

Ucluelet Aquarium  
PO Box 1262  
180 Main Street  
Ucluelet, BC, V0R 3A0



September 28th 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to affirm our support for the continued designation of the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Region, established in 2000.

Our mission here at the Ucluelet Aquarium (UA) is to raise awareness about local marine biodiversity and promote respect for the ocean environment. We welcome visitors from all around the world treating them to a very personal view of the fish and invertebrates from our local waters in Clayoquot and Barkley Sounds. We strive to create an ethically and environmentally sustainable facility while encouraging education and appreciation of marine ecosystems. The designation of the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Region is deeply rooted in our values and beliefs as a collect-and-release aquarium.

Our region has worked together for the past decade to advance the objectives of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve program in our region. As a partner of the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust, our organization has been able to contribute to achieving the objectives of sustainable development, biodiversity conservation and reconciliation, through education, research and collaboration such as: Co-leading sustainable development and biodiversity conservation projects including initiatives such as Be-A-Better-Beach-Goer, a project which has educated thousands of visitors on how to enjoy our majestic coastline responsibly.

Alongside public education, the UA completes research projects including the first project of its kind in British Columbia to scientifically monitor microplastic pollution in coastal sediments. We are learning about the distribution and type of microplastic pollution on our coast with the help of citizen scientists and support from the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Trust. This project has helped promote the use of alternative eco-friendly materials and the initiative to ban the use of single use plastics here on the coast.

Through participation and partnership with West Coast N.E.S.T we have been able to further develop and promote education tourism opportunities and programs. We also welcome school groups of all sizes from across Canada, educating and getting people excited about everything the ocean has to offer.

We are proud to support the continued Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere designation, and look forward to participating in the next ten years of activities in our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick Schroeder".

*Patrick Schroeder*  
Curator  
Ucluelet Aquarium Society  
250-726-2782