



'The disaster is not over for those of us who live and depend on the lands and waters'

# WE LAWYER UP



Photo: Williams Lake Tribune

## VOLUNTEER || Alan Churchill

"I've had the pleasure of working with Dan and Bonny for five years now, and volunteered with them through the inception of the amazing Clayoquot Action organisation. It is very rewarding to offer my help with computer support, video production, website design and social media. Not only do I get to work with awesome people doing things I enjoy, I also get to see the impacts of my work, which ultimately amounts to helping protect this stunning area of natural beauty."



If people could see what is going on in areas of the ocean used by Norwegian companies, it would not be happening. It is very rare for organizations to go to the lengths to do this. Great respect to Clayoquot Action.

—Alexandra Morton, independent biologist

In October, Clayoquot Action joined more than a dozen non-profit organizations including Amnesty International and Wilderness Committee in Williams Lake to support MiningWatch Canada's launch of private prosecution against Imperial Metals for their 2014 Mount Polley Mine disaster.

More than two years after Imperial spilled 25 million cubic metres of wastewater and mine tailings into Quesnel Lake, no fault has been found and no charges or penalties of any kind have been levied.

MiningWatch alleges that Imperial broke the Fisheries Act by "depositing deleterious substances into fish habitat" and "causing serious harm to fish".

Bev Sellars, the Chair of First Nations Women Advocating Responsible Mining (FNWARM) stated: "The (Mount Polley) disaster... is not over for those of us who live and depend on the lands and waters, and particularly on the salmon

that have always sustained us. Nor is it over for those living in the shadows of other existing and planned mines across BC, who are acutely aware of the government's own panel of experts who reported we can expect to see two more such failures every decade. What is the point of having laws if governments and industry are not held accountable when they are violated?"

Imperial Metals is considering development of two mines in Clayoquot Sound.

**Read more:**  
[ClayoquotAction.org/2016/10/mount-polley-legal](http://ClayoquotAction.org/2016/10/mount-polley-legal)



## RESEARCH || Beyond the Bloom

This spring Cermaq—a Norwegian-owned salmon farming company—had a mass die-off due to a harmful algal bloom. Algal blooms are made much worse by the tonnes of raw sewage, which pass through Cermaq's open-net pens directly into the waters of Clayoquot Sound.

Toxic algal blooms associated with intensive aquaculture operations have been recorded around the world, and can harm the entire marine food chain.

**Learn more! Check out our short video *Beyond the Bloom*: [www.youtube.com/user/ClayoquotAction](http://www.youtube.com/user/ClayoquotAction)**

**Please send a letter to Prime Minister Trudeau asking him to legislate removal of salmon farms from Canada's oceans: [ClayoquotAction.org/take-action/](http://ClayoquotAction.org/take-action/)**

# NO PIPELINES NO TANKERS NO PROBLEM



**Governments grant permits, only communities grant permission.**

— Justin Trudeau, 2014 interview

Kinder Morgan wants to 'twin' their existing TransMountain pipeline from the Alberta tar sands to the BC coast. This 'twinning' would result in a tripling of the amount of oil being delivered to Burnaby in unceded Tsleil-Waututh territory.

Because the increased capacity would be for export, there would be a 600% increase in oil tanker traffic through Vancouver's harbour.

Those tankers would pass within 50 kilometres of Long Beach on their passage to Asia. It's not a question of if there would be an oil spill, but when there would be an oil spill. The west coast of Vancouver Island is known as the Graveyard of the Pacific for good reason—hundreds of ships have ended up on the rocks.

Governments are woefully unprepared to clean up oil spills of any type or size. Residents of Clayoquot Sound learned this the hard way back in 1989 when a tiny oil spill off the Oregon coast ended up on the west coast of Vancouver Island.

While national, state and provincial governments bickered about who was responsible for cleaning the mess up, locals donned raingear and began picking up 56,000 dead seabirds and oil from the beaches of Clayoquot Sound. The Nestucca carried 5,500 barrels—modern tankers carry 1,000,000 barrels.

Canada made commitments at the Paris climate conference last December to do our part to keep global temperature increases to 1.5 degrees or less.

Science has clearly shown this means that 80% of known fossil fuel reserves must be left in the ground. New pipelines are not needed—it's time to develop clean energy industries and jobs.

'Wade in the Water' is a gospel song from the civil rights movement. Multi-layered in meaning, the song was an invitation to wade into the river of history—not just watch it pass you by.

It's time to wade in the water! This pipeline must not be built.

**DAN LEWIS || EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CLAYOQUOT ACTION**