

SOUTHLANDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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RE: Artist Response Team Concert
Rock the Salish Sea at Southlands School

Dear Holly Arntzen and Kevin Wright,

I am still hearing from parents and community members about how much they enjoyed and valued their experiences at the *Rock the Salish Sea* concert created and presented by you and *The Wild's* at Southlands. Comments include: "Absolutely spectacular!" "That was the best concert, and I'm not just talking about school concerts, I've ever attended!" "My kids are still singing the songs and I can't believe how much they learned about sustainability and the environment." "I could not believe the confidence of my shy child as she sang her heart out, complete with actions, on stage!"

Teachers valued your mentorship as they watched you teach choral and performance skills to students from kindergarten through to grade 7. They were also appreciative of and impressed with the *Salish Sea* and *I am the Future* handbooks. I am happy to report that since your work with our students they are more confident singing and presenting at other school events. Bravo and many thanks!

Community members, parents and teachers understand that an educational experience of this calibre requires dedication and hard work on your part and also requires funding to bring the learning opportunity into schools. The spectacular concert you created was the climax of the experience for students and families.

Many adults attending the concert made mention of how much they appreciated the outstanding contribution and support of TIRE Stewardship BC and Pacific Salmon Foundation in sponsoring your *Artist Response Team* in bringing this educational and cultural experience to fruition in the school setting.

The experience with your *Artist Response Team* generated so much enthusiasm in our students that the sustainability of the *Salish Sea* continues to be discussed in classrooms and I still hear children singing the songs. Most importantly, there have been numerous requests for another concert with you and *The Wild's* at Southlands next school year!

Many thanks for the wonderful educational experience that you provided to Southlands' students. We wish you success in your future endeavors and hope to host you at our school again in the future.

Yours Sincerely,

Annie O' Donoghue

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Principal