

Discontinue the use of Southern BC Gulf Islands for parking of freighters

Whereas:

- Transport Canada’s Ocean Protection Plan implemented an “Interim Protocol [IP] for the use of Southern BC Anchorages on February 8, 2018;”
- IP does not address the *Root* causes – Pan-Canadian/North American supply chain inefficiencies between the Port of Vancouver and Transport Canada;
- Freighters sent to Southern Gulf Islands under IP are exporting thermal coal contrary to Paris Agreement (2016) ratified by Canada;
- Under the new protocol, freighters have been sent to park in the Southern Gulf Islands (SGI) (Salish Sea) despite available spots in higher density areas more accustomed to anchorages, i.e. Victoria, Nanaimo Harbour, and English Bay;
- The IP guidelines for anchorages have neither jurisdiction nor enforcement of offences;
- No emergency plan exists in SGIs to contain harmful substances, invasive species;
- The IP has de-facto transformed the SGIs into a long-term industrial parking lot, disregarding eco-sensitive areas, the environment and local socio-economic impacts;
- Upland owners in SGIs have rights to quiet enjoyment of their properties without bright lights and sounds disturbing sleep and industrial air pollution generated by the shipping industry. Such human rights are protected under Charter of Rights and Freedoms; also jurisdiction within Islands Trust and commercial anchoring within 1000 meters of land is contrary to Islands Trust zoning Bylaws (No. 42 (1998) & 89 (2011)).

We, the undersigned, residents of Canada, draw the attention of the House of Commons to the above and call upon the Government of Canada to provide urgently needed protection for our Southern Gulf Islands’ fragile and currently stressed ecosystems (terrestrial & marine) and socio-economics by suspending the Interim Protocol for the use of Southern BC Anchorages immediately and consulting further on a new protocol that discontinues the use of Southern Gulf Islands of BC for parking of freighters.

Name	Signature	Address (Full home address, or city and province, or province and postal code.)

