

**Proposal to host the
12th International Congress of Ethnobiology (2010)
in
Tofino, British Columbia, CANADA**

You can try to understand the living world with your head, but sometimes the heart is a truer field guide. Here in Vancouver Island's Clayoquot Sound, a million-acre (400,000-hectare) natural amphitheater where mountainsides embrace a fjord-fingered, island-strewn reach of the sea, you don't have to choose, for every way of knowing nature seems to come into play.

Excerpted from: "Pacific Suite"
National Geographic: February, 2003
Douglas H. Chadwick

Host Organization:

Tofino Botanical Gardens Foundation and Clayoquot Field Station

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Contact:

Mr. John Platenius
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Proposed Collaborating Institutions and Organisations

University of Victoria

Victoria, BC

- Contact: Dr. Kelly Bannister, Director, POLIS Project on Ecological Governance
Email: kel@uvic.ca

Malaspina University-College

Nanaimo, BC

- Contact: Liz Hammond-Kaarremaa, Director of Research Services
Email: lizhk@mala.bc.ca

University of British Columbia

Vancouver, BC

- Contact: Dr. Felice Wyndham, Department of Anthropology
Email: fwyndham@interchange.ubc.ca

Simon Fraser University

Vancouver, BC

- Contact: Dr. George Nicholas, Department of Archaeology
Email: nicholas@sfu.ca

TerraLingua Canada

Salt Spring Island, BC

- Contact: Dr. Luisa Maffi, President
Email: maffi@terralingua.org

Nuu-chah-nulth Central Region Language Society

Ucluelet, BC

- Contact: Anne Morgan, Cultural Coordinator
Email: amorgan@ukeecable.net

Other proposed collaborators and supporters:

- Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations
Tofino, BC
- Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council
Port Alberni, BC
- Montreal Botanical Garden (First Nations Garden)
Montreal, Quebec
- Clayoquot Biosphere Trust
Tofino, BC
- West Coast Vancouver Island Aquatic Management Board
Port Alberni, BC
- Pacific Rim National Park Reserve
Ucluelet, BC
- British Columbia Parks
Ucluelet, BC

A. **Why we want to host the 12th International Congress of Ethnobiology**

The International Congress of Ethnobiology (ICE) has never been held on the west coast of North America in the traditional territories of northwestern First Nations. There are two main reasons why we want to host the 12th ICE. First, we offer a temperate coastal setting that is unparalleled in natural beauty and biological and cultural diversity. We want members of the International Society of Ethnobiology (ISE) to experience this part of the world and learn about and from the people who live here. Second, this area has never hosted a conference in this field, and we believe that local communities and organizations would benefit greatly from exchanges with ISE members. We hope that local people will learn from ISE members, initiate new relationships, and continue building relationships with each other. Our reasons are further explained below.

Tofino and the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

Tofino is located in Clayoquot Sound, a 3,500 km stretch of land and water located on the west coast of Canada on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Clayoquot Sound is recognized internationally for its significant old-growth coastal temperate rainforests, diversity of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, the vibrant culture of the Indigenous Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations, and its history of trying to balance ecological, sociocultural and economic considerations in a multi-stakeholder context.

In the year 2000, this global recognition resulted in the United Nations designating Clayoquot Sound as British Columbia's first UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. The Clayoquot Sound Biosphere Reserve provides an ideal setting for constructive theoretical and applied exchanges on ethnobiology, as well as a unique local community context to ground principles and practices of ethnobiology *in situ*.

Tofino Botanical Gardens Foundation

The Tofino Botanical Gardens Foundation is home to the Tofino Botanical Gardens and the Clayoquot Field Station. The gardens and the field station are operated by the Foundation, a non-profit registered Canadian charity that explores the relationship between culture and nature. The Foundation is located on five hectares of gardens, forest and shoreline just outside the village of Tofino.

The Foundation is actively engaged in promoting and stimulating the research and education sector of Clayoquot Sound's economy. Holding a conference of this nature will help us further the research and education mission of the host organisation, provide a forum for collaboration between local community organisations and universities on a topic of importance to the region, help showcase Clayoquot Sound by attracting interests of other institutions and organizations to this unique area, and support the local economy (including First Nations-owned and operated businesses) in a number of ways.

Part of our incentive in submitting this proposal is to further build collaborative relationships across sectors and perspectives (non-profit, university, First Nations, business, government) that will support vibrant local communities and ecosystems.

Tofino Botanical Gardens

The mission of Tofino Botanical Gardens is to inspire conservation of the world's temperate coastal ecosystems. We are dedicated to the cultivation and display of plants native to the world's coastal temperate rainforests, and to research and education programs to improve knowledge and understanding of the ecosystems of the UNESCO Clayoquot Sound Biosphere Reserve.

The Gardens were established in 1997. The five hectare site consists of a network of paths and boardwalks that lead from the Visitor Centre past kitchen gardens, the Frog Pond, and Children's Garden into the rainforest, where clearings have been transformed into a series of pocket gardens. Some of these gardens display plants that once thrived in other coastal temperate rainforests around the world. Others celebrate the various cultural groups that have made Clayoquot Sound their home now and in the past, particularly the Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations, early pioneer homesteaders, Japanese fishing families, and of course, Hippies.

Clayoquot Field Station

The Clayoquot Field Station at Tofino Botanical Gardens is a dormitory-classroom facility that can accommodate up to 34 guests. The mission of the Field Station is to initiate, encourage and enable research, education and conversations that will help people to understand how to live in a place without diminishing it. The facility provides an affordable venue for students, researchers and visitors engaged in learning and discovery in the Clayoquot Sound Biosphere Reserve.

B. How the congress we host will further the goals of the ISE

Tofino's small community setting will facilitate a combination of productive intellectual exchanges alongside applied understandings of the complex inter-relationships that exist between human societies and their biological environments. Field excursions and strong participation by local Indigenous and non-Indigenous experts will highlight real examples of the relationships that different cultures share with diverse marine and terrestrial environments.

A key strength of our proposal is that it is community-led, with strong support from nearby universities. This combination of academic and applied leadership will allow us to achieve a balance between academics, local community experts and practitioners. We believe this is an uncommon feat for an international congress, many of which deter Indigenous and local community participation due to high costs of travel to large urban centres and abstract programs. The community context will enable a diversity of activities and session formats, which will help share local and international lessons on ethnobiology.

Hosting the Congress in a Biosphere Reserve is a natural fit. Biosphere Reserves and ISE both endeavour to promote and encourage a harmonious relationship between people and the biosphere. Many of the people and communities in the Clayoquot Sound Biosphere Reserve are actively practicing and improving sustainable living, and are committed to conservation of biological, cultural and linguistic diversity. This commitment will provide a real-world example for the Congress about the success and challenges of living by the ISE's Code of Ethics.

C. Preliminary ideas for congress themes

The proposed overarching theme of the Congress is **“Language, knowledge, and the biosphere: Cultivating biocultural health”**

Major sub themes under consideration are indicated below and others will emerge from submitted activities and papers:

- **Hishuk ish tsawalk**
This Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations phrase translates to mean “Everything is one and all is interconnected.” This sub theme lays the foundation for ethnobiological exchanges that position language rightfully at the core of interrelationships between humans and the biosphere and provides an opportunity to explore biocultural implications of the current state of Indigenous and local languages and language revitalization efforts.
- **Protected Areas and People**
What is the role of ethnobiology in protected areas? Under this sub theme, biosphere reserves, marine protected areas, national and regional parks will be explored as cross-cultural interfaces with potentials for both conflict and innovative co-management of land and natural resources.
- **Ethnobiological Praxis**
Ethnobiological research cross cuts a number of practical and policy realms that urgently need to be informed by case-based evidence. This sub theme will explore a number of contexts for putting ethnobiological ideas into practice and using practices to inform policy for the stewardship of biological and cultural diversity and ecosystem health.

D. How our organizing team will incorporate and promote alternative structures for sharing information in the Congress

Alternative and complementary processes and structures for exchange between participants is a priority interest of our organizing team. While the overall conference format will be based on a typical conference structure (explained further below), it will also expand beyond this structure in important ways. First, Congress planning and activities will respect the protocols of the local communities and Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations by beginning and closing each day with an opening and closing prayer. These prayers are usually led by a Ha-wiih (traditional Chief) or his speaker. Their purpose is to welcome participants, acknowledge and thank the First Nation on whose territory the conference takes place, and to ensure a safe and productive space for meeting.

The typical conference structure of oral talks and posters will be expanded to include more innovative formats. We will design sessions and activities that create enabling spaces for productive exchange of ideas and information. For example, large morning plenary sessions might be followed in the afternoon by interactive workshops, roundtable discussions, and panel sessions where presentations are brief and meant to stimulate sharing and co-learning,

not to dominate the session. One or more sessions may also be modeled on a more traditional Nuu-chah-nulth meeting format (focused more on conversation than on presentation), co-led by a Nuu-chah-nulth elder or facilitator. An open call for innovative session proposals and activities will be included with the call for papers and contributions, and suggested formats from other parts of the world will be accommodated to the best of our ability.

We propose that on a couple days of the four-day Congress, the mornings consist of structured activities (plenaries and sessions), and the afternoons consist of community interaction with conference attendees, including talks and tours by local ethnobiologists, community organizations, and First Nations. A dynamic combination of indoor and outdoor activities, theoretical and applied, will facilitate a higher degree of learning for Congress participants by stimulating more than just auditory and visual senses.

The Congress program planning will be based in principle on supporting and honoring complementary perspectives and expertise. For example, we propose each morning plenary address will combine both an academic/professional perspective and a local expert or Indigenous practitioner perspective. Session organizers will be encouraged to embrace this complementary approach as well, ensuring a balance of perspectives is presented on all topics and issues.

An essential component of the Congress will be a call to First Nations and community organizations in the region to provide posters/booths for display throughout the conference. This call will include local artists and entrepreneurs who would like to display original works for viewing and sale.

We will make an invitation to Nuu-chah-nulth elders for a special event (such as dancing, drumming, singing or a Nuu-chah-nulth seafood feast). We will also provide a range of post-conference field trips to meet both “tourism” and professional development requests. The focus of these events will be on affordable activities that are culturally and ecologically respectful. Possible examples include:

- 4 hour natural history tour of Tofino peninsula featuring old-growth rainforest, rocky intertidal habitat, and internationally significant mudflats.
- 2 hour visit and discussion at local First Nations village
- 2 hr shellfish farm tour
- 2 hour whale watching tour
- 4 hour hot springs tour
- 2 hour Nuu-chah-nulth cultural canoeing experience
- 2 hour sea kayaking tour
- 4 hour Nuu-chah-nulth dance and traditional salmon barbeque
- 2 hour natural and cultural history tour on the Tofino Mudflats Wildlife Area
- Self guided beach and rainforest walks in Pacific Rim National Park Reserve

E. The host organization, its strengths in relation to ethnobiology and related fields, and its capacity to organize a major event

The Tofino Botanical Gardens Foundation is, at its core, an ethnobiological organization. The Gardens and the Field Station endeavour to explore the interactions between nature and culture in order to learn how to live well in a place. The Foundation has hosted a variety of festivals and workshops along this theme (events ranging from 40 to 600 participants). Our strong relationship with local and regional First Nations and community organizations has been vital to our success in organizing and executing these events.

Approximately 10,000 visitors explore our property every year, mostly during the months of July and August. Many of the people who have contributed to our organization's success have been volunteers from around the world, often speaking different languages. Our small staff is multifaceted. We have the proven capability of organizing and overseeing over 4500 volunteer hours every year, maintaining our website in-house, and delivering exceptional natural and cultural history tours of Clayoquot Sound.

While we are fully capable of organizing and executing the Congress, our relationship with the University of Victoria and Malaspina University-College will assist us in bridging the academic components of the Congress with the necessary community components.

The Tofino Botanical Gardens Foundation, the University of Victoria and Malaspina University-College all have strong relationships with local First Nations. Each of the three organizations has worked with and co-developed research protocols for the region. Our first-step in employing and supporting First Nations-owned organizations will be to engage the services of White Raven Consulting – a First Nations owned firm with specialty in communications, marketing, event organization and facilitation. This is the beginning in our expansive commitment to make the Congress a true representation of Clayoquot Sound's diverse cultural assets.

F. Why ethnobiologists would be interested in meeting in the host country and region; points of geographical and historical interest that exist in the region including special reference to cultural and biological diversity; ability to interact with local ethnobiologists and with Indigenous/traditional/local communities and to make contacts with other relevant organizations/institutions

Host Region

The village of Tofino is close to major urban centers yet still very much a small town with evidence of traditional resource economies and an increasingly important tourism industry.

Clayoquot Sound, where Tofino is located, has a rich history of human interaction with the environment, beginning with 10,000 years of occupation by Indigenous peoples. European contact 300 years ago brought resource extraction on an industrial scale (fur trading, fishing, and forestry, which introduced other cultures such as Scandinavian homesteaders and

Japanese fishermen). Resource extraction drove the economy until 30 years ago, when hippies and conscientious objectors settled, beginning an economy built on tourism and wilderness exploration. Over the past 15 years, a thriving tourism industry and a shift from wild fishing to aquaculture has culminated in a tremendous shift of local perceptions of the biosphere.

This area is home to approximately 1500 Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations people who live in four traditional village sites (Hot Springs Cove, Ahousaht, Opitsaht, and Esowista). The First Nations culture here continues to have a strong presence in all the communities. The Nuu-chah-nulth Central Region Language Project is an excellent example of the commitment of the Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations to maintain their traditional knowledge while moving forward with new-world technologies. If possible, a sample CD produced by the Nuu-chah-nulth Central Region Language Project will be included with this application via Dr. Kelly Bannister who will attend ICE 10 in person.

Clayoquot Sound is home to some of the most productive and diverse ecosystems in the world. The largely intact ancient coastal temperate rainforests and the rich nearshore marine environment are globally-significant ecoregions. Clayoquot Sound is home to a myriad of protected areas and areas of global significance:

- Five Important Bird Areas (IBAs)
- Sixteen Provincial Parks
- Pacific Rim National Park Preserve
- Two Ecological Reserves
- Tofino Mudflats Wildlife Management Area (the second most important migratory shorebird stop-over in western Canada)
- Meares Island Tribal Park (Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation protected area)

There is an unusually high degree (per capita) of community activism, volunteerism and academic activity in Clayoquot Sound. The Clayoquot Sound region is home to 5,000 residents, and approximately 100 non-profit organizations. Clayoquot Sound is becoming highly sought after as a research and education destination for universities across North America.

These high rates of community involvement and academic interest were likely a result of media attention generated during and after The Clayoquot Blockades in 1993, when over 850 people were arrested for protesting logging practices. This event was the largest act of non-violent civil disobedience in Canada. The resolution of The Clayoquot Blockades led to the creation of the Clayoquot Sound Science Panel and the Central Region Board, a First Nations–government co-management board that oversees resource activity in Clayoquot Sound.

There are numerous case studies in Clayoquot Sound – both past and present – to potentially showcase to ISE members and Congress participants through poster displays and congress sessions, field trips, and/or community engagement activities:

- Re-introduction of sea otters after 300 years of absence: Complex issues of First Nations traditional hunting practices, co-management in fisheries and conflicts between endangered species
- Innovative co-management institutions such as the West Coast Vancouver Island Aquatic Management Board and the Clayoquot Sound Central Region Board
- Rapid development of the salmon aquaculture industry in the past 30 years: Is the finfish aquaculture industry sustainable?
- First Nations-owned forestry operations: A new business model in the resource extraction industry
- Development of the shellfish aquaculture industry: dealing with urban and rural water quality issues
- An Ecotourism Paradox? One million visitors per year to a town of 1500 residents
- Non-timber forest products: Wild food harvesting using traditional methods for commercial sale

Host Country

Canada prides itself on being a country that welcomes many different cultures. On a per capita basis, more immigrants arrive each year in Canada than any other country. This diversity is mostly reflected in urban settings, but is a testament to the different cultures that have shaped and continue to shape the nation's heritage and policies.

The Canadian federal government has committed to negotiate comprehensive land claim settlements with First Nations groups. These settlements "will establish certainty of title to lands and resources and enhance economic development and socio-economic opportunities for Aboriginal communities." This process of reparation is one of the world's best examples of a country's commitment to acknowledging and apologizing for the atrocities of colonization. Canadians hope that in the long term these claims will lead to a more harmonious relationship with the biosphere for all of the country's cultures.

G. Proposed organizational plan for: specific congress location, local organizing committee, infrastructure and services, institutional, governmental, and other support and funding strategy

The Village of Tofino

Tofino is located on a narrow finger of land called the Esowista Peninsula. The year-round population is approximately 1500, but swells to 22,000 people on some days during the summer months of July and August. Bordered on the South by its boundary with the Pacific Rim National Park Reserve and on its other three sides by the Pacific Ocean, Tofino is as far west as you can drive by car or bus and is still the only paved road to the open Pacific Ocean in Canada.

Tofino is blessed with a mild climate, influenced strongly by the ocean and neighbouring mountains. May is an ideal month for the 12th ICE, with daytime temperatures averaging 16° C (61° F), little fog, and low precipitation. May is also an ideal month for accommodation: it is more plentiful and much cheaper than the summer season (June-September). May is a fantastic month for migratory whales and shorebirds: peak migratory shorebird season

usually takes place during the first two weeks of May, and grey whales migrating from Baja California to Alaska are common from March through October.

Because Tofino is a popular tourist destination, it offers many amenities not usually found in towns of similar size. Tofino is home to many world-class restaurants, event catering, multiple hotels, resorts and small accommodation providers, a community theatre with live music and plays, a Saturday morning market featuring locally grown foods and crafts, several art galleries, three bakeries, a fish market featuring locally caught seafoods, and a full spa.

Infrastructure: Conference location and facilities

The main conference will be held at Tin Wis Resort, Tofino BC (See Appendix 4). Tin Wis is a First Nations owned resort and conference center, with complete seminar, meeting and conference facilities and services. The conference center, the largest in Tofino at 4,000 ft², can support up to 250 people. The conference center is versatile enough to handle most requirements, including a portable stage, wireless internet, full audio-visual capacity and an adjoining break-out room. It also features a balcony area suitable for poster presentation and viewing. Tin Wis also features full accommodation, restaurant facilities and event catering.

The secondary conference location will be the Clayoquot Field Station at Tofino Botanical Gardens. This 7,000 ft² facility offers comfortable dormitory style accommodation, a full kitchen, two classroom spaces and a seminar room. The Field Station is located in the 5 hectare Tofino Botanical Gardens. Suitable for students and those traveling on a tighter budget, the Clayoquot Field Station nicely complements Tin Wis, and is only a 10 minute walk away.

Both facilities offer full administrative and communications support: high speed internet access, wireless internet, fax and telephone.

The Tofino Botanical Gardens Foundation will provide a complete and professionally designed website and web hosting for the Congress. This will be developed and administered by the Foundation's in-house web designer.

Congress organising will include plans for facilitating the electronic production of Congress Proceedings, in collaboration with the ISE Board and identified guest editors. We envision compiling and editing Proceedings will be of high interest to some of our academic partners. We will also consider applying for funding for production of printed Proceedings, any proceeds of which would be shared with the ISE.

Institutional and government support, including fundraising strategy

Key institutional support for the Congress will come from our two confirmed partner universities, the University of Victoria and Malaspina University-College through our established contacts (listed previously). Additional institutional support is anticipated from other nearby universities such as the University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University.

We are confident that the location, topic and partners involved in our proposal provide an ideal combination upon which to raise sufficient funds for the Congress. Any excess revenues would be shared with the ISE. Our Fundraising strategy will include a range of funding sources from major foundations (e.g., Ford Foundation, Wenner-Grenn Foundation, The Christensen Fund, David Suzuki Foundation) and federal granting agencies that share an interest in the Congress topic and have a proven record of providing funding for such gatherings (e.g., Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Canadian Institutes of Health Research), to federal government ministries (e.g., Environment Canada, Health Canada, Parks Canada, Canadian Heritage) to community support such as Clayoquot Biosphere Trust and the District of Tofino).

Proposed Local Organizing Committee:

The local organizing committee will consist of members from three of the collaborating institutions and two ethnobiological consulting organizations. Our collaborative approach to organizing the Congress will give us access to a wide range of resources, both academic and community-focused. Additional members will be added to the committee (as appropriate) as additional partners are confirmed.

Mr. George Patterson, Tofino Botanical Gardens Foundation

Mr. Patterson is the founder and executive director of the Tofino Botanical Gardens Foundation. He has over 40 years of experience in the business and environmental non-profit sectors. He is fluent in Spanish and English.

Mr. John Platenius, Tofino Botanical Gardens Foundation

Mr. Platenius is the director of programs and development at the Clayoquot Field Station. He developed and maintains the Tofino Botanical Gardens Foundation Website (www.tbgf.org), and is responsible for public outreach and fundraising at the Clayoquot Field Station. He speaks English and French.

Ms. Josie Osborne, Red Fish Blue Fish Consulting

Ms. Osborne is a Tofino-based marine biologist and a principal of Red Fish Blue Fish Consulting. She is the resident naturalist for the Clayoquot Field Station and is actively involved in marine fisheries research in Clayoquot Sound. She has consulted on the development of biology and fisheries workshops, training courses, and conferences for over ten years.

Dr. Kelly Bannister, University of Victoria (UVic)

Dr. Kelly Bannister is Adjunct Professor in the School of Environmental Studies and Director of the UVic-based policy research centre called the POLIS Project on Ecological Governance. She has been an active member of the ISE since 1998.

Ms. Liz Hammond-Kaarremaa, Malaspina University-College

Ms. Hammond-Kaarremaa is Director of Research Services at Malaspina University-College and works with researchers, research networks and research centres that bring innovative interdisciplinary perspectives to coastal resource management.

White Raven Consulting

White Raven Consulting is a communications and marketing business owned and operated by Kelly Poirier and Dawn Foxcroft of the Tseshah First Nation, based in Port Alberni BC. White Raven Consulting provides facilitation, marketing, communications, community outreach, and administration services for west coast Vancouver Island First Nations and non-profit organizations.

We recognize the vital importance and mutual benefit of excellent communication between the local organizers and the ISE Board and ISE staff on plans and implementation of the 12th ICE. We are committed to co-developing a strategy with the ISE for ongoing and transparent electronic communication on the Congress at an early stage of planning, to be maintained until the Congress comes to a successful close and all financial reporting and plans to ensure Congress Proceedings are complete.

At least two members of our local organizing committee are already committed to attending the 11th ICE in Peru, at which point we can meet in person with the Board, present preliminary Congress plans to the ISE members in attendance and strengthen the international representation on our Advisory Committee.

Proposed Advisory Committee (unconfirmed)

Mr. Bruce Frank, Tla-o-qui-aht Ha'wiih

Dr. Nancy Turner, University of Victoria

Ms. Anne Morgan, Toquaht First Nation and Central Region Language Society

Dr. Pierre Haddad, University of Montreal

Dr. Andrew Day, WCVI Aquatic Management Board

Mr. Stan Boychuck, Clayoquot Biosphere Trust

Dr. Gay Frederick, Malaspina University-College

Dr. Luisa Maffi, TerraLingua

Mr. Preston Hardison, Tulalip Tribes, Department of Natural Resources

We plan to invite additional members (including some from the ISE), as indicated above.

Additional information

Language

Canada's official languages are French and English, however English is the predominant language of British Columbia. English will be the main language of communication for both oral presentations and print materials.

Given the proposed focus on Language, Nuu-chah-nulth language translation for all or part of the conference is an option.

Visas

Many people do not require a VISA to enter Canada for the purposes of tourism and visiting. To see a full list of countries whose citizens require a VISA, please see <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.html>.

If participants require a VISA, they will need to contact the nearest Canadian consulate (see <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/offices/missions.html>). The visitor visa application involves two steps: an application made at the Canadian consulate in the applicant's country, and then a brief interview with an immigration officer at the Port of Entry (usually the Vancouver International Airport).

A visitor visa may be for single entry or multiple entry use. Single entry visas may be issued up to six months before the expected date of travel. The maximum validity date for multiple entry visitor visas is up to five (5) years or one month prior to the expiry date on the passport/re-entry visa, whichever is earlier. Port of Entry officers will routinely grant entry for a period of six months to a person requesting entry as a visitor.

Travel and Logistics

Tofino is located on the west coast of Vancouver Island (off the west coast of British Columbia), approximately 250 km, or a three hour drive from Nanaimo, Vancouver Island's central transportation hub. The two closest major international airports are Vancouver (on the mainland of British Columbia) and Victoria (at the southern tip of Vancouver Island). An additional airport is located in Nanaimo, 100 km north of Victoria.

After arrival at Vancouver, Victoria or Nanaimo, there are a variety of ways to get to Tofino including bus, car rental, or airplane. From Vancouver, allow 6 to 7 hours to get to Tofino. From Victoria, allow 5 hours. From Nanaimo, 3 hours. For convenience of participants, arranging group ground transportation from major hubs will be included in Congress planning.

Main Costs

Ground transportation from the international and regional airports to Tofino varies depending on starting point and method of travel. Bus is the least expensive, very reasonably priced and pleasant (\$50-75 one-way from Victoria or Nanaimo, based on 2006 rates). Local accommodation ranges from beautiful local youth hostel (\$30/night) and field station dormitories (\$32/night) for the lower budget traveler, to a range of bed and breakfast accommodations, motels, hotels and resorts (\$80-200/night). Congress fees will be kept in line with previous ICE registration rates (with discounts for students, and Indigenous participants) and set in collaboration with the ISE Board.

Travel and logistical details are provided in Appendix 1.

Appendix 1: Travel and Logistics

Getting to Tofino:

Tofino is located on the west coast of Vancouver Island (off the west coast of British Columbia), approximately 250 km, or a three hour drive from Nanaimo, Vancouver Island's central transportation hub. The two closest major international airports are Vancouver (on the mainland of British Columbia) and Victoria (at the southern tip of Vancouver Island). All major car rental firms are located at both airports. Advance car rental reservations are advisable. All costs provided below are approximate and in Canadian dollars.



We will be providing a group shuttle service to Tofino from various arrival terminals in order to keep participant's cost low and to make the travel logistics easy.

Flying from Vancouver: Total Travel Time, Roughly 1 Hour

There are currently two airlines that have daily service between Tofino and Vancouver. Flight cost is \$100 - \$150 one way plus taxes.

Craig Air: www.craigair.com

Orca Air: www.flyorcaair.com

Driving from Vancouver: Total Travel Time: Roughly 5 Hours

The Horseshoe Bay Ferry or Tsawwassen Ferry takes you to Nanaimo. Approximate cost for single passenger is \$11, for car and single driver is \$50. The ferry crossing takes about 2 hours. (Ferry schedules are available at www.bcferries.com. Reservations are advisable on weekends.) From Nanaimo, drive Highway 19 north approximately 30 minutes to the Qualicum Beach exit. Take this exit and drive west on Highway 4 through Port Alberni. Once in Port Alberni, follow the signs to Tofino and/or Pacific Rim National Park. Stay on the highway straight towards Tofino. The total driving time from Nanaimo is approximately three hours.

Driving From Victoria: Total Travel Time, Roughly 4.5 Hours

Drive Highway 1 north past Nanaimo. Approximately 30 minutes past Nanaimo, take the Qualicum Beach exit. Follow the directions above.

Buses from Vancouver and Victoria

Tofino Bus www.tofinobus.com leaves twice daily from Victoria, and picks up passengers in Nanaimo arriving on BC Ferries from Vancouver. Reservations are required. Cost from Victoria is approximately \$55, from Nanaimo \$35. Total time is the same as driving time.

Flying from Seattle

Sound Flight www.soundflight.net provides scheduled flights from Seattle to Tofino.

Driving From Seattle: Total Travel Time, Roughly 8 Hours

Option #1: Drive north to Vancouver across the Peace Arch Border Crossing and follow directions above.

Option #2: Take the Anacortes Ferry (90 miles north of Seattle) to Sydney (just north of Victoria) and follow driving directions above.

Option #3: Take the Coho Ferry from Port Angeles (3 hours west of Seattle) to Victoria and follow driving directions above. Ferry cost for car and driver is about \$60.

Transportation Weblinks:

Craig Air

Victoria, Ucluelet, Tofino, British Columbia. Canada

T (604) 247-1000(Office)

T (877) 886-3466(Toll Free)

reservations@craigair.com

www.craigair.com

Craig Air offers scheduled service to Tofino from Vancouver.

Orca Airways

#311 - Avitat 5360 Airport Rd South, Richmond, British Columbia. Canada V7B 1B4

T (888) 359-6722(Toll Free)

office@flyorcaair.com

www.flyorcaair.com

Orca Airways offers year round scheduled service to Tofino from Vancouver.

Sound Flight

P.O. Box 812, Renton, WA 98057

T (425) 254-8064(Office)

F (425) 254-8065(Fax)

T (866) 921-3474(Toll Free)

info@soundflight.net

www.soundflight.net

Scheduled flights from Seattle to Victoria and Tofino

Tofino Bus

564 Campbell, Box 207, Tofino, British Columbia. Canada V0R 2Z0

T (250) 725-2871(Office)

F (250)725-2876(Fax)

T (866) 986-3466(Toll Free)

info@tofinobus.com

www.tofinobus.com

Tofino Bus will be the company that we will charter to be the pre-arranged transportation link for the congress. The busses will meet participants at various arrival nodes to make logistics simpler and will help keep costs down. Tofino Bus provides daily express bus between Tofino, Ucluelet, Port Alberni, Nanaimo, Vancouver and Victoria. Daily Beach Bus to Long Beach as well. Year-round service. Powered by Biodiesel.

BC Ferries

Tsawwassen Terminal, Vancouver, British Columbia. Canada

T (250) 386-3431(Office)

T 1-888-223-3779(Toll Free)

Bcferries.Reservations@bcferries.com

www.bcferries.com

Vehicle ferries between mainland British Columbia and Vancouver Island.

MV Coho/Blackball Express

101 E. Railroad Ave, Port Angeles, WA, 98362, Vancouver, British Columbia. Canada

T (360) 457-4491(Office)

T (250) 386-2202(Office)

F FAX (360) 457-4493(Fax)

www.cohoferry.com/fares_schedules.htm

www.ferrytravel.com

Vehicle ferry traveling between Victoria, BC and Port Angeles, WA, USA.

Victoria Clipper

2701 Alaskan Way, Pier 69 Seattle, WA 98121, Victoria, British Columbia. Canada

T 206-448-5000(Office)

T 250-382-8100(Office)

T 800-888-2535(Toll Free)

www.victoriaclipper.com/ferry_schedule

Passenger ferry with a fast trip between Seattle, WA and Victoria, BC.

Washington State Ferries

2911 Second Ave, Seattle, Washington 98121-1012, Victoria, BC. Canada

T 206.464.6400(Office)

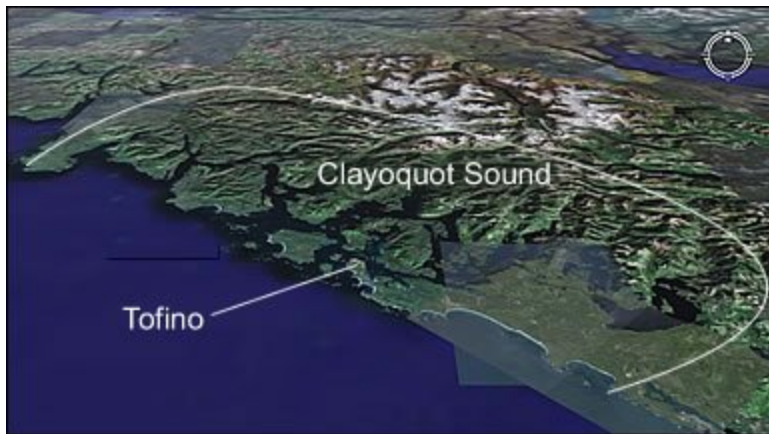
T 1.888.808.7977(Toll Free)

wsf@wsdot.wa.gov

www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/schedules/current/index.cfm?route=ana-sid

Vehicle ferry service between Sidney, BC (near Victoria) and Anacortes, WA (near Seattle).

Appendix 2: Location of Tofino and Clayoquot Sound



Appendix 3: Web Links

Canadian Government: <http://www.canada.gc.ca>

Malaspina University-College: <http://www.mala.bc.ca>

Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council: <http://www.nuuchahnulth.org>

Nuu-chah-nulth Language Project: <http://www.clayoquotalliance.uvic.ca/Language>

Tin Wis Hotel & Resort: <http://www.tinwis.com>

Tofino Botanical Gardens Foundation: <http://www.tbgf.org>

Tofino Chamber of Commerce: <http://www.tourismtofino.com/>

University of Victoria: <http://www.uvic.ca>

Appendix 4: Photos

Tofino Botanical Gardens



Clayoquot Field Station



Tin Wis Hotel and Resort



Clayoquot Sound

