



Reference: 188211

**APR 02 2013**

Sheila Malcolmson  
Chair, Islands Trust Council  
200 – 1627 Fort Street  
Victoria BC V8R 1H8

Dear Ms. Malcolmson:

Thank you for your letter of February 8, 2013, also addressed to The Honourable Peter Kent, Minister of the Environment, supporting the Southern Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area Reserve (NMCAR).

As you are aware, the governments of British Columbia and Canada are currently engaged in consultations with local governments, First Nations and key stakeholders respecting the NMCAR proposal. The views of the Islands Trust Council noted in your letter will be given very careful consideration when the two governments make a determination as to whether a NMCAR in the southern Strait of Georgia is feasible and desirable.

I greatly appreciate the efforts that the Islands Trust Council has made to constructively engage in the feasibility assessment process. Thank you for taking the time to inform me of your views on this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Terry Lake  
Minister of Environment

cc: The Honourable Peter Kent, PC, MP, Minister of the Environment