



# Friends of Clayoquot Sound

*Celebrating the Frontlines of Environmental Conservation Movement Building & Actions for 40+ Years!*

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## #INDIGENOUSLIVESMATTER Anti-Racism Movement Unites in Solidarity Seeking Justice for Colonial Police Violence



Gizele Martin @gizelemartin

In the days following Chantel Moore's death, actions to demand justice and police accountability were held in both Tofino and Ucluelet. Indigenous peoples in Canada make up 4.8% of the population, yet 15% of police caused fatalities. #JUSTICEFORCHANTELMOORE #INDIGENOUSLIVESMATTER #STOPPOLICEBRUTALITY #DEFUNDTHEPOLICE

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Indigenous Nations, leaders, and allies are demanding an investigation into the fatal police shooting of a young mother from the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation during a wellness check. Twenty-six-year-old Chantel Moore was killed by a police officer in Edmundston, New Brunswick, responding to a call from one of Chantel's loved ones. Chantel had recently moved to Edmundston from Tla-o-qui-aht territory.

Our hearts at Friends of Clayoquot Sound are with the Martin family, the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation, and all Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations. We are all responsible for contributing to ending racism through collective education, organizing, and action.

To support Chantel Moore's family in practicing traditional Nuu-chah-nulth grieving protocols a fundraiser has been created and circulated with the permission of

the Martin family. The Martin family has been instrumental in protecting world renowned Tla-o-qui-aht territory (see Tsimka Martin's article on Page 4 and Gizele Martin's Landguage Lesson on Page 5 to learn more). The funds are for family travel, funeral costs, and remaining funds will be given to Chantel Moore's mother and daughter.

[www.gofundme.com/support-for-family-of-chantel-moore](http://www.gofundme.com/support-for-family-of-chantel-moore)

# B.C. Fails Test of Indigenous Rights Law: Pipelines Pitted Against Indigenous Title

Extinction Rebellion Canada



A recent report from Friends of the Earth and Oil Change International revealed that Canada has spent \$13.8 Billion per year in taxpayer funds on oil and gas projects since signing on to the Paris Climate Agreement. This makes Canada the fossil industry's highest per capita source of funding in the world.

Canadian settler governments have legally recognized the importance of abiding by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Rights (UNDRIP). Last year, the B.C. Government closed out the decade with signs of hope and optimism, passing UNDRIP into law. But months later, both levels of government were found failing a major pipeline test.

The five hereditary Chiefs of the Wet'suwet'en clan system, the only rightful authorities on their territory, issued eviction notices to Coastal Gaslinks pipeline, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), and all security personnel. B.C. Premier John Horgan forfeited opportunities to negotiate and instead affirmed that the "rule of [colonial] law must be applied". The RCMP were called into position to enforce a court injunction against the Wet'suwet'en to protect pipeline permits issued by the Government of B.C.

With UNDRIP, the Wet'suwet'en Chiefs' right of free, prior, and informed consent recognizes that Indigenous governmental, legal, and political orders have existed since time

immemorial, long predating the arrival of European settlers. Despite the Supreme Court of Canada's repeated recognition of this, that Canada was not in fact terra nullius ("nobody's land") before European colonization, Canadian courts and legal institutions continue to enable governmental and corporate infringement on unceded Indigenous lands.

For the second winter in a row, the world watched in horror as RCMP descended onto unceded Wet'suwet'en territories in northern B.C. Indigenous women and elders faced assault rifles as the RCMP violently removed the Wet'suwet'en protectors from their own territories as they peacefully conducted ceremonies to defend their land and water from the threat of a fracked gas pipeline.

In response, solidarity actions erupted across Canada, demanding that the Governments of B.C. and Canada uphold their responsibilities to UNDRIP and Wet'suwet'en Law. The Canadian economy ground to a halt as major railines and ports were blockaded. Numerous solidarity actions occurred locally including a march from the Tin Wis Totem to

the RCMP Tofino detachment, a circle ceremony led by Nuuchahnulth women at the Tofino Totem, and a camp out at the Tofino-Ucluelet junction.

The sustained solidarity forced the government to send B.C. Indigenous Relations Minister Scott Fraser and Canadian Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations Carolyn Bennett to meet with the Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs. A historic agreement was reached affirming Wet'suwet'en territorial jurisdiction, however the agreement did not resolve the pipeline conflict.





# Clayoquot Salmon Roundtable Begins First Ever Marine Risk Assessment

**A**t just 1% of their historic abundance, wild salmon are in a state of emergency in Clayoquot Sound. Local salmon stocks have drastically declined in recent years. Watersheds that once supported returns of over 40,000 salmon annually have decreased to roughly 2,000 returning adults. Changing ocean conditions and productivity, habitat degradation, historical over-fishing, genetic diversity, disease, pathogens and sea lice prevalence are all believed to be leading causes of this decline.

The loss of local salmon stocks on Vancouver Island spurred the formation of the Clayoquot Salmon Roundtable in 2013. The purpose of the Roundtable is to build partnerships in co-management processes aimed at the recovery and protection of Clayoquot Sound's wild salmon stocks.

The Clayoquot Salmon Roundtable consists of representatives from the Tla-o-qui-aht, Ahousaht, and Hesquiaht First Nations, Federal and Provincial government agencies, NGOs, aquaculture, sport, recreational and commercial fishers and other stakeholders.

In 2020, the Clayoquot Salmon Roundtable began the first ever marine risk assessment for wild salmon. The objective is to identify and rank the scale and intensity of limiting factors in the marine environment and causes for the rapid decline in wild salmon stocks. The risk assessment will employ the best available data, science, traditional ecological knowledge and experts to identify high risk factors, key data gaps, and to develop prescriptions and recommendations for rebuilding, restoration, mitigation and management.

Beach seine sampling has confirmed that sea lice loading on juvenile wild Pacific salmon was higher in recent years than in any previous sampling year on record, 20 times higher in some cases. The success of sea lice populations are influenced by several factors including temperature, salinity and host abundance. Changing ocean conditions, as predicted by climate change, such as increasing sea temperatures and higher salinity, are likely to increase louse abundance on wild salmon. In a rapidly changing climate, protecting the genetic diversity in the remaining wild salmon is critical for long-term viability.

The recent and sharp decline in our local wild Pacific salmon stocks in Clayoquot Sound should be considered a state of emergency. The Clayoquot Salmon Roundtable is requesting your financial and political support and immediate action.

## Timelines Conflicting for End of Open Net Pen Salmon Farms

**T**he Liberal Party's campaign platform said a re-elected Trudeau government "will work with the province to develop a responsible plan to transition from open net pen salmon farming in coastal waters to closed containment systems by 2025." But when Prime Minister Justin Trudeau issued mandate letters for his ministers in mid-December, the new Fisheries Minister Bernadette Jordan was instructed to work with the B.C. government and Indigenous communities "to create a responsible plan to transition from open net-pen salmon farming in coastal British Columbia waters by 2025." All mention of closed containment systems had vanished, leaving the phrasing open to interpretation.

British Columbia mandated that all companies will have to sign new protocol agreements with First Nations

of the territories for any fish farm operations to continue. Ninety-five fish farm tenures will expire in 2022. Without that protocol agreement those

tenures will not be renewed by the B.C. government. Meaning that by 2023, we could see up over 100 fish farms removed from coastal waters.



Chief George Quocksister Jr has used underwater cameras to view and independently assess both farmed salmon and wild fish inside the open net pen salmon farms around Vancouver Island. In 2019, he advised the Tla-o-qui-aht Tribal Parks Guardians to monitor piscine orthoreovirus (PRV), previously confirmed by Dr. Kristi Miller, within Tla-o-qui-aht territory.

FOCS

# #INDIGENOUSLIVESMATTER

## Tribal Parks Allies: Local Opportunity for Change



Marika Swan @marikaswan

Tofino community members participate in a "die-in" to demand justice and police accountability for Chantel Moore who was shot and killed by police in June (read more on Cover). The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) were originally created to forcibly displace Indigenous people from their territory to enforce Canada's extraction of raw resources. #JUSTICEFORCHANTELMOORE #INDIGENOUSLIVESMATTER

The Allies program works cooperatively with settler-businesses that operate within unceded Tla-o-qui-aht lands and waters. Many local businesses are tourism-based and have a big impact on the lands and waters within our home, and yet we as Indigenous currently have very limited means to mitigate or manage that reality. We have been stuffed into the closet of our homes, on "Indian Reserves", since the settling of our homelands as "Canada". Canadians need to recognize this injustice and start thinking about a fair way to live on Indigenous lands.

People give land acknowledgements, but how does that empower a First Nation to govern their lands? It doesn't. Real

By Tsimka Martin, [tribalparksalliance.com](http://tribalparksalliance.com)

**T**he outrage over how George Floyd was killed, and the loss of my niece Chantel Moore, who was shot by police in June, has shed a bright light on the longstanding racism and oppression of Black and Indigenous people in North America. Both American and Canadian colonial projects were built for the profit and benefit of some, to the detriment of others and the environment. Capitalism and colonial governments are difficult to change and dismantle, but many people are feeling unsettled with the way things are and have been. I feel some hope for a shift, even with all the tension and pain, because it often takes discomfort to motivate action.

I want to see corrupt police organizations defunded, taken apart and re-created with the visioning of the communities they serve. I want to see protection for land-defenders not

corporations. I want to see de-escalation training made paramount. I want to see a body camera on every gun-carrying officer in Canada. With inherent cop-civilian power dynamics at play, we need to push for the police to have their conduct observed full-time, and that they be held to account for their actions. I want to see trained crisis-counsellors responding to calls for wellness-checks.

Locally, I want to see a major shift towards support for Indigenous self-determination. Here in Tofino (Tla-o-qui-aht territory) we have the Tla-o-qui-aht Tribal Park Allies (TPA) Program. Tribal Parks are an expression of modern Indigenous authority, sovereignty, and jurisdiction. Tribal Parks Allies align to ancestral Tla-o-qui-aht values with human-land relationship management and stewardship.

respect goes much further. I want to see local business owners put their money where their mouth is, to participate in meaningful reconciliation by supporting Tla-o-qui-aht self-determination. The TPA program is creating an opportunity for Tofino business owners to financially contribute to Indigenous governance over Indigenous lands. Tla-o-qui-aht leadership and rightful governance is an alternative to the colonial over-lording of these lands.

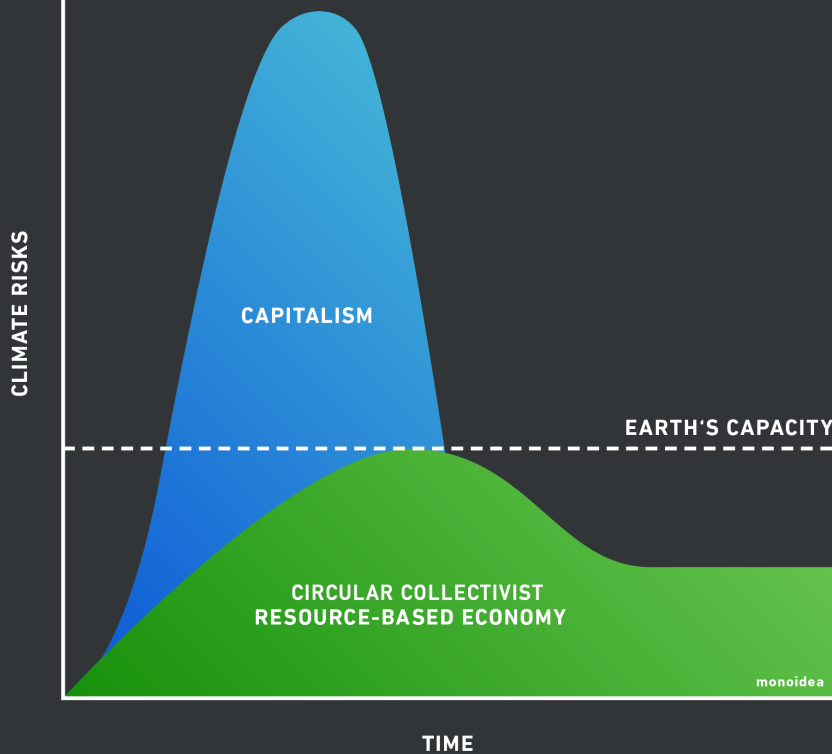
Recently I have stewed in despairing feelings over the senseless killing of my niece Chantel Moore and the state of the world. As my sadness shifted to anger, I used that energy to sort out some of my thoughts into something more critical and constructive to put out to my community. Find ways to support or make real change. There is so much that needs to change.

Learn more at: [tribalparksalliance.com](http://tribalparksalliance.com)



# Protecting Nature is Essential for Protecting Human Health

LET'S FLATTEN THIS CURVE TOO!



The capitalist economy's system of infinite growth, privatized profits, and socialized costs has resulted in humanity degrading Earth's carrying capacity, causing an extinction epidemic.

mind, the authors suggest three facets that should be considered for COVID-19-related stimulus plans. Countries should strengthen environmental regulations; adopt a 'One Health' approach to decision-making that recognizes complex interconnections among the health of people, animals, plants, and our shared environment; and prop up healthcare systems in the most vulnerable countries where resources are strained and underfunded.

"Rampant deforestation, uncontrolled expansion of agriculture, intensive farming, mining and infrastructure development, as well as the exploitation of wild species have created a 'perfect storm' for the spillover of diseases from wildlife to people," the scientists write. "This is not simple altruism – it is vital investment in the interests of all to prevent future global outbreaks."

The next phase of the Convention on Biological Diversity treaty, currently in draft form, proposes that at least 30% of land and ocean be conserved, up from 17% in the previous round. Expanding our protected areas system is vital because the large-scale protection of nature is the key game-changer needed to mitigate future pandemics, the climate crises, and ultimately the age of extinction.

## Wanačas



Nuu-chah-nulth name of Lone Cone.  
Pronounced: Wa-na-chas

Landlanguages Lessons with Gizele Martin @gizelemariamartin

In April, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), published an article placing responsibility for COVID-19 squarely on our shoulders.

"There is a single species that is responsible for the COVID-19 pandemic – us. As with the climate and biodiversity crises, recent pandemics are a direct consequence of human activity – particularly our global financial and economic systems, based on a limited paradigm that prizes economic growth at any cost. We have a small window of opportunity, in overcoming the challenges of the current crisis, to avoid sowing the seeds of future ones," the authors wrote on IPBES.

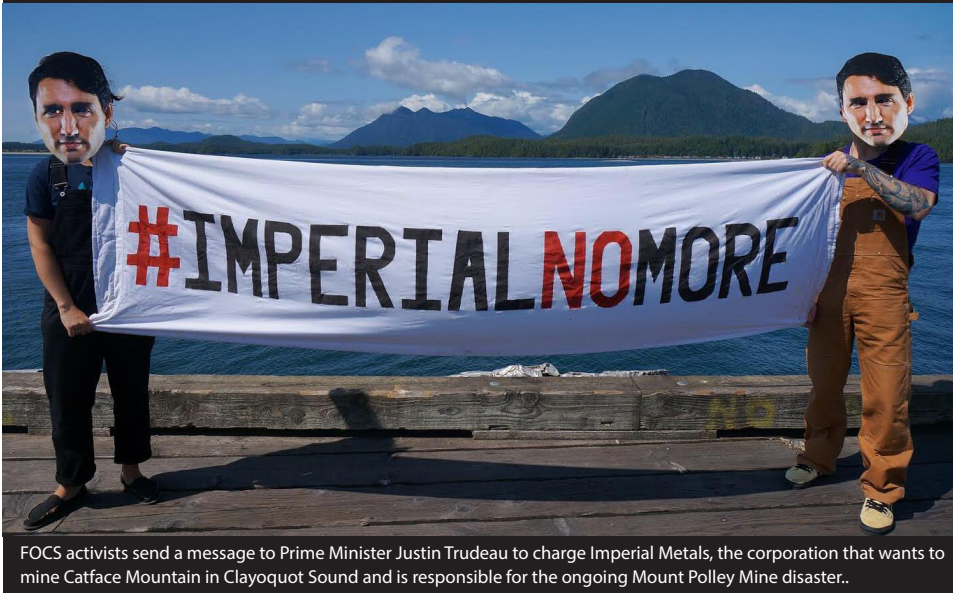
The separation of health and environmental policy is a dangerous delusion. Our health entirely depends on the climate and the other organisms

we share the planet with. The international community is positioned to make some progress through the Convention on Biological Diversity concerning 196 nations.

"It may be politically expedient at this time to relax environmental standards and to prop up industries such as intensive agriculture, long-distance transportation such as the airlines, and fossil-fuel-dependent energy sectors, but doing so without requiring urgent and fundamental change, essentially subsidizes the emergence of future pandemics," the scientists emphasize in their IPBES article.

They warn that 1.7 million unidentified viruses known to infect people are estimated to exist in mammals and water birds. Any one of these may be more disruptive and lethal than COVID-19. With that in

# Mining Cleanup to Cost B.C. Taxpayers \$1.2B



German Ocampo

Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations, resulted in 34 new mining claims. Meanwhile, Imperial Metals has been busy applying to the B.C. Government to probe the Skagit Headwaters for copper and gold.

While in Clayoquot, Imperial Metals holds the mining rights to assess the development of a gold mine, called the Pandora project, within the unceded territory of Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations, as well as an open-pit copper mine on Catface Mountain in Ahousaht First Nation's unceded territory. Both Nations are adamant that mining will not be allowed in their territories.

Over the winter, B.C.'s Chief Inspector of Mines released a report revealing that taxpayers are on the hook for more than \$1.2 billion in clean-up costs for the mining industry. This includes the ongoing clean up of the 25 billion litres of toxic mining waste released into the Fraser River watershed by Imperial Metals Mount Polley Mine disaster. The disaster occurred within the territory of the Secwepemc First Nation, home to one of the largest salmon spawning grounds in the world.

Last summer as Prime Minister Justin Trudeau took a taxpayer-funded luxury vacation in Tofino, the deadline for the Government of Canada to charge Imperial Metals for the 2014 Mount Polley Mine disaster passed. With no charges, fines or penalties, a signal was sent from government to Imperial Metals, the mining industry, and the stock

market that the environmental costs of mining will be subsidized by the public, meaning greater profits can be privatized.

Two days after the deadline passed, Geoscience BC contracted a helicopter team to survey 27,000 kilometres of fly lines around northern Vancouver Island. The project, initiated without the consent of any

## B.C. Government Should Invest in Reconciliation-based Rainforest Protection

Old growth forests are non-renewable. This is why Friends of Clayoquot Sound, Greenpeace, Wilderness Committee, Sierra Club, and Stand (formerly Forest Ethics) formed the Clayoquot Sound Conservation Alliance (CSCA) in 2006 to support discussions with regional First Nations about protecting the intact valleys of Clayoquot Sound through conservation investment. Since then, FOCS has worked continuously towards permanent protection by supporting local First Nations in securing conservation investments privately and through governments.

Last year, the Government of Canada gave the Ahousaht and Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations a commitment

to advance their land-use visions in Clayoquot Sound. However, the specific federal financial commitment remains unknown. Meanwhile, Indigenous Nations are left in a situation where they are forced to log to pay the province for the rights to log, guarding against a corporate takeover.

Over the winter, the Government of B.C. acknowledged its approach on old growth forests is broken, ordering a comprehensive Old Growth Review. With the review now complete, the province will announce changes to the system by the fall. During a time of economic hardship, support for reconciliation-based conservation to safeguard Indigenous communities and the

rainforests is critical. Investing in ancient rainforest protection builds towards reconciliation while guarding against the threats of climate catastrophe and future pandemics (read more on pages 3-4).

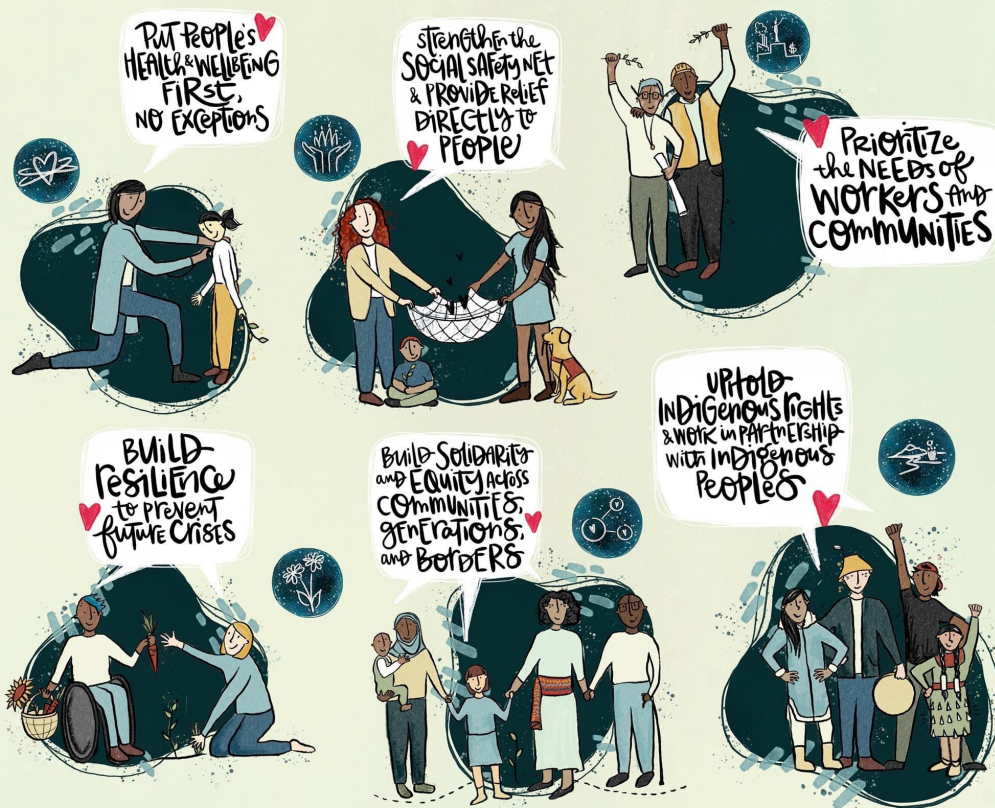


Torrance Coste

Protecting remaining ancient rainforests can support reconciliation-based economic recovery, while guarding against the threats of climate catastrophe and future pandemics.



# FOCS Join 150 Organizations to Launch 6 Principles for a Just Economic Recovery



Illustrations of the Six Principles for Just Recovery by Corrina Keeling @lovelettessforeverybody from justrecoveryforall.ca.

As governments prepare recovery plans amidst the COVID-19 crisis, an informal alliance of over 150 civil society groups, representing collective memberships of millions in Canada, are demanding these plans move us toward a more equitable and sustainable future. United in support of the 6 Principles for Just Recovery, endorsing organizations alongside Friends of Clayoquot Sound span sectors and communities across the country, including the Canadian Labour Congress, Indigenous Climate Action, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, and the Canadian Health Coalition.

We can't go back to "normal" after the COVID-19 pandemic. "Normal" was already a crisis. "Normal" is a world where our "heroes" get paid poverty wages and lack the sick days they need to care for themselves, their friends, and their family. "Normal" is a world destined for climate catastrophe.

Our message for governments is straightforward: recovery efforts

must support the transition to a more equitable, sustainable and diversified economy, and not entrench outdated economic and social systems that jeopardize the health and wellbeing of people, worsen the climate crisis, or perpetuate the exploitation or oppression of people.

## 6 Principles of Just Recovery:

1. Put people's health and wellbeing first, no exceptions.
2. Strengthen the social safety net and provide relief directly to people.
3. Prioritize the needs of workers and communities.
4. Build resilience to prevent future crises.
5. Build solidarity and equity across communities, generations, and borders.
6. Uphold Indigenous Rights and work in partnership with Indigenous Peoples.

"We need public investments to help meet our commitment to limit global warming, by developing renewable energy, increasing energy efficiency, supporting struggling public transit systems and ensuring a just transition for workers and their communities. We must prioritize investing in things that create much needed good jobs," said Canadian Labour Congress President, Hassan Yussuff.

The COVID crisis has revealed the primary importance of the health and safety of all people, as a human rights and collective wellbeing issue. Relief efforts so far have shown that things we've been told aren't possible, actually are once we prioritize them. All endorsing groups will pursue specific policy recommendations, aligned with the Principles.

"Prior to the pandemic, Indigenous communities were already in crisis due to a lack of infrastructure, health and social services and the current situation will only deepen these inequalities. To address this historical injustice, it is essential that Indigenous Peoples have access to adequate resources that revitalize the health, well-being and sovereignty of our communities," said Lindsey Bacigal of Indigenous Climate Action.

Nearly three-quarters (73%) of Canadians asked by EKOS Research earlier this month supported a "broad transformation of our society" resulting from COVID-inspired reformatations.

"It's going to take a massive and diverse community of voices to encourage governments to be bold in the face of corporate lobbies, and to put people and communities first," explained Catherine Abreu of Climate Action Network Canada.

Learn more at: [justrecoveryforall.ca](https://justrecoveryforall.ca)

# 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)

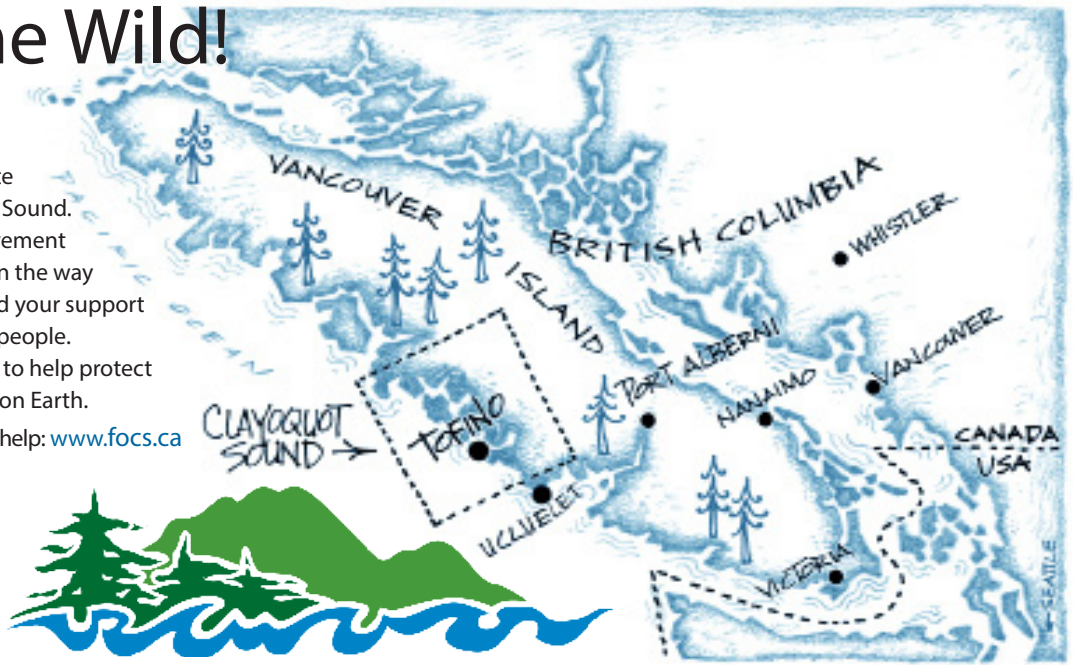
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## Sustain Our Legacy!

Since 1979, Friends of Clayoquot Sound have relied on donations from people who love this place. We have immense gratitude for our donors, who are the true sustainers of our work to protect the life that thrives here. Become a donor today! [focs.ca/donate](http://focs.ca/donate)



## 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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