

Paula Kusack

Subject: FW: Motion to stand with Coastal First Nations - re Tanker Ban and N.C. pipeline

From: David Quigg <DavidQ@Sierraclub.bc.ca>

Sent: December 4, 2025 12:51 PM

Subject: Motion to stand with Coastal First Nations - re Tanker Ban and N.C. pipeline

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Dear Mayor and Council,

Our coastal communities are connected, vital to our shared economy, and need protection from oil spills.

I'm writing to request that you table the motion: **Defend the North Coast Tanker Ban and Protect B.C.'s Coast** at the next Council meeting. Please find the motion [here](#) (recently passed by Saanich and Victoria).

Timing: Mark Carney and Danielle Smith have jointly agreed on a MOU for a new bitumen pipeline to the B.C. coast despite the opposition from Coastal First Nations and the B.C. Government. Alberta, as the current proponent of this pipeline, will present its plan for the pipeline to the Major Projects Office for expedited review by July 1.

Why: This motion reaffirms [Coastal First Nations](#), [local government](#), [BC government](#), [UBCM](#), and [Assembly of First Nations](#) support for the 2019 federal tanker ban on B.C.'s North Coast and calls on the federal governments to:

- Uphold and fully enforce the tanker ban to protect our shared coast
- Oppose any new northern oil pipelines and associated tanker traffic.
- Invest in clean, renewable energy that creates sustainable jobs and protects coastal ecosystems.

Tabling this motion would send a message to the Federal government, and show support for the BC government's position, that Coastal Communities support the hard-won North Coast tanker ban that **protects billions of dollars' worth of marine economy and invaluable ecosystems for all.**

In this link

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/14THca1feHRRxL1brQjzxf440VuShAGxIDI6XoWqsWzE/edit?usp=sharing>

please find:

- A draft motion
- Staff report summary
- Sample letters to PM Carney and Premier Eby

Supporting you

Sierra Club BC would be grateful to work with you to help get this important motion passed at council. Please get in touch with David Quigg: DavidQ@sierraclub.bc.ca

What support could look like:

- Community members writing to support the motion.

- Presenting at an upcoming council meeting on the importance of upholding the tanker ban and why it matters to all of us who share the coast.
 - A press release like [this one](#) for Saanich.
 - We could work together on quotes emphasizing why this is important to you and your community.
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Summary and Background

In 2019, after decades of public engagement and advocacy by Indigenous nations, local governments, community groups, and residents, the Government of Canada passed the Oil Tanker Moratorium Act (Bill C-48). This legislation prohibits large oil tankers carrying crude oil and certain persistent oils from docking, loading or unloading at ports along B.C.'s North Coast, including Haida Gwaii, Dixon Entrance, Hecate Strait and Queen Charlotte Sound.

Along with Coastal First Nations, the BC government has emphatically restated their [support](#) for the tanker ban saying, "Protecting our coast is not a barrier to economic prosperity – it is the source of it."

It is critical to protecting:

- Wild salmon, herring, halibut, and other fisheries that sustain coastal communities;
- Marine mammals, including orcas and humpback whales;
- The region's tourism and seafood industries; and
- Cultural and economic livelihoods of Indigenous nations and local communities.

Recently, Alberta Premier Danielle Smith and oil industry proponents have signalled renewed interest in proposing a northern oil pipeline, which would rely on tanker access to B.C.'s North Coast. This raises concerns about reversing hard-won environmental protections and increasing the risk of catastrophic oil spills.

Prime Minister Mark Carney has stated that a new pipeline project to B.C.'s North Coast is "highly, highly likely" to be deemed a nationally significant project. B.C. communities have consistently voiced strong opposition to oil tanker expansion on the North Coast, instead supporting clean energy solutions that create long-term, sustainable jobs without endangering marine ecosystems. P.M. Carney has stated he will not advance new pipeline projects in provinces that do not support them.

By adopting the attached motion your municipality or regional district would:

- Reaffirm local government commitment to protecting the unparalleled ecological and cultural value of B.C.'s North Coast;
 - Demonstrate support for Indigenous nations, local communities, and businesses who depend on healthy marine ecosystems; and
 - Urge the federal governments to uphold the North Coast tanker ban and reject new northern oil pipeline proposals.
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I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience about advancing this important [motion](#) and to keep track of the local governments joining the call for a spill-free coast.

Please keep me in the loop at DavidQ@sierraclub.bc.ca or 250-268-8995.

Thank you for your support in helping protect our shared coast for current and future generations.

With gratitude,

David



David Quigg

Organizer
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