and friends about the environmental impacts of Kinder Morgan. If it comes down to a Citizen's Initiative, vote to stop the pipeline!

### 2. Fundraise and Donate

Pull Together is a effective way individuals, communities, and businesses can provide financial support to First Nations legal cases ([www.pull-together.ca](http://www.pull-together.ca)). Friends of Clayoquot Sound Legal Defense Fund will also provide legal support to protectors on the front lines against Kinder Morgan ([www.focs.ca/legaldefensefund](http://www.focs.ca/legaldefensefund)).

### 3. Prepare for Direct Action

If you are willing to risk arrest, form an affinity group with people you trust to skill-share and train for different action scenarios. Consider security culture, logistics, roles, and messaging.



Black Bear foraging in the inter-tidal zone.

Martine Ryer

# Wild Salmon Protectors Legal Defense!



Wild Salmon Protectors outside the Department of Fisheries and Oceans office in Tofno.

Jeh Custer

On August 22, 2016, Cermaq, the Mitsubishi-owned fish farming corporation, was transporting a barge loaded with Atlantic salmon smolts to reopen a fish farm in Dixon Bay within the territory of the Ahousaht First Nation. Previously, Cermaq had an open-net pen Atlantic salmon feedlot at Dixon Bay but it was shut down in 2012 after an outbreak of infectious hematopoietic necrosis virus, also known as IHNv.

Wild Salmon Protectors from the Ahousaht First Nation are concerned about Cermaq reopening the Dixon Bay farm as it is sited near the Megin River which provides critical spawning habitat for wild salmon. Salmon farms are known to endanger wild salmon, primarily by transferring diseases and parasites. The Protectors have made their voices heard emphasizing that re-opening the Dixon Bay fish farm for Atlantic salmon is without the consent of the people of the Ahousaht muschim (community).

On August 23rd, over the course of 24 hours, the RCMP arrested and served papers to the 4 Indigenous Wild Salmon Protectors, with allegations of mischief and intimidation.

There are four Indigenous Wild Salmon Protectors going to court. Friends of Clayoquot Sound are fundraising for the Wild Salmon Protectors legal defense and travel. Any unused funds will go to a legal defense fund held in trust by FOCS for future wild salmon actions and legal defense. To learn more and contribute, visit:

[www.focs.ca/legaldefensefund](http://www.focs.ca/legaldefensefund)



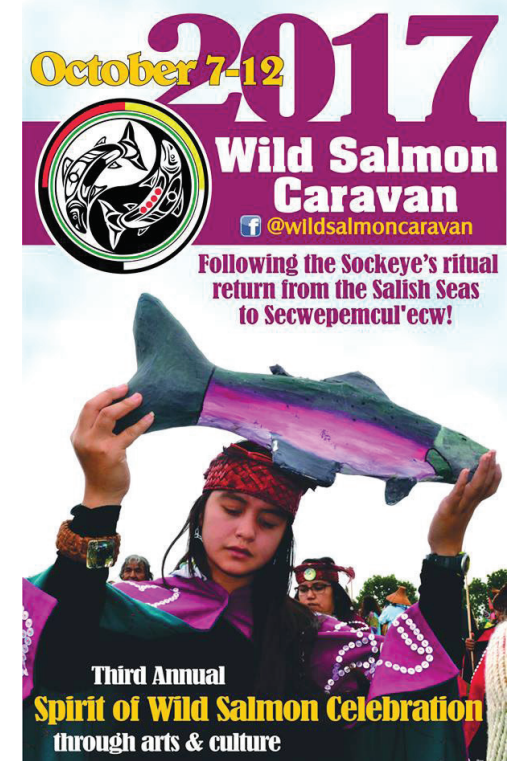
# Wild Salmon Caravan

The Wild Salmon Caravan (WSC) is a celebration of the spirit of wild salmon. Ancient ceremonies and songs of Indigenous peoples, as well as creative expressions of community-engaged visual and performing arts, will call the wild salmon home to the rivers, lakes, streams and communities of the Fraser Basin and Salish Sea Corridor.

The WSC 2017 is calling on individuals, artists, organizations and communities to unite with First Nations, which have nurtured cultural and ecological relationships with wild salmon over thousands of years, to host arts and cultural events throughout the summer of 2017. The creative energy of the WSC will serve to educate, inform, and transform

the darkness surrounding the industrial storm that is endangering wild salmon.

We are calling on the Vancouver Island, coastal and northern communities to self-organize and join us for Mardi Gras-Style parades, feasts, ceremonies, performances and public education events. Beginning in Vancouver, the WSC 2017 will journey to several Indigenous communities as we follow the migration route of sockeye salmon from Vancouver to the Adams River. The project will culminate in wrap up events in communities during the week of October 7 – 12, 2017, when the WSC will visit both rural and urban communities in both coast and interior Salish territories.



# Earth Keepers: Youth Engagement Program



Michelle Hall

Students of Ucluelet and Hamilton visited Clayoquot Sound to learn about environmental conservation.

In 2016, FOCS launched Earth Keepers to engage local youth in the creation of artistic projects to strengthen youth leadership, artistic voice, environmental stewardship, and regional connectedness. Through Earth Keepers, we aim to engage youth between the ages of 13-21, the next generation of leaders, who want to develop communication skills and explore artistic techniques in a supportive and fun environment. Engaging youth in creative ways about sustainability issues is important to empowering their ability to have their voices heard on the issues facing the coming generations.

Last summer, we hired Kalilah Rampanen, whose ancestry stems from the local Ahousaht and Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations, to outreach to local youth and host music-focused, art-making workshops. The youth participated in facilitated sessions while receiving ongoing mentorship and guidance from facilitators. The Beehive Design Collective came as guest presenters to teach the participants to communicate their connections to place, environment, and sustainability through their art. Earth Keepers supported Kalilah to write new music and record 6 of her songs about Indigenous rights, way of life, and the environment,

with local Tofino musician, Steve Bick.

Over the course of the school year, FOCS Campaigner and Surfrider Pacific Rim Secretary, Jeh Custerra, shared Earth Keepers perspectives at the elementary and high school in Ucluelet as part of the Oceanography and Nuuchah-nulth classes. When Ucluelet Secondary School hosted two high schools from Hamilton, Ontario, Jeh presented a workshop on youth engaging fellow youth with environmental activism. The students of St. George's School from Vancouver also visited Clayoquot Sound to complete their final projects. Jeh presented on environmental conservation and the students conducted inquiry-based research on local sustainability issues.

For summer 2017, FOCS has hired Cypress Seitcher of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation as a summer student. Cypress has worked with Tla-o-qui-aht Tribal Parks and will support FOCS with Earth Keepers youth engagement, trail building, and beach cleanups.

## Trail Building with Friends: Building Sustainable Pathways



Jeh Custerra

Volunteers trail building at Wah-nuh-jus – Hilth-oo-iis (Meares Island) Tribal Park.

The Trail Building project aims to increase accessibility and length of trails found within the Clayoquot Sound region as a conservation strategy. The project will engage both visitors and residents in Clayoquot Sound's old growth forests to create sustainable and positive interactions between people and the natural environment. Well-maintained

accessible trails bolster the sustainable tourism industry in the region and bring more people and more awareness to the ancient forests.

The project will be carried out over the summer months, encompassing three weekends of hiking, flagging, trail upgrading and trail clearing in the old-growth temperate rainforest. Two sessions will take place on the Wild Side Trail with the Ahousaht Maaqutusiis Hahoulthee Stewardship Society, and one session will take place in the Wah-nuh-jus – Hilth-oo-iis (Meares Island) Tribal Park in Tla-o-qui-aht Territory. We will be working hand in hand with First Nations land stewards, guardians, and the Wilderness Committee to protect ancient forests from logging.



*Friends of Clayoquot Sound practically wrote the book on successful environmental protest, back in the 1990s. I have been an enthusiastic supporter ever since.*

- Margaret Atwood, Acclaimed Canadian Author



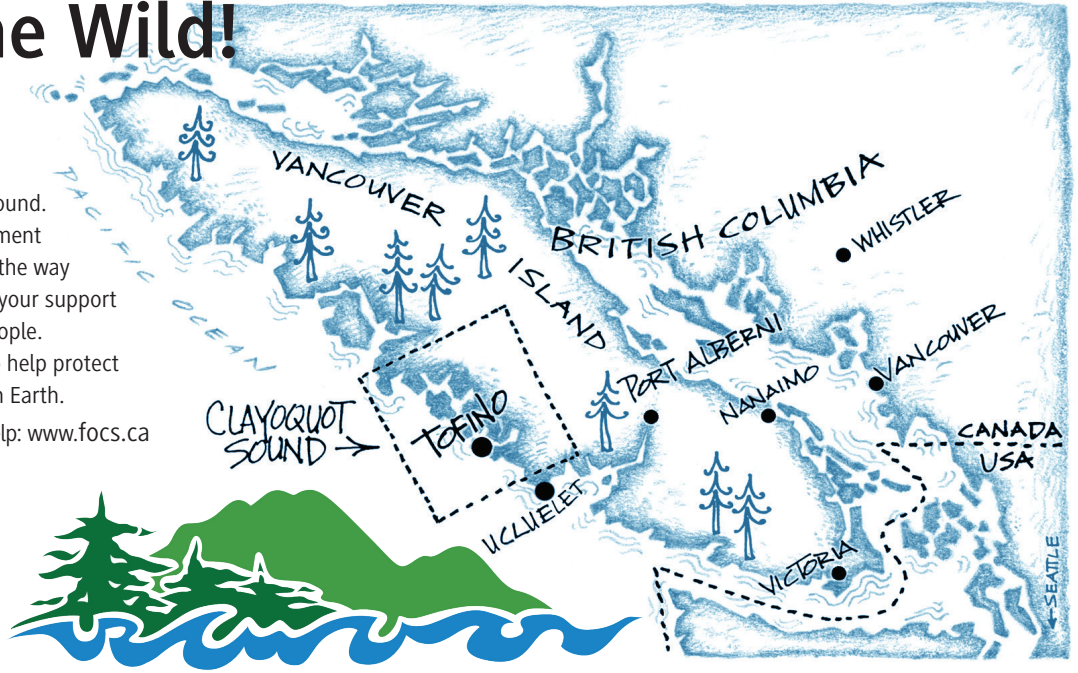
Liam Sharp

# 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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 Canada V0R 2Z0  
 Ph: 250-725-4218  
 Office: 1160 Pacific Rim Hwy, Tofino  
[info@focs.ca](mailto:info@focs.ca)    [www.focs.ca](http://www.focs.ca)



## Join our Coast Action Team!

Friends of Clayoquot Sound has always been sustained through the commitment and action of our community members. Today there are many opportunities to contribute your skills to our important work including:

- Earthkeepers Youth Programming
- Training Workshops
- Adventure Outings • Trail Building
- Direct Action Support
- Beach Cleanups • Market Tabling
- Event Planning & Coordination
- Benefit Concerts
- Banner & Sign Making
- Photography & Video Production
- Designing Publications & Merch
- Distributing Posters & Newsletters
- Social Media Promotion
- Gathering Petition Signatures
- Blogging • Fundraising
- Data Management
- Gear Maintenance

### Ideas you have?

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](mailto: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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