



## Memo to Council

### From the Office of Mayor Rob Vagramov

---

Date: September 12, 2022  
Subject: Letter of Support for the Kwikwetlem (kwikwə́ləm) Historical Cemetery Restoration Project.

---

On Sunday September 11, 2022 Council received an email with a letter of request (attachment 1) from the Strategic Initiatives Coordinator for Kwikwetlem First Nations.

I would like to recommend that Council provides a letter of support for the Kwikwetlem (kwikwə́ləm) Historical Cemetery Restoration Project and pass the following resolution:

**THAT the Mayor be authorized to sign the letter of support on behalf of the City of Port Moody Council in the attachment of the memo dated September 12, 2022 from Mayor Rob Vagramov regarding Letter of Support for the Kwikwetlem (kwikwə́ləm) Historical Cemetery Restoration Project.**

Attachment:

1. Email dated Sunday September 11 from Curtis Fullerton, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator, Kwikwetlem First Nations regarding Request for Letter of Support - Kwikwetlem Historical

## Stephanie Ivall

---

**From:** Curtis Fullerton <curtis@kwikwetlem.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 11, 2022 11:56 AM  
**To:** Council  
**Cc:** Ed Hall; Deborah Martelluzzi; Sue Lizotte; City of Port Moody - Info; Tim Savoie  
**Subject:** Request for Letter of Support - Kwikwetlem Historical Cemetery Restoration Project  
**Attachments:** Kwikwetlem Cemetery - Port Moody - Draft Support Ltr (Sept 2022).docx

Some people who received this message don't often get email from curtis@kwikwetlem.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. If you feel this email is malicious or a scam, report it with the Report Message button in Outlook.

Good morning Port Moody Mayor and Council,

I am writing to share information with the City of Port Moody about the Kwikwetlem (kʷikwə́ləm) Historical Cemetery Restoration Project.

The Cemetery, currently located at setłamékmən (Coquitlam I.R. 2), is a sacred resting place, not only for Kwikwetlem members but also extended family and relatives from other First Nation communities. The Cemetery has been experiencing regular flooding and especially high groundwater levels over several decades. Additional information can be found here: <https://www.kwikwetlem.com/blog/historicalcemetery.htm>

Kwikwetlem is working with professionals from PGL Environmental and Northwest Hydraulic Consultants to assess the leading causes of flooding and groundwater control at the Cemetery. The successful completion of this work is crucial prior to undertaking the physical restoration. Additionally, there have been higher costs than originally anticipated. In turn, we are seeking new sources of funding to support the final engineering and earthworks, as well as site enhancements through the placement of a new entrance gate, seating, headstones, memorial monument, landscaping and other amenities.

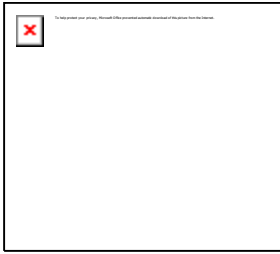
We would be grateful to include a letter of support from the City of Port Moody with our funding applications. For your convenience, please find attached a draft letter for consideration. Feel free to make any changes necessary.

If the City of Port Moody is willing to provide a letter of support, then it would be greatly appreciated. We want to acknowledge the past, educate and inform future generations of those buried at the Cemetery, as well as maintaining an important place for remembrance and reflection.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please let me know.

Much appreciated,  
Curtis

hay čxʷ qə (thank you),



**Curtis Fullerton**

Strategic Initiatives Coordinator

604-317-9297

[curtis@kwikwetlem.com](mailto:curtis@kwikwetlem.com)

---

2-65 Colony Farm Road

Coquitlam, BC V3C 5X9

[www.kwikwetlem.com](http://www.kwikwetlem.com)

We acknowledge that we operate on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of kʷikʷəłəm First Nation.

Date:

**Re: Support for the Kwikwetlem (kʷikʷəłəm) Historical Cemetery Restoration Project**

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the City of Port Moody, I would like to express our full support for the Kwikwetlem Historical Cemetery Restoration Project. There is an important need to support Indigenous leadership and stewardship in the management of freshwater resources, especially in balance with the preservation of significant cultural heritage sites such as the Kwikwetlem Historical Cemetery.

The City of Port Moody manages a community of 34,000 people with a strategic geographical location in Metro Vancouver. It envelops the east end of Burrard Inlet and is the smallest of the Tri-Cities, bordered by Coquitlam on the east and south and by Burnaby on the west. The villages of Belcarra and Anmore, along with the rugged Coast Mountains, lie to the northwest and north, respectively.

The City of Port Moody places a high value on environmental protection. This strong focus on environmental awareness and initiatives is evident in the number of dedicated volunteer groups which play an important role in educating the general public on the importance of environmental stewardship and the need to embrace change to more sustainable behaviour.

Port Moody is in strong support of Kwikwetlem First Nation seeking funding to support physical construction and site improvements to address long-standing issues of flooding and groundwater control at the Cemetery. This project will allow the Kwikwetlem people to develop infrastructure to safeguard the Cemetery and allow families to properly care for those who have passed. This project will also include enhancements the existing Cemetery through the placement of a new entrance gate, seating, headstones, memorial monument, landscaping and other amenities. Finally, there are plans to erect a memorial monument in honour of the historical and unmarked First Nation graves surrounding the boundaries of the current Cemetery.

This project will support Kwikwetlem efforts to mitigate the impacts of human activity and climate change on the Coquitlam River flood levels and groundwater elevations, as well as the related impacts on culturally significant places such as the Kwikwetlem Historical Cemetery. This project funding will assist in the final stages of planning as well as the physical site improvements and earthworks to address both surface and groundwater issues.

Thank you for the consideration of funding for this important project to honour Indigenous history and families.

Sincerely,