

Sophie Idsinga

From: Josh Mepham <---->
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 3:33 PM
To: FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Cc: jordan.sturdy.mla@leg.bc.ca; Mayor Council; pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca; Enrique.Sanchez@gov.bc.ca
Subject: Bowen Island Logging

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To the Honourable John Rustad,

I can only imagine the deluge of emails coming your way from Bowen Islanders following the announcement of BCTS' intentions to award logging contracts on Bowen Island's crown lands. Your inbox is going to be getting a workout over the coming days I'm sure!

I'm a born and raised British Columbian from Vancouver Island and I appreciate fully that logging is a vital industry in B.C. In fact, my father worked in the logging industry many years ago, but the province's plans to log Bowen Island is shortsighted and misguided at best. To put it simply, industrial logging does not fit Bowen Island; it does not make sense to compromise the economy, values, quality of life and environmental attributes of this community for relatively modest revenues to the Provincial coffers. Bowen Island is a sanctuary that prides itself on its beauty and natural gifts. The idea of cutting down up to 28% of that is not something we are taking lightly. Bowen Islanders are a proud and passionate group that will do everything in our power to protect our island and its sensitive resources from the potentially destructive repercussions of logging. The rushed nature of the initial public consultation meetings on this operation is a very poor start to this process and will only prove to enrage an already very leery population here on Bowen. I hope you and BCTS will do the right thing here and give serious thought to the real impacts of logging on Bowen Island. We look forward to an open and honest discourse on the subject.

best,
Josh Mepham