



January 10, 2017

Sharon Hadway, Regional Executive Director,
West Coast Operations
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Suite #103 – 2100 Labieux Road
Nanaimo, BC
V9T 6E9

Dear Ms. Sharon Hadway,

We, the Council of the Haida Nation and the Misty Isles Economic Development Society are responding to the letters from yourself and former Minister Pat Bell and the 2013 Ministerial allocation. We acknowledge the commitment to a tenure opportunity for a Community Forest Agreement that would support a potential harvest of 80,000 m³/year and assist in market pricing. Janine North, Executive Director for the Society has met with Len Munt, District Manager, Kerry Grozier, BCTS Manager and ourselves to prepare a work plan for moving forward.

We look forward to having Janine work with the staff from the Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations and the Council of Haida Nation to identify a suitable area for the Community Forest within the Queen Charlotte Timber Supply Area; that is outside of the pending Haida First Nations Woodland Licence. This process was proposed in your letter of November 21, 2013 to occur in early 2014 and we look forward to having this completed early this year.

The Council of Haida Nation has expressed support for this tenure while recognizing the protocols established through the Reconciliation Protocol and respecting the co-jurisdictional authority for issuing new licences on Haida Gwaii. The CHN also has an interest in aligning this new tenure with the values identified in the Forest Strategy discussions that were facilitated by the Haida Gwaii Management Council.

The Misty Isles Economic Development Society will commit to supporting the market pricing mandate by utilizing forestry services that are based on Haida Gwaii and that will cost effectively promote local employment. We look forward to exploring a partnership with BCTS to provide cost and price benchmarks for timber harvested that may

occur through purchase or service agreements, utilizing near-term forest management developments or other unamortized assets, and discussions regarding a transfer of liabilities in the area of the Community Forest.

The communities and Council of the Haida Nation have interests in seeing revenue splits that would put the benefits of the communities ahead of profits for the Province of BC and optimize the revenue flow that is invested in the infrastructure and quality of life for all residents of Haida Gwaii.

We look forward to continued dialogue towards refining and finalizing the Community Forest tenure that will benefit all island residents of Haida Gwaii and showcase sustainable area based forest management for our citizens.

Sincerely,



Andrew Merilees
Chair, Misty Isles Economic Development Society
Mayor of Masset



Peter Lantin
Kil tlaats g'aa
President of the Haida Nation

Cc.

Minister Steve Thomson, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Tim Sheldan, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Len Munt, District Manager, Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Kerry Grozier, Chinook Business Unit Manager, BC Timber Sales
Trevor Russ, Vice President, Council of Haida Nation
Colin Richardson, Council of Haida Nation
Nick Reynolds, Stewardship Planning Coordinator, Council of Haida Nation
Janine North, Executive Director, Go Haida Gwaii (Misty Isles Economic Development Society)