

COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

**SUBJECT: INCLUSION OF THE SALISH SEA ON CANADA'S TENTATIVE LIST
FOR UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES CONSIDERATION**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council support the Salish Sea Trust's application for the Salish Sea to be added to Canada's Tentative List for consideration as a UNESCO "World Heritage Site".

REPORT

The Community Heritage Commission, at its meeting held on 2017 November 16, received correspondence from the Salish Sea Trust seeking support from the City of Burnaby to add the Salish Sea to Canada's Tentative List for consideration by UNESCO to add to the list of World Heritage Sites.

The Salish Sea is an ecologically, economically and culturally rich area which provides critical marine habitat, biodiversity and essential ecosystems that are of as much importance to nature as to the peoples, regions, and nations which reside alongside this unique ocean environment. It's historical, cultural and natural heritage is rich and reflects the highest tenets and aligns with the objectives of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites.

The Salish Sea west coast waters extend across the US/Canada border and have been the subject of many studies, conferences, proposals, and international treaties. The background work and identification of interests has been thoroughly addressed, preparing the way for this proposal to designate the Salish Sea as a World Heritage Site. The Salish Sea Trust is applying to include the Salish Sea on Canada's Tentative List, with the hope that Provincial and Federal Governments will consider the Salish Sea's ecological system as part of a wider sustainability strategy. It is an opportunity for Canada to meet its international commitment to honour the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals by protecting 10% of Canada's coastline by 2020.

Copy: City Manager Director Planning & Building
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To: *His Worship, the Mayor and Councillors*
From: *Community Heritage Commission*
Re: *Inclusion of the Salish Sea on Canada's Tentative List
for UNESCO World Heritage Sites Consideration*
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It is anticipated that the process for proposing and designating the Salish Sea as a World Heritage Site will extend a decade.

The Community Heritage Commission recommends that Council support the Salish Sea Trust's application for the Salish Sea to be added to Canada's Tentative List for consideration as a UNESCO "World Heritage Site".

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Colleen Jordan
Chair

Councillor Sav Dhaliwal
Vice Chair