

Sept 24, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

The Pacific Rim Arts Society is happy to affirm our support 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:

- Participating in programs and events that develop cross-cultural understanding and advance reconciliation; The CBT was instrumental in helping our organization complete our First Nation Consultation project where we were able to establish protocols and develop communication connections in order to provide relative and appropriate programming for the communities.
- The CBT has also been fundamental in funding our youth art programs enabling after school art classes with professional artists.
- PRAS continues to develop and promote education tourism opportunities through participation in the West Coast N.E.S.T. and we have been able to promote our own educational programming with success because of this partnership.

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. They are an integral and invaluable resource to our region.

Sincerely,

Susan Payne

Executive Director,

Pacific Rim Arts Society