

Rebecca Hurwitz
Clayoquot Biosphere Trust
Tofino, BC
Canada

Dear Rebecca Hurwitz,

18 November 2020

Re: Support for Clayoquot Biosphere Designation

We are writing in response to the recent request from Clayoquot Biosphere Trust (CBT) to the Clayoquot Salmon Roundtable for support of the renewal of the Clayoquot Biosphere Designation. Cermaq Canada agrees to support the continued UNESCO Biosphere Region designation and priorities; to foster the harmonious integration of people and nature for sustainable development, biodiversity conservation, and reconciliation—by encouraging dialogue, sharing knowledge, reducing poverty, increasing human well-being, respecting cultural values, and enhancing capacity to cope with climate change (World Network of Biosphere Reserves).

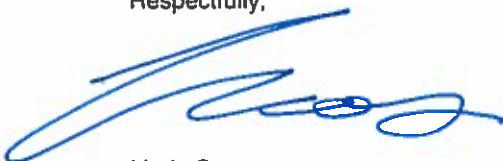
Cermaq Canada is working to align our operations with the United Nations Sustainability Goals (SDGs), specifically Goals 2,8,12,13 and 14 and in fact, Cermaq was one of the founding members of the UN's Sustainable Ocean Business Action Platform.

Cermaq has also publicly committed to the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights for Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and is responding to the call to Action 92 for business in Canada from the Truth and Reconciliation commission, (DRIPA). Cermaq Canada values and places importance on building relationships with First Nations which are based on mutual respect, trust and finding shared value.

And as such, and in consideration of our on-going formal and informal relationships with Ahousaht, we will follow any additional guidance or direction provided by Ahousaht leadership in the chosen direction of the biosphere designation matter, as we recognize the *Hawiih* as the title holders and subsequently their stewardship interests and leadership responsibilities.

We support the Maaqutusiis Hahoulthee Stewardship Society proposed engagement process, with the goals of re-defining how the CBT will respect, recognize, and reconcile with the role of the Ahousaht *Hawiih* through new models of governance, and a new model for resourcing the stewardship and sustainable economic development initiatives of the Ahousaht at an increased scale.

Respectfully,



Linda Sams
Sustainable Development Director

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