

Sophie Idsinga

From: Clayton Hunter-James <---->
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 9:19 PM
To: Enrique.Sanchez@gov.bc.ca; Mayor Council
Subject: Logging on Bowen Island.

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Dear Mr. Sanchez.

I have been a full-time Bowen Island resident since I was two years old and my family has had a home on Bowen Island since 1971. I heavily oppose any commercial logging operation on Bowen Island as it would cause extreme environmental damage and exponential damage to real estate and business on the Island.

This community is known as natural haven, a bastion of environmental preservation and ecotourism. I hold an undergraduate degree in Environment and Sustainability Geography from the University of British Columbia Vancouver. I have extensively studied the impacts of deforestation at UBC. I specifically have done an extensive evaluation of Bowen Islands water shed and geography. In short, the terrain is incredibly rocky, steep, inaccessible and dangerous. It would be an expensive area to log with exponentially negative repercussions politically and environmentally.

I am a full-time employee for the District of North Vancouver Parks department, specifically parks construction. My opinion in this letter is a representation of my personal opinion and not the District of North Vancouver. I operate machines, build trails, service roads and implement drainage infrastructure on a day to day basis. The service roads we build and maintain are gravel roads similar to that a logging company would build. I have experience working in valleys, cliffs and rough forest terrain just like that of Bowen. I can simply say with modern safety standards and environmental regulation that the infrastructure required would be expensive.

As a father of a one year old and a one month old, I want my children to be able to enjoy the beauty of a mature beautiful forest. I recognize the importance of having a large trees in a forest such as the trees encompassing Bowen's crown lands. I regularly have used the trails on these lands for training for sport and enjoying hikes. I specifically remember running up Mount Gardner, seeing my breath in the air and feeling inspired by the beauty and wilderness. I want to see these lands grow and develop into a majestic ancient forest for myself and future generations.

I truly believe economically Bowen Island is not a cost effective area to log. Bowen Islands crown lands are best protected from commercial logging and preserved for ecotourism.

Sincerely,

Clayton Hunter-James

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