



Hello, for those of you that missed my presentation this morning my name is Peter Luckham, I am a 28 year fulltime resident of Thetis Island, I have been elected 9 years now this is my fourth term and it is my honour and privilege to be elected by Trust Council to be the Chair. I thank you for the opportunity to speak today regarding Islands Trust and thank Bowen Island for hosting this forum and the Squamish Nation for having us in their territory.



Some of you know that I am a very active cold water diver and have splashed into Howe Sound a number of times, I can tell you, you can never get enough.

I joke that I have a deep commitment to marine advocacy, this is one of my photos of cloud sponge shot at 125 feet of Sea Water. There will be a few more underwater pictures in this presentation as it's late and I will need to keep your attention.

Mt. Artaban Nature Reserve



“The object of the Trust is to preserve and protect the Trust Area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the Trust Area and of British Columbia generally, in cooperation with municipalities, regional districts, improvement districts, other persons and organizations and the government of British Columbia.” **and First Nations.**

Bare with me a moment while I recap from my earlier presentation,



Again in the policy statement it says, To achieve its object, the Islands Trust must be an educator, coordinator, and initiator, guiding individuals, organizations and other agencies in support of the object.

While the Islands Trust can provide the necessary leadership, responsibility for stewardship of the Trust Area rests with many.

Seems like an octopus would be better suited with eight arms to manage the task.

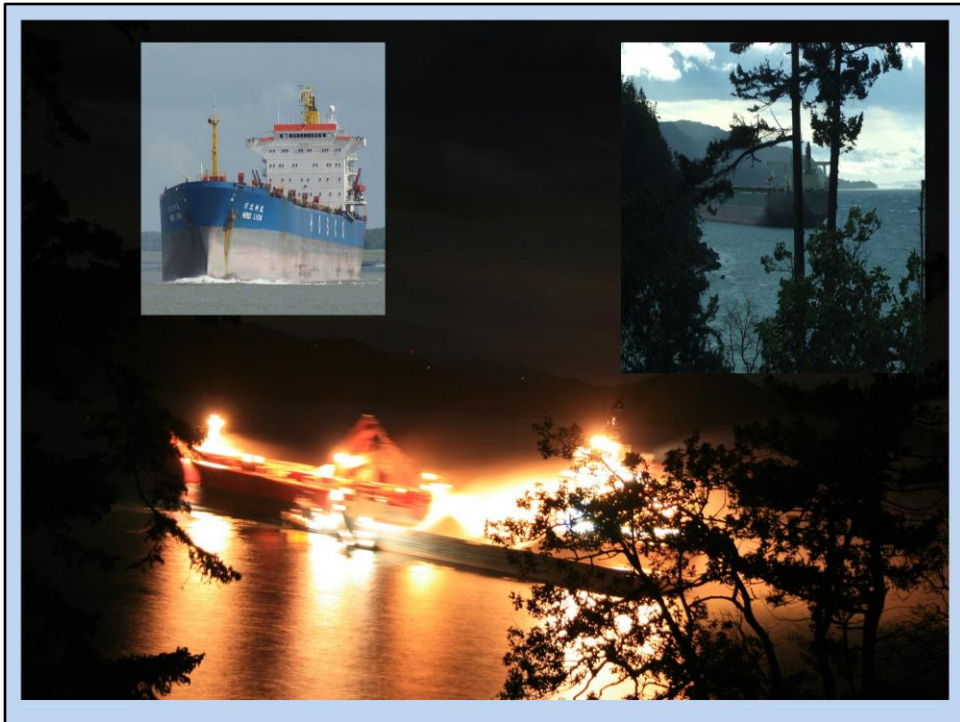


I remember back in the late 80's when many of us were supporting the Nisga'a Land Claims, the chief at the time had said that these were difficult times.

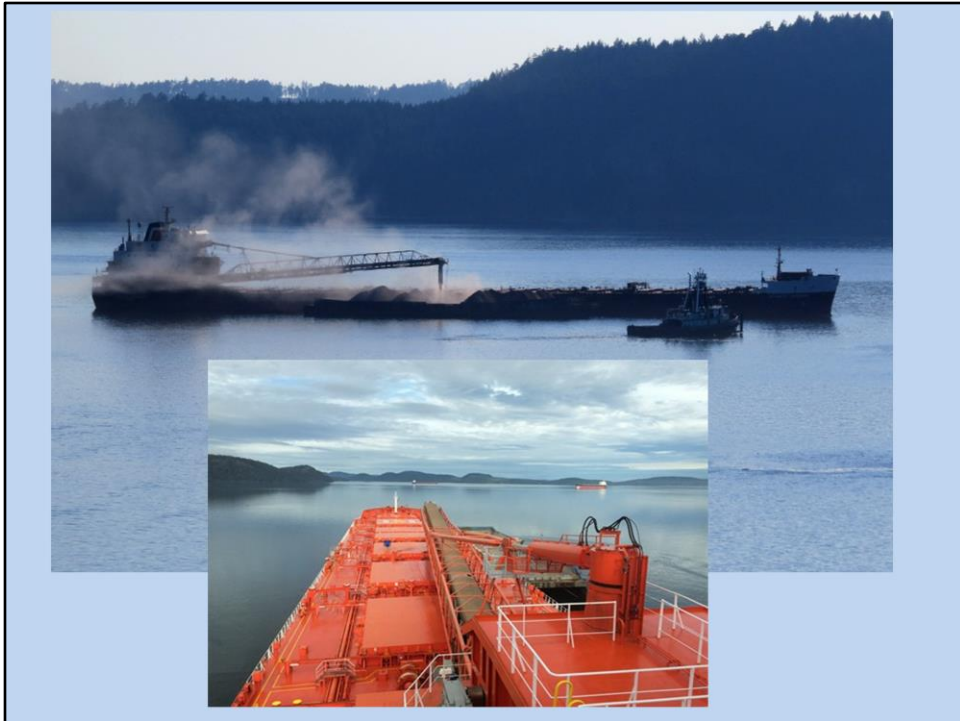
He explained that his people had seen a transition from war canoe to atomic bombs in a single generation.

I can not help but reflect that some are still paddling war canoes but the demon has now come to there territory.

The Nisga'a overcame and are now stronger for it, it was many people from many walks of life that supported them in collaboration and working with others.



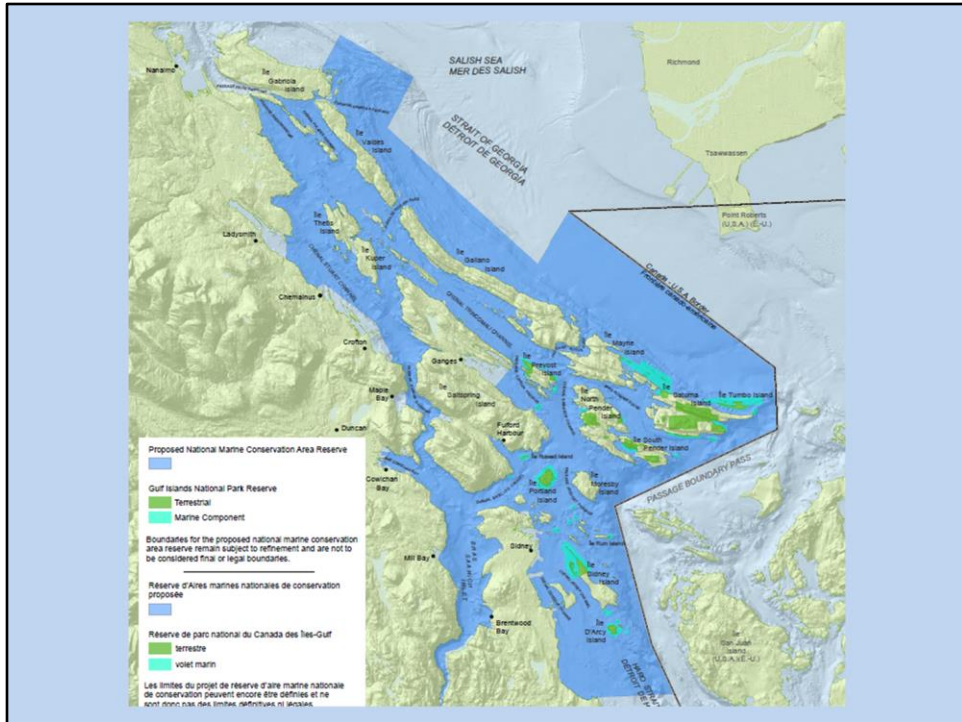
Tanker traffic, anchorage, materials offloading and transfer with associated noise and light.
This has been an issue and concern through out the southern gulf islands for years particularly Plumper Sound.



Anchorage are generally used by ships needing shelter while waiting for a berth at a nearby port to become available. In the top picture loading Gypsum is also a common activity. Advocating for change over a number of years regarding, “unbearable dust, noise and light” that was disrupting the tranquility of life and possible health for island residents. This year we have learned that new vessels have been constructed (bottom photo)with new standards for significantly reduced dust, noise and light. Also as a result of IT advocacy Mariners are reminded when arriving in the sound to minimize light and noise.



Advocacy can be as simple as a Trustee writing a letter, Jeanine Dodds advocated to the BC Geographical Names Office (FLNRO) on behalf of her island and Don Slinn of Mayne Island that the post office had been incorrectly named in 1900 when the name was officially changed from the original name of 1880, Plumper Pass Post Office to Mayne Post office, which omitted the word Island. Seems like a small thing but peoples mail was getting returned. MLA Murray Cole provided an “Official Proclamation” and we had cake.



Over the last decade, as part of the Islands Trust marine stewardship program, the Islands Trust, along with other local governments and allies such as the [Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society](#) and the [Georgia Strait Alliance](#), has been writing to and meeting with elected and paid officials of the agencies responsible for negotiating the proposed Southern Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area Reserve (NMCA). This resulted in an explanation of the proposed conservation area to all of the water surround the southern gulf Islands. This is still work in progress.



These stories are about successful approaches to Advocacy. At the Islands Trust, advocacy is the act of influencing and/or seeking cooperation with other agencies and decision-makers about laws, regulations, policies, programs, budgets, priorities, and other decisions relevant to the Islands Trust mandate.

So some of you are wondering what's with the fish pictures, well Porteau Cove which as I am sure many of you know is situated north of here and that Howe sound is considered the most southerly fjord in North America. Porteau Cove is a provincial park and a Marine protected area. This ling cod is an example of when appropriate protections are put in place Marine life can flourish. I have seen bigger ling cod in Porteau cove than many places I have dove on this coast.



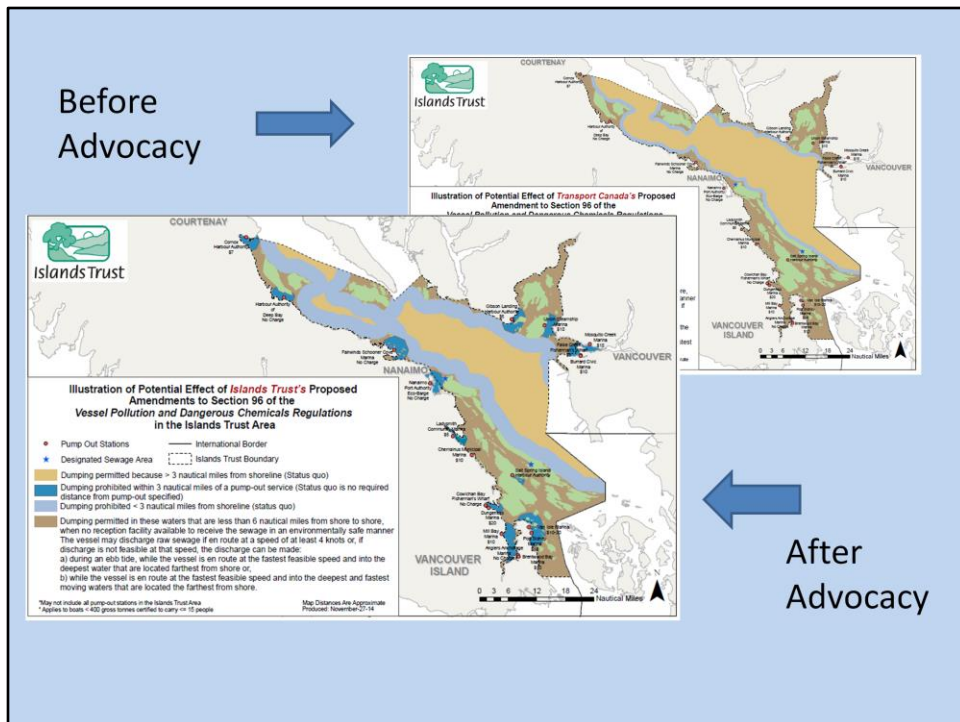
Generally, the Islands Trust attempts to create awareness and lead or encourage collaborative action:

Writing [letters](#) to decision-makers from a designated spokesperson, usually the Chair
Sponsoring resolutions and/or suggesting presentations at the annual conventions of
the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) and the Union
of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM)

Meeting with ministers and other decision-makers.

Derelict vessels issue is a good example of where we and other coastal governments
have taken this issue to AVICC & UBCM and ultimately to the Minister.

It is not resolved but nobody can say they don't know there is a problem.



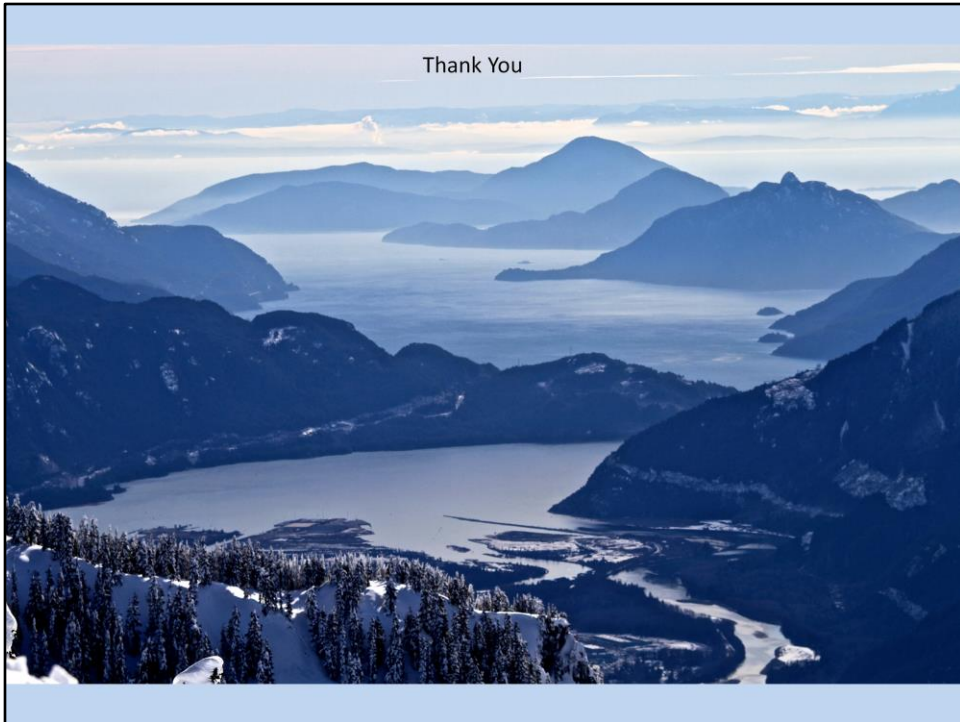
The Islands Trust Council [2011-14 strategic plan](#) includes strategies to advocate for: protection of the Salish Sea and Howe Sound from [oil spills](#), [derelict vessels](#), proposed coal mining and gravel projects, and sewage dumping by pleasure craft; [sustainable affordable and appropriate ferry service](#); and [provincial Water Act reform](#). Sewage dumping is a another case where we were able to provide credible information to stop proposals to weaken the regulation.



Islands Trust advocacy is guided by the Islands Trust Council's [Advocacy Policy](#). The Islands Trust [Policy Statement](#) (section 3.1.9) states that: "Trust Council encourages actions and programs of other government agencies which: place priority on the side of protection for Trust Area ecosystems when judgment must be exercised, protect the diversity of native species and habitats in the Trust Area, and prevent pollution of the air, land and fresh and marine waters of the Trust Area. We base all our advocacy on research, credible data and seek support from other agencies.

The [Islands Trust Act](#) empowers the Islands Trust to preserve and protect the Trust Area and its unique amenities and environment in cooperation with others.

Red Flabalina, a Sea slug



Protecting the extraordinary qualities of the Islands Trust Area requires the cooperation of residents, non-profit organizations and businesses along with multiple levels of government - indigenous, regional, provincial, and federal. Trust Council's advocacy program is dedicated to promoting the principles and goals of The Islands Trust Policy Statement and Strategic Plan - whether it be to ensure sustainable communities or to prevent ecological disasters.