



2025–2026

Annual Report

Research • Relationships • Impact



In this report

Clear Seas’ work: why it matters, what we do, how we work to advance research, relationships and better marine decisions in Canada



Why it matters

Impact • Opportunity • Engagement • Milestones • Reach

What we do

Research Topics • Indigenous Internship Program • Partnerships • Indigenous Marine Career Advancement Program • Shipping and Ocean Conservation Integration Program • Convening Stakeholders

How we work

10th Anniversary • Reconciliation • Governance • People • Funding • Partnership Opportunities

A year of research, relationships and opportunities

A snapshot of Clear Seas’ work across research, Indigenous programs, training and communications

20

Indigenous interns

95

marine career training graduates

40+

First Nations communities engaged

3

research reports published

180+

networking event participants

115K

website users

Clear Seas is filling knowledge gaps, connecting with stakeholders and building trust from coast to coast to coast

Why this work matters

Canada's ability to diversify global trade depends on a safe, efficient and trusted marine transportation system



Growing pressure

Major investments in trade corridors are underway, while data gaps, stakeholder alignment and public trust remain important considerations.

Independent evidence

Clear Seas fills knowledge gaps with fact-based research on marine shipping safety, environmental impacts and emerging issues.

Relationships that matter

Our programs connect research with Indigenous communities, industry, government, researchers and the public.

Research + people + communication

Clear Seas' programs interconnect to improve understanding of marine shipping issues and support Indigenous participation in decision-making



• **OUTCOME** •

**Better understanding of marine shipping issues,
with more Indigenous leadership and
participation in the marine sector**



Milestones across the year

A year of new research, community engagement, convening and our 10-year anniversary

APR–JUN

Coastal Zone Canada conference •
new cohort of 12 Indigenous interns
• research launch: Pacific Vessel
Traffic Forecast

JUL–SEP

10-year anniversary • research
activity with workshops and webinars

OCT–DEC

Networking events • Senate
recognition • research launch: Ship
Design Technologies • new cohort of
8 interns

JAN–MAR

SOC-I community workshops •
marine risk convening



Knowledge people use

Clear Seas engages audiences through research, digital channels, newsletters, webinars and in-person events

115,000

website users

3,882

report downloads

~2,400

newsletter subscribers

642

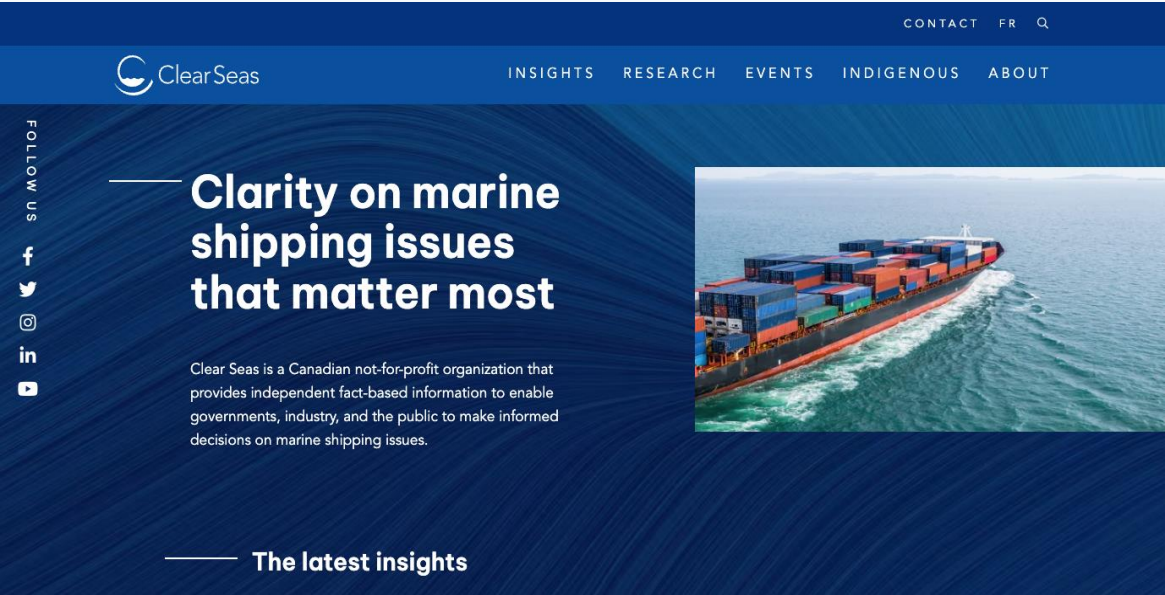
webinar participants

13

articles published

TOP VIEWED CONTENT

- Shipping in the Great Lakes
- Vessel Traffic Forecast to 2040 for Canada’s Pacific
- Oil Spill Response
- Ship Waste Management
- Celebrating Clear Seas at 10 Years



Evidence for marine decisions

Research in FY2026 examined oil movement by ship, new technologies for sustainable ship design, and capital investment strategies for ports

CRUDE OIL MOVEMENT BY SHIP

Analysis showing how much crude oil is moved by tanker in Canada and where it moves.

SUSTAINABLE SHIP DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Understanding what environmental impact reduction technologies are available for ships and how to select them.

INCREASING CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN PORTS

Findings from international case studies identify ways for ports to invest in infrastructure for resilient, efficient, and future ready marine operations.

Research is conducted with academic and industry partners to fill key maritime knowledge gaps



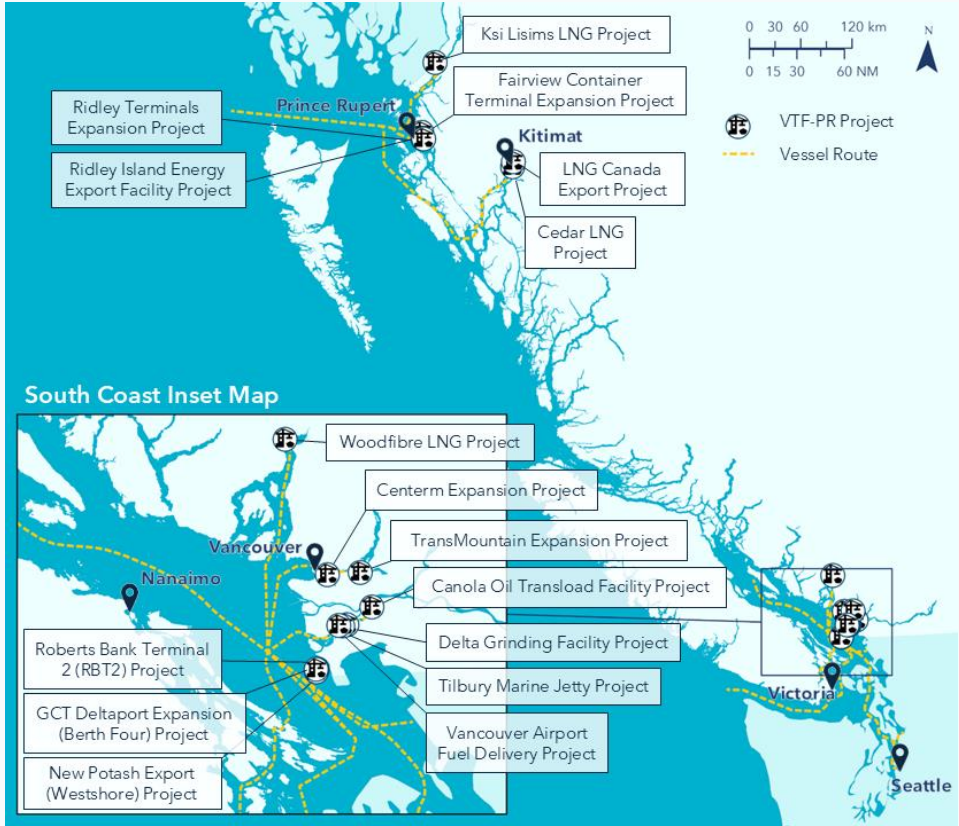
From shipping risk to innovation

Clear Seas’ work spans interconnected questions about marine safety, environmental performance, and the future of shipping

01	Shipping Safety & Risk	Emergency towing • traffic forecasting • Canadian marine shipping risk forum
02	Pollution & Waste	Oil spill risk • underwater radiated noise • ship waste
03	Reconciliation & Traditional Knowledge	Indigenous-led research • Traditional Knowledge • community priorities
04	Technology & Innovation	Ship design • pilotage technologies • green hydrogen • decarbonization
05	Economy & Workforce	Capital investment solutions for ports • inclusive maritime careers

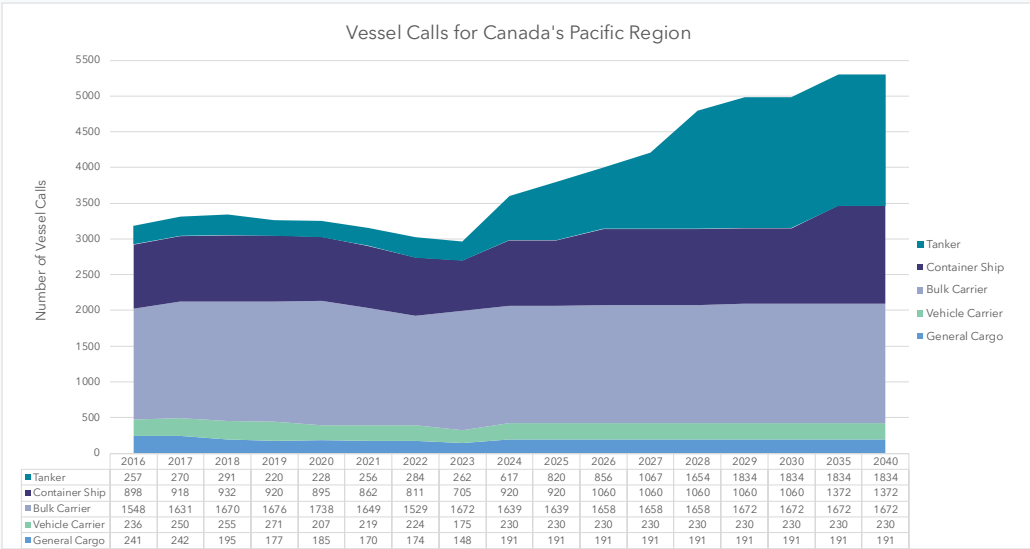
Vessel traffic forecasting for Canada’s Pacific region

Understanding how planned projects could change marine traffic patterns helps communities and decision-makers be prepared



UP TO **5,299** additional vessels

Projected in the Pacific region to 2040 based on projects planned and underway — representing up to 60% growth



Vessel Traffic Forecast for the St. Lawrence & Great Lakes Region is also underway

Indigenous-led research: supported and connected

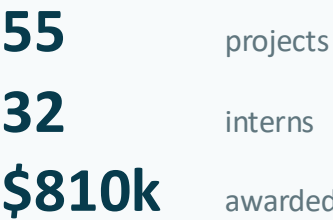
The program supports Indigenous-led research on marine issues through mentorship, funding and community connection



**Cohort totals shown in the source report; community and partner counts may include overlap between cohorts.*



PROGRAM IMPACT TO DATE



18 Indigenous community partners | 26 supporting organizations

Questions rooted in community and place

Projects explored environmental, cultural, safety and workforce questions across marine and coastal contexts

MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

Whale strike mitigation
Marine protected areas
Salmon population mapping
Abundance patterns

CULTURE & COMMUNITY

Traditional harvesting practices
Cultural teachings as calls to action
Community connections
Revitalization on displaced lands

SAFETY & RESPONSE

Safety on the ice
Emergency response to coastal issues
Marine activity and food fish
Cumulative effects and waterways

PEOPLE & WORKFORCE

Inclusive hiring in the maritime sector
People and the maritime industry
Indigenous marine-based curriculum
Tsleil-Waututh women, canoeing & shipping



Learning moves beyond the project

Interns built skills, relationships and opportunities to share their work



SKILLS THAT TRAVEL

Interns developed GIS, research, storytelling and presentation skills they can carry into future work.

RECOGNITION

Intern work reached new audiences through conferences, publications and the Vancouver International Film Festival.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Projects paired interns with Indigenous communities and organizations around questions rooted in place.

MARINE KNOWLEDGE

Interns combined Indigenous knowledge with marine data, policy and community priorities.

Partnership makes the internship program possible

Clear Seas has built a funding and delivery network around Indigenous research opportunities



PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Vancouver Island University • North Island College • University of Windsor • University of Calgary
Ocean Tracking Network • Pacific Salmon Foundation • Coastal Nations Coast Guard Auxiliary • Raincoast Conservation Foundation

 ClearSeas

From Knowledge to Impact:
Indigenous-Led Projects in Action

Indigenous Internship Program (IIP)

2024 Cohort Report

 11 interns

 10 projects

 \$110,000
in research stipends

The Indigenous Internship Program

The Indigenous Internship Program (IIP) is an initiative to facilitate inclusive Indigenous-led knowledge sharing that prioritizes Indigenous community concerns, incorporates Traditional Knowledge, and builds internal

A snapshot from Kayah's documentary



 ClearSeas

From Knowledge to Impact:
Indigenous-Led Projects in Action

Indigenous Internship Program (IIP)

Cummulative Report

 Total internships to date
55 projects

 Total interns to date
32 interns

 Total awarded to date
\$810,000

18

Indigenous Communities

Partners

- Tsleil-Waututh Nation
- Squamish Nation
- Snuneymuxw First Nation
- WSÁNEĆ First Nation
- Kwiahah First Nation
- Heiltsuk Nation

Building pathways into marine careers

Indigenous Marine Career Advancement Program provides entry, reskilling and upskilling opportunities with wrap-around career support

95

trained (target 60)

20

employed (target 45)

6

enrolled in career coaching

8

receiving wage subsidies

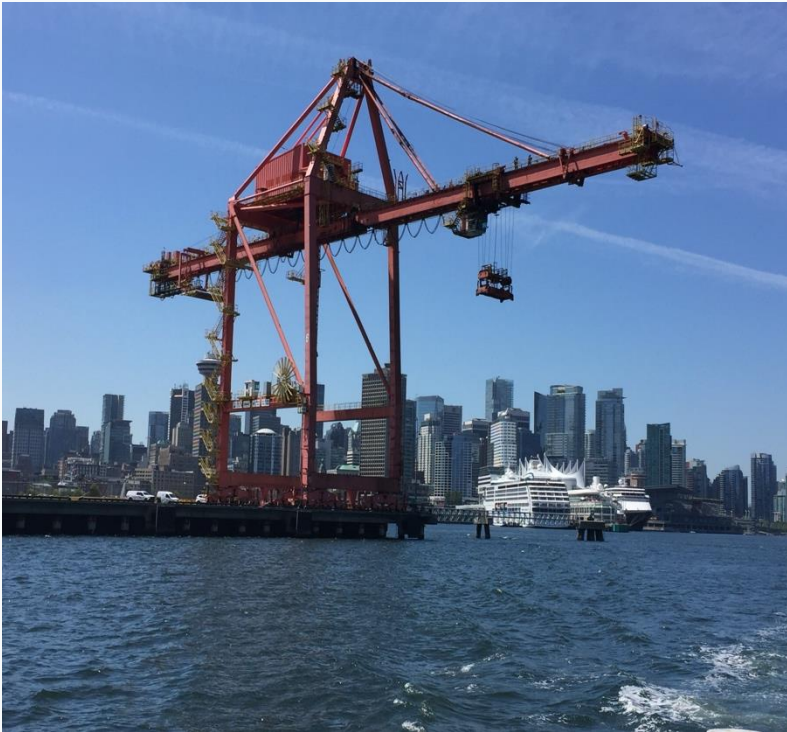
Training Areas:

- Small Vessel Operator’s Permit
- Marine & Environmental Monitoring
- Shipbuilding & Entry-Level Repair
- Foundational Management
- Guardians
- Individual Pathways



Training connected to community and industry

FY2026 training was delivered with partners in multiple communities and institutions



CAMOSUN

14 participants • Ship Repair Entry-Level Training

COASTAL RESTORATION SOCIETY

21 participants • Small Vessel Operator Permit

NANWAKOLAS TRIBAL COUNCIL

20 participants • Foundational Management

NUXALK NATION / UBC

1 participant • Individual pathway

Employers include Seaspan Shipyards, First Nations communities, nonprofits and SMEs

Marine shipping knowledge shaped with communities

Shipping and Ocean Conservation Integration Program combined engagement, data and community priorities

6

workshops

40+

First Nations communities engaged

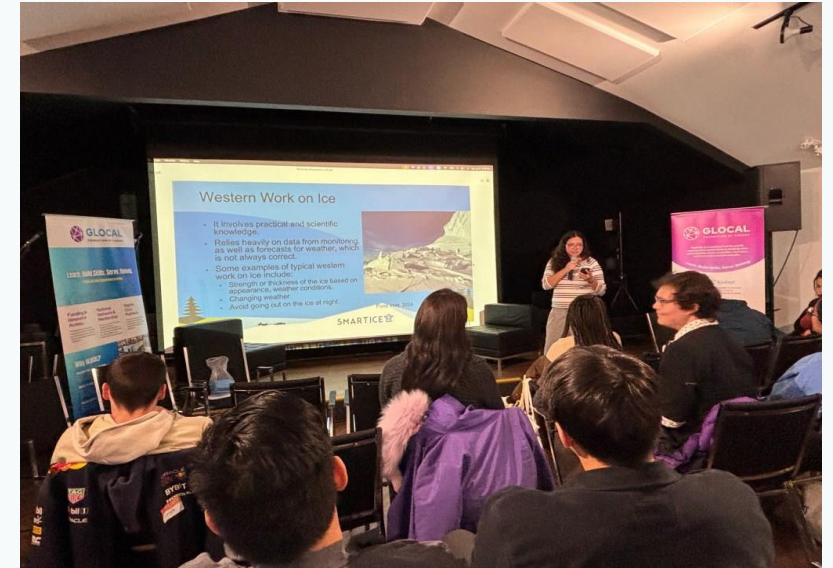
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deep-dive research projects

IMPACT

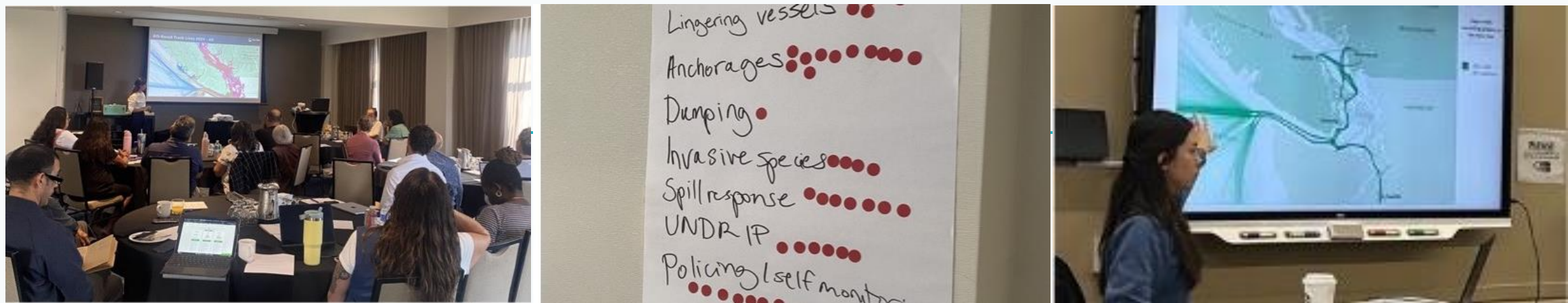
Community-led marine research and monitoring for

- stronger capacity
- co-developed priorities
- relationships across BC, the North and beyond



From conversations to community-led research

The program connects marine shipping data with community knowledge, priorities and next steps



Deep dives into community priorities

Four research projects spanning BC's coastline and connect shipping questions with monitoring and stewardship



- Oil tanker traffic & anchorage use
- Autonomous vessel monitoring for pollution & water quality
- Cameras to track non-AIS vessels
- Marine surveys & training
- Anchorage use & vessel traffic trend analysis

Sharing knowledge and building relationships

Clear Seas creates spaces to connect evidence, community perspectives and marine-sector expertise

180+

participants at networking events

8

conference presentations

5

shipping risk webinars & workshops

3

networking events hosted



10 years – from marine issues to research + relationships + capacity

Clear Seas has evolved while maintaining its core role as an independent source of marine shipping information



A decade of building independent marine knowledge — and increasingly connecting that knowledge with people, communities and opportunities

Reflected in how we work

Clear Seas’ reconciliation approach includes UNDRIP, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action and ongoing relationship-building

RELATIONSHIPS

Strengthened relationships with Indigenous communities, leaders and advisors through ongoing engagement and dialogue.

LEARNING

Supported staff participation in Indigenous cultural events, gatherings and learning opportunities.

SECTOR AWARENESS

Increased awareness within the marine sector on Indigenous perspectives, histories and reconciliation.

ADVOCACY

Addressed racism experienced within the banking sector through advocacy and education-focused engagement.



Independent oversight and advice

Clear Seas is supported by a Board of Directors, Research Advisory Committee and Indigenous Advisory Network

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

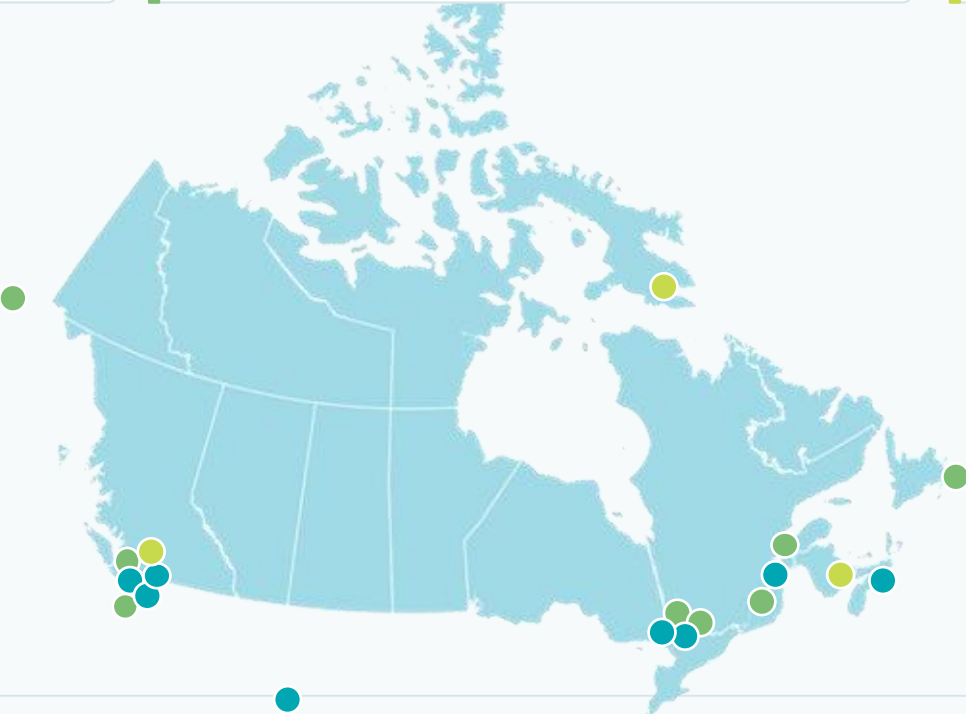
Aldo Chircop • Ginny Flood • Julie Gelfand • Serge Le Guellec (Chair) • Richard Sparrow • Anthony Teo • Jane Weldon (Vice-Chair) • Alexa Young

RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Erin Abou-Abssi • Donald Bouchard • Alain Brophy • Gary Drouillard • Capt. Chris Hearn (Chair) • Debbie Murray • Capt. Ivan Oxford • Francis Wiese (Vice-Chair)

INDIGENOUS ADVISORY NETWORK

Udloriak (Udlu) Hanson • Ken Paul • Maureen Thomas



The team behind the work

Clear Seas works from offices in Vancouver and Montréal, with team members located across four provinces

TEAM MEMBERS

Andrea Mitchell-Rozario | Finance and Operations Manager • Charlene Seward | Community Relationships Manager • Clara Kaufmann | Research Manager • Jean-François Veilleux | Communications Manager • Jennifer Steele | Director of Special Projects • Lee Barrett-Lennard | Research Lead • Maia Reynard | Indigenous Program Lead • Meghan Mathieson | Director of Strategy and Engagement • Paul Blomerus | Chief Executive Officer • Rachel Stewart-Dziama | Research Lead • Sarah Thomas | Chief Operating Officer • Stephanie Hurlburt | Indigenous Program Lead



A diversified funding model

Clear Seas draws support from government, industry, port authorities, research partners and other sources



Five-year average annual revenue by source (rounded)

Key sources include:
Canadian Port Authorities, Transport Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Canadian Coast Guard, PacifiCan, Canada’s Ocean Supercluster, National Research Council, and MEOPAR.

Where collaboration can go next

Clear Seas’ existing programs provide clear platforms for funders and partners to contribute expertise, relationships and investment

SHIPPING RISK & TRAFFIC

Build evidence on vessel traffic, anchorage, emergency response and emerging risks

INDIGENOUS-LED RESEARCH

Support internships, community priorities and pathways for Indigenous researchers

COMMUNITY MARINE KNOWLEDGE

Support workshops, monitoring, Mapping Marine Traffic and knowledge mobilization

The strongest partnerships connect a clear marine challenge with the right evidence, people and delivery partners





LET'S WORK TOGETHER

Research. Relationships. Better marine decisions.

Clear Seas provides independent, fact-based information to support informed decisions on marine shipping issues.

clearseas.org

