

**VILLAGE OF PEMBERTON
-REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA-**

Agenda for the **Regular Meeting** of Council of the Village of Pemberton to be held Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, 7400 Prospect Street. This is Meeting No. 1499.

“This meeting is being recorded on audio tape for minute-taking purposes as authorized by the Village of Pemberton Audio recording of Meetings Policy dated September 14, 2010.”

| Item of Business | Page No. |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. CALL TO ORDER | |
| In honour of the Lil'wat7ul, the Village of Pemberton acknowledges that we are meeting within the unceded territory of the Lil'wat Nation. | |
| 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA | |
| Recommendation: THAT the Agenda be approved as presented. | |
| 3. RISE WITH REPORT FROM IN CAMERA (CLOSED) | |
| 4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES | |
| a) Regular Council Meeting No. 1498, Tuesday, September 10, 2019 | 5 |
| Recommendation: THAT the minutes of Regular Council Meeting No. 1498, held Tuesday, September 10, 2019, be adopted as circulated. | |
| 5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING | |
| 6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE | |
| 7. COMMITTEE MINUTES - FOR INFORMATION | |
| There are no committee minutes for information | |
| 8. DELEGATIONS | |
| There are no delegations scheduled for this meeting. | |
| 9. REPORTS | |
| a) Office of the Chief Administrative Officer | |
| i. Rural Dividend Fund Update – Verbal Report | |
| Recommendation: THAT the verbal report be received for information. | |
| ii. Pemberton Valley Emergency Management Committee Appointments | |
| Recommendation: THAT Mayor Richman, the Chief Administrative Officer and the Emergency Program Coordinator be appointed to the Pemberton Valley Emergency Management Committee; | |
| AND THAT Council appoint an alternate. | |
| iii. Downtown Barn Surfacing Options – Verbal Report | 16 |

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| <p>iv. UBCM 2020 Community Resiliency Investment Program Grant Application</p> <p>Recommendation: THAT the Village of Pemberton applies to UBCM's Community Resiliency Investment Program for the fuel treatment of a portion of the 'PEM4' polygon for up to \$150,000.</p> <p>b) Corporate & Legislative Services</p> <p>i. Bylaw Enforcement Policy Amendment</p> <p>Recommendation: THAT the amendment to the Bylaw Enforcement Policy be approved.</p> <p>c) Development Services</p> <p>i. Official Community Plan Amendment Early and Ongoing Consultation (Sea to Sky School District 48)</p> <p>Recommendation One:</p> <p>THAT Council has considered the obligations under Section 475 of the <i>Local Government Act</i> with respect to the Official Community Plan amendment application by Sea to Sky School District No. 48 on a portion of Lot 1, DL 165 & 203, LLD, Plan KAP56732 and requests that the Applicant organize, advertise, and host at least one (1) public information meeting prior to consideration of First and Second reading of the forthcoming OCP amending bylaw.</p> <p>Recommendation Two:</p> <p>THAT Council has considered Section 475 of the <i>Local Government Act</i> and directs Staff to consult with the following organizations before consideration of First and Second Reading to the forthcoming OCP amending bylaw:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lil'wat Nation • Squamish-Lillooet Regional District • Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure • CN Rail • Pemberton Valley Dyking District • Pemberton Valley Trails Association • School District No. 93 – Consular Scholaire Francophone de la BC • Pemberton and District Chamber of Commerce • TELUS • BC Hydro. <p>d) MAYOR'S Report</p> <p>e) COUNCILLORS' Reports</p> <p>10. BYLAWS</p> <p>a) Bylaw for First and Second Readings</p> <p>i. Official Community Plan (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 868, 2019</p> <p>ii. Zoning (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 869, 2019</p> | <p>17</p> <p>21</p> <p>27</p> <p>33</p> <p>40</p> <p>42</p> |
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Recommendations: THAT Official Community Plan (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 868, 2019, be given first and second reading;

THAT Zoning (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 869, 2019 be given first and second reading;

AND THAT Council convene a Public Hearing on Tuesday, November 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village of Pemberton Council Chambers.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

a) For Action

- i. **Shannon Story, Executive Director, Lower Mainland Local Government Association, dated September 13, 2019, extending an invitation to Mayor and Council to attend the Annual CivX Event on November 28, 2019, presented by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association and CivicInfo BC.** 49

Recommendation: THAT Council provide direction with respect to attending the Annual CivX Event, November 28, 2019.

- ii. **Erica Finnsson, Village of Pemberton, dated September 19, 2019, suggesting rainbow crosswalks for the Village.** 52

Recommendation: THAT Council provide direction with respect to the request.

b) For Information

- i. **Gudrun Langolf, President, Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations of B.C., dated September 5, 2019, regarding the UN International Day of Older Persons 2019.** 53

- ii. **Elyse Curley, Community Liaison Officer – South Coast, BC Parks, dated September 11, 2019, providing a summary of the results of the Joffre Lakes public online survey from Spring 2019.** 58

- iii. **Terry Rysz, Mayor, District of Sicamous, dated September 13, 2019, regarding a resolution submitted to UBCM supporting an Off-Road Vehicle Management Framework.** 74

- iv. **Rob Douglas, Councillor, Municipality of North Cowichan, dated September 15, 2019, requesting support of a resolution on regional management of forestry and providing the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives' report for information.** 75

- v. **Diamond Isinger, Manager, Public Affairs, BC Council of Forest Industries, dated September 16, 2019, sharing the recently released "Smart Future: A path forward for B.C.'s forest products industry" document and news release.** 111

- vi. **Curt Kingsley, Deputy CAO / Director of Corporate Services, District of North Saanich, dated September 17, 2019, providing a resolution regarding the UBCM reception sponsored by the government of China.** 135

- vii. **Anne Williams, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Salmo, dated September 17, 2019, providing a resolution submitted to UBCM respecting Transportation Network Services in small communities.** 136

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| viii. Lisa Helps, Mayor, City of Victoria, dated September 17, 2019, regarding a resolution submitted to UBCM in support of a proposed Vacancy Tax for local governments. | 137 |
| ix. Laura Dick, resident of Port Moody, dated September 19, 2019, requesting support for Elected Official Disqualification resolutions which were endorsed at the 2018 UBCM convention. | 138 |
| x. Lesley Douglas, Chair of Communications Committee, Invasive Species Council of British Columbia, dated September 24, 2019, regarding <i>Together in Action Awards</i> nominations. | 145 |
| xi. Kurt Eby, Director, Regulatory & Government Relations, The Weather Network, dated September 26, 2019, providing an update on weather and public safety service commitments. | 146 |
| xii. Keely Kidner, Outreach Sustainability Coordinator, District of Squamish, dated October 2, 2019, providing the jointly signed Local Government Response to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy and accompanying Media Release. | 147 |
| xiii. The Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Children and Family Development, dated October 2, 2019, proclaiming October as Foster Family Month in British Columbia. | 155 |

Recommendation: THAT the above correspondence be received for information.

12. DECISION ON LATE BUSINESS

13. LATE BUSINESS

14. NOTICE OF MOTION

15. QUESTION PERIOD 156

16. IN CAMERA

THAT pursuant to Section 90 (1) (g) litigation of the *Community Charter*, the Council of the Village of Pemberton serves notice to hold an In-Camera Meeting on today's date for the purpose of dealing with matters for which the public shall be excluded from attending.

17. RISE FROM IN CAMERA

18. ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

**VILLAGE OF PEMBERTON
-REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES-**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council of the Village of Pemberton held on Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, 7400 Prospect Street. This is Meeting No. 1498.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Mike Richman
Councillor Ted Craddock
Councillor Ryan Zant
Councillor Leah Noble
Councillor Amica Antonelli

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Nikki Gilmore, Chief Administrative Officer
Sheena Fraser, Manager of Corporate & Legislative Services
Lisa Pedrini, Manager of Development Services
Jill Brooksbank, Senior Communications & Grant Coordinator
Anne Burt, Bylaw Enforcement Officer
Elysia Harvey, Legislative Assistant
Cameron Chalmers, Planning Consultant

Public: 3

Media: 1

1. CALL TO ORDER

At 5:30 p.m. Mayor Richman called the meeting to order.

In honour of the Lil'wat7ul, the Village of Pemberton acknowledges that we are meeting within the unceded territory of the Lil'wat Nation.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved/Seconded
THAT the Agenda be approved as presented.
CARRIED

3. PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION: 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Moved/Seconded
THAT the 2018 Annual Report be received for information.
CARRIED

4. RISE WITH REPORT FROM IN CAMERA (CLOSED)

SKY Helicopters Airport Lease Agreement

THAT the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute the lease agreement between the Village of Pemberton and SKY Helicopters.

Airport Development

THAT a discussion take place at a future Committee of the Whole meeting regarding helicopter base operations at Pemberton Airport.

BC Transit 2019-2020 Annual Operating Agreement – April 1, 2019

THAT the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute the Pemberton 2019 – 2020 Annual Operating Agreement which was effective April 1, 2019, between the Village of Pemberton and BC Transit.

BC Transit 2019-2020 Annual Operating Agreement – Amendment 1 – June 3, 2019

THAT the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute the Pemberton 2019 – 2020 Annual Operating Agreement Amendment #1, which was effective June 3, 2019, between the Village of Pemberton and BC Transit.

Tourism Pemberton

THAT correspondence be sent to Tourism Pemberton providing clarification with respect to the Local Service Area Bylaws that are being prepared by the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District which will provide ongoing funding for local community organizations that qualify under the terms of the Bylaw.

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

a) Regular Council Meeting No. 1497, Tuesday, July 30, 2019

Moved/Seconded

THAT the minutes of Regular Council Meeting No. 1497, held Tuesday, July 30, 2019 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

There was no business arising.

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

There was no business arising.

8. COMMITTEE MINUTES – FOR INFORMATION

There were no Committee Minutes for information.

9. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegation presentations.

10. REPORTS

a) Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

i. Mount Meager Landslide Monitoring Grant Application – Verbal Report

CAO Gilmore advised Council that a grant application had been submitted by Quest University and Simon Fraser University to the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) for the amount \$5,000. The funding would be used to support the placement of landslide monitoring equipment and field work undertaken by the Universities' research teams. The request was brought before Council as SLRD Area C Director Mack was supportive of the project and wanted to know if the Village and Lil'wat Nation would be agreeable to cost-sharing - each contributing one third towards the total funding request.

Moved/Seconded

THAT funding for the Mount Meager Landslide Monitoring Project, in the amount of \$1,667, be contributed from the Emergency Management Fund and/or the Community Enhancement Fund, contingent on matching funding commitments from the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District and Lil'wat Nation.

CARRIED

ii. Childcare BC New Spaces Fund

Jill Brooksbank, Senior Communications & Grants Coordinator, presented Council with information on the Province's Childcare BC New Spaces Fund, and sought Council's approval to submit an application for up to \$3 million in grant funding for an expansion to the Pemberton Children's Centre. As the conduit for the funding, the Village would own the building, however, the building would be purpose-built for the Pemberton Children's Centre as the operator and lessee.

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Village of Pemberton make application to the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund for funding, up to \$3 Million Dollars, for the construction of an additional building on Lot 15 to increase childcare spaces at the Pemberton Children's Centre.

AND THAT Council allocate up to \$10,000 for the development of conceptual drawings which are required to be submitted with the funding application.

CARRIED

iii. Downtown Celebratory Street Party – Verbal Update

CAO Gilmore presented ideas to Council for a street party to celebrate the completion of the Downtown Enhancement Project and to thank businesses and residents for their patience during the construction work that took place this Summer. The celebration would welcome residents of all ages to take part and invite local businesses and vendors to stay open for the event.

The Village's contractor, Hazelwood Construction, and ISL Engineering have each indicated they would contribute \$1,500 towards the costs of organizing the celebration.

Moved/Seconded

THAT \$1,500 be allocated from either the Community Enhancement Fund (CEF) or Community Initiative and Opportunity Fund (CIOF) for a downtown celebratory street party.

CARRIED

b) Corporate & Legislative Services

i. Dogwood Street/Staehli Park Parking

Moved/Seconded

THAT Council receive the report for information.

CARRIED

c) Development Services

i. Affordable Housing Strategy Background Reports

a) Affordable Housing Background Report 2019 – Final for Approval

Moved/Seconded

THAT the *Affordable Housing Background Report dated July 2019* be approved.

CARRIED

b) Age-Friendly Housing Needs Assessment, September 2019 – Final for Approval

Moved/Seconded

THAT the *Age-Friendly Housing Needs Assessment dated September 2019* be approved.

CARRIED

ii. Official Community Plan Amendment – Early and Ongoing Consultation

Cameron Chalmers, Planning Consultant, presented a report to Council regarding the early and ongoing consultation required for Sunstone Ridge Developments Ltd.'s application for an amendment to the Official Community Plan. The subject amendment application could re-designate a 4.47 hectare area near the current Sunstone Ridge Development from 'Hillside Special Study Area' to 'Residential' to allow for further development.

Moved/Seconded

THAT Council has considered the obligations under Section 475 of the *Local Government Act* with respect to the Official Community Plan amendment application by Sunstone Ridge Developments Ltd. On a portion of Lot 1, DL 211, LLD, Plan EPP72101 and requests that the Applicant organize, advertise, and host at least one (1) public information meeting prior to consideration of First and Second reading of the forthcoming OCP amending bylaw.

CARRIED

Moved/Seconded

THAT Council has considered Section 475 of the *Local Government Act* and directs Staff to consult with the following organizations before consideration of First and Second reading to the forthcoming OCP amending bylaw:

- Lil'wat Nation
- Squamish Lillooet Regional District
- Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
- CN Rail
- Pemberton Valley Dyking District
- Pemberton Valley Trails Association
- School District No. 48 – Sea to Sky
- School District No. 93 – Consular Scholaire Francophone de la BC
- Pemberton and District Chamber of Commerce
- TELUS
- BC Hydro

CARRIED

e) MAYOR'S Report

Mayor Richman reported on the following meetings:

- Attended the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Board meeting where the following was addressed:
 - Geothermal potential within the Pemberton Valley;
 - Approval of Pemberton Wildlife Association Gun Range Permissive Tax Exemption;
 - SLRD Board Procedural Bylaw Amendment;
 - Request for decision for inclusion of tourist accommodation in the Wedgewoods Development, supported by the Board;
 - Regulation of Short-Term Vacation Rentals for Areas A, B, C and D
 - Request for variance from North Arm Farm for setbacks to accommodate additional housing for temporary farm workers, supported by the Board.
 - Pemberton Wildlife Association presentation on illegal dumping;
 - Woodfibre LNG requested by Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency to do more consultation;
 - The communities of Black Tusk and Pinecrest preparing to submit an application for grant funding for a wastewater energy plan.
- Met with Mayors of Squamish and Whistler to discuss policy sharing, Transit and emergency planning collaboration;
- Attended a SLRD strategic planning meetings;
- Met with Chief Nelson of Lil'wat Nation to discussed flood mitigation, the Friendship Trail, and a potential meeting of council members in the future;
- Spoke with Minister Clair Trevena via conference call regarding the regional transit initiative;
- Will be attending a dinner with transit leadership directors;
- Met with Greg Coombs, Coombs Development Corp., and Robert Cadez, from PCUrban, respecting potential development opportunities in Pemberton;
- Attended a meeting with Pemberton Offroad Cycling Association (PORCA) to discuss long term goals for trail development;
- Attended the Telus presentation to mark the official launch of the fibre optic network in Pemberton;
- Met with Christine Brown regarding zero waste initiatives.

Mayor Richman and CAO Gilmore acknowledged Staff for their excellent work and dedication on the Friendship Trail bridge and Downtown Enhancement Project as these projects come to completion.

Mayor Richman also reported on the following community events:

- Lil'wat Station Grant Opening is taking place on Wednesday, Sept 18th at 3pm.
- The Pemberton Fire Rescue 50th Anniversary Celebration and Golf Tournament will be held at Big Sky Golf Club on September 27th
- Pemberton & District Recreation Site and Soccer Field Ribbon cutting, is taking place on Monday, September 16th at 4:30pm at the recreation site. Welcomed residents to join the ceremony for some cake and acknowledging the generous contributors to this community project
- Friday, September 13th and 14th – Mountain Muse Event, presented by the Pemberton Arts Council, includes concerts and art displays at the Barn and throughout town
 - Saturday, September 21st – Rotary Barn Dance – the Village has granted a noise exemption for music to go past 11:00 pm
 - Sunday, September 15th – Terry Fox Run at Airport Park
 - Saturday, September 28th – PORCA Mackenzie Cruise bike race followed by a celebration at the Barn
 - Pemberton & Area C Repair Café will be taking pace at the Pemberton Tool Library on Saturday, September 21st from 10am-1pm.
 - September 30th – Orange Short Day. This day is to honour the healing journey of the residential school survivors and their families, and to commit to the ongoing process of reconciliation. The date was chosen because it is the time of year in which children were taken from their homes to residential schools, and because it is an opportunity to set the stage for anti-racism and anti-bullying policies for the coming school year. It is an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come.

f) COUNCILLORS' Reports

Councillor Zant

Attended the Cemetery Committee Meeting where the following topics of discussion took place:

- Donation of land from Jill Giese, Dreamcatcher Meadows Farm to expand the cemetery land
- Website launch;
- New fencing;
- Relocation of parking;
- Incorporating a columbarium into future plans for the cemetery.

Councillor Antonelli

Councillor Antonelli reported that she will be attending the Library Strategic Planning meeting on September 28th.

Councillor Craddock

Councillor Craddock did not report.

Councillor Noble

Councillor Noble did not report.

11. BYLAWS

There were no bylaws for reading or adoption.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

a) For Action

- i. Todd G. Stone, MLA, BC Liberal Official Opposition, dated July 19th, 2019, extending an invitation to one-on-one meetings or roundtable discussions during UBCM Convention.**

Moved/Seconded

THAT the correspondence from Todd G. Stone, MLA, BC Liberal Official Opposition, be received for information.

CARRIED

- ii. Bruce Gibbons, Merville Water Guardians, dated August 9, 2019, raising awareness on the prohibition of bottled groundwater in BC and requesting support.**

Moved/Seconded

THAT the correspondence from Bruce Gibbon, Merville Water Guardians, be received for information.

CARRIED

- iii. Sarah Weber, President & CEO, C3 Alliance Corp., dated August 8, 2019, inviting Mayor and Council to attend the 6th Annual Resource Breakfast Series on September 24th, 26th and 27th, 2019.**

Council will advise Staff as to their interest in attendance.

- iv. Shannon White, Sustainability Coordinator, District of Squamish, dated September 3, 2019, requesting support for a joint submission letter drafted to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy respecting the proposed amendments to the *Recycling Regulation of the Environmental Management Act*.**

Moved/Seconded

THAT Council consider joining as a signatory on the submission from the District of Squamish and Tofino in response to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy respecting amendments to the *Recycling Regulation* of the *Environmental Management Act* and passing the following resolution:

THAT the Village of Pemberton Council supports and wishes to join the submission from the Districts of Squamish and Tofino in response to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy's proposed amendments to the *Recycling Regulation* of the *Environmental Management Act*."

CARRIED

b) For Information

- i. Lisa Helps, Mayor, City of Victoria, dated July 19, 2019, supporting Lobbying Registration in BC.**
- ii. Lyn Hall, Mayor, City of Prince George, dated July 23, 2019, requesting Provincial support for libraries.**
- iii. Carmen Praine, Chair, Pemberton & District Library, dated July 23, 2019, extending appreciation to Mayor and Council for working to improve internet connectivity in the Village.**
- iv. Bill Dingwall, Mayor, City of Pitt Meadows, dated July 24, 2019, supporting the regulation of single-use items.**
- v. Aaron Lamb, Vice President of Asset Management, BC Transit, dated July 29, 2019, sharing details of Low Carbon Fleet Program.**
- vi. Bill Dingwall, Mayor, City of Pitt Meadows, dated August 2, 2019, regarding a resolution for Provincial support for Libraries.**
- vii. Rebecca Matthews, dated August 14, 2019, advocating for safe wireless technology.**
- viii. Tara Faganello, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and Gary MacIsaac, Union of British Columbia Municipalities, dated August 14, 2019, recognizing the Village for its Achievement of Carbon Neutrality.**
- ix. Angila Bains, Manager of Legislative Services, District of Saanich, dated August 15, 2019, regarding a resolution submitted to UBCM in support of cleanup of needles and other harm reduction paraphernalia.**

- x. **Angila Bains, Manager of Legislative Services, District of Saanich, dated August 15, 2019, regarding a resolution submitted to UBCM on the proceeds of crime.**
- xi. **Allen Courtoreille, Mayor, District of Chetwynd, dated August 19, 2019, requesting restoration of Provincial funding for libraries.**
- xii. **Gail McKellar, Village of Pemberton, dated August 21, 2019, protesting the topless march in Whistler Village.**
- xiii. **Linda Buchanan, Mayor, City of North Vancouver, dated August 22, 2019, requesting restoration of Provincial Funding for libraries.**
- xiv. **Henry Wiebe, Acting Mayor, Village of Burns Lake, dated September 4, 2019, requesting consideration and resolutions in support of the Limited Entry Hunt for Cow/Calf Moose.**

Moved/Seconded

THAT the above correspondence be received for information.

CARRIED

13. DECISION ON LATE BUSINESS

There was no late business for consideration.

14. LATE BUSINESS

There was no late business.

15. NOTICE OF MOTION

There was no notice of motion.

16. QUESTION PERIOD

Joel Barde, Pique Newsmagazine, requested to speak with Mayor Richman following the meeting.

17. ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Regular Council Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

At 7:00 p.m. the Regular Council Meeting was adjourned.

Mike Richman
Mayor

Sheena Fraser
Corporate Officer

DRAFT

Table 1 - Barn Surfacing Comparison

| Rank | Surface | Estimated Cost | Maintenance Ranking | Life Expectancy | Drainage | Risks | Refridgeration/Ice Rink Base | Benefits |
|------|---|----------------|---|-----------------|---|--|------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Concrete | \$85K | 5 - Most prone to cracking. Repairs can be costly | 30 - 40 years | Can be easily constructed with drainage features. | Most prone to crack in cold climates. Can be costly to repair. | Yes | Long lasting, durable and good drainage. |
| 2 | Asphalt | \$30K | 4 - Cracks can be easily repaired. Requires periodic sealing | 15 - 25 years | Most likely to result in ponding/puddles. | Can crack in cold climates, though less likely to crack than concrete. | Yes | Low cost and durable. |
| 3 | Pavers | \$140k | 2 - Cracked or raised pavers can be easily repaired/replaced | 25 - 75 years | Free draining. | Substantial sub-surface preparation leads to high initial costs. | May be Problematic | Good longevity, low maintenance and good drainage. |
| 4 | Rubber | \$90K-\$130K | 1 - Least amount of capital maintenance. Frequent washing would be required, would retain odour from spills | 15 - 20 years | Can be constructed with drainage features. | Life expectancy can be shortened in varied and cold climates. Recommended to be installed overtop asphalt or concrete. | Not Suitable | Soft safe surface and aesthically pleasing. |
| 5 | ROMEX (Liquid polymer adhesive that binds gravel) | \$60k-\$180k | 3 - Periodic re-replication required for damaged areas | 25 - 50 years | Free draining. | Lower estimated cost is based on being able to apply product to existing gravel surface. Higher cost is based on additional subgrade works to optimize installation. | Unknown | Easy application, good drainage and easily maintained. |

Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2019

To: Nikki Gilmore, Chief Administrative Officer

From: Jill Brooksbank, Senior Communications & Grant Coordinator

Subject: UBCM 2020 Community Resiliency Investment Program Application

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to apply for funding for up to \$150,000 from UBCM's Community Resiliency Investment Program for the partial treatment of the 'PEMB4' polygon, a high-risk area identified in the 2016 update of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

BACKGROUND

Since the development of the last Community Wildfire Prevention Plan (CWPP) in 2005, the Village of Pemberton has made progress at implementing the recommendations from CWPP (2005), with the latest update in 2016 identifying the highest priorities for the Village.

The CWPP Update (2016) identified multiple areas as high priority areas due to a high wildfire risk. A Fuel Management Prescription (FMP) was completed on one area of high concern, titled 'PEMB4'. The primary objective of this fuel management prescription is to improve public safety and to provide anchored, low fuel, defensible space 300 m wide in a strategic location south of the Village core. Prevalent fire season winds are funneled from the south along the Sea to Sky corridor into the Village. The fuel break will improve public safety and protect public assets and infrastructure by reducing the chance of crown fire initiation, reduce fire behaviour potential, and reduce rate of fire spread.

Therefore, Staff proposes to apply for funding from UBCM's 2020 Community Resiliency Investment Program for the fuel treatment of approximately half of the area (9.5 ha) identified in the 2019 revised fuel management prescription (FMP) titled 'PEMB4 Fuel Management Prescription' (attached as **Appendix A**). The treatment regime includes thinning, pruning, pile burning and reduction of surface fuels.

The complete cost estimate per hectare is based on similar work done for the 2019 FMP titled 'Xit'Olacw – Mount Currie On-Reserve Fuel Management Prescription' for the Lil'wat Nation.

DISCUSSION & COMMENTS

The Community Resiliency Investment (CRI) program is intended to reduce the risk and impact of wildfire to communities in BC through community funding, supports and priority fuel management activities on provincial Crown land. Eligible applicants with a demonstrated higher risk of wildfire can apply for 100% of the cost of eligible activities to a maximum of \$150,000. 'PEM4' was identified as high risk in the updated CWPP.

COMMUNICATIONS

There are no communications required with the submission of an application to the 2020 Community Resiliency Investing Program. However, should the Village be successful in obtaining the funding, there will be a robust outreach and communications program developed in relation to the treatment due to its close proximity to the Village. Additionally, as per the funding agreement, the Village will be required to acknowledge the funding contribution towards the project.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no legal, legislative or regulatory considerations at this time.

IMPACT ON BUDGET & STAFFING

As the program funds 100% of expenses related to the proposed fuel management project, matching funds and budget allocation is not required. The application submission and project implementation can be accommodated within the departments of the Chief Administrative Officer and the Fire Department.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL IMPACT & APPROVAL

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|--------------------------------|--|
| Interdepartmental Approval by: | Robert Grossman, Pemberton Fire Rescue Chief |
|--------------------------------|--|

IMPACT ON THE REGION OR NEIGHBOURING JURISDICTIONS

To qualify for funding, applicants must demonstrate their level of engagement with a BC Wildfire Service's Prevention Officer, First Nations Emergency Services Society's Fuel Management Liaison/Specialist, and, if applicable, the Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development to ensure project alignment with Land Manager priorities.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

There are no alternative options for consideration.

POTENTIAL GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

The application to UBCM's Community Resiliency Investment Program for Fuel Treatment aligns with the Village's Strategy Priority of Social Responsibility whereby the Village strives to create a strong and vibrant community, recognizing the importance and benefits of healthy, engaged citizens as well as an accessible and well managed natural environment and is committed to public safety.

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the Village of Pemberton applies to UBCM's Community Resiliency Investment Program for the fuel treatment of a portion of the 'PEM4' polygon for up to \$150,000.

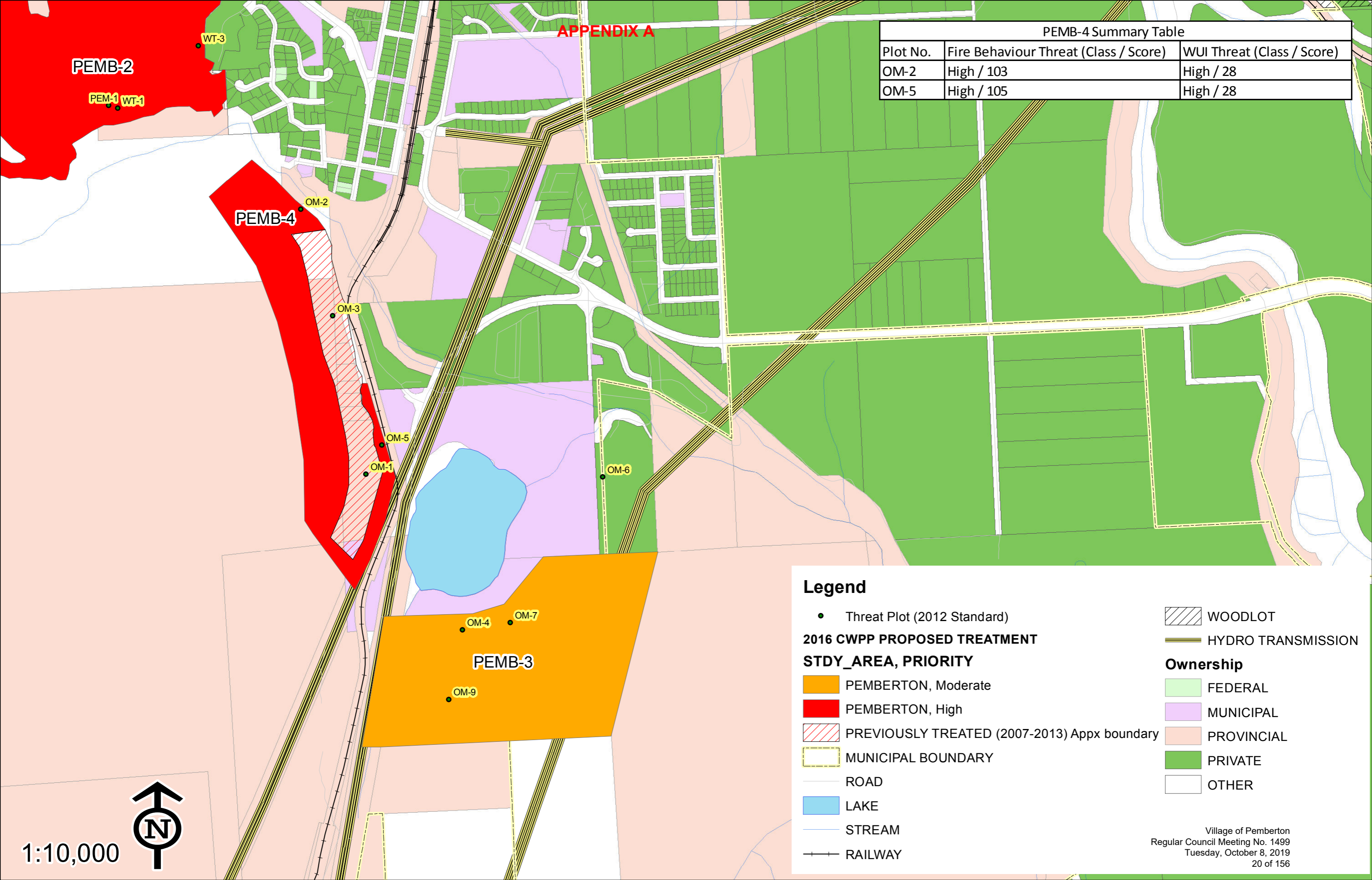
Attachments:

Appendix A: Map of priority treatment areas, as identified in the 2016 update of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

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| Prepared by: | Jill Brooksbank, Sr. Communications and Grants Coordinator |
| CAO Approval by: | Nikki Gilmore, Chief Administrative Officer |

APPENDIX A

| PEMB-4 Summary Table | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Plot No. | Fire Behaviour Threat (Class / Score) | WUI Threat (Class / Score) |
| OM-2 | High / 103 | High / 28 |
| OM-5 | High / 105 | High / 28 |



Legend

- Threat Plot (2012 Standard)
- 2016 CWPP PROPOSED TREATMENT**
- STDY_AREA, PRIORITY**
- PEMBERTON, Moderate
- PEMBERTON, High
- PREVIOUSLY TREATED (2007-2013) Appx boundary
- MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY
- ROAD
- LAKE
- STREAM
- RAILWAY
- WOODLOT
- HYDRO TRANSMISSION
- Ownership**
- FEDERAL
- MUNICIPAL
- PROVINCIAL
- PRIVATE
- OTHER

1:10,000



Date: October 8, 2019
To: Nikki Gilmore, Chief Administrative Officer
From: Sheena Fraser, Manager of Corporate & Legislative Services
Subject: Bylaw Enforcement Policy - Amendment

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present an amendment to the Village of Pemberton Bylaw Enforcement Policy for consideration by Council. **(Appendix A)**

BACKGROUND

At the Regular Council Meeting No. 1450, held on Tuesday, May 16, 2017, Council adopted the Village of Pemberton Bylaw Enforcement Policy (ADM-022). The Bylaw Enforcement Policy is a guide for Staff and members of the public with respect to the Village's approach to handling enforcement issues that arise from time to time.

As part of the Animal Control Bylaw review that was presented at the Committee of the Whole Meeting No. 195, held Tuesday, September 10, 2019, a proposed amendment to the Bylaw Enforcement Policy was presented for consideration.

DISCUSSION & COMMENTS

The purpose of bylaw enforcement is to gain compliance with Village bylaws. The Village's approach to enforcement is to educate, seek compliance and if not successful either levy fines or refer the matter to the Courts. In general, the Village has success in gaining compliance once residents are made aware and understand the regulations as established in the Village's regulatory bylaws.

The adoption of the Bylaw Enforcement Policy in 2017 formally established the process, which was already being utilized, by which the Village managed non-compliance to bylaws, with the exception of parking, animal control, sprinkling restrictions and wildlife attractants for which the Village actively enforces.

The Policy has been in place for three years and has been a helpful tool for Staff to use when dealing with resident complaints or concerns related to bylaw enforcement. However, as a result of some confusion respecting animal control on Strata Properties it has been recommended that clarification be provided in the Village's Bylaw Enforcement Policy. As such, the Policy has been updated to include the following:

New Section 8:

With respect to aggressive dog infractions not involving harm or a minor injury to a person, for a complaint to be considered, a written submission must be received from at least two (2) persons who are unrelated and affected by the aggressive dog, or who owns, resides upon, or otherwise has an interest in property that is affected by the alleged aggressive dog infraction. With respect to animal control matters not involving harm or a minor injury to a person that take place within a strata development or on strata lands, the Village will refer these matters to the Strata Council to address and resolve.

Unfortunately, it is not uncommon for residents, who do not get along with their neighbour, to submit complaints to the Village utilizing Village bylaws including the Animal Control Bylaw and requesting that an aggressive dog designation be established on another dog. In some instances, after committing resources and investigating the circumstances, Staff have determined that it is simply a matter of two dogs that do not get along with each other for varied reasons. Further, the Village also fields calls from residents within Strata Properties who have issues with other strata members dogs or cats with the expectation that the Village will resolve the issues. In most cases, Strata's have very robust Animal Control Bylaws which in some instances are more restrictive than the Village's Bylaw. As well, Strata's can levy fines that are applied directly to the Strata Fees paid by that owner and therefore enforcement is often more effective. Strata lands are private property and as such Bylaw Enforcement does not patrol or attend to internal strata issues.

The addition of this language to the Policy is being presented to ensure that complaints respecting an aggressive dog are in fact legitimate complaints and to clarify how the Village will respond to internal strata matters respecting animal control in general.

It should be noted that Staff are continuing to work on amendments to the Animal Control Bylaw and the proposed Aggressive Dog Designation Policy and Procedure and it is anticipated that these two items will be brought forward for Council's consideration before the end of the year.

COMMUNICATIONS

Should the Policy be approved as amended, Village Staff will be advised through internal email communication. As well, the Village Bylaw Enforcement website page will be updated to include information respecting submission of a bylaw complaint.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no legal considerations.

IMPACT ON BUDGET & STAFFING

There is no impact on budget or staffing as the Bylaw Enforcement Policy amendment was prepared in-house and is part of the operations of the Department of Corporate and Legislative Services.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL IMPACT & APPROVAL

There are no interdepartmental impacts.

IMPACT ON THE REGION OR NEIGHBOURING JURISDICTIONS

The establishment of a Bylaw Enforcement Policy has no impact on other jurisdictions.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

There are no alternative options for consideration.

POTENTIAL GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

Development, implementation and updating of the Bylaw Enforcement Policy meets with Strategic Theme No. Three: Excellence in Service whereby the Village is committed to delivering the highest quality of municipal services within the scope of our resources and Strategic Theme No. Four: Social Responsibility in which the Village strives to create a strong and vibrant community.

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT Council considers an amendment to the Bylaw Enforcement Policy.

Attachments:

Appendix A: Bylaw Enforcement Policy – as amended

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Submitted by: | Sheena Fraser, Manager of Corporate & Legislative Services |
| CAO Approval by: | Nikki Gilmore, Chief Administrative Officer |

Bylaw Enforcement Policy

| | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Department: | Corporate & Legislative Services | Policy No.: | ADM-022 |
| Sub-department: | | Created By: | Sheena Fraser |
| Approved By: | Council | Amended By: | Council |
| Approved Date: | 16 May 2017 | Amendment: | |
| Meeting No.: | 1450 | Meeting No.: | |

POLICY PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to provide guidance to Staff and the public in general regarding the enforcement of the bylaws and policies of the Village of Pemberton (the "Village")

POLICY

The Village of Pemberton (the "Village") bylaws and policies are in place to develop and maintain a safe and livable environment while respecting the rights of our neighbours and ensuring the quality of life for our citizens. The goal of the Village's bylaw enforcement is not to penalize residents, but to achieve compliance with its bylaws and policies through education and the provision of information. However, it is recognized that in some cases, compliance may require that penalties be issued.

The Village of Pemberton does not have the resources to actively ensure that its various parking, building, zoning, animal control and other regulatory bylaws are being complied with at all times. Therefore, it is the policy of the Village to rely primarily, but not exclusively, on citizen complaints as a means of enforcing these bylaws. In order to encourage valid complaints and to reduce the opportunity for intimidation and conflict, the Village seeks to establish a balance of accountability and confidentiality among the various parties to the bylaw enforcement process. The following policies shall therefore apply:

1. In order to be considered, a bylaw complaint shall be in writing using the Customer Service Request Form (standard mail, email, fax, or hand delivered) or by email and shall contain the name, address and phone number of the complainant and a description of the nature of the infraction including to the best of the complainants ability the date, time and specific location of the alleged infraction(s).
2. As a matter of practice, the identity of the complainant and the written complaint itself shall not be disclosed to the alleged violator or any member of the public. It is not necessary for the complainant to request confidentiality. Likewise, the response of the alleged violator shall not be disclosed to the complainant. Furthermore, bylaw enforcement files will not necessarily be discussed with a complainant subsequent to the initial submission of a written complaint.
3. The anonymity and confidentiality given to complainants and alleged violators under this policy cannot be assured in all circumstances, particularly if a complaint has been publicly disclosed by the complainant, or if an investigation results in court proceedings. If a request is made to the Village for disclosure under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (the "Act"), it shall be reviewed as per the relevant sections of the *Act*, unless consent is obtained

from the person who supplied the information and who would otherwise be provided confidentiality under the *Act* and this policy. The Village, however, is subject to orders issued by the Information and Privacy Commissioner under the *Act* and will not necessarily appeal an order to disclose.

4. When determining the response to a complaint the Village will consider such matters as the scale, number and duration of the infraction(s); the current, short and long term impacts caused by the infraction; the potential for precedents and the resources available to resolve the matter.
5. When receiving complaints about potential infractions on properties in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) or on Crown Land, the Village will send the complaint to the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC), the Ministry of Forest, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO) or other Ministries as required as the primary enforcement agency. The Village will recommend to the complainant that they submit complaints to the ALC, FLNRO or Ministry affected directly if they have not already done so. The Village will review the complaint for infractions to its own bylaws where the Village has primary responsibility for enforcement.
6. Bylaw enforcement is at the discretion of the Village. As a general rule, in order for a complaint to be considered, it shall be submitted by a person who is affected by the alleged infraction, or who owns, resides upon, or otherwise has an interest in property that is affected by the alleged infraction.
7. With respect to noise regulation infractions, for a complaint to be considered, a written submission must be received from at least two (2) persons who are unrelated and affected by the noise, or who owns, resides upon, or otherwise has an interest in property that is affected by the alleged noise infraction (**Amended September 12, 2017**). With respect to internal strata noise disputes, the Village will refer these matters to the Strata Council to address and resolve. (**Amended March 6, 2018**)
8. With respect to aggressive dog infractions not involving harm to a person, for a complaint to be considered, a written submission must be received from at least two (2) persons who are unrelated and affected by the aggressive dog, or who owns, resides upon, or otherwise has an interest in property that is affected by the alleged aggressive dog infraction. With respect to animal control matters not involving harm to a person that take place within a strata development or on strata lands, the Village will refer these matters to the Strata Council to address and resolve.
9. The Village reserves the right to not respond to anonymous complaints, complaints about multiple addresses from the same complainant or complaints that may be considered by the Village to be vexatious in manner.
10. The Village will handle complaints and bylaw enforcement issues as operational matters to be handled at a staff level rather than at a Council level, but will advise Council on enforcement matters on an as-needed basis or in response to complaints received by Council about the implementation of this Policy.
11. Generally, the Village will seek voluntary compliance first. It will not be the policy of the Village of Pemberton to necessarily seek a final legal remedy for all alleged infractions.

12. Some complaints may be considered either as a civil dispute between property owners, such as fences, or as a minor non-enforceable issue, such as trees overgrowing property lines. These matters will not be acted upon by the Village.

13. This policy does not preclude the Village from initiating enforcement of its bylaws in the absence of a complaint where circumstances warrant such action. Such circumstances may include, but are not limited to: health and safety considerations; potential Village liability; the scale or the flagrancy of the violation and in particular building, land use, parking, animal control, zoning and outdoor water use violations.

Date: October 8, 2019

To: Nikki Gilmore, Chief Administrative Officer

From: Joanna Rees, Planner

Subject: Official Community Plan Amendment – Early and Ongoing Consultation

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the early and ongoing consultation requirements described in Section 475 of the *Local Government Act* and provide direction for early and ongoing consultation for an Official Community Plan (OCP) amendment proposed on a portion of the subject lands located at 1400 Oak Street (Pemberton Secondary School).

This report is in response to an application by Sea to Sky School District No. 48 to amend the OCP Bylaw No. 654, 2011 by re-designating a 1,001 m² portion of Lot 1, DL 165 & 203, LLD, Plan KAP56732 from 'Civic and Institutional' to 'Residential' to accommodate a companion rezoning and future subdivision application. The amendments together would enable the applicant to apply for subdivision and would result in the creation of one (1) new single-family residential lot to be located at the corner of Poplar Street and Aspen Boulevard.

BACKGROUND

Sea to Sky School District No. 48 has made application to the Village of Pemberton for an amendment to the Official Community Plan (OCP). The application's intent is to designate additional lands in the OCP for residential use and to amend the Zoning Bylaw No. 832, 2018 to accommodate the creation of one (1) new residential lot. The subject lands are depicted in **Appendix A**, the proposed OCP amendment location is shown in **Appendix B**.

The application involves a minor amendment to the OCP, and therefore trigger's Council's consideration under Section 475 of the *Local Government Act* which addresses Council's requirements for early and ongoing consultation.

DISCUSSION & COMMENTS

Per Section 475 of the *Local Government Act*, Council must consider an appropriate level of engagement for each specific OCP amendment contemplated.

As this is a relatively minor OCP amendment, and given the Village of Pemberton practice of referring development applications to First Nations and affected jurisdictions, Staff recommend the standard application referral which provides the following agencies an opportunity to comment:

- Lil'wat Nation
- Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD)
- Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI)
- CN Rail

- Pemberton Valley Dyking District (PVDD)
- Pemberton Valley Trails Association (PVTA)
- School District No. 93 – Consular Scholaire Francophone de la BC
- Pemberton and District Chamber of Commerce
- TELUS
- BC Hydro

Staff also recommends to Council that the Applicant be required to organize, advertise and host a public information meeting with respect to the proposed land use amendments before Council considers First and Second Reading to the forthcoming OCP amending bylaw.

The purpose of this report is for Council to provide direction with respect to early and ongoing consultation as part of the ongoing Official Community Plan amendment application. This report is not intended to facilitate discussion about the relative merits of the proposal nor is it requesting direction on the application itself. The consultation process will run parallel with the Staff and agency review and the OCP amendment and rezoning bylaws will be brought forward for consideration by Council at a future meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

This report and request for Council direction does not require communication beyond appearing on a regular agenda of Council. It will be the applicants' responsibility to advertise and provide notification to adjacent property owners about the required developer-led public information session.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Section 475 of the *Local Government Act* reads as follows:

Consultation during development of official community plan

475 (1) *During the development of an official community plan, or the repeal or amendment of an official community plan, the proposing local government must provide one or more opportunities it considers appropriate for consultation with persons, organizations and authorities it considers will be affected.*

(2) *For the purposes of subsection (1), the local government must*

(a) *consider whether the opportunities for consultation with one or more of the persons, organizations and authorities should be early and ongoing, and*

(b) *specifically consider whether consultation is required with the following:*

(i) *the board of the regional district in which the area covered by the plan is located, in the case of a municipal official community plan;*

(ii) *the board of any regional district that is adjacent to the area covered by the plan;*

(iii) *the council of any municipality that is adjacent to the area covered by the plan;*

(iv) *first nations;*

(v) *boards of education, greater boards and improvement district boards;*

- (vi) the Provincial and federal governments and their agencies.*
- (3) *Consultation under this section is in addition to the public hearing required under section 477 (3) (c).*
- (4) *If the development of an official community plan, or the repeal or amendment of an official community plan, might affect agricultural land, the proposing local government must consult with the Agricultural Land Commission.*

IMPACT ON BUDGET & STAFFING

There are no budget or staffing considerations as the costs are recoverable with the application.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL IMPACT & APPROVAL

There are no interdepartmental impacts or approvals required respecting the processing of this application as it is a function of the Development Services Department and can be accommodated within the current workplan.

IMPACT ON THE REGION OR NEIGHBOURING JURISDICTIONS

Neighbouring jurisdictions including the Lil'wat Nation and the SLRD are given the opportunity to comment on this OCP amendment through the standard referral process. There are no anticipated impacts on the region or neighbouring jurisdictions.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Option One: That Council supports the Staff recommended standard referral process and the requirements for a developer-led public information session as a means of securing early and ongoing consultation.

This is the recommended option. Should the OCP Amendment and Re-Zoning application be supported, the Approving Officer will have the ability to approve the concurrent subdivision application, to create one (1) detached dwelling residential lot in an existing residential neighborhood (Poplar Street and Aspen Boulevard). Accordingly, Staff do not consider the amendment significant enough to deviate from the standard development referrals process, with the exception of the requirement for a public information session hosted by the Applicant.

Option Two: That Council provide additional direction respecting early and ongoing consultation pursuant to Section 475 of the *Local Government Act*.

POTENTIAL GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

Consideration of this item is consistent with Strategic Priority One: Economic Vitality to foster investment within the Village and Strategic Priority Three: Excellence In Service through the continuation of delivering quality municipal services by processing development applications efficiently.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation No. 1

THAT Council has considered the obligations under Section 475 of the *Local Government Act* with respect to the Official Community Plan amendment application by Sea to Sky School District No. 48 on a portion of Lot 1, DL 165 & 203, LLD, Plan KAP56732 and requests that the Applicant organize, advertise, and host at least one (1) public information meeting prior to consideration of First and Second reading of the forthcoming OCP amending bylaw.

Recommendation No. 2

THAT Council has considered Section 475 of the *Local Government Act* and directs Staff to consult with the following organizations before consideration of First and Second Reading to the forthcoming OCP amending bylaw:

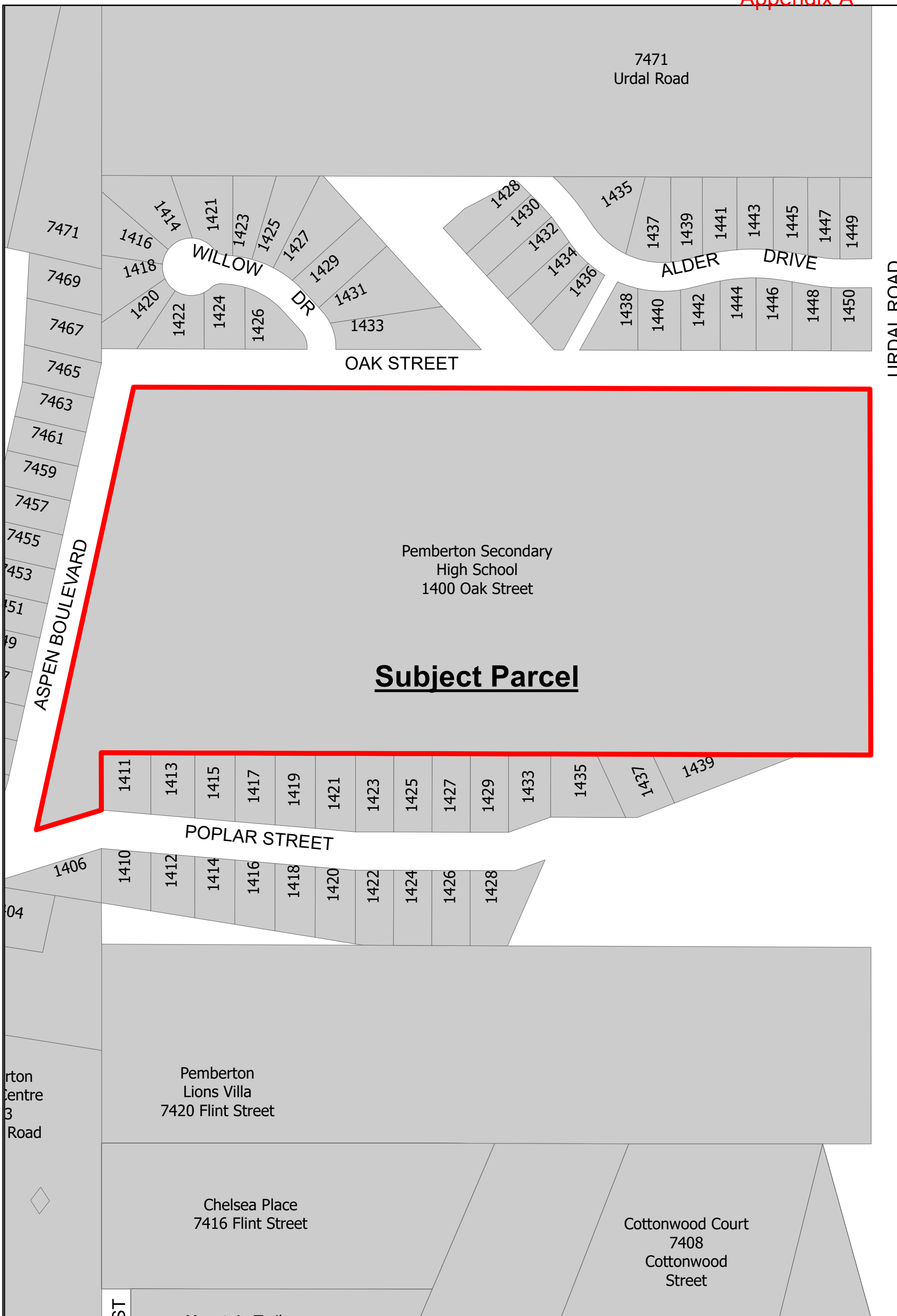
- Lil'wat Nation
- Squamish-Lillooet Regional District
- Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
- CN Rail
- Pemberton Valley Dyking District
- Pemberton Valley Trails Association
- School District No. 93 – Consular Scholaire Francophone de la BC
- Pemberton and District Chamber of Commerce
- TELUS
- BC Hydro.

Attachments:

Appendix A: Location Map and Subject Lands

Appendix B: Draft OCP Amendment Schedule

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Prepared by: | Joanna Rees, Planner |
| Manager Approval by: | Lisa Pedrini, Manager of Development Services |
| CAO Approval by: | Nikki Gilmore, Chief Administrative Officer |



Subject Parcel

Pemberton Secondary High School
1400 Oak Street

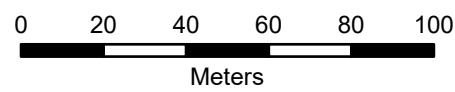
Pemberton Lions Villa
7420 Flint Street

Chelsea Place
7416 Flint Street

Cottonwood Court
7408 Cottonwood Street

Location Map

**Pemberton Secondary High School
1400 Oak Street**



Not for legal reference.
Revised: August, 26 2019

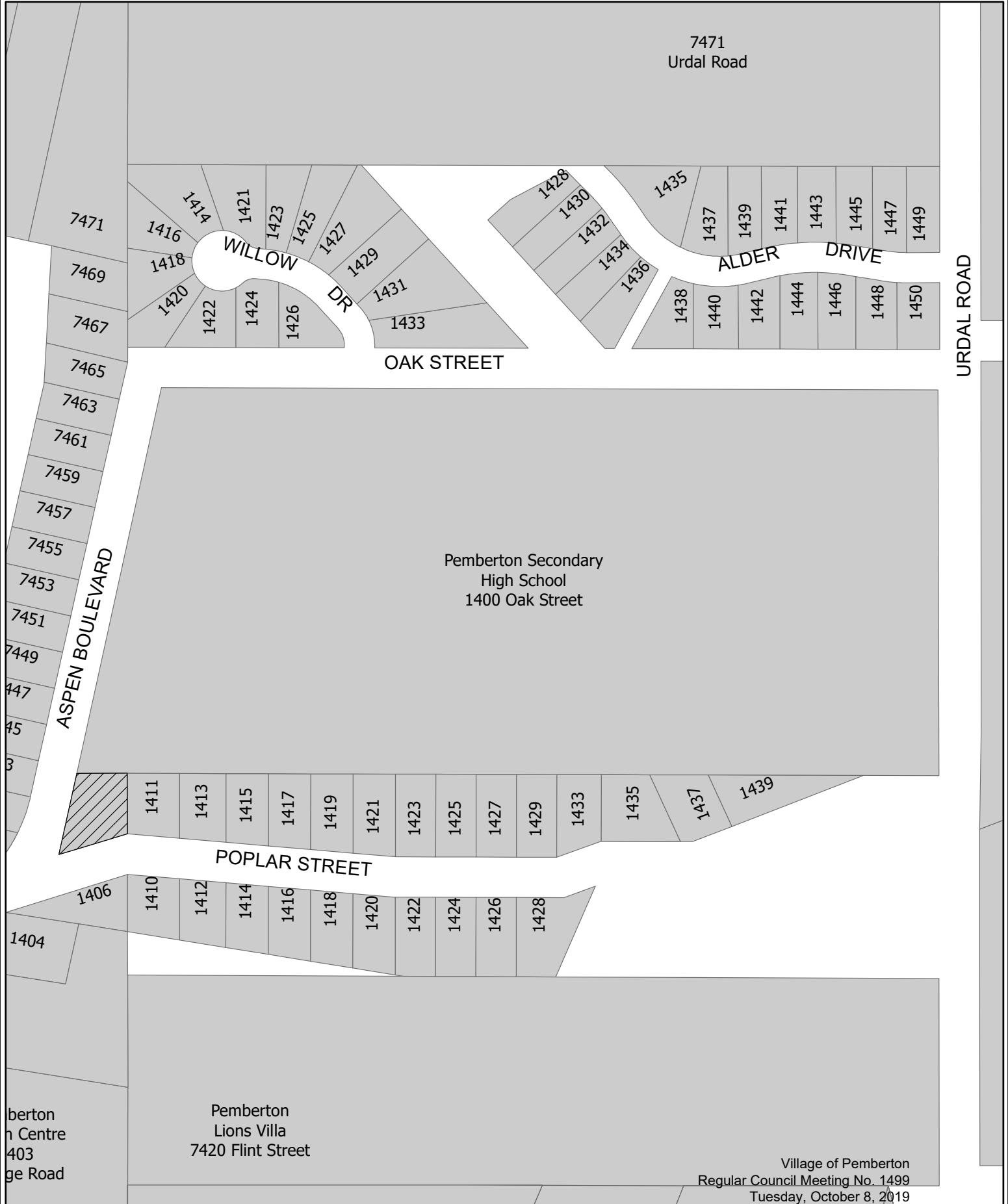
Village of Pemberton
Regular Council Meeting No. 1499
Tuesday, October 8, 2019



Legend

 Re-designate from "Civic Institutional" to "Residential"

1400 Oak Street
(Pemberton Secondary High School)
Schedule '1' to OCP Bylaw Amendment No. _____



Pemberton
n Centre
403
ge Road

Pemberton
Lions Villa
7420 Flint Street

Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2019

To: Nikki Gilmore, Chief Administrative Officer

From: Cameron Chalmers, Consulting Planner

Subject: Official Community Plan (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 868, 2019
Zoning (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 869, 2019
First and Second Readings

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to concurrently consider first and second readings to Official Community Plan (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 868, 2019 (**Appendix A**) and Zoning (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 869, 2019 (**Appendix B**).

The bylaws have been prepared in response to an application by Sunstone Ridge Developments Ltd. to amend the Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 654, 2011 by redesignating a 4.47 hectare portion of Lot 1 from 'Hillside Special Study Area' to 'Residential' and rezone the subject lands from Rural Residential (RR-1) to a suitable residential amenity zone. The Applicant advises the intent of the applications is to facilitate the reconfiguration of four (4) lots identified in the subdivision approvals for Phase 2 and a future subdivision application to create nine (9) new estate lots in excess of 2000 m².

BACKGROUND

Official Community Plan Amendment:

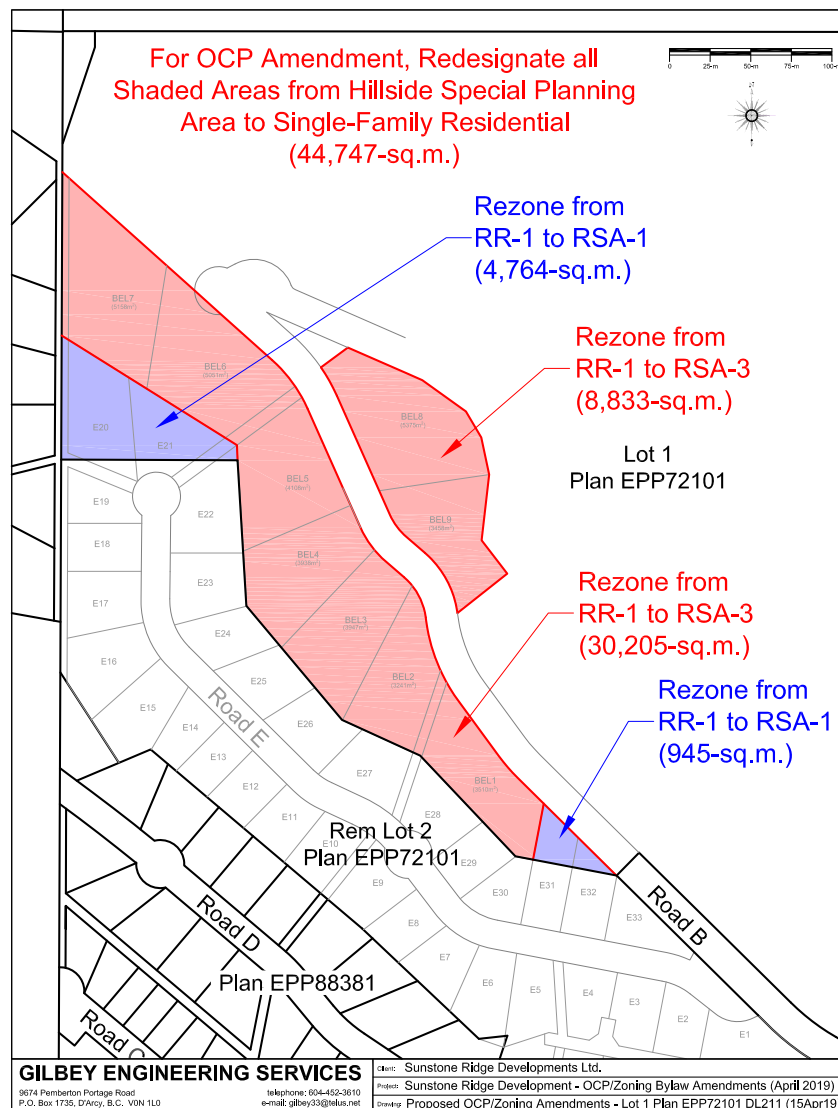
Sunstone Ridge Developments Ltd. made application to the Village of Pemberton on July 17, 2019 for a minor amendment to the Official Community Plan to incorporate an additional 4.47 hectares of land into the Sunstone Development. The OCP amendment would be a prerequisite to the companion rezoning application to rezone the subject lands from the current Rural Residential Zone (RR-1) to the Residential Amenity 1 (RA-1) Sunstone Zone that applies to the early phases of the Sunstone Ridge developments, and a newly created Residential Amenity 3 (RA-3) Sunstone Zone that will enable the development of residential lots in excess of 2,000 sq.m.

The lands are currently designated Hillside Special Study Area in anticipation of future OCP level planning work and additional rezoning applications which will require new or expanded servicing and infrastructure to accommodate future development beyond the lands already zoned for development. The intent of that designation is to compel additional land use study and community engagement before the approval of future phases of Sunstone Ridge beyond the lands already zoned for development. Staff anticipate that, at some time in the future, a special study process will be triggered by the owners and a comprehensive land use analysis and planning process will commence.

However, following infrastructure installation to service the first two phases, the Proponent identified an opportunity to service the subject lands from current infrastructure and has made

application for an OCP amendment and rezoning to include these lands as an extension to the first two phases of the Sunstone development. For all intents and purposes, the lands subject to the attached bylaws relate more to the initial phases of the Sunstone Ridge project than the future phases in the Special Study Area. Accordingly, the Applicant and Staff have agreed to advance the application in advance of the additional special study considerations.

The proposed amendments are therefore considered an extension of the previously approved phases, including an active Tentative Approval Letter issued by the Approving Officer on August 15, 2018 for the subdivision of Phase 2 and excepting additional road construction will utilize infrastructure constructed in Phases 1 and 2.



In terms of the OCP amendment process, Council received a report pursuant to section 475 of the *Local Government Act* at the Regular Council Meeting No. 1498, held on September 10, 2019. At that meeting, Council endorsed the external agency referral process and directed the proponent to host a Public Information Meeting. The meeting was held on September 25, 2019 at Pemberton Meadows Golf Course. The meeting was attended by one (1) member of the public who completed a feedback form which is attached as **Appendix C**. The applicants have notified Staff that the meeting was advertised on Facebook with a reach of 529 people viewing the open house ad. It was also emailed to 39 Sunstone Ridge owners, 33 of whom opened the email. Additional emails were sent to residents of The Ridge, Pemberton Plateau and Plateau Townhomes Strata Corporations. Staff submit that the Applicant exceeded the advertising expectations and held an open house consistent with Council direction.

Referrals:

Agency referrals have been received from the Lil'wat Nation, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, neither of whom expressed any concern with the proposed OCP amendment and rezoning. The remaining agencies did not respond to the external referral sent on July 8, 2019.

Internal referrals have also been undertaken to a range of municipal departments. Engineering has identified a potential concern with the capacity of the reservoir to support the future subdivision. The proponent has supplied the Village with funds to assess the proposed land-use change against the Village water model. Though confirmation of water supply is routinely considered at subdivision; Staff have included a prior to adoption obligation that the Owner confirm adequate water supply before adoption of the zoning amendment. Again, this sort of prior-to adoption consideration as typical approach to rezoning.

Advisory Land Use Committee:

The proposed application was considered at the September 23, 2019 Advisory Land Use Committee meeting. Following a thorough discussion, the Committee passed the following resolution:

***THAT** the Advisory Land Use Planning Commission recommend to Council that the application for Official Community Plan amendment and rezoning for Lot 1 Sunstone be supported.*

CARRIED

Zoning Amendment:

The rezoning application includes a minor rezoning from RR-1 to RSA-1 to accommodate the reconfiguration of lots E20, E21, E31 and E32 that are under active subdivision application. The rezoning is intended to enlarge the subject lots to respond more appropriately to the topography of the area. The total area proposed for this component of the rezoning is 5,709 sq.m.

The rezoning is primarily comprised of a proposed rezoning from RR-1 to a newly created RSA-3 zone. The proposed RSA-3 zone mirrors the provisions of the existing RSA-1 zone with the exception of minimum parcel size. The RSA-3 zone has been prepared to ensure a minimum parcel size of 2,000 sq.m.

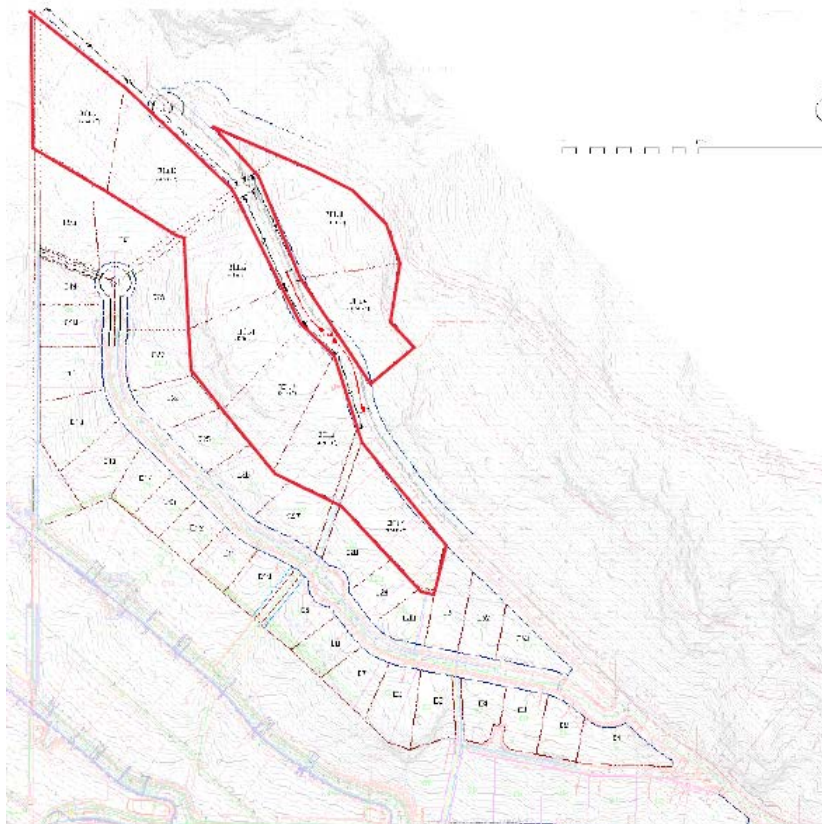
DISCUSSION & COMMENTS

The subject lands, which are legally described as Lot 1, DL 211, LLD, Plan EPP72101, PID: 030-329-612, are presently sloping and forested. The lands will gain access from an extension of a new road required in Phase 2 of the Sunstone development that will be ultimately resolved through a future subdivision process. The lands are intended to be serviced from the water and sanitary infrastructure constructed or secured in earlier phases of the Sunstone development.

As shown in the tentative plan below, the purpose of the proposal is to permit the modification of E20, E21, E31 and E32 to enlarge these lots slightly. This will enable these lots to be built more effectively in response to the topography. The primary purpose however is to create nine (9) new estate sized lots as indicated in the red outlined portion below. These lots would necessitate the extension of the municipal roadway and are intended to utilize water and sanitary infrastructure that will be in place at the conclusion of Phase 2. Though the Applicant has provided a tentative plan of subdivision, the Village has not yet formally received a subdivision application.

The effect of the amendments would be to facilitate the future subdivision application. Detailed servicing, road alignments, lot configurations, and other details would be resolved at the subdivision stage.

The rezoning application would, if approved, result in amenity contributions as outlined in the new RSA-3 zone. This would result in a per lot contribution of \$9,165 for each new lot created and would be payable at subdivision. As with other Sunstone amenity contributions, the amenity contributions would be directed towards the ongoing development of the Recreation Site.



Staff appreciate the proposed Official Community Plan amendment would redesignate lands identified as part of a future special study area. However, Staff contend the subject lands relate more clearly to the first phases of Sunstone than the remainder of the lands given the topography and servicing configurations. Accordingly, Staff are prepared to support the minor amendment to the OCP.

The purpose of the rezoning amendment bylaw is twofold:

1. to rezone the new portions of the four (4) existing lots to the RSA-1 zone, the same zone that has facilitated the development of the first phases of the Sunstone development; and
2. To rezone the nine (9) new lots to a newly created RSA-3 zone. This new zone would permit a range of housing types and lot sizes that would accommodate the Applicants intention to diversify the housing offering with larger estate lots.

It is unlikely the topography of the site would sustain a significant intensification of the housing form permitted under the RSA-3 zone. Accordingly, Staff are prepared to support the rezoning application.

The next step in the bylaw consideration process would be for Council to set a date and time for public hearing as outlined in the recommendations to this report.

COMMUNICATIONS

This report and request for Council consideration of first and second reading does not require communication beyond appearing on a regular agenda of Council.

Should Council send the proposed bylaws to public hearing, the hearing will be advertised in accordance with Section 465 of the *Local Government Act*. Notice to the Public will be issued by way of an advertisement in two (2) consecutive issues of the Pique Newsmagazine, not less than three (3) days prior and not more than ten (10) days before the public hearing.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no legal considerations at this time

IMPACT ON BUDGET & STAFFING

There are no budget, policy or staffing considerations at this time as the costs are recoverable with the application.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL IMPACT & APPROVAL

There are no interdepartmental impact or approvals required.

IMPACT ON THE REGION OR NEIGHBOURING JURISDICTIONS

This item will not have an impact on the Region as a whole.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Option One: **THAT** Official Community Plan (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 868, 2019 be given first and second reading;

THAT Zoning (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 869, 2019 be given first and second reading;

AND THAT Council convene a Public Hearing on Tuesday, November 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village of Pemberton Council Chambers.

Option Two: **THAT** Council refer Official Community Plan (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 868, 2019 and Zoning (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 869, 2019 to Staff for additional consideration of the following matters:

- (To be added by Council)

Option Three: **THAT** Council refuse Official Community Plan (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 868, 2019 and Zoning (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 869, 2019.

POTENTIAL GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

This application supports all four Strategy Priorities:

Strategic Priority One: Economic Vitality
Strategic Priority Two: Good Governance
Strategic Priority Three: Excellence in Service
Strategic Priority Four: Social Responsibility

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation One:

THAT Official Community Plan (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 868, 2019 be given first and second reading;

THAT Zoning (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 869, 2019 be given first and second reading;

AND THAT Council convene a Public Hearing on Tuesday, November 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village of Pemberton Council Chambers.

ATTACHMENTS:

Appendix A: Official Community Plan (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 868, 2019

Appendix B: Zoning (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 869, 2019

Appendix C: Public Open House Feedback Form

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Prepared by: | Cameron Chalmers, Consulting Planner |
| Manager Approval: | Lisa Pedrini, Manager of Development Services |
| CAO Approval by: | Nikki Gilmore, Chief Administrative Officer |

THE VILLAGE OF PEMBERTON

BYLAW NO. 868, 2019

Being a bylaw to amend the Village of Pemberton OCP Bylaw No. 654, 2011

WHEREAS the Council may amend its Official Community Plan from time to time;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Village of Pemberton deems it desirable to amend the Official Community Plan Bylaw to accommodate residential development;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Village of Pemberton in open meeting assembled **ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. CITATION

This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as “Official Community Plan (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 868, 2019.”

2. Village of Pemberton Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 654, 2011 is amended by:

- a) Amending *Map B – Land Use Designations* to designate the “subject lands” identified in Schedule A of this bylaw from “Hillside Special Planning Area” to “Residential”.
- b) Amend *Map K - Environmentally Sensitive Areas* to designate the “subject lands” identified in Schedule A of this bylaw as Development Permit Area No. 1 – Environmental Protection.
- c) Amend *Map L – Land Constraints* to designate the “subject lands” identified in Schedule A of this bylaw as Development Permit Area No. 2 – Land Constraints.

READ A FIRST TIME this 8th day of October, 2019.

READ A SECOND TIME this 8th day of October, 2019.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN (SUNSTONE LOT 1) AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 868, 2019 WAS PUBLISHED IN THE _____ ON _____, 2019 AND _____, 2019.

PUBLIC HEARING HELD this _____ day of _____, 2019.

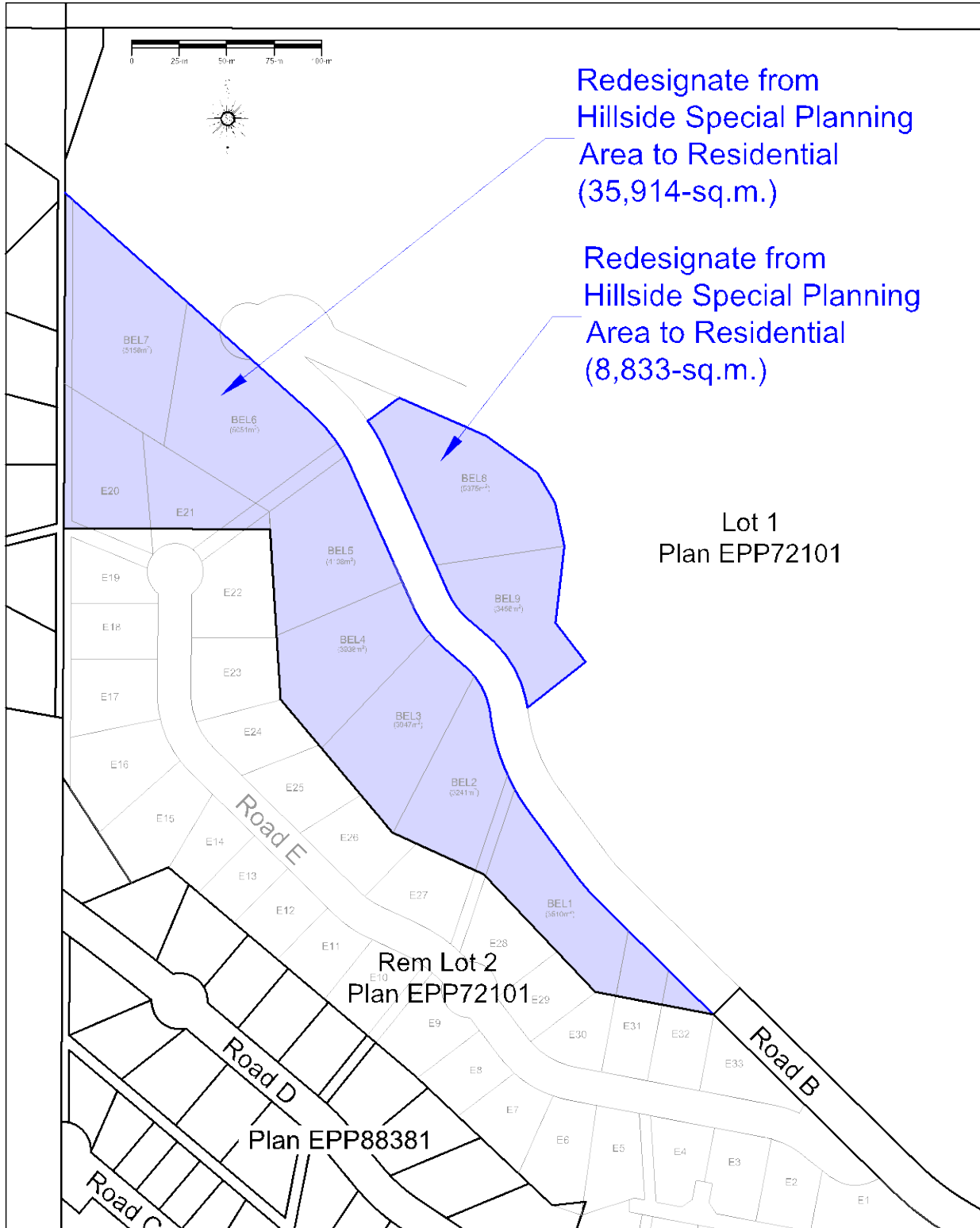
READ A THIRD TIME this _____ day of _____, 2019.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2019.

Mike Richman
Mayor

Sheena Fraser
Corporate Officer

SCHEDULE A
"Subject Lands"



THE VILLAGE OF PEMBERTON

BYLAW NO. 869, 2019

Being a bylaw to amend the Village of Pemberton Zoning Bylaw No. 832, 2018

WHEREAS the Council may amend its Zoning Bylaw from time to time;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Village of Pemberton deems it desirable to amend the Zoning Bylaw to accommodate residential development;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Village of Pemberton in open meeting assembled **ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. CITATION

This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as “Zoning (Sunstone Lot 1) Amendment Bylaw No. 869, 2019.”

2. Village of Pemberton Zoning Bylaw No. 832, 2018 is amended by:

I) Adding the following Section as a new section 13.3 in Part 13 of the Zoning Bylaw:

13.3 Residential Amenity 3, Sunstone (RSA-3)

The *Residential Amenity 3, Sunstone (RSA-3) Zone* is to accommodate *Detached Dwellings*, on large *lots* within the Sunstone Neighbourhood, and to provide density incentives earned by the provision of certain amenities.

13.3.1 Permitted Principal Uses

(a) *Dwelling, Detached*

13.3.2 Permitted Accessory Uses

- (a) *Accessory Suite*
- (b) *Bed and Breakfast*
- (c) *Carriage House*
- (d) *Home Occupation*
- (e) *Secondary Suite*
- (f) *Short-Term Vacation Rental*

13.3.3 Conditions of Use

- (a) *A secondary suite use, an accessory suite or a carriage house use, is permitted as an accessory residential use on a lot, but not two (2) accessory dwelling units on the same lot.*

- (b) No more than two (2) dwellings (which includes an *accessory dwelling unit*) may be located on a *lot*.
- (c) No more than two (2) *accessory buildings or structures* are permitted on a *lot*.
- (d) The maximum size of an *accessory dwelling unit* (*secondary suite, accessory suite, or carriage house*) is 90m².
- (e) The minimum lot sizes as a base density are as follows:
 - i. *Detached Dwelling* 20,000 m²
 - ii. *Bed and Breakfast* 20,000 m²
- (f) The minimum lot size where the requirements identified in Section 13.1.3 (g) have been fulfilled are as follows:
 - i. *Detached Dwelling* 2,000 m²
 - ii. *Bed and Breakfast* 2,000 m²
- (g) The densities may be increased from the requirements identified in Section 13.3.3 (e) to the requirements identified in Section 13.3.3 (f) providing contributions toward community amenities have been provided through a payment of \$9,165 per *detached dwelling* or *bed and breakfast* lot, payable either:
 - i. in cash prior to the registration of a plan of subdivision and to be held in a reserve fund by the Village for the purpose of future recreational capital costs on sports fields, a multi-sports facility, an ice arena or aquatic centre and accessory uses; and/or
 - ii. in-kind works and services provided that they are approved by the Village in writing prior to the registration of a plan of subdivision for the purpose of future recreational capital costs on sports fields, a multi-sports facility, an ice arena or aquatic centre and accessory uses.

13.3.4 Lot Regulations

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| a) Minimum <i>Lot Size</i> : | 2,000 m ² |
| b) Minimum <i>Lot Width</i> : | 18 m |

13.3.5 Building Regulations

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| a) Minimum <i>Principal Building Width</i> : | 7.6 m |
| b) Minimum <i>Front Setback</i> : | 5 m |
| c) Minimum <i>Rear Setback</i> : | 5 m |
| d) Minimum <i>Interior Side Setback</i> : | 1.5 m |
| e) Minimum <i>Exterior Side Setback</i> : | 3 m |
| f) Maximum <i>Lot Coverage</i> : | 40% |
| g) Maximum Number of <i>Principal Buildings</i> : | 1 |
| h) Maximum Number of <i>Accessory Buildings</i> : | 2 |
| i) Maximum <i>Building Height, Principal</i> : | 10.5 m |
| j) Maximum <i>Building Height, Carriage House</i> : | Two (2) storeys |
| k) Maximum <i>Building Height, Accessory</i> : | 4.6 m |

13.3.6 Off-Street Parking

- (a) Off-street parking spaces shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of this Bylaw.

13.3.7 Screening and Landscaping

- (a) Screening and landscaping shall be provided in accordance with the regulations in this Bylaw.

13.3.8 Signage

- (a) Signage should be limited to that permitted pursuant to the requirements of this Bylaw and the Village of Pemberton Sign Bylaw.

13.3.9 Watercourse Setbacks

Setbacks from any watercourses on the property must be in accordance with the requirements of the Village of Pemberton, Ministry of Environment and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

- II) Renumbering the pages commencing at Section 13.3 in sequence through the remainder of the Zoning Bylaw;
- III) Amending Schedule A – Zoning Map to rezone the lands shown on Schedule A, attached to and forming a part of this Bylaw, from RR-1 Rural Residential - 1 to RSA-1 Residential Amenity 1, Sunstone and RSA-3 Residential Amenity 3, Sunstone.

READ A FIRST TIME this 8th day of October, 2019.

READ A SECOND TIME this 8th day of October, 2019.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR ZONING (SUNSTONE LOT 1) AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 869, 2019 WAS PUBLISHED IN THE _____ ON _____, 2019 AND _____, 2019.

PUBLIC HEARING HELD this _____ day of _____, 2019.

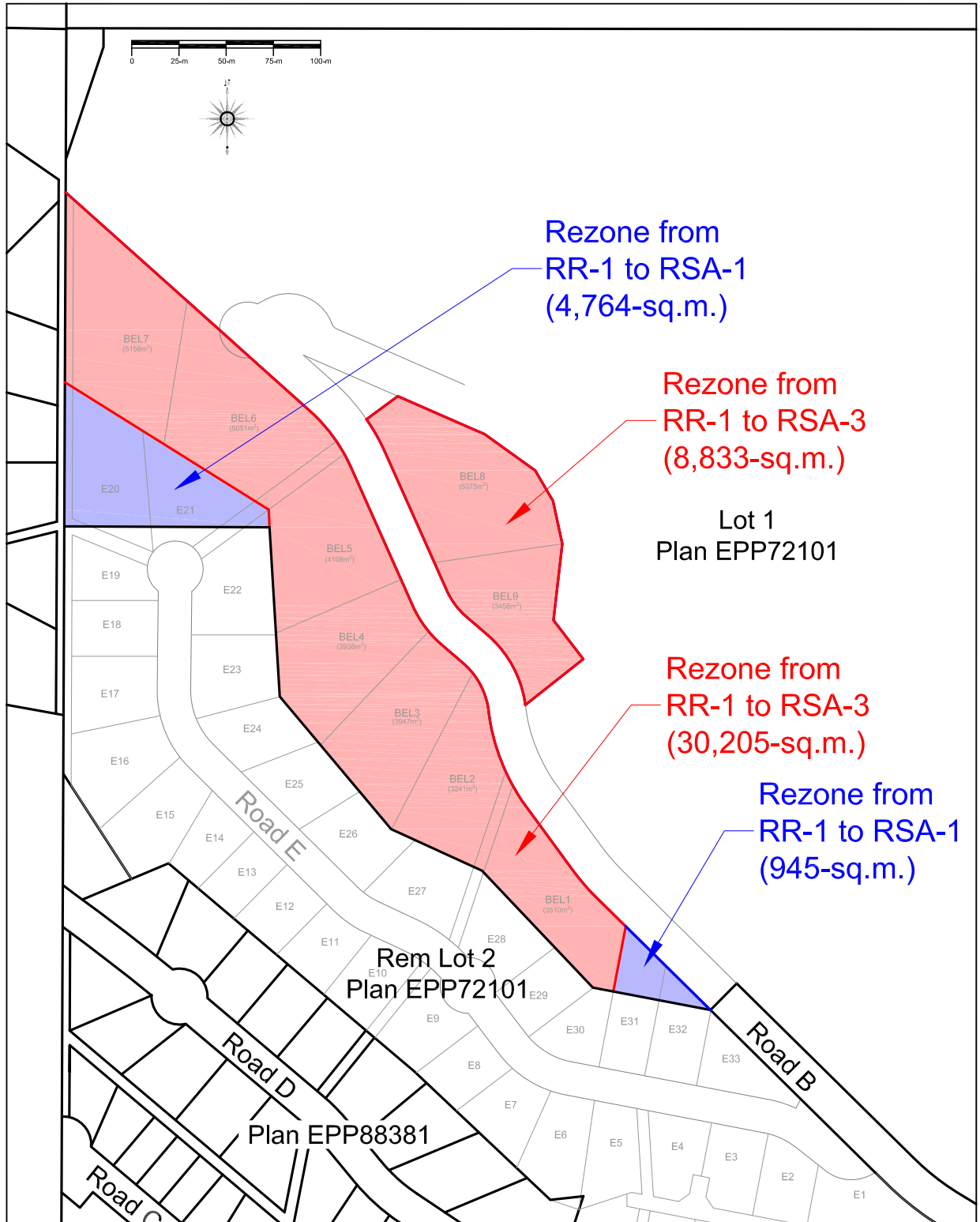
READ A THIRD TIME this _____ day of _____, 2019.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2019.

Mike Richman
Mayor

Sheena Fraser
Corporate Officer

**SCHEDULE A
"Subject Lands"**



SUNSTONE RIDGE DEVELOPMENTS LTD.

Public Open House

Public Notice | Council Mandated Public Information Meeting

Wednesday, September 25th, 5:30pm to 7:00pm

The Black Squirrel Restaurant, 1730 Airport Road

IN ATTENDANCE

| Name | ADDRESS |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Barb Turpin | [REDACTED] Perkin |
| Cameron Chalmers (Vol) | [REDACTED] |
| | |
| TAMMY McIVOR | |
| CAM McIVOR | |
| Nyal Wilcox. | |
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COMMENT SHEET

Sunstone Ridge Developments Ltd.

Public Notice – Council Mandated Public Information Meeting

Wednesday, September 25th, 5:30pm to 7:00pm

Thank you for attending the Public Information Meeting. If you have any questions, please ask one of the development representatives present.

Please provide us with your input on the application:

1. I am a resident of Pemberton,

Yes

No

If no, I am a resident of _____

2. I am in favour of this rezoning application as presented,

Yes

No

maybe.

Explain, _____

3. To make the application more successful, I suggest the following:

I would like to have a trail system that bridges the Ride d Sunston. so the connections are not all paved.

4. Other Comments,

Optional Contact info.

Name: *Barb Turner*

Email:  (for project updates)

Thank you. Please leave this completed sheet with a representative.

Further Contact information:

Cam McIvor: 

From: Shannon Story <sstory@lmlga.ca>
Sent: Friday, September 13, 2019 11:10 AM
To: Laura Dupont <dupontl@portcoquitlam.ca>
Subject: CivX 2019 Event-Registration is Now Open

To: Lower Mainland Local Government Association Member Mayors & Councils(please include in Council packages under correspondence)

Please see the attached communication on the annual CivX Event taking place on November 29, 2019.

Registration is now open!

--

Shannon Story
Executive Director
Lower Mainland Local Government Association



November 28, 2019
Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue. Asia Pacific Hall
3300-515 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, BC
8:30 am to 4:30 pm

The Lower Mainland Local Government Association and CivicInfo BC proudly present **CivX 2019: Civil Ideas for Less Civil Times** taking place on Thursday November 28, 2019 at the Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue in Vancouver.

At this one-day seminar (8:30am – 4:30pm) delegates will hear practical ideas for making our towns and cities more inclusive for our citizens, regardless of age, gender, culture, or socio-economic background. Our exciting line-up of guest speakers includes:

- Diane Kalen-Sukra, Author, “Save Your City: How Toxic Culture Kills Community & What to Do about It”
- Tasha Henderson, Director, Women Transforming Communities speaking on “Encouraging Women to Get Involved in Local Government”
- Chris Friesen, Director of Settlement Services, Immigrant Services Society of BC discussing “Tips for Local Governments on Welcoming New Canadians”
- Dr. Atiya Mahmood, Associate Professor, Department of Gerontology, Simon Fraser University and Dr. Ben Mortenson, Associate Professor, Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, UBC speaking on “Community Mobility and Participation Among People with Mobility Disabilities”
- Dr. Eamonn O’Laocha, Instructor, Douglas College & Douglas Applied Research, Teaching and Consultancy speaking on “Using Technology to Connect Marginalized Populations”
- Representatives from the Fraser Basin Youth Council (Co-Creating a Sustainable BC) discussing “Engaging Young People/Youth & Sustainability”

The day will wrap up with a facilitated session, where local government delegates can share ideas and practices with one another, with a written summary being provided to all in attendance. A full agenda, with detailed session descriptions, will be published in late September.



November 28, 2019
Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue. Asia Pacific Hall
3300-515 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, BC
8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Who should attend? Like past CivX events, this event will be of particular interest to local government elected officials, local government staff, staff from local government agencies, academics, and post-secondary students.

For those requiring overnight accommodation, a block rate is available at the Delta Hotel by Marriott Vancouver Downtown Suites, which is attached to the event centre. Click on link to book: <https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1553903484786&key=GRP>

The cost of the event is only \$199, including a seated lunch. Online registration is open at

<https://www.civicinfo.bc.ca/event/2019/CivX>

Website Submission: Write to Mayor & Council - <https://pemberton.ca>

Form Submission Info

First Name: Erica

Last Name: Finnsson

Street Address: [REDACTED] Street

PO Box: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Pemberton

Province: BC

Postal Code: V0N2L0

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Please attach any related documents (if applicable):

Message to Mayor & Council: Hi! We love the updates to the downtown and would like to make a suggestion that one (or more) of the crosswalks is painted rainbow colours. Thank you! Erica Finnsson Mauro Nunez Rambo Nunez
Village of Pemberton



Council of Senior Citizens'
Organizations of B.C.

Representing Seniors since 1950

www.coscobc.org

September 5, 2019

Dear Mayor and Council,

Re: **Observation of the UN International Day of Older Persons -October 1st**

Established in 1950, the Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations (COSCO) of BC is an umbrella, volunteer run organization made up of many seniors' organizations and individual associate members. Registered under the Societies Act since 1981, COSCO has grown and now represents approximately 80,000 seniors in BC.

Our mandate is to promote the well-being of seniors and their families, advocating for policies that allow seniors to remain active, independent, and fully engaged in the life of our province. The organization is non-partisan, but politically active, advocating for seniors' needs no matter who is in power. Our motto is "Plan with seniors not for them".

COSCO invites you, the civic leaders to help celebrate the

UN International Day of Older Persons (IDOP) 2019

Theme: "The Journey to Age Equality"

The 2019 theme is aligned with the UN's Sustainable Developmental Goal (SDG) 10 and will focus on pathways of coping with existing and preventing future old age inequality through measures to eliminate discrimination, and to "empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, or economic or other status". "Between 2015 and 2030, the number of people aged 60 and over is expected to increase from 901 million to 1.4 billion- In this regard, trends of aging and economic inequality interact across generations and rapid population aging, demographic and societal or structural changes alone can exacerbate older age inequalities, thereby limiting economic growth and social cohesion."

The sub themes will focus on (i) the care sector- as a contributor of decent work (ii) life-long learning and proactive and adaptive labour policies (iii) universal health coverage and (iv) social protective measures." (UN IDOP -Homepage <<https://www.un.org/development/desa/aging/international-day-of-older-persons-homepage.html>>)

Two ways that we ask you to consider to celebrate the IDOP are:

- 1) Publicly proclaim/declare your support of the IDOP 2019
- 2) Prominently display the UN IDOP flag for October 1st 2019

We are pleased that last year, for the first time, the Province of British Columbia pro-

claimed that October 1st 2018 would be known as “International Day of Older Persons” (See attachment.). They have been asked by COSCO to do so again this year. We would like the BC city, township and district councils to follow suit. For those councils that are able, declarations are preferred over proclamations as they are ongoing. Please let us know if your council has already made a declaration in the past and if you will be making either an IDOP proclamation or declaration for IDOP 2019.

The UN IDOP flag can be purchased through the Seniors’ Voice website <<https://seniorsvoice.org>> for a cost of \$85 and then can be displayed annually for October 1st. Again, please let us know if you already have a flag that you will be flying this year or if you plan to buy and display a flag this year and in subsequent years.

Seniors’ Voice also has an event page on its website that it is encouraging organizations and people to use to post events held across Canada to celebrate IDOP 2019.

If there is any question about this request, please contact Agnes Jackman at cell# [REDACTED] New Westminster, BC, [REDACTED] [com](mailto:[REDACTED].com).

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Agnes Jackman, Board Member, COSCO, for

Gudrun Langolf, President, COSCO

[REDACTED]
pres@coscobc.org



Canada
Province of British Columbia
A Proclamation

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom,
Canada and Her other Realms and Territories, Queen, Head of the
Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith

To all to whom these presents shall come – Greeting

WHEREAS the United Nations International Day of Older Persons celebrates the importance of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and reaffirms the commitment to promoting the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by older persons, and

WHEREAS the 2018 theme of the International Day of Older Persons is “Celebrating Older Human Rights Champions”, and

WHEREAS older human rights champions today were born around the time of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, and

WHEREAS growing older does not diminish a person’s inherent dignity and fundamental rights, and

WHEREAS more than 40 years after the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, issues of human rights for older persons were taken up in 1991 in the formulation of the United Nations Principles for Older Persons, which provided guidance in the areas of independence, participation, care, self-fulfillment and dignity, and

WHEREAS in 2002, governments for the first time agreed to link questions of ageing to other frameworks for social and economic development and human rights, and

WHEREAS the interdependence between older persons’ social integration and the full enjoyment of their human rights cannot be ignored, as the degree to which older persons are socially integrated will directly affect their dignity and quality of life;

NOW KNOW YE THAT, We do by these presents proclaim and declare that October 1, 2018 shall be known as


“International Day of Older Persons”

in the Province of British Columbia.


IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Our Province of British Columbia to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this thirteenth day of August, two thousand eighteen and in the sixty-seventh year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND.



Attorney General
(counter signature for the Great Seal)



Lieutenant Governor

International Day



of

**Older
Persons**



MADE IN U.S.A.
INCH U.S.W. LABEL
LOCK TIES

From: Curley, Elyse ENV:EX <Elyse.Curley@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: September 11, 2019 2:34 PM

To: Jill Brooksbank <jbrooksbank@pemberton.ca>; 'pwesterholm@slrd.bc.ca' <pwesterholm@slrd.bc.ca>; 'lflynn@slrd.bc.ca' <lflynn@slrd.bc.ca>; 'AMacKay@slrd.bc.ca' <AMacKay@slrd.bc.ca>; Wendy Olsson <wolsson@pemberton.ca>; Lisa Pedrini <lpedrini@pemberton.ca>

Subject: Joffre Lakes Visitor Survey Results

Hi everyone,

Please find attached the results of the Joffre Lakes public survey from Spring 2019. We will be releasing these to the public shortly.

Please note that this is just a summary of the results from the public online survey and that the results from the in-park trailhead survey this summer have not yet been compiled.

Let me know if you have any questions!

Elyse

Elyse Curley

Community Liaison Officer – South Coast

BC Parks | Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy

Office: 604.398.5923

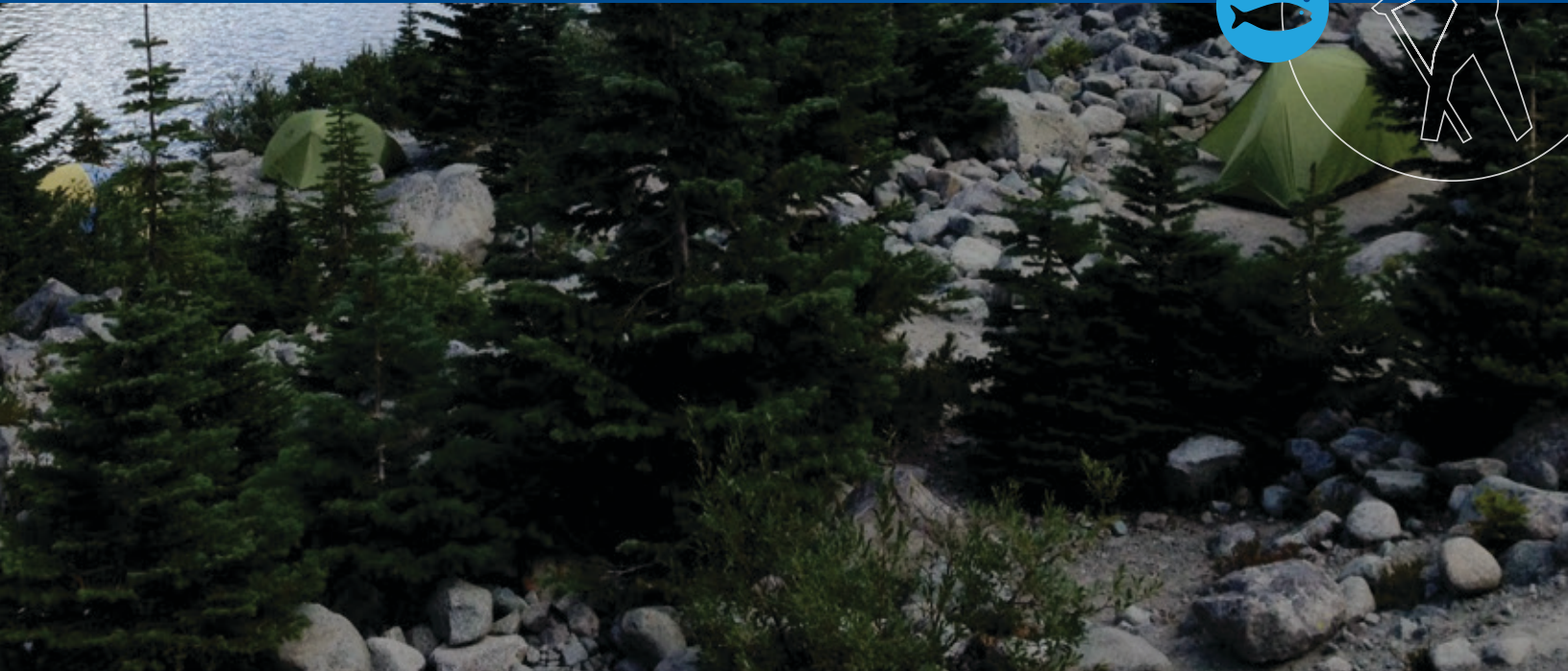
Cell: 778.988.7025

elyse.curley@gov.bc.ca

www.bcparks.ca



Joffre Lakes Provincial Park Survey *Results*



Village of Pemberton
Regular Council Meeting No. 1499
Tuesday, October 8, 2019
58 of 156

2019 Joffre Lakes Provincial Park Survey Results

ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Recreation and tourism growth in the Sea to Sky region has been accelerating since the improvement of the Sea to Sky Highway and the 2010 Winter Olympic Games. The Sea to Sky Highway has over **3 MILLION** travellers per year, with most visitors seeking a nature-based recreation experience.

This increase in tourism is reflected in the exponential increase in attendance at many provincial parks in the region, particularly Joffre Lakes Park.

In 2018, **183,000** people visited the park; this represents a **168%** increase in park attendance since 2010. As a result of this growth, First Nations, the regional district, municipalities, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), and the public have all raised concerns regarding sustainable recreation and tourism and have expressed concerns for public safety along the highway near Joffre Lakes Park.

In April 2019, BC Parks launched a public online survey to solicit input on measures to improve public safety and management of the park. The survey was available on the BC Parks website and promoted through social media and other channels.

ENGAGEMENT TIMEFRAME

**April 1 – April 30
2019**

RESPONSE RATE

**2,568 responses
were received**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

Survey respondents were primarily:

- ✓ from the Lower Mainland,
- ✓ between the ages of 25 and 34, and
- ✓ occasional visitors to the park.

When asked what their main motivations were for visiting Joffre Lakes, the top three responses from respondents were to seek a nature experience, for the scenic view, and for physical activity.

Level of outdoor experience varied from intermediate to expert, with most respondents reporting they spent between four and seven hours in the park per trip, and travelled to Third Lake.

Word-of-mouth was the primary way that respondents learned of the park, with most citing the BC Parks website as the best way to provide information about the park.

Themes of safety and sustainable recreation use were clearly important to respondents. A variety of suggestions were provided to improve pedestrian safety, parking capacity, and park management. The majority of respondents were willing to pay a day-use fee provided it improved park management and facilities. Introducing a cap on visitation or a permit system as a tool to reduce crowding and congestion on the trail was supported by a significant amount of respondents.

INPUT LEADS TO ACTION

The Visitor Use Management Action Plan was released on June 25, 2019. The plan focuses on priority actions for 2019 with a longer-term Visitor Use Management Strategy to be developed and released in 2020. Input received from the public survey and key stakeholders helped inform the Action Plan and will also be considered when developing the longer-term strategy.

BC Parks is also conducting trailhead surveys in both winter and summer 2019 at the Joffre Lakes Park trailhead to ensure we are gathering information from park users who may not have filled out the online survey.

The link to the Visitor Use Management Action Plan is located here:

<http://bcparks.ca/parks/joffre-lakes/>

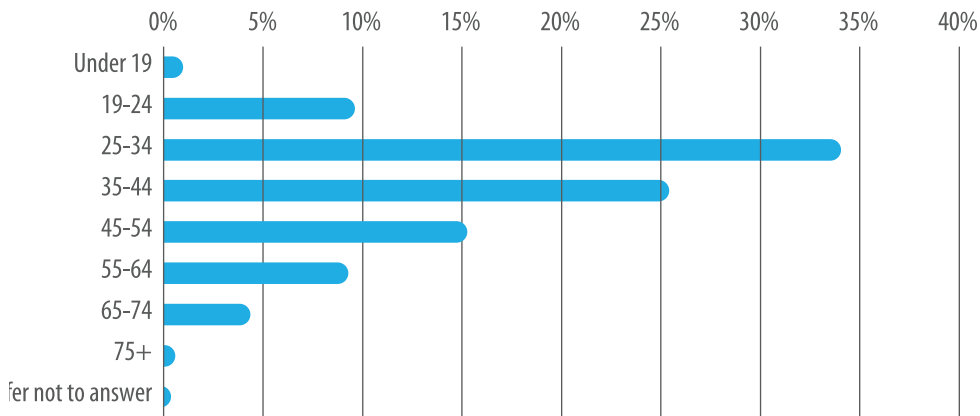


Summary of Responses Received from the Online Survey

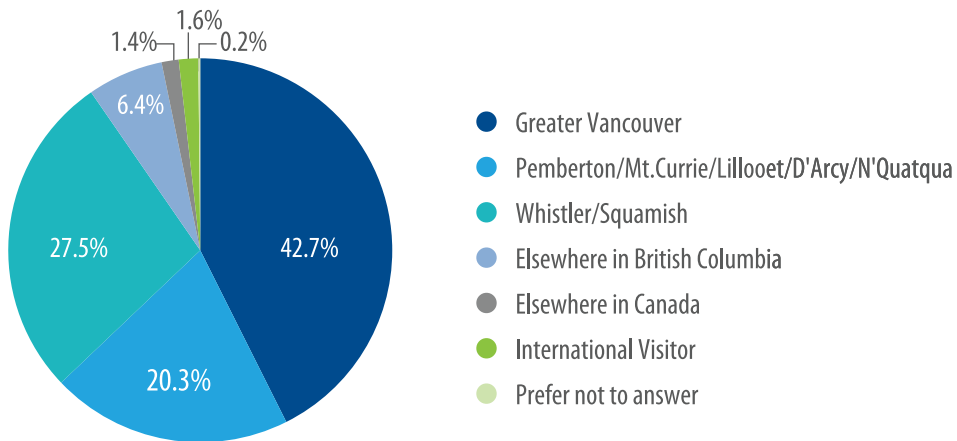


Section 1: Demographics

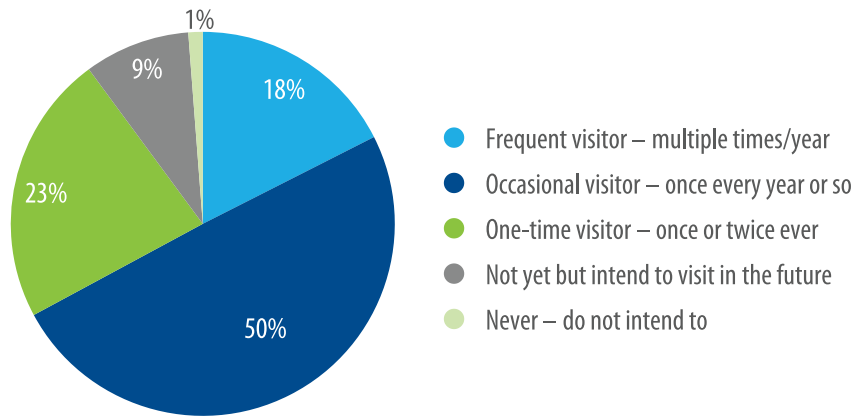
QUESTION 1: WHAT IS YOUR AGE?



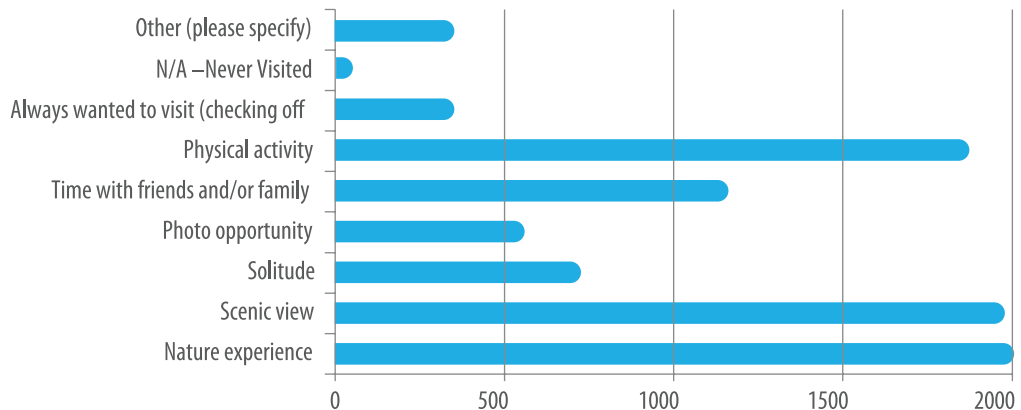
QUESTION 2 : JOFFRE LAKES PARK ATTRACTS BOTH LOCAL VISITORS AND THOSE VISITING FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. WHERE ARE YOU FROM?



QUESTION 3: HOW OFTEN HAVE YOU VISITED JOFFRE LAKES PARK?



QUESTION 4: WHAT ARE YOUR MAIN MOTIVATIONS FOR VISITING JOFFRE LAKES?



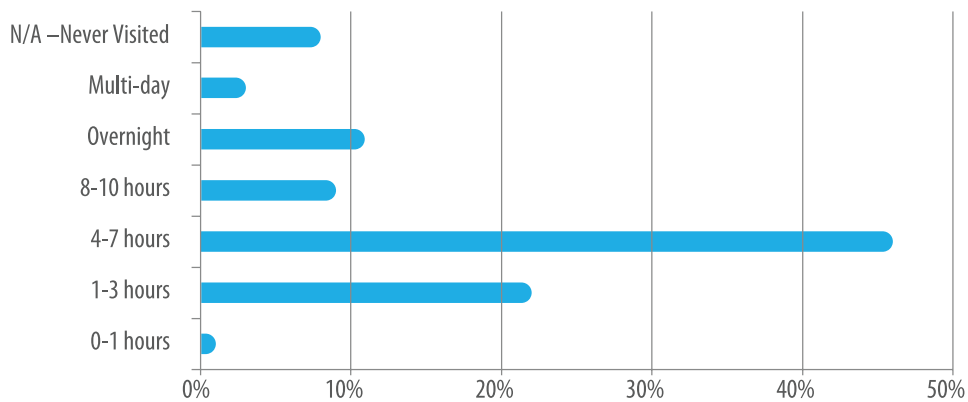
Under “Other (please specify)”, other popular motivations for visiting Joffre Lakes Park included:

- ✓ Backcountry excursions;
- ✓ Mountaineering;
- ✓ Hiking;
- ✓ Skiing; and,
- ✓ Camping.

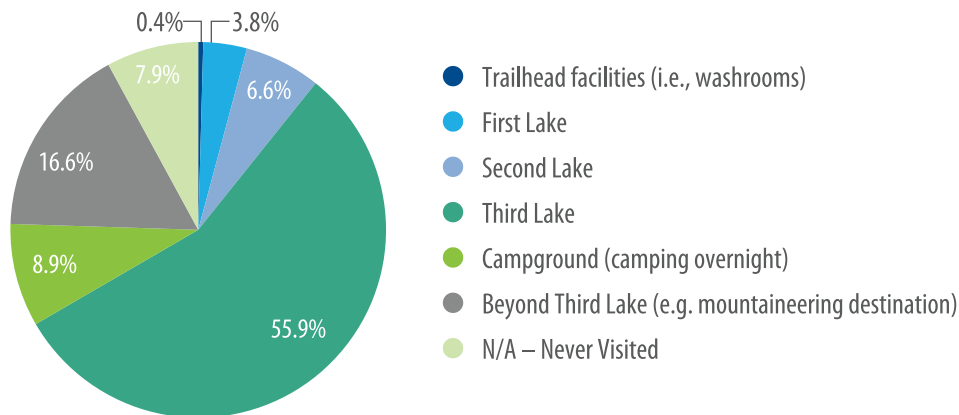
QUESTION 5: WHAT IS YOUR LEVEL OF OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE?



QUESTION 6: HOW LONG DO YOU USUALLY VISIT THE PARK FOR?

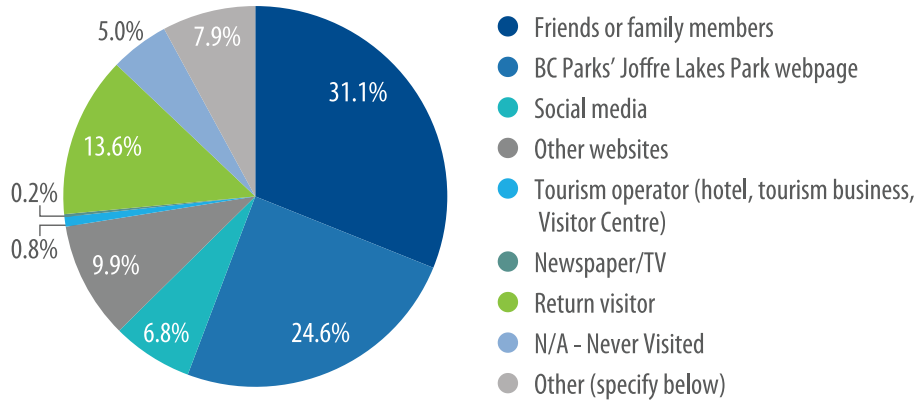


QUESTION 7: WHAT IS YOUR PRIMARY DESTINATION WHEN YOU VISIT JOFFRE LAKES PARK?



Section 2: Communication

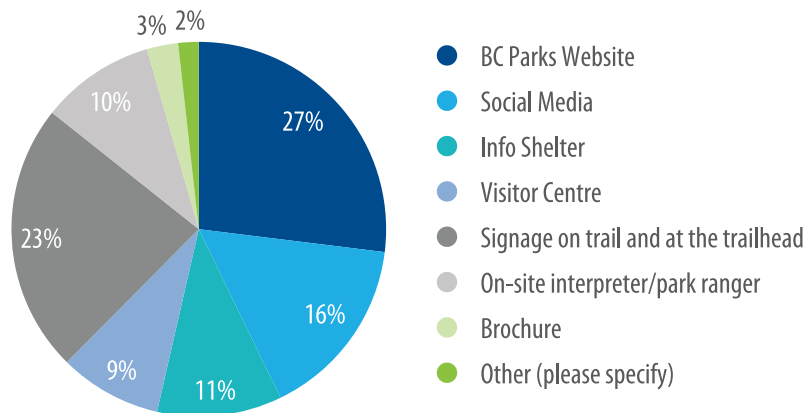
QUESTION 8: WHEN YOU'VE VISITED JOFFRE LAKES PARK IN THE PAST, WHERE DID YOU GET YOUR INFORMATION FROM IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR YOUR VISIT?



Under "Other (specify below)", other popular sources of information respondents referenced to gain information on Joffre Lakes Park included:

- ✓ Books; and
- ✓ Trail websites.

QUESTION 9: WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO YOU ABOUT THE PARK?



Under "Other (please specify)", additional suggested ways to provide information to visitors were through:

- ✓ Third party trail websites;
- ✓ Books; and,
- ✓ Local media.

Section 3: Park Values

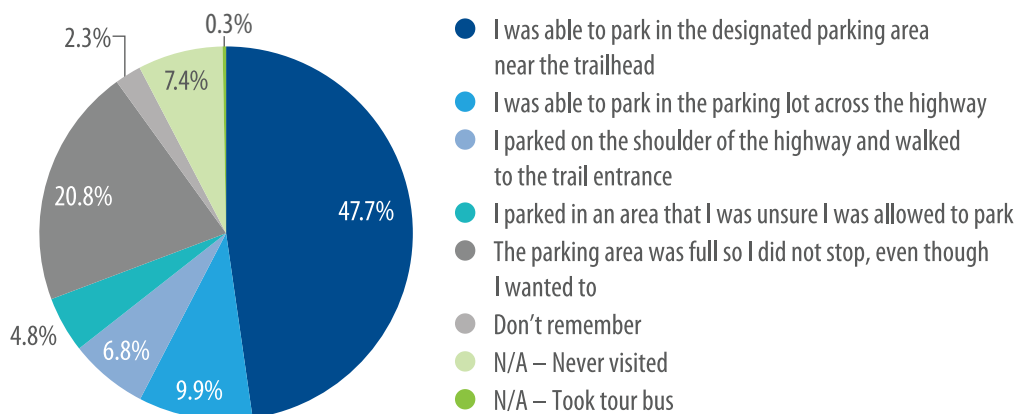
QUESTION 10: WHICH VALUES AND CONCERNS SHOULD BC PARKS CONSIDER WHEN PLANNING IMPROVEMENTS IN JOFFRE LAKES PARK?

The top values and concerns noted by respondents included:

- ✔ Safety of park visitors and safe highway conditions;
- ✔ Sustainable recreation use;
- ✔ Preserving the feeling of a wilderness experience with limited facility development; and
- ✔ Reduction of crowding on trails and at trailheads.

Section 4: Parking

QUESTION 11: PLEASE SHARE YOUR MOST RECENT PARKING EXPERIENCE AT JOFFRE LAKES PARK



Section 5: Preliminary ideas for improvements

QUESTION 12: THE FOLLOWING POTENTIAL PEDESTRIAN SAFETY, PARKING CAPACITY, AND TRAFFIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS COULD BE CONSIDERED AT JOFFRE LAKES PARK. PLEASE IDENTIFY YOUR LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR EACH IDEA.

From the list provided to respondents, the top supported ideas were:

- ✔ Enforcement of no parking areas (i.e. ticket and/or tow vehicles parked on highway);
- ✔ Designate overnight parking; and,
- ✔ Carpooling incentives to reduce the number of vehicles.

The ideas that were least supported by respondents included:

- ✔ Creating zones with limited parking time
- ✔ Creating additional parking areas
- ✔ Creating a separate bus/RV only parking area

QUESTION 13: DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIFIC IDEAS OR CONSIDERATIONS FOR IMPROVING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY, PARKING CAPACITY, AND TRAFFIC SAFETY?

The most common suggestions were:

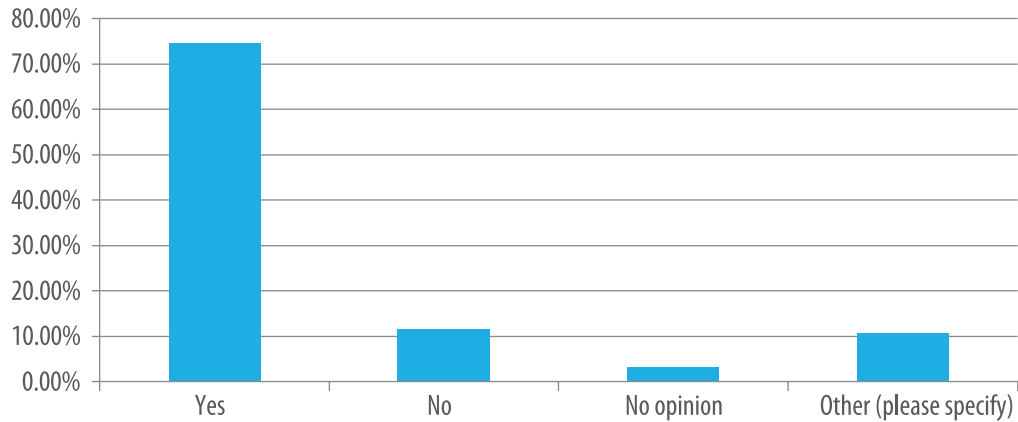
- ✔ Creating day-use permits;
- ✔ Pay parking; and,
- ✔ Creating additional hiking trails to distribute use.

Additional suggestions were:

- ✔ Creating a safe walkway from the secondary parking lot to the main lot;
- ✔ Posting messaging informing visitors when the parking lot is full;
- ✔ Reducing the number of tour buses; and
- ✔ Improving roadside signage.

Section 6: Park Management

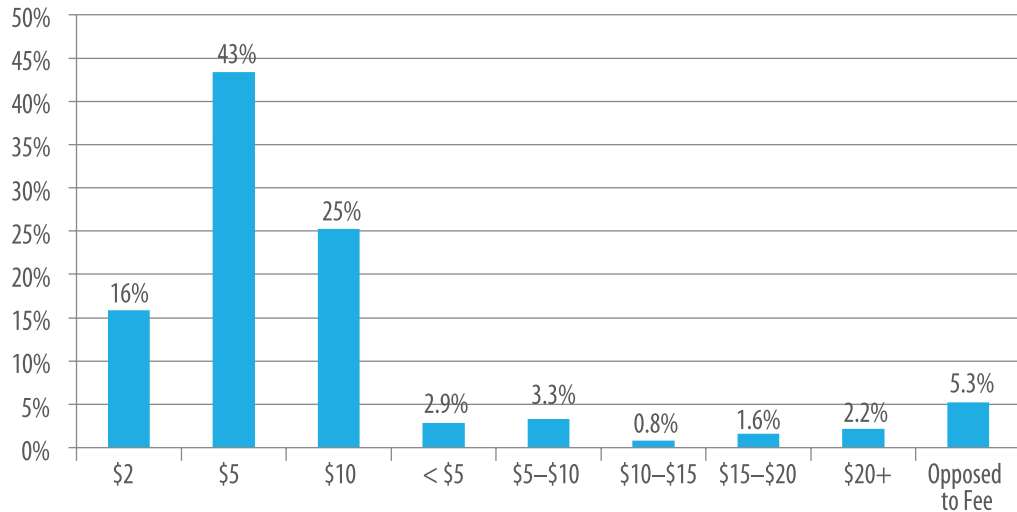
QUESTION 14: WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO PAY A DAY-USE FEE TO ENTER THE PARK IF YOU KNEW THE MONEY WAS BEING REINVESTED BACK INTO THE PARK?



Under "Other (please specify)", additional comments about day-use fees included:

- ✔ Importance of having funding directed to the park;
- ✔ Fees should be associated with peak season;
- ✔ Access to the park should be free for locals/Indigenous communities;
- ✔ Fees should be tied to parking;
- ✔ A "per-car" fee should be considered;
- ✔ Fees should be by donation;
- ✔ Season passes should be available;
- ✔ Fees may be an economic barrier to some users;
- ✔ Funds should support local Search and Rescue; and
- ✔ Displacement may occur, people may choose to visit other areas that do not have a fee.

QUESTION 15: IF SO, WHAT AMOUNT WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO PAY PER PERSON?



QUESTION 16: DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIFIC IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS FOR PARK INVESTMENTS/NEW FACILITIES?

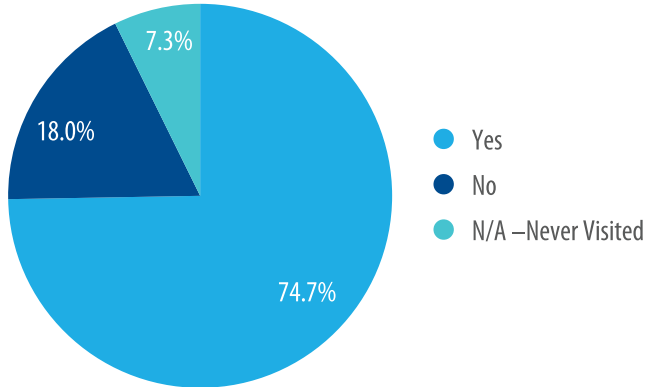
The most common suggestions were:

- ✔ Installation of additional washrooms and garbage bins;
- ✔ Creation of an information kiosk;
- ✔ Development of additional trails within the park; and
- ✔ Increased cleaning of facilities and trails.

Additional suggestions were:

- ✔ Creation of a look-out at Third Lake and First Lake;
- ✔ Installation of benches;
- ✔ Installation of boardwalks;
- ✔ Creation of camping platforms;
- ✔ Construction of additional campsites;
- ✔ RV parking;
- ✔ Increased parking;
- ✔ Additional bear caches; and
- ✔ Environmental restoration.

QUESTION 17: WHEN YOU VISITED JOFFRE LAKES PARK IN THE PAST, DID YOU FEEL THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE YOU ENCOUNTERED IN THE PARK HAD A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON YOUR VISIT?

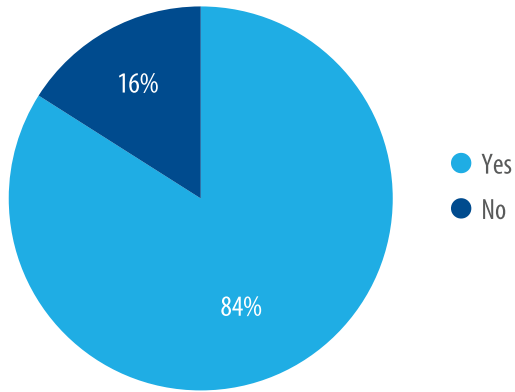


Under "If yes, then how and where?" some respondents provided additional detail, noting specifically that the number of people encountered in the park led to a negative experience through:

- ✔ Congestion and crowding;
- ✔ Encountering unprepared visitors;
- ✔ Drones disturbing quiet space;
- ✔ Music disturbing quiet space;
- ✔ Human waste;
- ✔ Lack of outdoor etiquette;
- ✔ Facilities do not match the level of use, and are often un-clean; and
- ✔ Line-ups and bottlenecks on the trail.



QUESTION 18: WOULD YOU AGREE WITH LIMITING THE NUMBER OF DAY VISITORS IN THE PARK IF IT MEANT YOU'D ENCOUNTER FEWER VISITORS AND YOU WERE GUARANTEED EASIER ACCESS?



QUESTION 19: DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIFIC IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING PARK MANAGEMENT AT JOFFRE LAKES PARK?

Respondents provided the following top four suggestions for improving park management:

- ✔ Don't advertise the park;
- ✔ Increase education;
- ✔ Increase staff levels; and
- ✔ Create a day-use permit system.



**JOFFRE LAKE
PARK**



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September 13, 2019

The Honorable Doug Donaldson
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
P.O. Box 9049 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC
V8W 9E2

**Re: Letter of Support for Off-Road Vehicle Management Framework
(UBCM Resolution No. B121)**

Dear Minister Donaldson,

At the Regular Council Meeting of September 11, 2019, the District of Sicamous Council passed a resolution endorsing the Villages of Sayward and Tahsis, BC's request for provincial support for an Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Management Framework.

Accordingly, the District of Sicamous Mayor and Council respectfully request the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development support and make changes to the Off-Road Vehicle Act as proposed in resolution no. B121 as submitted to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, 2019.

In Sicamous, ORV Tourism is a key component to the diversification of our rural economy, growth of our tourism industry and creation of long-term employment. As the District of Sicamous is annexed by two major BC highways, has multiple bridges, bodies of water, highly varied topography and diverse vehicle traffic, Council would like to offer the community of Sicamous as a location for a future ORV pilot project.

Regards,

DISTRICT OF SICAMOUS

Terry Rysz,
Mayor

CC: Maria Crawford, Union of British Columbia Municipalities
Quad Riders ATV Association of BC
British Columbia Snowmobile Federation
Village of Sayward
Village of Tahsis
District of Tumbler Ridge
Village of Salmo

From: Rob Douglas <rob.douglas@northcowichan.ca>
Sent: September 15, 2019 12:27 PM
To: Rob Douglas <rob.douglas@northcowichan.ca>
Subject: UBCM Resolution for Regional Management of Forestry

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

This is a time of unprecedented closure of sawmills in the Province. The auditor general [in his 2012 report](#) showed the department's incapacity to do its job or even have an adequate purpose or mission. A cut and get out approach has in fact been our provincial forest policy.

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives turned out a major report last year on the decline of the industry and makes the case for more local control - an idea that the UBCM should endorse (see attached report).

This bold report argues for:

- Creating a new officer of the legislature/forester general - who would report to us all;
- Creating empowered regional standing committees of the B.C. Legislature for Vancouver Island and the Coast, the Kootenays, Southern Interior, Northern Interior, Lower Mainland, and the other major regions;
- Creating a forest charter of outcomes, standards and goals; and
- Giving more local control of our forests given the good examples we already have.

We the undersigned urge your support of the resolution from the Municipality of North Cowichan ("B156 – Regional Management of Forestry" – see attached).

We are at the UBCM convention; let's meet.

Sincerely,

Rob Douglas - Councillor, Municipality of North Cowichan

Bob Williams - Former Minister of Lands, Forests and Water Resources

Corky Evans – Director, Columbia Basin Trust and Former Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

Dr. Geoff Battersby - Former Mayor of Revelstoke and Former Director of Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation

Fred Parker - Registered Forest Professional and Former Executive Director of the BC Forest Practices Board

Ray Travers - Registered Forest Professional (Ret.) and Private Forest Consultant

B156 Regional Management of Forestry

North Cowichan

Whereas the forest industry in British Columbia has been on a steady decline in recent decades, with dozens mill closures, thousands of lost jobs and once-thriving rural communities experiencing severe economic decline – due in large part to corporate mismanagement, misguided government policies, and lack of public oversight;

And whereas many communities across British Columbia and globally have demonstrated that when local people are empowered to manage public forests and other common resources through community forest licenses, regional trusts and other community-based governance models, there are significant social, economic and environmental benefits:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia explore the feasibility of:

- Adopting a new model of regionally-based forestry management that will empower local communities to engage in long term planning of the regional economies and ecosystems;
- Creating a Forest Charter passed by the Legislature that includes an overall vision, sustainability principles, and standards for our forests; and
- Appointing a Forester General to serve as a new independent officer who will report annually to the Legislature and work with the diverse regions of our province on local land planning processes.



Restoring Forestry in BC

The story of the industry's decline
and the case for regional management

BY BOB WILLIAMS

January 2018



CCPA
CANADIAN CENTRE
for POLICY ALTERNATIVES
BC Office

RESTORING FORESTRY IN BC

The story of the industry's decline and the case for regional management

by Bob Williams

January 2018

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

BOB WILLIAMS was Minister of Lands, Forests and Water Resources in the BC government of Dave Barrett (1972–75) and Deputy Minister of Crown Corporations in the government of Mike Harcourt (1992–96). He has a degree in Community and Regional Planning, and in October 2017 was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws by Simon Fraser University.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to the four anonymous reviewers of an earlier draft of this report. Special thanks to Ben Parfitt and Seth Klein for their reviews and edits. I would like to thank my friend and colleague Ray Travers, RPF, who has advised me on forestry matters ever since I was Minister of Lands, Forests and Water Resources. This work would not have been possible without his continuing deep knowledge and advice, which has helped so many of us who care about our forests.

The opinions and recommendations in this report, and any errors, are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publishers or funders.

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Preface

I AM A CITY BOY, but my life was forever changed when, at the age of 19 after my first year of university, I opted for summer work in the Kootenays with the BC Forest Service. Our job was forest inventory—counting trees—and shedding light on what was there.

Our crew drove in our little Austin vans up to Slocan Valley and Nakusp, established our campsite on Kuskanax Creek, and hiked the entire region mapping its forests: virgin white pine in the Monashee Mountains, cedar/spruce in the wet regions, golden tamarack in the south.

I flew regularly in a 1927 Junkers biplane next to the most gutsy bush pilot in the region. I got to know and admire the local folk: loggers of the hinterland, Doukhobor families of the Slocan, Japanese people whose family members had been interned in prison camps, pioneers of the Boer War, children of British remittance men, tough men scarred by grizzlies. These were the wonderful working folks of the Arrow Lakes before their lands were flooded and tied into the greater Columbia River hydroelectric grid.

All this I got to know as well as the Forest Service that served them from its small green and white barns that characterized ranger stations in the villages and towns of Arrowhead, Nakusp and Slocan City. It was a rich, networked rural community where the local forest ranger presided, and it made an incredible positive impression on me, a kid from Vancouver's Eastside.

It is now all gone, replaced by absentee corporations, a distant and computerized government and the financialization of everything. I felt it was time to catalogue this decline and sketch out new hope for the future.

Part 1:

The decline of forestry in BC

WHY HAVE WE NOT BEEN HONEST WITH OURSELVES? We have a monumental failure on our hands—forestry in British Columbia. Almost everything about forestry in BC is wrong, given that this marvellous resource is endowed to us by nature.

Since the Second World War, we have pretended that we have the right answers.

We have pretended that we've developed a scientifically sound base for sustainable forestry practice. We've pretended we have a successful industry. We've pretended we have a successful licensing and cutting program. We've pretended we get full value for our trees and that we have a proper and competitive system for selling timber and cutting rights. We've pretended we have good public and corporate managers alike. On all of these points, and more, we have failed.

Let's, in our own interest, finally face up to the ugly truths of forest policy history in this province. The truth is that we have had a policy of liquidating our forests. For several generations in coastal BC, we demolished great forests, clear-cut countless valleys and watched giant corporations come through and liquidate this great natural asset and then move on.

Throughout the postwar period, older generations saw a proliferation of sawmills on the BC coast and miles of log booms. Today, those buying expensive waterfront condos along False Creek would find it hard to believe that older generations in Vancouver were used to seeing a solid mass of log booms in the water between Cambie and Main Streets and sawmills in the heart of the city. The same pattern prevailed on the city's southern shores along the Fraser River as well as in North Vancouver, north Burnaby and Port Moody.

But now, much of that industry is gone. In the 25 years beginning in 1990 and ending in 2014, more than half of the coast's larger sawmills (56 per cent) closed their doors, and output fell by almost exactly the same.¹ It has been a program of liquidation, not sustainable forestry. The historic pattern from 1911 to 1989 is laid out for all to see in the seminal work *Touch Wood*.²

We are a remnant of what we once were, and the data are there to prove it.

For several generations in coastal BC, we demolished great forests, clear-cut countless valleys and watched giant corporations come through and liquidate this great natural asset and then move on.

1 British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, 2015.

2 Drushka, Nixon and Travers, 1993.

OUR OWN TRAGIC STATISTICS

Statistics for the past two decades alone begin to spell out some of the current reality.

For example:

| | 1997 | 2016 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Forests as a percentage of provincial GDP | 4.5% | 3.3% |
| People directly employed | 85,000 | 59,900 |
| Forest revenue* | \$986,000,000 | \$746,000,000 |

Source: BC Stats, "B.C. Economic Accounts and Gross Domestic Product," <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/data/statistics/economy/bc-economic-accounts-gdp>.

*These figures are not adjusted for inflation.

Between 1990 and 2015, the number of large- and medium-size sawmills in BC saw a 47 per cent decline.

Between 1990 and 2015, the number of large- and medium-size sawmills in BC declined from 131 to 70, a 47 per cent decline. Veneer mills went from 20 to 13, a 35 per cent decline; pulp mills went from 24 to 17, a 29 per cent decline; and the number of paper mills was halved from 12 to six.³ Our mainstream media rarely report on this startling data anymore.

A few forestry company names that have disappeared:

- Canadian White Pine
- Crown Zellerbach
- Doman
- Eburne
- Eurocan
- Fletcher Challenge
- Fraser Mills
- Kootenay Forest Products
- MacMillan Bloedel
- Northwood
- Powell River Company
- Rayonier
- Weldwood

Measured against our peers

In a quiet way, the most damning report on the BC forest sector came out of the province of Ontario. The Finnish consulting company Jaakko Pöyry, one of the world's most highly regarded forest consultancies, undertook a review of the value-added forest industry in that province and compared it with that of other provinces and jurisdictions outside Canada.⁴ Section five of the report—its conclusions on their qualitative benchmarking—is devastating for BC and is summarized here. The report was written in 2001, but if anything, an updated study would show BC faring even worse.⁵

³ British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, 2015.

⁴ Living Legacy Trust and Jaakko Pöyry Consulting, 2001.

⁵ British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, 2015. According to the report, BC lost roughly half of its coastal sawmills in the years after the Ontario government commissioned the study.

Management capability

BC scored one out of five when it came to the education, skill level and management sophistication of executives and owners in each benchmark area and functional competences (for example, marketing, finance, operations, human resources and information technology). Quebec scored two; Ontario, 2.5; and Denmark, five. We were the worst.

Skill levels

This addressed the skills, experience, technical knowledge and expertise of the workforce and the availability of skilled support trades. A similar pattern prevailed, BC at the bottom again at one out of five.

Clustering

On the synergy between manufacturers, those that harvest the raw materials, equipment manufacturers and so on to develop secondary wood products, BC was once again at the bottom of the heap.

Policy environment

On government policies and programs that enhance the free-market conditions for business enterprises, BC was found the least competent.

Industry and market structure and accessibility

As for relations between primary and secondary producers and the overall competitiveness of secondary-wood-product manufacturers, our province once again came last. With its failed forest tenure system and lack of open log-markets, which would encourage domestic manufacturers to gain access to the right logs, it's hard to see how it could be otherwise.

Technology

Here Western Canada also lags behind.

Raw material

The consultants noted that in Western Canada, primary manufacturers look upon remanufacturers as competitors rather than customers, as it is the case elsewhere. And once again, they gave BC a failing grade: one in a possible score of five!

So there we have it. The best forestry sector consultants in the world put us at the bottom when compared to our peers.

For more statistics on BC's declining forestry sector and poor performance, see Appendix.

From a 2016 article in *Truck LoggerBC*:

Since 1987, about 50 sawmills [on the BC coast] have closed, where 27 of these closures occurred since 2004. BC coast lumber production has plunged from 4.7 billion board feet in 1987 to 1.4 billion board feet in 2015. With less than 30 sawmills left in operation, one may conclude that the BC coast has been a graveyard of sawmills over the last 30 years.

The good news is that all of the high cost mills have been closed. All of the remaining mills are survivors with better cost structures and increased output, where many have a reasonable chance of continuing on.*

* Russ Taylor, 2016.

THE AUDITOR GENERAL SHOWS CONCERN

A source as unbiased as the auditor general of BC has said we need to be far more diligent about these matters.⁶ A 2012 audit of the forests ministry's management of timber concluded:

- The ministry has not clearly defined its timber objectives and therefore cannot assure that its management practices are effective.
- Existing management practices won't be able to offset the trend toward forests having a lower timber supply and less diversity in some areas.
- The ministry does not appropriately monitor and report its timber results against its timber objectives.

On ministry stewardship, the auditor general pointed out there is a significant gap between the total area the ministry replants and the total area suitable for replanting. He was also concerned about incomplete data entries by the private sector and the information system generally.

The report left the unmistakable impression that our forest policies are hopelessly flawed and both ill defined and ill measured. Over the years we have consciously lowered the bar for management, measurement and reporting of this great public resource.

Much of this off-loading of provincial stewardship expanded dramatically under Premier Bill Bennett (1975–86), whose government appointed Mike Apsey, former head of the Council of Forest Industries (a corporate lobbyist), as deputy minister of forests.

Today, most professional associations express great concern that their own problems and conflicts are detracting from what is really important—namely, defending the public interest by protecting our Crown forest resources.

Enough of this bad news. Let's look to our ultimate peers, the Swedes. What do they achieve, given they have the same amount of commercial forest land as BC?

SWEDEN SHOWS US WHAT TO DO

Sweden's annual tree growth in managed forests is well over double that in BC. Repeat: Sweden has an equivalent area of forest land and gets twice the growth that we achieve. Is there something we can learn here?

Sweden manages their lands in a scientific manner. We do not.

The standing stock in Swedish forests has increased dramatically from 2,300,000,000 cubic metres in 1950 to 3,900,000,000 cubic metres in recent years. BC forests have been in constant decline.

Sweden's success has been achieved by satisfactorily stocking, thinning and intensively managing their forests.⁷ Let's be clear—there is huge payback from thoughtful, scientific management, payback that we in BC have never seen and never will if we continue our reckless course of liquidation.

⁶ Office of the Auditor General of British Columbia, 2012.

⁷ Tree thinning involves selectively logging trees amidst standing trees. The logged trees, which are generally small, are then taken to mills for processing, while the remaining standing trees are left to grow taller and bigger before harvesting years or decades down the road.

On ministry stewardship, the auditor general pointed out there is a significant gap between the total area the ministry replants and the total area suitable for replanting.

This demonstrates, of course, what can happen when we manage for value. By managing their forest lands in a continuous, careful manner—intensively stocking sites from day one and thinning two or three times during several rotations (i.e., holding off on the final cut over a longer period of time), Sweden has increased the value and volume of trees growing in its managed forests. Tree-thinning operations alone in Sweden produce 30 per cent of the annual cut. That level of performance is achieved on an actively logged and managed forest land base that is roughly equal to British Columbia's.

In BC we don't invest in thinning the forests we replant. This means we miss opportunities to work with both the initially lower-quality wood coming from thinning operations and then from the much higher-quality wood coming from trees that are logged from managed plantation lands decades down the road.

Ray Travers, a long-time BC civil servant with a masters degree in forest management and silviculture, argues that we should emulate Sweden by employing some of its effective on-the-ground practices. He believes we won't get there just by shifting to area-based tenures—the quick fix championed by BC's corporate forest interests. A values-based silviculture system in young forests combines high-level stocking (approximately 2,500 trees per hectare) and extended rotations (more than 100 years) and frequent light commercial thinning, each less than 30 per cent of the stand, along with other management requirements, Travers says.

This "growing for value" rather than our own "growing for volume" as practised in BC can, Travers believes, generate returns along the value chain from low-grade sawlogs at \$88 a cubic metre to high-grade logs at \$143 a cubic metre and veneers at \$325 a cubic metre. If BC produced more high-grade logs, this would bump the forestry return by over 60 per cent. We have a long way to go in BC in straight forestry terms to attain such values.⁸

By managing their forest lands in a continuous, careful manner—intensively stocking sites from day one and thinning two or three times during several rotations, Sweden has increased the value and volume of trees growing in their managed forests.

THE BAD DEALS IN FORESTRY CONTINUE

That in British Columbia we have failed to extract sufficient value from our forests is undeniable. But there is more. In the early 1990s, the provincial government appointed the Forest Resources Commission to assess the state of BC's forests and forest management. Led by Sandy Peel, a former provincial deputy minister, the commission concluded based on overwhelming evidence that stumpage fees (the price the Crown charges for trees logged on public lands) "are not capturing the full value of the resource."⁹ Peel went on to state:

In fact, the private transactions produce an asset value more than four times higher than that found for stumpage. This suggests that industry is capturing a much higher value from the forests than is the government.

The best recent example of this is the sale of TimberWest to two public-sector pension plans, one that's Canada-wide (run by the Public Sector Pension Investment Board) and one in BC (BC Investment Management Corporation). The lands involved run down the east side of Vancouver Island, adjacent to the north/south settlement pattern on the island's eastern shore. The pension funds recently acquired the lands—327,000 hectares in total or just over 10 per cent of all of Vancouver Island—for \$1 billion.¹⁰ Curiously, the province does not show our own immensely

⁸ Travers, 2014.

⁹ Peel, 1991.

¹⁰ Hamilton, 2011.

valuable public lands, including the timber (some 20 million hectares), on its balance sheet. Think about that. Our own government is mute on the value of one of our most precious, largely publicly owned resources!

The lands acquired by TimberWest were first sold off in a deal between early industrialist Robert Dunsmuir to the Canadian Pacific Railway. These were Crown-granted fee simple lands with full property rights; one could say extreme property rights in that the land grant included the lands beneath lakes, for example. Much of the land was sold off over the years since the early grant but still covers 10 per cent of Vancouver Island.

WHAT IS THE CORPORATE GAME PLAN?

The lands in question, and others on the coast, are now being mined of their trees, which are exported in raw, unprocessed form at levels never before seen. As the number of mills on the coast has fallen precipitously, the number of raw logs exported by coastal forestry companies has skyrocketed.

In the four years beginning in 2013, the government allowed 26 million cubic metres of raw logs to be exported from BC, the highest four-year tally in provincial history.¹¹

I would suggest that the real business plan for our forest corporations has been, for decades, to be the real landlord, the real rent collector of our public resource.

It works like this. Companies happily pay below-market rent to the government for the trees they cut. That discounted rent, in the form of low stumpage payments, allows the companies to make handsome profits. These days, the handsomest of those profits come from selling raw logs to out-of-country buyers.

But there's more to it than that.

Sandy Peel made this clear in 1991 when, as mentioned in the previous section, the provincial Forest Resources Commission that he led issued its report *The Future of Our Forests*.¹² Peel's professional estimate at the time was that the Crown collects only a quarter of the timber value. The real business of forest corporations is to be the rentier in economic terms. They collect the real rent the government leaves on the table.

If the companies then decide to get out of the two-by-four business, a low-value commodity, they sell the business but attach a value to the uncollected rent that the government has left on the table. That value is then multiplied by three, four, five, six or seven times the annual rent the government collects, and because we no longer have competitive bidding for our trees, the price is based on calculations of value—an estimate of market value. The lack of real-market tests means that the government underprices our timber sales to the big companies. And because the government has not done its job collecting the full rent from our forest lands or the trees cut on them, it means the company collects not only the conventional profits of its enterprise, but also some of the resource rent as well.

In normal business transactions, the profitability of a company determines its value to a great extent. In BC, however, because the province does not collect all of the stumpage revenues that

¹¹ Parfitt, 2017.

¹² Peel, 1991.

it should, when companies go to sell *their* assets, they take the value of the discount, apply it to the trees under their control to cut, and pass that added cost onto the buyer. It amounts to one giant markup that should have been collected all along in higher stumpage fees by the province, but instead is collected by the companies when they sell.

That is the real gravy. It has been going on for decades, but was not always so.

On a continuous basis through the 1970s and earlier, the province's forests ministry employed its own counsel, Clarence Cooper, to see that forestry companies never embedded the value of timber when their businesses were sold. There was a simple reason for this: the timber belonged to the people of BC, not the companies. Capitalization of the value of a Crown asset was seen to be virtually criminal. A corporation had to provide a breakdown of the assets being sold, and no amount was allowed for the timber. We maintained Crown ownership then.

Today, in many ways, harvesting the value of Crown assets is the primary game for many industry players, especially when they want to get out. We now have an industry that for the most part is in the cheap commodity lumber business. In the long run, however, the value of commodity lumber is in relative constant decline. Surges in US housing demand and a declining dollar help BC's commodity lumber industry. But the commodity lumber game's main focus has been to increase profits by decreasing the number of workers and pumping out more and more two-by-fours. Some managers estimate that future "ultra" mills may only need a hundred or so workers. So increasingly, the game is to collect the rent and multiply it significantly when you sell the company. This has not been a good deal for BC or forestry workers.

The commodity lumber game's main focus has been to increase profits by decreasing the number of workers and pumping out more and more two-by-fours.

As noted earlier, coastal sawmill production has been more than halved in just 25 years. And as mills have closed, raw log exports have soared. It's a classic high-grading, cut-and-get-out exercise (harvesting the highest grade of timber and then moving on) for corporations that are not interested in the long run. As Sweden has shown us, forestry can be a long-term business.

In British Columbia there were forest industry corporate names that we assumed would be around forever, some of which were listed earlier. One of the most recent closures was Chick Stewart's Port Kells B mill, which he moved from Vancouver's False Creek in the 1970s to Langley because there were no more big logs left on the coast. Chick, now 88 years old, is also one of the last great independents on the coast: an iconic remnant of a former entrepreneurial breed that once dominated the industry. He is a proud example of entrepreneurial human capital that British Columbia has lost as the forest industry transformed.

So if most BC forest corporations are now rentiers, what does that really mean? It means that:

- Companies have largely replaced the forests ministry and collect much of the true value of our forest assets when those assets are sold.
- New entrepreneurial human capital is lost.
- There is little interest in moving into value-added projects, as research can be costly and risky, and there's already a decent or handsome return in just being a landlord.
- Corporations have little interest in long-term forestry/silviculture.
- For the government, rent income, which should have been used to replenish the resource by planting, thinning and managing, has been usurped by others.

THE FORESTRY TENURE SYSTEM

The primary tenure system on the BC coast has been the Tree Farm Licence, or TFL. The tenure area is defined as a specific and usually large block of land.

In the province's Interior, the tenure system is primarily volume based, a floating volume over a sub-region. So instead of companies having logging rights for geographically defined areas (with TFLs), the province assigns volumes of timber they can cut from a large tract of forest called Timber Supply Areas (TSAs), in which other companies may also operate. In the Interior, there has been strong industry pressure to use the TFL coastal system, which is seen as a stronger property right for proponents. Interior logging giant West Fraser has been one of the keenest proponents of such change.

In the earliest days of issuing TFLs on the coast, there was an argument for combining private lands that logging companies owned with adjacent Crown lands to form large, integrated units where forest management was the primary objective. The goal of corporate proponents in the Interior is to expand their landlord rights over Crown lands and then sell the company, just as their counterparts on the coast have done. Fortunately, this kind of land grab is not advocated across the board in the Interior. In fact, the largest company operating there has taken a dissenting view.

On April 15, 2014, Don Kayne, the president and CEO of Canfor Corporation, wrote a letter to the *Vancouver Sun* in which he noted the Interior forest sector was undergoing a significant transformation in the wake of the mountain pine beetle epidemic, and "In our view, this is absolutely not the time for major changes to tenure administration." He continues:

Governments and industry must focus on understanding what timber is available and what adjustments are needed in primary manufacturing. We feel the benefits of the area based tenure are marginal at best and that there are many higher priorities that would yield greater positive impacts. More importantly, the public opposition to this proposal is a deal breaker... Canfor would only support a fully transparent public process that is fair to all licensees and involves sufficient public involvement so we could be confident it has the support of British Columbians.

Instead, Kayne argues:

Government resources should be focused on maintaining the health of the interior forest sector, completing an updated forest inventory to support planning and decision making, resourcing smaller tenure holders and the BC Timber Sales program so they can access their tenure volume, and assisting communities with any necessary rationalizations in primary manufacturing.

These were incredible statements in the public interest coming from a major forestry company, and most British Columbians wouldn't have known about them because there was no subsequent news coverage. This was an extraordinary failure especially since the statements must have been endorsed by former premier Glen Clark, now president of the Jim Pattison Group responsible for Canfor.

This represents a significant shift for this province: the beginning of one major firm aligning some of its corporate interest with the public interest. Subsequently, the Supreme Court of Canada's precedent-setting decision in December 2014 in favour of the Tsilhqot'in First Nation meant any new TFL decisions would be extremely problematic. That unanimous decision, and others before our courts and legal tribunals, underscore our failure to deal honourably and forthrightly with First Nations. First Nations have borne the burden of decades of our misguided forest policies. Any credible change in direction must have First Nations at the forefront as we chart a new course.

The goal of corporate proponents in the Interior is to expand their landlord rights over Crown lands and then sell the company, just as their counterparts on the coast have done.

MORE ABOUT THE LANDLORD GAME

Every now and then the reality of some of our forest enterprises is exposed for the insider, landlord game that it is.

In the earliest days of the Social Credit government of W.A.C. Bennett (1952–72), Forests Minister Robert Sommers was convicted of bribery and corruption for his dealings with a senior British Columbia Forest Products employee in granting TFL licences. Prior to the court proceeding, a Liberal member of the opposition, Gordon Gibson Sr., argued that “money talks” in the granting of forest licences. Gibson, a long-time logger and forestry company worker, doggedly made his case both inside and outside the legislature about one of the crudest examples of the landlord game in the modern era. This case took ages to get to court under the province’s then attorney general Robert Bonner. Bonner dragged his feet for years before proceeding with the case against his colleague, who eventually went to jail. BC Forest Products Corporation, which made the bribe, was never charged by the attorney general, and the TFL remained in place. The company simply kept its ill-gotten gains and passed them along to others when it was sold!

By this time, signs that the game was more than forestry became apparent to some critics.

The opposition forest critic in the 1960s (me) argued that it seemed strange that the CEO of the newly formed MacMillan Bloedel Corporation (the merger of Powell River Company with MacMillan and Bloedel Ltd.) was a former BC Supreme Court judge, John Valentine Clyne. I wondered out loud if Clyne’s primary value was his political link with Victoria, and Clyne threatened to sue, advising me so by telegram. Instead, I invited him to run against me in Vancouver East. He declined.

At a later stage, as a minister in the Dave Barrett government (1972–75), I hired W.C.R. (Ray) Jones to lead Canadian Cellulose—the holding company for Crown-owned forestry companies. Jones told me that his dealings with Clyne after the amalgamation resulting in MacMillan Bloedel caused him to resign and move east to work for one of Canada’s most-prominent business families, the Westons. Jones had established a fine paper-manufacturing plant for the Powell River Company on Annacis Island, which was a major, and still unequalled, movement toward value-added enterprises in the sector. Clyne, however, was not the least bit interested in pursuing that kind of work; he was more interested in the landlord game. A little later Robert Bonner, who held the attorney general post in the Social Credit government, became CEO at MacMillan Bloedel. Some things never change.

As minister, I was concerned about the cannibalization of the central coast’s forest resources. The government, therefore, took over Crown Zellerbach’s newsprint operations at Ocean Falls and undertook an inventory and analysis of the forest resources in the sub-region that included Ocean Falls, Bella Bella, Bella Coola, Rivers Inlet and the magnificent Dean and Kimsquit Valleys. The Kimsquit Valley was virgin mature forest. I flew over it by helicopter when the salmon were running, and we found ourselves flying amongst what seemed like thousands of eagles that had arrived for the huge salmon harvest.

For an urban lad, it was a breathtaking experience of the grandeur and life cycle on this coast. At the time, I felt I almost heard opera music celebrating the wonder of the experience. I also believed that we could carefully exploit the basin with modest logging that could benefit some industrial activity on the central coast for Ocean Falls, Bella Bella and Bella Coola, providing new employment in the small communities and new ferry service linkages for local economic development.

First Nations have borne the burden of decades of our misguided forest policies. Any credible change in direction must have First Nations at the forefront as we chart a new course.

And then the government changed.

The new Social Credit government of Bill Bennett (1975–86) closed the Ocean Falls mills, which then operated under a Crown holding company. The unallocated timber in the Kimsquit Valley was put up for bid by the new government, and Doman Industries won the bid with the promise of a new pulp mill in Nanaimo. They logged and logged and logged that magnificent valley and exported the raw logs to Asia. In fact, freighters waited at the river mouth to load the logs for transport directly across the Pacific. There were no new jobs or value-added opportunities: so much for providing employment on the central coast.

The devastation of the Kimsquit Valley was photographed by the local forest rangers, and speaking in the legislature I likened it to Jack London's *Valley of the Moon*. Doman then also threatened to sue me. It was the ultimate rent-collecting game by another corporate friend of the government. The pulp mill was never built. The tenure and cutting rights remained as company not Crown assets, and they continued to be transferred as company assets even after Doman Industries went bankrupt.

Later, Herb Doman, a founder of Doman Industries, got into serious financial difficulties. He advised Bill Bennett, now the former premier and a major Doman Industries shareholder, ahead of public knowledge that a major deal failed, which caused the share value to drop dramatically. Bennett sold his shares before anyone else, and was ultimately convicted of insider trading after a prosecution by the estimable Joe Arvay (a former civil servant).

WESTERN FOREST PRODUCTS' SWEET DEAL

In a July 2008 report, then auditor general John Doyle issued a damning review of decisions made by then BC forests minister Rich Coleman—decisions that bestowed enormous economic benefits to Western Forest Products. The report was titled *Removing Private Land from Tree Farm Licences 6, 19 and 25: Protecting the Public Interest?*¹³

Tree Farm Licences typically encompassed enormous areas of Crown land, which forestry companies paid a token amount to hold on to—for example, one penny per acre per year. Companies also had privately owned land that was typically rolled into any new TFL and managed to the standards of the day. In return for gaining access to huge swaths of publicly owned timber in new TFLs, forestry companies agreed to send the timber they logged to their own manufacturing facilities to provide local employment (a quid pro quo arrangement known as *appurtenancy*). This applied equally to the small portions of private lands rolled into the TFLs.

The private land holdings within the TFLs were essentially seen as 100 per cent mortgaged to the Crown as security against the benefits that companies received for the exclusive use of the timber on TFL lands, most of which were owned by the Crown.

In 2003, the terrible reversal of this decades-long contract occurred with the passage of the provincial Forestry Revitalization Plan, which proved to be anything but revitalization. Under this statute, the tying of forest tenures such as TFLs to manufacturing facilities and employment was formally ended. As the auditor general noted, "Historically, most TFLs required timber manufacturing facilities as an appurtenance (addition)... The same entity had to own the mill and the licence."¹⁴

13 Office of the Auditor General of British Columbia, 2008.

14 Ibid., 19.

In 2004, Western Forest Products (WFP) applied to remove its private tenures just before Rich Coleman became forests minister. The company's request was granted before Coleman left the ministry in 2008, a deal that benefitted WFP's three TFLs on southern Vancouver Island—TFLs 6, 19 and 25.

The following timing is outlined on page 68 of the auditor general's report:

November 24, 2004. WFP applied for the removal of private lands from its TFLs.

June 16, 2005. Rich Coleman was appointed minister of forests and range.

April 28, 2006. WFP delivered an information package to the ministry, telling the provincial government that it was acquiring Cascadia Forest Products and intended to sell the private lands.

December 20, 2006. A briefing note for ministry staff was prepared recommending deletion of the private lands as the minister wanted.

The value of these lands at the time of approval was estimated by the ministry at \$150 million.¹⁵

The auditor general concluded, "The ministry's process for making its recommendations to the Minister was not well-defined," with little analysis or evaluation done, and using unsupported statements about WFP's financial health. And "the Minister, as the final check in the process and the statutory decision-maker, did not do enough to ensure that adequate consideration was given to the public interest."¹⁶

The minister's decision gifted Western Forest Products with enormous financial benefits. After three years, the company would be able to export raw logs from the TFLs, a privilege worth hundreds of millions of dollars because offshore log markets are often worth 50 per cent more than local markets.

Some gift indeed!

This is the landlord game—often played offstage and resulting in giveaways of massive proportions.

This is the landlord game—often played offstage and resulting in giveaways of massive proportions.

WE USED TO MANAGE LOCALLY, BUT NO MORE

In the past, the BC Forest Service was a venerable institution that served the public well. It did so for 100 years. Forest Service staff were highly disciplined and for many decades quite decentralized into various "macro-regions," such as Nelson Forest District, which covered both the East and West Kootenays. Within that region (as was the case in the province's other macro-regions), small ranger stations were plentiful in tiny communities like Nakusp, Arrowhead and Rock Creek. This was in the days of public working circles and rangers working with local loggers. The decentralized nature of operations meant that public servants with the Forest Service were actively involved in local forest-management decisions and seen to be serving the interests of local communities.

Responsibility for the Nelson district has now been transferred to Kamloops, hundreds and hundreds of kilometres away. Cutting rights have been transferred to larger and larger corporations, and governance happens in the provincial capital, Victoria—again very far away. Victoria, in turn, transfers much of its responsibilities to the large corporations, which become more financialized

¹⁵ Ibid., 2.

¹⁶ Ibid., 29.

and largely under the control of big money. As a result of this centralized, financialized, stifling pattern, we find the net gains from our publicly owned forests significantly reduced and local know-how, care and responsiveness removed.

That is, local entrepreneurial capacity is ignored because of corporate control of the resource, human capital is not productively engaged and moves on, and regional development is lost.

The challenge is to unravel this mess. For all intents and purposes, the bureaucracy has become privatized, research is increasingly commissioned by corporations, and the provincial knowledge base has declined rapidly compared to other jurisdictions.

The challenge is to unravel this mess. For all intents and purposes, the bureaucracy has become privatized, research is increasingly commissioned by corporations, and the provincial knowledge base has declined rapidly compared to other jurisdictions. The “redefined” industry should, by any measure, get a failing grade.

The initial problem is that facts are not getting out to the public. Data and information are often terribly out of date, inventory is unfinished and undefined goals prevail. Even worse, to underscore the abandonment of an active public service to protect a public resource, the Forest Service was eliminated on its 100th anniversary, in 2012. Staff were integrated into a large centralized bureaucracy, much of it in Victoria.

Thoughtful essayists like Wendell Berry make the point that “industrial economics has clouded our being so much that it has almost stifled the imagination.”

Out of great concern about the state of forestry in BC, I decided to team up with three highly regarded professionals and together we toured much of the province over the past several years.¹⁷ We concluded that BC needs a forester general as we believe the harsh realities of this failed sector could best be revealed by an officer of the legislature as soon as possible.

For far too long, we have been hiding the facts as corporate control of our forest resources has expanded, and we have accepted absentee management in both the public and private sectors.

We make the case for the forester general in the next section.

17 The team included Ray Travers, RPF (Registered Professional Forester); Denis O’Gorman, MA in Planning; and Fred Parker, RPF. We did these tours because we all felt passionately about the future of our forests and forest industry. We spent time in Prince George, the Cariboo region, Revelstoke, Creston, Nakusp, Midway, Maple Ridge and various communities on Vancouver Island.

Part 2: A new way forward

A LEGISLATURE TO HIGHLIGHT BC'S GREAT REGIONS

A decentralized approach or, more positively, empowering our regions was a goal shared by long-term civil servant Alistair Crerar and me. In the early 1990s, before the Mike Harcourt government was elected, Crerar, who was my former deputy minister and one of BC's finest public servants, prepared a paper for me on how decentralization could work.

We agreed that the grand macro-regions of the province needed more control over forestry governance and other natural resources. But how should we begin? Crerar suggested starting with a standing committee of the legislature. The route he proposed was to create multiple standing committees composed of MLAs from each separate region. Each committee would fund the planning exercise in their region and then regional resource plans would be forwarded by the standing committee of the House for approval. It was, and is, a brilliant practical first step in reform.

Nothing is risk-free, and the risk here is that committees might vary wildly in approach and partisan politics could influence outcomes. Having decentralized regional committees could result in diverse outcomes around the province, but people could see what worked and what didn't in various regions and how lessons learned in one region might apply elsewhere. Regionalization would also ensure that power rested with the communities most directly affected by forest management decisions and not with bureaucrats in Victoria.

The likely regions would be the Kootenays, the Central Interior, the Northern Interior, Vancouver Island and the Coast. A finer-tuned pattern might identify the Okanagan and the Lower Mainland as regions.

The goals of decentralizing would be to:

- Maintain or enhance the environment and sustainability.
- Involve the public at the local level in planning, claims, management and stewardship.
- Capture the rent of natural resources.
- Raise real income.
- Provide fulfilling jobs.

Regionalization would also ensure that power rested with the communities most directly affected by forest management decisions and not with bureaucrats in Victoria.

- Create an acceptable level of economic growth.
- Improve equity and fairness.

This is a tall but appropriate order given the value of our Crown forest lands. In the end, the regions would compete toward excellence rather than enduring the one-size-fits-all approach, which has resulted in such inadequate outcomes in recent decades.

Crerar and I saw decentralization as the beginning of our province's regions being free to manage their own economies, while understanding the limits to growth and design by nature.

These regions (which may be segregated further) would have regional foresters, who with local citizen input would report to the standing committee of the legislature and the forester general (see below), providing a feedback loop that empowered people in the regions. Regional committees would include representatives of local First Nations, who would participate in planning processes as equal partners with their non-Indigenous neighbours.

We believed this would be a great step toward more local control, democratizing the sector and bringing First Nations to the table as true partners. Equally important, citizens could tell their elected representatives what they want from our province's iconic resource.

Decentralization would be a great step toward more local control, democratizing the sector and bringing First Nations to the table as true partners.

THE NEED FOR A FOREST CHARTER

The colleagues I travelled the province with and I concluded that BC needs a Forest Charter to articulate overall goals and a purpose for this resource. Forester Ray Travers is drafting such a charter.

BC's auditor general demonstrated there are no established substantial principles to help us best steward this grand resource. The charter must include an up-to-date resource inventory based on science-based forest practices. This would correct a dangerous drift in oversight of our public forest resources that accelerated in 2002 when the Gordon Campbell government (2001–11) repealed sections 2, 3 and 4 of the *Forestry Act*, which required the chief forester to maintain an inventory of the province's forest lands. Later, the same government disbanded the Forest Service's internationally renowned research branch. The charter should re-establish such important practices and move toward the better results achieved by our peers in Sweden (and similarly in Finland) and emulate them to a greater degree.

The goal should include increased volumes of timber and getting more value from our forests with expansion and increases annually. Stewardship and monitoring must again become public sector functions to reassert public interest in this critical industry.

THE NEED FOR A BC FORESTER GENERAL

British Columbians are the custodians of the most important forests in Canada. Our commercial forests are equal in area to all the forested lands in Sweden. We have the benefit of a more southern latitude so one may reasonably assume we have much better results in this sector. We do not.

We showed earlier in this paper that we only do half as well as Sweden in terms of volume, value, employment, productivity, research and management (silviculture). In all of these important areas, we lag behind.

We no longer have a Forest Service. Our admired cadre of uniformed public servants were dismissed on the institution's 100th anniversary. We no longer even receive an annual report from their remnant group or its ministry.

Increasingly, the job of managing this public treasure has been shuffled off to the corporate private sector. The system of local management from countless ranger stations throughout the province has completely disappeared. Now, instead of proper reporting to British Columbians, we get inadequate or misleading comments from the minister or staff. The legislature has become a forum for bafflegab rather than informed discussion and debate. Our supposed democratic structure fails us all.

In other policy areas where the system has failed us, we were able to create new servants of the legislature (and ultimately the public) rather than employ more bureaucrats who are servants of the party in power. We believe that the way forestry management has evolved in BC has failed us and, therefore, we must have a forester general responsible to all of us for this iconic resource.

We have made this kind of change to protect children in the care of the state. And we have created other servants of the House, such as the ombudsman and the auditor general. Indeed, as we have shown in this paper, the auditor general has repeatedly reported about the inadequacy of the forests ministry in determining management principles or goals or even in serving the public interest. That should shock all concerned citizens.

From our travels around the province studying this sector, we believe the forester general should report to the legislature annually and also to new regional standing committees of the House composed of elected members of each of the grand macro-regions. The forester general would also be linked to regional foresters who would work with local representatives on regional planning processes. Working like this, we might establish policy and plans tailored to respective regions, which would be a dramatic change from the current and frequently unaccountable off-loading of management to the private corporate sector. The forester general would, in turn, be guided by the new Forest Charter and be accountable to the legislature, as are other independent officers like the auditor general.

We must have a forester general responsible to all of us for this iconic resource. This role would also be linked to regional foresters who would work with local representatives on regional planning processes.

“FORESTOPIA”—A BETTER FUTURE

In 1994, Michael M’Gonigle and Ben Parfitt wrote the excellent book *Forestopia: A Practical Guide to the New Forest Economy*. Their analysis echoes that of my colleague Ray Travers, who has said, “We start with the best timber in Canada, half of the country’s volume, yet produce only 24 per cent of the sector’s jobs and only a third of the value of Canada’s manufactured forest products.”

Despite this grim reality, M’Gonigle and Parfitt saw real signs of hope at the same time.

Chapter 5 of the book covers the Eco-Forestry Convention at the Big White ski resort near Kelowna, where speakers identified why the volume-to-value forestry mantra is so important for our future.

Others like Jim Smith, a former ministry of forests employee and professional forester with the Vernon Log Sort and Sales Yard, and Loni Parker, of the Revelstoke Community Forest,¹⁸ spoke of how the industry could have a brighter and different future.

¹⁸ A *community forest* is a forestry operation managed by a local government, community group, or First Nation for the benefit of the entire community.

Smith argued for the importance of labour over capital and how small loggers were generally the happiest. The book envisioned the critical shift from corporation to community and a shift toward real stewardship, the kind that Smith believes is possible in the Creston Community Forest.

These two authors celebrated the Swedish model and its success, emphasizing a point made by David Haley, a professor emeritus in the Faculty of Forestry at UBC, that BC's second-growth forests are mismanaged because of our shortened rotations, and there is other scientific know-how that is currently ignored. M'Gonigle and Parfitt boldly argue for reform of log markets and local control of revenues, which would lead to a highly decentralized future that most of us would endorse. Finally, they envisioned a community economy. It really was a *forestopia* they hoped for—community-based control. These authors pulled no punches. They identified the need for significant, substantial change to forest practices in BC as demonstrated by fights in the woods throughout the province including at Clayoquot Sound.

A new vision for forestry where everyone can win is essential. There is an absolute need for an invigorated market to end the corporate landlord game and the usurping of capitalized Crown assets.

M'Gonigle and Parfitt conclude, "In the absence of a new economic strategy, debates over the future of BC's forests will remain mired in unhealthy, unproductive skirmishes over one watershed to another." We need "an honest discussion of BC's forestry goals and how they mesh or clash with today's BC economy," because continuing with how things were would mean an impoverished future. (It was a prescient prediction 20 years ago, given the mill closures we have seen since.) A new vision for forestry where everyone can win is essential. There is an absolute need for an invigorated market to end the corporate landlord game and the usurping of capitalized Crown assets. Ray Travers has noted this is "hardly an unsettling suggestion for a free enterprise society."

Some 20 years ago, these authors argued that "British Columbia is on the verge of catastrophe or a new beginning." They called for the capacity to reinvent our economies and policies, saying, "If we take this opportunity, we can make peace and prosperity at home. The world is watching."

Several examples in *Forestopia* showed that a hopeful future for community forestry in BC was possible, namely in Mission, Revelstoke and Creston.

I have been interested in forestry in BC for decades, and in recent years I travelled with two registered professional foresters and a land planner to tour forestry-dependent communities in the Interior, the Kootenay region, along the coast and on Vancouver Island. From Mission in the Fraser Valley to Revelstoke and Prince George, we visited communities both large and small and spoke with people interested and involved in community forestry practices. We also visited the upper Columbia River area to meet people involved with the formation of the Columbia River Trust, in towns including Nakusp, Arrowhead and Fauquier.

STORY 1: LOCAL IS BETTER—THE LITTLE TOWN OF MISSION

In the early 1950s, the BC government embarked on a major transfer of Crown timber rights to the large forest corporations. These new licences gave the corporations monopoly control over millions of acres on the coast. The new licences were an amalgamation of small, semi-private tenures with massive Crown tenures. It was the first great enclosure of the commons in this province, where 94 per cent of our lands belong to the Crown.

At that time, an accountant and colleague of mine lived in Mission, where the Great Depression had been hard on this sprawling rural municipality. The town took over some 30 per cent of land parcels during the Depression and Second World War from families unable to pay their taxes. Most of the parcels were on the town's forested northern edge. When a group of local residents saw

that corporations were grabbing Crown land along the coast, they concluded it would be better to have a community tree farm on their northern fringe rather than some absentee forest-company landlord. This activist group convinced the city council that the city should amalgamate the lands they had taken in lieu of taxes with the Crown forest lands, which covered a wide swath of land to the mountains to the north.

Mickey Rockwell was the leader of the project. Mickey, like so many rural BC folk, was a great storyteller, and the Mission tree farm was one special success story. Locals like Mickey saw the potential of a community-owned and managed forest. There could be recreation space for kids to enjoy, thinnings that produced stakes for farmers and enhanced the future of the best trees, campsites for the locals to enjoy, and jobs in good forest management, silviculture and logging. All that and revenue for the town! No mean achievement.

In the process of getting to know the resource, the people of Mission realized that conventional planting of Douglas fir seedlings made no sense on their cold, windy crags. The best species they concluded was yellow cedar, the dominant mature species in their area. But there were no yellow cedar seedlings to be had as no one had generated this species on the West Coast. So Mickey and the folks decided to try to generate seedlings themselves, but failed. They tried again. One night, they put the seeds in the freezer rather than the fridge by mistake. *And presto*. Freezing the seeds was necessary for them to germinate. The folks in Mission achieved what no one else on the coast had—propagating valuable yellow cedar!

This Mission success story—the need, the capacity and the drive of local people to come up with better answers than distant corporations or academics—converted me into a committed regionalist.

This Mission success story—the need, the capacity and the drive of local people to come up with better answers than distant corporations or academics—converted me into a committed regionalist.

STORY 2: LOCAL IS BETTER—REVELSTOKE IS THE NEW MISSION

Our group, which included professional land managers, decided in early 2012 to continue our discussion and research by touring various forest communities in the Kootenays, the Cariboo/Prince George region and Vancouver Island. The journey commenced in Revelstoke, a small city tucked into the mountains in southeast BC.

Revelstoke intrigues me because I played a role in helping establish the community forest tenure when I was a deputy minister for Crown corporations. I had urged Philip Halkett, then the deputy minister of forests, to create the conditions for a community-based licence without which I feared the community would lose its sawmill and many local jobs. The community and the sawmill became holders of the licence.

The former long-time mayor of Revelstoke, Geoffrey Battersby, was the driving force behind the renaissance of this beautiful town and played a critical role founding its tree farm as a community enterprise. He was greatly responsible for the charming downtown, the amazingly successful Downie Street Mill and the community forest, as well as a community-mill entity to convert mill waste to energy. The forester who managed the community forest confided that he had arrived in Revelstoke with a private-sector bias but changed his mind with the opportunity to manage the forest for the longer term. He is now committed to the community-based approach.

All this happened in a region with very difficult terrain, in the Interior wet belt, and with a multiplicity of tree species. The community dealt with it all and came out well financially. Indeed, on our tour, we saw some of their products, including beautifully finished cedar selling for \$2,200 per 1,000 board feet. Jack Heavenor at the Gorman Brothers-owned mill was a formidable manager

It proved again that local people using their skills and access to local resources can play a transformational role in their own communities.

working with his community colleagues. They understood “value not just volume,” in contrast to so many of their competitors. This was the next generation of what I had uncovered in Mission decades earlier. It kept one’s hopes alive for the kind of reform desperately needed, proving again that local people using their skills and access to local resources can play a transformational role in their own communities.

STORY 3: LOCAL IS BETTER—CRESTON COMMUNITY FOREST IS A MODEL FOR THE COLUMBIA BASIN

Our group visited Kootenay communities including Nakusp, Kaslo, Castlegar, Midway and Creston. Creston was a joy, and another revelation about the benefits of community-based forestry, this time led by long-time BC Forest Service staffer Jim Smith.

First, a side story about Smith’s background and some of the complications of his later career in the Forest Service.

Many years earlier, at the end of my term as minister of forests, I was mentoring a young assistant named Andrew Petter, who hailed from Nelson and was employed by Lorne Nicolson, the then housing minister. I told Andrew about one of the ideas I was considering—open dry-land log super-markets for public timber. Crown Zellerbach, a major forest landowner in Oregon, had embarked on such supermarkets and found that they significantly increased their returns.

Years later, young Andrew, now forests minister, remembered that discussion and decided to undertake a pilot project in Lumby, near Vernon in the Okanagan Valley. Smith and one of his Forest Service colleagues were put in charge. From day one it was a huge success. At first, they had a fairly limited number of tree species and timber grades, but over time there were requests for additional species and grades. Indeed, their yard sold almost 60 varieties of raw wood of varying quality due to market demand. At last BC had a real log market in the Interior of the province, and the financial returns were far higher than stumpage or revenue for Crown timber anywhere else in the province.

Strangely, the NDP government of the day found these high revenues disturbing. It was hard to believe except in our various fights with the US Congress; their politicians argued that our low, uncompetitive stumpage fees were a subsidy and they variously threatened, or achieved, duties on our forest products at the border. Over the years we had argued that those fees were not a subsidy, but Smith’s good work in Lumby was providing fuel to the American softwood lumber lobby’s claims. So what did our government do? It sent auditors and others to the Lumby Yard determined to show that the yard’s numbers were faulty and too “high,” which they confirmed. Smith and his colleague were let go, and the Lumby Yard was closed down. Despite that ghastly treatment, Smith carried on, and when we met with him years later in Creston, he was still a happy warrior and a great forester now running the successful community forest in Creston.

For those who don’t know, Creston is a sunny orchard town on the edge of the East Kootenays whose main industry is the huge Columbia Brewery with its famous Kokanee brand. The brewery, of course, is always rightly concerned about the watershed that produces the water for its beer. The loggers in the area, who worked for absentee corporate landlords, were running roughshod over the local mountains leaving ugly scars and threatening the water supply for both the brewery and the community. Residents were furious and chased the loggers out of town.

A multi-stakeholder group subsequently established a new community forest with Smith as its forester. Smith knew that trust had to be established with the community, and fortunately, his interpersonal skills were substantial: it is hard not to like Jim. Better than that, however, Jim was a very creative forester. He showed us forests he had logged five years earlier where what I called “skinny high-line” intrusions and tiny “polka-dot” clear-cuts were no longer discernible. Even local wildflower meadows were untrammelled. The watershed was actually enhanced by the quality of Smith’s work, and residents loved the guy and totally accepted his methods.

Our group of travelling forest researchers argued there was a case for the Columbia Basin Trust (see below) to get involved with this community enterprise. It made sense for the trust funds to be used for better management of critical watersheds, and Smith, the practical man that he is, saw that the trust’s involvement could enhance their work. We believed in the possibility of providing a new model for managing our Crown forests and empowering the regions of our province. In Creston, we saw how the Columbia Basin Trust, expanded to include both forest and water management, could become the template for the other regions.

We had been overjoyed by what we saw in Revelstoke (and Golden), and were now convinced that community-led forestry was the right policy track. Our joint discussions resonated with everyone we met in the Kootenays and subsequently in the Cariboo/Prince George and Vancouver Island regions.

The hard reality is that forestry is still our secret failure in this province. The phony “good news” in our mainstream media continues to hide the evidence that confirms M’Gonigle and Parfitt’s predictions. Nor does the media report on the good news in Mission, Revelstoke and Creston.

We had been overjoyed by what we saw in Revelstoke (and Golden), and were now convinced that community-led forestry was the right policy track.

STORY 4: CREATING THE COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST

The Columbia Basin Trust was established in 1995 to compensate residents affected by the Columbia River Treaty, which led to three dams after the flooding in the upper Columbia River basin. Another great public servant, James Wood Wilson—a former BC Hydro executive director (and a former professor of mine)—was responsible for resettling people along the Arrow Lakes who were flooded out because of the Columbia River Treaty.

People in communities including Nakusp, Arrowhead, Needles, Fauquier and in between were uprooted and compensated for their land according to the law. Wilson, however, a sensitive, thoughtful man, was concerned that more had been lost by these settlers, and that a different kind of compensation was needed. He urged me to get involved, and I saw the chance to address Wilson’s concerns and proposed the concept of the Columbia Basin Trust when I was deputy minister for Crown corporations in the Harcourt government (1992–96).

As I saw it, the trust would share the economic rent of this great waterway with the province. Its leaders would make future choices between new power and economic development versus the environment and other needs while a new Crown corporation, the Columbia Power Corporation, would undertake hydroelectric projects on the BC portion of the Columbia River system working in partnership with the trust. It would be a grand learning curve for the region’s residents about their own economy.

At the time, Finance Minister Glen Clark chaired the Crown Corporations Cabinet Committee and heard the proposal to form the trust from our secretariat. He expressed some surprise, saying, “If we do that in the Columbia, people will want it in every river system in the province.”

Smiling, I replied, "I hope so, Minister, I hope so." He laughed and gave approval to form this unique entity.

And so, the Columbia Basin Trust was born, with significant support from Marvin Shaffer, then an assistant deputy minister, and local MLA Corky Evans. Wilson later wrote a small memorable book about these folks losing their quality of life.¹⁹

Today, with rapid climate change and the need for greater integration of land, forest and water interests in the Creston Community Forest, it is clear that the trust's role should be expanded and empowered to link the management of forests and water on a more substantial scale, again becoming a pioneering model for greater regional empowerment and community control.

¹⁹ Wilson, 1973.

Conclusion

THE CHALLENGE WE FACE is to tell the truth about the state of forestry in BC. We no longer have annual reports from the ministry, we no longer have a Forest Service and we no longer have adequate data and reporting from either the public or private sectors. So what do we need?

1. We need a legislature that is fully informed about the status of our public forest resource.
2. We need a forester general, an officer of the legislature who is non-partisan and reports to the House annually.
3. We need regional committees that also report to the House for each region of the province.
4. We need a Forestry Charter: legislation that will protect and preserve this great public resource to create value and jobs for British Columbians.

We must start at the top in the legislature, however, if citizens in all BC regions are to be empowered. This will make it easier for residents, communities and First Nations to play a transformational role in any regional/community empowerment process, especially if the courts are telling us this is the direction in which we must go. After all, our communities are closely tied to our forest resources. This will be a dramatic change, to democratize the centre in order to empower the communities within and regions encompassing our extensive public forests.

We need a forester general to manage and provide data and information and for monitoring and accountability, and who will also provide feedback to the regions. And we need a Forest Charter as the ultimate guide for us all. We need a provincial vision with sustainability principles, standards and goals, and we need a mission and purpose. We need modern forest practices based on science, and we can learn from our peers in Scandinavia and transfer some of their know-how as principles of the charter.

We must grow our forests for value rather than volume so that their value increases over time. We must extend rotations and undertake thinning. And when our forests are logged, we must increase the value from each log processed. Regions and communities should have more say, and stewardship and monitoring should become public-sector functions.

In a sense, we live between two extreme points of view: the status quo, which really represents liquidation and rent theft, and their main opponents, the total preservationists. Some choice!

In between is the evidence-based rational forester like Ray Travers, who, like his Scandinavian mentors, sees a solid science-based middle ground where forest and policy managers focus on value

We need a forester general to manage and provide data and information and for monitoring and accountability.

People and communities must be empowered at the local level in our diverse regions.

both for the land and in industrial plants. New value in a growing forest, in managing the forest and in manufacturing products from our forests is linked and integral to our shared future prosperity.

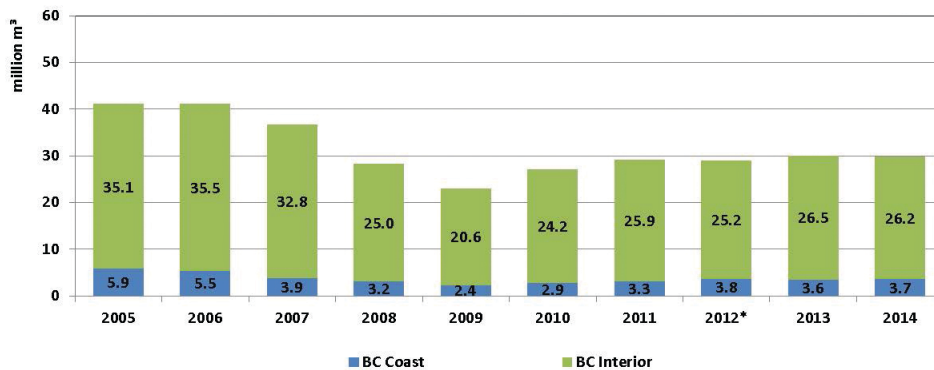
This approach requires real facts and measured results. It also requires real markets so that we are always geared to the highest and best use, and only strong market tests at every stage of the game can assure us of that. People and communities must be empowered at the local level in our diverse regions to work on these issues directly so that local creativity, energy, entrepreneurship and accountability shine through.

Some call that free enterprise. Others call it community enterprise. Some might call it both. It is all of the above, and some call that democracy.

Appendix:

Charts from external sources

Figure 1: Softwood lumber production in BC, 2005–14



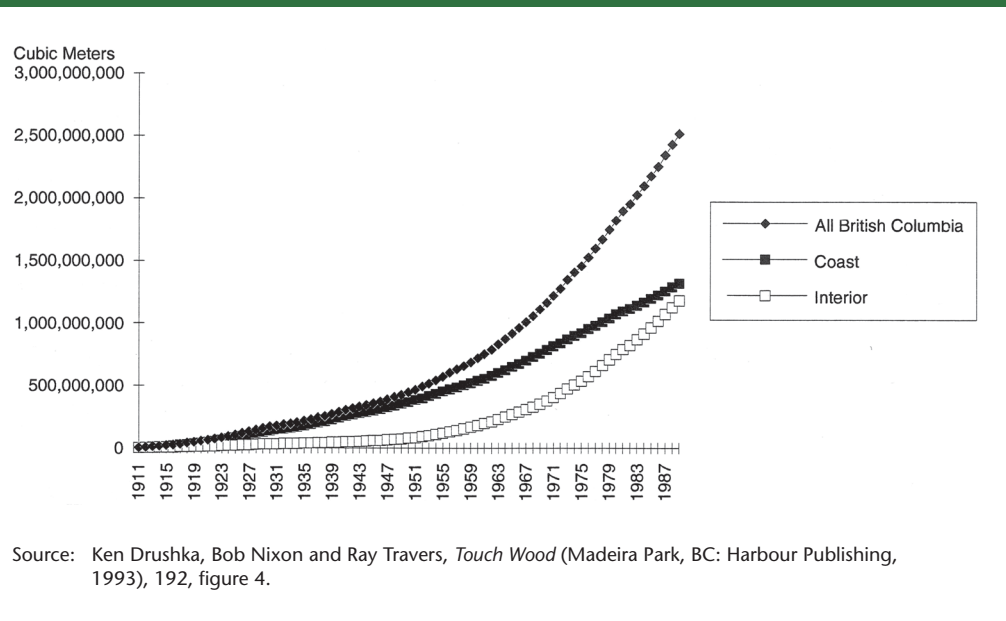
*Interior and Coast Share are Estimates. In all years the Interior includes production from Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut.

Data source: Statistics Canada; CANSIM 303-0064.

Source: Alex Barnes, "2014 Economic State of the B.C. Forest Sector" (PowerPoint presentation, Competitiveness and Innovation Branch of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, October 2015), 10, <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/forestry/forest-industry-economics/economic-state/economic-state-of-bc-forest-sector-2014.pdf>.

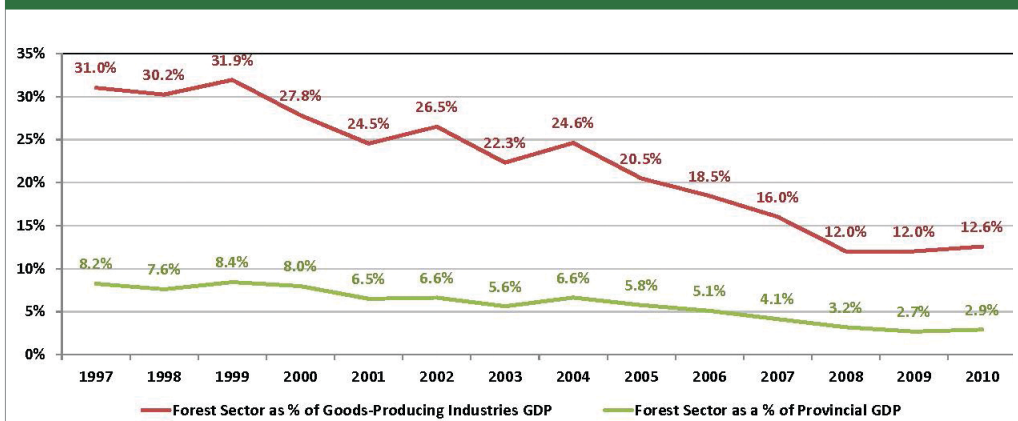
See the very small share of softwood lumber production in coastal BC compared to in the Interior from 2005 to 2014. (In 2014, production in coastal BC was 12 per cent to the Interior's 78 per cent.) See also the decline, from 5.9 million cubic metres in 2005 to 3.7 million cubic metres in 2014.

Figure 2: Cumulative amount of timber cut in BC, 1911–89



Timber cut on the BC coast was close to 100 per cent of the total volume logged in BC until about 1950.

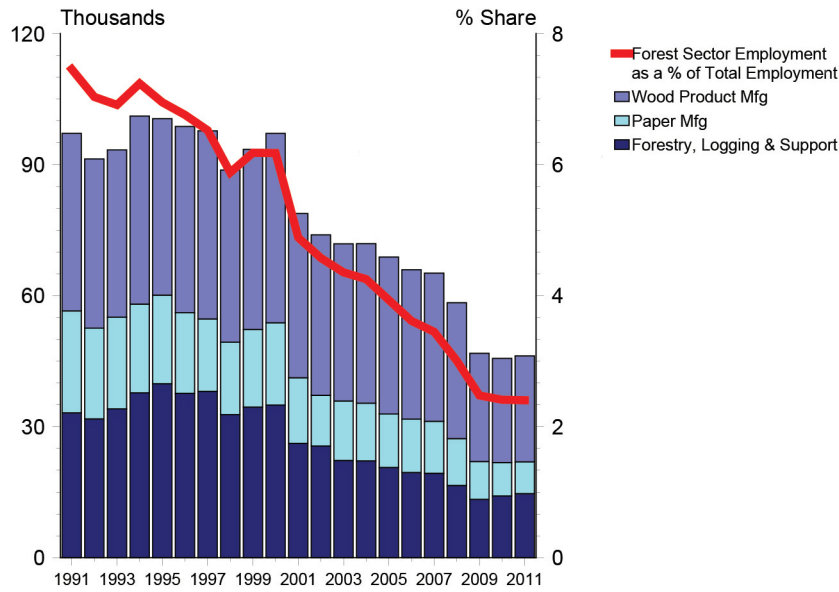
Figure 3: The forest sector's share of the BC economy, 1997–2010



Source: Alex Barnes and Tom Niemann, "2012 Economic State of the B.C. Forest Sector" (PowerPoint presentation by the Competitiveness and Innovation Branch of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, April 2014), 6, <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/forestry/forest-industry-economics/economic-state/economic-state-of-bc-forest-sector-2012-with-appendix.pdf>.

Percentages after 2010 become fairly stable.

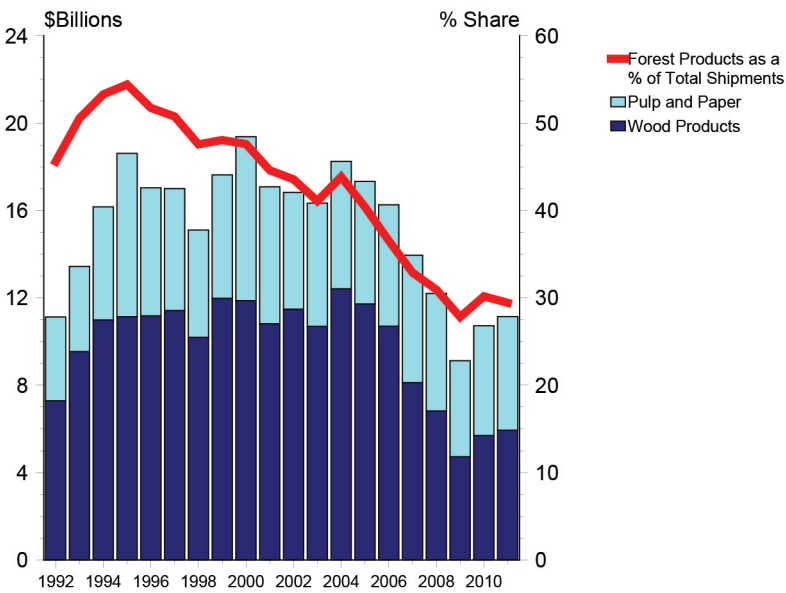
Figure 4: Employment in BC's forest sector, 1991–2011



Source: Statistics Canada (SEPH)

Source: Dan Schrier, "BC's Exports Moving Out of the Woods," BC Stats, March 2012, http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/data/statistics/trade/bcs_exports_moving_out_of_the_woods.pdf.

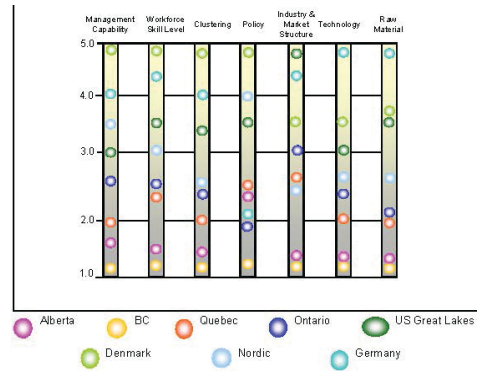
Figure 5: The share of forest products in manufacturing shipments, 1992–2011



Source: Statistics Canada

Source: Dan Schrier, "BC's Exports Moving Out of the Woods," BC Stats, March 2012, http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/data/statistics/trade/bcs_exports_moving_out_of_the_woods.pdf.

Figure 6: Forest management in eight jurisdictions compared in the Jaakko Pöyry report (2001)

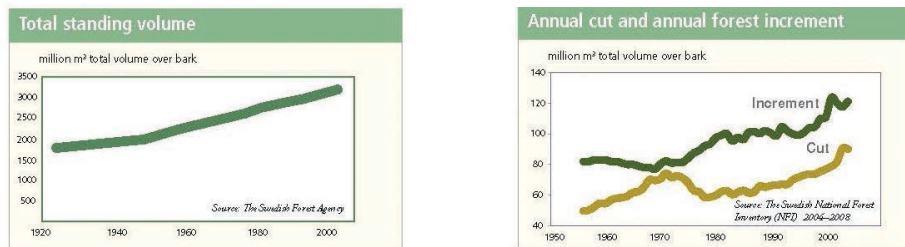


Source: Living Legacy Trust and Jaakko Pöyry Consulting, Assessment of the Status and Future Opportunities of Ontario's Solid Wood Value-Added Sector: Final Summary Report (Toronto, ON: Living Legacy Trust; Vantaa, Finland: Jaakko Pöyry Consulting, June 2001), 26, figure 14, http://www.livinglegacytrust.org/pdf/Final_Summary_Report.pdf.

In the 2001 Jaakko Pöyry (a Finnish forest consulting company) forestry study conducted for the Ontario Living Legacy Trust, BC ranked lowest of the eight forest jurisdictions relative to our forest product competitors. This study compared the forest management performance of a number of provinces, US Great Lakes states and several northern European countries using seven forestry benchmarks.

BC ranked lowest in performance for all benchmarks compared to all other jurisdictions. BC's performance is probably worse today because of mills continuing to close and the related loss of work for contractors and of forest worker jobs. The ongoing depletion and degradation of our forests is continuing to affect our competitiveness.

Figure 7: Forestry in Sweden, 1920s–2008



Source: Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry, *The Swedish Forestry Model* (Stockholm, Sweden: Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry, 2009, 4, <http://www.ksla.se/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/The-Swedish-Forestry-Model.pdf>).

Sweden's timber inventory (standing volume) has been increasing since 1920 because they grow more timber than they log. (In BC, the opposite is true. Our standing timber volume is declining and our cut increasing. Sandy Peel, then chairman of the Forest Resources Commission, addressed the valuation of public timber in the April 1991 report *The Future of Our Forests*, which estimates that in 1991 BC timber from public lands was undervalued by two to four times.)

Table 2: Comparing the forest economies of Sweden and BC (2009)

| | Sweden* | BC | Ratio Sweden/BC |
|---|-------------|------------|-----------------|
| Commercial forest land (Ha) | 22, 335,000 | 22,000,000 | 1.02 |
| Total volume logged (Cu.M.) | 65,100,000 | 48,793,000 | 1.33 |
| Value of production (\$Cdn) | 29,213,749 | 13,126,093 | 2.23 |
| Direct forest industry employment | 85,000 | 46,800 | 1.82 |
| Log exports (Cu.M) | 2,500,000 | 2,702,000 | 0.93 |
| Log imports (Cu.M.) | 5,800,000 | 34036 | 170.41 |
| Annual growth rate Cu.M./Ha/year | 5.5 | 3.3 | 1.67 |
| Annual growth/year million m ³ | 122.7 | 72.6 | 1.69 |
| Percent private forest land | 81% | 3% | |

Sources: Swedish Forestry Agency, Food and Agricultural Organization (UN), Statistics Canada, BC Stats, BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

Statistics compiled by Ray Travers, RPF, in 2012.

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From: Diamond Isinger <isinger@cofi.org>
Sent: September 16, 2019 2:02 PM
To: Diamond Isinger <isinger@cofi.org>
Subject: COFI releases plan to secure a strong, competitive forestry future

Dear community leaders,

I am emailing to share with you a document we released today called "[Smart Future: A path forward for B.C.'s forest products industry.](#)"

As you know, there are many challenges facing the forest sector... challenges which are impacting workers and communities throughout the province. COFI and its member companies have been actively participating in the consultation and engagement processes currently underway to revitalize and renew the sector, including attending stakeholder meetings held throughout the interior this summer.

Much of the discussion at these sessions has rightly focused on the need to support workers and communities to address the impacts of closures and curtailments as mill capacity is rebalanced to match lower harvest levels. But we are also getting questions from mayors, local governments, First Nations, our employees and partners asking what the future looks like for forestry in B.C. and where we will be once we have moved through this transition.

To try to answer these questions, this document provides some ideas and choices that we believe can help build a stronger future for B.C.'s forest sector. We recognize that some ideas presented here are not new. Some ideas can be implemented by industry, others will require government action, and all will require a collective effort from workers, contractors, communities, First Nations, academic institutions, and others.

We recognize the list is not complete and that you and others will have other ideas to add to or complement the ones here. We do hope that it can help the discussions at the upcoming Union of BC Municipalities' 2019 Convention and in the weeks ahead.

We look forward to connecting with many of you there. If you are attending UBCM, find us at our tradeshow booth to share your ideas. If you are not attending, but would like to connect, please contact me at isinger@cofi.org, and we would be happy to meet and talk further about the forest sector.

Please find our news release below. A direct link to the plan and recommendations can be found at https://www.cofi.org/wp-content/uploads/COFI_APathForward_2.pdf

Yours truly,
Diamond

Diamond Isinger
Manager, Public Affairs

Phone: +1 604-891-1223
Mobile: +1 778-888-9514

Email: isinger@cofi.org



COFI Releases Plan to Secure a Strong, Competitive Forestry Future

Sep 16, 2019

(Vancouver, B.C.) – The BC Council of Forest Industries (COFI) today released a plan – “*Smart Future: A Path Forward for B.C.’s Forest Products Industry*” – with 60 policy choices that can be made today to secure a stronger future for B.C.’s forest sector.

The forest industry has been a cornerstone of the B.C. economy for more than 100 years, generating about 140,000 jobs in our province, including one in four jobs in the manufacturing sector. The industry is currently facing significant challenges that are being felt across the province.

“B.C.’s forest industry is an industry in transition,” said Susan Yurkovich, President and CEO, BC Council of Forest Industries. “The industry is facing somewhat of a perfect storm – an array of market and operating challenges coming together at a time when we are also experiencing a significant structural shift in the availability and cost of fibre. These conditions are forcing difficult decisions, which are impacting workers and communities.”

A number of policy reviews and public consultations are underway to discuss the challenges. COFI and its member companies are actively participating in these discussions along with many other groups.

“In addition to addressing today’s challenges, many people are asking what the future holds for forestry in British Columbia, and where will we be once we have moved through this transition,” commented Yurkovich. “We believe that with the right choices, there is a bright future for the forest industry in B.C. That’s why we are putting forward our ideas for a path forward – one that will help attract investment, secure jobs, deliver value and sustain economic benefits across the province.”

“Some of these policy choices can be implemented by industry, others will require government action, and many will require collective effort from workers, communities, First Nations, academic institutions and all those involved in the sector to build the industry of the future,” added Yurkovich.

The 60 choices for a better future are outlined under five major areas:

1. - Invest in, and protect, our working forest land base
2. - Have smart rules that protect the environment and encourage investment
3. - Strengthen participation of Indigenous people and partnerships with communities
4. - Double down on market and product diversification
5. - Be the global hub for expertise in low-carbon, green building

[Click here to read the full report.](#)

Quotes

“Industry is ready to work with all partners to put these ideas into action. Working in partnership, we can create the right conditions for a world-leading, globally competitive and innovative manufacturer of high-quality, sustainable products that supports skilled jobs and provides economic benefits for communities, First Nations, and all British Columbians. “

– **Don Kayne, Chair, BC Council of Forest Industries**

“Our province has a proud history of breaking new ground in wood construction, and now is the time to take our expertise to the next level. We need to think big. This vision document looks toward a time in which British Columbia becomes the “Harvard of Green Building” – a world hub for innovation in wood construction. We have the people, the know-how and the ability to lead the world. Let’s grab the opportunity.”

– **Michael Green, Michael Green Architecture**

“Customers both at home and around the world know that B.C.’s forest products are produced to the highest environmental standards. Wood is a renewable resource that lowers the climate impact of modern construction. That’s why it’s more important than ever that we work together to ensure that wood remains the go-to building material here in B.C. and across the globe.”

– **Greg Stewart, President, Sinclair Group Forest Products Ltd.; Chair, Wood WORKS! BC**

“Our industry is facing weak markets, volatile prices, punishing U.S. tariffs and high fibre costs which are making it impossible to operate economically today. We need to work together to put these ideas into action and find ways to get back to a competitive position so we can get contractors and employees back to work.”

– **Dick Jones, Teal Jones Group**

“I have been in the forest industry for over fifty years, both in primary and secondary manufacturing, and in my experience, there hasn’t been a time as defining as now for our collective future. Our focus should be to review all aspects of our industry to determine how to effectively add more social and economic value to the resource, and how to further innovate and develop new products for new markets. A key to success, however, is that industry must have reasonable expectations of access to competitive fibre. Also, collaboration through strong business relationships between primary and secondary manufacturing will be crucial going forward.”

– **John A. Brink, President & CEO of Brink Forest Products Ltd.**

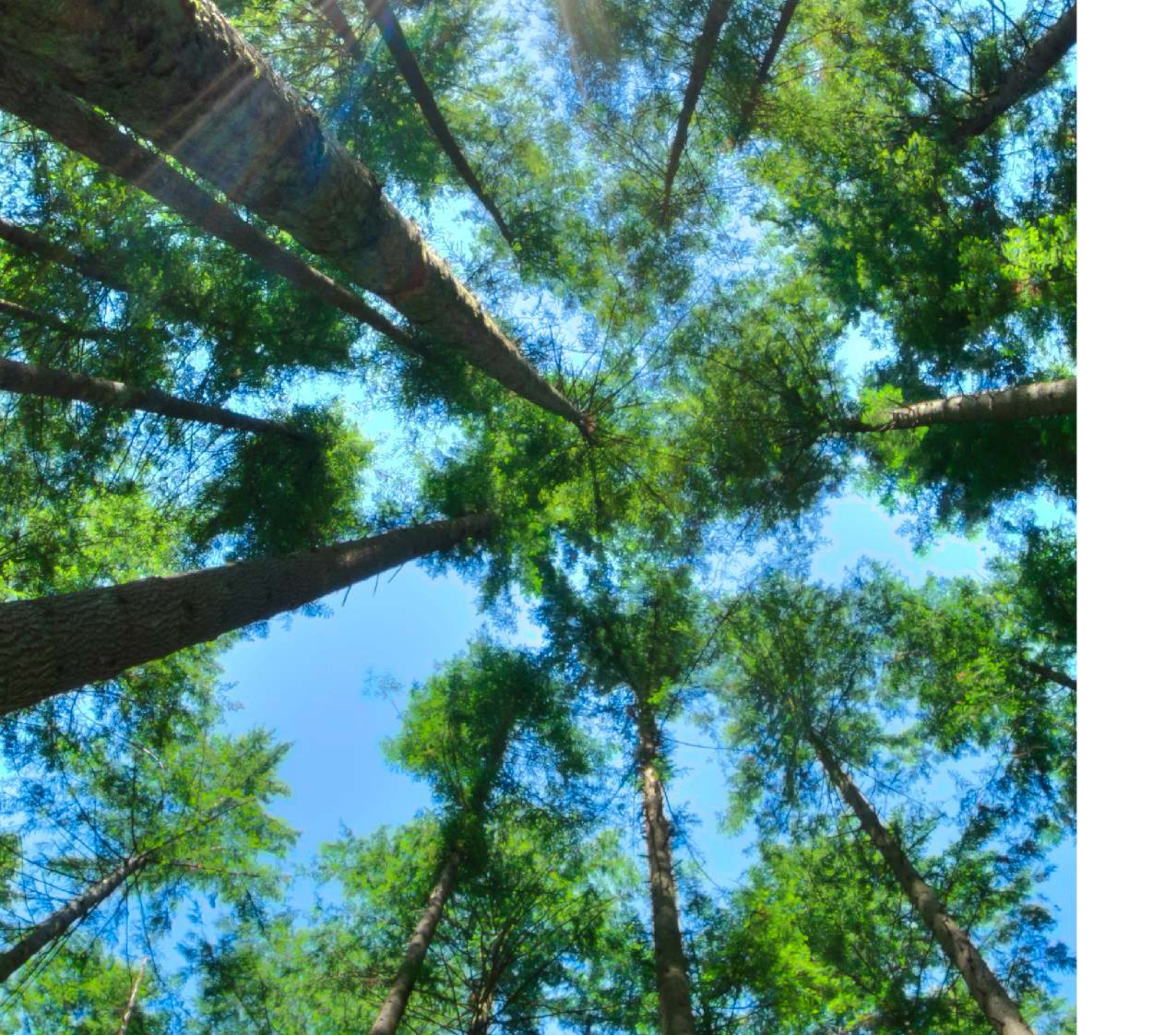
“Indigenous people have been managing the land for thousands of years. It is a natural fit and valuable to the indigenous and non-indigenous communities in British Columbia for First Nations to increase their engagement in the forest sector at all levels to support community economic growth and diversify our collective knowledge of the land base.”

– **John Mohammed, President, A&A Trading**

“Over many years, we have built a forest industry we can all be proud of ... an industry that is recognized around the world for its quality products produced to the highest safety and environmental standards. We have faced challenges before, but our industry, workers and communities have proved to be resilient over the years and we can be again.”

– **Ray Ferris, President & CEO, West Fraser**

The BC Council of Forest Industries (COFI) is the voice of the B.C. forest industry which continues to be one of the most significant economic drivers in the province and the largest producer of softwood lumber in Canada. COFI members produce lumber, pulp and paper, panels and engineered wood products at facilities across the province. All share a commitment to a future based on sustainable forestry and manufacturing practices, innovative product development and employee safety.



SMART FUTURE

A path forward for B.C.'s forest products industry



COUNCIL
OF FOREST
INDUSTRIES

FORESTRY FOR THE PLANET.
FOREST PRODUCTS FOR THE WORLD.

Village of Pemberton
Regular Council Meeting No. 1499
Tuesday, October 8, 2019
115 of 156

A NOTE TO THE READER.

Forestry is an industry in transition in British Columbia.

An array of market and operating challenges, along with a structural shift in the availability and cost of fibre, are creating significant headwinds and forcing difficult decisions.

There has been a lot of public discussion about how to address these challenges. A number of policy reviews and public engagements are underway, and we are actively participating, along with many other groups.

Much of the discussion has rightly focused on the need to support workers and communities and to address the impacts of closures as the rebalancing of mill capacity and available fibre occurs. But a question also on people's minds is "what does the future look like for forestry in B.C.?" Where will we be once we have moved through this period of transition? How do we maintain a vibrant, diverse and globally competitive forest sector?

We believe there is a bright future for the forest industry in B.C. – a future that secures jobs, delivers value, and sustains economic benefits across the province. This document sets out a vision for what that future could be and provides ideas and actions that can help get us there.

There are factors like market volatility and trade uncertainties that are beyond our control, so our focus is on ideas where we can influence outcomes. Some ideas are not new. Some ideas can be implemented by industry, others will require government action, and all will require a collective effort from workers, contractors, communities, First Nations, academic institutions, and all those involved in the sector to build the industry of the future.

We recognize this list is not complete. Others will have ideas that can complement the choices presented here. But we hope it provides a path forward to a better future. We look forward to working collaboratively to put these ideas into action.

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B.C.'S FOREST INDUSTRY: CORNERSTONE OF OUR ECONOMY

The forest industry has been a cornerstone of the B.C. economy for more than 100 years. The well-being of 140 communities and many thousands of families throughout the province is closely linked to the health of this sector.

Forestry supports approximately 140,000 jobs in B.C. and pays approximately \$4 billion annually into government revenues. Partnerships with First Nations have grown, and Indigenous peoples now hold 1 in every 11 forestry jobs, including logging, manufacturing, human resources and environmental management.

The forest industry has always evolved, adapted, and innovated and, over decades, we have built a world-class industry.

Smart investments have shaped a modern, technologically advanced and safer industry. We've found ways to use fibre from every part of a log, creating new products and new processing techniques. Most pulp mills in B.C. today generate the power they need by using material that was once considered waste.

New technologies are improving harvesting practices and providing more information about the land base which supports better forest management decisions.

When it comes to sustainable forest management, British Columbia is a world leader. Each year, we harvest less than 1% of the working forest land base and three trees are planted for every one harvested. We have more forested areas certified to internationally-recognized sustainability standards than any other jurisdiction in the world.

B.C.'s forest products are recognized for their high quality and customers around the world know that our products are produced to the highest environmental standards.

Importantly, now more than ever before, forest products are seen as contributing to the fight against climate change.

Wood is a renewable resource that both creates beautiful products and buildings, and stores carbon dioxide, lowering the greenhouse gas impact of modern construction and making wood the go-to building material. B.C. architects, builders and engineers are at the forefront of leading this global move to build more creatively with wood.

Over many years, we – companies, government, communities, First Nations and workers – have built an industry we can be proud of. It has not always been easy, but we have proven over time that we can adapt and evolve to meet changing circumstances and find renewed success.

It's time to do that again.

A STRONG FORESTRY INDUSTRY = A STRONG B.C.



140 forestry-dependent communities



140,000+ jobs in B.C.



1 in 5 jobs in B.C.'s northern interior



40% of forestry jobs in Lower Mainland / Southwest



Highest Indigenous participation of any resource sector



\$12.9 billion contribution to B.C.'s GDP



\$4 billion annually in tax revenues to government

(PwC 2016)

TODAY'S CHALLENGES

While the forest sector has always had to manage through market and price volatility, B.C.'s forest products companies are currently facing something of a “perfect storm” – an array of problems coming together at a time when we are also experiencing a significant structural shift.

Available wood supply in the interior of B.C. is dropping following years of impact from the mountain pine beetle infestation and two years of devastating wildfires. On the coast, the harvest has decreased over time as significant amounts of land have been set aside for non-timber values, putting pressure on the working forest land base.

When combined with large areas designated as conservation zones and new protected areas, the working forest land base has been significantly reduced. This has increased competition for logs driving up log costs. Greater regulatory complexity and uncertainty around access to fibre are also having a significant impact. The result is that B.C. has become a high cost producer just at the time we are facing volatile market prices and increasing competition.

Lots of places in the world make wood, pulp, and paper products, and competition to provide these products is rising. Competitors – think Chile, Russia, and Europe – are trying to sell to the same customers we do, and being a high cost producer makes it difficult for us to compete. Add in punishing U.S. tariffs, subsidies in Japan, and trade tensions with China, and the headwinds are stronger than ever.

In the face of increasing uncertainty and challenging market conditions, companies have been making every effort to keep people working. But today, small and large operators alike are losing money on their B.C. operations.

In the interior, the annual allowable cut was about 70 million cubic meters in 2007. It is projected to be just over half that in 2030. Sawmill capacity had expanded to help the province extract value from mountain pine beetle infested trees. But now, with a lot less wood available and the cut predicted to continue to decline in the mid-term, companies are having to make difficult decisions to close or curtail production in order to balance mill capacity with new harvest levels.

Workers and communities are feeling these effects. The uncertainty and instability is painful for everyone.

So where do we go from here?

AN INDUSTRY IN TRANSITION

There is no question that the forest sector is an industry in transition.

We need to rebalance our milling capacity to match the lower level of sustainable harvest and companies have already started to make these difficult decisions. As we do so, workers and communities need to be supported. Then, we need to ensure that the facilities that remain have secure access to enough fibre to run consistently and efficiently.

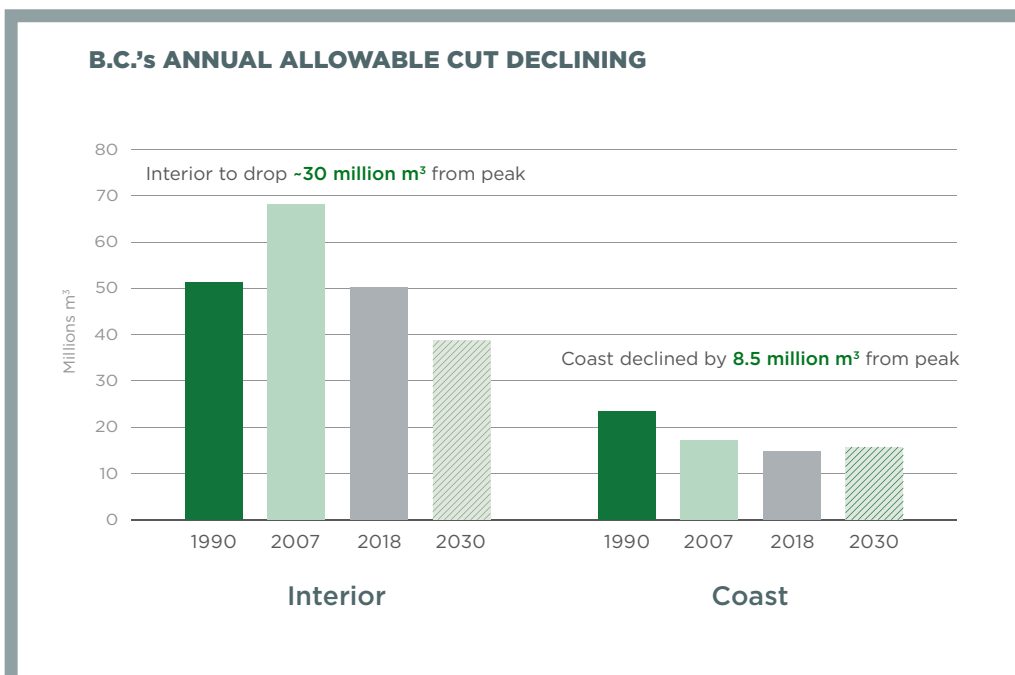
Managing a transition of this scale will require collective effort. But we can make choices now that will help build a better future and a stronger industry.

The forests in this province are for everyone. So, in putting these ideas together, we've tried to be mindful of what matters to others, while stressing that our best expertise lies in what it will take to encourage healthy levels of investment and stabilize employment in the forest sector.

We can make a series of policy choices now that build the confidence needed to attract the investments that leverage B.C.'s advantages and provide greater security for workers, contractors, communities, First Nations, and our province.

This industry and its workers have proven to be resilient over time – persevering through difficult circumstances.

We've re-invented for success before. Together, we can do it again.



A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Good decisions, made now, will help attract the investment required to set up the industry to thrive in the future.

The industry will look different. Some parts of the forest sector will be smaller, some will grow, but with the right conditions, and pursuing new ideas, we can be a globally competitive manufacturer of high quality forest products. This will secure skilled jobs and support communities across the province.

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

With the right choices, we will be a globally competitive forest sector that is a model for the world in product innovation, technological advances, and environmental care - one that all British Columbians can be proud of.

How will we know when we get there? We will have:

- ✦ A predictable, long-term timber supply that allows companies, contractors workers, and communities to plan for the future
- ✦ Secure and timely access to the working forest land base
- ✦ Companies able to operate through the business cycle to support stable levels of employment and secure communities
- ✦ Predictable, transparent, and effective regulatory and permitting processes
- ✦ Full utilization of fibre including residuals
- ✦ A pipeline of new skilled workers to help transition from the retiring workforce
- ✦ Meaningful benefits that flow to communities, First Nations, and the province
- ✦ Increased Indigenous participation within the B.C. forest sector
- ✦ Robust levels of industry research and development
- ✦ New high value products that serve more markets and help mitigate climate change
- ✦ Expanded global markets for all B.C. wood products and expertise
- ✦ Recognition as the centre of excellence in low-carbon green building
- ✦ New and ongoing investment in all parts of the industry



WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

A globally competitive forest sector that is a model for the world in product innovation, technological advances, and environmental care, supporting skilled jobs and communities across B.C.

CHOICES FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Industry is committed to making good choices to secure a better future. We believe we can do this if we:

- Invest in, and protect, our working forest land base
- Have smart rules that protect the environment and encourage investment
- Strengthen participation of Indigenous peoples and partnerships with communities
- Double down on market and product diversification
- Become the global hub for expertise in low-carbon, green building

Under each of these priorities, we suggest a series of specific recommendations for consideration. Some of these recommendations can be led by industry, others can be led by government. All will require collaboration.

We recognize that there are many details to be worked out, but by working together with our employees, contractors, communities, First Nations, and government, we believe we can create the future everyone is looking for.

INVEST IN, AND PROTECT, OUR WORKING FOREST LAND BASE

If we want healthy forests and thriving communities, we need to have a clear picture of the forest area that is protected for conservation, habitat, and recreational purposes, and what area is available as a “working forest” – a part of the land base that can be harvested and regenerated to make forest products.

Right now, over half (52.3 %)* of the land base in B.C. is covered by some form of conservation designation – ranging from parks and protected areas to old growth management and wildlife conservation areas. This massive commitment to conservation helps make B.C. a wonderful place to live, a place that attracts tourists from around the world, and a model for sustainable development.

But, in addition to the values associated with conservation, forests are also valued as a source of jobs and economic opportunities for families and communities across the province, generating almost half of the natural resource revenue for the province helping to pay for essential services such as schools and hospitals.

A key choice, that would help build the confidence that draws investment into the province, would be to settle on the size of our working forest and lock it in. This will allow companies and communities to plan a future that workers can count on.

Another important choice we can make is to increase the use of the latest technologies to minimize impacts on the landscape and wildlife, while increasing the yield and economic value of the working forest. Keeping the working forest healthy means more value processed from our forest resource.

There are new ideas that need to be explored, particularly as we look to address the impacts of climate change and integrate that into our approach to forest use. Defining and investing in the working forest will yield healthy forests, a healthy industry, and healthy communities for the long term.

CHOICES FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Protect the working forest land base

1. Define the working forest land base. Like conservation areas, designate the area that will be available for harvesting and lock in the commitment.
2. Implement a “no-net-loss policy” to provide certainty in the long term. Undertake a review every 5 years.
3. Ensure policies and processes allow for timely and consistent access to the working forest land base.

*FLNRORD, Interior Forest Sector Renewal Policy and Program Engagement Discussion Paper, Summer 2019

Grow the fibre resource

4. Commit to growing the fibre resource. Expand the use of Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR), artificial intelligence and drone technology to complete an updated enhanced Standing Timber Inventory. Use the updated inventory to improve yields and mitigate timber supply impacts.
5. Accelerate the replanting of Not Sufficiently Restocked (NSR) areas to return them to productive forests. Set a goal of achieving 100% completion within 5 years.
6. Implement an intensive second-growth management program that includes commercial thinning and invest in improving seed stock to create economic benefits and additional employment.
7. Target a maximum timeline of 24 months to salvage timber following wildfires to allow economic value to be realized and to initiate regeneration of the forest as soon as possible.
8. Create a biomass tax credit to incent utilization of residual forest fibre, create employment opportunities, and advance the low-carbon economy.

Invest in forest health

9. Convene an expert working group including government, industry, and academic experts to develop innovative and flexible approaches to climate-affected forests to ensure a more stable, fire-resilient and sustainable timber supply.
10. Complete the actions outlined in the government-commissioned Abbott-Chapman Report to protect communities and the working forest land base from wildfires.
11. Implement lessons learned from the mountain pine beetle natural disaster and vigilantly monitor other pest infestations and take prompt action to prevent their spread.
12. Transition a portion of the existing forest licenses from volume-based to area-based to encourage further investment by companies in intensive forest management.

Maintain leadership in sustainable management

13. Maintain B.C.'s position as a leader in sustainably managed, certified forests, by achieving an industry target of 100% third-party certification.
14. Undertake a multi-party mission to New Zealand and Sweden to better understand how their forest management regime and land use policies have allowed their industry to transition, improve yields, generate greater value and mitigate the impact of climate change.

HAVE SMART RULES THAT PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT AND ENCOURAGE INVESTMENT

We need good rules to protect the environment. And, we need clear and simple rules to allow businesses to know what is expected of them, and how to live up to those expectations, without encountering needless delays or expenditures.

B.C.'s regulatory structure should keep forests healthy and help businesses be successful. This will secure jobs and communities.

Being agile and flexible is how industry will meet its competitors head on, and continue to serve our customers around the world, while sustaining employment here at home.

We have a lot of rules and regulations and, from time to time, they need to be updated. When that happens, there must be adequate time to engage industry, communities, First Nations, and other stakeholders. Consultation must be sincere and disciplined and policy changes must be informed by good analysis so that we understand how a change may impact workers, communities, and the economy.

CHOICES FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Simplify rules and process

15. Streamline permitting practices, eliminate redundancy and work with industry to find ways to reduce time, cost, and complexity without jeopardizing environmental protections.
16. Move to a broader area-based planning process at the landscape-level to ensure multiple forest values are considered in planning, and to provide for earlier engagement and a longer-range view for communities and First Nations.
17. Identify and analyze the key forest attributes required to achieve desired public and government objectives such as the management of species-at-risk. Use “co-location” to meet these objectives and maximize the use of existing protected and conservation areas.
18. Create a Fast Track Resolutions process to support the timely resolution of the points of tension, disagreement, and friction that will inevitably arise among different interests.
19. Convene a semi-annual meeting of government and industry to discuss issues and advance understanding. Use this venue to clear hurdles, identify opportunities, and strengthen relationships.
20. Increase coordination and information sharing between ministries to enhance effectiveness and efficiency of authorizations.



Increase predictability and competitiveness

21. Benchmark B.C.'s forest sector's competitive position against competing jurisdictions annually.
22. Clearly articulate the criteria for Ministerial approval of tenure transfers. Criteria should consider the need for mills to have adequate, reliable access to timber to operate mills efficiently.
23. Mandate that all policy proposals undergo socio-economic analysis to ensure that the impacts of potential policy changes are well-understood before decisions are made.
24. Identify opportunities to ensure the Market Pricing System (which determines stumpage) better reflects market conditions.
25. Maximize available timber supply, ensure BC Timber Sales (BCTS) sells its full allocation of the Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) by delivering 90% annually and 100% full allocation over the business cycle.
26. Adopt best practices for consultation processes and stakeholder engagement, to ensure the process is accountable, transparent, and provides for adequate consideration of meaningful stakeholder and public feedback in government decision-making.
27. Implement process improvements that reduce costs and improve efficiencies in the movement of logs and chips such as larger truck configurations and automatic log scanning technology.



FORESTRY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA IS HIGHLY REGULATED

Our industry is governed by many legislative statutes, policies, licensing requirements, permitting processes, and oversight bodies.

PROVINCIAL

- Annual Rent Regulation
- Carbon Tax Act
- Contaminated Sites Regulation
- Cut Control Regulation
- Cutting permits
- Employer Health Tax Act
- Environmental Assessment Act
- Environmental Management Act
- Forest Act
- Forest and Range Practices Act
- Forest Practices Board
- Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act
- Forest Stand Management Fund Act
- Foresters Act
- Forestry Revitalization Act
- Forestry Services Providers Protection Act
- Great Bear Rainforest (Forest Management) Act
- Heritage Protection Act
- Industrial Roads Act
- Integrated Pest Management Act
- Logging Tax Act
- Manufactured Forest Products Regulation
- Ministerial approval of tenure transfers, tree farm licences, and other changes
- Ministry of Forests and Range Act
- Motor Vehicle Act
- Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation
- Professional Governance Act
- Occupational Health and Safety Regulation
- Private Managed Forest Land Act
- Pulp Mill and Pulp and Paper Mill Liquid Effluent Control Regulation
- Riparian Areas Protection Act
- Road permits
- Spill Reporting Regulation
- Timber Harvesting Agreements (Forest Tenures)
- Timber Harvesting Contract and Subcontract Regulation
- Timber Marking and Transportation Regulation
- Water Sustainability Act
- Wildfire Act
- Wildlife Act
- Workers Compensation Act
- And local government policies, requirements and other associated regulations
- and more...

FEDERAL

- Canadian Environmental Assessment Act
- Canadian Environmental Protection Act
- Fertilizers Act
- Fisheries Act
- Forestry Act
- Migratory Birds Convention Act
- Post Control Products Act
- Plant Protection Act
- Species at Risk Act
- and more...

VOLUNTARY

- Third Party Certification
- Biological Diversity Research
- Partnerships
- Wildlife Enhancement
- Public Education
- Ongoing Consultation
- Community Investment
- and more...

STRENGTHEN PARTICIPATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITIES

140 communities in B.C. depend on forestry, and relationships with communities and First Nations are critical for our industry's success.

We live, work, and play in the communities in which we operate, and we generally enjoy strong support for the sector with 79% of British Columbians holding a favourable view of producers of lumber, pulp and paper, and wood products.* That's not to say things are perfect. Like neighbours, there are always things we can do to improve relationships and we are committed to doing just that.

The forest sector has built many respectful and mutually beneficial relationships with First Nations and Indigenous-owned businesses. Today, 9% of the forestry workforce in B.C. is Indigenous, a greater rate of employment than in any other natural resource sector in B.C. We recognize that some First Nations aspire to have greater participation in the sector and we also see more opportunities to partner and to attract new Indigenous workers to the sector.

Indigenous and local communities should share in the stumpage revenues generated by forest sector activity creating opportunities for increased participation in the sector.

Industry can do more to encourage further First Nations involvement in the industry – not just as employees, but as owners and manufacturers too.

What all communities want is more stability. To achieve this, it means ensuring that companies operating in the sector – whether they are large or small – can access fibre at a reasonable cost to keep facilities running, or to commit to new investments.

Finally, while the industry may be smaller, there will still be thousands of well-paid jobs to fill in the decades ahead. We need to support our next generation of forestry professionals, ensuring they have the resources they need to get the skills and knowledge our industry depends on.



CHOICES FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Enhance partnerships

28. Obtain federal support for workers and communities in transition.
29. Increase revenue sharing to direct 40% of stumpage revenue to support local communities and First Nations. This revenue will create means for First Nations to increase direct participation in the industry and will support community initiatives.
30. Increase community forest agreements and First Nations woodlands licences in areas directly adjacent to communities, to allow for greater local management, protect communities from wildfires, and provide fibre to local manufacturers.
31. Convene annual regional forestry summits to review long term planning and assess opportunities.
32. Set targets and track progress annually to increase Indigenous participation in forest sector employment, contracting, and business ownership.

Ready the workforce

33. Invest in skills training programs to ready our current workforce for industry's future needs.
34. Enhance the joint industry/provincial funding of the next phases of the Industrial Wood Processing Program at BCIT. Upcoming modules, including *The Business of Sawmilling*, *Advanced Manufacturing and Value-Added Lumber Products*, will support the development of knowledge and technical skills development.
35. Expand industry's Forest Education Program to all regions of B.C. This program provides students with information about the forest sector and sustainable forest management, as well as hands-on experience through the Natural Resource Management camps and Women in Trades program.
36. Create a searchable inventory of industry-related forest training, scholarships, and bursaries to support the next generation of forestry practitioners in B.C.
37. Build a "shelf-ready" forest education module for primary and secondary educators to use in the classroom.

DOUBLE DOWN ON MARKET AND PRODUCT DIVERSIFICATION

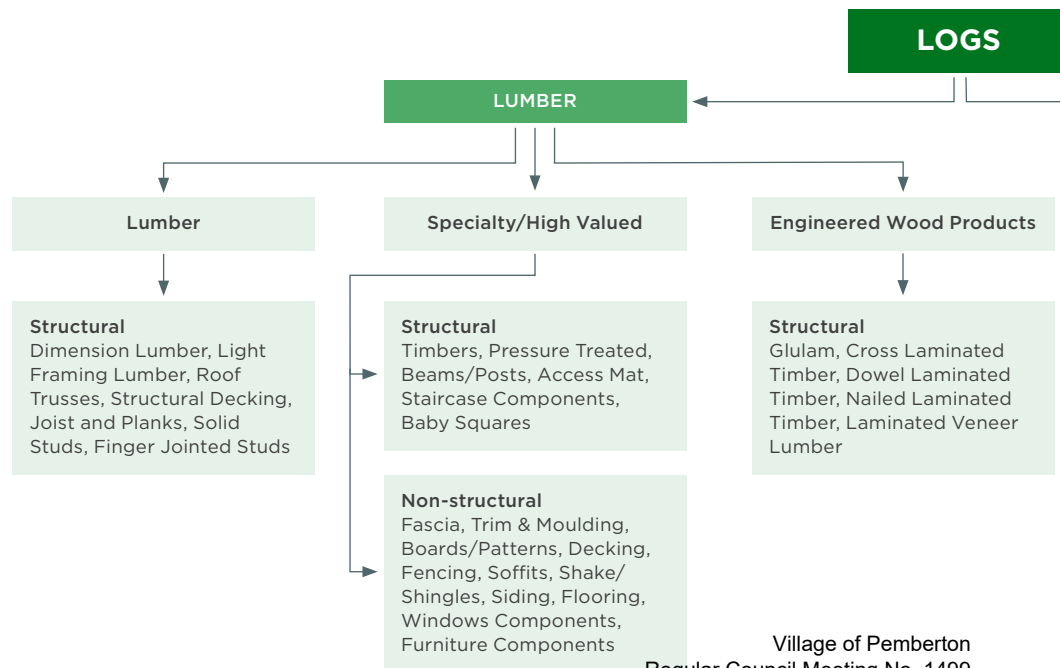
Over the last two decades, in partnership with the provincial and federal governments, B.C. has led the charge in developing new, overseas markets for our high-quality wood products, particularly in Asia where approximately 30% of our products are now sold. This has helped reduce our dependence on the U.S. market where we continue to face punishing tariffs on softwood lumber products.

Developing new markets is not a short-term exercise. It takes years to develop product familiarity, codes, standards and market acceptance. But the benefit of these efforts has been significant for B.C.

We see more opportunities to expand our markets if we double down on these efforts. Using wood in manufacturing, resort construction, the building of institutional wood framed multi-storey buildings, and the opportunities in industrialized construction all offer promise for increasing demand for the products we make.

Around the world, there is a growing interest in low-carbon, renewable products from sustainably-harvested forests. This is B.C.'s strength and we should grow our opportunities ahead.

But it's not just markets. While we will have lower overall harvest levels going forward, the fibre will be of better quality in some areas than the timber that was impacted by the mountain pine beetle. As the chart below shows, B.C. already manufactures many premium quality forest products – from dimension lumber and pulp and paper, to a wide variety of value-added products. However, given that the cost of fibre is increasing, we need to continue to explore new ways to generate as much value as we can from the resource.



CHOICES FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Increase focus on value

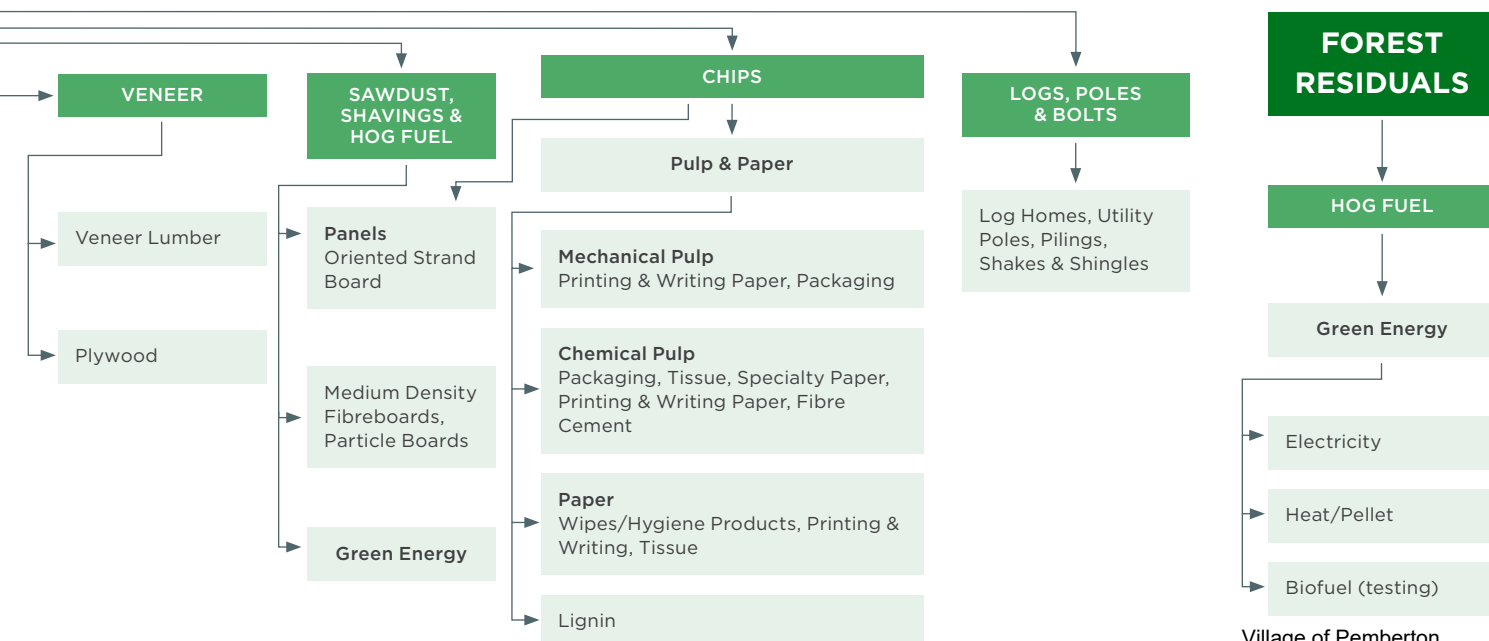
38. Commission and fund a global “new market opportunity” study to identify prospects and help tailor B.C.’s new product development efforts.
39. Kick-start further product research and development by considering economic incentives to drive investments into high-value products from the forest resource, such as new biofuels.
40. Set an industry target to increase the proportion of value-added manufacturing in B.C. by a minimum of 20% within 5 years.

Aggressively pursue access to global markets

41. Continue existing efforts to build and diversify overseas markets and forestry trade missions, including ongoing support for Forest Innovation and Investment.
42. Increase B.C.’s profile abroad with a Premier-led trade mission to key Asian markets focused on forestry.
43. Introduce an export tax credit for products shipped to non-U.S. markets.
44. Continue to support efforts to negotiate a new softwood lumber agreement with the U.S. that works for B.C.



PRODUCTS WE MAKE IN B.C.



BE THE GLOBAL HUB FOR EXPERTISE IN LOW-CARBON, GREEN BUILDING

The time is right to accelerate our reputation as world leaders in building with wood.

Our province has flagship projects such as the Brock Commons Tallwood House at the University of British Columbia, which – at the time of construction – was the tallest mass timber building in the world. We also have beautiful examples of wood construction in almost every corner of B.C., from Southern Okanagan Secondary School in Oliver to the Audain Art Museum in Whistler.

The B.C. government’s commitment to use B.C. wood in the construction of the new St. Paul’s Hospital in Vancouver and the modernization of the Royal B.C. Museum in Victoria will also advance the use of wood in high-profile public infrastructure. But there is more we can do. We still see an abundance of steel and concrete in our built environment and could make further strides to use our own B.C.-made wood products right here at home, avoiding U.S. duties and the cost of transportation.

This is not the time to be shy. We have an opportunity to show the world how it’s done by creating a centre of excellence to take our expertise to the next level.

We can be the “Harvard of Green Building”, the place the world looks to for the next big idea on how to use the resources that come from the forest, in a way that has a lighter climate impact than ever before.

We have the people, the resource, the know-how and the ability to lead the world. Let’s grab the opportunity.

CHOICES FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Become the “Harvard of Green Building”

45. Make B.C. the global centre of excellence for green building. Bring together companies, technical and academic expertise, along with government to drive this initiative.
46. Leverage and expand existing research into wood innovation and green building technology through a dedicated green building research fund, including a multi-year financial contribution from industry.
47. Create an “economic toolbox” to incent the growth and development of mass timber expertise.
48. Establish a B.C. innovation incubator to support small businesses and entrepreneurs in advancing small scale research and commercialization of new products, wood design expertise and innovations like glues, hybrids, acoustic solutions, coatings and more.

49. Establish a permanent Chair in Green Building at UBC and/or UNBC.
50. Jointly fund and promote Timber Online Education - the Vancouver-based global non-profit resource for teaching safe, sustainable, and economical wood building design and construction. Use the platform to aggregate and share information and address questions on building techniques, fire safety, building codes, policy and market changes.
51. Mandate B.C. trade representatives to identify opportunities to use B.C. wood products in cutting edge projects, like Sidewalk Labs, the wood-built neighborhood along Toronto's eastern waterfront. Capture the opportunities.
52. Launch an industry competition – a B.C. Prize for Wood in Construction – with substantial prizes awarded to innovations that drive growth in forestry and the wood construction sector.
53. Advance B.C.'s low-carbon advantage as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Government of British Columbia and the Business Council of British Columbia.

Promote building with low-carbon, B.C. wood in our own province

54. Increase the use of B.C. wood in the province – commercial, public, and residential – by 20% over current levels within 5 years.
55. Partner with BC Housing to use B.C. wood to build new mid-rise affordable housing of 5 to 12 storeys.
56. Require all public sector building projects to consider using “wood first” to advance B.C.'s low-carbon economy and mitigate climate change.
57. Put in place a financial incentive for private sector developers to use B.C. wood products.
58. Maintain B.C.'s leadership in the development and adoption of building codes. B.C.'s early adoption of 5 to 6 storey mid-rise wood mixed use buildings and plans to be the first to adopt the 2020 National Building Code, including 12 storey wood buildings, has positioned B.C. as a design and construction leader. Ensure the Building Safety Standards Branch has experienced resources to facilitate early adoption and implementation of the 2020 code and other advancements of wood design and construction.
59. Create dedicated “code liaison” representatives in the Government of B.C. who can assist architects and builders as they navigate the wood building code provisions.
60. Undertake a public campaign to communicate benefits and encourage the use of wood and mass timber.

CHOICES FOR A BETTER FUTURE

We can be a globally competitive forest sector that is a model for the world in product innovation, technological advances, and environmental care, supporting skilled jobs and communities across B.C.

INVEST IN, AND PROTECT, OUR WORKING FOREST LAND BASE

PROTECT THE WORKING FOREST LAND BASE

1. Define the working forest land base. Like conservation areas, designate the area that will be available for harvesting and lock in the commitment.
2. Implement a “no-net-loss policy” to provide certainty in the long term. Undertake a review every 5 years.
3. Ensure policies and processes allow for timely and consistent access to the working forest land base.

GROW THE FIBRE RESOURCE

4. Expand the use of Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR), artificial intelligence and drone technology to complete an updated enhanced Standing Timber Inventory. Use the updated inventory to improve

yields and mitigate timber supply impacts.

5. Accelerate the replanting of Not Sufficiently Restocked (NSR) areas to return them to productive forests. Set a goal of achieving 100% completion within 5 years.
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HAVE SMART RULES THAT PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT AND ENCOURAGE INVESTMENT

SIMPLIFY RULES AND PROCESS

15. Streamline permitting practices, eliminate redundancy and work with industry to find ways to reduce time, cost, and complexity without jeopardizing environmental protections.
16. Move to a broader area-based planning process at the landscape-level to ensure multiple forest values are considered in planning, and to provide for earlier engagement and a longer-range view for communities and First Nations.
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these objectives and maximize the use of existing protected and conservation areas.

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INCREASE PREDICTABILITY AND COMPETITIVENESS

21. Benchmark B.C.’s forest sector’s competitive position against competing jurisdictions annually.
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STRENGTHEN PARTICIPATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITIES

ENHANCE PARTNERSHIPS

28. Obtain federal support for workers and communities in transition.
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READY THE WORKFORCE

33. Invest in skills training programs to ready our current workforce for industry's future needs.
34. Enhance the joint industry/provincial funding of the next phases of the Industrial Wood Processing Program at BCIT. Upcoming modules, including *The Business of Sawmilling*, *Advanced Manufacturing and Value-Added Lumber Products*, will support the development of knowledge and technical skills development.
35. Expand industry's Forest Education Program to all regions of B.C. This program provides

students with information about the forest sector and sustainable forest management, as well as hands-on experience through the Natural Resource Management camps and Women in Trades program.

36. Create a searchable inventory of industry-related forest training, scholarships, and bursaries to support the next generation of forestry practitioners in B.C.
37. Build a "shelf-ready" forest education module for primary and secondary educators to use in the classroom.

DOUBLE DOWN ON MARKET AND PRODUCT DIVERSIFICATION

INCREASE FOCUS ON VALUE

38. Commission and fund a global "new market opportunity" study to identify prospects and help tailor B.C.'s new product development efforts.
39. Kick-start further product research and development by considering economic incentives to drive investments into high-

value products from the forest resource, such as new biofuels.

40. Set an industry target to increase the proportion of value-added manufacturing in B.C. by a minimum of 20% within 5 years.

AGGRESSIVELY PURSUE ACCESS TO GLOBAL MARKETS

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43. Introduce an export tax credit for products shipped to non-U.S. markets.

44. Continue to support efforts to negotiate a new softwood lumber agreement with the U.S. that works for B.C.

BE THE GLOBAL HUB FOR EXPERTISE IN LOW-CARBON, GREEN BUILDING

BE THE "HARVARD OF GREEN BUILDING"

45. Make B.C. the global centre of excellence for green building. Bring together companies, technical and academic expertise, along with government to drive this initiative.
46. Leverage and expand existing research into wood innovation and green building technology through a dedicated green building research fund, with multi-year financial contribution from industry.
47. Create an "economic toolbox" to incent the growth and development of mass timber expertise.
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53. Advance B.C.'s low-carbon economic advantage as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Government of British Columbia and the Business Council of British Columbia.

PROMOTE BUILDING WITH LOW-CARBON, B.C. WOOD IN OUR OWN PROVINCE

54. Increase the use of B.C. wood in the province - commercial, public, and residential - by 20% over current levels within 5 years.
55. Partner with BC Housing to use B.C. wood to build new mid-rise affordable housing of 5 to 12 storeys.
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57. Put in place a financial incentive for private sector developers to use B.C. wood products.

58. Maintain B.C.'s leadership in the development and adoption of building codes. B.C.'s early adoption of 5 to 6 storey mid-rise wood mixed use buildings and plans to be the first to adopt the 2020 National Building Code, including 12 storey wood buildings, has positioned B.C. as a design and construction leader. Ensure the Building Safety Standards Branch has experienced resources to facilitate early adoption and implementation of the 2020 code and other advancements of wood design and construction.

59. Create dedicated "code liaison" representatives in the Government of B.C. who can assist architects and builders as they navigate the wood building code provisions.

60. Undertake a public campaign to communicate benefits and encourage the use of wood and mass timber.

THE PATH FORWARD

The stress and uncertainty created by a major industry in transition can be polarizing. Economic, social, local, and provincial priorities can seem at odds with each other and the question of ‘who loses and who benefits’ can be a flash point for tension.

We can choose a better path.

We can choose a path that promotes collaboration and tries to look at the long term; a path that will replace instability and uncertainty with more confidence, trust, and stability.

In this submission, we put forward a vision of a forest industry that can thrive and deliver benefits across the province – where we can get to once we have moved through this transition and have come out the other side. Our focus is on ideas that address the things we can control, where we can influence outcomes. We have tried to identify concrete actions that will help build our next-generation forest industry and help to achieve the stability, predictability, and confidence that we all want.

These are ideas that are not just the responsibility of industry or government. They will require collective effort from workers, contractors, unions, communities, First Nations, academics, and other stakeholders to build the industry of the future.

We recognize the list may not be complete, but hope that it represents a good start. We look forward to working collaboratively to put these ideas into action.



September 17, 2019

All BC Municipalities
Via email

Re: UBCM Reception Sponsored by the Government of China

I write on behalf of Mayor and Council to advise that District North Saanich Council at its Regular Council meeting held on September 16, 2019 adopted the following resolution:

Whereas Canadian citizens are being detained in China as retaliation for the arrest of Meng Wanzhou, the Chinese tech company's chief financial officer at the request of US authorities, and

Whereas the government of China has unfairly taken actions to restrict imports of Canadian agricultural products, and

Whereas the government of China is no longer a trusted trading partner,

Now therefore be it resolved that staff email as many governments in BC as is practicable, asking that all Council members and staff who are attending this years UBCM convention to give personal consideration to not attend the Government of China reception.

On behalf of Mayor and Council, thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Curt Kingsley", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Curt Kingsley
Deputy CAO / Director of Corporate Services



The Corporation of the Village of Salmo

P.O. Box 1000
Salmo, BC V0G 1Z0
www.salmo.ca

Phone: (250) 357-9433
Fax: (250) 357-9633
Email: info@salmo.ca

September 17, 2019

All BC Municipalities/Regional Districts
Via Email

RE: FOSTERING TRANSPORTATION NETWORK SERVICES IN SMALL COMMUNITIES

All BC Municipalities/Regional Districts,

Please be advised that the Village of Salmo Council, at the September 10, 2019 Regular Council meeting, passed resolution #R10-17-19 in support of the following City of Enderby motion regarding fostering transportation network services in small communities:

WHEREAS the Province of BC has created a regulatory framework permitting transportation network services to operate in BC, which provides a passenger transportation option to address the significant public need for vehicles-for-hire and, in turn, reduce impaired driving, improve the ability of seniors and persons with barriers to access needed resources, and stimulate economic development;

AND WHEREAS the Province's regulatory framework is so onerous that it effectively prohibits the establishment of transportation network services outside of the Lower Mainland, and particularly in small, rural, and remote communities where it has the greatest potential to address areas underserved by traditional public transportation options;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM asks the Province of BC to amend the Passenger Transportation Act to establish an area-based, tiered, regulatory solution that will enable viable and competitive transportation network services in small rural and remote communities as well as other communities outside of the Lower Mainland.

Sincerely,

Anne Williams
Chief Administrative Officer

Cc: *MLA Michelle Mungall*
All BC Municipalities/Regional Districts



Mayor Darryl Walker
White Rock City Hall
15322 Buena Vista Avenue
White Rock, BC, Canada V4B 1Y6

September 17, 2019,

Dear Mayor Walker,

At the September 5, 2019 Council Meeting, Victoria City Council approved a resolution endorsing a motion passed by White Rock Council which seeks UBCM member support for working with the Provincial Government to amend the Community Charter to permit local governments to implement an annual vacancy tax similar to the City of Vancouver's authority granted under the Vancouver Charter.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding the City of Victoria's support for this motion.

Sincerely,

Lisa Helps
Victoria Mayor

cc. The Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Annual Convention

September 19, 2019

Mayors, Councillors, Elected Representatives
Province of British Columbia

Dear Sir/Madam

Since March of 2019 yet another British Columbia municipality has found itself embroiled in a legal personal controversy involving one of its elected officials. Port Moody's Mayor Robert Vagramov, after he was charged for sexual assault, voluntarily took a paid leave of absence while the case was before the court; three months later changed that to unpaid leave for the duration and then returned to work September 9 while the case remains before the courts. This has caused undue anxiety and concern to Port Moody citizens, created uncomfortable work environments for city employees and other members of council and is tarnishing the good name of Port Moody in the broader community.

Pitt Meadows BC has experienced the same challenges in 2017. David Murray, Pitt Meadows, who continued to sit as a councillor while under indictment for a criminal charge and once convicted, only resigned upon significant public pressure. Under the BC Municipalities Act there is no recourse for a municipality or the voting public of that entity to chart a reasonable course of action to protect the best interests of the municipality and its citizens. A perfect example of this is when Port Coquitlam experienced significant challenges leading up to 2008 whereby Mayor Scott Young was charged and convicted of a serious criminal offence, remained Mayor while living under house arrest until the end of term and subsequently lost in the 2008 election.

I understand during the 2018 UBCM convention the following resolutions and decisions took place and were endorsed, B83 and B84

https://www.ubcm.ca/assets/Resolutions~and~Policy/Resolutions/Resolutions_Decisions_2018.pdf

B83 Elected Official Disqualification Endorsed as Amended: Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to implement legislation to require that an elected local government official be disqualified from office upon conviction of a serious criminal offense, not including convictions related to non-violent acts of civil disobedience; And be it further resolved that an elected local government official be required to take a paid leave of absence from office upon Crown approval of charges until the court process is complete.

B84 Disqualification from Holding Elected Office Endorsed as Amended: Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to make whatever legislative changes are needed to: 1. Require that an elected local government official be put on unpaid leave immediately upon conviction, during his or her current term, of a serious criminal offence (to be defined by legislation), not including convictions related to non-violent acts of civil disobedience until the expiration of the time to file an appeal or determination of an appeal; and 2. Require that an elected local government official be disqualified from holding office upon conviction, during his or her current term, of a serious criminal offence (to be defined by legislation), not including convictions related to non-violent acts of civil disobedience upon the expiration of the time to file an appeal or determination of an appeal.

Recall Legislation may be appropriate with respect to job performance but I do not feel it is appropriate to be considered for Criminal Code matters. It should not be the responsibility of citizens to police elected officials with respect to criminal activities.

This letter is requesting that you, as Mayors, Councillors and elected officials representing 190 British Columbia Municipalities, Regional Districts and First Nation Members, act in the best interests of your constituents by calling on the Government of British Columbia to respond to the UBCM resolutions and change the Act without delay.

Legislation requiring an elected municipal official to be put on immediate leave of absence if charged with an offence under the Criminal Code is long overdue. Nor is it reasonable that the province give latitude to any elected official facing such charges to return to office while their case is still before the courts. Mandatory removal from office of an elected municipal official convicted of any Criminal Code offence is also overdue.

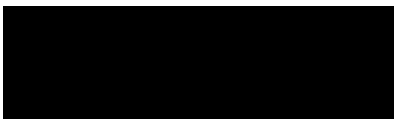
The Province should further ensure the integrity of municipal government by ensuring that removal from office is mandatory for local government politicians who violate BC's Ethical Standards for Locally Elected Officials.

Legislation would remove from elected officials a currently unreasonable privilege of protecting personal interests with no consideration of the broader and more relevant interests of the communities they are supposed to be serving, and places it within the law and legislation. It would substantially relieve communities from the risk of conflict of interest, from influence by affected or peripheral parties and from politicizing and place it within clear judicial practices.

Below are the names and addresses of a representative number of eligible voters throughout the Province who are concerned there is no recourse if the same situation arose in their community and are urging immediate attention and resolution to this matter.

Respectfully,

Laura Dick



cc: Hon. Selina Robinson, Hon. Mike Farnsworth, Hon. Adrian Dix, Premier John Horgan

and on behalf of but not inclusive of:

Summary

| City | # of Signatories | City | # of Signatories |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Port Moody | 68 | Coquitlam | 11 |
| Vancouver | 3 | Port Coquitlam | 5 |
| Belcarra | 1 | North Vancouver | 1 |
| Anmore | 3 | Delta | 2 |
| Maple Ridge | 4 | Agassiz | 1 |
| Surrey | 4 | Abbotsford | 1 |
| Tumbler Ridge | 1 | Langley | 1 |
| Burnaby | 2 | West Vancouver | 1 |
| Mission | 1 | Lake Country | 1 |
| Nanaimo | 4 | Squamish | 1 |
| Kelowna | 2 | Chilliwack | 3 |

Sarah Wellman

[Redacted]

Jillian Eaton

[Redacted]

Stirling Ward

[Redacted]

Amanda Wellman

[Redacted]

Lisa Elser

[Redacted]

Steve Guy

[Redacted]

Adrian Crook

[Redacted]

Charles T Schlegel

[Redacted]

Anthony Sandler

[Redacted]

Brianne Egeto

[Redacted]

Dan Attridge

[Redacted]

Morgan Weverink

[Redacted]

Daniel Eaton

[Redacted]

Tracy Green

[Redacted]

Krista Dennett

[Redacted]

Katy Sandler



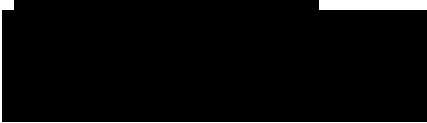
Tyson Schofield



Lauren Sechov



Alison Berg



Roop Sidhu



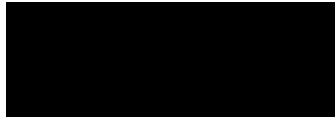
Kristin Hiller



Jeff McLennon



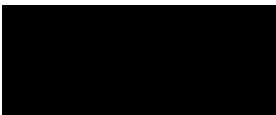
Rhonda McClelland



Katie McNabb



Kelly McLennon



Jennifer Bacic



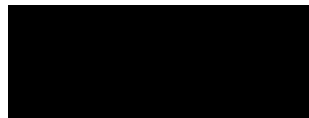
Tracy Good



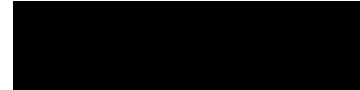
Ann Patterson



Tazeem Alibhai-Nanji



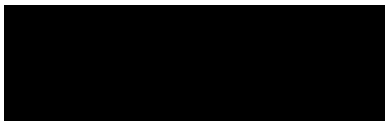
Bart van Staalduinen



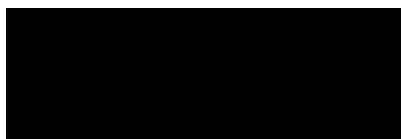
Angie van Staalduinen



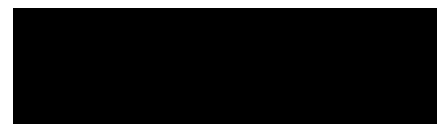
Pat Dennett



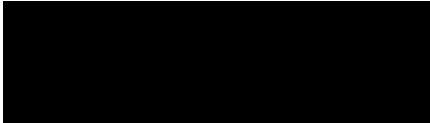
Melanie Thorsen



Peggi Peacock



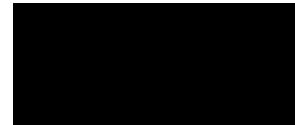
Debbie Stewart



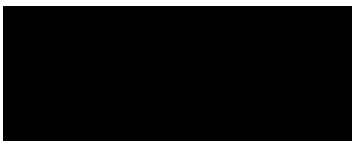
Katherine Storey



Karen Cook



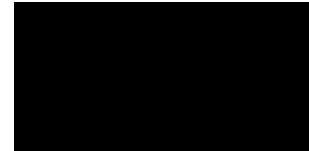
Mark Wellman



Crista Jones



Mark Porter



Danica Singer



Sharon McRae

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Karl Travis

[Redacted]

Rosemary Small

[Redacted]

James Small

[Redacted]

Penny Bickerton

[Redacted]

Timothy Favelle

[Redacted]

Kayla Kay Knowles

[Redacted]

Karen Tompkins

[Redacted]

Paul Dungey

[Redacted]

Darlene Hunter

[Redacted]

Chris Waechter

[Redacted]

Andrew Dagger

[Redacted]

James Robertson

[Redacted]

Gerry Nuttall

[Redacted]

Kimberly LaRochelle

[Redacted]

Heidi Carter

[Redacted]

Susanne Sachinidis

[Redacted]

Mirjana Popescu

[Redacted]

Linda Balzer

[Redacted]

George Balzer

[Redacted]

Cathy Cena

[Redacted]

Markus Fahrner

[Redacted]

Lori Weston

[Redacted]

Rosemary Rawnsley

[Redacted]

Bob Rawnsley

[Redacted]

Peter Ward

[Redacted]

Rick de Courtney



Margaret Matthews



Stuart Warner



R W BROWN



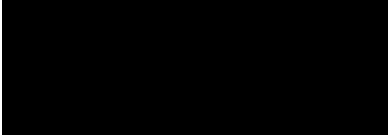
Jon Hill



Jason McLachlan



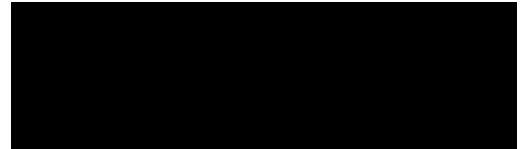
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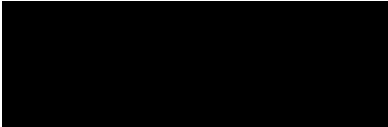
Valerie Rodrigues



Shannon McLachlan



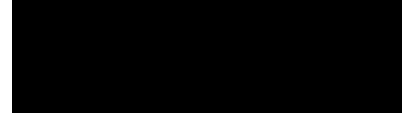
Donna Pisoney



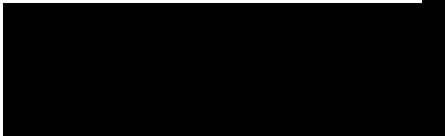
Dave Tate



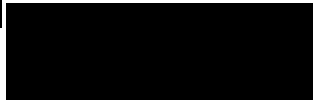
Marcia Shoucair



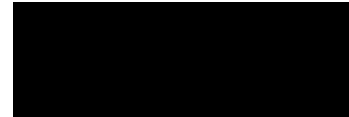
Danielle Wilkie



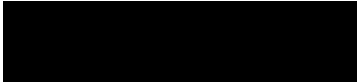
Brenda Warren



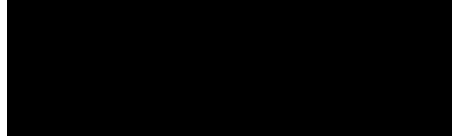
Rob Shoucair



Shane William McCardle



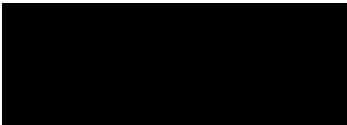
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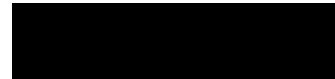
Charmayne Joy



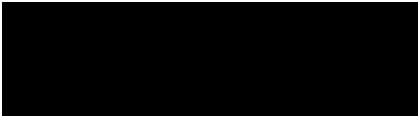
Steve Arychuk



Victor Shoucair



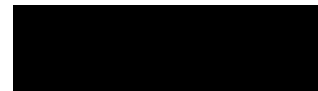
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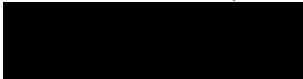
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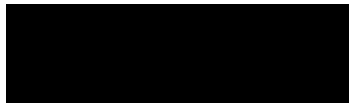
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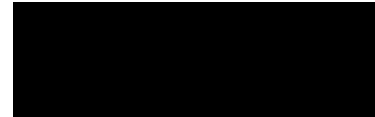
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Clara Loh



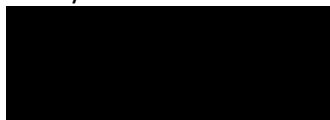
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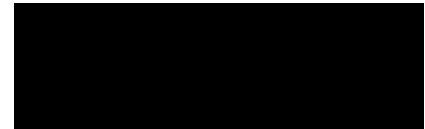
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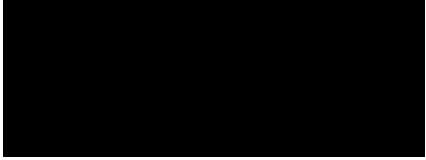
Tony White



M Klein



Jennifer Fleming



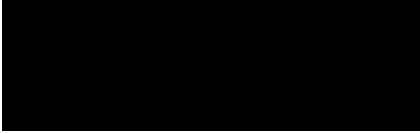
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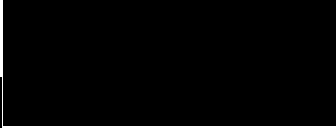
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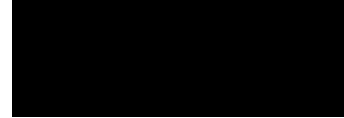
Joel Macmillan



Zafira Nanji



Kelleigh Donick



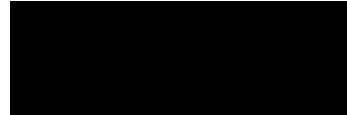
Liliana Hill



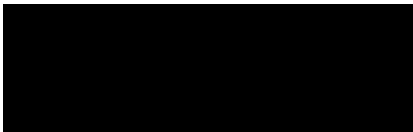
Shiraz Nanji



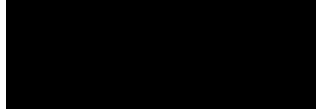
Toni Donick



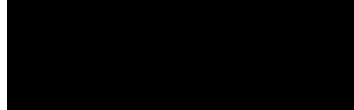
Jena Asgari,



Mike Clay



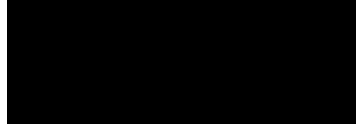
Colby Donick



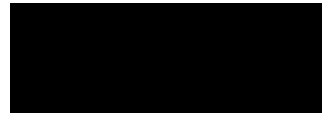
Brenda Warren



Wilhelmina Martin



Olivia Burns



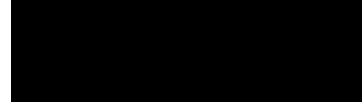
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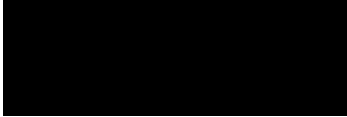
Shaun Thompson



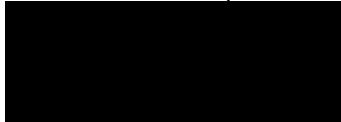
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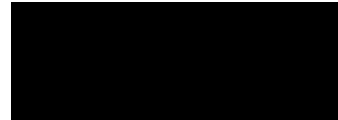
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Leanne Thompson



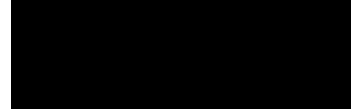
Laura Eaton



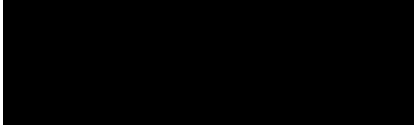
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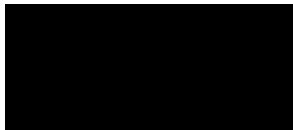
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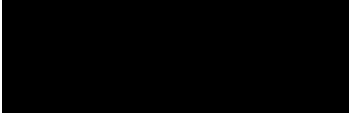
Karen Bartulin



Jamie Cuthbert



Mel Fisher



From: Localgov <localgov-bounces@lists.bcinvasives.ca> **On Behalf Of** Lesley Douglas
Sent: September 24, 2019 3:30 PM
To: localgov@lists.bcinvasives.ca
Subject: [Localgov] ISCBC Together In Action Awards Nominations

Hello Local Government Network Members,

As the ISCBC Chair for the Communications Committee I am sending out this e-mail reminder for *Together In Action Awards* nominations.



ISCBC's Together in Action (TIA) Awards program, launched in 2014, recognizes initiatives, groups, and individuals that demonstrate leadership, innovation and collaboration in the field of invasive species in BC. Every five years on Council milestone years, the full suite of five Together in Action (TIA) Awards are presented at a gala event during the annual Forum. **We are now accepting nominations for the 2020 Milestone Year TIA Awards.** On milestone years, members of the public, staff and ISCBC Board can nominate recipients for any or all five categories. The awards will be presented at the Awards Gala on the evening of February 11, 2020 at the Pacific Gateway Hotel, Richmond.

The award categories are:

1. Individual
2. Business
3. Non-profit / Stewardship Organization
4. Government
5. Student

Nominations are due by November 15, 2019. For more information and to **place your nomination**, visit <https://bcinvasives.ca/together-in-action-awards/together-in-action-milestone-awards>.

Please also share to your networks.

Many thanks!

Lesley Douglas

General Manager – Environment and Parks, City of Port Moody

604-469-4547 (t) 604 368-6556 (c) 604-469-4530 (f)

ldouglas@portmoody.ca | www.portmoody.ca

From: Kurt Eby <keby@pelmorex.com>
Subject: Update from The Weather Network
Date: September 26, 2019 at 7:44:53 AM PDT
To: eharvey@pemberton.ca, mrichman@pemberton.ca

Mayor Richman,

In 2017/18 the Village of Pemberton supported The Weather Network's successful application to have its broadcasting licence renewed and to ensure it remained part of the basic cable service. Thank you for your endorsement. Broad support from across the country was critical to demonstrate to the CRTC that The Weather Network provides an essential service that needs to be available to all Canadians.

Now, slightly over a year into our new licence term, we wanted to connect to let you know how we have been fulfilling our commitments to enhance our unique weather and public safety service. We set an ambitious agenda to make our services more relevant and more local and we are doing just that:

- **Programming:** The Weather Network and MétéoMédia continue to be Canada's trusted source for all weather information, from daily forecasts, active weather coverage, and road reports so viewers can plan and stay safe. In fact, in an increasingly challenging television market, our viewership was up by 6% over the past six months, demonstrating just how important our TV service is to Canadians.
- **Local:** We have rolled out enhanced high-definition local feeds to 16 communities that deliver a better quality signal and provide more local weather information to viewers. We have 34 more HD feeds planned to launch in the next month, and we will be working with our cable and satellite provider partners towards our goal of launching 250 more HD feeds in the next year.
- **Emergency Alerting:** Our National Alert Aggregation and Dissemination (NAAD) System has validated and processed more than 120 alerts for threat-to-life situations this year, which, with the addition of the wireless distribution channel, are reaching more Canadians and making a stronger impact than before. We have also implemented enhancements to the NAAD System that will give emergency management organizations more options when issuing alerts.
- **Climate Content:** We have increased our climate coverage and are finalizing plans to provide regular reporting on the science behind, and impacts of, climate change, including in Canada's northern and Indigenous communities.
- **Digital Upgrades:** Our digital properties (websites and apps) have been enhanced to update with new weather conditions 5 times faster than before, and an upcoming new app feature will provide real time updates directly to users that are experiencing, or are in the path of, active and severe weather.

The Weather Network takes very seriously its rare designation as an essential and exceptional service requiring distribution to all Canadians as part of the basic package. We are committed to continue working to maintain the trust of Canadians and validate the support from cities, towns and regions that rely on us every day.

Again, on behalf of Sam Sebastian, our president & CEO, and Maureen Rogers, the managing director of Pelmorex Weather Networks, I want to sincerely thank you for your past support. We look forward to updating you again in the future, but if you have any questions about the above update or anything else going on at The Weather Network, please contact me directly.

All the best,
Kurt

Kurt Eby
Director, Regulatory & Government Relations
P. 905.829.1159 | C. [REDACTED]
pelmorex.com

From: Keely Kidner <KKidner@squamish.ca>
Sent: October 2, 2019 10:49 AM
Subject: MOECCS Joint Letter Signatories Press Release

Hello,

You are receiving this email as your Mayor or Board Chair is a signatory to the attached joint submission to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Solutions regarding the Provincial Plastics Action Plan.

A copy of the letter is provided for your organization's records; please distribute to your Mayor/Board Chair and any internal departments responsible for solid waste or environmental management.

In order to promote the collective efforts of all local government signatories, the Districts of Squamish, Tofino and the City of Victoria have released this letter to the media (available here: <https://www.victoria.ca/EN/main/city/news-room/media-releases/latest-media-releases.html>). Please feel free to adapt the attached news release to suit your needs, share with your community or distribute in any way your organization sees fit.

Thank you,
Keely

Keely Kidner | Outreach Sustainability Coordinator
District of Squamish | *Hardwired for Adventure*
C: 604.848.4547 | kkidner@squamish.ca | www.squamish.ca



Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Recycling Regulation Amendments
PO Box 9341 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9M1

Dear Minister Heyman,

September 29, 2019

Joint Local Government Response to Provincial Plastics Action Plan

As local governments who have taken steps to reduce single-use items in our communities, we write together in response to the Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy's (the Ministry) call for submissions regarding proposed amendments to the *Recycling Regulation* of the *Environmental Management Act* to address plastic waste.

In reviewing the "Plastics Action Plan Policy Consultation Paper" (Consultation Paper), the following five topic areas were collectively determined as matters requiring specific feedback from the local government sector. In addition to this letter, local governments may also be submitting individual feedback relevant to their communities. We thank you for your time and consideration, and we look forward to continuing the conversation on these important matters.

1. FOCUS ON REDUCTION AND REUSE

The pollution prevention hierarchy emphasizes reduction and reuse over recycling and disposal. These priorities are also apparent in the Ministry's Consultation Paper, which discusses reducing plastic consumption through the use of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs and bans on single-use items. However, local governments feel that these programs can only be considered successful if any unintended shift to excessive consumption of damaging single use alternatives is avoided. To avoid this shift, we recommend that EPR policies be accompanied by incentives to encourage the use of sustainable, reusable options.

In addition, the Consultation Paper frames reuse in terms of recyclability, "ensuring recycled plastic is re-used effectively" through standards on recycled content. We agree that this approach can help reduce emissions and support EPR programs, but there is also an opportunity to consider reuse in terms of behaviour. We urge the Ministry to adopt a policy which supports and enables practices of reuse outside of recycling, with the ultimate goal being reduction of single-use items. This includes encouraging refillable containers (e.g. growlers, wine bottles, soap bottles, etc.), allowing patrons to bring their own container (e.g. takeout food, restaurant leftovers, bulk food shopping, etc.), enabling the right to repair (e.g. repair cafes, requirements for the provision of spare parts and services, online publication of manuals, etc.), and promoting zero waste shopping (e.g. zero waste stores, farmers' markets, etc.). This added focus on reduction and reuse will help move the Plastics Action Plan forward in accordance with pollution prevention best practices.

2. CLARIFY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY

We appreciate that the Ministry has acknowledged the actions being taken by local governments to address the local impacts of single-use items in BC communities. Indeed, more than 23 communities in B.C. have been actively developing bans, fees and levies, to address single-use items. However, as noted in the Consultation Paper, the B.C. Court of Appeal ruling regarding the City of Victoria's business licence regulation bylaw is of major concern to local governments as its implications for municipal authority to adopt bylaws under sections 8 and 9 of the *Community Charter* are potentially significant.

Until the Court of Appeal decision was issued, it has been the view of many municipalities that the nature of concurrent powers expressly described by statute in sections 8 and 9 of the *Community Charter* allowed for the regulation of unsustainable business practices. To be certain, there are numerous examples of municipal business regulations which already include one or more provisions intended to protect the environment, including imposing requirements or prohibitions on the pollution of waterways, drains and sewers.

As the Province reviews the Court of Appeal's decision, we urge the Minister to consult with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to provide clarity on the limits and intent of the general concurrent authorities shared by local governments and the Province in relation to the protection of the natural environment, and specifically as it applies to single use items. Moreover, we request that a clear, timely and uniform process be developed for local governments who choose to act on those matters which fall under section 9(1) [*spheres of concurrent authority*] of the *Community Charter*.

3. A "STEPPED" OR PHASED APPROACH

As each local government faces unique challenges with respect to recycling and solid waste management, a one-size-fits-all provincial regulation may not meet the needs or expectations of all communities. To this end, we recommend the Minister regulate single-use plastics through a "stepped" or "phased" approach akin to the *BC Energy Step Code Regulation*. A phased approach would allow local governments to move at a pace appropriate for their communities, while also providing industry with a set of consistent targets for waste reduction and recycling across British Columbia. This flexibility is particularly important for smaller rural communities while also enabling faster action to be taken by those local governments who are ready for more ambitious, multifaceted approaches to regulating waste and single-use items. In this way, communities can adopt these regulations gradually or more quickly depending on their ability and resources. Moreover, a consistent incremental framework that raises standards would ensure that, as the recycling and packaging industries innovate, we are able to avoid the current patchwork of disparate standards in each community.

The *BC Energy Step Code* is an excellent example of collaboration between the Province, local governments, industry, and other stakeholders. We encourage the Ministry to consider a similar approach to the regulation of single-use items to encourage innovation while respecting the capacity of all municipalities.

4. IMPROVING EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR)

BC is a leader in implementing EPR programs and moving ahead on its commitments to the Canadian Council of Ministers of Environment Canada-wide Action Plan on EPR. As the Ministry now has experience with these programs, it is important to foster continuous improvement, address problems that have arisen and push for programs to meet their full potential.

EPR programs are designed so that producers pay for their products' end of life management, but also so that products and packaging become better designed. The *Recycling Regulation* and the work of the Ministry have focused on collection for recycling or responsible handling, however few programs are achieving success in redesign, reduction or reuse. There needs to be a focus higher up the hierarchy, which would hold the business sector accountable. This could include exploring ways to redesign products, reduce the amount of packaging, or change the materials used. There are different ways to achieve this, including mandating differential fees based on environmental-impact or waste-creation (rather than fees set by operational costs only), implementing financial penalties for non-compliance, or requiring targets for reduction or redesign.

Another area for expansion within the EPR framework is the inclusion of industrial, commercial and institutional (ICI) materials. The main driver for participation by businesses in diversion is the cost of participation relative to disposal. As changes in global markets drive down the revenue potential of these diverted materials, and with high costs of hauling to recycling markets, the segregation and recycling of materials (e.g. plastic containers, plastic film and expanded polystyrene) are challenging to justify for many businesses. Thus, the segregated collection and diversion of materials from the ICI sector is cost prohibitive to the businesses, and in many cases is substantially subsidized by local governments and taxpayers. Inclusion of ICI materials (with a focus on packaging) into the *Recycling Regulation* would create efficiencies within the transportation network from remote communities and prevent landfilling of recyclables by the ICI sector. In this way, the expansion of regulated products captured by the *Recycling Regulation* is supported, including packaging-like products, mattresses, single-use household pressurized cylinders, and new and used gypsum drywall.

EPR programs also need to be structured to ensure that they are accountable and cover the full costs related to the product disposal. Often, many of the costs associated with the collection of EPR products are not covered by the stewardship programs, which results in fees or taxpayer subsidization of the collection, transportation, and responsible disposal of the materials (e.g. tires). In addition, local governments are subsidizing the collection and management of material that escapes the stewardship collection program (through streetscapes, litter collection, illegal dumping, etc.). On a final note, EPR programs should enhance accountability and transparency. This includes local government and public representation on boards, open access to information given to boards and to their decisions, and the inclusion of financial and material management information for all programs. These changes to EPR programs would greatly enhance their effectiveness in the reduction of plastic waste.

5. ENSURING INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Finally, it is unclear from the Consultation Paper how and when other Ministries and impacted stakeholders will be specifically consulted. When policy tools are evaluated, it is important to consider all impacts and to ensure that viable alternatives are available. To this end, we recommend that the Ministry of Health be specifically consulted regarding potential regulatory changes to allow restaurants to fill take-out orders in reusable containers brought in by customers. This measure is integral to the implementation of bans on single-use containers and packaging, as the City of Vancouver found that nearly 50% of all garbage collected from public waste bins consists of take-out containers and disposable cups. Compostable and recyclable packaging materials often get mixed up when discarded, contaminating both streams and making them impossible to process.

In the development of exemptions, we support evidence-based policies that have been shown to be effective at reducing waste. Moreover, disability advocates, care facilities, local governments, and other provincial agencies (such as the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty) should be specifically consulted in the development of exemptions as a means to highlight and ensure accessibility.

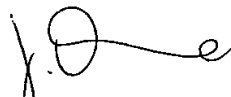
CONCLUSION

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comment and strongly encourage the Ministry to continue to consult with local governments in the upcoming regulatory process. In this letter, we have highlighted the need for a focus on reduction and reuse, clarification of local government authority, and further internal and external consultation. We have also made suggestions for the improvement of EPR programs and a community-led approach akin to the existing *BC Energy Step Code* adoption model. We hope that these concerns are taken into consideration and we look forward to further engagement with the Ministry.

Sincerely,



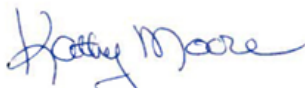
Karen Elliott, Mayor
District of Squamish



Josie Osborne, Mayor
District of Tofino



Lisa Helps, Mayor
City of Victoria



Kathy Moore, Mayor
City of Rossland



Mayco Noel, Mayor
District of Ucluelet



John Jack, Board Chair
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District



Leslie Baird, Mayor
Village of Cumberland



Toni Boot, Mayor
District of Summerland



Jack Crompton, Mayor
Resort Municipality of Whistler



Mike Richman, Mayor
Village of Pemberton



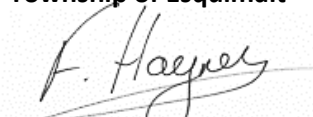
Barb Desjardins, Mayor
Township of Esquimalt



Colin Plant, Board Chair
Capital Regional District



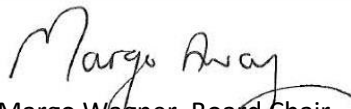
Rob Martin, Mayor
City of Colwood



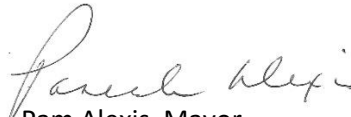
Fred Haynes, Mayor
District of Saanich



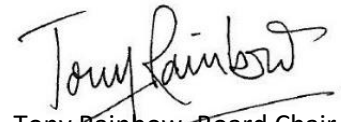
Lori Pratt, Board Chair
Sunshine Coast Regional District



Margo Wagner, Board Chair
Cariboo Regional District



Pam Alexis, Mayor
District of Mission



Tony Rainbow, Board Chair
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District



Brian Wiese, Mayor
Town of Qualicum Beach



Leo Facio, Mayor
Village of Harrison Hot Springs



Mike Little, Mayor
District of North Vancouver



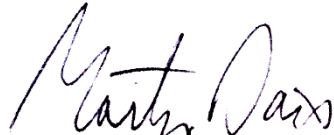
Maja Tait, Mayor
District of Sooke



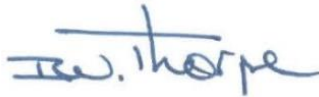
Cliff McNeil-Smith, Mayor
Town of Sidney



Ken Popove, Mayor
City of Chilliwack



Martin Davis, Mayor
Village of Tahsis



Ian Thorpe, Board Chair
Regional District of Nanaimo



Karla Kozakevich, Board Chair
Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen



Bob Wells, Mayor
City of Courtenay



Art Kaehn, Board Chair
Regional District of Fraser-Fort George

Media Release



29 Local Governments Speak as One in Feedback to the Province on Plastics Reduction

Date: Tuesday, October 1, 2019

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – Local governments across British Columbia have worked together to present a joint letter to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy in response to the Province’s call for input to its Plastics Action Plan. In all, 29 governments have signed the letter aligning their voices and calling for the Province to adopt bold legislation to significantly reduce and regulate plastics in British Columbia.

“We are grateful to the Province for engaging British Columbians on the future of waste reduction,” says City of Victoria Mayor Lisa Helps. “Local governments are on the front lines of dealing with waste and have the best potential to help the Province move to a zero waste economy. I’m confident this coalition of communities represents a strong voice that will resonate with the Province’s aims.”

Signatories include many local governments who have, or who are in the process of, adopting single-use plastics regulations. The letter represents a unifying voice, which brings a strong message to the Province on behalf of municipalities and regional districts all over B.C.

“Local government is the level of government closest to the ground. Every single day, we deliver services that citizens depend on, and we hear from those same citizens about what matters to them”, says Josie Osborne, Mayor, District of Tofino. “By collaborating to provide our collective advice to the Province on the regulation and management of single-use plastics, we are more likely to be heard and less likely to be ignored. It’s an effective strategy to maintain a healthy working relationship between local government and the Province.”

The joint letter highlights five topic areas which include:

1. the need for a greater focus on reduction and reuse over recycling and disposal;
2. clarification of local government authority to regulate for environmental reasons through local bylaws;
3. an appeal for a stepped or phased implementation approach;
4. improved extended producer responsibilities; and
5. sufficient consultation with key stakeholders when policy tools are developed and evaluated.

The signatories include:

Alberni-Clayoquot

Regional District

Capital Regional District

Cariboo Regional District

City of **Chilliwack**

City of **Colwood**

City of **Courtenay**

Village of **Cumberland**

Township of **Esquimalt**

Regional District of

Fraser-Fort George

Village of **Harrison Hot**

Springs

District of **Mission**

Regional District of

Nanaimo

District of **North**

Vancouver

Regional District

Okanagan-Similkameen

Village of **Pemberton**

Town of **Qualicum Beach**

City of **Rosland**

District of **Saanich**

Town of **Sidney**

District of **Sooke**

District of **Squamish**

Squamish-Lillooet

Regional District

District of **Summerland**

Sunshine Coast Regional

District

Village of **Tahsis**

District of **Tofino**

District of **Ucluelet**

City of **Victoria**

Resort Municipality of

Whistler

“Individual municipalities want to work with the Province to introduce stronger regulations around single use plastics and at the same time, protect their right to regulate local business practices. The level of collaboration we have seen in the development of this submission has real power, and it is incredibly exciting to see how we can learn from one another and adopt best practices,” says Karen Elliott, Mayor, District of Squamish. “The bigger opportunity here is that this level of local government collaboration can work across so many other topics that our communities are all grappling with, from climate change to affordable housing and beyond.”

Many of the 29 local governments are also sending individual letters to the Province in addition to the joint letter.

The joint letter to the Province can be viewed here: <http://www.tofino.ca/plastics>

-30-

Media contacts:

District of Squamish: Christina Moore, cmoore@squamish.ca, 604.815.5025

District of Tofino: Elyse Goatcher-Bergmann, egoatcher-bergmann@tofino.ca, 250.725.3229 ext 610

City of Victoria: Bill Eisenhauer, beisenhauer@victoria.ca, 250.858.1061

From: MCF Info MCF:EX <MCF.Info@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 2, 2019 11:46 AM

To: VoP Admin <admin@pemberton.ca>

Subject: Letter from the Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Children and Family Development

VIA E-MAIL

Ref: 244644

His Worship Mayor Mike Richman and Council

Village of Pemberton

E-mail: admin@pemberton.ca

Dear Mayor Richman and Council:

It is my pleasure to once again proclaim October as Foster Family Month in British Columbia. As Minister of Children and Family Development, I am honoured to recognize some of our province's most dedicated people. October presents an opportunity to express our gratitude for the selfless work of a foster parent, who provides not only food and shelter but also, more importantly, positively nurtures and guides the lives of British Columbia's most vulnerable children and youth.

Government relies on foster caregivers to provide day-to-day stability, care and support to these young people; without them our system would be inoperable, and we would fail to support those who need it most. It brings me great joy to report that, as part of government's commitment to supporting foster caregivers in their important work, the BC Government announced an increase to the Family Care Rate (also called the maintenance rate) in February 2019. This increase took effect in April 2019 and marks the first maintenance rate increase since 2009. Although alleviating some financial pressures is a step in the right direction, our province continues to owe foster caregivers a huge debt of gratitude.

This month, I invite you to show the people in your community how important these everyday heroes are to our province. I want to encourage you to get involved in celebrating these amazing individuals and their families for working day and night to provide support to children and youth in care. It is my hope that you take the time to acknowledge, host, celebrate, and participate in Foster Family Month appreciation events in your community.

On behalf of the Government of British Columbia, thank you for your continued support in recognizing the foster caregivers in your community.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Katrine Conroy
Minister

OPEN QUESTION PERIOD POLICY

THAT the following guidelines for the Open Question Period held at the conclusion of the Regular Council Meetings:

- 1) The Open Question Period will commence after the adjournment of the Regular Council Meeting;
- 2) A maximum of 15 minutes for the questions from the Press and Public will be permitted, subject to curtailment at the discretion of the Chair if other business necessitates;
- 3) Only questions directly related to business discussed during the Council Meeting are allowed;
- 4) Questions may be asked of any Council Member;
- 5) Questions must be truly questions and not statements of opinions or policy by the questioner;
- 6) Not more than two (2) separate subjects per questioner will be allowed;
- 7) Questions from each member of the attending Press will be allowed preference prior to proceeding to the public;
- 8) The Chair will recognize the questioner and will direct questions to the Councillor whom he/she feels is best able to reply;
- 9) More than one Councillor may reply if he/she feels there is something to contribute.

*Approved by Council at Meeting No. 920
Held November 2, 1999*

*Amended by Council at Meeting No. 1405
Held September 15, 2015*