

Fwd: Forestry and Resource Policy ideas for BC

From: Lori.D.Halls@gov.bc.ca, Halls, Lori D FLNR:EX <Lori.D.Halls@gov.bc.ca>
To: Tristan FLNR:EX Jones <Tristan.Jones@gov.bc.ca>, Danielle FLNR:EX Monroe <danielle.monroe@gov.bc.ca>, Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX <Tristan.Jones@gov.bc.ca>, Monroe, Danielle FLNR:EX <Danielle.Monroe@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 15, 2021 6:09:58 PM PST
Attachments: CCPA-BC_RestoringForestry_web (1) (1) (1).pdf

For call on Monday.

Lori Halls
Deputy Minister
Lands, Natural Resources Operations Secretariat

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Cullen, Nathan" s.17
Date: January 14, 2021 at 2:26:38 PM PST
To: "Halls, Lori D FLNR:EX" <Lori.D.Halls@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Forestry and Resource Policy ideas for BC

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Seems worthy of setting up a call yes?

Yours,

Nathan Cullen
MLA for Stikine
Minister of State for Lands & Natural Resource Operations
@nathancullen

From: Bob Williams <bobwilliams@jimgreenfoundation.com>
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 7:32 PM
To: "Cullen, Nathan" s.17
Subject: Forestry and Resource Policy ideas for BC

Dear Minister,

One, first let me introduce myself - I was the Minister of Lands, Forests and Water Resources in the Dave Barrett government and later Deputy Minister of Crown Corporations in the Mike Harcourt government, reporting to Glen Clark, where we recommended establishing the Columbia Basin Trust.

Two, I more recently (2018) wrote the report for the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives "Restoring Forestry in BC" - the story of the industry's decline and the case for regional management. See attached.

Three, the essence of that report was endorsed by Councilor Rob Douglas and the North Cowichan District Council, who took the recommendations to the annual convention of the Union of BC Municipalities where it was endorsed.

We now understand that Premier Horgan has given you the significant challenge to design a new Ministry of Lands and Resources from the existing Ministry of forests, lands, natural resources operations, and rural management.

This is a seriously challenging task.

I hesitate to suggest anything more challenging, however I do believe this work should be seen in the broader context of:

a) the macro regional concept of the Columbia Basin Trust, which provided new regional empowerment in the Kootenays as a potential model for the Province.

b) the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, which might best be seen (under UNDRIP) as regionally based in the various separate macro regions such as Vancouver Island.

Time to pause.... all this suggests a small secretariate with independent know-how and history...

And I have the nerve to suggest a person for that role - W Fred Parker - a lifetime forester who understands the need for a regional professional approach.

Mr. Parker was for ten years the Executive Director of the forest practices board of British Columbia (his cell number is s.22

In turn he might be assisted by Councilor Rob Douglas who is also a civil servant in Victoria who might be transferred should you so wish.

Please forgive the length of this note, but we do believe we can be helpful in this important task.

It would be great if we could arrange a meeting or phone call to discuss more.

Kind regards,
Bob

cell: s.22
home: s.22

Bob Williams
President & Chair
The Jim Green Foundation

www.jimgreenfoundation.com<<https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.jimgreenfoundation.com%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cn.cullen%40leg.bc.ca%7Ca27e82da8fc149f5eb5108d8b83cb38f%7C68f96eb1b9544ae9ab6a9a513408ba40%7C0%7C0%7C637461919536998805%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IklhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=R%2F9AafmftmRQywnxBrM0nUgYmGgwVdhB9VAZmxwxEO%3D&reserved=0>>



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

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**MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DECISION NOTE**

Date: March 12, 2018

CLIFF: 237364

PREPARED FOR: Chris Stagg, Assistant Deputy Minister, Timber Operations, Pricing and First Nations Division, and
Dave Peterson, Assistant Deputy Minister, Rural Development, Lands and Innovation Division

ISSUE: Organizational re-alignment to support the *Private Managed Forest Land Act*

BACKGROUND:

In 2002, a government Core Service Review resulted in the *Forest Land Reserve Act* being repealed and replaced with the *Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Act* in 2003. In 2004, the program became voluntary and the PMFL Council was established as a self-funded corporation. The council's objective is to encourage forest management practices on private managed forest land, taking into account the social, environmental and economic benefits of those practices. Private land owners that have their property assessed as private management forest land receive a lower property tax rate compared to unmanaged forest land.

The Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNR) is responsible for the *PMFL Act*, the *PMFL Regulation*, the *PMFL Council Matters Regulation*; specific responsibilities under the *PMFL Act* include the minister's council appointments (section 6 (1)), the exit fee calculation (section 19(4)); and the independent audit of the Council (section 11(1)).

Currently, the Lands Branch is responsible for the oversight of the PMFL program. Originally, the responsibility of the PMFL program resided with the (former) Strategic Initiatives Branch, which held expertise in lands and forestry. In 2010, the Strategic Initiatives Branch functions were merged with the Lands Branch, including the PMFL program. Since the PMFL Council (aka "Managed Forest Council") administers the day-to-day operations of the PMFL program and annual reporting, the Lands Branch involvement is currently about five percent of an FTE.

A decision is required on which division is best suited to provide oversight of the PMFL program going forward.

DISCUSSION:

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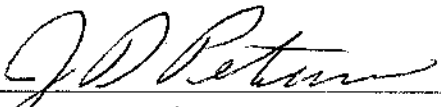
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RECOMMENDATION:

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Signature
Dave Peterson, Assistant Deputy Minister
Rural Development, Lands and Innovation

APR - 5 2018

Date



Signature
Chris Stagg, Assistant Deputy Minister
Timber Operations, Pricing and First Nations

APR 10/18

Date

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Contact:
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Director, Forest Tenures
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Alternate Contact:
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Prepared by:
Vera Vukelich, Manager
Branch: Lands
Phone: 250 356-7040

Reviewed by	Initials	Date
ED (TOPFN)		
ED (RDLI)		
Director (TOPFN)	DSs	March 8, 2018
Director (RDLI)	MP	March 8, 2018

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BRIEFING NOTE FOR INFORMATION

DATE: August 29, 2019

PREPARED FOR: Chris Stagg, Assistant Deputy Minister, Rural Opportunities, Tenures and Engineering Division

ISSUE: Private Managed Forest Land Program Review – Update and Executive Messaging in Preparation for UBCM Meetings – For ADM Briefing on August 30, 2019

BACKGROUND:

Current Status

- The Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program review was initiated as a component of the Coast Forest Sector Revitalization, which stated an objective of restoring public confidence through amendments to the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and by completing an audit of the private managed forest land regime.
- The public engagement process was completed (online questionnaire and written submissions) from May 28, 2019 to July 31, 2019, and consisted of:
 - 27 in-person information sessions;
 - 1,225 online feedback forms (containing 5,363 written comments); and
 - 283 written submissions.
 - Majority of respondents are from Vancouver Island and the East Kootenays.
- Consultation with local governments, other provincial agencies, and First Nations has mostly been done, however, a few meetings will continue into the early fall.
- Analysis and consolidation of input from engagement is complete and a draft “What We Heard” summary report has recently been completed (August 28, 2019) and is undergoing final edits.
- The final summary report will be completed by September 9, 2019 and will be made publicly available via the engagement website platform as soon as possible.
- A media release will be developed and supporting materials.
- Messaging to executive on the contents of the report is being prepared – PowerPoint slide deck format (early draft attached).
- Full review and development of recommendations to government will reflect additional land use issues in addition to themes that have emerged from the public engagement.
- Summary and options report to minister by November 12, 2019.

DISCUSSION:

The parties that provided input can be generally categorized into the following five groups:

1. Citizens
2. Private land owners
3. Local governments
4. Special interest groups
5. First Nations

Most comments received centered on the following recommendations – the PMFL goals and current regulatory framework do not sufficiently protect key environmental, First Nation and community values; additional environmental values, such as watersheds, need to be included; enrolment in the PMFL regime should be mandatory with stronger incentives to keep property owners in the program

and a longer mandatory period for participation; lack of communication from PMFL owners to the public and First Nations about planned forestry activities; a desire for community consultation and inclusion in decision-making; land owners have suggested that better incentives would be required to ensure the protection of key environmental values, and that an increased tax incentive would help in retention; land owners in the program are likely not receptive to significant changes in the program or legislation and would remove their land if there was no financial incentives or an increase in regulation and restrictions.

UBCM

There will be a presentation of the “What We Heard” summary report at the UBCM AGM on September 24, 2019, followed by a discussion. This is a good opportunity for government to tell local governments that they were heard and to describe next steps.

NEXT STEPS:

- Prepare for UBCM.
- Receive comment from UBCM and additional consultation with provincial agency staff (Lands, Recreation and Tourism, Environment).
- Summary and options report to the minister by November 12, 2019.
- Possible options to present to government with varying risks:
 - Continue with internal development of recommendations for policy changes based on current engagement input.
 - Internal development of policy intentions, paper based on current engagement input followed by the second round of public engagement based on draft recommendations.
 - Establishment of a multi-stakeholder advisory committee to oversee development of policy recommendations to the minister in Spring 2020, with no further broad public engagement.
 - Handoff program review to independent third party to develop and present options for government, with further public engagement and a report next fall.

Attachment: s.13

PREPARED BY:

Steve Baumber
Senior Timber Tenures Forester
Forest Tenures Branch
778-974-4047

REVIEWED BY:

	Initials	Date
DM		
Associate DM		
DMO		
ADM		
Program Dir/Mgr.	ds	August 29, 2019

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BRIEFING NOTE FOR INFORMATION

DATE: September 4, 2019

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

ISSUE: Private Managed Forest Land Program Review – Update and Executive Messaging in Preparation for UBCM Meetings

BACKGROUND:

- The Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program review was initiated as a component of the Coast Forest Sector Revitalization, which stated an objective of restoring public confidence through amendments to the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and by completing an audit of the PMFL regime.
- A public engagement process was completed (online questionnaire and written submissions) from May 28, 2019, to July 31, 2019, and resulted in:
 - 27 in-person information sessions;
 - 1,225 online feedback forms (containing 5,363 written comments); and
 - 283 written submissions.
- The majority of respondents are from Vancouver Island and the East Kootenays.
- Consultation with local governments, other provincial agencies, and First Nations is mostly complete; however, a few meetings will continue into early Fall.
- A draft “What We Heard” summary report was completed (August 28, 2019) and is undergoing final edits.
- The final summary report will be completed by September 9, 2019, and will be made publicly available via the engagement website platform as soon as approved.
- A media release will be developed with supporting materials.
- The attached slide deck goes through major points of “What We Heard” report as well as initial interpretation of input and issues that have emerged from the public engagement.
- Full review and development of recommendations to the Minister will reflect additional land use issues brought forward through consultation with local government, First Nations and provincial agency staff.
- Summary and options report will be sent to the Minister by November 12, 2019.

DISCUSSION:

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NEXT STEPS:

- Prepare messaging and slide deck for UBCM presentation (September 24, 2019).
- Gather comments from panel discussions at UBCM and continue consultation with Provincial agency staff (Lands, Recreation and Tourism, Environment, etc.).
- PMFL Program review summary and options report to the Minister based on the desired depth of review.

Attachment: s.13

PREPARED BY:

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REVIEWED BY:

	Initials	Date
DM		
Associate DM		
DMO		
ADM		
Program Dir/Mgr.	PR	Sept 4, 2019

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BRIEFING NOTE FOR INFORMATION

DATE: December 12, 2019

PREPARED FOR: John Allan Deputy Minister, Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

ISSUE: Desire for backcountry access to forested private lands for recreational purposes from citizens in Mid-Island Pacific Rim constituency.

BACKGROUND:

- The Honourable Scott Fraser represents the citizens of Mid-Island Pacific Rim constituency and has requested an information update on the status of backcountry access to private land.
- The ministry is in receipt of the February 14, 2019 submission from MLA Fraser's office that makes recommendations to improve the regulatory framework to addresses barriers to backcountry access. MLA Fraser hosted a workshop in 2018 to seek local solutions to the issue and the recommendations are a result of that effort.
- Backcountry access is out of scope for the Private Managed Forest Program review as staff believe that this issue can be better managed by working directly with land owners, and local governments.
- With the formation of Mosaic (Island Timber Lands and Timber West), access has been identified as a strategic corporate priority. Specifically, Mosaic has indicated their intention to enter into access agreements with Port Alberni to demonstrate the initiative with an aim to expand the approach across operations.

DISCUSSION:

The private forest lands surrounding Port Alberni were originally managed as part of tree farm licences (TFL) and citizens were provided access to this land with few restrictions. When the private land was removed from the TFL and sold to the current owners, access has been restricted by the use of gates and security. With backcountry users, they desire access on their own schedule and ideally would like to come and go as they see fit.

There are significant risks and liabilities with providing citizen access to industrial forestry operations, however, landowners are demonstrating that these risks can be managed through the use of customized access management agreements.

Mosaic, the Regional District of Alberni-Clayoquot and the ministry are currently working on terms of reference that should lead to a framework to address broader access management issues.

CONCLUSION:

Progress on backcountry access is being made with the largest landowner on the Island. This work can help to inform future regulatory or policy changes associated with the broader Private Managed Forest Review that will continue 2020.

PREPARED BY:

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REVIEWED BY:

	Initials	Date
DM		
Associate DM		
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ADM		
Program Dir/Mgr.		

BRIEFING NOTE FOR INFORMATION

DATE: February 3, 2020

PREPARED FOR: John Allan, Deputy Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

ISSUE: Meeting with Managed Forest Council Re: Recommendations for Private Managed Forest Land Program Review

BACKGROUND:

- The Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program Review was initiated as a component of the Coast Forest Sector Revitalization.
- A public engagement process was completed (online questionnaire and written submissions), supported by face to face information sessions, from May 28, 2019, to July 31, 2019.
- A "What We Heard" summary report was publicly released on November 5, 2019.
- The Private Managed Forest Land Council or "Managed Forest Council" (MFC) has reviewed the public concerns summarized in the report, as well as conducting an extensive internal review of the regulatory framework currently administered by the MFC.
- The MFC has submitted recommendations for your consideration to address issues they have observed through the summary report and their compliance and enforcement activities.
- The MFC recommendations cover five categories; management objectives, regulatory framework, governance, communications and program incentives. In brief the MFC requests that the PMFL Act be changed to:
 - require landowners to submit a binding Management Commitment that identifies substantive long-term strategies and that Council be provided authority to adjudicate and enforce these commitments;
 - stronger consultation mechanisms with local government on new management commitment applications to ensure consistency with local government zoning and bylaws;
 - scale-appropriate professional assessments;
 - stop work orders where there is substantive risk of non-compliance;
 - stronger authority to enforce remediation orders;
 - stronger incentives to retain landowners currently in the program and to attract new entrants; and
 - longer timeframes for the exit fee calculation
- The MFC supports the recent recommendations made jointly by the BC Assessment Authority and the Private Forest Landowners Association regarding new methodology to calculate 'bare land value' and 'cut timber value' for the purposes of land evaluation under the BC Assessment Act. Further, that the Ministry of Finance needs to establish mill rates on unincorporated districts to avoid undermining the intended incentive of the managed forest property class.
- The MFC's legal interpretation is that existing local government bylaws apply to new applications for inclusion into the program; the PMFL Act does not overrule local government's land use planning authorities under the *Local Government Act*.

DISCUSSION:

The MFC administers the PMFL program on behalf of government, and their ability to respond to public concerns is directly related to the latitude afforded them under the *Private Managed Forest Land Act (PMFL Act)*. Under the *PMFL Act*, the MFC has the power to create and amend regulations with respect to the administration of the program and the legislated environmental values.^{s.13}

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SUMMARY:

- The MFC recommendations are appreciated, will be strongly considered, and will help inform recommendations to government.
- Extensive work is not planned for the next phase of the review until next fiscal due to staff resources and exhausted contract funding.

PREPARED BY:

Steve Baumber
Senior Timber Tenures Forester
Forest Tenures Branch
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REVIEWED BY:

	Initials	Date
DM		
Associate DM		
DMO		
ADM		
Program Dir/Mgr.	RE	2020-02-03

BRIEFING NOTE FOR INFORMATION

DATE: October 5, 2020

PREPARED FOR: Deputy Minister, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

ISSUE: Private Managed Forest Land Program Review Closure

BACKGROUND:

- The Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program review was initiated as a component of the Coast Forest Sector Revitalization.
- A public engagement process was completed on July 31, 2019, and a "What We Heard" summary report was released November 5, 2019.
- The summary report indicated that 52% of respondents agreed that the broad goals of the program are still relevant while 44% disagreed. Primary concerns were associated with the lack of legislative protections for key environmental, First Nations and community values.
- In 2018, 5.2 million m³ of timber was harvested on managed forest land representing 8% of the total provincial timber harvest and 28% of the timber harvest on the coast.
- Further engagement with stakeholders and focussed discussion with priority groups such as the Private Forest Landowners Association or Islands Trust is suspended during interregnum.

DISCUSSION:

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POTENTIAL OPTIONS

One of the three options could be provided as recommendations to a new Minister once a new government is formed. (for full list of recommendations see appendix 1)

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ATTACHMENTS:

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PREPARED BY:

Patrick Russell
Manager, Timber Tenures
Forest Tenures Branch
250-896-1817

REVIEWED BY:

	Initials	Date
ADM	SF	Oct 5/20
Program Dir/Mgr.	JDK	Oct 5/20

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BRIEFING NOTE FOR DECISION

DATE: June 26, 2021

PREPARED FOR: Honorable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

ISSUE: Private Managed Forest Land Program Review – Phase II

RECOMMENDED OPTION:

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BACKGROUND:

- Review was initiated as a component of the Coast Forest Sector Revitalization.
- A public engagement process was completed on July 31, 2019, and a "What We Heard" summary report was released November 5, 2019.
- Deputy Minister briefings occurred on October 8, 2020 and March 23, 2021 to raise awareness of progress to date and discuss options for the PMFL Program Review Phase II.
- In February 2021, staff conducted confidential discussions with the Managed Forest Council (MFC), the Private Forest Landowners Association (PFLA), and two companies within the PFLA representing large and small tenure holders (Mosaic and Monticola Forest).

DISCUSSION:

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OPTIONS:

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Approved / Not Approved

Signature

Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of
Forests, Lands, Natural Resource
Operations and Rural Development

July 9, 2021

Date

ATTACHMENTS:

s.13

PREPARED BY:

Patrick Russell
Manager, Timber Tenures
Forest Tenures Branch
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REVIEWED BY:

	Initials	Date
A/DM	EO	July 2, 2021
ADM		
Executive Director	RE	June 25, 2021
Program Dir/Mgr.	JDK	June 24, 2021

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Materials Feb 1

From: Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX <Lisa.Silverio@gov.bc.ca>
To: Conroy, Katrine FLNR:EX <Katrine.Conroy@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Newcombe, Samantha FLNR:EX <Samantha.Newcombe@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 29, 2021 5:35:02 PM PST
Attachments: 945am - 260649 - IBN for Minister_Mayor Thiessen_Meeting-Feb 1.docx,
230pm - 259891 IN re Mosaic mtg with MKC.docx, 11am - 260670 FLNRO-
AGRI Joint BNI - ALR.docx, image001.png, 115pm - (For Reference) 256239
05-15-20 San Group Fibre Supply Log Export Letter.pdf, 115pm - 260676
MKC Company Profile - San Group.docx, 230pm 20201208 -
Mosaic_to_Rankin.pdf, 11am - 193582 IBN Marine Plant Tenure
Efficiencies.docx

Minister-materials attached for Feb 1, also on sharepoint.



Lisa Silverio
Administrative Coordinator to the
Honourable Katrine Conroy | Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and
Rural Development
t 778.974.5999 f 250.387.1040

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MEETING BULLETS

- DATE:** January 26, 2021
- PREPARED FOR:** Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- REGARDING:** His Worship Gerry Thiessen, Mayor, District of Vanderhoof Meeting – Feb 1st
Regarding Nechako River flooding, Rio Tinto's Water Engagement Initiative, Nechako White Sturgeon Conservation Centre, fibre supply for Canfor's Plateau sawmill, Land Use Planning, and Air Tanker Base Proposal

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW

- Located on the Nechako River 100 km west of Prince George, Vanderhoof is an agriculture and forestry dependent rural community that supports an area population of approximately 10,000. Two large sawmills (Nechako Lumber and Canfor Plateau) provide approximately 800 direct and indirect forestry jobs as well the community is also supported by hay farms, grain producers and beef cattle ranches that contributed \$39 million in local cattle sales in 2015.

SUMMARY:

Nechako River Flooding

- On January 10, 2021 water levels of the Nechako River at Vanderhoof increased due to an ice jamming event causing localized flooding.
- Five houses were ultimately placed on evacuation alert, with water entering the basements of some houses and impacting road access.
- The ministry completed an aerial flood assessment along the Nechako River, which determined the length and location of the ice jam and shared this information with Rio Tinto and the District of Vanderhoof.
- Rio Tinto has hired consultants to produce summary reports of the flooding events along with draft ice jam flood maps for various discharges, a real-time monitoring program with an alarm system, and an Ice Model.

Rio Tinto's Water Engagement Initiative

- The Water Engagement Initiative (WEI) is a Rio Tinto led initiative initiated in 2019 assessing modified flow release options from Rio Tinto facilities on the Nechako River, located in the Omineca region.
- The WEI is a value driven process using a structured, decision making approach to maximize benefits to river values while considering economic, social and environmental implications.
 - While the process has been moving slower than originally expected, it is well structured, has strong public participation and continues to have forward momentum.
 - Local governments and stakeholders want commitments from government, that outcomes from the process will be integrated through modifications to Rio Tinto's current water license.

Nechako White Sturgeon Conservation Centre

- Nechako White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative (NWSRI) continues to support recovery efforts through science informed decisions, ongoing communication, collaboration, and strategic planning.
- First Nations and other stakeholders continue to play a key role in supporting recovery and planning efforts.
- Vanderhoof Mayor and Council of Vanderhoof receives sturgeon updates; most recent was December 14, 2020.



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Prince George Air Tanker Base move proposal

- The Fire Zone, stationed in Vanderhoof, recently moved their base of operations to a large aircraft hanger located at the Vanderhoof Airport. Mayor Thiessen wants to enhance BCWS services in the community and would like to see the Air Tanker base, currently located at the Prince George airport, be moved to the Vanderhoof airport.

STRATEGIC CONSIDERATION AND MESSAGES:

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BRIEFING NOTE FOR INFORMATION

DATE: January 21, 2021

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

ISSUE: Mosaic seeks government confirmation of Great Bear Rainforest commitments.

BACKGROUND:

- Mosaic is a major licensee in the coastal forest industry and, through its ownership of Island Timberlands and Timberwest, is a key stakeholder in the Great Bear Rainforest (GBR).
- Mosaic's GBR operations (under licenses held by Timberwest) are focused in the GBR South Timber Supply Area, located on the islands and mainland off the northeast side of Vancouver Island.

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- Mosaic's Timberwest operations, have typically performed to the top end of their AAC allocations and through its successful operations it has developed strong business relationships with First Nations and independent harvesting contractors.
- Mosaic has been an active participant in the implementation of the GBR Land Use Order (GBRO), and is engaged with the province, First Nations, and other stakeholders in the 2021 Review of the GBRO.
- The GBRO is the product of collaboration between the province, First Nations and major stakeholder groups - Coast Forest Conservation Initiative (Interfor, BCTS, Western Forest Products), Mosaic and Rainforest Solutions Project (Sierra Club, Greenpeace and Stand.Earth)

DISCUSSION:

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MINISTRY RESPONSE:

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PREPARED BY:

Jeff Sheldrake
Executive Director, Regional
Operations
Coast Area Division
(778) 974-5826

REVIEWED BY:

	Initials	Date
DM		
Associate DM		
DMO		
ADM	CS	January 27, 2021

NATURAL RESOURCE SECTOR – JOINT MINISTRY INFORMATION NOTE

CONFIDENTIAL

Date: January 18, 2021

File: 280-20

CLIFF: NRS 260670

PREPARED FOR: Meeting of: the Honourable Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture, Food, and Fisheries (AFF), the Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development (FLNR), Jennifer Dyson, Chair, Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) and Kim Grout, Chief Executive Officer, ALC, to discuss challenges related to the use of Crown land which is designated as land within the ALR.

ISSUE: Competing Uses of Crown land designated as Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR)

BACKGROUND:

- The ALR covers about 4,615,880 hectares (or 5 percent) of the 94,646,000 hectares provincial land base.
- An estimated 49 percent of ALR is designated as Crown land (approximately 2.5 million hectares).
- According to the ministry's Geographic Information System, 1,282,800 hectares of Crown ALR is 'used for farming' (including land under grazing licenses). This is approximately 62 percent of total 'available' Crown ALR (not including Right of Way, Water, Indian reserve) (See Appendix A).

Use of Crown Land for Agriculture

- Agricultural activities in B.C. take place both on and off the ALR. In particular, much of B.C.'s summer seasonal livestock grazing occurs on Crown land some of which is not designated ALR.
- A large portion of the Crown ALR found within the Peace River and Fraser-Fort George areas are utilized for Crown grazing through range tenures.

Legislation

- Crown ALR is subject to the *Agricultural Land Commission Act (ALC Act)* and its regulations.
- The *ALC Act* has paramountcy over most provincial legislation with exception of the *Interpretation Act*, the *Environment and Land Use Act* and the *Environmental Management Act*.
- The regulations of the *ALC Act* are very permissive in relation to forestry in the ALR. There are some provisions for recreation in the ALR.
- The ALC has authority to make decisions related to land use in the ALR. The purpose of the ALC, as outlined in Section 6 of the *ALC Act*, is to:
 - a) preserve agricultural land;
 - b) encourage farming in collaboration with other communities of interest; and
 - c) encourage local governments, First Nations, the government and its agents to enable and accommodate farm use of agricultural land and uses compatible with agriculture in their plans, bylaws and policies.
- A large number of other provincial ministries, agencies and bodies have decision-making authority that affects land in the ALR.

CONFIDENTIAL

1 of 8

- FLNR has authority to make decisions respecting the tenure and use of Crown ALR under the *Forest and Range Practices Act* (FRPA), *Land Act*, *Water Sustainability Act* and *Range Act*.
- The FRPA outlines how all forest and range practices and resource-based activities are to be conducted on Crown land in B.C., while ensuring protection of everything in and on them, such as plants, animals and ecosystems. All forest and range licensees' activities are governed by FRPA and its regulations during all stages of planning, road building, logging, reforestation and/or grazing.
- The *Range Act* allows for rights to use or improve Crown range for grazing or cutting hay which is granted through a licence or permit.
- The *Land Act* allow for the tenure (permitting, licencing, leasing) or disposition of Crown land as per Crown Land Policies which includes:
 - Issuance of aquaculture tenures; as well as managing and licensing the wild harvest and culture of aquatic plants.
 - Issuance of Crown land grazing leases;
 - Issuance of grazing licences and permits; and
 - Licenses of occupation and permits as per Crown land policies
- The *Water Sustainability Act* allows for management and licencing of the use of water based on a priority scheme.

s.13; s.16

DISCUSSION:

s.13; s.16

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s.13 ; s.16

NEXT STEPS:

s.13

Attachments: s.13 , Appendix B Forestry is a Designated Farm Use in the ALRUR, s.13; s.16 s.13

Contact:

*ADM: Paul Rasmussen
Div: Regional Ops - South
Phone: 250 420-2179*

Alternate Contact:

*Name: David Borth, Director
Div/Region/Branch: Range Branch
Phone: 250 319-4305*

Prepared by:

*Name: Jackie Cushing, Senior Policy Analyst (AFF)
Branch/Region: Agriculture Science & Policy Division
Phone: 778 974-2976*

Reviewed by	Initials	Date
DM	TE	January 27, 2021
DMO		
ADM	JLM	January 25, 2021
PRGM Dir./Mgr.		

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s.13

APPENDIX B: Forestry is a Designated Farm Use in the ALRUR

Section 10 of the ALRUR allows forestry to take place in the ALR without application to the ALC

Forestry

10 The following uses of agricultural land are designated as farm uses and may not be prohibited as described in section 4:

- (a) deliberately retaining, introducing and mixing trees or other plants in crop or animal production systems to provide an economic return, commonly referred to as "agroforestry";
- (b) producing botanical forest products;
- (c) producing and harvesting timber, including engaging in silviculture and forest protection activities.

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s.13 ; s.16

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s.13



Kamal Sanghera
kamal@sangroupinc.com

t 604.881.4848 ext 101

May 15, 2020

Premier John Horgan
West Annex Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C.
V8V 1X4

Dear Premier Horgan,

I write to you to ensure that you understand my perspective in response to the announced agreement between Mosaic Forest Management and the United Steelworkers concerning the export of raw logs. We also want to express our support in the strongest possible terms that we need to maximize the value of BC grown logs and in your comment to CHEK News that "the best way forward is that we steward those resources in the best interest of this generation and future generations."

As you know the San Group is investing heavily to create a new value-added manufacturing facility in Port Alberni in addition to the new soon-to-be operational sawmill designed to manufacture small diameter logs, helping reduce the impact of waste wood and slash pile burning on the Coast of British Columbia. We do this to maximize the use of British Columbia wood fibre and create hundreds of new jobs for our, mostly, smaller rural communities. To this point we have achieved all of this without any specific support from either our provincial or federal governments.

In order to continue providing the means to maximize the long term value of our forest resources San needs to have confidence that access to fibre is not threatened by agreements made outside of our influence. We continue to have confidence in our ability to produce value for our company, our communities and most importantly, our province. However, to continue, we need your support to help secure those fibre resources. Hence, access to fibre is crucial for San Group to create downstream manufacturing jobs in British Columbia. We believe that Canadian fibre should help create jobs for Canadians. We believe in extracting the maximum amount of value from each tree harvested, and our investment in the greenfield construction of our new primary and secondary manufacturing plants confirms our commitment to creating value added forestry jobs for Canadians. From Harvest to Home, we take BC fibre and create end user value added products. Exporting logs, is essentially exporting jobs. We have created the facilities and the employment demand, please help us with the fibre supply.

We fully recognize the need for there to be some ability to continue the export of raw logs. However, that export should only occur after all domestic needs have been fully and fairly satisfied.

Yours sincerely

Kamal Sanghera, CEO

Global Exporters of Canadian-Made Lumber Products

San Group Inc.
25583 - 88th Ave, Langley, BC, V1M 3N8

sangroupinc.com
sancedardirect.com

BRIEFING NOTE

Meeting with San Group Incorporated

San Group Executive Team:

Kamal Sanghera, CEO

Suki Sanghera, President

Inder S. Johal, CFO

Bob Bortolin, VP Business Development

Paul Deol, VP Manufacturing

Andy Johal, VP Marketing

John Langstroth, VP Sales Operations

Jasmin Sanghera, VP Finance

Jaskaran S. Gill, CPA Corporate Operating Officer

Kamal Sanghera has led San Group with his brother, Suki Sanghera, since the company was founded in 1979. In 2019, Kamal won the Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of The Year award in the Natural Resources and Energy category. San Group firm was also awarded the Exporter of the Year in the same category.

San Group Incorporated Background:

- San Group of Companies began its operations in 1979 with a small lumber remanufacturing facility and over the past 42 years has expanded its operations to a multi-level forest products corporation.
- San Group's operations include remanufacturing, sawmilling and retail wholesale operations located in the Lower Mainland, Port Alberni and Edmonton.
- San Group's head office is located in Langley, where it also operates a remanufacturing facility. The firm's retail division operates six retail stores in BC's Lower Mainland and one store in Edmonton. The retail operations sell a range of high-grade cedar engineered products, sauna boards, flooring, along with exterior cedar cladding, fascia, and decking.
- In 2017, the San Group began a four-year estimated \$100 million to \$150 million investment program in Port Alberni:
 - Purchase of the Coulson Manufacturing Port Alberni mill in May 2017.
 - In 2018 San Group bought 25 acres of land from Paper Excellence where a new advanced wood value-added remanufacturing plant is being constructed. The new plant will be over 180,000 sq. ft. and will be completed in 2021.
 - In 2019, they began the construction of a new "Hewsaw"¹ small log mill on the same site as their B mill (Coulson site) which is designed to manufacture smaller diameter logs and at full capacity can produce 450 MMBF per year of lumber. The small log mill began production in May 2020. The two mills will employ 250 staff.

¹ A Hewsaw mill applies a technology that saws by following the curvature/sweep of the log. Curve-sawing technology yields more lumber from a single log and boards as thick as two inches straighten when dried.

BRIEFING NOTE

- In April 2020 San Group also purchased Chalwood Forest Products Ltd., a mill specializing in yellow cedar for Japanese temple stock. The mill uses a Scragg² mill configuration to produce cants.
- In September 2020, San Group in the local Alberni news offered its strong support for government's changes to the Manufactured Forest Products Regulation (MFPR), which it viewed as a positive step that could help support local lumber manufacturing and local jobs.

Issues:

1. Requesting a 100,000m³/yr. Replaceable Forest License:

- The firm has requested long-term secure access to log supply in the form of a Replaceable Forest License to support their investment in their new sawmilling operations in Port Alberni.
- The firm currently is purchasing logs on the open market and is concerned about access to fibre to operate their new facilities.

s.13

2. Fibre Supply Constraints in the Port Alberni Area:

- The Port Alberni fibre basket is made up of timber from the Arrowsmith Timber Supply Area (TSA), Tree Farm Licence (TFL 44), and Fee Simple forest land held by First Nations and Mosaic. BC Timber Sales (BCTS) operates within TFL 44 the Arrowsmith TSA.
- There are no options available for issuing additional replaceable forest licenses in the TSA given all Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) is already fully allocated, without a further take-back in either the Arrowsmith TSA or TFL 44.
- The Arrowsmith TSA is expected to experience a decline in AAC from 420,000m³ to 392,000m³ by 2026.

s.13

² A Scragg mill usually has 2 blades that are movable for the width of the cut logs into 2 or 4 sided slabs. The mill can be configured using bandsaw or circular saw blades. These mills are often used in pallet manufacturing.

BRIEFING NOTE

- *All the Allowable Annual Cut on the Coast is currently allocated. Working with First Nations to develop business to business opportunities is the best opportunity for access to long term fibre.*

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Recent Government Engagement

The Ministry is proactively working to identify opportunities for San Group.

- Compensation and Business Analysis Branch has worked closely with the San Group since 2018 and undertaken the following actions:
 - Introduced San Group to Atli Resources, DSI District Manager and log salvage specialists.
 - Developed strategies to access residual fibre in log form, log handling options, and an opportunity with Paper Excellence.
 - Introduced San Group to District Managers and Timber Sales Managers.
 - Ministry staff have explored internal possible First Nation Business to Business opportunities.
 - Developed maps with coordinates of billed wasted logs that may be available by the roadside on the Coast. These maps show log salvage opportunities that may be harvest-ready in the short term.
 - Shared BCTS multi-year development plan to make sure the San Group was aware of the timing of relevant Timber Sales.
 - Provided lists of First Nations Woodlots, woodlands and community forests for the Coast.
 - Provided lists of contacts of First Nations and First Nations-owned forest companies for South Island.
 - Outlined potential tenure sales opportunities with Interfor and potential for fibre supply

3

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development
Forest Policy Indigenous Relations Division

BRIEFING NOTE

agreement with Mosaic, the largest private forest land holder near their Alberni operations.

- The South Island District Staff has worked closely and undertaken the following actions:
 - The South Island District regularly posts deck timber sales on BC Bid however the San Group have not yet bid on any of the opportunities. District staff has shared the website with San Group representatives.
 - The South Island District developed a ‘how-to apply salvage’ package for the San Group.
- In October 2019, San Group met with Deputy Minister John Allan to discuss its investment plans and to request opportunities for volume to support the mill. San Group also requested the former Minister help them secure long-term fibre for the new mill, specifically, they were seeking a 10-year, Renewable Forest Licence of an unspecified volume.
- From Fall 2020 to present, Ministry staff have been working with San Group to help identify areas that have been previously harvested by others with high waste levels of Western red cedar left on site where San Group could apply to the Ministry for small scale salvage licences of post-harvest material.

Key Messages:

s.13

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR INFORMATION

Ref: 193582

Date: January 8, 2021

Title: Aquaculture tenure application process and potential efficiencies for marine plant tenure process

Issue: The processing of applications for marine plant aquaculture tenures is causing delays that are impacting marine plant operation work plans, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries (AFF) is investigating the issues and potential solutions.

Background:

Marine plant aquaculture is licensed by the Province by the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNR), since the *Fish and Seafood Act* was brought into force on January 1, 2017. Other aquaculture operations (finfish and shellfish) are licensed by the federal government. The Province is responsible for issuing tenures for all aquaculture operations under the authority of the *Lands Act*.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Transport Canada (TC) and the Province of B.C. share a single harmonized aquaculture application. When any aquaculture operator applies for an aquaculture license, they will apply through this harmonized aquaculture application, and the various pieces of information will be directed to the corresponding agency through the harmonized process. The forms required for new sites or amendments to existing sites are available through FrontCounterBC (FCBC). See Appendix 1 for a high-level infographic flow chart, used internally by FLNR, of the application and approval process for all types of aquaculture tenures.

First Nations Considerations:

Increasing First Nation interest in marine plant aquaculture is contributing to more tenure applications and amendments than historic levels and adding to issues with capacity for processing tenure applications. Nuu-chah-nulth Seafood Limited Partnership partnered with Cascadia Seaweed to enhance capacity and develop expertise in kelp aquaculture to help provide economic opportunities in First Nation's coastal communities. Cascadia is also working with the Klahoose First Nation on establishing seaweed farms around oyster farming operations. Several other First Nations that currently hold tenures for shellfish aquaculture sites along the B.C. coast have reached out to the Province to discuss converting unsuccessful or derelict shellfish operations into marine plant aquaculture sites.

Discussion:

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s.13 ; s.16

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s.13

FW: REDIRECT: 50930 - Rankin - Congratulations from Mosaic

From: Andrews, Scott FLNR:EX <Scott.Andrews@gov.bc.ca>
To: Hogg, Caroline FLNR:EX <Caroline.Hogg@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: July 27, 2021 11:17:35 AM PDT
Attachments: 20201208 - Mosaic_to_Rankin.pdf

From: Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX <FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: January 14, 2021 2:25 PM

To: Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX <Lisa.Silverio@gov.bc.ca>; Newcombe, Samantha FLNR:EX <Samantha.Newcombe@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX <Tristan.Jones@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Edena FLNR:EX <Edena.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Andrews, Scott FLNR:EX <Scott.Andrews@gov.bc.ca>; Tripp, Allison FLNR:EX <Allison.Tripp@gov.bc.ca>; Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX <FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: REDIRECT: 50930 - Rankin - Congratulations from Mosaic

Hi Lisa and Sam,

Please see attached meeting request from Mosaic Forest Management. This was addressed to Minister Rankin but was referred to us from MIRR.

For Minister Conroy's consideration.

Thanks,
Andrew

From: IRR Correspondence Unit IRR:EX <IRRCorrespondenceUnit@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: January 13, 2021 4:35 PM

To: Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX <FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: REDIRECT: 50930 - Rankin - Congratulations from Mosaic

Hello,

We have received advice to redirect the below item to the attention of your Ministry.

Thank you kindly,

Rowan Hynds

Pronouns: she/her, they/them

Incoming Correspondence Clerk | Correspondence Unit

Deputy Minister's Office

Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Rowan.Hynds@gov.bc.ca | 236-478-1398

From: Domenico Iannidinardo <domenico@mosaicforests.com>

Sent: December 8, 2020 9:24 PM

To: Minister, IRR IRR:EX <IRR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Karen Brandt <karen.brandt@mosaicforests.com>; Ken Price <ken.price@mosaicforests.com>

Subject: 50930 - Rankin - Congratulations from Mosaic

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Congratulations, Minister Rankin.

All the best for a productive and rewarding term.

We look forward to an opportunity to meet with you at your earliest convenience. Mosaic has several initiatives underway that we believe are important to supporting your mandate.

Please let us know how best for us to work with your team to schedule a briefing on Mosaic.

As ever, contact us anytime.

Domenico

Domenico Iannidinardo, RPF, RPBio, PEng

VP Forest & Logistics and Chief Forester

#201 – 648 Terminal Avenue

Nanaimo, BC V9R 5E2

T 250-716-3778 | C 250-715-7387

E Domenico@MosaicForests.com

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received this message in error, please notify me by email, delete this message from your computer and permanently destroy any hard copies. Thank you.

December 8, 2020

The Honourable Murray Rankin
Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation and
MLA, Oak Bay-Gordon Head
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Via email: IRR.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Rankin,

On behalf of Mosaic Forest Management, I would like to congratulate you on your election as MLA for Oak Bay-Gordon Head, and your appointment as Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation.

As timberlands manager for TimberWest and Island Timberlands – two companies that have operated on BC's Coast for more than a century – Mosaic is a key contributor to the Coastal Forest Sector:

- More than 2,000 people employed directly and through our contractors;
- Supplier to more than 50 local mills, with 100% of our harvested logs offered for sale to domestic manufacturers first;
- Support more than 350 independent logging and forestry contractors, with a monthly contractor spend of more than \$50 million;
- 12 million seedlings planted annually – our commitment to reforestation and sustainability means the vast majority of our operations are in second, third and even some fourth-growth forest.

We have developed deep and mutually beneficial relationships with Indigenous partners across our operating areas, and these partnerships are key to our business success.

- Earlier this year, we were awarded Silver level recognition under the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business' Progressive Aboriginal Relations certification program through the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business, the first forest company in BC to achieve this.
- Our average annual financial involvement with First Nations through commercial partnerships and community investment is over \$50 million
- We have detailed memorandums of understanding with 14 First Nations and history of commercial ventures with over 30 Nations.

JEFFERY M. ZWEIG
President & CEO

Suite 2000,
1055 W. Hastings St.
Vancouver, BC
Canada V6E 2E9

T 604.654.4625
E Jeff.Zweig@mosaicforests.com

mosaicforests.com

We recognize the critical importance of reconciliation to the future success of the province, and look forward to working with you on this important priority.

While BC's forest sector is well-positioned to support the economic recovery, our industry is facing significant challenges. Strong leadership in Victoria is required as we navigate through this unprecedented pandemic, to create the policies and investment climate needed to build a globally-competitive and resilient Coastal forest sector.

Congratulations again on your new role. We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you as you undertake your new mandate, and will reach out to your staff to coordinate a meeting in the near future.

Sincerely,



Jeff Zweig
President and CEO
Mosaic Forest Management

FW: FYI - Cowichan Lake Trailblazers news release - Rural Dividend Program funding - 05 May 21

From: Andrews, Scott FLNR:EX <Scott.Andrews@gov.bc.ca>
To: Hogg, Caroline FLNR:EX <Caroline.Hogg@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: July 27, 2021 11:17:51 AM PDT
Attachments: 20210429_CowichanLakeTrailBlazersSocietyandMosaicForestManagementPartneringtoProvideRecreationalTrails (FINAL).pdf

From: Plummer, Glen GCPE:EX <Glen.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: May 5, 2021 1:38 PM

To: Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Edena FLNR:EX <Edena.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Monroe, Danielle FLNR:EX <Danielle.Monroe@gov.bc.ca>; Andrews, Scott FLNR:EX <Scott.Andrews@gov.bc.ca>; Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX <Tristan.Jones@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX <Lisa.Silverio@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>; Hooper, Tyler GCPE:EX <Tyler.Hooper@gov.bc.ca>; Pierson, Nova GCPE:EX <Nova.Pierson@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FYI - Cowichan Lake Trailblazers news release - Rural Dividend Program funding - 05 May 21

Hi all,

Just an FYI – Mosaic and the Cowichan Lake Trail Blazers news release being distributed tomorrow by Mosaic. The release acknowledges funding received from the Province through the Rural Dividend Program.

Thanks,

Glen

Glen Plummer

Communications Manager

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

250 952-0559 office

250 213-5667 cell



Timberland Manager for  



For Immediate Release

May 6, 2021

Cowichan Lake Trail Blazers Society and Mosaic Forest Management Partnering to Provide Recreational Trails

Lake Cowichan, BC – Mosaic Forest Management is providing access to more than 1,000 hectares of private forest land in the Cowichan Lake area for non-motorized recreational use in a new agreement with the Cowichan Lake Trail Blazers Society.

“We are proud to see this partnership begin,” said Trail Blazers’ President Bob Day. “To be able to work with Mosaic to provide first-class biking and hiking opportunities make this an especially exciting opportunity for our club and the Cowichan Lake area.”

For the past two years, the Trail Blazers, Community Futures Cowichan and Mosaic have been working together on a master trail plan to construct and maintain non-motorized trails in the Fair Service area just outside Lake Cowichan.

“We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia”, said Community Futures Cowichan General Manager Cathy Robertson. “With the support of the BC Rural Dividend Program this project is meeting industry-recognized standards for safety and infrastructure for the trail network, including developing new trails, improvements to existing trails, trail ratings, standardized signage and mapping to enhance safety along with the recreational user experience.”

“The new trail plan on Mosaic-managed private forest land in the Cowichan Lake area will be a popular addition to the town and surrounding area, said Mosaic’s Director of Sustainability, Molly Hudson. “This partnership will enable investment in a safe trail network and supports a shared vision to the coexistence of the working forest and recreational access opportunities to benefit communities and the economy by creating value for local recreationalists and tourists alike.”

To learn more about Mosaic’s access agreements and recreation opportunities on its managed private forest lands, visit www.mosaicforests.com/access.

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Timberland Manager for  **ISLAND**
TIMBERLANDS



About Mosaic Forest Management Corp.

Mosaic Forest Management is the timberlands manager for TimberWest and Island Timberlands – two affiliated companies that have operated on Vancouver Island for over a century, delivering sustainable forest management within their private forest lands and Crown tenure areas. Mosaic employs several thousand people directly and indirectly striving to achieve the positive economic, social and sustainability outcomes from the working forest. For more information, visit mosaicforests.com.

About Cowichan Lake Trail Blazers Society

Above the headwaters of the Heritage Cowichan River lies Cowichan Lake and the communities of Lake Cowichan, Youbou, Mesachie, and Honeymoon Bay. The lake has long been known for forestry and outdoor recreation, but more access to our natural assets is key. That's why the Cowichan Lake Trail Blazers Society is planning to enhance and develop trails for hiking and biking.

With the help of provincial funding, a group of local citizens were able to hire consultants in 2017 to help determine what activities might expand the local tourist season. Trails for hiking and biking were suggested, a detailed action plan was presented, and the Cowichan Lake Trail Blazers Society was formed.

To learn more about the Cowichan Lake Trail Blazers visit <https://cowichanlaketrailblazers.com>

Media Inquiries

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Cowichan Lake Trail Blazers Society

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