

University of Victoria

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1 April 97

TO: Clayoquot Workshop Participants

FROM: Warren Magnusson and Karena Shaw

We would like to thank you all for your positive response to our plans so far.

As you know, this Workshop is designed to facilitate new thinking: not only about the Clayoquot experience, but also about similar experiences elsewhere in the world. Your hosts are political theorists, with an interest in a wide range of questions about identity, territory, culture, community, scientific knowledge, and the possibilities of contemporary politics. In structuring the program for the Workshop, we have put questions of political theory at the centre. We will be doing our best to keep them there.

Remember that this is **not** the place to solve the problems of Clayoquot Sound or to develop new political strategies. The people attending the Workshop are from various backgrounds and they have quite different interests in the issues -- some practical, others theoretical. Towards the end of the Workshop, there will be time for those who have particular policy concerns or political commitments to talk with sympathetic people about paths forward. However, for most of the weekend, our attention will be focused on less immediate issues. We hope that both activists and scholars will take this as an opportunity to step back from pre-conceived concerns and explore some new ideas with a congenial group of people. We look forward to a relaxed, free-flowing, but challenging set of discussions.

As you may imagine, our ideas about program organization keep evolving. We have now settled on the plan attached. You should review it with care, since it may have some effect on your plans for the weekend.

Please note especially the topics of the discussion groups for Saturday, May 10th. We invite all participants -- but especially the academic participants -- to send us a **paragraph** by E-Mail, in which you indicate what you think the main issues are with respect to **one** of the topics indicated. (The document list under each heading is intended to help you identify such issues.) **Please do so by April 21st at the latest.** We will collate these responses and send them out to all the participants. If this process works as we expect -- and we will nag you if it doesn't -- we will have several different views of the appropriate topics for discussion, for each of the groups indicated. Each group will have co-facilitators, who will use these written submissions to get things started. We have left things even more open on Sunday. If you are bringing your family with you, please note some of the arrangements for their benefit.