

'Wi'la'mola Accord

THE WI'LA'MOLA ACCORD *We Are All Travelling Together*

WHEREAS the U'mista Cultural Society exists to ensure the survival of all aspects of the cultural heritage of the Kwakwaka'wakw, to disseminate cultural, historical and artistic information about the Kwakwaka'wakw and to promote and foster carving, dancing, ceremonials and other cultural and artistic activities engaged in by the Kwakwaka'wakw.

WHEREAS Nimmo Bay Resort is a successful family operated tourism business located in the McKenzie Sound area of the Central Coast and now recognized as one of the world's foremost eco/adventure and heli-venture/fishing resorts.

WHEREAS the U'mista Cultural Society and Nimmo Bay Resort believe the land and sea resources of the Kwakwaka'wakw Territories, in conjunction with the culture and heritage of the Kwakwaka'wakw First Nations are an undeveloped tourism resource with world-class potential.

WHEREAS the U'mista Cultural Society and Nimmo Bay Resort believe this world-class tourism resource can be developed in a manner that will benefit all residents of the Kwakwaka'wakw Territories (native and non-native), catalyze a revitalization of coastal economies, and promote cultural reconciliation.

WHEREAS the U'mista Cultural Society and Nimmo Bay Resort wish to take the leadership necessary to ensure that this happens and recognize that each can make different, but complementary, contributions in this regard.

THEREFORE The U'mista Cultural Society and Nimmo Bay Resort hereby commit to work collaboratively and diligently to promote and encourage the development of the culturally based tourism resources of the Kwakwaka'wakw Territories in a manner that promotes the coexistence of healthy, fully functioning ecosystems and human communities.

In travelling together, the principle objectives of the U'mista Cultural Society and Nimmo Bay Resort will include (i) growing and expanding tourism for the partners of this Accord (ii) organizing, promoting and obtaining territorial support for initiatives proposed under this Accord (iii) organizing, promoting and obtaining provincial and federal government support for any priorities and initiatives proposed under this Accord and (iv) preserving and enhancing the unique environment, heritage and other qualities of the Kwakwaka'wakw First Nation which are important to the partners of this Accord.

In travelling together, the U'mista Cultural Society and Nimmo Bay Resort will consult with residents of the Kwakwaka'wakw Territory, be sensitive to existing plans and processes that relate to tourism resources, and coordinate their efforts in areas of specific mutual interest.

In travelling together, the U'mista Cultural Society and Nimmo Bay Resort will give priority to (i) developing and promoting tourism initiatives designed to increase investment, employment and cultural advancement within the Kwakwaka'wakw Territories including the expansion of U'mista Cultural Society, expansion of tourism marketing and visitor accommodation within the territory, and the development of new sustainable tourism enterprises on both land and water and (ii) establishing a leadership role for U'mista Cultural Society in attracting new investment capital into tourism initiatives and related economic development within Kwakwaka'wakw territory.

In travelling together, the U'mista Cultural Society and Nimmo Bay Resort recognize that this Accord will produce many opportunities, some of which will be developed jointly, some of which will be developed independently, and some of which will be developed by others. This Accord is intended as a statement of general intent and direction and not intended to create any legal or financial obligations.

In travelling together, the U'mista Cultural Society and Nimmo Bay Resort will pursue opportunities, approach challenges, and resolve differences on the basis of mutual trust and respect.

In travelling together, the U'mista Cultural Society and Nimmo Bay Resort invite others to join them on this journey.

Signed this 29th day of July, at Nimmo Bay Resort.

Bill Cranmer
Chair, U'mista Cultural Society

Craig Murray
Owner, Nimmo Bay Resort

Signed this 30th day of July, at the Gukwdzi, Alert Bay.

Bill Cranmer
Chair, U'mista Cultural Society

Craig Murray
Owner, Nimmo Bay Resort

WITNESS: