



Tsleil-Waututh Nation

səlilwətał



30 April 2024

To: Mayor Mike Hurley

c/o: mikelle.sasakamoose@burnaby.ca

Subject: Whey-ah-Wichen Canoe Festival, June 28-30, 2024, North Vancouver, BC

Dear Mike,

It is my pleasure to send greetings from the beautiful waters of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation, canoe pullers of the Burrard Inlet and other waters of the Salish Sea since time immemorial. We are excited to see signs of spring across our territory, in part because spring also marks the beginning of planning for our annual Canoe Festival. For TWN and participating nations, canoe racing is one of the most important sporting events of our calendar, and its significance goes well beyond sports. The races are a way of sharing Indigenous culture while honouring the past, celebrating the present, and imagining the future of our people. It is in the spirit of canoe culture that we are reaching out to the City of Burnaby today.

I would first like to acknowledge the City's past support for the festival. Your generosity in 2023 enabled a fantastic event that was attended by hundreds of spectators and featured in print media and on the local news. We hosted 250 paddlers from 17 canoe clubs located across the lower mainland, Vancouver Island, and Washington who competed in a total of 49 races. Seventeen of these events were for adults, 6 were for paddlers aged 50+, and 26 were for children and youth, which is especially meaningful for the revitalization of our culture and traditions.

From June 28 – 30, 2024 we are hosting our festival at Whey-ah-Wichen/Cates Park, our traditional village site in North Vancouver, and are planning another event that celebrates culture, showcases top canoe racers, inspires youth, and thrills hundreds of spectators. We would welcome the City's contribution of support for the ongoing success of this annual event and are seeking sponsorships in the form of cash donations, raffle prizes, silent auction items or other contributions.

In addition to a tax receipt, your support will be acknowledged across our social media channels (www.twnation.ca, www.facebook.com/tsleilwaututhnation, www.instagram.com/tsleilwaututhnation/ and www.twitter.com/tsleilwaututh) in press releases, and in the program. The festival offers four categories of sponsorship:

2024 TWN Canoe Festival Sponsorship		
Category	Contribution	Festival Program Advertising Space
Gold	\$10,000+	Large ad
Silver	\$5,000 – \$9,999	Medium ad
Bronze	\$1,000-\$4,999	Small ad
Friends of WAW	\$500 - \$999	Business card size ad

Our corporate partners can also choose to support specific races or festival activities:

- Sponsorship of a race category- children, youth, women, men, and master's races, along with singles, doubles, 6s and 11s for 7+under, 10+under, 13+under, 16+under, women, men, and some 45+ and 50+ races;
- Sponsorship of the Elders area, Canoe Club care packs, paddler T-shirts, raffle prize donations, silent auction items, tent rental, information booth, first aid attendants, judges, and safety boats.

All gifts are welcome and deeply appreciated, and we invite you to join us at the festival to witness the impact of your support.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss the support that will best suit the City of Burnaby. If you'd like to proceed with a donation now, details are as follows:

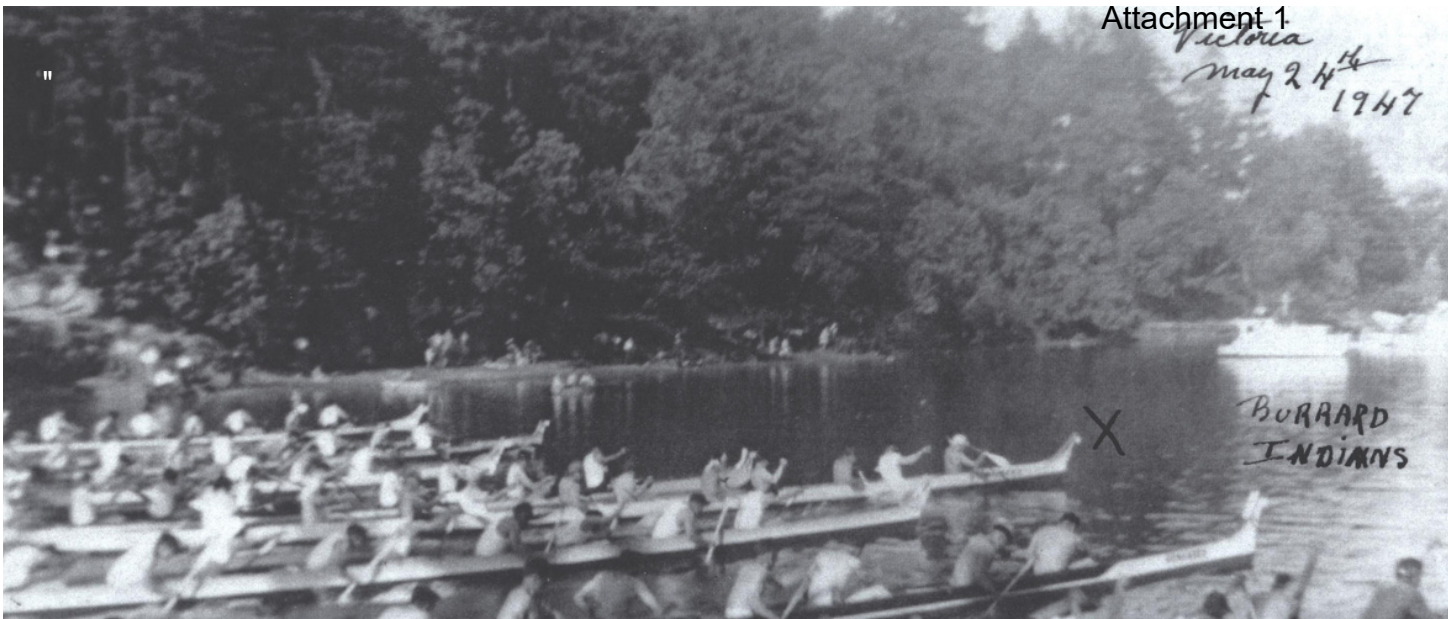
Cheques	Direct deposits	Interac e-transfer
Payee: Tsleil-Waututh Nation Address: 3178 Alder Court, North Vancouver, BC., V7H 2V6 Attn: TWN Finance Dept.	Transit #: 03920 Institution # 003 Bank account #: 1012947	Recipient name: Tsleil-Waututh Nation Email account for transfer: accounting@twnation.ca
Please note: Email notifications of donations should be sent to ar@twnation.ca . Include your legal name, address, and reference to the 2024 Canoe Festival with payments.		

Alternatively, we invite you to contact Rebecca Coulthard on rcoulthard@twnation.ca or 236 339 7403 to explore other options.

Yours in paddling,

Chief Jen Thomas

Victoria
May 24th
1947



"It's like this is who we are. We belong to the canoe. You have a canoe puller spirit."

Angela George





Tsleil-Waututh Nation
PEOPLE OF THE INLET



Photos courtesy of Derek Stevens