



## BC Maritime Employers Association

### **BC MARITIME EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATION STEPS FORWARD TO ADVANCE PRINCE RUPERT TRAIL NETWORK MAINTENANCE**

October 13, 2021

PRINCE RUPERT, BRITISH COLUMBIA — The BC Maritime Employers Association today announced a \$3,000 contribution to the Kaien Island Trail Enhancement and Recreation Society for the maintenance of recreational trails in the Prince Rupert and Port Edward area.

“We recognize the importance of accessible, trail-based recreation to residents of Prince Rupert and Port Edward,” said Mike Leonard, President & CEO of the BC Maritime Employers Association “Through the hard work of the Kaien Trails Society and its partner agencies, routes like the Rushbrook Trail have been restored and have become extremely popular. Day in and day out, we support BC trade and labour, but we also know how important it is to invest in the communities where our waterfront workforce lives.”

The BC Maritime Employers investment will help fund the professional protection and maintenance of existing trails on Kaien Island.

The Kaien Trails Society was formed in 2016 with the launch of a master plan for interconnected trails that integrates many existing routes that had fallen into disrepair or disuse. In 2017, together with the Rotary Club of Prince Rupert, the Prince Rupert Port Authority and other partners, the waterfront Rushbrook route was restored and re-opened to public foot traffic. Other trail restoration projects are currently being planned by the Society.

“The support of the BC Maritime Employers Association means that trails like Rushbrook will get the ongoing maintenance they need, when they need them,” said Sean Carlson, President of the Kaien Island Trail Enhancement and Recreation Society. “We recognize that safe trail access is an integral part of a healthy lifestyle. Sometimes Prince Rupert’s extreme climate deals us challenges to their accessibility, but the BCMEA is helping us move mountains.”

Kaien Trail is a volunteer-run organization that is led by a local board of directors. In addition to trail planning and development, it engages third-party contractors for regular trail maintenance like debris removal, brushing, and infrastructure upgrades.

The B.C. Maritime Employers Association provides advisory services in human resources to approximately 49 waterfront employers and the more than 9,400 men and women who work for them. BCMEA members with operations in the Prince Rupert region include DP World, Pinnacle Renewable Energy Inc, Western Stevedoring, Empire Grain Stevedoring and Tidal Transport and Trading.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Michael Gurney  
Media Liaison, BC Maritime Employers Association  
Email: [michael@michaelgurney.com](mailto:michael@michaelgurney.com)  
Phone: 778 884-4954

Sean Carlson  
President, Kaien Island Trail Enhancement and Recreation Society  
Email: [patrick.sean.carlson@gmail.com](mailto:patrick.sean.carlson@gmail.com)  
Phone: (604) 828-0214

