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Ms. Rebecca Hurwitz
Executive Director, Clayoquot Biosphere Trust

Dear Rebecca,

I am writing to indicate my strong support for the Clayoquot Biosphere Region to continue as a part of UNESCO's international network of biosphere reserves. As an ecologist, independent consultant, and writer, I have had the good fortune to visit and work in 34 biosphere reserves in 17 countries. As you know, I visited Tofino and the Clayoquot Sound area in 2018, as part of my background research for a book about the Cascade Head Biosphere Reserve in Oregon, *The View from Cascade Head: Lessons for the Biosphere from the Oregon Coast*, which was published last month by the Oregon State University Press. During my visit to the Clayoquot region, I was extremely impressed with the breadth and strengths of the partnerships you have built with Canadian federal agencies, First Nations, researchers, and local organizations. Those relationships provide a model for US biosphere reserves such as Cascade Head. The important research that has been undertaken in and around the Clayoquot Biosphere Reserve, such as that on the Pacific Feeding Group of gray whales, provides important information for the conservation of this species along the Oregon Coast. Your emphasis on a sustainable and healthy local economy are admirable. And your communications and outreach efforts allow other biosphere reserves in the UNESCO network to learn from your experiences.

I congratulate you on your good work and success in the Clayoquot region, and look forward to continuing to learn from your experiences in the future.

Sincerely,

Bruce Byers