



Reference: 419708

*April 7, 2026*

Their Worship Mayor Ryan Windsor  
and Councillors  
District of Central Saanich  
1903 Mount Newton Cross Road  
Saanichton BC V8M 2A9

Sent via Email: ryan.windsor@csaanich.ca

Dear Mayor Windsor and Council:

Thank you for your letter of February 17, 2026, regarding your concerns around vessel stays and mooring practices in Tod Inlet.

Under the *Park Act*, BC Parks' enforcement authority with respect to vessels is limited to situations in which boats are overstaying the maximum allowable 14-day visitor use period within a calendar year inside a provincial park. BC Parks conducts patrols to monitor vessel length of stay and initiates enforcement action against vessels documented to have exceeded this limit. The *Park Act* also prohibits the unauthorized placement of structures and the storage of personal property within a provincial park. As such, the installation or use of a private mooring buoy without authorization constitutes a contravention of the Act.

Where concerns extend beyond this scope and involve navigation safety, marine pollution, or environmental protection, jurisdiction rests with the federal government through legislation including the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001*. The Canadian Coast Guard, under Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Transport Canada are the lead federal agencies with primary responsibility for derelict vessels in navigable waters under the *Wrecked, Abandoned or Hazardous Vessels Act* and the *Canadian Navigable Waters Act*. BC Parks participates in inter-agency coordination with these federal partners to address vessels of concern located within park boundaries, in alignment with each agency's respective mandate.

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While compliance efforts within Tod Inlet over the summer were successful, ongoing monitoring and enforcement remain necessary to sustain compliance and are prioritized as resources allow. In recent weeks, BC Parks has initiated enforcement action related to vessel overstays and an unauthorized mooring placement within the park. We have also engaged with Transport Canada and the RCMP to address broader compliance concerns in Tod Inlet, including abandoned and derelict vessels. Through these coordinated efforts, the majority of identified issues have been resolved, and we are actively working through the required processes to address the remaining few.

Thank you again for your advocacy and for your continued interest in the protection of Tod Inlet. Please be assured that environmental stewardship of provincial parks remains a priority.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tamara Davidson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tamara Davidson  
Minister of Environment and Parks

cc: Honourable Lana Popham, MLA, Saanich South  
Nareka Jacques, Administrative Coordinator, Corporate Services, District of Central Saanich