



NORTH VANCOUVER ISLAND

## Protected Heritage Sites: Information for Landowners

### Protected Heritage Sites and North Vancouver Island

North Vancouver Island is rich in First Nations Heritage sites, which is just one thing that makes this part of the world so special. Many of these Heritage sites are protected under the *Heritage Conservation Act*.

Protected Heritage sites include archaeological sites, which are links to the past that reflect ancient life and illuminate the way that First Nations historically lived on this land; today, First Nations use these sites for their spiritual connection. These sites and artifacts are fragile and losing or damaging them means losing the opportunity for First Nations to understand their history, culture, and traditions. Examples of *Heritage Conservation Act* protections include archaeological sites such as shell middens, fish traps, tools, or burial features that may be found on your property.



# North Vancouver Island Protected Heritage Sites: Information for Landowners

## Protecting Archaeological Sites

Your property may contain a Heritage site protected under the *Heritage Conservation Act* and it is extremely important you are aware of your responsibilities under the Act before you begin plans to develop or renovate.

Please keep these *Heritage Act* protections in mind when planning any kind of improvements to your property. Even the simplest change to your property may risk causing severe damage to these sites and the knowledge they provide, as well as a risk of contravening the law. Before any subsurface activities are planned on your property reach out to a professional archaeologist and/or call the Archaeology Branch.

## Detailed Information

To find out more about *Heritage Conservation Act* protections of archaeological sites on your property and how to protect them, go to the Archaeology Branch's website page at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/natural-resource-use/archaeology>

View a brochure entitled 'If You are Planning to Develop or Renovate Your Property' (available on the MaPP website listed below).

For additional enquiries, you can contact the Archaeology Branch of the Government of British Columbia:

**By phone:** 250 953-3334

**By email:** [Archaeology@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Archaeology@gov.bc.ca)

### By mail:

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### For more information:

Visit the MaPP website  
[www.mappean.org/nvi-culture](http://www.mappean.org/nvi-culture)



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