

JULY 15, 2019

File: 0250-20-UBCM

VIA EMAIL: UBCM Members – All Elected Officials

Dear UBCM Members,

Board Correspondence

Re: UBCM Resolution – Regional Management of Forestry

This letter is to advise that North Cowichan Municipal Council passed the following resolution on June 19, 2019. Accordingly it has been submitted to the UBCM, and accepted for the 2019 Convention:

WHEREAS the forest industry in British Columbia has been on a steady decline in recent decades, with dozens mill closures, thousands of lost jobs and once-thriving rural communities experiencing severe economic decline – due in large part to corporate mismanagement, misguided government policies, and lack of public oversight;

AND WHEREAS many communities across British Columbia and globally have demonstrated that when local people are empowered to manage public forests and other common resources through community forest licenses, regional trusts and other community-based governance models, there are significant social, economic and environmental benefits;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia explore the feasibility of:

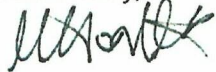
- **Adopting a new model of regionally-based forestry management that will empower local communities to engage in long term planning of the regional economies and ecosystems;**
- **Creating a Forest Charter passed by the Legislature that includes an overall vision, sustainability principles, and standards for our forests; and**
- **Appointing a Forester General to serve as a new independent officer who will report annually to the Legislature and work with the diverse regions of our province on local land planning processes.**



July 19, 2019

Enclosed for your information is the paper *Restoring Forestry in BC*, which provides a strong basis for the resolution. Council requests your favourable consideration of this important issue at the upcoming Convention.

Yours Truly,



Matt O'Halloran
Deputy Corporate Officer

Enclosure

