

From: Yurkovich, Susan
Sent: September 16, 2019 11:48 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX ; Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX
Cc: Kahlon.MLA, Ravi LASS:EX ; Wright, Don J. PREM:EX ; Allan, John FLNR:EX ; Kennedy, Christine PREM:EX ; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX ; Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX ; Kayne, Don (Canfor Corporation)
Subject: Document and letter

Dear Premier Horgan and Minister Donaldson,

Please find attached a letter and document – “Smart Future: A Path Forward for B.C.’s Forest Products Industry.” This document provides some ideas and choices that we believe can help build a stronger future for B.C.’s forest sector. We appreciate your invitation to collaborate on the challenges facing our industry and look forward to discussing these ideas and others with you, workers, communities and First Nations at our upcoming Prince George Community Dinner, UBCM and in the weeks ahead.

Susan
Susan Yurkovich
President and CEO
Phone: +1 604-891-1205
Mobile: +1 604-880-1895
Email: yurkovich@cofi.org

September 16, 2019

Hon. John Horgan
Premier
Province of British Columbia
Via email: premier@gov.bc.ca

Hon. Doug Donaldson
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource
Operations and Rural Development
Via email : FLNR.minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Premier and Minister:

In your letter to forest industry CEOs in April of this year, you expressed an invitation for a collaborative process with industry and stakeholders to confront the challenges facing the sector, challenges which are impacting workers and communities throughout the province. The letter acknowledged the factors underlining the deteriorating business conditions – increasing fibre costs, falling lumber prices, decline of the mountain pine beetle harvest and new habitat protections and other deferrals reducing access to the timber supply.

We appreciate your recognition that our industry is facing challenges and that it has been resilient, demonstrating the ability to innovate and adapt over time, including demonstrating leadership in reconciliation and environmental sustainability. Over decades, we have built a world-class industry, but, at this critical time, we know we all have more work to do.

COFI and its member companies have been actively participating in the consultation and engagement processes currently underway to revitalize and renew the sector, including attending more than 20 stakeholder meetings held throughout the interior this summer. Much of the discussion at these sessions has rightly focused on the need to support workers and communities to address the impacts of closures and curtailments as mill capacity is rebalanced to match lower harvest levels. But we are also getting questions from mayors, local governments, First Nations, our employees, partners and customers asking what the future looks like for forestry in B.C. and where we will be once we have moved through this transition.

To try to answer these questions, and in response to your invitation for dialogue and collaboration, we have prepared the attached document – *Smart Future: A Path Forward for B.C.'s Forest Products Industry*. The document provides 60 ideas and actions – choices that we think can help build a better future for our industry.

We recognize that some ideas presented here are not new. Some ideas can be implemented by industry, others will require government action, and all will require a collective effort from workers, contractors, communities, First Nations, academic institutions, and others.

Factors like market volatility and trade uncertainties are beyond our control, and as such, our focus is on ideas where we can influence outcomes. The 60 actions are outlined under five major areas:

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

We recognize this list is not complete. Others will have ideas that can complement these choices. But our hope is that it provides a path forward and that we can work together to put these ideas into action to secure a better future for the forest sector, and for the people who depend on it. We believe that by working together, we can ensure B.C.'s forest sector is a model for the world in product innovation, technological advances and environmental care.

On behalf of the Board and members of BC Council of Forest Industries, we look forward to working in partnership with you to position our forest industry for long-term success for the benefit of all British Columbians.

Yours truly,



Susan Yurkovich
President & CEO

Attachment: *Smart Future: A Path Forward for B.C.'s Forest Products Industry*

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

Don Wright, Deputy Minister to the Premier

John Allan, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development



SMART FUTURE

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



COUNCIL
OF FOREST
INDUSTRIES

FORESTRY FOR THE PLANET.
FOREST PRODUCTS FOR THE WORLD.

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October 9, 2019

Susan Yurkovich, President and CEO
BC Council of Forest Industries
1220-595 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC V6C 2T5

Dear Ms. Yurkovich:

Susan
Thank you for your letter and report (Smart Future: A Path Forward for B.C.'s Forest Products Industry) of September 16, 2019, sent to Minister Donaldson and me, regarding ideas and recommendations for improving BC's forest sector. I would also like to note my appreciation for the support you have shown the Interior Forest Sector Renewal engagement throughout the summer and into the fall.

The report and its focus on five major areas with sixty recommendations will be analyzed and reviewed in the context of the four main objectives identified by government:

- A globally competitive forest industry
- Resilient communities and workforce
- Reconciliation with Indigenous communities
- Sustainable forest management

I believe that the information we will receive through our engagement process will begin to form the conversation on the future of our forest industry and the communities that support it.

I look forward to working with you, others within the forest industry, our communities (Indigenous and Non-Indigenous), labour and stakeholders in setting the vision for our forest industry.

Sincerely,

John Horgan
John Horgan
Premier

pc: Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
➤ Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister
➤ John Allan, Deputy Minister
➤ Ravi Kahlon, Parliamentary Secretary

From: Horgan.MLA, John
Sent: December 2, 2020 12:47 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Subject: FW: Letter from Susan Yurkovich, President & CEO, BC Council of Forest Industries

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

From: Ho, Anne
Sent: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 11:20 AM
To: Horgan.MLA, John
Cc: Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX ; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX ; don.bains@gov.bc.ca; Nash, Amber PREM:EX ; Alexa Young
Subject: Letter from Susan Yurkovich, President & CEO, BC Council of Forest Industries

Good afternoon,

On behalf of Susan Yurkovich, President and CEO of the BC Council of Forest Industries, please find attached letter to Premier Horgan.

Please note attachments. Hard copy to follow by mail.

Best,

Anne

Anne Ho
Executive Assistant to President and CEO / Office Manager
1220 – 595 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC V6C 2T5
Phone: 604-891-1211 | Mobile: 778-991-7616 | e-mail: ho@cofi.org

December 2, 2020

Hon. John Horgan
Premier of British Columbia
Suite 740 – 999 Canada Place
Vancouver, BC V6C 3E1

Dear Premier Horgan,

On behalf of the Board and member companies of the BC Council of Forest Industries (COFI), congratulations on your re-election and your government's second term in office.

As the voice of B.C.'s forest industry, representing the majority of lumber, pulp and paper, and manufactured wood producers in the province – we look forward to continuing working with you in the next Legislative session as you work to advance your government's mandate. Whether it's lifting up our economy, advancing reconciliation, tackling climate change or growing opportunities in our sector, we believe we can contribute.

Importantly, with all minds turned to keeping British Columbians safe and employed as we navigate the biggest health and economic crisis of our generation, our industry can help get more people back on their feet.

B.C.'s forest industry is recognized as a global leader in sustainable forest management and has an economic impact in the province like no other – accounting for one-third of B.C.'s exports, contributing about \$4 billion in taxes annually to support healthcare and other critical social services, and directly and indirectly employing more than 100,000 British Columbians.

As you know well, our industry supports people and businesses big and small, in rural communities and urban centres from Prince George to Metro Vancouver. Our recently released Regional Supply Chain Study – *'Deep Roots. Strong Communities.'* – confirmed that last year COFI member companies purchased \$7 billion worth of goods and services from nearly 9,900 companies and Indigenous suppliers located in 340 communities across B.C., including nearly \$8.5 million spent on 25 suppliers located in your riding. A copy of the report is enclosed.

While our industry faces many challenges, including rising costs, access to fibre, trade volatility and strong global competition, we believe there is a bright future for our industry – one that supports the road to economic recovery ahead, secures next generation jobs and provides the low carbon forest products the world wants. As outlined in our 2019 Report – *Smart Future, a Path Forward for B.C.'s Forest Products Industry*, we also believe there is strength in partnership, and we are committed to working with your government, workers, communities, Indigenous leaders, academia and others to find solutions and ensure a bright future for all British Columbians.

Again, congratulations. We look forward to connecting with you in the weeks ahead as we work to advance our collective objectives. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at yurkovich@cofi.org.

Sincerely,



Susan Yurkovich
President and CEO

Deep Roots. Strong Communities.

2019 Regional Supply Chain Study



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From: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: December 14, 2020 12:08 PM
To: 'Ho@cofi.org'
Cc: Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX
Subject: FW: Letter from Susan Yurkovich, President & CEO, BC Council of Forest Industries

Dear Ms. Yurkovich:

Thank you for your email on behalf of the BC Council of Forest Industries. We appreciate your taking the time to write and will share your message with Premier Horgan at our earliest opportunity.

On your behalf we have also provided a copy of your message to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development for their review.

Thank you, again, for taking the time to write. We wish you all the best.

From: Yurkovich, Susan
Sent: April 14, 2021 6:30 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Cc: Gillrie, Diana ; Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX
Subject: Thank you

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Susan Yurkovich
President and CEO
Phone: +1 604-891-1205
Mobile: +1 604-880-1895

April 12, 2021

Hon. John Horgan
Premier, Province of British Columbia
PO Box 9041 Stn. Prov. Gov't.
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

Dear Premier,

On behalf of the Board and member companies of the BC Council of Forest Industries, I want to thank you for your keynote address to delegates at COFI's 2021 Virtual Convention.

As an industry, we share your enthusiasm about the opportunities ahead for our sector. More and more the world is looking to low carbon products made from sustainably managed forests because they are better choices for the planet and BC is well positioned to meet that demand.

As we work to grow our products and markets, we want to do so in a way that ensures a sustainable, inclusive industry that can continue to provide benefits to British Columbians for generations to come. We recognize the desire to modernize the forest sector to ensure that it can continue to do just that and we look forward to working collaboratively with government, first nations, labour and partners to achieve this objective.

On behalf of our delegates, and the more than 100,000 people who work in the sector, we appreciate you taking to time to be with us and for helping make the COFI Convention program a success. We look forward to welcoming you back in person at next year's COFI Convention from April 27-29, 2022.

Warm regards,



Susan Yurkovich
President and CEO
BC Council of Forest Industries

From: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: April 15, 2021 9:59 AM
To: 'yurkovich@cofi.org'
Subject: FW: Thank you

Dear Ms. Yurkovich:

Thank you for your letter to Premier Horgan regarding the COFI 2021 Virtual Convention. We appreciate your taking the time to write. On receipt of your letter, a copy was shared with the Premier and his senior staff.

Thank you, again, for writing. We wish you all the best.