



DONALD YOUNGSON

Rivendell Drive, Bowen Island, V0N 1G0

July 23, 2017

Hon. Doug Donaldson
Minister
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
3rd Floor, 780 Blanchard Street
Victoria, BC
V8W 9M1

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

As a resident of Bowen Island I am contacting you regarding the issue of potential sale of crown land timber licences on the island. The area at issue accounts for nearly 30% of our 50-square-kilometre island. My particular interest is to learn what the procedures are for our municipality and the residents of Bowen Island to apply to the provincial government and related ministries, to enact legislation to not permit any commercial logging and to remove Bowen from the provincial harvestable timber inventory.

As you may be aware, the people of Bowen Island do not want such a detrimental and inappropriate industry to be permitted on the island. I would like to encourage you to refocus your efforts from negotiating a timber harvesting strategy, to that of working with ministry and BCTS staff to enact or develop appropriate legislation to eliminate commercial logging as the option.

For BCTS and its parent ministry to pursue this would devastate this municipality and stir up considerable emotions, as well as unnecessary issues for the new government. I truly hope that you would intervene in this matter before things get silly. Fortunately BCTS has the experience and ability to quickly come to that conclusion, and develop an alternative classification to protect and preserve the Crown Lands forests. .

I hope that you will sincerely consider your options and discuss this with your senior management to leave the Crown Land on Bowen to be preserved as mature forests for the wildlife, residents and visitors to enjoy. Thank you for your consideration and we hope that we can find a solution together that would be a win-win solution for the Province and Bowen Island.

Best regards,

Donald Youngson

Cc: John Hogan, Premier
Tom Jensen, FL&NR
Tim Sheldan FL&NR
Mike Falkiner, Chair, BCTS
Shawn Hedges, Director, Sustainability & Forestry, BCTS
Jordan Sturdy, MLA
Murray Skeels, Mayor Bowen Island
Alison Morse, Bowen Island Trustee
Kathy Lalonde, Bowen Island CAO
Owen Plowman, Bowen Island Conservancy
Chris Corrigan, Bowen Island Economic Development
Bob Turner
John Dowler
Defend Island Forests
Laura Bushekin, Chair, Islands Trust
Russ Hotsenpiller, CAO Islands Trust
Matt Robinson, Postmedia