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*September 19, 2014*

Sheila Malcolmson  
Chair, Islands Trust Council  
c/o Jas Chonk, Exec/TAS Secretary  
Email: [jchonk@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:jchonk@islandstrust.bc.ca)

Dear Ms. Malcolmson:

Thank you for your letter of July 9, 2014, regarding the Ministry of Environment's policy intentions paper on land-based spill preparedness and response in British Columbia.

The views of the Island Trust on this pressing issue are important and I appreciate the time you have taken to submit them directly to me. As you know, the Ministry of Environment has just concluded a public consultation process. We are encouraged by the submissions we have received to date, and look forward to taking time to review all the submitted comments so we can use them to inform the next steps in policy development.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your views with me. I have forwarded them to staff with the Environmental Emergency Program, who I have directed to explore and develop spill response policies.

Sincerely,

Mary Polak  
Minister