Language Keepers Society PO Box 244 Tofino, BC, VOR 2Z0

September 28, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter as an affirmation of our desire for the continued designation of the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Region, established in 2000.

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 coordinating First Responder Courses that included a majority of participants from outlying communities, Indigenous Language Revitalization projects and developing and promoting education tourism opportunities through participation in the West Coast N.E.S.T.

The interconnectedness of the different aspects of our lives is so evident in a small community where the environment dictates so much of our lives. As an co-owner of a small, Indigenous Eco-tourism company the ability to respond to basic medical emergencies is an absolute necessity. Something as simple as knowing to apply direct pressure to a bleed is a piece of life or death knowledge in our area. With the increased capacity and support provided by the CBT that arises from the designation, we have been better able to establish routes to transmit such critical information.

We are very grateful for the ongoing support the CBT has provided for the revitalization of our language, Central Region Dialect, Nuu-chah-nulth, which has been hugely impactful and appreciated. We trust you appreciate and are aware of the many reasons our language is important as a preventative health measure and as knowledge envelope.

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,

Carla Moss, Director Language Keeper's Society

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