

**Affidavit of Mrs. Marie Holer,
President of Marineland of Canada Inc.**

I, Mrs. Marie Holer, of the City of Niagara Falls, in the Province of Ontario, Canada, make oath and state as follows:

1. I am the President of Marineland of Canada, Inc. ("Marineland").
2. My husband, the founder and President of Marineland passed away on June 23, 2018.
3. Marineland is now operating under new management.
4. Marineland currently houses fifty-four Beluga Whales primarily in two main pool complexes, Friendship Cove and Arctic Cove.
5. Pursuant to applicable laws governing zoos and aquariums in Ontario, Canada, Marineland has an established Animal Care Committee ("ACC"), comprised of internal and external experts in the field of marine mammal care, animal care staff, along with a community representative. All decisions regarding the best interests(including care and housing), of all marine mammals are considered and approved by the ACC.
6. The ACC has, in the last six months, undergone an evaluation of the best interest of the Beluga Whale population at Marineland, including at least, the facilities, staffing, veterinary services, enrichment, social dynamics, animal health, population, and the best interests of the individual whales.
7. As a consequence of that review, the Marineland ACC is actively managing the Beluga Whale population at Marineland to: 1) prevent further expansion of the Beluga Whale population; 2) actively manage breeding on an ongoing basis so as to prevent further expansion of the Beluga Whale population; 3) increase available space for the existing Beluga Whales through the reduction of the Beluga Whale population at Marineland; and, 4) through partnerships with appropriate institutions, such as the Mystic Aquarium, further research, conservation and education efforts in relation to the Beluga Whale.
8. As a consequence of the successful natural reproduction by Beluga Whales at Marineland (no intervention or artificial insemination is used at Marineland) Marineland is committed to not acquiring Beluga Whales from any other facility or source.
9. In addition, Marineland is committed to not acquiring any wild capture Beluga Whales from any facility or source.

10. Consistent with the foregoing and in the best interests of its Beluga Whale population, Marineland is seeking to transfer five beluga whales from Marineland to Mystic Aquarium.

11. I wish to note that Federal legislation under the Fisheries Act, Canada, Bill C-68, which Marineland supports, will ban the capture of all cetaceans in Canadian waters. Bill C-68 is supported by the Government and is expected to come into law this year.

12. In addition, importation of Beluga Whales into Canada is governed by CITES and applicable Federal and Provincial legislation in Canada. Marineland has no intention of importing any Beluga Whales from any source and we do not believe that such importation would be permitted in any event.

13. I provide this affidavit for the purposes of Mystic Aquarium's application for a permit from applicable United States authorities to import five Beluga Whales from Marineland to Mystic.

SWORN BEFORE ME)
at the City of Niagara Falls)
in the Province of Ontario)
this ^{4th} day of March, 2019.)


A Commissioner, etc.
Andreelle Burtas


MARIE HOLER