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October 16th, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to provide my full and unqualified support for the continued designation of the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Region in my riding of Courtenay-Alberni.

This region was established in 2000 and has worked effectively to advance the objectives of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve program, including: sustainable development, biodiversity conservation and reconciliation, through education, research.

Its Board of Directors and staff are known to me personally and I can attest to their expertise and commitment to excellence in governance, program development and operational management. The region is well known throughout the community and has the support of First Nations, local and regional governments, the business community and the general public.

I am grateful for the support and assistance of this Region in the organization of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserves Day on the Hill, which I founded to bring increased awareness to the UNESCO Biosphere movement in Canada.

The assistance of Executive Director Rebecca Hurwitz has been invaluable towards making this event such a resounding success for the last three years and is an example of the innovative work by the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Region.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if clarification or elaboration is required concerning this letter of support for the continued designation of this Biosphere Region.

Yours truly,

Gord Johns, Member of Parliament for Courtenay-Alberni