

170710 RC
ON-TABLE INFO ITEM

Tyler Ruggles

From: NERYS POOLE <nerysonbowen@
Sent: Monday, July 10, 2017 12:09 PM
To: Bowen Island Municipality
Subject: Timber Sales - NO logging on Bowen

8.1c

To Mayor and Council

I have looked at tonight's agenda and the letter from Enrique Sanchez about potential logging plans for Bowen.

As I am unable to attend tonight's meeting, I wish to express my view on this issue in time for your consideration tonight.

Under no circumstances do I support logging on Bowen. I believe the community will be strongly against any logging on Bowen and that we can make that heard with the Ministry of Forests. I do not support any proposal for BIM to apply for a woodlot licence - this is accepting that logging is inevitable. I do not accept it. There are many organizations in the Lower Mainland who will be behind us in the opposition to this proposal. I am happy to help contact them to ensure their voices are heard and communicated to the Ministry.

In addition, I believe Mr. Sanchez needs to be told - clearly and loudly - that July 30 is not an acceptable date for any kind of community consultation. The deadline of Sept. 6 is ridiculous, given how busy people are over the summer months and how many people are away off the island. We need a full public engagement meeting to be held in the fall to discuss this and for Mr. Sanchez to be able to hear the public's views on this ill-conceived proposal. Nor is it appropriate for this to be occurring at a time when our provincial government is in a transition period.

I intend to write to Mr. Sanchez as well to let him know my views and to copy the current minister, current premier, premier designate, MLA, etc.

Please support your community in ensuring that there is NO logging on Bowen.

thank you

Nerys

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Tyler Ruggles

From: NERYS POOLE <nerysonbowen@
Sent: Monday, July 10, 2017 12:59 PM
To: Enrique.Sanchez@gov.bc.ca
Cc: Bowen Island Municipality; premier@gov.bc.ca; jordan.sturdy.MLA@leg.bc.ca;
Forests.BCTimberSalesHQOffice@gov.bc.ca;
Forests.ChinookTimberSalesOffice@gov.bc.ca; obg@bcgreens.ca;
john.horgan.mla@leg.bc.ca; andrew.weaver.mla@leg.bc.ca
Subject: potential logging on Bowen Island

8.1d

Dear Mr. Sanchez

I am writing to you with regard to your proposal to log parts of Bowen Island. I wish to make a few main points about your plans for community consultation:

1. Holding a public open house on July 30 will be seen by the Bowen Island community as an end run to avoid true community consultation. The middle of the summer is not the time to plan an open house on your proposal.
2. Having a deadline of September 6 for any public input - again - is completely inappropriate in terms of ensuring some true community consultation. People are busy during summer vacation and often off island.
3. Planning an open house for this proposal is not sufficient to truly find out community opinion. If you really want community opinion, plan a public meeting - to truly engage the Bowen community - and hold it in the fall at a large venue such as the BI Community School. I guarantee you will receive a large turnout. If your goal is to sweep this proposal under the carpet and avoid true community consultation, then proceed as you have planned. However, if you choose to do this, you may be surprised at the even more extreme public reaction once people discover in the fall what you are planning.
4. Engaging the Bowen Island public on an issue, that is likely to result in some public opposition during a time when the government is in transition, is unfair to both the soon to be changing government ministers and to the Bowen Island public.

Finally, on the proposal itself, I wish to express my opposition to ANY logging on Bowen Island. I trust that you will listen to the community on this, as there is likely to be little if any support for your proposal. We are an island that depends on tourism and that draws crowds of people here every summer to enjoy the outdoors - on Mount Gardner, Mount Collins and elsewhere on the island. There will be many people in the Lower Mainland, as well as on the island, who will be horrified that Government is contemplating logging this beautiful and scenic island in Howe Sound.

Please go elsewhere with your timber sales proposals.

thank you

Nerys Poole
(longtime resident of Bowen Island and Municipal Councillor/Islands Trustee on 2008 to 2011 Council)