

# 233133 Clear - Cut Logging at Tyaughton Lake

Monday, October 22, 2018

10:33 AM

Subject	<b>233133 Clear - Cut Logging at Tyaughton Lake</b>
From	s.22
To	Minister, TAC TAC:EX; Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX; Minister, ENV ENV:EX; TT.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Cc	Heather Reimer
Sent	Wednesday, October 4, 2017 10:07 PM

October 4, 2017

Dear Ministers:

I am writing with the hope I can amplify the message you have heard from Tyax Lodge and Heliskiing regarding the outrageous plan to clear-cut log at Tyaughton Lake this fall. If the logging goes forward there is no doubt Tyax Lodge and Heliskiing, the area's major employer, will need to cut staff to reflect the drop in business they will suffer as the result of the devastation of the wilderness experience and world class mountain biking they market worldwide.

I am aware of a number of letters which were written to the previous Government's Minister of Tourism, Shirley Bond. Unfortunately Minister Bond's office took no interest in the matter and only forwarded the letters on to the Minister of Forests who sent the same generic reply to all - stating we needed to work with the forest company - Aspen Planers.

Well we did that. We met with Aspen Planers and had several chains of correspondence. And now more than ever we are opposed to this poorly conceived plan to log in an area that was once part of a previous government's plan to classify as Green Belt.

Aspen Planers stated that the cut in question was small by their standards and would only generate a total of 6 FTE positions for one year. Compare those 6 FTE's for one year to the millions of dollars invested into Tyax Lodge and the 50 people they hire year round. BC residents and tourists from all over the world visit Tyaughton Lake for the amazing wilderness and world class mountain biking. Those visitors stay at Tyax Lodge and several privately owned rental chalets on the lake. Those visitors simply won't come if the area is clear-cut as the block will be both visible from the lake and it will destroy the mountain biking experience of the trail it cuts through.

Thanks to the inaction of the previous government, this has become an urgent matter for Tyax Lodge and Heliskiing and those who wish to save the jobs of those that Tyax employs.

Aspen Planers has indicated they would be agreeable to exchanging this timber license for a suitable license elsewhere.

It is our hope that BC's new government can see the wisdom is halting this cut.

I encourage you to take a meeting with Tyax Lodge and Heliskiing, General Manager Heather Reimer as per her recent request. This matter is extremely urgent as Aspen Planers plans to start cutting next month.

Respectfully,

s.22

# Clear-Cut Logging at Tyaughton Lake (Ref: 233133)

Monday, October 22, 2018  
10:36 AM

Subject	<b>Clear-Cut Logging at Tyaughton Lake (Ref: 233133)</b>
From	Crampton, Ray W FLNR:EX
To	s.22
Cc	Heather Reimer; Minister, TAC TAC:EX; Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX; Minister, ENV ENV:EX; Minister, JTT JTT:EX
Sent	Tuesday, April 3, 2018 5:24 PM

Dear s.22

Your email of October 4, 2017, regarding logging at Tyaughton Lake, has been referred to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development. I apologize for the delayed response.

Over the last year, ministry staff have responded to numerous concerns regarding Aspen Planers' (AP) proposed harvesting plans in the vicinity of Tyaughton Lake and the perceived impacts on residential and commercial entities. Within this correspondence, I have received and responded to letters initiated by you and by Ms. Reimer as General Manager/Owner of Tyax Wilderness Resort & Spa.

I will not reiterate what was previously stated within my previous responses, but will elaborate on one key point. It is paramount that stakeholders work with local forest companies to better understand each other's concerns, objectives and legal rights in efforts to direct results towards an end result palatable to all parties involved. At times, forest management in close proximity to rural communities and resorts is challenging and agreeing on this balance may not always be achievable.

I note you indicate having corresponded with Aspen Planers and that "now more than ever we are opposed to this poorly conceived plan." As I understand, AP has implemented numerous mitigative measures to the planned development in efforts to accommodate and address concerns being brought forward. These mitigative measures were a result of the correspondence and collaborative approach between AP and stakeholders.

It is my understanding that Aspen Planers has engaged and continues to engage with local stakeholders. One face-to-face meeting was planned for October 13, 2017, and the invitation included Aspen Planers' senior staff, Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) director Debbie Demare, MLA Jackie Tegart, Tyax Rate Payers Association members, Tyax Wilderness Resort & Spa Owner (Heather Reimer) and Valley Wide/Gun Lake Forestry Committee members. Due to a very low response for meeting attendance, the meeting proceeded as a conference call with Aspen Planers senior employees, SLRD director Debbie Demare, MLA Jackie Tegart and six members from the public (three participating on the phone and three in person). Aspen has continued to commit to engaging with stakeholders throughout the planning process.

I encourage you to continue to work with AP. It is important that they have an understanding of your concerns as they plan their forest development.

Thank you for writing and sharing your concerns.

Sincerely,

Ray Crampton

Acting Regional Executive Director

Thompson-Okanagan

Natural Resource Region

pc: Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture  
Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource  
Operations and Rural Development  
Honourable George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy  
Honourable Bruce Ralston, Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology  
Heather Reimer, General Manager, Tyax Wilderness Resort & Spa

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	<p><b>Ray Crampton</b> <b>A/Regional Executive Director</b> Thompson Okanagan Region Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development 2501 14<sup>th</sup> Ave, Vernon, BC V1T 8Z1 Phone: (250) 558-1729 Cel: (250) 503-7862 mailto: <a href="mailto:ray.crampton@gov.bc.ca">ray.crampton@gov.bc.ca</a></p>	 <p><b>PREMIER'S AWARD</b> ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE 2016 REGIONAL RECIPIENT</p>
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
of BRITISH COLUMBIA

May 7, 2018

Jackie Tegart, MLA  
Fraser-Nicola

Minister Doug Donaldson  
Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations  
Hand Delivered

and

Minister Lisa Beare  
Tourism, Arts and Culture  
Hand Delivered

Dear Ministers Donaldson and Beare:

**Re: Tyaughton Lake Green Belt – Request for Meeting with Ministers**

There is currently some tension between tourism and forestry uses in the Tyaughton Lake area due to the removal of a protective green belt by Ministry of Forests (MOF). The green belt was established on or about March 12, 1980 by MOF District Manager A. P. Petty (Letters from A.P. Petty January 24, 1980 and March 12, 1980; and from G. Stefanac July 17, 1985) to protect Tyaughton Lake from logging.

In the late 1990s Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs) were approved for the Lillooet Timber Supply Area. MOF has advised that the approval of the VQOs negated any directives, objectives or agreements that existed at that time (Email from Dave Horne February 11, 2011), notwithstanding that there was no consultation nor agreement by Tyaughton Lake businesses or community members. Unbeknownst to the Tyaughton community the green belt designation was removed at that time.

Tyaughton Lake has high tourism values and requires a green belt to protect the trails and visuals that are vital for the tourism industry. Tyax Wilderness Resort and Spa and Tyax Adventures, both on Tyaughton Lake, market internationally generating in excess of \$5 million annually and hiring 60 plus local staff and contractors. Tourism and the success of these two companies is integral to the long-term economic success of the area.

This winter some areas within the area that would have been included in the green belt were logged, with additional logging planned for this summer. As this will have a significant impact on the Tyaughton Lake community I would respectfully request a meeting to include both Ministers, Heather Reimer from Tyaughton Wilderness Resort and Spa, and myself as soon as possible to discuss this important issue further. Could we please arrange for a meeting in the next two weeks?

Yours truly,

*Jackie Tegart*  
MLA Jackie Tegart  
Fraser Nicola

CC Heather Reimer  
Debbie Demare, SLRD Electoral Area A Director  
MLAs John Rustad, Donna Barnett, Michelle Stilwell, Doug Clovechok

Enc.

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