

## ***Territorial Acknowledgement***

"We [I] would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is within **the traditional territories of all Coast Salish Nations on the South Island, especially the Ləkʷəŋən People of the Songhees and the Xʷsepsəm Nations.** "

*(Red = key language to be included in the acknowledgement.)*

### **Historical information**

West Shore Parks & Recreation is claimed by 8 Nations. These the lands were "pass through" lands to the Royal Roads site which was a trading centre.

The 8 Nations that claim West Shore Parks & Recreation as Traditional Territory are:

*Please note Songhees and Esquimalt don't use the word "first" in their names.)*

Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees Nation)	pronounced: (lekwun-gen) (song-eez)
Xʷsepsəm (Esquimalt Nation)	pronounced: (wh-sep-sum) (es-kwai-malt)
SC'IAŊEW (Beecher Bay First Nation)	pronounced: (CHEA-nuh)
MÁLEXEŁ (Malahat First Nation)	pronounced: (mal-a-hat)
Pauquachin First Nation	pronounced: (paw-kwi-chin)
Tseycum First Nation	pronounced: (say-come)
Tsawout First Nation	pronounced: (say-out)
Tsartlip First Nation	pronounced: (sart-lip)

We say and share the acknowledgement as a sign of reconciliation and cultural revitalization.



The Sea Otter

## The Sea Otter

The Coast Salish Sea Otter Symbol has always been a highly valued animal and symbol. In the past only tribal nobility wore its fur. Native legends describe the Otter as a giver of great fortunes. The otter symbolizes friendship, peace and family, as well as being kind, social and mischievous. It is also a symbol of grace, empathy as well as happiness and never ending curiosity.

~ SPIRITS OF THE WEST COAST ART GALLERY

