

June 22, 2021

Ruth Simons  
Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society  
c/o Box 465, Lions Bay, B.C.  
VON 2E0

**Subject: Deliberations of the International Advisory Committee for Biosphere Reserves (IACBR)**

Dear Ms. Simons,

On behalf of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO (CCUNESCO) I am pleased to provide you with the following feedback received from the International Advisory Committee for Biosphere Reserves (IACBR) following their review of the Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Reserve nomination dossier. Please note that this is a preliminary assessment because the IACBR recommendation will be examined and endorsed by the MAB ICC, which will meet in September 2021 (exact dates to be confirmed).

The IACBR recommended that the Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Reserve be approved by the MAB ICC, with the following comments:

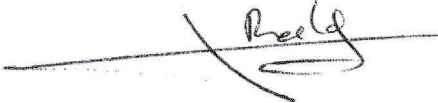
*The Advisory Committee welcomed the fact that the designation would help to develop a comprehensive plan/policy for land and marine management/cooperation that would strategically guide the management of all land and waters in the Howe Sound area and create a unified vision and plan for the region and avoid fragmented planning.*

*The Advisory Committee commended the authorities for the quality of the nomination proposal and acknowledged that it represents the culmination of a long process. The Advisory Committee recommended that the site be approved.*

I would like to congratulate you on all the hard work you and your team have put in to reach this point in the nomination process. It is a tremendous achievement to be receiving this result from the IACBR, and it speaks to the high quality of the nomination dossier that was prepared.

Please do not hesitate to contact Eleanor Haine, Programme Officer for Natural Sciences ([eleanor.haine@ccunesco.ca](mailto:eleanor.haine@ccunesco.ca)) if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Roda Muse  
Secretary-General