

## Sophie Idsinga

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**From:** Katie Cooke <--->  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 13, 2017 8:46 PM  
**To:** FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca; jordan.sturdy.mla@leg.bc.ca; Mayor Council; pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca; Enrique.Sanchez@gov.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Timber Harvesting on Bowen Island

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

My name is Katie Cooke and I am a resident and home owner on Bowen Island. I am a mother of two young children and a teacher at the Bowen Island Community School. I recently learned that BC Timber Sales (BCTS) in Chilliwack, BC has access to parcels of Crown Land on Bowen and is interested in harvesting trees on that land. Like many residents of Bowen Island, I was shocked to learn that BCTS has access to 1400 hectares of forest on our island and is currently making plans to harvest that forest. Bowen Island is the WRONG place to harvest trees for commercial purposes. Most of the residents on this island are here because of the unique ecosystem, the west coast forests and oceans. Our children walk through these forests daily and one of the things that make Boweners unique is our connection to the land and nature that surrounds us. As an educator at the Bowen Island Community School, one of my roles is to take over 150 children into the forest every week - that is half the school. By returning to the forest regularly, the children have become experts about the land that surrounds them and this connection to the land has promoted a sense of ownership and responsibility among our youngest residents on the island. The children of Bowen, just like the adults, have such a deep connection to nature here that we all work together to protect our pristine island - an island that we will all fight for if someone or something threatens it's environment. Timber harvesting, or logging, on Bowen Island threatens our ecosystem, our watersheds, our bogs, streams, rivers and lakes, our animals and their habitats, and tourism. But most of all, it threatens our way of life and our reason for choosing to live here.

NO to timber harvesting on Bowen Island.

Sincerely,  
Katie Cooke