



Friends of Clayoquot Sound

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

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Logging Deferred in Clayoquot Sound by B.C. Government for First Time in Colonial History



Photo: T.J. Watt @tjwatt

During a time of economic hardship, support for reconciliation-based conservation to safeguard First Nations' communities and the ancient rainforest is critical. Investing in the protection of the ancient rainforest builds towards reconciliation regionally while guarding against the global threats of climate catastrophes and future pandemics.

Last winter, the Government of B.C. acknowledged its approach to old growth forests is broken, ordering a comprehensive Old Growth Review. On Friday, September 11th, the government of B.C. released the Old Growth Review report and announced that for the next two years logging would be deferred for almost 353,000 hectares provincially, including more than 260,000 hectares in Clayoquot Sound.

"For the first time in history, the B.C. Government announced the deferral of logging in Clayoquot Sound for the next two years, which is great and long overdue," said Michael Mullin, Friends of Clayoquot Sound Co-Founder and current Board Member. "Since the inception of Friends of Clayoquot Sound in 1979, we have utilized a diversity of tactics from multistakeholder boardroom discussions to frontline direct action to protect the ancient rainforests of Clayoquot Sound."

Friends of Clayoquot Sound are currently active with the Clayoquot Sound Conservation Alliance (CSCA) to support discussions with regional First Nations about protecting the ancient rainforests through securing conservation investment. However, many systemic issues remain as the B.C. Government's outdated forestry system has required the First Nations' owned forestry company, MaMook, to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars in annual fees for Tree Farm Licenses to the B.C. Government for the 'rights to log'.

"For First Nations in Clayoquot Sound to retain the 'rights to log', their company MaMook has to log their unceded territories to pay for the Tree Farm Licenses annual dues required by the B.C. Government and guard against an outside corporation buying up the 'rights to log' from the B.C. Government," explains Jeh Custerra, Friends of Clayoquot Sound Campaigner. "This

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unsustainable approach to forestry is a destructive systemic failure that must be reconciled by the B.C. Government during this logging deferral period by supporting the visions of First Nations for permanent rainforest protection of their unceded territories."

“No Logging My Nation’s Territory”: A personal reflection.



Photo: German Ocampo @gocampo.salazar

In August, Friends of Clayoquot Sound accompanied BC EcoNews to show solidarity with grassroots forest defenders from across Vancouver Island and amplify their message stopping Teal Jones Group from blasting logging roads into the unlogged headwaters of the Fairy Creek watershed in recent months. See the video on YouTube.

By Stephenie Charleson

Home is where the heart is. Home is where we come from, where our families come from. Home is where we have a connection. I have a strong connection to my home in Hesquiaht territory.

We have pressure on us to log in our territory, part of a business from years ago when they would clearcut our territory. Our coasts have seen slides and destruction to salmon habitats -- ocean side and streams and creeks, lakes -- the horrible effects of logging already done in the area. It will take the rest of my life to do the repair work. I am doing it so my children will see the importance of our territory.

Why should we log more? More destruction to our coasts -- pristine ecosystems, beautiful ancient rainforests, seafood that is no more, salmon habitat, polluted freshwater -- our children's future! I see all the logging trucks loaded with ancient trees and it breaks my heart to see our lands in the area being stripped. It

looks like a moonscape out there. Let's not let this happen in our Hesquiaht territory again. I say: "NO TO LOGGING!"

Our families have protected and cared for these areas for centuries, lived off the land, only taking what we need, not for greed. Money for our resources only goes so far, lasts so long. We can never replace the pristine old growth that they want to take out of our territory along streams and creeks. Our grandchildren will never know what it was like if we let the logging company go in there and take what they want. Our streams and creeks will suffer more unrepairable damage that will take the rest of our lives to repair and rebuild.

I know because I have walked our streams and creeks, lakes, coastlines, our territory. Our forests are medicine. Our territories are medicine and knowledge. We need to share more knowledge with our children so they are connected to the area. Our elders and those before us held the knowledge, protected and lived off

the land. It is still our job to carry on the responsibility of protecting and sharing the knowledge of our people and where we come from. Not to rob and strip our territory of its resources for little profit.

I will continue to do the work in our Hesquiaht territory. I will fight to protect our territory. It is important to me and my family. Our trees are our breath. Our streams are my life. Water is life. One heartbeat, it is all connected. There are other ways to bring more economic opportunities to the community. We have to work on that. Focus on other ways and ideas. Tourism. New clean energy. Restoration.

Nuuchahnulth territory. All stolen land. Our Chiefs territory. Our resources. Our knowledge. Our history. Lets change the future. Protect what is ours. All that is left. Let's take back our land. For our future, our children, our grandchildren. "NO LOGGING IN HESQUIAT FIRST NATIONS TERRITORY!"

Cohen Deadline Passes for Removal of 18 Salmon Farms

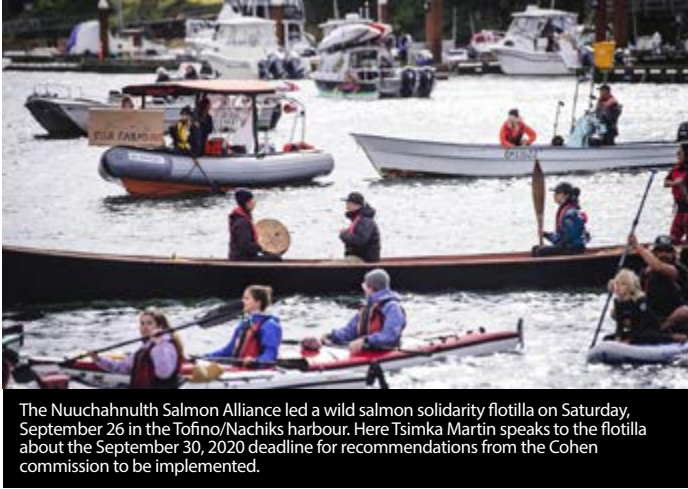


Photo: Marnie Recker @marniereckerphoto

The Nuuchahnulth Salmon Alliance led a wild salmon solidarity flotilla on Saturday, September 26 in the Tofino/Nachik's harbour. Here Tsimka Martin speaks to the flotilla about the September 30, 2020 deadline for recommendations from the Cohen commission to be implemented.

Islands (94% infected). Sea lice outbreaks on salmon farms this spring resulted in unnatural infestations on outmigrating smolts, particularly in the Discovery Islands: 99% of sockeye salmon were infected with an average of 9 lice per fish;

Independent biologists have proven the risk posed by salmon farms impacts migrating wild salmon. In 2020, areas where salmon farms exceeded the Department of Fisheries and Oceans' (DFO) sea lice limits include Clayoquot Sound (72% infected), Nootka Sound (87% infected) and Discovery

90% of pink and chum salmon were infected with an average of 5 lice per fish. Infestations at these levels are lethal and no regulatory or therapeutic measure employed by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) or the salmon farming industry have been effective to control sea lice. This is not

surprising as no salmon farming region in the world has been able to control sea lice. No other salmon farming region in the world still has commercially viable stocks of wild salmonids, either.

The Canadian government already promised to act upon the recommendations of the 2012 Cohen Commission of Inquiry into the Decline of Sockeye Salmon in the Fraser River. One of the recommendations of the Cohen Commission outlined the removal of 18 salmon farms in the Discovery Islands by Sept 30 2020. The \$30 million dollar Cohen inquiry also recommended that the Department of Fisheries and Oceans resolve the conflict of interest of DFO's current mandate of managing wild salmon conservation while simultaneously promoting and regulating the salmon farming industry.

Canada Mandates Plan for Removal of Open Net Salmon Farms

A total of 101 B.C. First Nations, tourism operators, and commercial and sport fishing groups have united in a show of solidarity to demand the federal government take immediate action on the collapse of Fraser River salmon stocks by ordering the removal of open-net fish farms near Campbell River.

The Liberal Party's campaign platform said a re-elected Trudeau government "will work with the province [B.C.] 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 to the new Fisheries Minister Bernadette Jordan, all mention of closed containment systems had

vanished, leaving the phrasing open to interpretation.

This summer in Clayoquot Sound, Cermaq introduced an experimental Semi-Closed Cage System for salmon farming that the Norwegian corporation intends to operate at Millar Channel. Does the removal of the "closed containment" phrasing in the Fisheries Minister's mandate letter from Prime Minister Trudeau signal a move to semi-closed containment for the salmon farming industry?

Have your say about the future of salmon farming in Canada through DFO's consultation online: <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/act-loi/index-eng.html>



Photo: Marnie Recker @marniereckerphoto

Many of the speakers at the recent wild salmon flotilla including Tsimka Martin, Gisele Martin, Skookum John, and FOCS organizer German Ocampo highlighted the fact that the same impacts and sickness from salmon farming on wild salmon exist here in the Tla-o-qui-aht and Ahousaht lands and waters, known as Clayoquot Sound.

Climate Action vs. Pipeline Debt for Big Oil Profiteering



At the gates of Kinder Morgan's oil tank farm in Burnaby unceded Coast Salish territories. Friends of Clayoquot Sound oppose the construction of fossil fuel pipelines as humanity is only at the beginning of the climate emergency threatening all life on Earth.

Finance to prepare an annual report about key measures taken to manage the Government's financial risks and opportunities related to climate change.

Just two weeks following this announcement, the Canada Energy Regulator reported that the Government owned Trans Mountain (TMX) tar sands pipeline, and the Government approved Keystone XL tar sands pipeline, would be unnecessary liabilities if climate emissions reduction are required in Canada. Tar sands oil is amongst the most carbon intensive oil on Earth. Despite initially being told the investment would be a \$2 billion loan, taxpayers will now be paying \$17 billion to own the TMX pipeline. Taxpayers cannot afford for the Government of Canada to subsidize Big Oil profiteering for a doomed industry at the expense of our collective future.

In November, the Government of Canada's Environment and Climate Change Minister Jonathan Wilkinson tabled Bill C-12 -- a new legislation that would force current and future

federal governments to set binding climate targets to get Canada to net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. In addition to public participation and assessment, the bill would require the Minister of

Global Green New Deal vs. Extractivist Capitalism

Authors Arundhati Roy and Naomi Klein took part in a virtual conversation to help launch a Global Green New Deal project to foster internationalism and visualize possibilities for a new and better world for people and the planet.

"The violence of a capitalist system is rooted in an extractivist logic that treats the Earth itself, individual places, and entire groups of people as disposable -- a logic of endless extraction... that really cherishes nothing and no one," said Klein.

Before the virus struck, the effect of climate catastrophe and obscene inequality meant that millions were already living in multiple crises. Now, as the pandemic wreaks an untold impact, we know that it is those who are most vulnerable—whether from their inability to access healthcare, or because of their economic precarity—who bear the heaviest burden.

Roy notes that justice based movements are challenging "the world to redefine the meaning of progress, to redefine the meaning of civilization, to redefine the meaning of happiness. Do you really need to treat the Earth like a resource in order to call yourself civilized?"

Our only recourse is to amplify the calls for justice ringing from every corner of the globe. The time to build the future we deserve is now, and international solidarity is the tool we need to begin its construction. A Global Green New Deal for People and Planet can help us move from crisis to justice.



Understanding Systemic Racism through the History of Policing in Canada

Photo: Wet'suwet'en Checkpoint @wetsuweten_checkpoint



The RCMP's tactical invasion of Unist'ot'en Camp in 2020 forcibly removed Wet'suwet'en people in ceremony outside their Healing Centre to make way for the Coastal GasLink pipeline. One of the latest examples showing how little has changed.

to serve the interests of colonial expansion and colonial rule.

"The RCMP is a racist institution. What we're seeing aren't decisions from a random, bad apple. This is decision making within the institution, tracing back hundreds of years..."

- Elizabeth May

Historically, the RCMP acted as the

enforcement arm of for the Government of Canada's relationship to Indigenous people responsible for:

- Forcing Indigenous people off their land and onto reserves;
- Enforcing Canada's Indian Act policy, including the Reserve Pass System that controlled who could go off-reserve as

well as the criminalization of those who participated in ceremonies such as Potlatching and the Sun Dance;

- Removing Indigenous children from their families and forcing them into abusive residential schools to "take the Indian out of the child";
- Facilitating the apprehension of children during the Sixties scoop.

The RCMP's history is fraught with military-style campaigns against Indigenous people protecting their homeland. Some of these police operations which used lethal force took place at Red River, Batoche, Cut Knife, Oka, Gustafsen Lake, and Ipperwash. In 2020, even when there is still no consent from entire Indigenous Nations, the RCMP intervene in land conflicts on behalf of corporations profiteering from extraction of what the market deems capital -- trees, fish, oil, gas, and minerals.

Canada's first prime minister, John A. Macdonald, created what is known today as the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). His model was the Royal Irish Constabulary, a paramilitary force the British created to keep the Irish under control. Police in Canada were established

How Defunding The Police Can Create Healthier Communities

Learn more @ defundthepolice.org

According to recent polls, only 15% of Canadians believe that the RCMP does not have a problem with systemic racism. Indigenous peoples account for approximately 5% of the population in Canada, yet -- as the Globe and Mail found -- over a 10-year period, more than 36% of RCMP killings involved Indigenous people. The need for change is felt locally by the recent killing of 26-year-old Chantel Moore of the Tia-ouqui-aht First Nation, who was shot five times during a wellness check by police in Edmundston, N.B.

Indigenous men account for 30% of federal inmates incarcerated and Indigenous women account for 42%. Experts note that poverty, socioeconomic status, abuse, violence, housing, mental health,

access to healthcare, education, and environmental health are key social determinants. A holistic approach to health centers social justice as a unifying solution.

"When people are in crisis, we know that what they need is care, not confrontation with an armed officer. We know that the threat of violence exacerbates distress. We know that care should take the form of de-escalation, crisis counseling, and connection to resources." - Doctors For Defunding the Police

The RCMP's Gross Spending for 2019-2020 equals \$5.1 billion, with 60% spent on Indigenous policing. Meanwhile, the Canadian Medical Association Journal estimates a \$3.1 billion annual funding

gap for mental health services. Re-allocating taxpayer funds from increased policing, militarization, criminalization, and incarceration to clean water, housing, and health services could help to create more livable, healthy, and caring communities.

SOME THINGS OUR TAXES CAN FUND INSTEAD OF POLICE TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITIES SAFER

SAFE HOUSING FOR ALL TO ERADICATE HOMELESSNESS AND GENTRIFICATION	YOUTH PROGRAMMING TO EMPOWER YOUNG FOLKS AND PROVIDE THEM WITH TOOLS TO THRIVE	ART & CULTURE TO REINFORCE AND ENCOURAGE THE KINDS OF COMMUNITIES WE ENVISION	SPECIALIZED CASE WORKERS TO ASSIST FAMILIES, THE HOMELESS, AND OTHERS STRUGGLING
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE TO BRING TRUE HEALING, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND JUSTICE FOR SURVIVORS AND PERPETRATORS OF HARM	FIRST RESPONDERS TO PROVIDE EXPERTS TRAINED IN DE-ESCALATION TO MILITARIZED POLICE RESPONSE	WORKER-OWNED COOPERATIVES TO CULTIVATE DEMOCRATIC WORKPLACES, CREATE STABLE JOBS, AND PROVIDE RESOURCES COMMUNITIES ACTUALLY NEED	COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION TO SUPPORT LEADERSHIP BY AND FOR PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Rising Tide @risingtideca

Pebble Mine Construction Denied in U.S. as Engineers Face Discipline in Canada

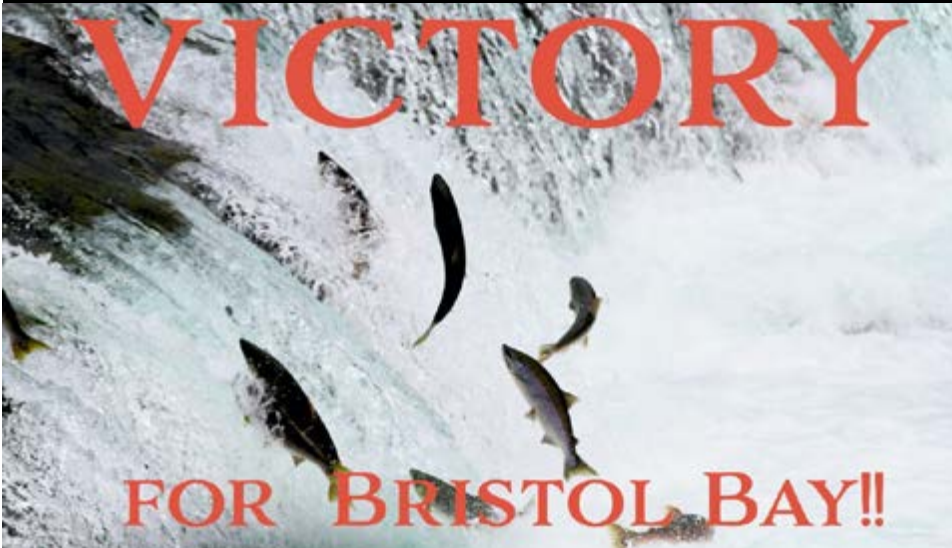


Photo: Mark Titus

Friends of Clayoquot helped curate a screening of Mark Titus' latest film "The Wild" as part of our Clayoquot Salmon Festival collaboration with Salmon Nation's Festival of What Works. As panelists, we spoke to the importance of stopping the Pebble Mine alongside Lindsay Layland -- of the United Tribes of Bristol Bay, Anna Hoover -- a Unangan filmmaker, Linda Behnken -- founder of the Alaska Sustainable Fisheries Trust, and former Alaska Senate President Rick Halford.

In November, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers denied the Pebble Mine's permit to proceed with construction near Bristol Bay, Alaska. Friends of Clayoquot Sound raise our hands in

solidarity to the Yupik; Dena'ina and Aleutian People -- and all residents of Bristol Bay who have fought for 3 decades to keep Pebble's toxic low-grade-sulphur mine out of the

headwaters of their life-giving salmon rivers! Yes!!!

FOCS continue in our effort to uphold the mining bans of the Ahousaht and Tla-o-qui-aht Nations to prevent mining by Imperial Metals in Clayoquot Sound. Imperial Metals is the Canadian mining corporation responsible for the Mount Polley Mine tailings pond disaster which flooded 25 billion litres of toxic tailings into the Fraser River watershed in Secwepemc Territory in 2014. Imperial Metals' engineers have been bidding to design and build the tailings pond for the Pebble Mine at Bristol Bay which would destroy beautiful salmon runs. Meanwhile three engineers hired by Imperial Metals faced charges of professional misconduct from the Engineering and Geoscientists of British Columbia. Imperial Metals or executives are yet to be charged or fined for the Mount Polley Mine tailings pond disaster.

Clayoquot Salmon Festival Partners with Salmon Nation for 2020 Festival of What Works

Salmon play an integral role in coastal livelihoods, cultures, and ecosystems on the west coast. And they lead incredible lives, starting in freshwater then migrating to the ocean. Celebrating the backbone of the west coast is what inspires Friends of Clayoquot Sound to organize the annual Clayoquot Salmon Festival based out of Tofino. But as COVID remains a major issue for in-person events, Friends of Clayoquot Sound took the 2020 Clayoquot Salmon Festival online teaming up with Salmon Nation's Festival of What Works as part of a week of over

40 online events to celebrate salmon and what is working to protect the greater salmon bioregion.

The Clayoquot Salmon Festival X Festival of What Works collaboration streamed live from Sunday, November 15 - Sunday, November, 22, with each day of the Festival having a different theme. By taking Clayoquot Salmon Festival online, we aim to provide a broader opportunity to reflect

upon and build an active appreciation for the irreplaceable value of salmon in Clayoquot Sound and across the salmon bioregion. Thanks to everyone who sponsored, contributed, and participated!

You can watch the recorded Clayoquot Salmon Festival curated events archived @ [www.fb.com/clayoquotsalmonfestival](https://www.facebook.com/clayoquotsalmonfestival) as well as all the Festival of What Works events @ [www.fb.com/salmonnation](https://www.facebook.com/salmonnation)



FOCS Organizer German Ocampo moderates a panel -- featuring Indigenous leaders Homískanís Don Svanvik and Dúgváísja William Housty, as well as biologist Anne Shaffer -- for the Clayoquot Salmon Festival curated event "Salmon Warrior: An End to Engineered Fish" as part of the Festival of What Works.

FOCS Archives.

Single Use, to Systems Change: FOCS Joins Call to Action



FOCS

FOCS joins members of Surfrider Pacific Rim and Ocean Legacy at our annual collaborative Hands Across the Sand action to call on the Canadian and B.C. governments to #ENDFOSSILFUELSUBSIDIES to stop the proliferation of single use plastic at the source.

Humanity produces 2 billion tonnes of waste each year and this figure is projected to increase by 70% by 2050. Single use products are a key contributor to this: when not effectively recycled, they are burned, sent to dumpsites or landfills, or simply left to degrade Earth's ecosystems and poison Earth's oceans.

Of the 300 million tonnes of plastic produced each year, half of that goes into single use products and applications. Plastic is derived from fossil fuel extraction and manufacturing; its very production contributes to greenhouse gas emissions. The life cycle of paper-based single use products derived from trees is similarly devastating, and yet often under-estimated. Carbon released in the logging process contributes to greenhouse gas emissions, and the removal of ancient forests eliminates the ability of those forests to continue to mitigate against the worst impacts of climate change. Each year, three billion trees are cut down to make paper packaging, and that's projected to increase by 20% over the next five years.

Less than 10% of all the plastics

ever produced has been recycled, and a mere 4% of that has been recycled back into products of the same quality as the original. When it ends up in oceans or scattered on land, plastic waste breaks down into microplastics, infinitely tiny toxic pieces that are ingested by species of all kinds, including humans, with untold health consequences. Both paper and plastics manufacturing are chemically intensive, energy-intensive, and require large amounts of water - and the reality is, eliminating the majority of single use products immediately will help conserve irreplaceable resources. To achieve the goals set out in the Paris Agreement and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and in recognition of universal human rights, there needs to be a collective shift in the way we design and manufacture products to avoid waste.

We, therefore, call for an end to single use, throwaway commodities, and call for transformational change to our production, consumption and end-of-use systems to enable a truly circular economy. This will require commitments and effective collaboration from government, business, financial institutions and investors, the nonprofit-sector, and civil society. Collectively we can protect and promote sustainable

care of forest and marine ecosystems to enable a circular economy supported by closed-loop regenerative economics.

We call on all relevant bodies to:

- Re-direct: public and private funds to support the start-up and scale-up of systems that support reusable products and circularity, and disincentivize continuation of single use commodities by increasing levies and taxes on those products and the systems that prop them up.
- Re-design to support:
 - Responsible material lifecycles
 - Responsible and clean production
 - Responsible consumption
- Reward innovation: to help scale-up lasting solutions.
- Reparation for damage, in particular, to Indigenous peoples and people of colour, who are often disproportionately affected by modern extractive and pollutive industries.
- Restore: degraded natural habitats that have been impacted as a result of the production and disposal of products and packaging, whilst recognizing the important role that local and Indigenous communities play in conservation and restoration.

Protect What You Love!

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

Send your donation to:

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Remembering Nancy Powis



March 31, 1958 – June 10, 2020

It is with deep sorrow that we said goodbye to our dear friend, Nancy Powis, who left us too early, after a long and brave fight with cancer. She fell in love with Clayoquot Sound, and moved to Tofino from Toronto in 2010. Almost from day one, she supported, and donated to the Friends of Clayoquot Sound, and was involved in all our activities. Her artistic abilities were put to great use making protest signs, and she was always willing to stand up and be counted. Nancy loved all of nature, the colour purple, her Tofino home and the many friends she made. Please make a donation in her memory – Nancy would be very grateful.

Join the FOCS Coast Action Team by becoming a monthly donor!

Includes annual membership.

Monthly donation: \$10 \$40 \$100 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

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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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DATE