



TSLEIL-WAUTUTH NATION
PEOPLE OF THE INLET

NEWS RELEASE: *For Immediate Release*

Tsleil-Waututh Releases Draft Environmental Stewardship Report for Burrard Inlet

*The objective is to foster discussion and community consensus on strategic actions
that will improve the health and integrity of the inlet*

NORTH VANCOUVER, B.C. and MUSQUEAM, SQUAMISH & TSLEIL-WAUTUTH TERRITORY; February 18, 2016. Today, the Tsleil-Waututh Nation released a draft plan entitled *Burrard Inlet Action Plan: A Tsleil-Waututh Perspective*. It is a public review draft report intended to foster a community discussion about how best to improve environmental conditions in Burrard Inlet. It will be the subject of a Burrard Inlet Science Symposium to be held on May 19th at the Stanley Park Pavilion. Both a summary and full version are available on the Nation's website.

The draft Action Plan is a science-driven report and its purpose is to:

- Summarize scientific knowledge about Burrard Inlet
- Identify priority issues related to environmental degradation
- Identify important environmental knowledge gaps
- Foster development of a shared vision for environmental stewardship
- Identify near-term actions to improve the health and integrity of the inlet

Tsleil-Waututh developed the draft Action Plan because it has, along with Musqueam and Squamish, a long-held legal obligation to steward the water, land, air, and resources in Burrard Inlet. This stewardship responsibility includes restoring conditions that provide the environmental, cultural, spiritual, and economic foundation for our communities to thrive.

The Tsleil-Waututh people have lived along the shores of Burrard Inlet since time out of mind. The name Tsleil-Waututh means *People of the Inlet* in their hənǰəmiḥəm language. Their ancestors, who numbered in the many thousands, maintained villages around Burrard Inlet and intensively used all of the natural resources there, especially marine and intertidal resources. Today, access to natural resources is very limited in Burrard Inlet.

About Tsleil-Waututh Nation

Tsleil-Waututh Nation is a progressive, vibrant Coast Salish community of approximately 500 members. The Nation is located along the shores of Burrard Inlet in North Vancouver, B.C., Canada. For more information, visit www.twnation.ca.

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