

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 8:41 PM
Subject: CHNL: Tegart - mill closures ■

CHNL (Kamloops)
CHNL Howie Reimer
17-Sep-2019 08:41

Quoted: Howie Reimer, Jackie Tegart

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 8:09 PM
Subject: Castanet: Chamber seeks forestry help

Castanet

17-Sep-2019 20:03

Quoted: Krystin Kempton

Copyright

TNO...

<https://www.castanet.net/news/Vernon/266077/Chamber-seeks-forestry-help>

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 7:11 PM
Subject: CIVT: Donaldson/Gibbons/Sajan - forestry worker package ■

CIVT (CTV Vancouver)
CTV News at Six
17-Sep-2019 18:09

Quoted: Bhinder Sajan, Mi-Jung Lee, Marty Gibbons, Doug Donaldson

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 7:11 PM
Subject: CFJC: Donaldson - mill worker assistance

CFJC (Kamloops)
CFJC Evening News
17-Sep-2019 17:06

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 6:41 PM
Subject: CKPG: Donaldson/Morris - mill worker assistance ■

CKPG (Prince George)
CKPG at 5:00
17-Sep-2019 17:03

Quoted: Dave Branco, Kendall Robertson, Doug Donaldson, Mike Morris

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 6:33 PM
Subject: CKPG: COFI forestry plan

CKPG (Prince George)
CKPG at 5:00
17-Sep-2019 17:05

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 6:31 PM
Subject: CKPG: Donaldson/Morris - mill worker assistance

CKPG (Prince George)
CKPG at 5:00
17-Sep-2019 17:03

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 6:31 PM
Subject: CHAN: Donaldson/Rustad - mill industry assistance ■

CHAN (Global BC - Vancouver)
Global BC News Hour
17-Sep-2019 18:09


Quoted: Keith Baldrey, Chris Gailus, Doug Donaldson, John Rustad

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 6:21 PM
Subject: CIVT: Donaldson/Gibbons/Sajan - forestry worker package 

CIVT (CTV Vancouver)
CTV News at Five
17-Sep-2019 17:35

Quoted: Scott Hurst, Bhinder Sajan, Marty Gibbons, Doug Donaldson

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 6:21 PM
Subject: CIVT: Donaldson/Gibbons/Sajan - forestry worker package

CIVT (CTV Vancouver)
CTV News at Six
17-Sep-2019 18:09

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 6:12 PM
Subject: CIVT: Donaldson/Gibbons/Sajan - forestry worker package

CIVT (CTV Vancouver)
CTV News at Five
17-Sep-2019 17:35

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[Request Transcript...](#)

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 6:12 PM
Subject: CBCV: Donaldson - stumpage fees

CBCV (CBC Victoria)
CBC All Points West
17-Sep-2019 16:45

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 5:42 PM
Subject: CBU: Donaldson - stumpage fees

CBU (CBC Vancouver)
CBC On the Coast
17-Sep-2019 16:43

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 5:31 PM
Subject: CHAN: Donaldson/Rustad - mill industry assistance 📎

CHAN (Global BC - Vancouver)
Global BC Early News
17-Sep-2019 17:10

Quoted: Keith Baldrey, Sophie Lui, Doug Donaldson, John Rustad

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 3:51 PM
Subject: CBU: Bains - mill worker assistance ■

CBU (CBC Vancouver)

17-Sep-2019 15:30

Quoted: Robert Zimmerman, Harry Bains

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 3:33 PM
Subject: CFX: Mill worker assistance ■

CFX (Victoria)

17-Sep-2019 15:03

Quoted: Sandy Hall

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 2:31 PM
Subject: CBC Online: \$69M in aid coming to beleaguered forestry workers in B.C.'s Interior

CBC Online

17-Sep-2019 14:20

Quoted: Doug Donaldson, Brian O'Rourke


Copyright

TNO...

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/69m-in-aid-coming-to-beleaguered-forestry-workers-in-b-c-s-interior-1.5286994?cmp=rss>

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 1:33 PM
Subject: CHNL: Donaldson - forestry transition programs 

CHNL (Kamloops)

17-Sep-2019 13:02

Quoted: Colton Davies, Doug Donaldson

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 1:08 PM
Subject: CKPG: Donaldson - mill worker assistance ■

CKPG (Prince George)
CKPG at Noon
17-Sep-2019 12:01


Quoted: Kendall Robertson, Doug Donaldson

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 12:41 PM
Subject: CBU: Bains/Hall - mill worker assistance 

CBU (CBC Vancouver)

17-Sep-2019 12:00


Quoted: Lyn Hall, Robert Zimmerman, Betsy Trumpener, Harry Bains

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 12:22 PM
Subject: CKFU: Forestry worker funding 

CKFU (Fort St John)

17-Sep-2019 12:03

Quoted: Tracey Teves

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 12:22 PM
Subject: CFJC: Forestry worker support

CFJC (Kamloops)
CFJC Noon News
17-Sep-2019 12:00

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 12:22 PM
Subject: CBC Online: Forest safety ombudsman warned province about Bamfield road in 2008 report

CBC Online

17-Sep-2019 12:10

Quoted: Roger Harris, Chief Councillor Robert Dennis

Copyright

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<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/forest-safety-ombudsman-bamfield-road-bus-crash-1.5286497?cmp=rss>

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 12:01 PM
Subject: Media Availability: Donaldson/Bains - mill worker assistance

Media Availability
CN Railyards event
17-Sep-2019 10:00

Quoted: Reporter, Harry Bains, Doug Donaldson

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 11:51 AM
Subject: CHNL: Donaldson - forestry transition programs ■

CHNL (Kamloops)

17-Sep-2019 11:30

Quoted: Colton Davies, Doug Donaldson

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 11:41 AM
Subject: Media Availability: Donaldson/Bains - mill worker assistance

Media Availability
CN Railyards event
17-Sep-2019 10:00

Quoted: Harry Bains, Doug Donaldson

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 11:33 AM
Subject: CHNL: Donaldson/Watson - forestry transition programs ■

CHNL (Kamloops)

17-Sep-2019 11:00

Quoted: Colton Davies, Sally Watson, Doug Donaldson

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 11:23 AM
Subject: Media Availability: Donaldson/Bains - mill worker assistance

Media Availability
CN Railyards event
17-Sep-2019 10:00

Quoted: Doug Donaldson

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 10:34 AM
Subject: Media Availability: Donaldson/Bains - mill worker assistance

Media Availability
CN Railyards event
17-Sep-2019 10:00

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: BC News On Demand GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 10:18 AM
To: Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX
Subject: BC Gov News - Government outlines new forest worker support programs

For Immediate Release
2019PREM0105-001795
Sept. 17, 2019

Office of the Premier
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

NEWS RELEASE
Government outlines new forest worker support programs

PRINCE GEORGE - The provincial government has announced \$69 million to fund a new series of measures aimed at supporting British Columbia forest workers impacted by mill closures and shift reductions in several B.C. Interior communities.

The Interior forest industry has been reducing production in an effort to adjust to the end of the mountain pine beetle harvest and the devastating 2017 and 2018 fire seasons.

"The previous government knew that the end of mountain pine beetle harvest would disrupt the lives of forest workers, contractors and communities, but they did little to prepare for this inevitable transition," said Premier John Horgan. "While the forest sector must reduce surplus milling capacity to remain competitive, it cannot do so at the expense of the workers, contractors and communities who built the industry. Our government will ensure that forest workers impacted by mill closures are supported."

Premier Horgan and Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, met with the chief executive officers of the major Interior forest companies to set out measures to support forest workers in the months and years ahead. Those measures include:

- * \$40 million to establish a new cost-shared, early-retirement bridging program for older forest workers;
- * \$15 million to establish a new short-term forest employment program, focused on fire prevention and community resiliency projects;
- * \$12 million for workers to access skills training, and for employer and community grants for training;
- * \$2 million to establish a new job placement co-ordination office that will track the transition and employment of impacted forest workers on an individual basis; and
- * Community support grants aimed at providing short-term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer.

"The Province is committed to supporting the people impacted by this change, but we need the forest industry and the federal government to step up and do their part as well," Donaldson said. "I'm hopeful that the Interior forest sector

recognizes that the new industry that will arise from this transition will need skilled, experienced workers to produce new forest products that can compete in global markets."

Donaldson called on the forest industry to increase supports for impacted workers, ensure key corporate leaders are working on the industry transition and ensure that it does a better job of communicating effectively with affected workers and communities.

"The forest industry and its workers have built the success of the industry and bolstered B.C.'s economy for decades," said Harry Bains, Minister of Labour. "I am pleased that my ministry can help deliver solutions that provide direct and tangible support to workers impacted by current challenges in the forest industry and that will help sustain family-supporting jobs in communities that are home to the industry and its workers."

Quotes:

Ravi Kahlon, Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development -

"Over the summer, I met with workers, industry and elected officials in many of the Interior communities impacted by permanent and indefinite mill closures. The \$69 million our government is providing to support impacted workers and families and enable resilient forest communities is a direct result of my discussions with the people who live and work in these Interior communities."

Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training -

"We're ensuring that impacted forestry workers and their communities have access to retraining and supports they need to assist them with this transition. We're providing funding for skills training programs and employer and community grants that will give people the new skills they need to prepare for sustainable employment and good family-supporting jobs."

Ray Ferris, CEO, West Fraser -

"We appreciate the Province recognizing these supportive measures needed for impacted workers as industry adapts to declining timber supply. This funding for workers' support aligns with our efforts at West Fraser to ensure continuing employment and opportunity for our hard-working employees and their families as industry works together with government on longer-term solutions to our current challenges."

Gary Fiege, president, Public and Private Workers of Canada -

"The Public and Private Workers of Canada stands with the provincial government today. In doing so, we recognize the value of what is being offered to the people of rural British Columbia. It was through communication, co-operation and compassion with and for the affected forestry workers and the communities they call home that relief will be forthcoming. We will continue to work to save jobs, but have to be realistic with the situation at hand and help people transition in a changed landscape. This funding announced today is just a start in the effort needed to accomplish this transition."

Gavin McGarrigle, western regional director, Unifor -

"Taking this step to support workers and their families is the right thing for the B.C. government to do. Forestry workers are facing enormous challenges across the Interior right now and we know that with the right supports for these workers and with the right investments by corporations, the forestry sector can rise to meet these challenges and be a vital part of our sustainable future."

Contacts:

Jen Holmwood
Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director
Office of the Premier
250 818-4881

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural
Resource Operations and Rural Development
Media Relations
250 356-7506

 **READ MORE**

Economy, Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Government Operations, Office of the Premier, Services

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 7:17 AM
Subject: CHAN: Woodin - forestry worker assistance

CHAN (Global BC - Vancouver)
Global BC Morning News
17-Sep-2019 06:46

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 16, 2019 6:11 PM
Subject: CBU: Donaldson forestry announcement ■

CBU (CBC Vancouver)

16-Sep-2019 17:32

Quoted: Robert Zimmerman

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: BC News On Demand GCPE:EX
Sent: September 16, 2019 2:41 PM
To: Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX
Subject: MEDIA ADVISORY – Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – Prince George; teleconference

For Immediate Release

Sept. 16, 2019

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

MEDIA ADVISORY

PRINCE GEORGE - Media are invited to join Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development; Harry Bains, Minister of Labour; and Parliamentary Secretary Ravi Kahlon for an announcement about helping B.C.'s Interior forestry workers affected by mill closures.

Event Date: Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019

Time: 10 a.m. (Pacific time)

Location:
CN Railyards
1637 River Rd.
Prince George

Media unable to attend are invited to dial in and listen to the announcement.

Dial-in information (listen only):
From Greater Vancouver: s.15; s.17
From elsewhere in Canada and the U.S., (toll-free): s.15; s.17
Participant Pass Code s.15; s.17

Contact:

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
Media Relations
250 356-7506

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Sent: September 16, 2019 12:33 PM
Subject: CBTK: Thomson/Donaldson - forest industry downturn 📎

CBTK (CBC Kelowna)
CBC Daybreak South
16-Sep-2019 07:12

Quoted: Steve Thomson, Chris Walker, Doug Donaldson

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX
Sent: September 12, 2019 10:08 AM
To: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX
Cc: Kristianson, Eric PREM:EX; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX; McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX; Kennedy, Christine PREM:EX; Zadavec, Don GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: updated forestry materials
Attachments: NR Transition Release_Sept 11_420 PM.docx; SN_MDD_Interior Forest Worker Transition Funding_Sept 11_DRAFT_420 PM.docx; CP_Funding to support mill workers impacted by Interior Forest Sector mill closures-curtailment_Sept 11_420 PM.docx; QA_Funding to support mill workers impacted by permanent and indefinite mill closures_Sept 11_DRAFT_420 PM.docx

Heres the latest com plan, NR, QA and MDD SN. Just learned Advanced Edu is kicking in an additional \$2 million into training so it's now up to \$12 million from \$10 million – for a total announcement of \$69 million in supports for workers. And yes it is Tuesday Sept 17 10 am in PG at the lumber yard. Events planning is engaged. We're also working on a media plan, social plan, mla package. Including Christine and Cara (who asked about it in prep for UBCM stuff she's working on. Cheers - D

From: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX
Sent: September 12, 2019 10:00 AM
To: Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Kristianson, Eric PREM:EX <Eric.Kristianson@gov.bc.ca>; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX <Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: updated forestry materials

Hi all,
I've heard we may have updated materials for next week's announcement. Could I get copies, please? And we're looking at Tuesday, correct?

Thanks,

Sage

Funding to Support Mill Workers Impacted by Permanent and Indefinite Mill Closures
Q & A
Aug. 10, 2019
DRAFT

Funding General:

s.13

Page 52 of 73 to/à Page 54 of 73

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

Objective:

To ensure British Columbians, especially those in forest dependent communities, are aware of the ^{s.13} million the provincial government is providing to support mill workers and contractors impacted by mill closures/curtailments.

Overview:

Government is providing ^{s.13} million to support mill workers and contractors impacted by permanent and indefinite mill closures in the B.C. interior. The funds are aimed at addressing short-term challenges faced by impacted workers/contractors. Support for impacted workers will include:

- \$2 million to establish a new job placement coordination office that will track the transition of and assist the re-employment of impacted forest workers on an individual basis;
- \$40 million to establish a new cost-shared early-retirement bridging program for older forest workers;
- \$15 million to establish a new short-term forest employment program, focused on fire prevention and community resiliency projects;
- ^{s.13}
- Community support grants aimed at providing short term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer.

It is proposed that Minister Donaldson and Minister Bains announce the new programs with Parliamentary Secretary Ravi Kahlon.

Mill Closure/Curtailment Summary

- Currently, there are 26 mills that have adjusted their output through indefinite or temporary curtailments and shift reductions.
- There have been four permanent mill closures.
- More than 6,000 workers are being affected across 23 communities.

Mill closures and curtailments are primarily the result of impacts to timber supply as a result of the Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) and related fire losses. The MPB outbreak in B.C. began in the early 2000's with impacts peaking in 2005. By 2012, MPB had killed 53% of merchantable pine forests in the B.C. Interior.

British Columbia's forest industry is facing difficult times. In the Interior, the end of the pine beetle cut, lower prices for lumber, and back-to-back catastrophic wildfire seasons have led to a number of sawmill closures. This has created hardship for workers and uncertainty for the

communities that depend on forestry for their livelihoods.

For more than a decade, industry experts predicted the mountain pine beetle epidemic would result in multiple mill closures. Despite this, the previous government failed to take the necessary action to help workers, industry and communities adapt. This failure to act has compounded the difficulties forest workers and communities are facing today.

Strategic Approach:

The approach will consist of pro-active/ reactive communications, stakeholder outreach, and issues management supported by earned media

Tactics:

Earned Media

- Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson, Minister of Labour Harry Bains and Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon will announce the funding at a mill (Prince George or Maple Ridge) where workers have been impacted by recent closures/curtailments.
- Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon will visit multiple locations impacted by the closures/curtailments, meet with workers, local government and First Nations to personally deliver the news.
- Minister Donaldson will reiterate government's funding announcement at a number of confirmed speaking engagements and any future speaking opportunities.
- One week following the funding announcement Minister Donaldson and/or PS Kahlon will announce the launch of the government's one-stop web portal for impacted workers/contractors/communities. The web portal will include details regarding how impacted workers/contractors may access funding.

Communications Tools:

News Release	First draft – Aug. 10
Communications Plan	First draft – Aug. 10

Q&As	TBD – CVK knows what the program is intended to be but open to who develops the Q&A
Speaking Notes	These can be adapted from the Premier's speaking notes for September 6 meeting with industry leaders
MLA Package <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QA • KMs 	

Critical Path:

Sept 17, 2019 – Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson announces \$65 million to support workers/contractors.

Location:

- Prince George – TBD staff are scoping out sites – possible location CN Intermodal Terminal.

Sept. 17, 2019 – Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon community announcement - \$65 million to support workers/contractors.

Location:

- Mackenzie Rec Centre

Sept. 18, 2019 – Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon community announcement - \$65 million to support workers/contractors.

Locations:

- Vanderhoof
- Fort St. James

Sept. 18, 2019 – Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson attends Forestry Innovation Centre Grand Opening.

Location:

- Quesnel – Forestry Innovation Centre, City Hall, 410 Kinchant Street.

Sept. 19, 2019 – Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon community announcement - \$65 million to support workers/contractors.

Locations:

- Fort St. John

Sept. 19, 2019 – Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson delivers keynote address at Future of Forestry Think Tank.

Location:

- Quesnel – North Cariboo Community Campus, 100 Campus Way.

Sept. 19, 2019 – Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson provides welcoming remarks at the Council of Forest Industries annual community dinner.

Location:

- Prince George – Courtyard Marriott Hotel, 900 Brunswick Street.

Sept. 20, 2019 – Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon community announcement - \$65 million to support workers/contractors.

Locations:

- 100 Mile House
- Chasm
- Clinton

Sept. 21, 2019 – Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon community announcement - \$65 million to support workers/contractors.

Location:

- Clearwater

Sept. 21, 2019 – Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon community announcement - \$65 million to support workers/contractors.

Locations:

- Merritt
- Kelowna

Sept. 23, 2019 – Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson speaks at Truck Loggers Association Mayoral Dinner.

Location:

- Vancouver – Terminal City Club

Sept. 23-27, 2019 – annual Union of BC Municipalities convention.

Location:

- Vancouver Convention Centre

Sept. 23, 2019 – MDD launches web portal.

BRIEFINGS		
Done	Deputy Ministers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ John Allan ✓ Trevor Hughes ✓ Shannon Baskerville • David Galbraith (tomorrow) • Stephen Brown (tomorrow) • Scott MacDonald (tomorrow) • Kaye Krishna (tomorrow)
	Ministers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ MDD and Ravi Kahlon (done) • ALL OTHERS REMAINING
Done	Industry Briefing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Major companies involved in mill closures or tenure transfers briefed by Premier and Minister Donaldson September 6, 2019 (Canfor, Conifex, Interfor, Tolko, West Fraser)
	Municipal Briefings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Allan and / or Larry Pedersen to call Mayors of impacted communities • Kaye Krishna to call UBCM
	COFI Interior Industry Not Involved in Closures / Tenure Transfers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Allan and / or Larry Pedersen to arrange a call for COFI and smaller companies
	Unions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Allan and Larry Pedersen to brief unions during their weekly call.
FUNDING AND PROGRAM STRUCTURE		
IN PLACE	Funding Sources	Program supported through internal reallocations with no impact to fiscal plan.

ESTABLISHED	Program Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FLNRO: provides community transition coordination, job fair coordination, temporary forestry work opportunities coordination, administration of funding for municipal delivery of services to impacted workers. • LABOUR: will deliver early retirement program and oversee the worker placement coordination function. • AEST: oversees designated worker retraining programs in communities and operates WorkBC website in conjunction with other ministries • SDPR: delivers community economic development programs. • HEALTH / EDUC: will scale up of counseling and mental health services in impacted communities through the K-12 and local health care system in impacted communities. • CITZ: connectivity investments • TAC: tourism program investments
This week	Eligibility Criteria and Application Method	Criteria can be quickly re-established from previous industry transition programs, including one in place for the forest sector from 2008-2011. Application forms and processes from that period will be updated and will be available next week.
Next week, subject to decisions on placement coordination office	Delivery Capacity	<p>1. PLACEMENT COORDINATION OFFICE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Placement Coordination Office is intended to have contract leadership, preferably by a retired union executive or industrial relations leader with experience in earlier cycles of forest worker placement is preferred (Frank Everitt or someone like him). A NEAR TERM DECISION ON THIS IS NEEDED TO GET CAPACITY IN PLACE • 4-5 impacted mill employees with strong administrative / organizational skills will be hired on an 18-month assignment to carry out placement coordination, <u>while</u>

		<p>remaining in mill communities. FOREST COMPANIES ARE IDENTIFYING CANDIDATES TO CHRISTINE BY MID WEEK.</p> <p>2. RETIREMENT BRIDGING PROGRAM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic response functionality can be in place in Labour by the end of the week, with additional capacity to follow over the following two weeks. The administrative staff that operated the previous program remain in government and may be able to be reassigned to this function. They are familiar with the processes and cost share provisions, and with working with forest companies to confirm eligibility and cost distribution. <p>3. TEMPORARY WORK OPPORTUNITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FLNRO will use their district offices and rural development program staff to coordinate this work. <p>4. WORK BC WEBSITE IMPROVEMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New web content is under development for the WorkBC website, including a home-page link to guide impacted workers and contractors to support programs, placement coordination, work opportunities and more.

Key Messages:

- ***Government is taking action and providing \$^{s.13} million to support impacted workers and families and enable resilient forest communities.***
- ***Through cost-shared retirement bridging programs delivered by the province and forest industry, we want age-eligible workers to be able to exit the industry comfortably and to be able to remain in their communities.***
- ***Retirement bridging can create vacancies for younger workers, providing a stable career path in the forest industry while the industry adapts to declining mountain pine beetle***

harvests and transitions to higher-value production.

- *Fibre constraints prevent our forest companies from growing the volume of their production, but it doesn't stop them from innovating and finding new ways to increase their revenues by growing the value of what they produce.*
- *Over the coming years we expect a significant transition to higher-value products, engineered products, wood composite products and industrial wood pellet production.*
- *Although the future forest industry will be smaller than the capacity that had been built-up to process mountain pine beetle timber, it will remain a significant part of B.C.'s economic base and the backbone of many rural communities.*
- *While the previous government knew that the end of Mountain Pine Beetle harvest would disrupt the lives of forest workers, contractors and communities, they did little to prepare for this inevitable transition.*
- *While the forest sector must reduce surplus milling capacity to remain competitive,^{s.13}*
s.13 Our government will ensure that forests workers impacted by mill closures are supported.
- *The province is committed to supporting the people impacted by this change, but we need to forest industry and the federal government to step-up and do their part as well.*
- *We are also calling on the forest industry to do its part and increase supports for impacted workers, ensure key corporate leaders are working on the industry transition and ensuring that it does a better job of communicating effectively with impacted workers and communities.*

Government Outlines New Forest Worker Support Programs

VICTORIA –The provincial government today announced^{s.13} million to fund a new series of measures aimed at supporting BC forest workers impacted by mill closures and shift reductions in several BC Interior communities. The Interior forest industry has been reducing in an effort to adjust to the end of the Mountain Pine Beetle harvest and the devastating 2017 and 2018 fire seasons.

“While the previous government knew that the end of Mountain Pine Beetle harvest would disrupt the lives of forest workers, contractors and communities, they did little to prepare for this inevitable transition,” said Premier John Horgan. “While the forest sector must reduce surplus milling capacity to remain competitive,^{s.13}

s.13 Our government will ensure that forests workers impacted by mill closures are supported.”

Horgan and Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development met with the chief executive officers of the major interior forest companies to set out measures to support forest workers in the months and years ahead. Those measures include:

- \$2 million to establish a new job placement coordination office that will track the transition and employment of impacted forest workers on an individual basis;
- \$40 million to establish a new cost-shared early-retirement bridging program for older forest workers;
- \$15 million to establish a new short-term forest employment program, focused on fire prevention and community resiliency projects;
- s.13
- Community support grants aimed at providing short term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer.

“The province is committed to supporting the people impacted by this change, but we need to forest industry and the federal government to step-up and do their part as well,” said Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development. “I’m hopeful that the Interior forest sector recognizes that the new industry that will arise from this transition will need skilled-experienced workers to produce new forest products that can compete in global markets.”

Donaldson called on the forest industry increase supports for impacted workers, ensure key corporate leaders are working on the industry transition and ensuring that its does a better job of communicating effectively with impacted workers and communities.

Minister Bains quote

Industry Quote

Labour quote

Learn More:

Contact:

Jen Holmwood
Deputy Communications Director
Office of the Premier
250 818-4881

David Haslam
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource
Operations and Rural Development

SPEAKING NOTES

Doug Donaldson

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

Interior Forest Workers Transition Funding

**CN Intermodal Terminal
Prince George, BC**

Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019

XX a.m.

(Check Against Delivery)

DRAFT 1

Page 66 of 73 to/à Page 70 of 73

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

Program Overview – Forest Worker Support Programming

- \$69 million in funding to support forest workers impacted by closures/curtailments in the interior forest sector will be announced on Tuesday
- This represents funding that has been reallocated or dedicated from other / existing areas – not new funding

Programming will include:

1) \$40 million to establish a new cost-shared, early-retirement bridging program for age-eligible workers

Responsible agency: Ministry of Labour

- This program will be administered by government staff (existing staff that will be redeployed, or possibly auxiliary hires if no staff can be re-deployed).
- The program will provide up to \$75,000 per eligible worker, cost shared with industry. Government funding augments the amount that industry provides based on individual company / worker circumstances, tenure, severance eligibility.
- The program will follow some of the guiding principles and application processes/eligibility criteria as the 2008-2011 Community Development Trust Program – key differences are that funding per worker has been scaled for inflation, early retirement eligibility does not currently extend to contractors, and the program is limited to interior operations.
- To be eligible, workers must be 55 or older, and either an impacted employee from a permanent closure, an indefinite curtailment, or a curtailment of longer than four months duration.
- Workers that are not currently impacted but are 55 or older can also voluntarily transition to retirement if their resignation will create a confirmed spot for a younger, impacted worker.
- It is anticipated that information will be made available to companies and workers both through targeted outreach and web and community-based information before the end of September.
- Target for accepting applications is early October. (working target date October 1st).
- Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, as it is possible that companies may make further rationalization decisions to scale manufacturing to post-MPB timber supply.
- A direct line and dedicated email inbox will be established for the program to ensure a high level of access to government staff that can provide support.

2) \$2 million to establish a new job placement co-ordination office that will track the transition and employment of impacted workers on an individual basis

Responsible agency: Ministry of Labour

- this office will be overseen by the Ministry of Labour – but will primarily be run through a contract with Frank Everitt, former USW President in Prince George, who has considerable history in earlier cycles of forest industry contraction and expansion and is a recognizable name for impacted workers and forestry communities.
- In addition to Frank Everitt's contract role, the objective is to engage 5 (or more) impacted workers from closed / curtailed mills to provide placement coordination and linkage with government programs and services. Potential candidates will be identified by forest companies and would have the administrative skills needed to manage the coordination and service connection function. These workers could be hired through secondment (government repays the companies), a contractor / subcontractor model, a work exchange model or as term-limited auxiliary employees. Privacy provisions will be in place for all personal information, with workers retaining the right to opt-out of coordination services.
- The coordinators and lead contractor will analyze employee information provided through forest companies, employee needs assessments, company transition offices, unions and direct contact with

impacted workers to help identify outcome preferences, clarify skills and qualifications, identify any information or support needs and assist in matching workers with placements (directly or through WorkBC offices), training services (through AEST), early retirement programming or other services;

- The coordinators will seek out information about job vacancies in the local area, through a series of outreach and information scanning methods and interaction with other transition services including WorkBC offices – and help to match impacted workers accordingly.
- The coordinators will not function as “career counsellors” rather will match opportunities and track worker outcomes, reporting to the lead contractor and to the ministry for tracking purposes.
- The role in linking workers to government programs and services is important, as workers may not be aware of existing government supports or may be reluctant to access services that are provided through what will locally be perceived as a social assistance office.
- The work of this office will augment the existing services and programs provided by government and provide a specialized focus on individual worker outcomes, through people that understand the industry and have been personally impacted by closures themselves.

3) \$15 million to establish a short-term forest employment program, focused on fire prevention and community resiliency projects

Responsible agency: FLNRORD

- The ministry will work with other agencies/ministries to identify projects that can provide work opportunities for impacted contractors.
- Details of the process for contractors to access this work will be established and communicated by end of September.
- Note that ministries have been asked to determine if there is additional funding or project ideas that can be contributed to this effort.

4) \$12 million to fund new worker training, and enhanced community mental health support programs

Responsible agencies: AEST, SDPR, with some coordination support through Labour and CITZ (ServiceBC)

- No new programs will be created, rather a dedicated allocation of funding for impacted workers will be communicated through the main Forest Worker Support page (Ministry of Labour/FLNRORD joint page, links to specific programs of relevance).
- The goal of making the dedicated funding available is to highlight the most relevant areas of training and support for the workers, and provide links to these specific sites through the main worker support website
- Some workers may be sensitive about accessing funding through the regular stream, as they are typically high wage earners self-sufficient and not in need of government assistance programs. Providing dedicated programs for forest industry transition makes this clearly a support tailored for their circumstances.
- For workers that have been out of school for many years, navigating programs in the general stream can be confusing – this provides a level of way-finding and “concierge” support.
- WorkBC and ServiceBC staff in the regions will also receive information and briefing to ensure they can provide tailored support to forest workers and direct them to relevant programming.
- May wish to consider a dedicated staff person within each ministry that can talk through the program options, how to apply and what the opportunities are (either in the Labour program staff or elsewhere in ministries/regional offices).

5) Community support grants aimed at providing short-term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer, including permanent mill closure, indefinite curtailment or permanent / indefinite shift reduction.

Responsible agency: FLNRORD

- This work links with the ongoing work of FLNRORD's regional teams.
- Work of this branch will continue to include community transition/adjustment.
- The direct funding to heavily impacted communities will acknowledge and support the additional resource/services that communities have been providing to workers/citizens since impact.
- Currently three communities have permanent closures: Clearwater / Vavenby, Quesnel and Clinton (Chasm)
- 4 communities have indefinite curtailments: 100 Mile – Kelowna – Mackenzie - Fort St. John, and many others are dealing with a shift reduction.

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: s.17
Sent: September 16, 2019 9:56 PM
To: Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX
Cc: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX
Subject: Re: For review: PJH quote in interior forestry support NR

I agree with Geoff. s.13

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 16, 2019, at 2:36 PM, Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

I would say s.13
s.13

Geoff
GEOFF MEGGS
Chief of Staff, Premier's Office
West Annex, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC, V8V 1K7
250 387-1715

From: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX
Sent: September 16, 2019 5:21 PM
To: s.17 Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Hockin, Amber PREM:EX <Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: For review: PJH quote in interior forestry support NR

For Immediate Release
[release number]
Sept. 17, 2019

Office of the Premier
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and
Rural Development

Government outlines new forest worker support programs

VICTORIA –The provincial government has announced \$69 million to fund a new series of measures aimed at supporting British Columbia forest workers impacted by mill closures and shift reductions in several B.C. Interior communities. The Interior forest industry has been reducing production in an effort to adjust to the end of the mountain pine beetle harvest and the devastating 2017 and 2018 fire seasons.

"The previous government knew that the end of mountain pine beetle harvest would disrupt the lives of forest workers, contractors and communities, but they did little to prepare for this inevitable transition," said Premier John Horgan. "While the forest sector must reduce surplus milling capacity to remain competitive, s.13 Our government will ensure that forests workers impacted by mill closures are supported."

Horgan and Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development met with the chief executive officers of the major Interior forest companies to set out measures to support forest workers in the months and years ahead. Those measures include:

- \$40 million to establish a new cost-shared, early-retirement bridging program for older forest workers;

- \$15 million to establish a new short-term forest employment program, focused on fire prevention and community resiliency projects;
- \$12 million for workers to access skills training, and for employer and community grants for training;
- \$2 million to establish a new job placement co-ordination office that will track the transition and employment of impacted forest workers on an individual basis; and
- Community support grants aimed at providing short-term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer.

"The Province is committed to supporting the people impacted by this change, but we need the forest industry and the federal government to step up and do their part as well," said Donaldson. "I'm hopeful that the Interior forest sector recognizes that the new industry that will arise from this transition will need skilled, experienced workers to produce new forest products that can compete in global markets." Donaldson called on the forest industry to increase supports for impacted workers, ensure key corporate leaders are working on the industry transition and ensure that it does a better job of communicating effectively with impacted workers and communities.

"The forest industry and its workers have built the success of the industry and bolstered BC's economy for decades," said Harry Bains, Minister of Labour. "I am pleased that my ministry can help deliver solutions that provide direct and tangible support to workers impacted by current challenges in the forest industry and that will help sustain family-supporting jobs in communities that are home to the industry and its workers."

Quotes:

Ravi Kahlon, Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development –

"Over the summer, I met with workers, industry and elected officials in many of the Interior communities impacted by permanent and indefinite mill closures. The \$69 million our government is providing to support impacted workers and families and enable resilient forest communities is a direct result of my discussions with the people who live and work in these Interior communities."

Ray Ferris, CEO, West Fraser –

"We appreciate the Province recognizing these supportive measures needed for impacted workers as industry adapts to declining timber supply. This funding for workers' support aligns with our efforts at West Fraser to ensure continuing employment and opportunity for our hard-working employees and their families as industry works together with government on longer-term solutions to our current challenges."

Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training –

"We're ensuring that impacted forestry workers and their communities have access to retraining and supports they need to assist them with this transition. We're providing funding for skills training programs and employer and community grants that will give people the new skills they need to prepare for sustainable employment and good family-supporting jobs."

Gary Fiege, President, Public and Private Workers of Canada –

"The Public and Private Workers of Canada stands with the provincial government, today. In doing so, we recognize the value of what is being offered to the people of rural British Columbia. It was through communication, co-operation and compassion with, and for, the affected forestry workers and the communities they call home that relief will be forthcoming. We will continue to work to save jobs but have to be realistic with the situation at hand and help people transition in a changed landscape. This funding announced today is just a start in the effort needed to accomplish this transition."

Gavin McGarrigle, Western Regional Director, Unifor –

"Taking this step to support workers and their families is the right thing for the B.C. government to do. Forestry workers are facing enormous challenges across the Interior right now and we know that with the right supports for these workers and with the right investments by corporations, the forestry sector can rise to meet these challenges and be a vital part of our sustainable future."

Contact:

Jen Holmwood
Deputy Communications Director
Office of the Premier
250 818-4881
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural
Resource Operations and Rural Development
Media Relations
250 356-7506

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: news.gov.bc.ca/connect

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX
Sent: September 13, 2019 10:48 AM
To: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX
Subject: Re: CP_Funding to support mill workers impacted by Interior Forest Sector mill closures-
curtailment_Aug 09_230 PM

Yes meant Bill 22

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 13, 2019, at 10:21 AM, Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

s.13; s.17

1

s.13; s.17 I think you mean Bill 22 (Forestry Act) but let me know if I'm wrong - not much connection there.

From: Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX
Sent: September-10-19 6:00 PM
To: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX
Subject: Re: CP_Funding to support mill workers impacted by Interior Forest Sector mill closures-
curtailment_Aug 09_230 PM
Sage, a number of questions to answer: source of funds? Recoverable from companies? Actions for communities and contractors? What about Bill 12 goals?

G

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 10, 2019, at 2:57 PM, Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

CK tells me John Allen is looking for the right location.

Sage
778-678-0832
Sent from my mobile device

On Sep 10, 2019, at 2:31 PM, Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

FYI. It seems to me advisable to announce outside of Metro.
CK working on an expanded version of the attached with stakeholder pieces.

Sage
778-678-0832
Sent from my mobile device

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX"
<Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>
Date: September 9, 2019 at 3:34:05 PM PDT
To: "Aaron, Sage PREM:EX" <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: CP_Funding to support mill workers
impacted by Interior Forest Sector mill closures-
curtailment_Aug 09_230 PM

Draft comms plan attached.
Tim Renneberg
Ministerial Assistant
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations
and Rural Development
250-387-6240
tim.renneberg@gov.bc.ca

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please immediately **notify** the sender by reply e-mail or
phone and **delete** this message and its attachments, if
any.

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX
Sent: Monday, September 9, 2019 3:32 PM
To: Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX
<Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Allan, John FLNR:EX <John.Allan@gov.bc.ca>;
Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX <Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca>;
Plummer, Glen GCPE:EX <Glen.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>;
Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX <Brett.Lowther@gov.bc.ca>;
Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX
<Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: CP_Funding to support mill workers
impacted by Interior Forest Sector mill closures-
curtailment_Aug 09_230 PM
Importance: High

Tim – as requested here's the first cut of the
communications plan/rollout for mill worker supports.
We'll put more meat on the bones as we get more
details. Including John Allan and Don Zadravec. Cheers -
D

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Hockin, Amber PREM:EX
Sent: July 10, 2019 10:41 AM
To: Kennedy, Christine PREM:EX
Cc: Wright, Don J. PREM:EX; Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX; JJH PREM:EX
Subject: Re: Updated Interior PPT

Thanks Christine. Great to hear, much appreciated. Amber

Amber Hockin
Deputy Chief of Staff
7785840867
Amber.hockin@gov.bc.ca
Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 10, 2019, at 11:25 AM, Kennedy, Christine PREM:EX <Christine.Kennedy@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

It's a good point Amber. The information you mention is currently being developed but our first priority was to get the deck done to provide high-level information to ensure that Ministers were informed if traveling to mill communities.

From: Hockin, Amber PREM:EX
Sent: July 10, 2019 10:17 AM
To: Wright, Don J. PREM:EX <Don.J.Wright@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca>; s.17 Kennedy,
Christine PREM:EX <Christine.Kennedy@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Updated Interior PPT
Hi Don, thanks very much for sharing this. It helps a lot. Following our conversation this morning, I
s.13

s.13 . I will also add these thoughts to the call with John Allan today if it seems appropriate to do so. Thanks again. Amber

Sent from my iPad

On Jul 10, 2019, at 9:19 AM, Wright, Don J. PREM:EX <Don.J.Wright@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Amber/Geoff,
Here is a deck that Christine drew up on status of Interior Mill Closures, and what the process to date has been.
Cross Ministry Task Force has been set up to make sure that all the pieces of solutions are at the table.
Still work in progress.
Don

From: Christine Kennedy <Christine.Kennedy@gov.bc.ca>
Date: Sunday, July 7, 2019 at 9:20 PM
To: "Wright, Don J. PREM:EX" <Don.J.Wright@gov.bc.ca>, "Allan, John FLNR:EX"

<John.Allan@gov.bc.ca>, Eric Kristianson <Eric.Kristianson@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Updated Interior PPT

Powerpoint is updated with the changes John had sent.

Christine Kennedy

Associate Deputy Minister | Policy and Coordination

Office of the Premier, Deputy Minister's Office

272 West Annex, Parliament Buildings | Victoria, BC | V8V 1X4

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Hockin, Amber PREM:EX
Sent: July 19, 2019 2:08 PM
To: Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX
Subject: Fwd: CP_Mill closures and curtailments_Jul 19_DRAFT_1 PM
Attachments: CP_Interior Forest Sector Transition_Jul 19_DRAFT_1 PM.docx; ATT00001.htm

Amber Hockin
Deputy Chief of Staff
7785840867
Amber.hockin@gov.bc.ca
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX" <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>
Date: July 19, 2019 at 1:54:48 PM PDT
To: "Hockin, Amber PREM:EX" <Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: CP_Mill closures and curtailments_Jul 19_DRAFT_1 PM

Hi Amber,
Updated comms plan attached. More key messages will be developed as we add more pieces to our cross-government response.s.13
s.13

Tim Renneberg
Ministerial Assistant
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
250-387-6240
tim.renneberg@gov.bc.ca

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From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 1:25 PM
To: Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX <Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca>; Kristianson, Eric PREM:EX <Eric.Kristianson@gov.bc.ca>; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Hardin, Karl GCPE:EX <Karl.Hardin@gov.bc.ca>; Plummer, Glen GCPE:EX <Glen.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>; Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX <Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>; Allan, John FLNR:EX <John.Allan@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: CP_Mill closures and curtailments_Jul 19_DRAFT_1 PM

All – thanks for your recommended minor edits which have now been incorporated. This ready to send to Amber. Notable changes from yesterday's draft include:

s.13

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX

Sent: July 18, 2019 11:56 AM

To: Zadavec, Don GCPE:EX <Don.Zadavec@gov.bc.ca>; Kristianson, Eric GCPE:EX <Eric.Kristianson@gov.bc.ca>; Tim FLNR:EX Renneberg (Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca) <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Hardin, Karl GCPE:EX <Karl.Hardin@gov.bc.ca>; Plummer, Glen GCPE:EX <Glen.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: CP_Mill closures and curtailments_Jul 18_DRAFT_11 AM

All – attached is a draft of the com plan Amber requested last Friday in our conference call. You'll recall

s.13

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Objective:

- To ensure British Columbians, especially those in forest dependent communities, are aware of the provincial government's response to mill closures and curtailments over the next 18 months as well as the actions it is taking to renew the interior forest sector over the longer term.

Overview:

British Columbia's forest industry is facing difficult times. In the Interior, the end of the pine beetle cut, lower prices for lumber, and back-to-back catastrophic wildfire seasons have led to a number of sawmill closures. This has created hardship for workers and uncertainty for the communities that depend on forestry for their livelihoods.

For more than a decade, industry experts predicted the mountain pine beetle epidemic would result in multiple mill closures. Despite this, the previous government failed to take the necessary action to help workers, industry and communities adapt. This failure to act has compounded the difficulties facing forest works and communities are facing today.

Recognizing there is no one size fits all solution to these challenges, public engagement is a cornerstone of government's response which includes:

- Community response teams are in impacted communities providing support for impacted workers, their families and communities.
- Engaging with industry, labour, Indigenous Nations and communities, asking them to develop a new vision for the Interior forest industry at the regional level – a locally developed vision, not one imposed by Victoria. (Timber Supply Area Tables)
- Launching public engagement on renewing the Interior forest sector through policy and program ideas.
- Moving ahead with taller wood building construction.
- Doing more to encourage local companies, municipalities and Indigenous Nations to use engineered wood products for their projects.

Situational Analysis and Strategic Considerations: see appendix A

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Strategic Approach:

The approach will consist of pro-active/ reactive communications, stakeholder outreach, and issues management supported by earned media and paid advertising/marketing.

Tactics:

Earned Media

PJH Op-Ed/Key messages:

- PJH Op-Ed for Interior distribution was released on Jul. 12, 2019.
- A key messages document has been developed based on the approved Op-Ed.
- Op-Ed/key messages to be used by Ministers/MLAs at speaking engagements/community events/announcements.

Sustained social media plan:

- FLNR GCPE to work directly with GCPE Social Media team to developing a social media plan for sustaining interest/engagement in government's ongoing work to support workers and communities impacted by mill closures and curtailment. Additionally, the social media plan will be utilized to highlight ongoing work and milestones of the Forest Sector Renewal.
- Plan will provide Ministers/MLAs with framework for engaging on a variety of social media platforms.

Speaking opportunities with B.C. Chamber of Commerce:

- The BC Chamber hosts select events throughout the year including:
 - The BC Chamber Cabinet Ministers Breakfast Series;
 - The BC Chamber Premier & Cabinet Luncheon;
 - An Evening with B.C.'s Deputy Ministers; and
 - The BC Chamber Annual General Meeting and Conference.

Speaking opportunities with local Chambers of Commerce:

- Ministers/MLAs engage local chambers in their ridings and arrange speaking opportunities.
- Opportunity to highlight government's response and supports available for workers, communities and businesses.
- Opportunity to present government's plan forward for Forest Sector Renewal
- Full list of BC Chambers of Commerce is available here:
<http://bccc.bcchamber.org/list/mapview?c=189>

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Tactics:

Speaking opportunities with Indigenous Nations at community meetings:

- Ministers/MLAs engage local Indigenous Nations' band offices in their ridings and arrange speaking opportunities.
- Opportunity to outline supports available to impacted Indigenous Nations and outline/engage on Forest Sector Renewal.
- Focus on how Forest Sector Renewal fits in government's reconciliation strategy.

Interior Forest Renewal Engagement Web Site:

- Government launched a public engagement web site seeking feedback on what B.C.'s future forest sector should look like on Jul 18, 2019.
- Feedback will be accepted until Oct. 11, 2019 at 4 p.m.
- Government may want to include a link to the Mill Transition Web Portal on the Interior Forest Renewal Engagement web site.

Provincial and Local Government Mills in Transition Web Portals:

- Government to launch a provincial web portal to support impacted workers and communities.
- PJH/Ministers/MLAs can highlight these web portals to demonstrate government actions to support impacted workers, communities and businesses.
- Government may want to include a link to the Interior Forest Sector Renewal engagement site on the Mill Transition Web Portal.

Community job fairs:

- Industry reps for LNG Canada, Coastal GasLink, Site C project and various mining companies are holding job fairs in various impacted communities.

Stakeholder Relations Plan (TBD):

- FLNR could meet with local government association representatives and staff ahead of the UBCM annual convention.
- FLNR staff can offer to submit delegation requests to impacted Regional Districts with standard approach. This ensures these materials get into public records.

Emergency Management BC (EMBC) Cross-Ministry Coordination:

- EMBC will establish a cross-ministry coordination working group that will identify all government resources available to support impacted Interior mill workers, their families, communities and businesses.

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Tactics:

Paid Marketing Events (TBD)

Media Relations/Issues Management:

- Media relations/issues management will be addressed through constant communication with FLNR program staff on upcoming opportunities/milestones/issues and daily media monitoring of print, radio, TV and on-line media.
- Media relations and issues management will be coordinated between government stakeholders – FLNR communications, ENV communications, MIRR communications, JTT communications and FIN communications.

Social Media (see Appendix D):

- Sustaining interest/engagement in government's ongoing work to support workers and communities impacted by mill closures and curtailment.
- Promote web portal to support impacted workers and communities.
- Highlight ongoing work and milestones of the Forest Sector Renewal, including the engagement.
- Sustaining interest in how Tall Wood Buildings create jobs and add value to harvested timber.
- Produce and distribute Ministers/MLAs kit (to promote web portal and potentially point out work done to support forestry workers).
- Highlight initiatives to revitalize the forestry industry over the long term.

Communications Tools:

- PJH Op-Ed
- News Releases
- Web portal
- Interior Forest Renewal engagement web site
- MDD Op-eds
- MLA communications package
- Speaking notes
- Q&A
- Key Messages
- **Social media plan – see Appendix D**
- Advertising/marketing plan (TBD)
- Research

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Key Messages: see Appendix C

Audiences/Stakeholders: see Appendix B

Critical Path:

Ongoing – govTogetherBC information page about government talks with five Treaty 8 First Nations in northeast B.C. regarding potential land transfers.

July 18, 2019 – Launch of FLNR public engagement on Interior Forest Sector Renewal.

- Province-wide news release announcing the public engagement and related web site.
- Government seeking feedback on what our future forest sector should look like.
- Online feedback is welcomed by email submission or feedback form
- News release will also include schedule of invitation-based community engagement sessions.

July 18 – Oct. 11, 2019 – Start of Community Engagement Sessions on Interior Forest Sector Renewal.

- The Province will hold community engagement sessions in all of FLNR's regions: Thompson-Okanagan, Peace, Omineca, Kootenay-Boundary, Skeena and Cariboo-Chilcotin.

July 22, 2019 – Public engagement period closes for input on Private Managed Forest Land program review.

July 29-Aug. 2, 2019 – Begin regular posting of digital content as part of social media plan.

July 29-Aug. 2, 2019 – Job fair in Fort St. John for Louisiana Pacific and Canfor mill workers.

July 31, 2019 – Canfor mill closure in Vavenby/Clearwater.

July 31, 2019 – Job fair in Fort St. James for Conifex workers impacted by temporary lay-offs and indefinite operations curtailment.

- The mill is subject to sale to Hampton. If the sale is approved, Hampton plans to demolish the existing mill and build a new, more efficient operation in its place. The new mill is expected to operate with a significantly reduced workforce.
- LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink are expected to participate in job fair.

Aug. TBD, 2019 – EMBC establishes cross-ministry coordination working group.

Aug. 2, 2019 – Permanent closure of Tolko mill operations in Quesnel.

Early Aug. 2019 TBD – Launch Provincial mills in transition web portal, and start promoting on digital channels.

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Aug. 9, 2019 – Indefinite closure of Louisiana Pacific mill in Fort St. John.

Aug. 12, 2019 – Indefinite curtailment of Norbord mill in 100 Mile House

Critical Path:

Mid-to-late summer 2019 – PJH publishes blog related to support for workers affected by mill closures.

Late Summer 2019 – Forest and Range Practices Act public engagement feedback provided to Min. Donaldson and Premier Horgan.

Sept. 8, 2019 – West Fraser mill closure in Chasm/Clinton and indefinite elimination of third shift at 100 Mile House operations.

Sept. TBD, 2019 – Job fair in 100 Mile House for Norbord mill workers.

Fall 2019 TBD – Next phase of public engagement on Wildlife and Habitat.

- During Phase II, the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNR) will be seeking feedback on its policy option papers.
- During Phase I, FLNR asked for input on ways to improve how the ministry manages wildlife and their habitat.

Fall 2019 TBD – FLNR public engagement on Caribou – Snowmobiling in the South Peace.

Fall 2019 TBD – FLNR public engagement on Grizzly Bear Management Plan.

Fall 2019 TBD – Public engagement on how government intends to protect species at risk.

Sept. 23-27, 2019 – Union of BC Municipalities annual convention – Vancouver.

- Government may provide a status update on Interior Forest Sector Renewal public engagement.

Oct. 2-3, 2019 – Job fair in Williams Lake for workers impacted by closure of Tolko operations in Quesnel.

Oct. 11, 2019 – FLNR public engagement period closes for input on Interior Forest Sector Renewal.

Dec. 2019/Jan. 2020 – Interior Forest Sector Renewal – What Did We Hear report.

- Report expected to be complete and, possibly finalized – release date TBD.

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Jan. 15-17, 2020 – 77th Annual Truck Loggers Association Convention and Trade Show – Vancouver.

- Release of Interior Forest Sector Renewal – What Did We Hear report (TBD).
- Identify next steps in Interior Forest Sector Renewal process (TBD)

Apr. 1-3, 2020 – Council of Forest Industries Convention – Prince George

- Government announces forestry policy changes in response to Interior Forest Sector Renewal public engagement (TBD).

Appendix A

Situational Analysis:

In 2018/19, most major Interior forestry companies in British Columbia announced curtailments at their BC sawmills due to lower lumber prices, reduced demand, high log costs, softwood lumber border tariffs and issues in accessing timber. While forest companies had seen record high lumber prices (upwards of \$600 per thousand board feet) for the first half of 2018, by the fall of 2018, prices had declined to the \$300 per thousand board feet range.

Since fall 2018, six mills have closed (Tolko sawmill, Quesnel; Canfor sawmill, Vavenby/Clearwater; West Fraser sawmill, Clinton/100 Mile House, Conifex sawmill, Fort St. James; Norbord OSB, 100 Mile House; Louisiana Pacific OSB, Fort St. John), three mills have permanently curtailed production by reducing shifts (Tolko, Kelowna; West Fraser sawmills, 100 Mile House, Fraser Lake and Quesnel; Parallel Wood Products finger joint mill, Williams Lake) and a number of major mills have temporarily reduced their shifts or production levels.

Mill closures and curtailments are primarily the result of impacts to timber supply as a result of the Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) and related fire losses. The MPB outbreak in B.C. began in the early 2000's with impacts peaking in 2005. By 2012, MPB had killed 53% of merchantable pine forests in the B.C. Interior.

The previous government increased the Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) to support recovery of the greatest value from dead MPB timber before it burned or decayed. This decision was made with the knowledge that there would surplus manufacturing capacity once MPB salvage harvest concluded and AACs decreased.

Nearly a decade ago, industry experts predicted MPB impacts on timber supply would result in the closure of 10-12 Interior sawmills. The previous government did not take any action to plan and prepare for this outcome. A confidential independent consultants report for industry from 2010, confirmed previous mill closure estimates and industry impacts.

Moving forward, British Columbia's forest industry is in a time of transition from high volume commodity lumber to higher-value products including:

- Engineered wood.
- Composites.
- Bioproducts.
- Specialty papers and boxboard.

While this transition will result in closing some surplus manufacturing capacity, B.C.'s forest industry will remain an important part of the provincial economy.

Strategic Considerations:

Opposition Party's Forestry Plan:

On June 13, Opposition leader Andrew Wilkinson held a news conference and called on the Premier to address the "forestry sector crisis" by:

- Immediately engaging the federal government to look at multi-level supports for communities and impacted workers, including employment assistance for those workers who don't currently qualify;
- Establishing a forestry competitiveness committee, including opposition MLAs, focused on how we can ensure a healthy sector in the short and long-term;
- Re-engaging the U.S. to get B.C. the softwood deal it deserves – you promised this over two years ago;
- Immediately reducing stumpage fees and the carbon tax on the forestry sector, including contractors and others dependent on the sector, until market conditions stabilize; and
- Creating a fund that impacted communities can access to hire contractors and out of work forestry workers on wildfire mitigation projects.

Opposition Party Community Roundtable Meetings/Chambers of Commerce Meetings:

In late June 2019, Opposition MLAs began holding community roundtable meetings in communities impacted by mill closures and curtailments. To date, meetings have been held in Clearwater and Fort St. John. Additionally, Opposition MLAs have met with a number of Chambers of Commerce on this topic.

Attendees at the roundtable meetings have included local government officials, industry and various industry stakeholders. Opposition MLAs have criticized the government for not attending these meetings.

Additionally, Opposition MLAs are using the roundtable meetings to put forward their narrative that the current government is responsible for the crisis in the forest sector.

Mountain Caribou Moratorium:

On June 20 government implemented a two-year moratorium on new mining and forest work in large areas of forest land in northern B.C. The moratorium is one of 14 recommendations from the Lekstrom report on caribou recovery. Critics of the caribou recovery plan have said the moratorium will have a significant negative impact on B.C.'s forest sector resulting in further job losses and economic uncertainty for resource-based communities.

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Legislation – Bill 21 and 22:

In May 2019, government amended the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) and the Forest Act (FA). Changes to the Forest and Range Practices Act are an essential component of government's forestry revitalization initiative. The amendments to the FRPA:

- Create more frequent and reliable opportunities for public input.
- Improve information sharing in forest planning.
- Strengthen the minister's ability to manage forest activity.
- Expand the definition of wildlife in the Act to help protect at-risk species.
- Improve and streamline range use planning.

Changes to the Forest Act:

- Improve government's ability to exert more control over the disposition of Crown
- Tenures.
- Ensure that public interest is considered in the disposition of Forest Act agreements.
- Ensure that dispositions and changes of control do not result in further concentration within the forestry sector.
- Ensure government has the necessary information when needed from companies to inform policy and legislative changes to address emerging forestry issues.

With the changes, forest companies will now need approval from the minister before they dispose of or transfer a tenure agreement to another party. As a result, the minister will be able to refuse to approve the new arrangement if it is not in the public interest or put conditions on the approval.

For years, through the control of the disposition of Crown tenures, major forest licensees have controlled the market for milling and forest tenure holdings. As a result, smaller operators like communities and First Nations found it harder to compete.

Industry and Opposition MLAs are especially critical of the changes to the Forest Act and have said they see it as a kind of potential expropriation without compensation and that the changes will create investment uncertainty.

Currently, two mill closures are triggering sales that are going through the Bill 22 process for tenure transfers – the Canfor Vavenby to Interfor and the Conifex Fort St James to Hampton transactions.

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Government Actions/Response:

The Province (FLNR lead) is supporting impacted communities and workers through community transition and response teams who liaise with local governments, the federal government, industry, labour, employment support programs and organizations, and post-secondary institutions. The teams respond to the unique needs in each impacted community, including re-employment and retraining, to maximize the ability of affected workers to stay in their communities over the long term, and to work with impacted communities on economic development options.

Forest Sector Renewal:

Announced by Premier John Horgan in April 2019, and further to the work being done by community transition and response teams, the locally led Interior Forest Sector Renewal process aims to act on the factors contributing to mill closures. Using collaboration, innovation and creativity, the goal is to sustainably increase value-added production of B.C. forest products while strengthening communities, maximizing employment and advancing reconciliation with Indigenous Nations.

Public engagement on a discussion paper that has been developed is one of two complementary, parallel streams within the Interior Forest Sector Renewal process. Indigenous Nations, local communities, forest sector professionals, labour representatives, industry representative and forest sector stakeholders will be invited to participate in dialogue on the topic, supported by the discussion paper, through community meetings. The public can participate by viewing similar materials online and sharing ideas. Specific policy areas that the public is being asked for their thoughts on include:

- forest tenure and fibre supply;
- climate change and forest carbon;
- manufacturing capacity and fibre use;
- wood products innovation;
- reconciliation with Indigenous Nations; and
- fibre and sustainability of timber and non-timber forest values

The Province has also invited coalitions in each timber supply area, comprised of industry, labour, First Nations and leaders in forest-dependent communities, to work together to develop a new vision for the Interior forest industry at the regional level. The coalitions have been challenged to recommend the complex, sustainable solutions needed in their regions to renew the Interior forest sector so that it remains competitive, supports local communities and provides well-paying jobs.

A What We Heard report on feedback received through the Interior Forest Sector Renewal process is expected to be released in late fall 2019, with further policy direction based on the feedback anticipated for spring 2020.

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Provincial and Local Government Web Portals:

Quesnel mayor Bob Simpson is spearheading a local government web portal to provide affected workers and communities with a one-stop-shop for resources available to workers, businesses and communities.

The Province is also developing a web portal for resources available to workers, businesses and communities. It is anticipated that the local government web portal will connect directly to the provincial web portal.

Appendix B

Audiences/Stakeholders:

Government Stakeholders:

- Office of the Premier
- Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry Social Development and Poverty Reduction
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions
- Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd.
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Ministry of Labour
- Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture
- Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
- Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
- Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology
- Intergovernmental Relations (Softwood Tariffs)
- Caucus Communications

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Audiences/Stakeholders:

Industry Stakeholders:

- Council of Forest Industries
- Interior Lumber Manufacturers Association
- Independent Wood Processors Association
- Tolko
- Canfor
- West Fraser
- Interfor
- Parallel Wood Products
- Conifex
- Catalyst Paper
- Gorman Bros. Lumber
- Norbord
- Vaagen Fibre Canada
- Gitxsan Development Corp.
- 4Leaf Corp.
- ROC Holdings Ltd.
- Domtar
- The San Group
- Paper Excellence Canada
- BC Timber Sales Timber Licence holders (market loggers)
- Truck Loggers Association
- Northwest Loggers Association
- Interior Loggers Association
- Western Forestry Contractors Association
- Lignum
- Independent Solid Wood Manufacturers Association
- Independent Timber Marketing Association
- North Enderby Timber
- Kalesnikoff Lumber
- BC Community Forests Association
- Federation of BC Woodlot Associations
- BC Wood
- United Steel Workers (USW)
- Public and Private Workers of Canada (PPWC)

First Nations Stakeholders: (MIRR to provide full breakdown)

- Simpcw First Nation
- Treaty 8 First Nations
- Gitxsan First Nation
- Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs
- Elected First Nations Chiefs and Councils
- Hereditary First Nations Chiefs
- First Nations Forestry Council

Local Government Stakeholders:

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------|-------------|
| • Kamloops | • Barriere | • Canoe |
| • Kelowna | • Bear Lake | • Cawston |
| • Williams Lake | • Brisco | • Celista |
| • Fort St. John | • Burns Lake | • Chase |
| • 100 Mile House | • Cache Creek | • Cheslatta |
| • 70 Mile House | • Ashcroft | • Cranbrook |
| • Enderby | | |

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- Creston
- Dawson Creek
- Elko
- Dunster
- Lumby
- Lumberton
- Lone Butte
- Logan Lake
- Lillooet
- Lavington
- Lake Country
- Kitwanga
- Hazelton
- Lac la Hache
- Kelowna
- Kaslo
- Kamloops
- Likely
- Invermere
- Houston
- Harrop
- Greenwood
- Greenville
- Grasmere
- Granisle
- Golden
- Galloway
- Fruitvale
- Esketemc
- Malakwa
- McBride
- Meadow Creek
- Midway
- Nakusp
- Nelson
- Northern Rockies (Fort Nelson)
- Okanagan Falls
- Penticton
- Princeton
- Pritchard
- Radium Hot Springs
- Revelstoke
- Rossland
- Salmo
- Salmon Arm
- Savona
- Sicamous
- Slocan
- Smithers
- Strathnaver
- Tappen
- Tatla Lake
- Anaheim Lake
- Tete Jaune Cache
- Tumbler Ridge
- Thrums
- Wells
- Vernon
- Winfield
- Wynndel
- Westwold
- Vavenby/Clearwater
- Merritt
- Armstrong
- Grand Forks
- Adams Lake
- Castlegar
- Fort St. James
- Prince George
- Midway
- Heffley Creek
- Houston
- Quesnel
- Fraser Lake
- Chetwynd
- Chasm/Clinton
- Engen/Vanderhoof
- Isle Pierre (Prince George)
- Mackenzie
- Taylor
- Fort St. James
- Jaffray

External Audiences:

- People of B.C.
- Media
- B.C. Chamber of Commerce
- Local Chambers of Commerce
- Union of B.C. Municipalities
- Environmental non-governmental organizations (e.g. CPAWS, Organizing for Change, Yellowstone to Yukon...)
- University of Northern BC
- Thompson Rivers University
- B.C. Federation of Labour and its members
- BC Building Trades Council
- US Department of Commerce
- Federal government

Appendix C

Key Messages:

Families and communities are our priority...

- British Columbia's forest industry is facing difficult times – in the Interior, lower prices for lumber, back-to-back wildfire seasons and the end of the pine beetle cut have led to a number of sawmill closures.
- The challenges facing our Interior forest sector have created hardship for workers and uncertainty for the communities that depend on forestry for their livelihoods.
- The previous government failed to help the industry when they had the chance. Little was done to help companies adapt. Little was done to help forest-dependent communities. Their inaction has compounded the difficulties forest workers and communities are facing today.
- Our government is facing up to the challenges in the Interior forest sector. We are going to do everything we can to make sure our industry stays competitive, and the people and communities that count on forest jobs have a more secure future.
- Our first priority is getting supports in place for the families and communities most affected by this transition. Community response teams are hard at work in communities affected by mill closures. These teams meet with workers and line up prospects for jobs and retraining.
- The goal is to create opportunities for people and help them stay in their communities over the long term.

Restoring Public Trust...

- If we want to restore public trust in how our forests are managed, we have to start by listening to people and communities.
- That's why we are launching a public engagement on renewing the Interior forest sector.
- This public engagement will start mid-July, and will include local community meetings as well as online feedback.

Renewal in the Interior Forest Sector...

- Earlier this year, I challenged industry, labour, Indigenous and non-Indigenous community leaders to work together to develop a new vision for the Interior forest industry at the regional level.
- This is not a Victoria-imposed solution. It is a locally-developed vision for the future based on local timber supply areas.

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- Value-added wood products are the future of B.C.'s forest industry. We are moving ahead with taller wood building construction, and we're going to do more to encourage local companies, municipalities and Indigenous Nations to use engineered wood products for their projects.
- The industry has renewed itself in the face of challenges before and will do so again. Together we can build a forest industry that creates thousands of good-paying jobs for local workers and Indigenous Nations and supports communities for generations to come.
- Change is never easy. There are no quick fixes. If we're going to find solutions that work for everyone, we need to roll up our sleeves and face up to the challenges together.

Appendix D

Social Media Plan:

Revitalizing the Forestry Industry - Social Media Plan

DRAFT – July 15, 2019

Objective:

- To ensure British Columbians, especially those in forest dependent communities, are aware of the provincial government's response to mill closures and curtailments over the next 18 months as well as the actions it is taking to renew the interior forest sector over the longer term.

What is Government Doing to Help?

- Community response teams are in impacted communities providing support for impacted workers, their families and communities.
- Engaging with industry, labour, and First Nations and communities, asking them to develop a new vision for the Interior forest industry at the regional level – a locally developed vision, not one imposed by Victoria. (Timber Supply Area Tables)
- Launching a public engagement on renewing the Interior forest sector.
- Moving ahead with taller wood building construction.
- Doing more to encourage local companies, municipalities and First Nations to use engineered wood products for their projects.

Our social media approach will focus on **these areas:**

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- Sustaining interest/engagement in government's ongoing work to support workers and communities impacted by mill closures and curtailment.
- Promote web portal to support impacted workers and communities.
- Highlight ongoing work and milestones of the Forest Sector Renewal, including the engagement.
- Sustaining interest in how Tall Wood Buildings create jobs and add value to harvested timber.
- Produce and distribute Ministers/MLAs kit (to promote web portal and potentially point out work done to support forestry workers).
- Highlight initiatives to revitalize the forestry industry over the long term.

Government of BC social media accounts

- Amplify PJH and MDD's responses to mill closures
 - Include a message of support for affected workers and communities
- Promote *naturally:wood* across all channels
 - Monthly book excerpt
 - Monthly matte story
 - Visuals focusing on how wood buildings are being used here in BC – from new schools, to health care, tourism, etc.
- Adapt PJH's op-ed into a blog article and share across all social media channels
- Post Structurlam video – Taller Wood Buildings
- One post per week about actions being taken in BC:
 - Community responses for resource-based communities experiencing job loss
 - Job fairs, skills training, career counselling, etc.
 - Rebuilding the forest industry in consultation with First Nations, and the labour communities
 - New building code to allow tall wood buildings up to 12 storeys – means more wood products will be made right here in BC.
 - Mass timber construction & manufacturing means more jobs and opportunities for BC forestry workers and companies
 - Promote public engagement site once per week during the engagement period
- Produce dedicated content for ministers from affected communities

Premier John Horgan

- Adapt op-ed into a medium article and share across all social media channels
- Amplify any related messaging from MDD
- Directly address mill closures using key messages provided by FLNRORD
- Amplify BC Government posts related to forestry

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
Interior Forest Sector Transition - July 19, 2019
DRAFT

Web Portal

To support impacted workers and communities

- Include a link to the Interior Forest Sector Renewal engagement site (and any other ongoing engagements)
- List of local job fair events
- List of community transition and response teams and links out to them
- Local employment support programs and organizations, and post-secondary institutions

GCPE Contact:	Glen Plummer Sr. Communications Officer	250 952-0559 Office 250 213-5667 Cell
Program Contact:	Jim Schafthuizen A/Executive Dir. Forest Policy and Indigenous Relations	250 828-4625 Office 250 320-9198 Cell
	Sarah Fraser Executive Dir. Rural Development	778 698-7253 Office 250 213-5087 Cell

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 8:22 AM
To: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX
Cc: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX; Dalzell, Danielle GCPE:EX; Haslam, David GCPE:EX; McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX; Dunnett, Jennifer TAC:EX; Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX; McKill, Colin GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: Approved by Sage for the Premier - For Final review/Approval - PREM/FLNR - DRAFT: Government outlines new forest worker support programs

Good by me

Tim Renneberg • Ministerial Assistant • Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca
250.387.6240

> On Sep 17, 2019, at 8:15 AM, Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

>

> If this is OK with FLNR, I will proceed to make it Final so somebody can print handouts.

>

> Linda Stagg

> Senior Editor, Editorial Services

> Government Communications and Public Engagement

> 250 387-4534

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX

> Sent: September 17, 2019 8:11 AM

> To: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca>

> Cc: Dalzell, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Dalzell@gov.bc.ca>; Renneberg,

> Tim FLNR:EX <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX

> <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>; McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX

> <Cara.McGregor@gov.bc.ca>; Dunnett, Jennifer PREM:EX

> <Jennifer.Dunnett@gov.bc.ca>; Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX

> <Oriane.Fort@gov.bc.ca>; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX <Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>;

> McKill, Colin GCPE:EX <Colin.McKill@gov.bc.ca>

> Subject: RE: Premier's quote revised - For Final review/Approval -

> PREM/FLNR - DRAFT: Government outlines new forest worker support

> programs

>

> Hi Linda, this looks good. Thank you.

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> -----Original Message-----

> From: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX

> Sent: September 17, 2019 7:28 AM

> To: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

> Cc: Dalzell, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Dalzell@gov.bc.ca>; Renneberg,

> Tim FLNR:EX <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX
 > <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>; McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX
 > <Cara.McGregor@gov.bc.ca>; Dunnett, Jennifer PREM:EX
 > <Jennifer.Dunnett@gov.bc.ca>; Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX
 > <Oriane.Fort@gov.bc.ca>; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX <Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>;
 > McKill, Colin GCPE:EX <Colin.McKill@gov.bc.ca>
 > Subject: FW: Premier's quote revised - For Final review/Approval -
 > PREM/FLNR - DRAFT: Government outlines new forest worker support
 > programs
 >
 > Good day -
 >
 > Please make sure the revision has taken hold.
 >
 > Meanwhile, I will re-work the distribution to include all the folk who got the matching advisory.
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 > Senior Editor, Editorial Services
 > Government Communications and Public Engagement
 > 250 387-4534
 >
 > -----Original Message-----
 > From: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca>
 > Sent: September 17, 2019 7:24 AM
 > To: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca>
 > Subject: DRAFT: Government outlines new forest worker support programs
 >
 > Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the
 > summary of the News Release
 >
 >
 > NR Number: Not Approved
 > NR Type: News Release
 > State: Planned
 > Planned Release Date: September 17, 2019 at 10:15 am
 > Media Distribution Lists: BUSIN_BUSINESS, ETHALL_ALL ETHNIC, LEGIS_PRESS GALLERY, MEDIA, MMVAN_MMVAN,
 > PROVI_PROVINCE WIDE
 > No Lead Organization
 > Headline: Government outlines new forest worker support programs
 >
 > This email was auto-generated.
 >
 > Not Approved
 > Sept. 17, 2019
 >
 > Office of the Premier
 > Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural
 > Development
 >
 > NEWS RELEASE
 > Government outlines new forest worker support programs
 >

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>

> The Interior forest industry has been reducing production in an effort to adjust to the end of the mountain pine beetle harvest and the devastating 2017 and 2018 fire seasons.

>

> "The previous government knew that the end of mountain pine beetle harvest would disrupt the lives of forest workers, contractors and communities, but they did little to prepare for this inevitable transition," said Premier John Horgan. "While the forest sector must reduce surplus milling capacity to remain competitive, it cannot do so at the expense of the workers, contractors and communities who built the industry. Our government will ensure that forest workers impacted by mill closures are supported."

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> Horgan and Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, met with the chief executive officers of the major Interior forest companies to set out measures to support forest workers in the months and years ahead. Those measures include:

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> * \$40 million to establish a new cost-shared, early-retirement

> bridging program for older forest workers;

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> that will track the transition and employment of impacted forest

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> * Community support grants aimed at providing short-term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer.

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> "The Province is committed to supporting the people impacted by this change, but we need the forest industry and the federal government to step up and do their part as well," Donaldson said. "I'm hopeful that the Interior forest sector recognizes that the new industry that will arise from this transition will need skilled, experienced workers to produce new forest products that can compete in global markets."

>

> Donaldson called on the forest industry to increase supports for impacted workers, ensure key corporate leaders are working on the industry transition and ensure that it does a better job of communicating effectively with affected workers and communities.

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> "The forest industry and its workers have built the success of the industry and bolstered B.C.'s economy for decades," said Harry Bains, Minister of Labour. "I am pleased that my ministry can help deliver solutions that provide direct and tangible support to workers impacted by current challenges in the forest industry and that will help sustain family-supporting jobs in communities that are home to the industry and its workers."

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> Quotes:

>

> Ravi Kahlon, Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural

> Resource Operations and Rural Development -

>

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>

> Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training -

>

> "We're ensuring that impacted forestry workers and their communities have access to retraining and supports they need to assist them with this transition. We're providing funding for skills training programs and employer and community grants that will give people the new skills they need to prepare for sustainable employment and good family-supporting jobs."

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> Ray Ferris, CEO, West Fraser -

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> "We appreciate the Province recognizing these supportive measures needed for impacted workers as industry adapts to declining timber supply. This funding for workers' support aligns with our efforts at West Fraser to ensure continuing employment and opportunity for our hard-working employees and their families as industry works together with government on longer-term solutions to our current challenges."

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> "The Public and Private Workers of Canada stands with the provincial government today. In doing so, we recognize the value of what is being offered to the people of rural British Columbia. It was through communication, co-operation and compassion with and for the affected forestry workers and the communities they call home that relief will be forthcoming. We will continue to work to save jobs, but have to be realistic with the situation at hand and help people transition in a changed landscape. This funding announced today is just a start in the effort needed to accomplish this transition."

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> "Taking this step to support workers and their families is the right thing for the B.C. government to do. Forestry workers are facing enormous challenges across the Interior right now and we know that with the right supports for these workers and with the right investments by corporations, the forestry sector can rise to meet these challenges and be a vital part of our sustainable future."

>

> Contacts:

>

> Jen Holmwood

> Press Secretary

> Deputy Communications Director

> Office of the Premier

> 250 818-4881

>

> Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural

> Resource Operations and Rural Development Media Relations

> 250 356-7506

>

>

> Connect with the Province of B.C. at: <http://news.gov.bc.ca/connect>

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 8:17 AM
To: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX
Cc: Dalzell, Danielle GCPE:EX; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX; McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX; Dunnett, Jennifer TAC:EX; Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX; McKill, Colin GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Approved by Sage for the Premier - For Final review/Approval - PREM/FLNR - DRAFT: Government outlines new forest worker support programs

Okay with us

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From: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 8:16 AM
To: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Dalzell, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Dalzell@gov.bc.ca>; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>; McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX <Cara.McGregor@gov.bc.ca>; Dunnett, Jennifer PREM:EX <Jennifer.Dunnett@gov.bc.ca>; Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX <Oriane.Fort@gov.bc.ca>; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX <Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>; McKill, Colin GCPE:EX <Colin.McKill@gov.bc.ca>
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Linda Stagg
Senior Editor, Editorial Services
Government Communications and Public Engagement
250 387-4534

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Government Communications and Public Engagement
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No Lead Organization
Headline: Government outlines new forest worker support programs

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Not Approved
Sept. 17, 2019

Office of the Premier
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

NEWS RELEASE
Government outlines new forest worker support programs

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Quotes:

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Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director
Office of the Premier
250 818-4881

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural
Resource Operations and Rural Development Media Relations
250 356-7506

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: <http://news.gov.bc.ca/connect>

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 8:36 AM
To: Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX; Kristianson, Eric PREM:EX; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX; Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX
Cc: Allan, John FLNR:EX; Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX; Plummer, Glen GCPE:EX; Kennedy, Christine PREM:EX; Basi, Selena PREM:EX; McCaffrey, Julianne GCPE:EX; Badger, Joleen GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX; Banfield, Elena GCPE:EX; Farmer, Leila GCPE:EX; Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX; Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX; Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX; Roscoe, Lisa GCPE:EX; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX
Subject: RE: Updated QA
Attachments: 2019PREM0105-001795.pdf; QA_Funding to support mill workers impacted by permanent and indefinite mill closures_Sept 16_DRAFT_224 PM (002).docx

All – attached is the final NR. Minor edit to PJH quote implemented. And there's been an adjustment to the coastal forestry worker QA response in text below and in attached. It's QA 18 by the way. Not 17.

18. If coastal forest workers are not eligible, what supports are you providing for the workers like the ones in Maple Ridge who were recently laid off?

- We will coordinate with WorkBC around job placement assistance, ensure that workers are linked with the government services they need, and ensure that workers are assisted as necessary with resume development for those that have not needed a resume in many years.
- The Hammond closure announcement was very recent and it is not yet known what supports or assistance might be required to help transition workers.
- As a start, Hammond workers will have access to the same pool of training funds allocated for other transitioning forestry workers.
- We will continue to closely monitor the situation at Hammond and on the coast more broadly, and address further program needs as they are identified.

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 7:51 AM
To: Tim FLNR:EX Renneberg (Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca) <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>; Kristianson, Eric GCPE:EX <Eric.Kristianson@gov.bc.ca>; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>; Tristan FLNR:EX Jones (Tristan.Jones@gov.bc.ca) <Tristan.Jones@gov.bc.ca>; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Allan, John FLNR:EX <John.Allan@gov.bc.ca>; Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX <Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca>; Plummer, Glen GCPE:EX <Glen.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>; Kennedy, Christine PREM:EX <Christine.Kennedy@gov.bc.ca>; Basi, Selena PREM:EX <Selena.Basi@gov.bc.ca>; McCaffrey, Julianne GCPE:EX <Julianne.McCaffrey@gov.bc.ca>; Badger, Joleen GCPE:EX <Joleen.Badger@gov.bc.ca>; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>; Banfield, Elena GCPE:EX <Elena.Banfield@gov.bc.ca>; Leila GCPE:EX Farmer (Leila.Farmer@gov.bc.ca) <Leila.Farmer@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; Jeremy GCPE:EX Uppenborn (Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca) <Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>; Dawn GCPE:EX Makarowski (Dawn.Makarowski@gov.bc.ca) <Dawn.Makarowski@gov.bc.ca>; Lisa GCPE:EX Roscoe (Lisa.Roscoe@gov.bc.ca) <Lisa.Roscoe@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Updated QA

All – I've added two QA to the attached QA doc to address the supports for coastal workers (QA 17) and COFI's report released yesterday afternoon (QA 21). Including Sage Aaron and Tim Howlett on this email:

17. If coastal forest workers are not eligible, what supports are you providing for the workers like the ones in Maple Ridge who were recently laid off?

- For closures in larger urban areas like Maple Ridge, support services are available immediately from the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, WorkBC and Service Canada. We also have FLNRO's Regional Economic Development Manager contact the local governments economic development office to offer assistance. This has been done for Maple Ridge.

21. What are your thoughts on COFI's report released yesterday outlining 60 recommendations to help the forest industry adjust to the current economic problems?

- Interestingly, COFI's report doesn't highlight what they, or their member companies, will start taking the lead on. We all know the forest sector is facing difficult times.
- Our Ministry has been engaging for two months with many people and organizations in the forest sector. COFI has yet to share any concrete ideas with us through this engagement process despite having attended several of the in-person sessions.
- For example, as part of the Interior Forest Sector Renewal initiative, the Premier challenged company CEO's to form a TSA coalition with other community leaders, First Nations, labour leaders and recommend what forest policy changes are required to transition to a place where we have a competitive forest sector, increased First Nations involvement, community resilience and maintain our stewardship practices. So far there have been only a few applications, and none have obtained the agreement from all sectors mentioned above.

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX

Sent: September 16, 2019 4:03 PM

To: Tim FLNR:EX Renneberg (Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca) <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>; Kristianson, Eric GCPE:EX <Eric.Kristianson@gov.bc.ca>; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>; Tristan FLNR:EX Jones (Tristan.Jones@gov.bc.ca) <Tristan.Jones@gov.bc.ca>; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

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Subject: RE: Communications Materials - Funding to support mill workers impacted by Interior Forest Sector mill closures-curtailement

All - attached are the comms materials for tomorrow's 10 am announcement in PG on support programs for interior mill workers:

- Comms Plan
- News Release – Jving underway

- Q&A – a few additional QA from Leila
- Media Advisory – distributed 240 pm – PG media tweeting heavily. We expect a good turn out
- Media Plan – calls being booked for MDD
- Event Plan – pre-brief location still TBD. Glen Plummer will determine late today
- MDD speaking notes
- Ravi Kahlon speaking notes
- MHB speaking notes
- MC PG Mayor Lyn Hall speaking notes – confirmed as MC

Outstanding Items:

- Labour/union quotes for news release – USW only outstanding.
- IN/Messaging on COFI report released today underway and to be completed by EOD
- Arrange for PG FLNR staff to print copies of final news release (Shawn Rice or John Huybers) Office is 2000 South Ospika

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
2019PREM0105-001795
Sept. 17, 2019

Office of the Premier
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations
and Rural Development

Government outlines new forest worker support programs

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- Community support grants aimed at providing short-term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer.

“The Province is committed to supporting the people impacted by this change, but we need the forest industry and the federal government to step up and do their part as well,” Donaldson said. “I’m hopeful that the Interior forest sector recognizes that the new industry that will arise from this transition will need skilled, experienced workers to produce new forest products that can compete in global markets.”

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communicating effectively with affected workers and communities.

“The forest industry and its workers have built the success of the industry and bolstered B.C.’s economy for decades,” said Harry Bains, Minister of Labour. “I am pleased that my ministry can help deliver solutions that provide direct and tangible support to workers impacted by current challenges in the forest industry and that will help sustain family-supporting jobs in communities that are home to the industry and its workers.”

Quotes:

Ravi Kahlon, Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development –

“Over the summer, I met with workers, industry and elected officials in many of the Interior communities impacted by permanent and indefinite mill closures. The \$69 million our government is providing to support impacted workers and families and enable resilient forest communities is a direct result of my discussions with the people who live and work in these Interior communities.”

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“We’re ensuring that impacted forestry workers and their communities have access to retraining and supports they need to assist them with this transition. We’re providing funding for skills training programs and employer and community grants that will give people the new skills they need to prepare for sustainable employment and good family-supporting jobs.”

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Contacts:

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Funding to Support Mill Workers Impacted by Permanent and Indefinite Mill Closures
Q & A
Sept. 17, 2019
FINAL

Funding General:

1. Is this new funding?

- We are reallocating funding from other areas to ensure urgently needed supports are in place for impacted workers and their families. Our government will ensure that forests workers impacted by mill closures are supported.

2. Why are you making this funding available to forestry workers when you haven't provided supports to workers in other sectors that have similarly faced job losses?

- There has not been another industry in British Columbia where significant job loss of this nature has been experienced.
- Job loss in the forest sector is unique, as forestry is the main source of employment for many Interior communities.
- Given the scope of this issues, I'd really like to see additional support from the federal government. Earlier this year, the feds were quick to respond with support for aluminum and steel workers. B.C.'s Interior forestry sector needs that kind of federal response and the workers and their families need it now.
- We appreciate the measures the federal government announced in 2017 as part of its Softwood Lumber Action Plan, but more needs to be done.

Who Qualifies:

3. What are the eligibility criteria for workers and contractors to access the funding?

- Eligibility criteria and information about the application process will be made available to workers and companies next week

4. Will downstream businesses and workers that are indirectly impacted by permanent and indefinite mill closures, suppliers, etc., qualify for any of the funding?

- The program will be available to eligible applicants that have been actively employed in the forest industry. This support will allow these workers to remain in the communities where live, reducing potential economic impacts to other businesses in their communities.

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5. How many Interior forestry workers and are impacted?

- We're currently looking at approximately 700 workers in 4 interior communities that have been impacted by permanent closure, 1,000 workers in 13 interior communities that have been impacted by indefinite curtailments or shift reductions, and 728 more that have experienced (are experiencing) some impact resulting from temporary curtailments.

Early Retirement Bridging:

6. Government is providing \$40 million to establish a new cost-shared early retirement bridging program. How much is industry providing for this program?

- The split between government and industry contributions will vary from individual to individual as there are numerous factors that must be considered on a case by case basis. As there are multiple companies involved, it is not possible at this time to determine how much industry as a whole is providing. Industry and government are committed to working together to make the program as seamless as possible in providing support to workers.

7. Do you have a number for how many of the impacted forestry workers and contractors qualify for early-retirement bridging?

- It's too early to say. Over the coming weeks we will work with the companies to get a better picture of how many employees may qualify.

Skills Training

8. What are you announcing today?

- The provincial government has announced \$69 million to fund a new series of measures aimed at supporting British Columbia forest workers impacted by mill closures and shift reductions in several B.C. Interior communities.
- As part of the \$69 million in funding, the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training is committing \$12 million over two years to support impacted forestry workers to get the support and skills training they need to find meaningful employment.

Funding to Support Mill Workers Impacted by Permanent and Indefinite Mill Closures
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9. How will this \$12 million help forestry workers now out of jobs?

- The \$12 million in support will offer a suite of skills training and supports that can provide assistance to workers and impacted communities.
 - The **B.C. Employer Training Grant program** allows employers to offer training for a new hire or to upskill existing employees.
 - The **Skills Training for Employment program (STE)** targets vulnerable or under-represented groups, including older workers, by assisting them to prepare for sustainable employment.
 - The **Community Workforce Response Grant program (CWRG)** provides funding for skills training to support urgent labour market needs of communities and/or industries. My ministry is currently working with the communities of Clearwater (Vavenby), Quesnel and 100 Mile House to assist in addressing the forestry sector impacts.
- Impacted workers may also wish to access **interest-free student loans** if a return to post-secondary is an option.

10. Will this guarantee forestry workers new jobs?

- The programs and supports that we are offering – an investment of \$69-million – will offer workers and communities various supports such as:
 - \$40 million to establish a new cost-shared, early-retirement bridging program for older forest workers;
 - \$15 million to establish a new short-term forest employment program, focused on fire prevention and community resiliency projects;
 - \$12 million for workers to access skills training, and for employer and community grants for training.
 - \$2 million to establish a new job placement co-ordination office that will track the transition and employment of impacted forest workers on an individual basis; and
 - Community support grants aimed at providing short-term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer.
- We're taking quick action to offer urgent supports to help forestry workers gain new employment.

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11. Is this new funding?

- We are reallocating funding from other areas to ensure urgently needed supports are in place for impacted workers and their families. Our government will ensure that forests workers impacted by mill closures are supported.
- The Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training has identified \$12 million for dedicated training that will ensure that forestry workers transition well.

12. Do workers have to be on EI to qualify?

- Programs are not restricted to EI-eligible workers.
- Eligibility criteria and information about the application process will be made available to workers and companies next week.

13. How many people will this money help?

- Currently, two impacted communities, Quesnel and Clearwater have received Community Workforce Response grants for skills training.
- We know that approximately 3,700 jobs have been impacted by permanent closure, or indefinite curtailment in the province as a result of the mountain pine beetle and wildfires.
- While we're not able to say how many people will utilize this help, we are dedicating \$69 million in supports for all impacted workers who are interested in accessing the programs and supports that will be offered.

14. What supports are available for Indigenous people?

- In addition to all of the aforementioned supports such as an early retirement bridging program and skills training supports, the federally-funded Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ISETS) providers are an important network available to support Indigenous peoples impacted by mill closures.

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Job Placement:

15. Will the new job placement coordination office be part of the WorkBC offices or will it be a stand-alone entity?

- The job placement coordination office will be a standalone entity within the Ministry of Labour but will align and coordinate with the programs and services provided by WorkBC. The job placement coordination office will have dedicated resources to support interior forest workers that are currently impacted, whereas WorkBC services could provide additional support where needed.

Support for Communities:

16. Given that a number of the mill closures are permanent, what are you doing to support impacted workers and communities over the long-term?

- Funding is in place to provide community support grants aimed at providing short-term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer.
- Earlier this year, I asked industry, labour, Indigenous and non-Indigenous community leaders to work together to develop a new vision for the Interior forest industry at the regional level.
- This is not a Victoria-imposed solution. It is a locally-developed vision for the future based on local timber supply areas.
- Government will support communities and workers to find their place in the future of the forest industry. Value-added wood products are the future of B.C.'s forest industry. This period is difficult as the industry undergoes transition, but this is a time of transition as the industry moves towards generating higher-value, instead of higher-volume production. We are moving ahead with taller wood building construction, and we're going to do more to encourage local companies, municipalities and Indigenous Nations to use engineered wood products for their projects.
- The industry has renewed itself in the face of challenges before and will do so again. Together we can build a forest industry that creates thousands of good-paying jobs for local workers and Indigenous Nations and supports communities for generations to come.
- Change is never easy. There are no quick fixes. If we're going to find solutions that work for everyone, we need to roll up our sleeves and face up to the challenges together.

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Support for Coastal Workers:

17. The funding is aimed at Interior forest workers. Will you be doing anything for impacted workers in the Coastal forestry sector?

- The situation in the Coastal forest sector is different from what is happening in the Interior. The issues in the interior are directly attributed to impacts from the mountain-pine beetle. The situation in the interior has been anticipated and industry and the former government had known this was coming. The layoffs and impacts are widespread in the interior and many of the jobs that have been impacted will not come back.
- The situation on the coast is different, in that there is currently a curtailment, and an ongoing strike. The coast is undergoing a period of policy adjustment, and government staff continue to work closely with industry stakeholders to support them through this period. There is not the same period of industry rationalization occurring in that part of the sector. We will continue to watch the situation closely and take additional action as needed.
- The forest sector is facing serious international challenges, including a weakening of the U.S. housing market, and unfair, unjust duties being applied to British Columbian forest products at the border.
- We are working towards solutions that will see the long-term success of the Coast forest sector, including encouraging greater partnerships between forest tenure holders, pulp and paper manufacturers and salvagers to move more fibre into pulp and paper manufacturing.
- We've also revised log export rules to continue support for communities, workers and companies who want to harvest fibre from uneconomical areas, and bringing in two legislative changes that reflect the objective to increase public confidence in forest management activities and the sector.

18. If coastal forest workers are not eligible, what supports are you providing for the workers like the ones in Maple Ridge who were recently laid off?

- We will coordinate with WorkBC around job placement assistance, ensure that workers are linked with the government services they need, and ensure that workers are assisted as necessary with resume development for those that have not needed a resume in many years.
- The Hammond closure announcement was very recent and it is not yet known what supports or assistance might be required to help transition workers.

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- As a start, Hammond workers will have access to the same pool of training funds allocated for other transitioning forestry workers.
- We will continue to closely monitor the situation at Hammond and on the coast more broadly, and address further program needs as they are identified.

Funding to Support Mill Workers Impacted by Permanent and Indefinite Mill Closures
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General

19. What is your response to Parliamentary Secretary Kahlon saying there are “too many mills” in BC?

- I’m not surprised that the Opposition would take his comments completely out of context, but I find it disappointing.
- Especially since when the Opposition was in government, years ago, they were warned very clearly about fibre shortages and how it would cause mill shutdowns, yet they failed to act.
- We are taking a different approach. We are bringing together industry, labour, First Nations and communities to strengthen our forest-dependent communities.
- And our approach is focused on making sure supports are in place for workers and their families – that’s what we’ve been doing and what we’ll continue to do.

20. Didn’t the Opposition call on your government to act on some of the supports you’re announcing back in June? Why did you wait until September to act?

- When it comes to the challenges facing the forest sector, it has always been the top priority of our government to put workers and their families first.
- That’s why we’ve been working hard with all our partners to get forestry workers the help they need during this difficult time.
- For instance, our government is leading community transition responses for people who live in communities that are experiencing significant job losses.
- The supports for workers we’re announcing today is a continuation and expansion of our efforts. We will continue to work with all our partners to support workers and their families.

21. What are your thoughts on COFI’s report released yesterday outlining 60 recommendations to help the forest industry adjust to the current economic problems?

- Interestingly, COFI’s report doesn’t highlight what they, or their member companies, will start taking the lead on. We all know the forest sector is facing difficult times.
- Our Ministry has been engaging for two months with many people and organizations in the forest sector. COFI has yet to share any concrete ideas with us through this engagement process despite having attended several of the in-person sessions.
- For example, as part of the Interior Forest Sector Renewal initiative, the Premier challenged company CEO’s to form a TSA coalition with other community leaders, First Nations, labour leaders and recommend what forest policy changes are required to transition to a place where we have a competitive forest sector, increased First Nations involvement, community resilience and maintain our stewardship practices. So far

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there have been only a few applications, and none have obtained the agreement from all sectors mentioned above.

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 8:27 AM
To: Haslam, David GCPE:EX
Cc: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX; Dalzell, Danielle GCPE:EX; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX; McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX; Dunnett, Jennifer TAC:EX; Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX; McKill, Colin GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: Approved and the Final - PREM/FLNR NR for 10:15 - Government outlines new forest worker support programs
Attachments: 2019PREM0105-001795.pdf

Thank you, Everyone.

With pleasure, I send along your Final.

We'll get it all set to fly provincewide at 10:15. Distribution will match yesterday's media advisory.

Linda Stagg
Senior Editor, Editorial Services
Government Communications and Public Engagement
250 387-4534

-----Original Message-----

From: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 17, 2019 8:25 AM
To: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Government outlines new forest worker support programs

Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the summary of the News Release

Permalink: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/20611>

News ID: NEWS-20611
NR Number: 2019PREM0105-001795
NR Type: News Release
State: Planned
Planned Release Date: September 17, 2019 at 10:15 am
Media Distribution Lists: 001.0 - 100 Mile House, 011.5 - Clearwater, 021.0 - Fort St. James, 022.0 - Fort St. John, 028.5 - Houston, 031.0 - Kamloops, 033.0 - Kelowna, 040.0 - Mackenzie, 042.0 - Merritt, 057.0 - Powell River, 058.0 - Prince George, 062.0 - Quesnel, 076.0 - Surrey, 085.0 - Vanderhoof, 091.0 - Lake Country, BUSIN_BUSINESS, ETHID_INDIGENOUS, ETHALL_ALL ETHNIC, ISLAN_ISLAND, LEGIS_PRESS GALLERY, MEDIA, MMVAN_MMVAN, PROVI_PROVINCE WIDE
Lead Organization: Office of the Premier
Headline: Government outlines new forest worker support programs

This email was auto-generated.

For Immediate Release
2019PREM0105-001795

Sept. 17, 2019

Office of the Premier
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

NEWS RELEASE

Government outlines new forest worker support programs

PRINCE GEORGE - The provincial government has announced \$69 million to fund a new series of measures aimed at supporting British Columbia forest workers impacted by mill closures and shift reductions in several B.C. Interior communities.

The Interior forest industry has been reducing production in an effort to adjust to the end of the mountain pine beetle harvest and the devastating 2017 and 2018 fire seasons.

"The previous government knew that the end of mountain pine beetle harvest would disrupt the lives of forest workers, contractors and communities, but they did little to prepare for this inevitable transition," said Premier John Horgan. "While the forest sector must reduce surplus milling capacity to remain competitive, it cannot do so at the expense of the workers, contractors and communities who built the industry. Our government will ensure that forest workers impacted by mill closures are supported."

Horgan and Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, met with the chief executive officers of the major Interior forest companies to set out measures to support forest workers in the months and years ahead. Those measures include:

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Quotes:

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NEWS RELEASE

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250 356-7506

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX
Sent: September 17, 2019 7:28 AM
To: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX
Cc: Dalzell, Danielle GCPE:EX; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX; Haslam, David GCPE:EX; McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX; Dunnett, Jennifer TAC:EX; Fort, Oriane GCPE:EX; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX; McKill, Colin GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: Premier's quote revised - For Final review/Approval - PREM/FLNR - DRAFT: Government outlines new forest worker support programs
Attachments: DRAFT.pdf

Good day -

Please make sure the revision has taken hold.

Meanwhile, I will re-work the distribution to include all the folk who got the matching advisory.

Linda Stagg
Senior Editor, Editorial Services
Government Communications and Public Engagement
250 387-4534

-----Original Message-----

From: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 17, 2019 7:24 AM
To: Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: DRAFT: Government outlines new forest worker support programs

Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the summary of the News Release

NR Number: Not Approved
NR Type: News Release
State: Planned
Planned Release Date: September 17, 2019 at 10:15 am
Media Distribution Lists: BUSIN_BUSINESS, ETHALL_ALL ETHNIC, LEGIS_PRESS GALLERY, MEDIA, MMVAN_MMVAN, PROVI_PROVINCE WIDE
No Lead Organization
Headline: Government outlines new forest worker support programs

This email was auto-generated.

Not Approved
Sept. 17, 2019

Office of the Premier
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

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"The Province is committed to supporting the people impacted by this change, but we need the forest industry and the federal government to step up and do their part as well," Donaldson said. "I'm hopeful that the Interior forest sector recognizes that the new industry that will arise from this transition will need skilled, experienced workers to produce new forest products that can compete in global markets."

Donaldson called on the forest industry to increase supports for impacted workers, ensure key corporate leaders are working on the industry transition and ensure that it does a better job of communicating effectively with affected workers and communities.

"The forest industry and its workers have built the success of the industry and bolstered B.C.'s economy for decades," said Harry Bains, Minister of Labour. "I am pleased that my ministry can help deliver solutions that provide direct and tangible support to workers impacted by current challenges in the forest industry and that will help sustain family-supporting jobs in communities that are home to the industry and its workers."

Quotes:

Ravi Kahlon, Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development -

"Over the summer, I met with workers, industry and elected officials in many of the Interior communities impacted by permanent and indefinite mill closures. The \$69 million our government is providing to support impacted workers and

families and enable resilient forest communities is a direct result of my discussions with the people who live and work in these Interior communities."

Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training -

"We're ensuring that impacted forestry workers and their communities have access to retraining and supports they need to assist them with this transition. We're providing funding for skills training programs and employer and community grants that will give people the new skills they need to prepare for sustainable employment and good family-supporting jobs."

Ray Ferris, CEO, West Fraser -

"We appreciate the Province recognizing these supportive measures needed for impacted workers as industry adapts to declining timber supply. This funding for workers' support aligns with our efforts at West Fraser to ensure continuing employment and opportunity for our hard-working employees and their families as industry works together with government on longer-term solutions to our current challenges."

Gary Fiege, president, Public and Private Workers of Canada -

"The Public and Private Workers of Canada stands with the provincial government today. In doing so, we recognize the value of what is being offered to the people of rural British Columbia. It was through communication, co-operation and compassion with and for the affected forestry workers and the communities they call home that relief will be forthcoming. We will continue to work to save jobs, but have to be realistic with the situation at hand and help people transition in a changed landscape. This funding announced today is just a start in the effort needed to accomplish this transition."

Gavin McGarrigle, western regional director, Unifor -

"Taking this step to support workers and their families is the right thing for the B.C. government to do. Forestry workers are facing enormous challenges across the Interior right now and we know that with the right supports for these workers and with the right investments by corporations, the forestry sector can rise to meet these challenges and be a vital part of our sustainable future."

Contacts:

Jen Holmwood
Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director
Office of the Premier
250 818-4881

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural
Resource Operations and Rural Development Media Relations
250 356-7506

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: <http://news.gov.bc.ca/connect>

NEWS RELEASE

Not Approved
Sept. 17, 2019

Office of the Premier
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations
and Rural Development

Government outlines new forest worker support programs

PRINCE GEORGE – The provincial government has announced \$69 million to fund a new series of measures aimed at supporting British Columbia forest workers impacted by mill closures and shift reductions in several B.C. Interior communities.

The Interior forest industry has been reducing production in an effort to adjust to the end of the mountain pine beetle harvest and the devastating 2017 and 2018 fire seasons.

“The previous government knew that the end of mountain pine beetle harvest would disrupt the lives of forest workers, contractors and communities, but they did little to prepare for this inevitable transition,” said Premier John Horgan. “While the forest sector must reduce surplus milling capacity to remain competitive, it cannot do so at the expense of the workers, contractors and communities who built the industry. Our government will ensure that forest workers impacted by mill closures are supported.”

Horgan and Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, met with the chief executive officers of the major Interior forest companies to set out measures to support forest workers in the months and years ahead. Those measures include:

- \$40 million to establish a new cost-shared, early-retirement bridging program for older forest workers;
- \$15 million to establish a new short-term forest employment program, focused on fire prevention and community resiliency projects;
- \$12 million for workers to access skills training, and for employer and community grants for training;
- \$2 million to establish a new job placement co-ordination office that will track the transition and employment of impacted forest workers on an individual basis; and
- Community support grants aimed at providing short-term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer.

“The Province is committed to supporting the people impacted by this change, but we need the forest industry and the federal government to step up and do their part as well,” Donaldson said. “I’m hopeful that the Interior forest sector recognizes that the new industry that will arise from this transition will need skilled, experienced workers to produce new forest products that can compete in global markets.”

Donaldson called on the forest industry to increase supports for impacted workers, ensure key corporate leaders are working on the industry transition and ensure that it does a better job of

communicating effectively with affected workers and communities.

“The forest industry and its workers have built the success of the industry and bolstered B.C.’s economy for decades,” said Harry Bains, Minister of Labour. “I am pleased that my ministry can help deliver solutions that provide direct and tangible support to workers impacted by current challenges in the forest industry and that will help sustain family-supporting jobs in communities that are home to the industry and its workers.”

Quotes:

Ravi Kahlon, Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development –

“Over the summer, I met with workers, industry and elected officials in many of the Interior communities impacted by permanent and indefinite mill closures. The \$69 million our government is providing to support impacted workers and families and enable resilient forest communities is a direct result of my discussions with the people who live and work in these Interior communities.”

Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training –

“We’re ensuring that impacted forestry workers and their communities have access to retraining and supports they need to assist them with this transition. We’re providing funding for skills training programs and employer and community grants that will give people the new skills they need to prepare for sustainable employment and good family-supporting jobs.”

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"We appreciate the Province recognizing these supportive measures needed for impacted workers as industry adapts to declining timber supply. This funding for workers' support aligns with our efforts at West Fraser to ensure continuing employment and opportunity for our hard-working employees and their families as industry works together with government on longer-term solutions to our current challenges."

Gary Fiege, president, Public and Private Workers of Canada –

“The Public and Private Workers of Canada stands with the provincial government today. In doing so, we recognize the value of what is being offered to the people of rural British Columbia. It was through communication, co-operation and compassion with and for the affected forestry workers and the communities they call home that relief will be forthcoming. We will continue to work to save jobs, but have to be realistic with the situation at hand and help people transition in a changed landscape. This funding announced today is just a start in the effort needed to accomplish this transition.”

Gavin McGarrigle, western regional director, Unifor –

“Taking this step to support workers and their families is the right thing for the B.C. government to do. Forestry workers are facing enormous challenges across the Interior right now and we know that with the right supports for these workers and with the right investments by corporations, the forestry sector can rise to meet these challenges and be a vital part of our sustainable future.”

Contacts:

Jen Holmwood
Press Secretary
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Office of the Premier
250 818-4881

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural
Resource Operations and Rural Development
Media Relations
250 356-7506

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: news.gov.bc.ca/connect

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX
Sent: September 16, 2019 4:48 PM
To: Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX; Kristianson, Eric PREM:EX; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX; Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX
Cc: Allan, John FLNR:EX; Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX; Plummer, Glen GCPE:EX; Kennedy, Christine PREM:EX; Basi, Selena PREM:EX; McCaffrey, Julianne GCPE:EX; Badger, Joleen GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX; Banfield, Elena GCPE:EX; Farmer, Leila GCPE:EX; Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX; Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX; Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX; Roscoe, Lisa GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Communications Materials - Funding to support mill workers impacted by Interior Forest Sector mill closures-curtailment
Attachments: SN_MDD_Interior Forest Worker Transition Funding_Sept 16_DRAFT_1140 AM.docx

Minor edit to MDD speech at request of Selena. Final attached.

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX
Sent: September 16, 2019 4:21 PM
To: Tim FLNR:EX Renneberg (Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca) <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>; Kristianson, Eric GCPE:EX <Eric.Kristianson@gov.bc.ca>; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>; Tristan FLNR:EX Jones (Tristan.Jones@gov.bc.ca) <Tristan.Jones@gov.bc.ca>; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Allan, John FLNR:EX <John.Allan@gov.bc.ca>; Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX <Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca>; Plummer, Glen GCPE:EX <Glen.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>; Kennedy, Christine PREM:EX <Christine.Kennedy@gov.bc.ca>; Basi, Selena PREM:EX <Selena.Basi@gov.bc.ca>; McCaffrey, Julianne GCPE:EX <Julianne.McCaffrey@gov.bc.ca>; Badger, Joleen GCPE:EX <Joleen.Badger@gov.bc.ca>; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>; Banfield, Elena GCPE:EX <Elena.Banfield@gov.bc.ca>; Leila GCPE:EX Farmer (Leila.Farmer@gov.bc.ca) <Leila.Farmer@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; Jeremy GCPE:EX Uppenborn (Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca) <Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>; Dawn GCPE:EX Makarowski (Dawn.Makarowski@gov.bc.ca) <Dawn.Makarowski@gov.bc.ca>; Lisa GCPE:EX Roscoe (Lisa.Roscoe@gov.bc.ca) <Lisa.Roscoe@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Communications Materials - Funding to support mill workers impacted by Interior Forest Sector mill closures-curtailment

Attached is the website copy for the temporary landing page. Below are the FB and Tweet messages:

Facebook

To make sure interior forestry workers and communities impacted by mill closures are supported, we're taking actions including:

- ✓ A new job placement coordination office that will help match up workers with new opportunities
- ✓ A bridging program to help people transition to retirement
- ✓ A new, short-term forest employment program focused on fire prevention & community resiliency projects
- ✓ New worker training and better community mental health support programs
- ✓ Community support grants

<link to forestry website or news article>

Twitter

To support interior forest workers & communities impacted by mill closures, we're taking actions including:

- ✓ Job placement coordination office
- ✓ Early retirement bridging program
- ✓ Short-term forest employment program
- ✓ Mental health support

<link to forestry website or news article>

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX

Sent: September 16, 2019 4:03 PM

To: Tim FLNR:EX Renneberg (Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca) <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>; Kristianson, Eric GCPE:EX <Eric.Kristianson@gov.bc.ca>; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>; Tristan FLNR:EX Jones (Tristan.Jones@gov.bc.ca) <Tristan.Jones@gov.bc.ca>; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Allan, John FLNR:EX <John.Allan@gov.bc.ca>; Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX <Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca>; Plummer, Glen GCPE:EX <Glen.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>; Kennedy, Christine PREM:EX <Christine.Kennedy@gov.bc.ca>; Basi, Selena PREM:EX <Selena.Basi@gov.bc.ca>; McCaffrey, Julianne GCPE:EX <Julianne.McCaffrey@gov.bc.ca>; Badger, Joleen GCPE:EX <Joleen.Badger@gov.bc.ca>; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>; Banfield, Elena GCPE:EX <Elena.Banfield@gov.bc.ca>; Leila GCPE:EX Farmer (Leila.Farmer@gov.bc.ca) <Leila.Farmer@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; Jeremy GCPE:EX Uppenborn (Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca) <Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>; Dawn GCPE:EX Makarowski (Dawn.Makarowski@gov.bc.ca) <Dawn.Makarowski@gov.bc.ca>; Lisa GCPE:EX Roscoe (Lisa.Roscoe@gov.bc.ca) <Lisa.Roscoe@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Communications Materials - Funding to support mill workers impacted by Interior Forest Sector mill closures-curtailement

All - attached are the comms materials for tomorrows 10 am announcement in PG on support programs for interior mill workers:

- Comms Plan
- News Release – JVing underway
- Q&A – a few additional QA from Leila
- Media Advisory – distributed 240 pm – PG media tweeting heavily. We expect a good turn out
- Media Plan – calls being booked for MDD
- Event Plan – pre-brief location still TBD. Glen Plummer will determine late today
- MDD speaking notes
- Ravi Kahlon speaking notes
- MHB speaking notes
- MC PG Mayor Lyn Hall speaking notes – confirmed as MC

Outstanding Items:

- Labour/union quotes for news release – USW only outstanding.
- IN/Messaging on COFI report released today underway and to be completed by EOD
- Arrange for PG FLNR staff to print copies of final news release (Shawn Rice or John Huybers) Office is 2000 South Ospika

SPEAKING NOTES

Doug Donaldson

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

Interior Forest Workers Transition Funding

**CN Intermodal Terminal
Prince George, BC**

Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019

10 a.m.

(Check Against Delivery)

FINAL

ADVICE FOR SPEAKER:

Summary: Minister Donaldson will provide an overview of a new series of measures aimed at supporting BC forest workers impacted by mill closures and shift reductions in several BC Interior communities.

Audience and Anticipated Size:

Speaking Time: Approx. 5-10 minutes

Contact Person:

Glen Plummer – A/Communications Manager, FLNRORD – C: **250 213-5667**

Agenda:

Times are approximate:

Time	
8:00 a.m.	GCPE events arrives onsite for event set up with Colin Wood, Northern Mat and Bridge representative
9:40 a.m. Pre-brief	Pre-brief with stage guests, led by Elena Banfield GCPE Events Location: TBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister FLNR Doug Donaldson • Minister LBR Harry Bains • Parliamentary Secretary Ravi Kahlon • P.G. Mayor Lyn Hall • USW rep (TBD)
10:00 a.m.	Event begins. MC P.G. Mayor Lyn Hall welcomes everyone, introduces Minister Doug Donaldson
10:05 a.m.	Minister Donaldson makes remarks, announces \$69 million in funding
10:15 a.m.	MC thanks Minister Donaldson and introduces Minister Bains
10:17 a.m.	Minister Bains makes remarks
10:27 a.m.	MC thanks Minister Bains – thanks attendees
10:28 a.m.	Glen Plummer GCPE informs attendees of media availability
10:30 a.m.	Media availability
10:45 a.m.	Event concludes

- Good morning, everybody, and thank you Mayor Hall.
- Respectfully, I want to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Lheidli T'enneh (clayt-clay den-ay) First Nations.
- All of you here today are unfortunately all too aware of the challenges facing our Interior forestry sector.
- Those industry challenges have resulted in job losses for many workers in communities throughout the Interior.
- Our government has consistently said we are committed to supporting you and other Interior forestry workers dealing with job losses.
- Today, I'm here to let you know what that support looks like.
- We recognize the urgency of the situation, so our government is making more than \$69 million available to implement a new approach to worker, contractor and community transition.
- To do this, we are realigning our worker and community support programs and establishing capacity to ensure that workers like you have access to the services you need, from training to work placement to early retirement.
- Our new approach includes (1) job placement coordination, (2) cost shared support for incremental early retirement opportunities, (3) short-term work opportunity creation, (4) enhanced worker training and mental health support and (5) transition funding for communities to provide services to workers.
- This is for Interior forestry sector only, not the coastal sector.
- We are aware of the situation on the coast and are watching it closely, but for the time being these supports are for Interior mill workers only.

Job Placement Coordination:

- We have allocated \$2 million for a B.C. Interior Forest Industry Placement Coordination Office, which will:
- Provide fair and equitable treatment of workers impacted by permanent and indefinite closures, with a focus on individual worker needs and circumstances.
- Facilitate placement opportunities within and outside the forest sector.
- Ensure that workers are receiving needed support services – ranging from employee and family assistance programs delivered by your companies, tuition support for training programs, job search assistance and support for resume-writing services where needed.
- We are also calling on the federal government to add to the available funding, to make it accessible to more workers.

Early Retirement Bridging

- We have allocated \$40 million over two years toward a B.C. Interior Forest Industry Adjustment Program.
- Based on the early retirement coverage your employers are offering, our government will establish an early retirement bridging opportunity program for age-eligible workers impacted by a permanent or indefinite mill closure or for age-eligible workers whose position could be filled by an impacted worker from another facility.

Short-Term Work Opportunity Creation

- We are providing \$15 million to establish a new short-term forest employment program, focused on fire prevention and community resiliency projects.
- My ministry is prioritizing forest enhancement and wildfire prevention initiatives that can offer interim employment for impacted workers and contractors.

Enhanced Worker Training and Mental Health Support

- A further \$12 million will be used to fund new worker training, and enhanced community mental health support programs.

Support for Communities

- We are also providing municipalities with funding to assist workers, families and businesses impacted by change.
- Municipalities impacted by a permanent closure will be eligible to receive immediate funds of \$100,000 and municipalities responding to a publicly-announced indefinite closure will be eligible to receive funds of \$75,000, where more than 1/3 of the workforce remains in need of permanent or temporary employment.
- Municipalities responding to a shift reduction will have access to a pool of funding to provide defined services for workers and families, based on identified need.
- Additional funding will be available, including through the \$10 million Labour Market Partnerships Fund which helps municipalities transition to new economic opportunities and the Cooperative Marketing Funding Program for communities looking to further develop the tourism industry.

WHAT WE'RE ASKING INDUSTRY TO DO

- We are asking industry to stand with us and step up to support the worker programming I've outlined here. We want industry to be partners in this.
- Company approaches to closures and curtailments have varied, and we need to work together to create a uniform, fair and organized response those impacted by closures.
- I'm standing here today and asking all Interior forest companies to step up and throw your support behind these initiatives.

- Our government is committed to supporting the people impacted by this change, but we need to forest industry and the federal government to step-up and do their part as well.
- Thank you.

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX
Sent: September 12, 2019 2:55 PM
To: Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX; Kristianson, Eric PREM:EX; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX
Cc: Allan, John FLNR:EX; Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX; Plummer, Glen GCPE:EX; Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX; Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX; Kennedy, Christine PREM:EX; Basi, Selena PREM:EX; McCaffrey, Julianne GCPE:EX; Badger, Joleen GCPE:EX; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX; Banfield, Elena GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: CP_Funding to support mill workers impacted by Interior Forest Sector mill closures-curtailement
Attachments: SN_MDD_Interior Forest Worker Transition Funding_Sept 12_DRAFT_2 PM.docx; NR Transition Release_Sept 12_2 PM.docx; EP_Interior Forest Workers Transition Funding_Sept 12_2 PM.docx; CP_Funding to support mill workers impacted by Interior Forest Sector mill closures-curtailement_Sept 12_2 PM.docx; QA_Funding to support mill workers impacted by permanent and indefinite mill closures_Sept 12_DRAFT_2 PM.docx

All - Here are the latest drafts of the communications materials. More details nailed down, but some items still in flux. We've reached out to the company that occupies the location in P.G. where we are proposing to hold the event and will have firm contact details tomorrow morning. The site is owned by the Sinclair Group Forest Products and leased to Northern Mat and Bridge. The manager at Northern Mat and Bridge did not have any concerns with us holding the event/announcement at the site, but needs to confirm with Sinclair. On the event plan - we've made a few recommendations to include labour reps, an industry rep and PG and Mackenzie mayors. Upon agreement we'll reach out to confirm.

Please find attached:

- Comms Plan
- News Release
- Q&A
- MDD speaking points
- Event Plan

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX
Sent: September 11, 2019 4:47 PM
To: Tim FLNR:EX Renneberg (Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca) <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>; Kristianson, Eric GCPE:EX <Eric.Kristianson@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Allan, John FLNR:EX <John.Allan@gov.bc.ca>; Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX <Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca>; Plummer, Glen GCPE:EX <Glen.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>; Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX <Brett.Lowther@gov.bc.ca>; Jeremy GCPE:EX Uppenborn (Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca) <Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>; Kennedy, Christine PREM:EX <Christine.Kennedy@gov.bc.ca>; Basi, Selena PREM:EX <Selena.Basi@gov.bc.ca>; McCaffrey, Julianne GCPE:EX <Julianne.McCaffrey@gov.bc.ca>; Badger, Joleen GCPE:EX <Joleen.Badger@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: CP_Funding to support mill workers impacted by Interior Forest Sector mill closures-curtailement

All - attached are the latest com materials. Notable changes are quote placements in the NR for MHB, labour and industry. The QA has been tightened following feedback from Christine and Selena. Finally we've landed on a date and location for the announcement. Tues Sept 17 10 am in Prince George at the CN lumber yard. We're asked a staff person in the PG to take a few photos tomorrow am. We've also determined that both labour reps and industry reps will be invited to attend. John Allan - can you please send us your recommendations with contact info please. I'm including Ministry of Labour GCPE CD Julianne McCaffrey. Jules - can you please provide a quote for MHB and about a 2 to 3

minute speech. I've also included Joleen Badger from GCPE events who will be assigning an event planner soon.

Attached documents:

- Communications Plan
- News Release
- Q & A
- MDD Speaking Notes (notes for MDB and PSRK to follow).

Additional products to follow:

- Event Plan
- Media Plan
- Social Media plan

Cheers - David

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX

Sent: September 10, 2019 4:37 PM

To: Tim FLNR:EX Renneberg (Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca) <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>; Kristianson, Eric GCPE:EX <Eric.Kristianson@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Allan, John FLNR:EX <John.Allan@gov.bc.ca>; Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX <Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca>; Plummer, Glen GCPE:EX <Glen.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>; Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX <Brett.Lowther@gov.bc.ca>; Jeremy GCPE:EX Uppenborn (Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca) <Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: CP_Funding to support mill workers impacted by Interior Forest Sector mill closures-curtailment_Aug 09_230 PM

Tim/Eric – Here are the latest drafts of the comms materials. As requested by Eric his critical path has been weaved into the com plan. John – note calls to local government are in the critical path. Attached documents:

- Communications Plan
- News Release
- Q & A
- MDD Speaking Notes (notes for MDB and PSRK to follow).

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX

Sent: September 9, 2019 3:32 PM

To: Tim FLNR:EX Renneberg (Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca) <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Allan, John FLNR:EX <John.Allan@gov.bc.ca>; Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX <Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca>; Plummer, Glen GCPE:EX <Glen.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>; Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX <Brett.Lowther@gov.bc.ca>; Jeremy GCPE:EX Uppenborn (Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca) <Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: CP_Funding to support mill workers impacted by Interior Forest Sector mill closures-curtailment_Aug 09_230 PM

Importance: High

Tim – as requested here's the first cut of the communications plan/rollout for mill worker supports. We'll put more meat on the bones as we get more details. Including John Allan and Don Zadravec. Cheers - D

Event Title: Government announces \$69 million New Forest Worker Support Programs

(Min/MLA): Minister Doug Donaldson, Minister Harry Bains, Parliamentary Secretary Ravi Kahlon

Date: September 17, 2019 10:00am	Media Market: Province-wide
Location: CN Intermodal Terminal Prince George, B.C.	English Media Spokesperson: Minister Donaldson
	Multicultural Media Spokesperson: Minister Bains, P.S. Kahlon

THE EVENT

EVENT

- Government will be announcing \$69 million dollars to fund a new series of measures aimed at supporting BC forest workers impacted by mill closures and shift reductions in several BC Interior communities.

WHO'S ORGANIZING?

- GCPE Events

STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS and THEME:

- Government is providing \$69 million to support mill workers and contractors impacted by permanent and indefinite mill closures in the B.C. interior. The funds are aimed at addressing short-term challenges faced by impacted workers/contractors. Support for impacted workers will include:
 - \$2 million to establish a new job placement coordination office that will track the transition of and assist the re-employment of impacted forest workers on an individual basis;
 - \$40 million to establish a new cost-shared early-retirement bridging program for older forest workers;
 - \$15 million to establish a new short-term forest employment program, focused on fire prevention and community resiliency projects;
 - \$12 million to fund worker training and provide and enhanced community mental health support programs.
 - Community support grants aimed at providing short term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer.

VENUE DESCRIPTION

- CN Rail Intermodal Terminal, Prince George TBD

KEY STAKEHOLDERS / PARTICIPANTS

- Minister Donaldson- speaking
- Minister Bains-speaking
- Parliamentary Secretary Kahlon - speaking
- Prince George Mayor Lyn Hall – speaking (MC) TBD
- Mackenzie Mayor Joan Atkinson – speaking (TBD)
- West Fraser CEO Ray Ferris – speaking (TBD)
- Union reps (TBD)

LIST OF VALIDATORS FOR POST-EVENT ROLLOUT

Name	Organization	Contact
Jeff Bromley	United Steel Workers (USW)	Cell 250 426-9870 Jbromley@usw.ca
Brian O'Rourke	United Steel Workers (USW) P.G. Local President	250 565-3641

Gary Fiege	Public and Private Workers of Canada (PPWC)	Office 604 731-1909 Cell 250 715-8320 Gfiege@ppwc.ca
Lynn Lindeman	Public and Private Workers of Canada (PPWC)	Cell 250 246-7022 llindeman@shaw.ca
Jon Hawkins	Unifor	250 640 0993 Jon.hawkins@unifor.org

MEDIA INVITED?

- Yes

AUDIENCE SIZE AND DESCRIPTION / TARGET AUDIENCES

- Invited guests include local government reps, industry reps, labour reps, ministry staff.
- Media

Contacts:

David Haslam (FLNR GCPE Director)	Office: 250 952-0509 Cell: 250 361-7989
Julianne McCaffrey (LBR GCPE Director)	Office: 778 698-8964 Cell: 250 888-8074
Glen Plummer (FLNR GCPE Manager)	Office: 250 952-0559 Cell: 250 213-5667
Tim Renneberg (Ministerial Assistant - MDD)	Office: 778 974-5997
Dawn Makarowski FLNR Communications – Media	Office: 778 698-8395 Cell: 5.17
Elena Banfield (GCPE Events)	Cell: 604 842-0984

Draft Itinerary:

Time	
8:00 a.m.	GCPE events arrives onsite for event set up with CN Rail representative
9:40 a.m. Pre-brief	Pre-brief with stage guests, led by Elena Banfield GCPE Events Location: TBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister FLNR Doug Donaldson • Minister LBR Harry Bains • Parliamentary Secretary Ravi Kahlon • P.G. Mayor Lyn Hall (TBD) • Mackenzie Mayor Joan Atkinson (TBD) • West Fraser CEO Ray Ferris (TBD) • Union reps (TBD)

10:00 a.m.	Event begins. MC P.G. Mayor Lyn Hall (TBD) welcomes everyone, introduces Minister Doug Donaldson
10:05 a.m.	Minister Donaldson makes remarks, announces \$69 million in funding
10:15 a.m.	MC thanks Minister Donaldson and introduces Minister Bains
10:17 a.m.	Minister Bains makes remarks
10:22 a.m.	MC thanks Minister Bains and introduces P.S. Kahlon
10:24 a.m.	P.S. Kahlon makes remarks
10:29 a.m.	MC thanks P.S. Kahlon and introduces Mackenzie Mayor Joan Atkinson (TBD)
10:31 a.m.	Mackenzie Mayor Joan Atkinson speaks (TBD)
10:36 a.m.	MC thanks Mayor Atkinson and introduces West Fraser CEO Ray Ferris (TBD)
10:38 a.m.	West Fraser CEO Ray Ferris speaks (TBD)
10:43 a.m.	Media availability
11:00 a.m.	Event concludes

For Immediate Release
[release number]
[Date]

Office of the Premier
Ministry of Forests, Lands Natural
Resource Operations and Rural
Development

Government Outlines New Forest Worker Support Programs

VICTORIA –The provincial government today announced \$69 million to fund a new series of measures aimed at supporting BC forest workers impacted by mill closures and shift reductions in several BC Interior communities. The Interior forest industry has been reducing in an effort to adjust to the end of the Mountain Pine Beetle harvest and the devastating 2017 and 2018 fire seasons.

“While the previous government knew that the end of Mountain Pine Beetle harvest would disrupt the lives of forest workers, contractors and communities, they did little to prepare for this inevitable transition,” said Premier John Horgan. “While the forest sector must reduce surplus milling capacity to remain competitive, s.13

s.13 Our government will ensure that forests workers impacted by mill closures are supported.”

Horgan and Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development met with the chief executive officers of the major interior forest companies to set out measures to support forest workers in the months and years ahead. Those measures include:

- \$2 million to establish a new job placement coordination office that will track the transition and employment of impacted forest workers on an individual basis;
- \$40 million to establish a new cost-shared early-retirement bridging program for older forest workers;
- \$15 million to establish a new short-term forest employment program, focused on fire prevention and community resiliency projects;
- \$12 million to fund new worker training, and enhanced community mental health support programs.
- Community support grants aimed at providing short term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer.

“The province is committed to supporting the people impacted by this change, but we need to forest industry and the federal government to step-up and do their part as well,” said Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development. “I’m hopeful that the Interior forest sector recognizes that the new industry that will arise from this transition will need skilled-experienced workers to produce new forest products that can compete in global markets.”

Donaldson called on the forest industry increase supports for impacted workers, ensure key corporate leaders are working on the industry transition and ensuring that its does a better job of communicating effectively with impacted workers and communities.

Minister Bains quote

Industry Quote

Minister Mark quote

Labour quote

Learn More:

Contact:

Jen Holmwood
Deputy Communications Director
Office of the Premier
250 818-4881

David Haslam
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource
Operations and Rural Development

SPEAKING NOTES

Doug Donaldson

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

Interior Forest Workers Transition Funding

**CN Intermodal Terminal
Prince George, BC**

Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019

10 a.m.

(Check Against Delivery)

DRAFT 1

Page 73 of 99 to/à Page 78 of 99

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX
Sent: September 12, 2019 10:08 AM
To: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX
Cc: Kristianson, Eric PREM:EX; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX; McGregor, Cara GCPE:EX; Kennedy, Christine PREM:EX; Zadavec, Don GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: updated forestry materials
Attachments: NR Transition Release_Sept 11_420 PM.docx; SN_MDD_Interior Forest Worker Transition Funding_Sept 11_DRAFT_420 PM.docx; CP_Funding to support mill workers impacted by Interior Forest Sector mill closures-curtailment_Sept 11_420 PM.docx; QA_Funding to support mill workers impacted by permanent and indefinite mill closures_Sept 11_DRAFT_420 PM.docx

Heres the latest com plan, NR, QA and MDD SN. Just learned Advanced Edu is kicking in an additional \$2 million into training so it's now up to \$12 million from \$10 million – for a total announcement of \$69 million in supports for workers. And yes it is Tuesday Sept 17 10 am in PG at the lumber yard. Events planning is engaged. We're also working on a media plan, social plan, mla package. Including Christine and Cara (who asked about it in prep for UBCM stuff she's working on. Cheers - D

From: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX
Sent: September 12, 2019 10:00 AM
To: Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX <Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Kristianson, Eric PREM:EX <Eric.Kristianson@gov.bc.ca>; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX <Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: updated forestry materials

Hi all,
I've heard we may have updated materials for next week's announcement. Could I get copies, please? And we're looking at Tuesday, correct?

Thanks,

Sage

Objective:

To ensure British Columbians, especially those in forest dependent communities, are aware of the ^{s.13} million the provincial government is providing to support mill workers and contractors impacted by mill closures/curtailments.

Overview:

Government is providing ^{s.13} million to support mill workers and contractors impacted by permanent and indefinite mill closures in the B.C. interior. The funds are aimed at addressing short-term challenges faced by impacted workers/contractors. Support for impacted workers will include:

- \$2 million to establish a new job placement coordination office that will track the transition of and assist the re-employment of impacted forest workers on an individual basis;
- \$40 million to establish a new cost-shared early-retirement bridging program for older forest workers;
- \$15 million to establish a new short-term forest employment program, focused on fire prevention and community resiliency projects;
- ^{s.13}
- Community support grants aimed at providing short term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer.

It is proposed that Minister Donaldson and Minister Bains announce the new programs with Parliamentary Secretary Ravi Kahlon.

Mill Closure/Curtailment Summary

- Currently, there are 26 mills that have adjusted their output through indefinite or temporary curtailments and shift reductions.
- There have been four permanent mill closures.
- More than 6,000 workers are being affected across 23 communities.

Mill closures and curtailments are primarily the result of impacts to timber supply as a result of the Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) and related fire losses. The MPB outbreak in B.C. began in the early 2000's with impacts peaking in 2005. By 2012, MPB had killed 53% of merchantable pine forests in the B.C. Interior.

British Columbia's forest industry is facing difficult times. In the Interior, the end of the pine beetle cut, lower prices for lumber, and back-to-back catastrophic wildfire seasons have led to a number of sawmill closures. This has created hardship for workers and uncertainty for the

communities that depend on forestry for their livelihoods.

For more than a decade, industry experts predicted the mountain pine beetle epidemic would result in multiple mill closures. Despite this, the previous government failed to take the necessary action to help workers, industry and communities adapt. This failure to act has compounded the difficulties forest workers and communities are facing today.

Strategic Approach:

The approach will consist of pro-active/ reactive communications, stakeholder outreach, and issues management supported by earned media

Tactics:

Earned Media

- Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson, Minister of Labour Harry Bains and Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon will announce the funding at a mill (Prince George or Maple Ridge) where workers have been impacted by recent closures/curtailments.
- Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon will visit multiple locations impacted by the closures/curtailments, meet with workers, local government and First Nations to personally deliver the news.
- Minister Donaldson will reiterate government's funding announcement at a number of confirmed speaking engagements and any future speaking opportunities.
- One week following the funding announcement Minister Donaldson and/or PS Kahlon will announce the launch of the government's one-stop web portal for impacted workers/contractors/communities. The web portal will include details regarding how impacted workers/contractors may access funding.

Communications Tools:

News Release	First draft – Aug. 10
Communications Plan	First draft – Aug. 10

Q&As	TBD – CVK knows what the program is intended to be but open to who develops the Q&A
Speaking Notes	These can be adapted from the Premier's speaking notes for September 6 meeting with industry leaders
MLA Package <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QA • KMs 	

Critical Path:

Sept 17, 2019 – Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson announces \$65 million to support workers/contractors.

Location:

- Prince George – TBD staff are scoping out sites – possible location CN Intermodal Terminal.

Sept. 17, 2019 – Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon community announcement - \$65 million to support workers/contractors.

Location:

- Mackenzie Rec Centre

Sept. 18, 2019 – Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon community announcement - \$65 million to support workers/contractors.

Locations:

- Vanderhoof
- Fort St. James

Sept. 18, 2019 – Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson attends Forestry Innovation Centre Grand Opening.

Location:

- Quesnel – Forestry Innovation Centre, City Hall, 410 Kinchant Street.

Sept. 19, 2019 – Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon community announcement - \$65 million to support workers/contractors.

Locations:

- Fort St. John

Sept. 19, 2019 – Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson delivers keynote address at Future of Forestry Think Tank.

Location:

- Quesnel – North Cariboo Community Campus, 100 Campus Way.

Sept. 19, 2019 – Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson provides welcoming remarks at the Council of Forest Industries annual community dinner.

Location:

- Prince George – Courtyard Marriott Hotel, 900 Brunswick Street.

Sept. 20, 2019 – Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon community announcement - \$65 million to support workers/contractors.

Locations:

- 100 Mile House
- Chasm
- Clinton

Sept. 21, 2019 – Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon community announcement - \$65 million to support workers/contractors.

Location:

- Clearwater

Sept. 21, 2019 – Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Ravi Kahlon community announcement - \$65 million to support workers/contractors.

Locations:

- Merritt
- Kelowna

Sept. 23, 2019 – Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson speaks at Truck Loggers Association Mayoral Dinner.

Location:

- Vancouver – Terminal City Club

Sept. 23-27, 2019 – annual Union of BC Municipalities convention.

Location:

- Vancouver Convention Centre

Sept. 23, 2019 – MDD launches web portal.

BRIEFINGS		
Done	Deputy Ministers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ John Allan ✓ Trevor Hughes ✓ Shannon Baskerville • David Galbraith (tomorrow) • Stephen Brown (tomorrow) • Scott MacDonald (tomorrow) • Kaye Krishna (tomorrow)
	Ministers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ MDD and Ravi Kahlon (done) • ALL OTHERS REMAINING
Done	Industry Briefing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Major companies involved in mill closures or tenure transfers briefed by Premier and Minister Donaldson September 6, 2019 (Canfor, Conifex, Interfor, Tolko, West Fraser)
	Municipal Briefings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Allan and / or Larry Pedersen to call Mayors of impacted communities • Kaye Krishna to call UBCM
	COFI Interior Industry Not Involved in Closures / Tenure Transfers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Allan and / or Larry Pedersen to arrange a call for COFI and smaller companies
	Unions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Allan and Larry Pedersen to brief unions during their weekly call.
FUNDING AND PROGRAM STRUCTURE		
IN PLACE	Funding Sources	Program supported through internal reallocations with no impact to fiscal plan.

ESTABLISHED	Program Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FLNRO: provides community transition coordination, job fair coordination, temporary forestry work opportunities coordination, administration of funding for municipal delivery of services to impacted workers. • LABOUR: will deliver early retirement program and oversee the worker placement coordination function. • AEST: oversees designated worker retraining programs in communities and operates WorkBC website in conjunction with other ministries • SDPR: delivers community economic development programs. • HEALTH / EDUC: will scale up of counseling and mental health services in impacted communities through the K-12 and local health care system in impacted communities. • CITZ: connectivity investments • TAC: tourism program investments
This week	Eligibility Criteria and Application Method	Criteria can be quickly re-established from previous industry transition programs, including one in place for the forest sector from 2008-2011. Application forms and processes from that period will be updated and will be available next week.
Next week, subject to decisions on placement coordination office	Delivery Capacity	<p>1. PLACEMENT COORDINATION OFFICE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Placement Coordination Office is intended to have contract leadership, preferably by a retired union executive or industrial relations leader with experience in earlier cycles of forest worker placement is preferred (Frank Everitt or someone like him). A NEAR TERM DECISION ON THIS IS NEEDED TO GET CAPACITY IN PLACE • 4-5 impacted mill employees with strong administrative / organizational skills will be hired on an 18-month assignment to carry out placement coordination, <u>while</u>

		<p>remaining in mill communities. FOREST COMPANIES ARE IDENTIFYING CANDIDATES TO CHRISTINE BY MID WEEK.</p> <p>2. RETIREMENT BRIDGING PROGRAM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic response functionality can be in place in Labour by the end of the week, with additional capacity to follow over the following two weeks. The administrative staff that operated the previous program remain in government and may be able to be reassigned to this function. They are familiar with the processes and cost share provisions, and with working with forest companies to confirm eligibility and cost distribution. <p>3. TEMPORARY WORK OPPORTUNITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FLNRO will use their district offices and rural development program staff to coordinate this work. <p>4. WORK BC WEBSITE IMPROVEMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New web content is under development for the WorkBC website, including a home-page link to guide impacted workers and contractors to support programs, placement coordination, work opportunities and more.

Key Messages:

- Government is taking action and providing ^{s.13} million to support impacted workers and families and enable resilient forest communities.***
- Through cost-shared retirement bridging programs delivered by the province and forest industry, we want age-eligible workers to be able to exit the industry comfortably and to be able to remain in their communities.***
- Retirement bridging can create vacancies for younger workers, providing a stable career path in the forest industry while the industry adapts to declining mountain pine beetle***

harvests and transitions to higher-value production.

- *Fibre constraints prevent our forest companies from growing the volume of their production, but it doesn't stop them from innovating and finding new ways to increase their revenues by growing the value of what they produce.*
- *Over the coming years we expect a significant transition to higher-value products, engineered products, wood composite products and industrial wood pellet production.*
- *Although the future forest industry will be smaller than the capacity that had been built-up to process mountain pine beetle timber, it will remain a significant part of B.C.'s economic base and the backbone of many rural communities.*
- *While the previous government knew that the end of Mountain Pine Beetle harvest would disrupt the lives of forest workers, contractors and communities, they did little to prepare for this inevitable transition.*
- *While the forest sector must reduce surplus milling capacity to remain competitive,* ^{s.13}
Our government will ensure that forests workers impacted by mill closures are supported.
- *The province is committed to supporting the people impacted by this change, but we need to forest industry and the federal government to step-up and do their part as well.*
- *We are also calling on the forest industry to do its part and increase supports for impacted workers, ensure key corporate leaders are working on the industry transition and ensuring that it does a better job of communicating effectively with impacted workers and communities.*

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Minister Bains quote

Industry Quote

Labour quote

Learn More:

Contact:

Jen Holmwood
Deputy Communications Director
Office of the Premier
250 818-4881

David Haslam
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource
Operations and Rural Development

Funding to Support Mill Workers Impacted by Permanent and Indefinite Mill Closures
Q & A
Aug. 10, 2019
DRAFT

Funding General:

1. Is this new funding?

- We are reallocating funding from other areas to ensure urgently needed supports are in place for impacted workers and their families. Our government will ensure that forests workers impacted by mill closures are supported.

2. Why are you making this funding available to forestry workers when you haven't provided supports to workers in other sectors that have similarly faced job losses?

- There has not been another industry in British Columbia where significant job loss of this nature has been experienced.
- Job loss in the forest sector is unique, as forestry is the main source of employment for many Interior communities.
- Given the scope of this issues, I'd really like to see additional support from the federal government. Earlier this year, the feds were quick to respond with support for aluminum and steel workers. B.C.'s Interior forestry sector needs that kind of federal response and the workers and their families need it now.
- We appreciate the measures the federal government announced in 2017 as part of its Softwood Lumber Action Plan, but more needs to be done.

Who Qualifies:

3. What are the eligibility criteria for workers and contractors to access the funding?

- Eligibility criteria and information about the application process will be made available to workers and companies next week

4. Will downstream businesses and workers that are indirectly impacted by permanent and indefinite mill closures, suppliers, etc., qualify for any of the funding?

- The program will be available to eligible applicants that have been actively employed in the forest industry. This support will allow these workers to remain in the communities where live, reducing potential economic impacts to other businesses in their communities.

5. How many Interior forestry workers and are impacted?

- We're currently looking at approximately **500** workers in **3** interior communities that have been impacted by permanent closure, around **1500** workers in **10** interior

Funding to Support Mill Workers Impacted by Permanent and Indefinite Mill Closures
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communities that have been impacted by indefinite curtailments or shift reductions, and roughly **1900** more that ***are experiencing*** some impact resulting from temporary curtailments. impacted by this situation.

Early Retirement Bridging:

6. Government is providing \$40 million to establish a new cost-shared early retirement bridging program. How much is industry providing for this program?

- The split between government and industry contributions will vary from individual to individual as there are numerous factors that must be considered on a case by case basis. As there are multiple companies involved, it is not possible at this time to determine how much industry as a whole is providing. Industry and government are committed to working together to make the program as seamless as possible in providing support to workers.

Commented [PGG1]: Need confirmation on this.

7. Do you have a number for how many of the impacted forestry workers and contractors qualify for early-retirement bridging?

- It's too early to say. Over the coming weeks we will work with the companies to get a better picture of how many employees may qualify.

Job Placement:

8. Will the new job placement coordination office be part of the WorkBC offices or will it be a stand-alone entity?

- The job placement coordination office will be a standalone entity within the Ministry of Labour, but will align and coordinate with the programs and services provided by WorkBC. The job placement coordination office will have dedicated resources to support interior forest workers that are currently impacted, whereas WorkBC services could provide additional support where needed.

Support for Communities:

9. Given that a number of the mill closures are permanent, what are you doing to support impacted workers and communities over the long-term?

Funding to Support Mill Workers Impacted by Permanent and Indefinite Mill Closures
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- Funding is in place to provide community support grants aimed at providing short-term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer.
- Earlier this year, I asked industry, labour, Indigenous and non-Indigenous community leaders to work together to develop a new vision for the Interior forest industry at the regional level.
- This is not a Victoria-imposed solution. It is a locally-developed vision for the future based on local timber supply areas.
- Government will support communities and workers to find their place in the future of the forest industry. Value-added wood products are the future of B.C.'s forest industry. This period is difficult as the industry undergoes transition, but this is a time of transition as the industry moves towards generating higher-value, instead of higher-volume production. We are moving ahead with taller wood building construction, and we're going to do more to encourage local companies, municipalities and Indigenous Nations to use engineered wood products for their projects.
- The industry has renewed itself in the face of challenges before and will do so again. Together we can build a forest industry that creates thousands of good-paying jobs for local workers and Indigenous Nations and supports communities for generations to come.
- Change is never easy. There are no quick fixes. If we're going to find solutions that work for everyone, we need to roll up our sleeves and face up to the challenges together.

Support for Coastal Workers:

10. The funding is aimed at Interior forest workers. Will you be doing anything for impacted workers in the Coastal forestry sector?

- The situation in the Coastal forest sector is different from what is happening in the Interior. The issues in the interior are directly attributed to impacts from the mountain-pine beetle. The situation in the interior has been anticipated and industry and the former government had known this was coming. The layoffs and impacts are widespread in the interior and many of the jobs that have been impacted will not come back.
- The situation on the coast is different, in that there is currently a curtailment, and an ongoing strike. The coast is undergoing a period of policy adjustment, and government staff continue to work closely with industry stakeholders to support them through this period. There is not the same period of industry rationalization occurring in that part of

Funding to Support Mill Workers Impacted by Permanent and Indefinite Mill Closures
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the sector. We will continue to watch the situation closely and take additional action as needed.

- The forest sector is facing serious international challenges, including a weakening of the U.S. housing market, and unfair, unjust duties being applied to British Columbian forest products at the border.
- We are working towards solutions that will see the long-term success of the Coast forest sector, including encouraging greater partnerships between forest tenure holders, pulp and paper manufacturers and salvagers to move more fibre into pulp and paper manufacturing.
- We've also revised log export rules to continue support for communities, workers and companies who want to harvest fibre from uneconomical areas, and bringing in two legislative changes that reflect the objective to increase public confidence in forest management activities and the sector.

SPEAKING NOTES

Doug Donaldson

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

Interior Forest Workers Transition Funding

**CN Intermodal Terminal
Prince George, BC**

Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019

XX a.m.

(Check Against Delivery)

DRAFT 1

Page 95 of 99 to/à Page 99 of 99

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Hunter, Justine <JHunter@globeandmail.com>
Sent: September 16, 2019 6:42 PM
To: Smith, George PREM:EX
Subject: Re: i'm guessing the answer....

Bless you

Sent from Nine

From: "Smith, George PREM:EX"
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2019 5:21 PM
To: Hunter, Justine
Subject: RE: i'm guessing the answer....

Under strict embargo. Announcement public between 10 and 10:30am tomorrow. I'll flag to you when it's lifted.
For Immediate Release
[release number]
Sept. 17, 2019

Office of the Premier
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and
Rural Development

Government outlines new forest worker support programs

VICTORIA –The provincial government has announced \$69 million to fund a new series of measures aimed at supporting British Columbia forest workers impacted by mill closures and shift reductions in several B.C. Interior communities. The Interior forest industry has been reducing production in an effort to adjust to the end of the mountain pine beetle harvest and the devastating 2017 and 2018 fire seasons.

"The previous government knew that the end of mountain pine beetle harvest would disrupt the lives of forest workers, contractors and communities, but they did little to prepare for this inevitable transition," said Premier John Horgan.

"While the forest sector must reduce surplus milling capacity to remain competitive, it cannot do so at the expense of the workers who built the industry. Our government will ensure that forests workers impacted by mill closures are supported."

Horgan and Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development met with the chief executive officers of the major Interior forest companies to set out measures to support forest workers in the months and years ahead. Those measures include:

- \$40 million to establish a new cost-shared, early-retirement bridging program for older forest workers;
- \$15 million to establish a new short-term forest employment program, focused on fire prevention and community resiliency projects;
- \$12 million for workers to access skills training, and for employer and community grants for training;
- \$2 million to establish a new job placement co-ordination office that will track the transition and employment of impacted forest workers on an individual basis; and
- Community support grants aimed at providing short-term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer.

"The Province is committed to supporting the people impacted by this change, but we need the forest industry and the federal government to step up and do their part as well," said Donaldson. "I'm hopeful that the Interior forest sector recognizes that the new industry that will arise from this transition will need skilled, experienced workers to produce new forest products that can compete in global markets."

Donaldson called on the forest industry to increase supports for impacted workers, ensure key corporate leaders are working on the industry transition and ensure that it does a better job of communicating effectively with impacted workers and communities.

"The forest industry and its workers have built the success of the industry and bolstered BC's economy for decades," said Harry Bains, Minister of Labour. "I am pleased that my ministry can help deliver solutions that provide direct and

tangible support to workers impacted by current challenges in the forest industry and that will help sustain family-supporting jobs in communities that are home to the industry and its workers.”

Quotes:

Ravi Kahlon, Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development –

“Over the summer, I met with workers, industry and elected officials in many of the Interior communities impacted by permanent and indefinite mill closures. The \$69 million our government is providing to support impacted workers and families and enable resilient forest communities is a direct result of my discussions with the people who live and work in these Interior communities.”

Ray Ferris, CEO, West Fraser –

"We appreciate the Province recognizing these supportive measures needed for impacted workers as industry adapts to declining timber supply. This funding for workers' support aligns with our efforts at West Fraser to ensure continuing employment and opportunity for our hard-working employees and their families as industry works together with government on longer-term solutions to our current challenges."

Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training –

“We’re ensuring that impacted forestry workers and their communities have access to retraining and supports they need to assist them with this transition. We’re providing funding for skills training programs and employer and community grants that will give people the new skills they need to prepare for sustainable employment and good family-supporting jobs.”

Gary Fiege, President, Public and Private Workers of Canada –

“The Public and Private Workers of Canada stands with the provincial government, today. In doing so, we recognize the value of what is being offered to the people of rural British Columbia. It was through communication, co-operation and compassion with, and for, the affected forestry workers and the communities they call home that relief will be forthcoming. We will continue to work to save jobs but have to be realistic with the situation at hand and help people transition in a changed landscape. This funding announced today is just a start in the effort needed to accomplish this transition.”

Gavin McGarrigle, Western Regional Director, Unifor –

"Taking this step to support workers and their families is the right thing for the B.C. government to do. Forestry workers are facing enormous challenges across the Interior right now and we know that with the right supports for these workers and with the right investments by corporations, the forestry sector can rise to meet these challenges and be a vital part of our sustainable future."

Contact:

Jen Holmwood
Deputy Communications Director
Office of the Premier
250 818-4881
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural
Resource Operations and Rural Development
Media Relations
250 356-7506

From: Hunter, Justine
Sent: September 16, 2019 5:08 PM
To: Smith, George PREM:EX
Subject: i'm guessing the answer....
But I'm told even an embargo for tomorrow would be appreciated....
Cheers,
JH
Justine Hunter
National Correspondent
The Globe and Mail
O: (250) 220-2718 C: (250) 857-4779