



March 29, 2019

**STATEMENT FROM MAYOR SHARIE MINIONS**



I am pleased to extend my heartfelt greetings to everyone attending this historic celebration. I want to thank Huu-ay-aht for inviting me. I would have been honoured to join everyone today, but regretfully I am unable to attend.

With an ever changing economic, political and environmental landscape it can be challenging to build true partnerships that foster growth and bring opportunity to all parties. By entering into this acquisition, Huu-ay-aht are exemplifying local collaboration and showing B.C. and Canada the value of a collective approach to a traditional practice.

On behalf of Council for the City of Port Alberni I wanted to let you know how fortunate we feel to have Huu-ay-aht as a part of our community. Your stewardship for your land and sustainable, thoughtful, land-use practices are setting an example we can all use as a learning tool moving forward. We see this partnership as a positive step forward for Huu-ay-aht, Western Forest Products, and the entire Alberni Valley and we look forward to watching it grow and evolve over time.

Thank you for your leadership in moving community partnerships forward.

Yours truly,  
**CITY OF PORT ALBERNI**

Sharie Minions,  
Mayor