

INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE - AUGUST 12, 2019

1.	Building Department - Building Statistics - July 2019	N
2.	Building Department - Building Permits - Yearly Statistics	N
3.	A. Reid - email dated July 13, 2019 - New panhandling bylaw	N
4.	A. Priefer - email dated July 14, 2019 - Bag ban	N
5.	S. Campolin - email dated July 14, 2019 - Panhandling fines	N
6.	D. Gregory - email dated July 17, 2019 - Salmon Arm approved \$50 fine for people sitting on sidewalks asking for money	N
7.	A. Arcand - letter dated July 18, 2019 - Intersection at 3 rd Street South West and 5 th Avenue South West	A
8.	P. Martin - email dated July 18, 2019 - Sidewalk fines	N
9.	M. and R. Moerike - letter dated July 26, 2019 - Letter of October 31, 2018	N
10.	J. Funfer - email dated July 29, 2019 - Paper	A
11.	A. Kirkpatrick - email dated July 29, 2019 - Accessibility... not	A
12.	K. Spalding - email from August 5, 2019 - Canoe cottages	N
13.	P. McIntyre-Paul, Secretariat for the Sicamous-to-Armstrong Rail Trail Governance Advisory Committee and Technical Operational Committee c/o The Shuswap Trail Alliance - media release dated July 26, 2019 - Governance partners move planning and technical consultation forward for Sicamous-to-Armstrong Rail Trail	N
14.	G. Arsenault, Green Emerald Construction Inc. - email dated August 1, 2019 - Regarding Utility Billing date after issuance of building permit (Policy 7.22)	A
15.	A. Singh, UBCM President - letter dated July 22, 2019 - Gas Tax Agreement Community Works Fund Payment	N
16.	Dr. Sue Pollock, Dr. Karin Goodison, Dr. Silvina Mema, and Dr. Kamran Golmohammadi, Medical Health Officer, Interior Health letter dated July 25, 2019 - Heat and Smoke Community Planning	N
17.	G. Mandziuk, President and Chief Executive Officer, Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association - letter dated July 16, 2019 - "Drive for Sustainability"	A
18.	R. Fraser, Mayor, District of Taylor to the Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister of Education - letter dated July 15, 2019 - Provincial Support for Libraries	N
19.	L. Ackerman, Mayor, City of Fort St. John to the Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister of Education - letter dated July 15, 2019 - Provincial Support for Libraries	N
20.	M. O'Halloran, Deputy Corporate Officer, Municipality of North Cowichan - letter dated July 15, 2019 - UBCM Resolution - Regional Management of Forestry	N
21.	B. Beamish, Mayor, Town of Gibsons to the Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister of Education - letter dated July 16, 2019 - Provincial Support for Libraries	N
22.	L. Michetti, Mayor, Corporation of the Village of Pouce Coupe to the Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister of Education - letter dated July 19, 2019 - Provincial Support for Libraries	N
23.	L. Hall, Mayor, City of Prince George to the Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister of Education - letter dated July 23, 2019 - Provincial Support for Libraries	N
24.	D. McKerracher, Mayor, District of Elkford to the Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister of Education - letter dated July 24, 2019 - Provincial Support for Libraries	N
25.	B. Dingwall, Mayor, City of Pitt Meadows - letter dated July 24, 2019 - District of West Vancouver Council Resolution regarding "Confirming Municipal Jurisdiction to Regulate Single-Use Items"	N

N = No Action Required

A = Action Requested

S = Staff has Responded

R = Response Required

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|-----|---|---|
| 26. | B. Dingwall, Mayor, City of Pitt Meadows to the Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister of Education- letter dated August 2, 2019 - City of Victoria's resolution requesting provincial support for libraries | N |
| 27. | British Columbia Utilities Commission - letter dated August 1, 2019 - British Columbia Utilities Commission - An Inquiry into the Regulation of Municipal Energy Utilities - Regulatory Timetable Establishment | N |

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CITY OF SALMON ARM

CITY OF SALMON ARM BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT JULY 2019

LAST YEAR (2018)
CURRENT MONTH YEAR-TO-DATE

CURRENT YEAR (2019)
CURRENT MONTH YEAR-TO-DATE

		NO.	VALUE	NO.	VALUE	NO.	VALUE	NO.	VALUE
1	New Single Family Dwellings	14	4,430,000	79	25,346,999	6	2,620,000	28	9,740,000
2	Misc. Additions etc. to SFD's	9	276,000	67	2,520,084	13	640,738	53	2,323,038
3	New Single Family Dwellings with suites					5	1,570,000	11	4,018,000
4	New Secondary/Detached Suites					3	35,000	9	569,600
5	New Modulars/MH's (Factory Built)	-	-	6	1,270,000	-	-	5	1,160,000
6	Misc. Additions etc. to Modulars/MH's	-	-	5	15,155	3	18,500	10	66,770
7	MFD's (# Units)	2 (7)	1,400,000	8 (27)	4,700,000	-	-	1 (2)	500,000
8	Misc. Additions etc. to MFD's	-	-	1	1,500	3	124,600	7	230,600
9	New Commercial	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6,460,000
10	Misc. Additions etc. to Commercial	2	670,000	9	831,800	3	18,300	13	372,853
11	New Industrial	1	245,000	5	545,000	-	-	3	3,343,998
12	Misc. Additions etc. to Industrial	-	-	4	2,067,000	-	-	3	1,285,000
13	New Institutional	-	-	1	100,000	-	-	2	586,033
14	Misc. Additions etc. to Institutional	1	5,000	3	49,000	1	5,000	5	136,000
15	Signs	6	25,665	23	93,874	5	55,550	27	241,389
16	Swimming Pools, Pool Buildings	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	70,000
17	Demolitions	-	-	5	-	3	-	14	-
18	Temporary Trailers, A & B Permits	-	-	5	-	-	-	2	-
19	Misc. Special Inspections, etc.	2	-	8	-	7	-	26	-
	TOTAL PERMITS ISSUED	37	7,051,665	229	37,540,412	52	5,087,688	222	31,103,281

MFD's - Apartment, Row, Duplex, Strata (# of dwelling units created)

Farm building values not included

1

BUILDING PERMITS - YEARLY												
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
2001	585,500	11,938,550	12,265,250	12,842,790	13,534,790	14,712,550	16,330,650	17,717,625	19,031,075	19,895,255	21,318,855	21,458,195
2002	585,500	1,952,500	3,340,850	3,821,240	5,455,840	6,411,690	8,844,690	10,932,510	15,780,890	16,705,600	17,738,200	17,923,700
2003	130,110	920,780	2,974,020	4,486,120	5,993,320	13,294,120	15,555,250	17,937,005	20,318,920	22,000,340	24,005,740	24,782,360
2004	430,700	1,506,500	5,903,780	8,379,104	10,122,768	12,086,319	14,779,343	21,598,763	30,371,023	33,614,173	34,957,458	35,881,343
2005	1,072,000	2,269,650	4,344,750	6,806,152	12,110,482	28,031,457	29,985,585	34,743,645	37,600,445	42,915,856	45,525,611	47,576,746
2006	815,550	3,224,468	8,012,449	11,501,929	16,084,809	20,066,533	23,714,194	26,370,890	36,479,806	37,278,358	42,332,995	43,077,170
2007	1,531,087	3,901,669	16,148,674	22,413,118	27,232,134	32,401,472	35,657,297	42,829,750	51,945,799	55,703,387	65,885,802	66,289,555
2008	1,797,604	4,203,429	12,947,058	27,647,379	33,857,533	36,582,025	39,759,375	42,395,454	45,412,474	50,699,301	53,383,541	53,522,880
2009	409,369	864,839	2,039,460	5,207,311	6,763,615	7,800,085	9,677,455	11,579,746	18,882,737	20,713,554	23,523,664	24,337,664
2010	1,518,563	2,708,062	5,931,546	10,081,816	12,260,236	13,526,546	16,597,121	18,790,511	19,848,804	21,174,632	22,953,692	27,249,702
2011	568,645	2,003,976	5,063,837	7,449,773	9,471,416	11,761,850	12,794,028	14,222,970	18,194,801	19,682,061	30,563,013	31,934,415
2012	2,189,660	3,128,562	4,794,040	6,337,260	10,000,544	12,120,246	17,883,185	24,375,078	26,118,787	26,493,820	28,130,500	28,666,430
2013	881,740	1,440,110	13,907,060	15,814,195	17,433,454	20,194,778	23,204,628	24,180,485	26,567,302	29,195,224	30,890,086	31,231,349
2014	665,304	2,806,404	8,075,941	20,789,869	27,574,834	29,877,686	33,456,523	41,971,923	42,784,769	44,804,191	46,460,471	47,707,993
2015	1,172,285	1,853,539	3,894,754	6,750,389	8,575,425	18,388,180	20,475,407	26,442,225	29,143,303	31,248,595	35,417,465	37,368,595
2016	1,268,865	2,298,280	4,987,625	8,904,610	12,253,660	16,279,464	19,265,124	23,811,029	29,823,014	36,084,949	40,154,959	41,418,659
2017	1,183,280	2,841,725	7,219,495	11,761,657	18,136,656	23,823,576	30,793,243	36,066,891	52,130,226	59,858,542	63,366,686	64,675,041
2018	1,970,104	3,943,104	10,028,787	14,363,122	20,252,322	30,488,747	37,540,412	40,421,060	55,689,215	59,634,580	64,988,531	66,797,572
2019	6,060,645	6,835,345	10,699,845	18,074,843	22,220,523	26,015,593	31,103,281					

Erin Jackson

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Saturday, July 13, 2019 6:50 PM
To: Alan Harrison; Chad Eliason; Debbie Cannon; Kevin Flynn; Louise Wallace-Richmond; Sylvia Lindgren; Tim Lavery; Carl Bannister; Erin Jackson
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Mayor and Council

Mayor and Council

First Name Anna-Maria
Last Name Reid
Address: Terraces on Broadview
Return email address:
Subject: New panhandling bylaw

Body

I am absolutely disgusted by the recent passing of a bylaw to institute a \$50 fine for panhandling. If someone is relying on panhandling to make ends meet (often just to eat, since our housing prices are so steep they are likely homeless) it is cruel to remove their source of income and heartless to charge them a fine on top of that. If homeless people and panhandlers are a problem for the city, there should be initiatives to provide cheaper housing and more support for the local food bank. Thank you Councillor Lindgren for voting against this disgusting bylaw.

Would you like a response: No

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Erin Jackson

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Sunday, July 14, 2019 9:35 PM
To: Alan Harrison; Chad Eliason; Debbie Cannon; Kevin Flynn; Louise Wallace-Richmond; Sylvia Lindgren; Tim Lavery; Carl Bannister; Erin Jackson
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Mayor and Council

Mayor and Council

First Name Amanda
Last Name Priefer
Address: 187 okanagan ave SE
Return email address:
Subject: Bag ban
Body
Please read the following article.
<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/canada/victorias-plastic-bag-ban-quashed-by-bc-court/ar-AAEc4lw?ocid=sf>
Would you like a response: Yes

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Erin Jackson

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Sunday, July 14, 2019 6:26 PM
To: Alan Harrison; Chad Eliason; Debbie Cannon; Kevin Flynn; Louise Wallace-Richmond; Sylvia Lindgren; Tim Lavery; Carl Bannister; Erin Jackson
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Mayor and Council

Mayor and Council

First Name Sarah
Last Name Campolin
Address: 13555 Surrey BC

Return email address:

Subject: Panhandling fines

Body What gives you the right to fine people who are simply doing what they need to do to survive? The new panhandling fines target the most vulnerable people and will do absolutely nothing to curb homelessness. Disgusting. You should be so ashamed of yourselves.

Would you like a response: Yes

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Erin Jackson

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:15 PM
To: Alan Harrison; Chad Eliason; Debbie Cannon; Kevin Flynn; Louise Wallace-Richmond; Sylvia Lindgren; Tim Lavery; Carl Bannister; Erin Jackson
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Mayor and Council

Mayor and Council

First Name Darren

Last Name Gregory

Address: 5474 Cory Road

Return
email
address:

Subject: Salmon Arm approves \$50 fine for people sitting on sidewalks asking for money

Body Darren Gregory

5474 Cory Road

Wyndel BC, V0B2N1

July 17th, 2019

Mr. Greg Kylo, MLA-Shuswap
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
Email: greg.kylo.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Sir:

The idea of fining the vulnerable in Salmon Arm, prompts this response. As you are MLA for the region, I feel it's incumbent upon you to publicly respond to this travesty by supporting those in the streets over the callous in the community that would demand such a thing of impoverished human beings.

How's this punishing the vulnerable thing we have running now in BC working out?

I'm sick to death of those we've allowed into seats of power taking steps like this, only serving to continue victim-blaming those we've tossed to that curb as a society in BC on the whole.

https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/salmon-arm-council-approve-50-dollar-fine-sitting-street-1.5207277?fbclid=IwAR3RAktfC9s7jjTChbPhOXVf19sivHYsXMVQJsbnMui9g7REQuh3tH_uGts

Both the Elected and those we EMPLOY as public servants, municipal, Provincial, and Federal, alongside public citizens who from armchairs dictate towards those in the streets as though we're dogs, can't continue to pursue the tactics that we know are a failing as much as the total failing of social and drug policy in Canada has been.

Do you, sir, know the root causes of this problem?

If so-great. If not? Why not?

Do we get our money's worth as taxpayers from this bunch? Those leaders we elect and those we allowed reign in the public service who created the inept policies that have taken us to the state we're now together as a Province stuck with?

Not even close.

Our Public Service is responsible for drafting, implementing, monitoring, adjusting, and informing us on public policy.

In BC, under past Right-Wing rule, this situation was allowed to unravel and our paid public servants and those we've elected to represent us (all of us) generated the outcomes over 2 decades that we're seeing as problems in our space today.

How's that working out for us? For those who now have to put a CUP down on the sidewalk to get a dime or two, I'd say, it's not working out at all.

We've become at the level of governance a twisted society that PROMOTES the early death of our most vulnerable.

Yes, PROMOTES the early death of those we throw-away.

What's that called?

What's the outcome of the past twenty years in BC called, if we're being truthful about

ourselves?

"Genocide by attrition occurs when a group is stripped of its human rights, political, civil and economic. This leads to deprivation of conditions essential for maintaining health, thereby producing mass death."

<https://cdn2.sph.harvard.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/125/2014/03/4-Fein.pdf>

I'll say it: WE'RE BEING CULLED.

Why the hell the phones aren't ringing off-of the BC Government walls over this-astounds me.

In March, advocates like myself presented the above as a concern to the United Nations Enable Program.

They did not leave behind the "G" word in the final statement that the Special Rapporteur for Disability left for us all to mull-over.

But she saw where our psycho-socially disabled are being let down-and that includes the reality that our prisons are full to the rafters with those of us who have ended up disabled with our psycho-social mental health conditions-some of us falling from a greater height than most would think.

I'm a former BC social service worker and former BC paramedic.

I'm one of the lucky of us (First Responders). I may be stricken and still dysfunctional due to PTSD, Depression, and SUD that went untreated for far too long: But the experience has taught me the hard way about the ways and means of governance.

And the lessons are ugly lessons. In my own life, as with the lives of those in the streets in Salmon Arm, I've had to accept that those we elect and those we employ in governments don't have our backs-only their own.

I was never compensated for work-caused PTSD as a paramedic.

I ended up on assistance and I served, honourably, for 16 years. Now on CPP-Disability, I can assure you that I know many in this boat and none of us are responsible for putting ourselves today where we are.

Trauma issues are rampant in those we've discarded. RAMPANT.

I do not want pity personally from anyone.

But I will stand up for myself and others.

As, sir, should you.

I share to say: We're all, each one, that ONE bad thing coming at us in life from ending up

precisely where these folks being fined are now in Salmon Arm.

We, BC advocates, had to call on the United Nations to come to CANADA to be heard after YEARS of hoping to persuade a change in direction in public policy under rule of the Party you pledge allegiance to, and under rule of those they planted into our public service who now hold the reigns of power as authoritarians far too-tightly.

We've had to learn the hard way, my fellow advocates and I and we tried. We really did.

We all took our cases to the highest levels allowed in BC:

Only to be met with, for me, over a decade of slammed doors and lack of care-even when First Responders started killing our selves (I survived my own suicide attempt in 2015).

"There but for the grace" people. "Can easily-too-easily Go I."

Neither Provincial Disability Benefits for those no longer able to work, nor our Canada Pension Plan provides an income that's enough to meet REAL costs of living.

I'm living by the grace off my Elder Mom. Eighty years old. Who's expected now to use HER retirement income to support herself, and well-over half of me financially.

There is something seriously wrong with that.

When she dies, heaven-now-forbid?

I'm that guy-overnight-with that cup.

Do the HEALTHY living among us TRULY believe that THEY could never end up here?

Ask all I've now met from the First Responder world who've ended up in the same predicament as me:

As citizens, we abuse these people.

We've representatives in government.

How many of us floating around on here besides myself and fellow advocates would dare write to the United Nations Human Rights people?

Only a handful of us were willing to do that.

And I did so because I'm sick of talking to slammed doors.

We've new politicians at the helm in BC. But have we kicked out of Victoria those who we employ as leaders in the public service who GENERATED all this mess?

NOPE.

They'll walk with impunity if they have their way into a cushy retirement, they think, sooner or later.

Not on this advocates watch now will they get away with this.

I'll drag them all to the Hague, one-by-one, myself if need be.

We had to call on the United Nations to be heard-the disabled in our Province.

PLEASE LET THAT SINK IN.

To protect our human rights, and to protect as healthy citizens with our insistence, those most vulnerable in the society:

Sir: This isn't about CHARITY

I fight for others because I'm living this nonsense alongside them now.

It's a frank act, or set of acts, of self-defense to support the social welfare of those who've not made it in the society. In fact, as a representative of the people:

This is your servants duty.

"Then they came for me? There was nobody left to fight."

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24481&LangID=E>

If I were down and out today on the street with a cup in Salmon Arm and some twit came along, sanctioned to do so or otherwise, demanding that I pay a fine like this?

This is my response as it would be:

"I, Mr. psycho-socially disabled Canadian, fallen, yes, from grace as YOU (society) define that: I'm dying in the street right under your noses and you're not lifting a finger. GENOCIDE by ATTRITION. That's what you support."

Let THAT sink in.

Look up the penalty for participation in commission of a genocide in Canada.

And don't think for a second we're not complicit as public citizens.

And those BELOW those leading in the public service right now better wake up, because we're very serious as advocates as to how far we're willing to go now to deal deal with issues of violation of human rights: Don't think for a minute that those above will protect those working the front-lines for the BC Government.

Over 20 years? Past governance placed the weakest working front line out here for us to contend with, all blind to the reality that regardless of what their bosses might think:

It is these front-line workers, and your own duty, to protect the public PERSONALLY from violations that cause harm.

Taking \$50 out of a cup for a fine from an impoverished disabled citizen?

Thus we called on the U.N. in March.

My further response to a fine, imposed by a twit bylaw minion, would be this as well:

"Fine me the Fifty. Take it out of the cup once there's enough in there to cover it."

"Until I get that much: Back off, and get out of my sunshine."

"It's all I have today to enjoy and right now? You're taking that away from me too."

"I was just doing my job and following orders of those above me."

Some in the front-lines and in your own position will perhaps try to use for a defense.

That hasn't been a valid defense, for International Courts, since the Eichmann trial outed that excuse for what it is.

Please stand with those on the streets with a cup.

We've stood for those making this hell for others in BC now long enough.

Regards,

Darren Gregory
www.traumarecoverybc.com

Would you like a response:

Yes

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Thursday, July 18, 2019

Dear Sirs

RE: Intersection at 3rd Street South West and 5th Avenue South West

After visiting the information meeting at the Prestige in reference to the new at the corner of 3rd St. SW and 5th Ave. SW. it becomes apparent that some attention to the intersection might be worth considering. Various issues comes to attention – like traffic flows here, pedestrian cross walks, and signage to stop vehicles on 5th Ave.

The pedestrian flow along 5th Ave. SW is discontinued between the Okanagan (condo) and 3rd Street. This sidewalk is adjacent to the newly excavated property. There is good reason to address this sidewalk issue while the work is ongoing.

Traffic flow parallel to TCH and 10th make the Fifth Avenue corridor important to transportation in the South West Quadrant of Salmon Arm. The 3rd St. and 5th Ave. (SW) intersection has become busier in recent years. There is a total of one hundred and three existing properties (94 at Cambridge, one from alley behind CC1 and 8 residents from the Rockwood) adjacent to the intersection. And parking in front of the Roots & Blues building.

I look at the other cars coming onto the intersection from the north when I leave my home on 3rd Street and wait for the other driver to invite me to cross the intersection. If the intersection was a four way stop the traffic would flow better.

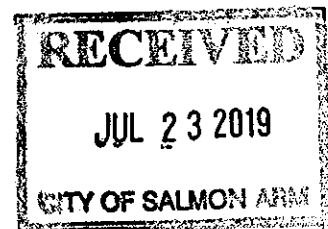
Because 3rd Street has no access to the west on TCH the commercial vehicles serving Centenoka Mall wanting to go west need to come to 5th Avenue to travel west. Stop signs at this intersection stopping traffic going east and going west would make it safer.

I hereby am asking that the city consider making 5th ave. and 3rd st. a 4 way stop intersection.

Yours sincerely,

Anthony Arcand

303 650 3rd street SW
Salmon Arm B.C.
V1E 1P6



7

Erin Jackson

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Thursday, July 18, 2019 10:06 AM
To: Alan Harrison; Chad Eliason; Debbie Cannon; Kevin Flynn; Louise Wallace-Richmond; Sylvia Lindgren; Tim Lavery; Carl Bannister; Erin Jackson
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Mayor and Council

Mayor and Council

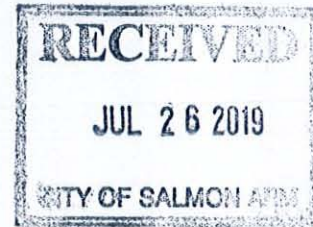
First Name Pat
Last Name Martin
Address: 3640 Jackson Road Canyon B.C. V0B 1C1
Return email address:
Subject: Sidewalk fines
Body
Your recent decision to fine people having to resort to panhandling is heartless. You need to find a better way than that. People need compassion and assistance. Be a leader in that and not a "let them eat cake" advocate. I have always loved Salmon Arm and this drastically changes my view of your community. Thankyou.
Would you like a response: Yes

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Mark and Reta Moerike
151-11 Street S.E.
Salmon Arm, B.C. V1E 4J5



July 26, 2019

Dear Mayor A. Harrison and Council;

RE: Letter of October 31st, 2018

Hello,

Thank you for your follow-up on my letter of October 31st, 2018. I received two phone calls from City employees in early December 2018 and an in-person response by Councillor, Tim Lavery. All three were professional and kind.

In late January 2019, we received a letter in the mail indicating the City of Salmon Arm would be installing a catch basin in the alley between 10th and 11th Streets S.E.

In the spring 2019, a City crew installed a catch-up basin in the location designated by the City.

It is with great delight I report that this system is effective in managing the large pooling of water that was occurring in this area of the alley. Our neighbour is also thankful he no longer parks in deep mud after each rain storm.

Beyond the resolution of my water concern, I also wanted to take a moment to thank members of Council (with special gratitude to Tim Lavery) and the City of Salmon Arm for excellent handling of my concern. While I am a person that can be forthright, it is a rarity that I complain to the City about specific issues. Further contact will be unlikely, but at least I feel confident as a citizen of this fine city that concerns will be met with due diligence.

With gratitude,

Reta Moerike

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

From: Julie Funfer

Sent: Monday, July 29, 2019 12:32 PM

To: Caylee Simmons

Subject: Paper

Hello!

The other day, I went into Healthy Spot Pet Nutrition & Supply and was informed that they must now charge for paper bags.

I was quite upset, as this business has NEVER used plastic bags at the till and are a very environmentally aware company.

I totally support the new ban on plastics and am a big fan of it, but I feel bad for SMALL businesses such as this that get punished for something they have always had in place (I say always, because I used to shop at their Vernon store). Is there no way to grandfather them in for something like this?

The paper bags they use make great gift bags afterwards as their store logo is removable. I personally just return mine to their store.

It's just too bad that the "plastic" ban effects those that never used them. If you've never been in there or met the owners, go see them (Andrea & John). Before we could do it here, they used to collect people's empty dog food bags and then pay to send them to a recycling centre that would take them so that they wouldn't end up in the land fill. They also use wind power.

They really need to be commended on the efforts they ALREADY had in place.

Again- I'm in no way against the plastic bag ban- I LOVE IT. I love the new composting system too!! Kudos!!

Sincerely,
Julie Funfer

Sent from my iPhone

----- Original message -----

From: Anne Kirkpatrick

Date: 2019-07-29 11:33 AM (GMT-08:00)

To: Alan Harrison, Rob Niewenhuizen Subject: Accessibility...not

Hello once again,

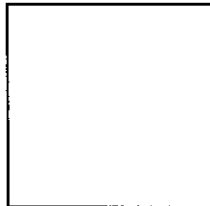
Have just returned from another distressing scenario at Blackburn Park - a woman struggling to maneuver her wheelchair along 5th St.SW, between the fairgrounds and Blackburn Park. Being forced to ride on the road behind parked cars and then having to twist through cement barriers to get around the speed bumps and negotiate rough gravel to regain the road, she did not like like she was having fun... Should anyone have to endure such assaults to comfort, safety and dignity in this town!

Upcoming provincial legislation will soon make such city-designed barriers to accessibility illegal. Our town is full of them, (don't get me started!) But as long as your priorities put accessibility well below dog parks, nothing will be done. Since both of you seem bright, charming and aware, we are absolutely mystified that you intentionally marginalize people who would benefit so much from so little.

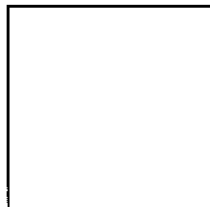
You will no doubt have lots of reasons why a short path is far too great an undertaking this decade., (or why a shingle snafu means the picnic shelter will be further postponed?...). Whatever your sentiments and excuses, current reality and your lack of action or real plans is your real measure. Don't know monkeys from organ grinders but the buck stops with you two. ACT! Sincerely, Anne Kirkpatrick and friends



Wheelchair/walker view from 10th Ave sidewalk. Feel welcome yet?



Difficult even for unsteady strollers. Why ARE the barriers still there???



Only wheelchair-accessible accessibility to the fairgrounds, alas the lock.



From: Karen Spalding
Sent: August 5, 2019 12:34 AM
To: Alan Harrison
Subject: re: Canoe cottages

Hello Mayor Harrison

I hope the council stands by the commitment to have the cottages at Canoe removed. The owners will always resist losing their cottage whether they receive more extensions or not. They have had plenty of notice this was going to occur and should not be able to drag it out forever. The buildings are an eye sore. Regardless of whether the city has the money currently to do something with the beach, as a resident I should be able to walk along the shoreline without feeling like a trespasser.

Karen Spalding



Media Release: July 26, 2019

Governance partners move planning and technical consultation forward for Sicamous-to-Armstrong Rail Trail

The Shuswap – North Okanagan – Splatshin of the Secwepemc Nation, British Columbia –

Planning for the Sicamous-to-Armstrong Rail Trail continues to move forward with adoption of a communications plan and engagement of technical expertise at the recent Rail Trail Governance Advisory meeting on July 19th.

Technical Operational Committee staff members presented a communications plan that will include launch of a dedicated web page to post information updates, establishment of a simple and direct email contact, consultation with stakeholders along the corridor including agriculture, business, and private properties, and a series of public information sessions to be scheduled in the fall.

Advisory chair, Splatshin Kukpi7 (Chief) Wayne Christian spoke to the importance of engaging the public and good communications. "Let's learn from the lessons on the Okanagan Rail Trail related to planning ahead, and let's get out on the trail so we know what we are talking about with the public."

The fourteen member Sicamous-to-Armstrong Rail Trail Governance Advisory is made up of representatives from Splatshin of the Secwepemc Nation, the Columbia Shuswap Regional District, and the Regional District of North Okanagan, and includes the communities of Sicamous, Enderby, Armstrong, Spallumcheen Township, Salmon Arm, Lumby, and Coldstream. It is learning from and building on the success of the new Okanagan Rail Trail between Vernon and Kelowna.

The Technical Operational Committee also reported that the Shuswap Trail Alliance, who are coordinating the day-to-day administration of the project, have entered into a sub-consulting agreement with Urban Systems Limited to engage Thomas Simkins, Engineering Project Manager for the Okanagan Rail Trail. Simkins will act as lead Technical Design Consultant and Engineer-on-Record for the Sicamous-to-Armstrong project.

"The efficiencies and cost savings this provides the northern rail trail project is considerable," said Shuswap Trail Alliance Executive Director, Phil McIntyre-Paul. "Okanagan Rail Trail leadership are providing us with invaluable support and direction."

Technical planning for the rail trail includes assessments for First Nations archeological and cultural heritage values, geotechnical, rock scaling, water drainage, erosion, and environmental management, as well as structural, safety, road crossings, and agricultural considerations. Consultation with adjacent agricultural operators will be initiated this fall through the Agricultural Land Commission upon formal submission of an application from the Technical Committee.



Splatsin Kukpi7 (Chief) Wayne Christian, RDNO Chair Mayor Kevin Acton, and CSRD Chair Director Rhona Martin also formally signed the recently adopted Memorandum of Understanding between the Inter-Jurisdictional partners. The MoU outlines the three governments' commitment to work together, strengthen relationships, and ensure the linear integrity of the Sicamous-to-Armstrong Rail Trail is preserved.

"We at the RDNO board are very happy to have preserved such an important linear corridor and are extremely excited about how enthusiastic and energetic our partners are to see it being brought online for the further health of our citizens, as well as the health of our economy," said Lumby Mayor, Kevin Acton, Chair of the Regional District of North Okanagan. "People investing in this amazing opportunity will surely see the benefit in years to come."

The Governance Advisory also updated on fundraising efforts for the capital development. News on results of a major Federal-Provincial infrastructure grant application for the Rail Trail are still pending.

The Inter-Jurisdictional partners gratefully acknowledge the funding support of the Province of British Columbia's Rural Dividend Program for the planning and design phase of the rail trail project. The grant was also made possible through Economic Opportunity fund investments from CSRD Area E and the District of Sicamous on behalf of the inter-regional partners.

For more information on Shuswap Trails, the Sicamous-to-Armstrong Rail Trail, or to make a donation, visit www.shuswaptrailalliance.com.

Photo (see next page): Sicamous-to-Armstrong Rail Trail Strengthens Relationships and Communication - CSRD Chair Director Rhona Martin (Area E), Splatsin Kukpi7 (Chief) Wayne Christian, and RDNO Chair Mayor Kevin Acton (Lumby), sign the recently adopted Sicamous-to-Armstrong Rail Trail Memorandum of Understanding. The MoU outlines the three governments' commitment to work together, strengthen relationships, and ensure the linear integrity of the Sicamous-to-Armstrong Rail Trail is preserved. Looking on (l. to r.) are RDNO Area F Director Denis Delisle, CSRD Area C Director Paul Demenok, Sicamous Mayor Terry Rysz, CSRD Area D Director Rene Talbot, Township of Spallumcheen Councilor Todd York, Enderby Councilor Tundra Baird, Armstrong Councilor Shirley Fowler, Coldstream Director Rick Fairbairn, and Splatsin Councilor Shawn Tronson.

For more information contact:

Phil McIntyre-Paul

Secretariat for the Sicamous-to-Armstrong Rail Trail Governance Advisory Committee
and Technical Operational Committee

c/o The Shuswap Trail Alliance

250-804-1964

phil@shuswaptrails.com

www.shuswaptrails.com



July 29, 2019 – CSRD Chair Director Rhona Martin (Area E), Splatsin Kukpi7 (Chief) Wayne Christian, and RDNO Chair Mayor Kevin Acton (Lumby), sign the recently adopted Sicamous-to-Armstrong Rail Trail Memorandum of Understanding, with members of the Rail Trail Governance Advisory looking on.

From: Green Emerald Construction

Sent: August-01-19 4:42 PM

To: Carl Bannister; Alan Harrison

Subject: Regarding Utility Billing date after issuance of building permit.

Dear Mayor and Council,

We ask that you revisit District of Salmon Arm Policy 7.22, regarding timing of water and sewer user fees after Building Permit Issuance.

Some of today's homes we build may take one year to eighteen months from date of permit to occupancy of the owner.

The policy states "Single Family Dwellings and Detached Housing Owners will be billed for annual utilities from the time the Occupancy Permit is issued or from a date four (4) months after the issuance of the building permit, whichever is first." This may have made sense long ago when houses were smaller and simpler but not anymore.

Some of the challenging lots in Salmon Arm may take four months just to prep the site for construction depending on weather. Larger Custom Homes built to the new building codes often take at least one year after that to get to final occupancy, and the sewer and water being used. The way the Policy is enforced, we are paying for a long period without using the services. Can that date be changed to a more reasonable period such as 10 months?

Thank you for considering this.

Sincerely,

Gary Arsenault



Green Emerald Construction Inc.

2100 45th Ave. N.E.

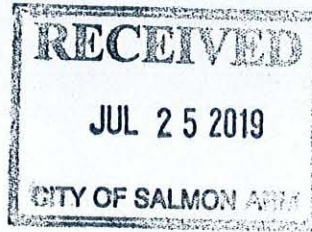
Salmon Arm, BC, V1E 2A3

Tel 250-833-5855

Fax 250-833-5815

office@greenemeraldinc.com www.greenemeraldinc.com

July 22, 2019



Mayor Alan Harrison
City of Salmon Arm
Box 40
Salmon Arm, BC V1E 4N2

Dear Mayor Alan Harrison:

RE: GAS TAX AGREEMENT COMMUNITY WORKS FUND PAYMENT

I am pleased to advise that UBCM is in the process of distributing the first Community Works Fund (CWF) payment for fiscal 2019/2020. An electronic transfer of \$1,226,999.42 is expected to occur within the next 30 days. These payments are made in accordance with the payment schedule set out in your CWF Agreement with UBCM (see section 4 of your Agreement). UBCM is also making an additional one-time payment towards CWF funding approved for disbursement by the Federal government under Budget 2019 to supplement the fiscal 2018/2019 allocation.

CWF is made available to eligible local governments by the Government of Canada pursuant to the Administrative Agreement on the Federal Gas Tax Fund in British Columbia. Funding under the program may be directed to local priorities that fall within one of the eligible project categories.

First CWF Payment: \$400,212.36
CWF One-Time Payment: \$826,787
Total EFT Transfer: \$1,226,999.42

Further details regarding use of CWF and project eligibility are outlined in your CWF Agreement and details on the Gas Tax Agreement can be found on our website at www.ubcm.ca.

For further information, please contact Gas Tax Program Services by e-mail at gastax@ubcm.ca or by phone at 250-356-5134.

Very best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arjun Singh".

Arjun Singh
UBCM President

CC: Chelsea Van de Cappelle, Chief Financial Officer

15

July 25, 2019

Dear Community Leaders and Staff Members,

The heat season had an early start this year and the probabilistic temperature forecast from Environment Canada indicates Western Canada will be facing above normal temperatures this summer¹. The hottest time period is approaching and Interior Health has some recommendations that can prevent and reduce the negative health impacts of extreme heat.

Climate change has led to more drastic temperature shifts and overall increase in temperatures and several communities in the Interior of British Columbia are at risk for extreme heat events². Community and individual adaptation can reduce health impacts of heat. Please consider this document as a guide to integrate heat related responses into your respective organizational activities and processes.

Environment and Climate Change Canada defines an **extreme heat event** for the Interior of British Columbia as two or more consecutive days with temperatures greater than or equal to 35°C with minimum overnight temperatures greater than or equal to 18°C. Additional factors, such as exposure to high humidity, direct sunlight and lack of wind, can compound stress on the body. Furthermore, the number of days heat lasts is a differentiating factor on injury caused by extreme heat; the strain on the body increases as heat days extend. Some groups are more susceptible to heat than others.

Who Is At Risk for Health Impacts of Heat

People most at risk of heat-related illness include:

- Older adults
- People who live alone or are socially isolated
- Infants and children
- People who are physically active outdoors
- People who work outdoors
- People with heart problems and breathing difficulties
- People on certain medications

It is important to know that everyone can be affected by extreme heat. Symptoms of heavy sweating, nausea, headache, general weakness, dizziness and fainting are early signs of heat illness. If milder symptoms of heat illness are experienced, relief from heat can reduce symptoms. Untreated, mild symptoms can quickly escalate to heat stroke, which is a medical emergency.

Call 911 if you or a person you are caring for has high body temperature, confusion or is unconscious. If possible, move the individual to a cool and shaded environment and apply cool water to the skin.

Short Term Relief from Heat

There are some actions that you and your organization can take to prepare for this heat season. Identify air conditioned venues in your community that are accessible to the general public. These spaces can serve as short term "heat relief centers". Reach out to the owner/manager of the venue to explore the possibility of publicly identifying the space as a place to go if an extreme heat event is declared in the community.

¹ https://weather.gc.ca/saisons/image_e.html?img=s234pfe1t_m1_cal&bc=prob June, 2019

² IPCC, 2014: Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability. Part A: Global and Sectoral Aspects. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, pp 1132.

Some examples of potential venues:

- Community and recreation centers
- Museums
- Libraries
- Shopping malls
- Movie theatres
- Swimming pools
- Parks with shaded areas
- Local businesses (coffee shops, restaurants)

It is also important to check on neighbours, older adults, children and others for signs of heat-related illness. Make sure they are staying cool and drinking enough water. Special attention should be given to those who are unable to leave their home due to illness or disabilities.

Heat Information Resources

The following resources have additional information that can help individuals and communities deal with health impacts of extreme heat.

Heat and Health	Description
Health Canada → Extreme heat: Heat wave	Canadian climate change and extreme heat information.
Health Canada → Brochure: Protect yourself from extreme heat	Heat related illness and actions individuals can take to prepare for extreme heat.
Health Canada → Fact sheet: staying healthy in the heat	3 one-page infographics: "Signs and Symptoms", "Who's at Risk" and "Safety Tips".
Heat Alert Response Planning	Description
BCCDC → Developing a Municipal Heat response plan: a guide for medium sized municipalities	In-depth information on the development of a municipal heat response plan including pre-season preparation and implementation.
Regional Heat Alerts	Description
Government of Canada → Weather App	Weather app for Android and IOS devices.
Government of Canada → Public Weather Alerts for Canada and How to use public weather alert maps and tables	Weather alerts across Canada; how to interpret the different weather alerts.

Wildfires and Smoke Pollution

There are times when other natural events may occur at the same time as extreme heat events. The heat season is usually associated with wildfires due to lack of rain and hot temperatures that dry up vegetation. This creates the perfect conditions for wildfires and during wildfires, smoke pollution occurs.

Wildfire smoke is a mixture of gases and fine particles that can cause irritation of eyes, respiratory system, and worsening of heart and lung disease. The length of exposure to wildfire smoke, as well as a person's age and underlying health conditions, determine the health impact. Children, older adults and those with respiratory conditions or other chronic illness are at higher risk from the effects of wildfire smoke. More Emergency Information can be found on [Interior Health's Website](#). Reducing exposure to wildfire smoke is the best way to protect health.

Relief from Smoke Exposure

Actions that the public can take to reduce smoke exposure:

- Keep windows and doors closed **when possible**
- When at home ensure that air conditioners are on recirculate
- Seek out public spaces with cleaner air (i.e. shopping malls, community centres)
- Limit your time outside
- Reduce physical activity: the harder you breathe, the more smoke you inhale

Smoke Information Resources

There are some actions that you and your organization can take to support your community to stay healthy during wildfire smoke events.

➤ *Know and be able to share current information on wildfires and health*

Wildfires and Health	Description
Wildfires and Your Health – HealthLink BC	Information and links to resources for before during and after a wildfire (incl. stress and trauma)
Wildfire Smoke Response Planning - BCCDC	In-depth information for the public with a number of fact sheets regarding wildfire smoke and health.
Emergency Information Wildfires Page – Interior Health	Variety of resources related to public health and wildfires.
BC Air Quality <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Air Quality Health Index (AQHI)• BC Particulate Matter (PM2.5) Data• Smoky Skies Bulletins	Contains air quality information. Note that the AQHI and particulate matter data is not available for all communities. The Smoky Skies Bulletins are issued when there is a higher likelihood of smoke in a region.

➤ *Consider Identifying ‘Cleaner’ Air Spaces in your community*

A **Clean Air Space** is a room, area, or building that has an air filtration system that reduces the amount of pollution from wildfire smoke. A **Clean Air Shelter** is a 24/7 shelter with air filtered to reduce the amount of wildfire smoke that contains all amenities (bedding, sanitary facilities and food) so people can stay in the shelter until the smoke concentration has lowered to acceptable levels.

Individuals may be able to create clean air spaces at home by using air conditioners on recirculate. Also, buildings such as shopping malls and community centres may have appropriate air filtration to provide temporary relief.

Clean Air Shelter Web Resources	Description
Clean Air Shelters – Interior Health	A quick guide to clean air shelters.
Evidence Review: Home and community clean air shelters to protect public health during wildfire smoke events - BCCDC	In-depth considerations regarding home clean air shelters (HCASs) and community clean air shelters (CCASs).

➤ ***Incorporate smoke considerations into community event planning***

When planning events in community, consider including a wildfire smoke plan. This may identify an alternate Clean Air Space event location. If the event is strictly outdoors, operational and monitoring measures can be used to reduce the risk to attendees (such as a reduction in playing time). Event organizers and coaches should be aware that people react differently to smoke and should pay special attention to younger, older and/or participants with respiratory or chronic illness.

It is important to anticipate natural events and consider the role your organization can play to support community members to stay healthy. It is also important to emphasize that heat-related illness can be a greater immediate threat to health than poor air quality.

Sincerely,



Dr. Sue Pollock, MSc, MD, FRCPC
Medical Health Officer



Dr. Karin Goodison, MD MPH, FRCPC
Medical Health Officer



Dr. Silvina Mema, MD MSc FRCPC
Medical Health Officer



Dr. Kamran Golmohammadi, MD MSc FRCPC
Medical Health Officer

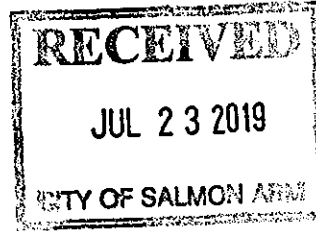


THOMPSON OKANAGAN
TOURISM ASSOCIATION

2280-D Leckie Road
Kelowna, British Columbia
V1X 6G6
totabc.org

July 16, 2019

Mayor and Council
City of Salmon Arm
Box 40
Salmon Arm, BC
V1E 4N2



Dear Mayor Harrison and Councillors,

We were pleased to be part of the 2019 SILGA AGM & Conference (Southern Interior Local Government Association) this year in Penticton. Those in attendance had the opportunity to hear more about the Sustainable Tourism Destination Certification that the Thompson Okanagan region received from Biosphere and our subsequent World Travel Tourism Council "Tourism for Tomorrow Award" as a Sustainable Destination.

In the coming weeks we will be meeting with communities and stakeholders around the region to engage them in the process of aligning with this regional commitment through a Business Adhesion Program.

As mentioned during the SILGA Conference, we are asking all communities and regional districts in the Thompson Okanagan to join us in our "Drive for Sustainability" and show support by adding a badge of support to your websites.

We will be reaching out to your office by email to provide further information and a copy of the badge.

Sincerely,

THOMPSON OKANAGAN TOURISM ASSOCIATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn Mandziuk". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Glenn Mandziuk, BA, MEDES, MCIP
President and Chief Executive Officer



July 15, 2019

DISTRICT OF TAYLOR

www.DistrictofTaylor.com

Box 300, Taylor, BC V0C 2K0

DISTRICT OFFICE
10007 - 100A Street

Phone: (250) 789-3392
Fax: (250) 789-3543

The Honourable Rob Fleming
Ministry of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E9
EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Fleming,

Re: Provincial Support for Libraries

At the Regular Council Meeting held on June 17, 2019, District of Taylor Mayor and Council reviewed correspondence received from the City of Victoria requesting favourable consideration and a resolution of support to restore Provincial support for libraries.

Mayor and Council fully support the resolution passed by the City of Victoria to restore Provincial support for libraries and respectfully request that the Province of British Columbia restore library funding to a level that reflects both inflationary cost increases since 2009 and the value of this system to the Province.

The District of Taylor values the universal access to information and learning resources provided by libraries and believe that Provincial restoration of library funding supports Provincial initiatives to eliminate poverty, improve access to education, and address social justice in British Columbia.

Sincerely,

Rob Fraser
Mayor

Cc: Premier John Horgan via email: premier@gov.bc.ca
MLA Dan Davies via email: dan.davies.MLA@leg.bc.ca
UBCM Member Municipalities via email



City of Fort St. John
10631 100 Street | Fort St. John, BC | V1J 3Z5
250 787 8150 City Hall
250 787 8181 Facsimile

July 15, 2019

File # 0220-20

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

Honourable Rob Fleming
Ministry of Education
P.O. Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Honourable Rob Fleming,

Re: Provincial Support for Libraries

At the Regular Council meeting of July 8, 2019, the City of Fort St. John received a letter from the City of Victoria referred to in correspondence from the Districts of Houston and Sicamous requesting favorable consideration and resolutions of support to restore Provincial support for libraries.

By way of resolution, the City of Fort St. John and Council extends its support to all three funding models for public libraries in BC (associations, municipal, and regional) advocating for the restoration of library funding to support the BC Government's agenda to eliminate poverty, improve access to education, and address social justice in BC.

By this means, the City of Fort St. John supports an increase in library funding to a level that reflects inflationary cost increases since 2009, provides relief to municipal property tax payers as a result of re-directed inflationary costs and restores the value of this system to the Province.

Sincerely,

Lori Ackerman
Mayor

cc Premier John Horgan
MLA Dan Davies
UBCM Member Municipalities

19

JULY 15, 2019

File: 0250-20-UBCM

VIA EMAIL: UBCM Members – All Elected Officials

Dear UBCM Members,

Re: UBCM Resolution – Regional Management of Forestry

This letter is to advise that North Cowichan Municipal Council passed the following resolution on June 19, 2019. Accordingly it has been submitted to the UBCM, and accepted for the 2019 Convention:

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

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

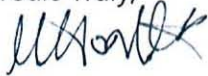
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia explore the feasibility of:

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

July 19, 2019

Enclosed for your information is the paper *Restoring Forestry in BC*, which provides a strong basis for the resolution. Council requests your favourable consideration of this important issue at the upcoming Convention.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt O'Halloran", written over a horizontal line.

Matt O'Halloran
Deputy Corporate Officer

Enclosure





Restoring Forestry in BC

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

BY BOB WILLIAMS

January 2018



CCPA
CANADIAN CENTRE
for POLICY ALTERNATIVES
BC Office

RESTORING FORESTRY IN BC

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

by Bob Williams

January 2018

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

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

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Preface

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

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

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

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

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

Part 1:

The decline of forestry in BC

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2 Drushka, Nixon and Travers, 1993.

OUR OWN TRAGIC STATISTICS

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

For example:

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

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

*These figures are not adjusted for inflation.

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

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

A few forestry company names that have disappeared:

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

Measured against our peers

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

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

⁴ Living Legacy Trust and Jaakko Pöyry Consulting, 2001.

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

Management capability

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

Skill levels

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

Clustering

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

Policy environment

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

Industry and market structure and accessibility

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

Technology

Here Western Canada also lags behind.

Raw material

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

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

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

From a 2016 article in *Truck LoggerBC*:

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

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

* Russ Taylor, 2016.

THE AUDITOR GENERAL SHOWS CONCERN

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SWEDEN SHOWS US WHAT TO DO

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE BAD DEALS IN FORESTRY CONTINUE

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

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

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

⁸ Travers, 2014.

⁹ Peel, 1991.

¹⁰ Hamilton, 2011.

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

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

WHAT IS THE CORPORATE GAME PLAN?

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

As the number of mills on the coast has fallen precipitously, the number of raw logs exported by coastal forestry companies has skyrocketed.

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

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

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

But there's more to it than that.

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

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

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

¹¹ Parfitt, 2017.

¹² Peel, 1991.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE FORESTRY TENURE SYSTEM

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

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

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

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

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

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

Instead, Kayne argues:

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

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

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

MORE ABOUT THE LANDLORD GAME

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

And then the government changed.

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

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

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

WESTERN FOREST PRODUCTS' SWEET DEAL

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

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

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

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

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

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 19.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Some gift indeed!

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

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

WE USED TO MANAGE LOCALLY, BUT NO MORE

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

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

¹⁵ Ibid., 2.

¹⁶ Ibid., 29.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Part 2: A new way forward

A LEGISLATURE TO HIGHLIGHT BC'S GREAT REGIONS

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

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

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

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

The goals of decentralizing would be to:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE NEED FOR A FOREST CHARTER

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

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

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

THE NEED FOR A BC FORESTER GENERAL

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"FORESTOPIA"—A BETTER FUTURE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

STORY 4: CREATING THE COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

¹⁹ Wilson, 1973.

Conclusion

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

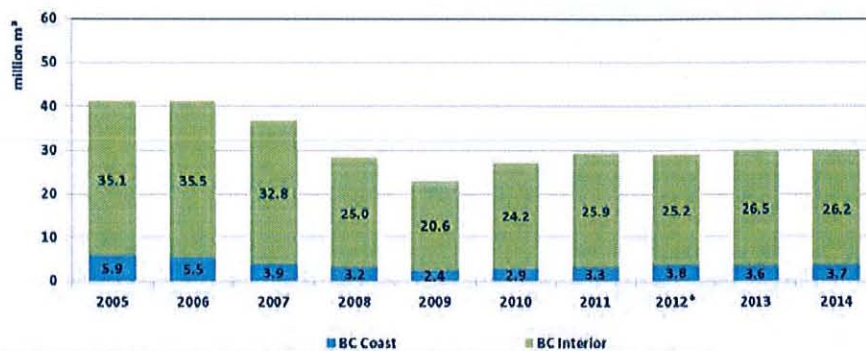
both for the land and in industrial plants. New value in a growing forest, in managing the forest and in manufacturing products from our forests is linked and integral to our shared future prosperity.

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

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

Appendix: Charts from external sources

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



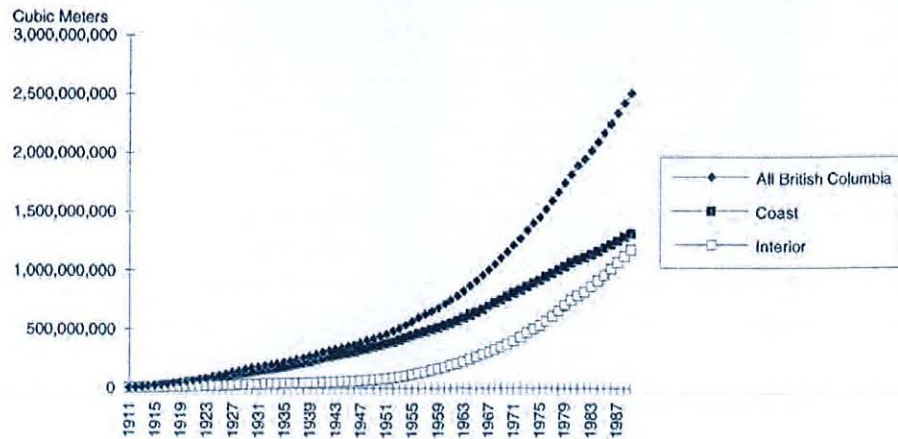
* Interior and Coast Share are Estimates. In all years the Interior includes production from Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut.

Data source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM 303-0004.

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

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

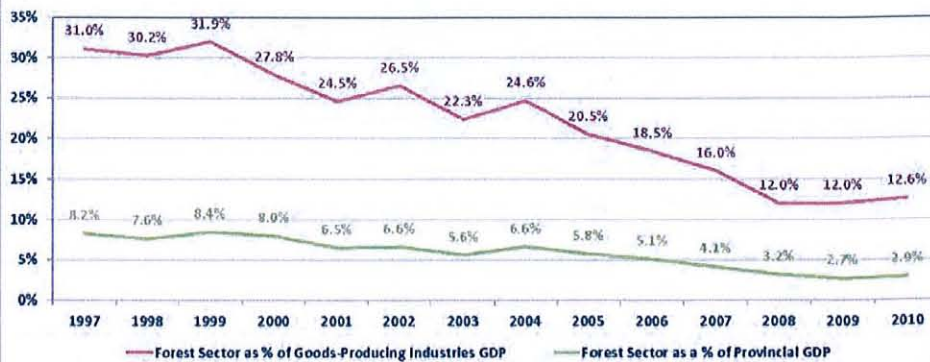
Figure 2: Cumulative amount of timber cut in BC, 1911–89



Source: Ken Drushka, Bob Nixon and Ray Travers, *Touch Wood* (Madeira Park, BC: Harbour Publishing, 1993), 192, figure 4.

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

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

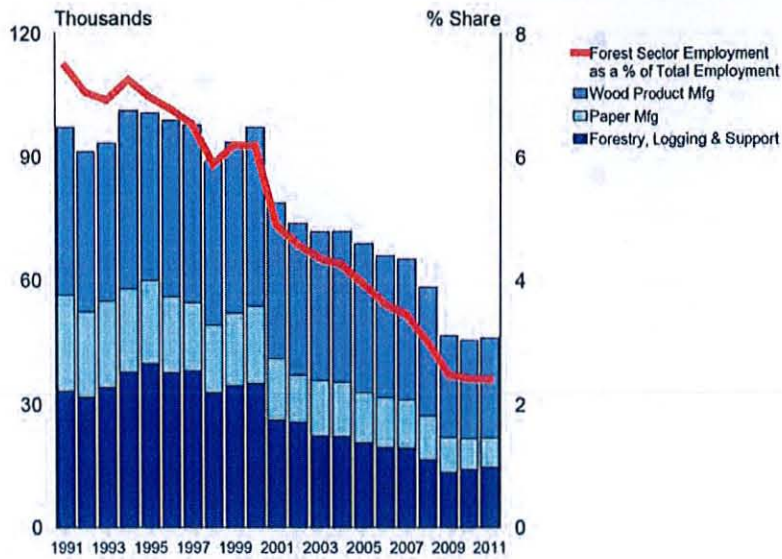


Data source: Statistics Canada. Based on current dollar data. 2010 is the latest available year.

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

Percentages after 2010 become fairly stable.

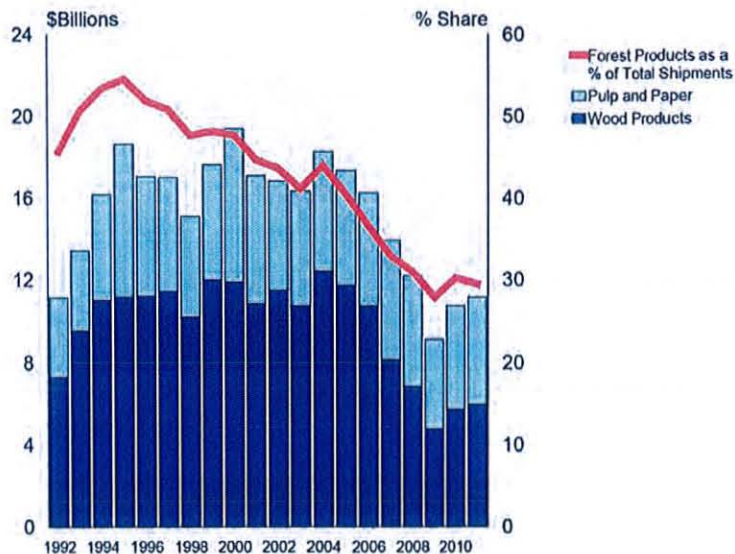
Figure 4: Employment in BC's forest sector, 1991–2011



Source: Statistics Canada (SEPH)

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

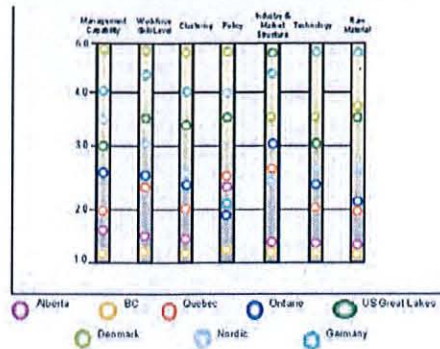
Figure 5: The share of forest products in manufacturing shipments, 1992–2011



Source: Statistics Canada

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

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

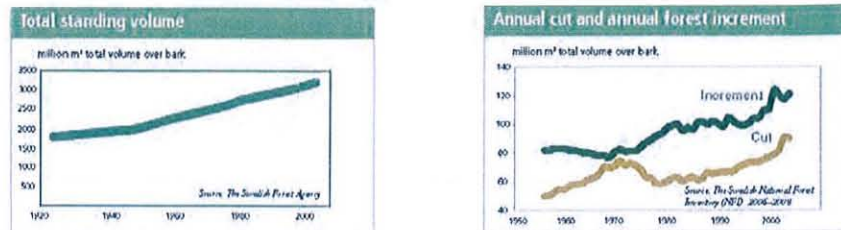


Source: Living Legacy Trust and Jaakko Pöyry Consulting, Assessment of the Status and Future Opportunities of Ontario's Solid Wood Value-Added Sector: Final Summary Report (Toronto, ON: Living Legacy Trust; Vantaa, Finland: Jaakko Pöyry Consulting, June 2001), 26, figure 14, http://www.livinglegacytrust.org/pdf/Final_Summary_Report.pdf.

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

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

Figure 7: Forestry In Sweden, 1920s–2008



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

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

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

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

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

Statistics compiled by Ray Travers, RPF, in 2012.

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CCPA
CANADIAN CENTRE
for POLICY ALTERNATIVES
BC Office

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives is an independent, non-partisan research institute concerned with issues of social, economic and environmental justice. Founded in 1980, it is one of Canada's leading progressive voices in public policy debates.

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living wage
employer



TOWN OF GIBSONS

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR | WILLIAM BEAMISH

July 16, 2019

0530-60

Honourable Rob Fleming
Ministry of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2
EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Re: Provincial Support for Libraries

Dear Honourable Rob Fleming,

At the Regular Council meeting of July 9, 2019, the Town of Gibsons Mayor and Council, by way of resolution, supports the City of Victoria's resolutions advocating for the restoration of library funding to a level that reflects both inflationary cost increases since 2009 and the value of this system to the Province.

The Town of Gibsons believes public libraries provide crucial information and resource services to the citizens in our community, and sustainable funding is required for libraries to run effectively.

Sincerely,

Bill Beamish
Mayor

Cc: Premier John Horgan via email: premier@gov.bc.ca
MLA Nicholas Simons via email: nicholas.simons.MLA@leg.bc.ca
UBCM Member Municipalities via email

TOWN OF GIBSONS

"Nature is our most valuable asset"

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CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF POUCE COUPE

PO Box 190, Pouce Coupe, B.C. V0C 2C0
Telephone: (250) 786-5794 Fax: (250) 786-5257
www.poucecoupe.ca

July 19, 2019

Sent via email

Honourable Rob Fleming
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2
EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca

To the Honourable Rob Fleming ,

RE: Provincial Support for Libraries

At the Regular Council meeting of July 17, 2019, the Village of Pouce Coupe received correspondence from several municipalities titled "Request for Provincial Support for Libraries". At that meeting the Village of Pouce Coupe Council passed a resolution to support this provincial request.

The Village of Pouce Coupe Mayor and Council respectfully requests the Province of British Columbia's support and consideration to increase support to restore provincial funding for Libraries. Our Council strongly advocates for the restoration of library funding to a level that reflects both inflationary cost increases since 2009 and the value of this system to the Province.

Sincerely,

Mayor Lorraine Michetti

Cc: Premier John Horgan premier@gov.bc.ca
MLA John Rustad,
John.Rustad.MLA@legbc.ca UBCM
Member Municipalities



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

1100 Patricia Blvd. | Prince George, BC, Canada V2L 3V9
p: 250.561.7600 | www.princegeorge.ca

July 23, 2019

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

The Honourable Rob Fleming
Minister of Education
P.O. Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, B.C. V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fleming:

RE: Provincial Support for Libraries

At the Regular Council Meeting of July 15, 2019, the City of Prince George Council unanimously passed a resolution endorsing the City of Victoria's request for Provincial support for libraries.

The City of Prince George Mayor and Council respectfully requests the Province of British Columbia's support and consideration to increase support to restore Provincial funding for Libraries. Our Council supports the restoration of library funding to a level that reflects both inflation cost increases since 2009 and the value of this system to the Province.

Sincerely,

Mayor Lyn Hall

cc: Premier John Horgan premier@gov.bc.ca
MP Todd Doherty Todd.Doherty.C1A@parl.gc.ca
MP Bob Zimmer Bob.Zimmer.C1@parl.gc.ca
MLA Shirley Bond Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca
MLA Mike Morris Mike.Morris.MLA@leg.bc.ca
UBCM Member Municipalities



District of Elkford
P.O. Box 340 Elkford, B.C. V0B 1H0
P. 250.865.4000 • F. 250.865.4001 • info@elkford.ca • www.elkford.ca

July 24, 2019

Honourable Rob Fleming
Ministry of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Honourable Rob Fleming:

Re: Provincial Support for Libraries

At the Regular Council Meeting of July 8, 2019, the District of Elkford received correspondence from the City of Victoria dated May 29, 2019 requesting favourable consideration and a resolution of support to restore Provincial funding for libraries. By way of resolution, the District supports advocating for the restoration of library funding to a level that reflects both inflationary cost increases since 2009 and the value of this system to the Province.

The District of Elkford values the vital services that public libraries provide and believes that Provincial restoration of library funding supports Provincial initiatives to eliminate poverty, improve access to education and address social justice in British Columbia.

Sincerely,



Dean McKerracher
Mayor

Cc: Premier John Horgan, via email: premier@gov.bc.ca
MLA Tom Shypitka, via email: tom.shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca
UBCM Member Municipalities via email

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City of Pitt Meadows
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

July 24, 2019

File: 0400-50/19

District of West Vancouver
750 17th Street
West Vancouver BC V7V 3T3
Sent via email: MayorandCouncil@westvancouver.ca

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: District of West Vancouver Council Resolution regarding "Confirming Municipal Jurisdiction to Regulate Single-Use Items"

At the regular meeting of Council held on July 23, 2019, Pitt Meadows City Council reviewed correspondence received from the District of West Vancouver regarding their resolution pertaining to the regulation of single-use items.

Pitt Meadows fully supports this resolution and looks forward to the opportunity to support this initiative at the upcoming UBCM Convention.

Yours Truly,

Mayor Bill Dingwall
BGS, LL.B., CPHR

cc: Honourable George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
(sent via email)

Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (sent via email)

UBCM staff and member municipalities via email



City of Pitt Meadows
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

August 2, 2019

File: 0400-50/19

The Honourable Rob Fleming
Ministry of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9EN
EDUC.Minister@Kov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Fleming:

Re: City of Victoria's resolution requesting provincial support for libraries

At our July 30, 2019 special meeting, Pitt Meadows City Council unanimously passed the following resolution with respect to the above:

"THAT Council:

- A. Support the City of Victoria's resolution for the restoration of provincial library funding; AND*
- B. Request that the Mayor write to the Minister of Education expressing Council's support of enhanced library funding."*

Libraries are important cornerstones of a healthy community, giving all people equal access to information and resources, while at the same time providing a sense of place for gathering. Our Council is in full support of the City of Victoria's resolution and look forward to supporting it in September at the upcoming UBCM convention.

Yours Truly,

Mayor Bill Dingwall
BGS, LL.B., CPHR

Encl: May 29, 2019 correspondence from City of Victoria

cc: MLA Lisa Beare *via email* lisa.beare.mla@leg.bc.ca
Pitt Meadows City Council *via consent agenda*
Victoria City Council *via email* chavelka@victoria.ca
UBCM Member Municipalities *via email*

THE CITY OF VICTORIA



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

May 29, 2019,

To The Union of British Columbia Municipalities,

I am writing on behalf of Victoria City Council, requesting favourable consideration and resolutions of support to restore Provincial support for libraries.

At the May 23, 2019 Council Meeting, Council approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS WHEREAS libraries are a social justice equalizer that provide universal access to information and learning materials irrespective of income levels;

WHEREAS libraries are now so much more than books, building community and a sense of inclusion;

WHEREAS restoring funding to libraries supports the BC Government's agenda to eliminate poverty, improve access to education, and address social justice in BC;

WHEREAS funding rates have been frozen since 2009 and inflationary costs have increasingly been put on municipal property tax payers which is a regressive approach to funding public libraries;

WHEREAS municipalities face downloading from upper levels of government and have few tools to raise funds,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council request the Mayor write to the Minister of Education, the Premier, and all local MLAs strongly advocating for the restoration of library funding to a level that reflects both inflationary cost increases since 2009 and the value of this system to the Province.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to other municipalities in the Capital Regional District and across BC requesting their favourable consideration.

We eagerly look forward to your support on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Helps'.

Lisa Helps
Victoria Mayor



bcuc
British Columbia
Utilities Commission

Patrick Wruck
Commission Secretary

Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com
bcuc.com

Suite 410, 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC Canada V6Z 2N3
P: 604.660.4700
TF: 1.800.663.1385
F: 604.660.1102

August 1, 2019

Sent via email/eFile

BCUC MUNICIPAL ENERGY UTILITIES INQUIRY EXHIBIT A-1
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Re: British Columbia Utilities Commission – An Inquiry into the Regulation of Municipal Energy Utilities – Regulatory Timetable Establishment

By Order G-177-19, dated August 1, 2019, the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) has established an inquiry to examine the regulation of energy utilities affiliated with municipalities and regional districts (Inquiry). The Inquiry will explore issues related to ownership structures and operational arrangements of utilities affiliated with municipalities and regional districts, including the appropriate regulatory status of such organizations under the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA) in order to provide clarity to the BCUC, utilities and municipalities.

Section 1 of the UCA states that a “public utility” does not include “a municipality or regional district in respect of services provided by the municipality or regional district within its own boundaries”, thus offering an exclusion from regulation to these entities under certain circumstances. However, energy services offered in affiliation with municipalities and regional districts are ever changing as local governments strive to achieve environmental and economic benefits for their communities. Ownership and operating structures to achieve these community benefits have become complex. Further, the BCUC has received questions and complaints from individual stakeholders regarding such entities and their need for regulation. Thus, the BCUC seeks to achieve clarity regarding the appropriate level of regulation required to meet the needs of stakeholders while respecting existing oversight tools and objectives at the local government level.

Upon the completion of this Inquiry, the BCUC will consider if it is appropriate or necessary to:

- i) seek advance approval from the Government of BC to offer a class of cases exemption to municipalities and regional district energy systems in certain circumstances; and/or
- ii) make a recommendation to the Government of BC to review the definition of a “public utility” within the UCA as it relates to such entities.

How to Participate

The BCUC encourages stakeholders to participate as interveners in this Inquiry and provide valuable insight and perspective to this proceeding. The BCUC understands that energy systems operated in affiliation with municipalities and regional districts may be reviewed and overseen by various other parties. Therefore, the BCUC encourages stakeholders to intervene to ensure the impact and effectiveness of such oversight is represented within this Inquiry. Intervenors are able to file evidence, ask questions and make submissions on process. The BCUC Panel will carefully consider all submissions and filings as it prepares its final report for this Inquiry. A [Request to Intervene](#) can be submitted on the BCUC website. The deadline to request intervenor status is Thursday, September 12, 2019.

Stakeholders who do not wish to intervene, may participate by submitting a [Letter of Comment](#) on the BCUC Website. Letters of Comment will be posted on the Inquiry's proceeding webpage and considered by the Panel in the Inquiry's report. The deadline to submit Letters of Comment is Thursday, October 24, 2019.

[Interested parties](#) may register with the BCUC to receive automated email notifications of all documents posted by the BCUC to the Inquiry's webpage.

About the BCUC

The BCUC is an independent regulatory agency of the Government of British Columbia that is responsible for regulating BC's energy utilities, the Insurance Corporation of BC's compulsory automobile insurance rates, intra-provincial pipelines and the reliability of the electrical transmission grid. We work hard to ensure British Columbians get value from their utilities with safe, reliable energy services and fair energy and basic auto insurance rates, while ensuring the entities we regulate have the opportunity to earn a fair return on their capital investments.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Patrick Wruck
Commission Secretary

ML/jo
Enclosure



**ORDER NUMBER
G-177-19**

IN THE MATTER OF
the *Utilities Commission Act*, RSBC 1996, Chapter 473

and

British Columbia Utilities Commission
An Inquiry into the Regulation of Municipal Energy Utilities

BEFORE:

D. M. Morton, Commissioner

on August 1, 2019

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. Section 1 of the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA) defines a “public utility”, in part, as “a person, or the person’s lessee ... who owns or operates in British Columbia, equipment or facilities for the production, generation, storage, transmission, sale, delivery or provision of electricity ... or any other agent for the production of light, heat, cold or power to or for the public or a corporation for compensation”;
- B. Section 1 of the UCA states that a “public utility” does not include “a municipality or regional district in respect of services provided by the municipality or regional district within its own boundaries” thus offering an exclusion from regulation to these entities under certain circumstances;
- C. In addition to directly owning and operating energy systems, there are several ownership and operational structures in which a municipality or regional district can participate in providing energy services, including: establishing a municipally-owned corporation, entering partnering or joint venture agreements, a franchise agreement or outsourcing operations of a fully owned municipal energy system to a third party;
- D. The ownership and operational structures now available to a municipality or regional district to provide energy services do not appear to be specifically addressed in the UCA and, as such, there appears to be ambiguity regarding whether these ownership and operational structures are “public utilities” or the exclusion to these ownership and operational structures continue, pursuant to the definition in section 1 of the UCA;
- E. In its role of administering the UCA, the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) is responsible for making findings with respect to the definition of a “public utility” and the applicability of, or exclusion to, regulation under the UCA;
- F. Recent BCUC proceedings including: Sustainable Services Ltd. Geothermal Energy System Status as a Public Utility under the UCA, Creative Energy Vancouver Platforms Inc. Reconsideration and Variance of Order G-88-16, and the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Application for an Exemption from Part 3

of the UCA, have brought forward issues and complaints related to matters of interpretation and paramountcy between the UCA and the *Community Charter* or *Vancouver Charter*;

- G. These proceedings have explored a range of issues related to ownership structures and operational arrangements now available to municipalities or regional districts including: the point at which “services” cease to be “provided by the municipality or regional district”; ownership structure of energy systems entities; the ability of a municipality to enter into a franchise agreement and levy franchise fees without prior BCUC approval subject to the public interest test pursuant to section 45(8) of the UCA; and the regulatory status of entities that own and operate equipment beyond municipal boundaries and whether they fall under the jurisdiction of the UCA or the *Community Charter*; and
- H. Given that the UCA contains an exclusion of a municipal or regional district energy system that is provided by the municipality or regional district within its own boundaries from the definition of a public utility under certain circumstances, and thereby regulation by the BCUC, the BCUC considers the establishment of an inquiry to review the municipal and regional district exclusion from the definition of public utility in section 1 of the UCA (An Inquiry into the Regulation of Municipal Energy Utilities) and a regulatory timetable are warranted.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to section 82 of the UCA, the BCUC orders as follows:

- 1. An inquiry to review certain aspects of the municipal and regional district exclusion from the definition of public utility in section 1 of the UCA is established.
- 2. A regulatory timetable is established for the Inquiry into the Regulation of Municipal Energy Utilities, as set out in Appendix A to this order.
- 3. Interveners who wish to participate in the Inquiry into the Regulation of Municipal Energy Utilities are to register with the BCUC by completing a [Request to Intervene Form](#), by the date established in the regulatory timetable attached as Appendix A to this order and in accordance with the BCUC’s Rules of Practice and Procedure.
- 4. The BCUC requests registered interveners provide written submissions to address the following:
 - 1) Whether a utility affiliated, in some way, with a municipality or regional district is considered a public utility as defined by section 1 of the UCA. Forms of affiliation include, but may not be limited to:
 - a. The utility’s assets are owned by a corporation of which the municipality or regional district is a shareholder or the sole shareholder;
 - b. The utility’s assets are owned by a partnership of which the municipality or regional district is a partner, a limited partner or a general partner;
 - c. The utility’s assets are owned by a third party, but the municipality or regional district has granted a franchise agreement, a licence and/or has enacted enabling bylaws to facilitate the construction and/or operation of the utility;
 - d. The utilities’ assets are owned by a municipality or regional district but are operated by a third party; and
 - e. The municipality or regional district, by agreement with the utility owner, sets or approves the setting of rates for the utility.

5. Members of the public are invited to provide letters of comment for the BCUC's consideration, by the date established in the regulatory timetable attached as Appendix A to this order. Letters of comment must be in the Letter of Comment Form and be submitted on the BCUC's website, or submitted by email to commission.secretary@bcuc.com, mail, courier or personal delivery to the British Columbia Utilities Commission, 4th Floor, 900 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC, V6Z 2N3.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 1st day of August 2019.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

D. M. Morton
Commissioner

Attachment

British Columbia Utilities Commission
An Inquiry into the Regulation of Municipal Energy Utilities

REGULATORY TIMETABLE

Action	Date (2019)
Intervener registration	Thursday, September 12
Intervener written submissions and letters of comment	Thursday, October 24
Further process	To be determined