

Distributed to AVICC Members August 1, 2013

Re: Invitation to Participate in Meeting with the Minister on Derelict Vessels

Please forward to your elected officials.

AVICC Executive appreciates the significant leadership provided by Islands Trust on the derelict vessels file. As only local governments are able to request meetings with ministers during the UBCM Convention, AVICC asked Islands Trust to initiate the request. We are pleased that they were willing to do so.

Following is an email from Islands Trust Chair Sheila Malcolmson inviting members to participate. As noted in the body of the email, please direct your response to cfrater@islandstrust.bc.ca by Monday, **August 12**.

Thank you.

From: Sheila Malcolmson
Sent: July-31-13 1:33 PM
To: iheskethboles@ubcm.ca
Cc: Lisa Gordon
Subject: Letter to AVICC members inviting participation in derelict vessel meeting with Minister

Dear AVICC friends; Hope summer is treating you well. At UBCM this year, Islands Trust Council will again be seeking solutions to derelict vessels. We've requested a meeting with Minister Thomson on the topic, and I'm inviting your expressions of interest to participate in such a meeting. Can you please let us know by August 12 if your government would like to participate? Please confirm to cfrater@islandstrust.bc.ca by Monday, August 12.

Given the limited number of seats, we may need to limit the number of participants. We don't yet have confirmation from the Minister's office about whether/when the meeting will happen, and will update you when we hear.

For background reading on the issue, this page summarizes Islands Trust Council's advocacy, much of it in partnership with AVICC: <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/trust-council/advocacy/marine-environment/abandoned-and-derelict-vessels.aspx>

Also at UBCM, Islands Trust Council with its member municipality Bowen Island Council is hosting a clinic on derelict vessels early Wednesday morning September 18 and welcome you to join us. Here's the description:

“Abandoned and derelict vessels, barges and docks have been a significant issue for BC communities for many years as they pose environmental contamination risks and safety hazards, and can be unsightly. It can be complicated to determine which level of government is responsible for the management and removal of such vessels and structures. Local governments are concerned that they are ill-equipped to respond. This session will summarize local government concerns about this issue, and present a new provincial publication that outlines the regulatory framework governing which agencies can act to deal with problem vessels and floating structures in different situations. The session will also include an update from Transport Canada about recent federal efforts to examine the issue. It will conclude with a question and answer period.”

Hope to see you there,

Sheila Malcolmson
Chair, Islands Trust Council
Gabriola Island Trustee
250-247-8078
<http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca>