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T 250.746.3100

May 4, 2022

Chief Lydia Hwitsum  
Cowichan Tribes  
5760 Allenby Road  
Duncan, BC V9L 5J1

via email: [chief@cowichantribes.com](mailto:chief@cowichantribes.com)

Dear Chief Hwitsum,

**Re: Offer to Support Cowichan Tribes 2022 National Indigenous Peoples Day Event**

As North Cowichan continues its journey toward reconciliation, we have reflected on how we might better recognize and support National Indigenous Peoples Day this year, and in the future.

We acknowledge that we are at the beginning of this journey, and with June 21st approaching quickly we have limited time left for meaningful dialogue and input from Cowichan Tribes, and other local First Nations, about what a North Cowichan-hosted National Indigenous Peoples Day event might look like. However, we understand that Cowichan Tribes has historically hosted a National Indigenous Peoples Day event, and we would like to offer our support with up to \$5,000 to assist with any potential 2022 event costs. If we could support any planned 2022 event in another way, we would be pleased to hear how we might contribute.

We also wish to express our sincere interest in collaborating on, or supporting, future National Indigenous Peoples Days or other similar events, such as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Please have staff contact Sarah Nixon, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, [sarah.nixon@northcowichan.ca](mailto:sarah.nixon@northcowichan.ca) or 250.746.3157, should you wish to pursue our offer to support any planned 2022 event, or begin a dialogue on how we might collaborate for this or other, similar events in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra".

Debra Toporowski  
Councillor and Chair  
First Nations Relations Committee  
[debra.toporowski@northcowichan.ca](mailto:debra.toporowski@northcowichan.ca)

cc: Ron Minks, Chief Administrative Officer, Cowichan Tribes  
Al Siebring, Mayor and First Nations Relations Committee Member, Municipality of North Cowichan

Kate Marsh, Councillor and First Nations Relations Committee Member, Municipality of North Cowichan  
North Cowichan Council  
Ted Swabey, Chief Administrative Officer, Municipality of North Cowichan  
Sarah Nixon, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Municipality of North Cowichan