



## MEMORANDUM

Date: May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

To: Capital Regional District Board of Directors.

From: Pacheedaht First Nation.

**Re: NOTICE OF MOTION TO CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING OF MAY 12, 2021 CONCERNING FOREST MANAGEMENT.**

Pacheedaht strongly urges the CRD Board to take into account the following, show an appropriate level of respect to the sovereignty and wishes of our Nation, respect our desire for self-determination, and act appropriately by rejecting the proposed motion:

1. Please read, digest and understand the statement provided by Pacheedaht First Nation dated April 12<sup>th</sup> 2021. A copy is attached to this memorandum for your convenience. We believe that the statement makes our Nation's position abundantly clear. CRD has had ample time to inquire and seek clarification. If there is any residual confusion or lack of clarity about the meaning and intent of the statement, please inquire in writing.

To summarise, reiterate and clarify the key points in the April 12<sup>th</sup> Pacheedaht statement:

- i. Pacheedaht First Nation is concerned that third-party interference on our Nation's interests and affairs including resource stewardship is polarizing and harming our community, and we have asked for it to cease.
  - ii. Pacheedaht is conducting an inclusive Integrated Resource Stewardship Plan (IRSP) involving our entire community to guide the future management of our Traditional Territory.
  - iii. Pacheedaht does not welcome unsolicited interference or involvement from others.
2. Please provide in the form of written evidence, confirmation of the extent to which the legal jurisdiction and capacity of BC Regional Districts (including the CRD) includes:
  - i. Forest management.
  - ii. First Nations matters including landscape planning, community planning, economic development.
  - iii. Park designation and acquisition.
3. Please explain in writing how CRD is compelled to develop policy or otherwise take action that will affect CRD residents in response to lobbying received from distant, unrelated municipal governments, and please explain how such lobbying could compel

CRD to continue to ignore the clearly-articulated positions of First Nations, including Pacheedaht.

4. Pacheedaht First Nation strongly encourages CRD to continue to focus on policy, planning and service delivery, and to work with our Nation and the nearby communities on priority matters within CRD jurisdiction.
5. In the event that Pacheedaht First Nation determines at some point in the future that our Nation would benefit from increased involvement from CRD in the stewardship of our Traditional Territory, we will contact you.



**Forest Stewardship Within Pacheedaht Territory  
Pacheedaht Chief & Council, Port Renfrew, BC  
April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Pacheedaht First Nation holds unceded Aboriginal title and rights in our Territory, which is located on the southwest coast of Vancouver Island. We have a spiritual connection with our Territory, and our culture is based on our relationship with our lands and resources. We have inherent governance rights and sacred responsibilities to manage the human use of resources in our Territory.

Pacheedaht is concerned about the increasing polarization over forestry activities in our Territory. Decisions about the use of our forestry resources in our Territory need to be made by Pacheedaht. Pacheedaht has always harvested and managed our forestry resources, including old-growth cedar, for cultural, ceremonial, domestic and economic purposes. Our constitutional right to make decisions about forestry resources in our Territory, as a governing authority in our Territory, must be respected.

We are in the process of undertaking an Integrated Resource Stewardship Plan that will be developed by our community, for our community and will be led by our hereditary and elected leaders. Our Stewardship Plan will include the identification of special sites, traditional use areas and places where conservation measures will be in place. Given our governance rights, this Stewardship Plan must guide forestry activities in our Territory. To provide our community with the time necessary to develop our Stewardship Plan, we have secured commitments from tenure holders and the government of British Columbia to suspend and defer third-party forestry activities within specific areas identified by Pacheedaht. This will result in the implementation of an immediate interim conservation measure. We are also engaged in treaty and other government-to-government negotiations with British Columbia and Canada to recognize our Aboriginal rights, including governance rights.

Our rightful ownership and management of forest resources within our Territory need to be acknowledged. All parties need to respect that it is up to Pacheedaht people to determine how our forestry resources will be used. We do not welcome or support unsolicited involvement or interference by others in our Territory, including third-party activism. Pacheedaht needs to be left in peace to engage in our community-led stewardship planning process so that we can determine our own way forward as a strong and independent Nation.

Klecko, Klecko!

Pacheedaht Hereditary Chief

Frank Queesto Jones

Pacheedaht Chief Councillor

Jeff Jones