



Ahousaht First Nation
General Delivery
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To Whom it may concern:

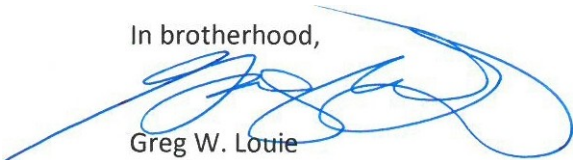
In January 2000, a large portion of the Ahousaht traditional territory was recognized internationally with the designation of the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Region (CSUBR). This designation is an acknowledgement of our shared values of biodiversity conservation, sustainable development and reconciliation. This letter is to affirm support for the continued designation of the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Region by the Ahousaht Council.

Ahousaht supported the initial application for the UNESCO Biosphere designation and continues to work together with partners of the Clayoquot Sound Biosphere partners to advance the objectives of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve program. We are working together to achieve the objectives of sustainable development, biodiversity conservation and reconciliation, through education, research and collaboration such as:

- participating the CBT board of directors to provide direction on CBT programs, initiatives, funding and events;
- Arlene Paul has participated in a number of national Biosphere meetings and contributed to the formation of the Indigenous Circle for Biosphere Reserves in Canada;
- support for projects such as youth leadership programs and camps, and other community wellness programs;
- participating in programs and events that develop cross-cultural understanding and advance reconciliation such as Leadership Vancouver Island;
- receiving annual research report from the Sydney Inlet Cabin and Remote Listening Station project which is, in part, developing education curriculum for Maaqtusiis Highschool based on the acoustic ecology and soundscape analysis
- developing education tourism opportunities through participation in the West Coast N.E.S.T.,
- participating in the delivery of the Royal Roads University Sustainability & the Biosphere Field School as local knowledge holders and instructors;
- support for our youth to further their education including field trip funding, post-secondary scholarships and unique travel opportunities; and
- participating in training and capacity building programs such as the Art of Hosting, First Responder, Emergency Operations Management and Critical Incident Stress Management.

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

In brotherhood,



Greg W. Louie
Chief Councillor