



# Friends of Clayoquot Sound

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

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## Forest Defenders Converge to Protect Old Growth: Only 2.7% Remaining on Vancouver Island



Photo: TJ Watt @tjwatt

Over 90% of British Columbians want to see an end to old growth logging. #EnoughIsEnough #WorthMoreStanding

Since re-election of the BC NDP in 2020, the war in the woods has reignited. What's happening at the Fairy Creek Blockades is near deja vu of the Clayoquot Blockades that Friends of Clayoquot Sound organized in 1993, where over 900 people were arrested protecting the ancient rainforests of Clayoquot Sound. Similarly, thousands of people are mobilizing to protect the old-growth trees on Vancouver Island. With over 200 arrested for defending the endangered old-growth ecosystems around the Fairy Creek and Caycuse watersheds, international spotlights are back on BC's unsustainable logging practices.

Over 90% of British Columbians want to see an end to old-growth logging. Yet, BC NDP government policy and forestry practices fail to address this or the realities of the global climate emergency and the 6th mass extinction. We need the BC NDP to implement an immediate moratorium on old-growth logging and lead a just transition to a more sustainable second growth industry, sustained by conservation financing for Indigenous Nations, especially the Nuuchahnulth First Nations. But currently, the BC NDP are facilitating economically exploitative environmental destruction and missing the opportunity for reconciliation based ancient forest protection. Learn more on Page 2...

### WHAT'S UP in this issue

**3rd Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation  
Member Shot by RCMP in 1 Year!?!**

**Climate Change Driving Health  
Costs and Inequities**

**DFO Study Confirms PRV Salmon  
Virus Spread From Salmon Farms**

**Ocean Restoration by 2050**



# Confronting the BC Government's "Talk & Log" Conflict of Interest



Photo: Fairy Creek Blockade @fairycreekblockade

Pacheedaht Elder Bill Jones has led the Rainforest Flying Squad in defending the ancestral rainforests of his family at Fairy Creek. #MayTheForestBeWithYou

Last fall, prior to the election, the BC Government announced logging would be deferred [paused] for over 350,000 hectares of forests provincially, including 260,000 hectares in Clayoquot Sound. The logging deferral, a first in colonial history, signaled that the BC NDP were beginning to respond to the most actionable recommendations of the Old Growth Strategic Review expert panel: to commit to partnering with Indigenous Nations, and to defer old growth logging at risk of irreversible loss.

In Clayoquot Sound, the 2 year logging deferral supports negotiations

with the Ahousaht, Hesquiaht, and Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations with the provincial and federal governments. The opportunity is for governments to recognize the Land Visions of the Nations and restructure the existing Tree Farm Licenses into Indigenous Protected Areas. This is the new wave of environmental justice, integrating protection and reconciliation, resulting in part from the political leverage gained by the Meares Island and Clayoquot blockades of the 80s and 90s. However, outside of Clayoquot Sound, the tone is not as optimistic.

Nuu-chah-nulth relatives to the

south on Vancouver Island -- including the Pacheedaht, Ditidaht, and Huu-ay-aht First Nations -- face increasing pressures to allow the giant old growth in their territories to be logged. With record breaking lumber prices, corporations like Teal Jones and Western Forest Products hope to profit from turning the ancient forest into lumber. Without a ban on old growth logging, the BC Government benefits from these short-term, profit driven, extractivist agendas -- collecting income from Tree Farm Licenses, stumpage fees, and taxes.

## Pacheedaht Elder Bill Jones vs. Teal Jones Logging

In the weeks before the BC Government's announcement, Pacheedaht Elder Bill Jones released an official letter of invitation to Indigenous and non-Indigenous forest defenders to unite on his territory to defend the ancestral rainforests of his family -- the unlogged Ada'itsx / Fairy Creek headwaters. His invitation followed the discovery of logging road construction by a subcontractor

of Teal Jones. At that time, Friends of Clayoquot Sound and BC EcoNews joined the Rainforest Flying Squad onsite in responding to the invitation of Elder Bill Jones to help prepare and get the word out.

Since then, thousands of courageous forest defenders have responded to the call and prevented Teal Jones from logging the ancient forest by blocking logging equipment.

After 9 months of peaceful direct action, a court injunction moved the RCMP to begin arresting forest defenders. Unfortunately this also resulted in the RCMP assaulting young Indigenous land defenders, arresting members of the media, and threatening to use rubber bullets and tear gas against peaceful tree sitters. Over 200 forest defenders have been arrested and thousands have marched past the police lines and into the injunction zone.



# Solutions Exist for Permanent Protection of Ancient Forests

Photo: Fairy Creek Blockade @fairycreekblockade



Canada needs to allocate funding to Indigenous Protected Areas and just transition for workers. #WorthMoreStanding

**W**hat started as a fight to protect the Fairy Creek headwaters has expanded into a fight to protect the last 2.7% of old growth, with numerous active, mobile blockades preventing logging. By mid-June, with more than

200 people arrested within BC Premier Horgan's own riding protecting the very trees Horgan had promised to, the government deferred some of the old growth logging areas, at the request of the Pacheedaht, Ditidaht and Huu-ay-aht First Nations. However, this deferral is only

for 2000 hectares, less than 1% of what was deferred in Clayoquot Sound, and less than 0.002% of the total 1.3 million hectares of old growth threatened across BC. At the end of the two year deferral period, thousands of hectares of old growth could be lost and gone forever.

According to the independent research of the Rainforest Flying Squad, the Pacheedaht First Nation only receives less than 1% of the raw log value extracted by Teal Jones for the Tree Farm License in Pacheedaht territory. Yet from the perspective of the climate crisis, the ancient rainforests provide incredibly valuable ecosystem services in their ability to store more carbon per hectare than any other ecosystem in the world. But when clear cut, around 80% of the carbon stored in the old growth is released. The forests that are replanted are monocultures with limited biodiversity and drastically reduced carbon storage.

## Canada Commits \$2.3 Billion to 25% Protection by 2025: Funding for Indigenous Protected Areas is Necessary

**T**he Government of Canada has committed to conserving 25% of lands and 25% of oceans in Canada by 2025. In the 2021 Federal Budget, Canada committed \$2.3 billion to conserve up to 1 million square kilometers more land and inland waters -- including through Indigenous Protected Areas and national wildlife areas -- to achieve Canada's target. If divided amongst the provinces and territories, BC's portion of the funding would be between \$200 and \$300 million. Instead of subsidizing controversial climate disasters like \$20 billion tar sands pipelines, Canada can redirect funding to Indigenous Protected Areas, and a just transition for industry workers, to protect the most threatened and valuable ancient forests.

### 6 ACTIONS WE CAN TAKE FOR OLD GROWTH FORESTS

1. Support Indigenous led protection camps and actions on the ground.
2. Organize local solidarity actions.  
Call / send emails to the Premier, the Forests Minister, and local MLAs.  
**Premier John Horgan / 250-387-1715 / [premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:premier@gov.bc.ca)**  
**Forest Minister Katrine Conroy / 250-387-6240 / [flnr.minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:flnr.minister@gov.bc.ca)**  
**Clayoquot MLA Josie Osborne / 250-720-4515 / [josie.osborne.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:josie.osborne.mla@leg.bc.ca)**
3. Sign the [bcgreens.ca](https://bcgreens.ca) and [change.org](https://change.org) petitions - search "Old Growth".
4. Amplify by sharing and resharing in social media.
5. Donate to the Rainforest Flying Squad, FOCS, and organizations working to protect old growth forests.
- 6.



# 3rd Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation Member Shot by RCMP in 1 Year!?!

**W**e are all hurting from the shooting of a Tla-o-qui-aht mother by the RCMP who survived in a coma on the Mothers' Day weekend. This was the third shooting by the RCMP of Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation members in the last year -- including Chantel Moore and Julian Jones who were shot to death by the RCMP. Each shooting incident is absolutely unacceptable.

Chief Moses Martin of Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation communicated in a statement "Our community and our families are completely devastated. The woman who was shot by the RCMP is in critical condition and this is the third recent shooting by the RCMP of one of our people - our population is approximately 1,150 people. Needless to say, we are experiencing heavy trauma and shock. We are frustrated that we are being told to wait for the investigation, which could take months. We will be seeking support for the family and we will also be seeking interim measures with the RCMP and the Independent Investigations Office."

Collectively, we must consider the bigger picture of systemic racism. 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.

"What will it take to make the tragedies stop? The use of lethal force by Canadian police forces against Indigenous peoples is a deadly epidemic in Canada. There have been numerous

said Lydia Hwitsum of the First Nations Summit Political Executive.

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 of incarceration. 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 first responders and crisis intervention, clean water, housing, and health services could help to create more livable, healthy, and caring communities.



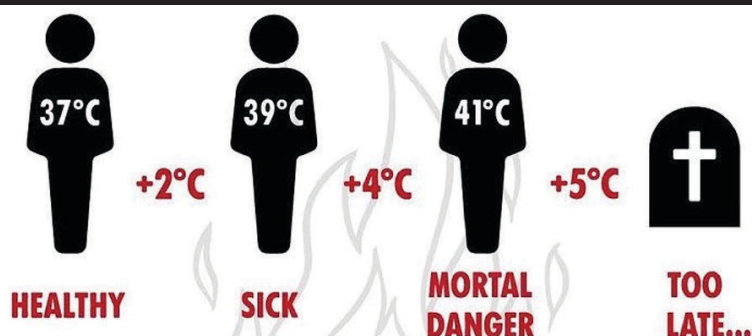
Graphic: Rising Tide @risingtidena

inquiries, studies, reports, and a First Nations Justice Strategy in BC created to address the need for justice reform. Despite this, our citizens continue to be the victims of unnecessary police violence leading to serious injury or death as a result of police shootings. The lack of action on implementing proposed solutions will only lead to more of our citizens being injured or dying. The time for police reform is now,"

**Learn More @ [defundthepolice.org](https://defundthepolice.org)**

# Climate Change Driving Health Costs and Inequities

## CLIMATE CRISIS IS A HEALTH CRISIS



**SAME WITH THE PLANET**

As the world takes stock of how the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact the most vulnerable, a new report from the Canadian Institute for Climate Choices warns that climate change will similarly worsen health inequities and significantly increase costs to Canada's health system and economy without bold government action. The researchers project the health costs of climate change in Canada to be over \$250 billion by 2100.

Canada remains the largest per capita public financier of fossil fuels, exemplified by the purchase of the Trans Mountain tar sands pipeline. Additionally, Canada is criminalizing land defenders who oppose new pipelines and old growth logging, both of which increase climate impacts. Meanwhile, Bill C-12 - the Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act - is bogged down in debate in the Canadian Parliament.

If other nations followed Canada's lead we would miss stabilizing temperatures at 1.5 degrees of temperature rise, devastating millions of people, species and entire countries. Unless all the governments take bold action by investing in prevention and preparation, climate change will worsen existing health inequities and increase costs to Canada's health system and economy.

## Banking on a Better Future?

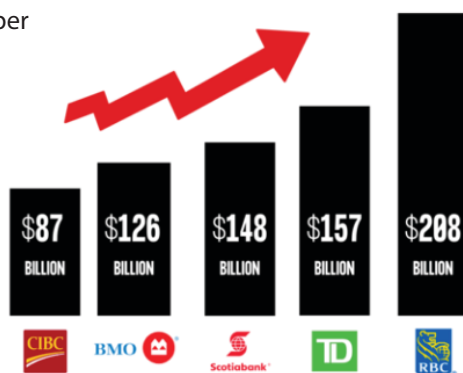
The big 5 Canadian banks have provided \$700 BILLION in fossil fuel financing through loans and investments since 2016, while globally we are set to burn 50% more fossil fuels than is consistent with staying below 2 degrees warming. But our banks continue to finance fossil fuel expansion. Without enormous loans from banks, (as well as support from big insurance firms) the projects would not be possible. This is why we demand the banks divest from fossil fuels and stop enabling fossil fuel production.

Commercial banks, like the Big 5, are for-profit institutions owned by their shareholders. This means that they operate with the intention of turning a profit for those shareholders, and are often traded on the stock market. As with most for-profit corporations, the

more shares someone owns, the greater influence they have over the decisions that are made by the bank. Alternatively, Credit Unions are not-for-profit financial cooperatives, designed to serve their members and members' communities because they are member owned. This means that any depositor is a member and gets an equal vote in board member elections regardless of the amount of their deposit.

Remember, when it comes to your personal banking, the big 5 are not your only option! When managing your money, you actually have two options: commercial banks and credit unions. To learn more about divesting your bank from fossil fuels or moving your money to a credit union, visit: [bankingonabetterfuture.org](http://bankingonabetterfuture.org)

### CANADA'S "BIG 5" BANKS' FOSSIL FUEL FINANCING SINCE 2016



Graphic representing the Big 5's fossil fuel financing. From left to right: CIBC - \$87 billion, BMO - \$126 billion, Scotia Bank \$148 billion, TD - \$157 billion, RBC - \$208 billion.

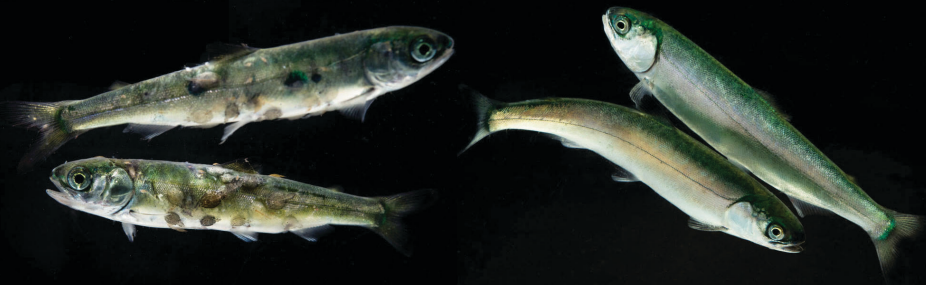
# 95% Reduction of Sea Lice on Wild Salmon Following Removal of Salmon Farms

## REMOVING FISH FARMS WORKS.

Okisollo Channel, Discovery Islands, B.C.

2020

2021



The removal of salmon farms in the Discovery Islands at the north end of Vancouver Island have significantly reduced numbers of sea lice infecting juvenile wild salmon. Meanwhile in Clayoquot Sound, Cermaq plans to apply around 1 million litres of pesticide to control sea lice infestations on salmon farming operations in Ahousaht territory.

Photo: Alexandra Morton @alexmortonsalmon

“Following Fisheries Minister Bernadette Jordan’s December 17, 2020 decision to prohibit restocking of 19 fish farms in the Discovery Islands, this spring’s out-migration of juvenile salmon are the first to swim through a fish farm-free Okisollo Channel in over 25 years and we’re seeing extraordinary results. The number of sea lice infecting juvenile wild salmon in Okisollo Channel has declined by 95% between 2020 and 2021. We are beyond excited to report that most of the young salmon look pristine, with iridescent scales untouched by sea lice!”  
Project crew: Tavish Campbell, Deirdre Leowinata, Farlyn Campbell, Jody Eriksson, and Alexandra Morton.

## Collaborative DFO Study Confirms PRV Salmon Virus Spread From Salmon Farms

Piscine orthoreovirus (PRV) – which is associated with lethal kidney and liver damage in Chinook salmon – is continually being transmitted between open-net salmon farms and wild juvenile Chinook salmon in British Columbia waters, according to a new genomics analysis. The collaborative study from the University of British Columbia (UBC) and the Strategic Salmon Health Initiative (SSHI) — a partnership between Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Genome BC and the Pacific Salmon Foundation — traces the origins of PRV to Atlantic salmon farms in Norway and finds that the virus is now commonplace in salmon farms in BC.

“This study’s genome sequencing clearly indicates PRV is not native to BC waters—it originated in the Atlantic Ocean and has been spread around the world through salmon aquaculture,” said Dr. Gideon

Mordecai, a viral ecologist with UBC Science and researcher with UBC Medicine, who led the study.

The study shows that wild Chinook salmon are more likely to be infected with PRV the closer they are to salmon farms, which suggests farms transfer the virus to wild salmon. Further analysis of PRV genomes generated by the study suggested that there has been a growth in the number of PRV infections in BC over recent decades. This corresponds with the growth in BC salmon farms and high rates of viral infection in salmon farms.

“The PRV findings, in particular, support calls to transition from open-net

farming towards farming technology that doesn’t allow disease transfer between farmed and wild salmon, protecting BC’s wild Pacific salmon from serious risk in the process,” says study co-author Dr. Andrew Bateman, of the Pacific Salmon Foundation.



Dr. Emiliano Di Cicco and Dr. Andrew Bateman (co-authors of the study) sampling wild Pacific salmon. #DefendWildSalmon #ResistExtinction

Photo: Amy Romer



# Ocean Restoration within a Generation: What's Possible by 2050



Photo: Marcie Callewaert John @westcoastsoul

Orcas are one of the many species threatened by the proposed Trans Mountain pipeline expansion that would increase west coast oil tanker traffic by 700%.

**A** scientific review of the world's oceans published in the scientific journal *Nature* concluded that the world's oceans can be restored within a generation. Through rampant overfishing, pollution and coastal destruction, humanity has inflicted severe damage on the oceans and its inhabitants for centuries. But conservation successes, while still isolated, demonstrate the remarkable resilience of the seas.

The scientists say there is now the knowledge to create an ocean renaissance for wildlife by 2050 and with it bolster the services that the world's people rely on, from food to coastal protection to climate stability. The measures needed, including protecting large swathes of ocean, sustainable fishing and pollution controls, would cost billions of dollars a year. But the scientists insist benefits would be 10 times as high.

Among the success stories are humpback whales that migrate from Antarctica to eastern Australia, whose populations have surged from a few hundred animals in 1968, before whaling was banned, to more than 40,000 today. In the Baltic Sea, both grey seal and cormorant populations are soaring. While here in the Pacific, sea otters have risen from just dozens in 1980 to thousands now.

## Make Throwaway Go Away...

**W**hen we are asked "paper or plastic" that choice involves poisoning oceans with oil-based plastics or devastating forests. We have a better choice. It's time to move beyond single use paper and plastics to reusable and zero-water systems -- and make throwaway go away.

"Single use items are quite literally destroying oceans and forests," said Jeh Custer, Friends of Clayoquot Sound Campaigner. "It's time that all levels of government stepped in to end the age of single use for the good of the climate, the planet, and the people, plants, and animals who live on it."

Single use products - from packaging to food containers, to disposable cups and cutlery - have caused widespread damage to marine and ocean ecosystems and are responsible for mass deforestation and degradation of the world's forests. Single use items are also a key contributor to the 2 billion tonnes of waste that humans produce every year. That number is projected to increase 70% by 2050.

"We're depleting the very life support systems that we all need to survive, simply for the supposed convenience of single-use products," said Tamara Stark, Campaigns Director of Canopy, one of the authoring organizations of the joint position

paper. "We need to see radical change in how products are delivered to people, without the use of harmful and polluting packaging."

Friends of Clayoquot Sound joined Canopy Planet and 188 environmental movement allies from around the world in calling for an end to single use packaging as the United Nations Environmental Assembly discusses global sustainability. The joint call "From Single Use to Systems Change", highlights the massive impact that disposable products are having on the natural environment, wildlife, human health, and vulnerable communities and calls on leaders to bring about a much needed systemic change.

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

Send your donation to:

Friends of Clayoquot Sound

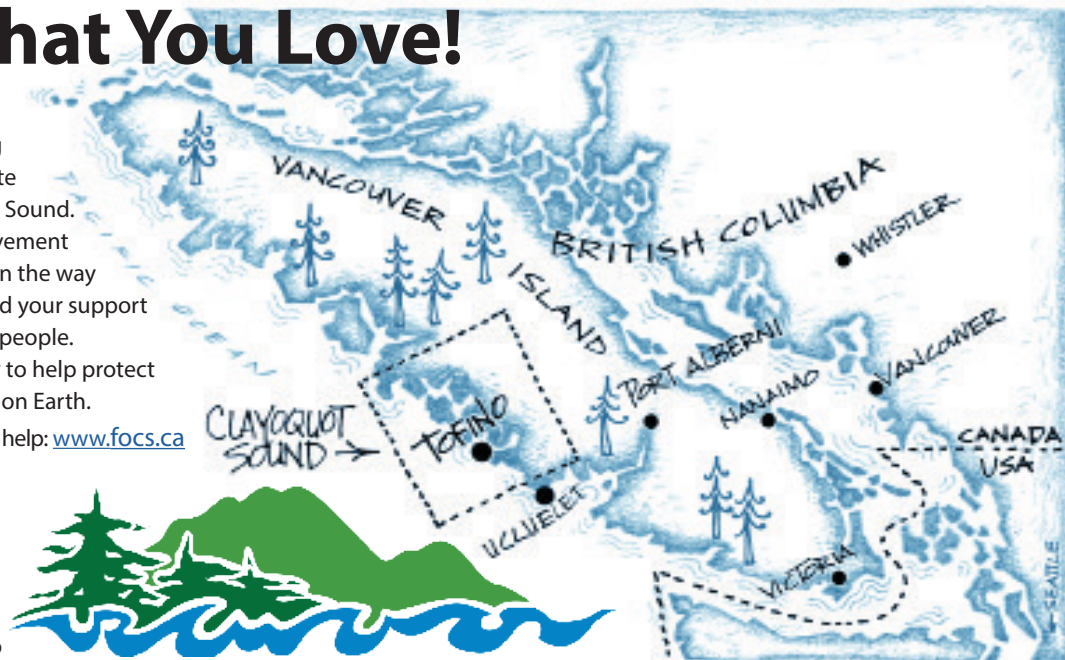
Box 489, Tofino, BC,

Canada V0R 2Z0

Phone: 250-725-4218

Office: 1160 Pacific Rim Hwy, Tofino

Email: [info@focs.ca](mailto:info@focs.ca) // Twitter: [@clayoquotfriend](https://twitter.com/clayoquotfriend) // Instagram: [@friendsofclayoquotsound](https://www.instagram.com/friendsofclayoquotsound)



## 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)

*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

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

Includes annual membership.

Monthly donation: ☐ \$10 ☐ \$40 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ Direct debit to my chequing account  
(please attach a VOID cheque)

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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 supporter!

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Annual donation: ☐ \$20 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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or

☐ MASTERCARD

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