



MFLNRO/RD File 19460-20/K5F, Ref. 242723

April 24, 2019

Honorable Doug Donaldson
Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources
PO Box 9049
STN PROV GOVT.
Victoria, BC
V8W 9E2

Minister Doug Donaldson,

The Misty Isles Economic Development Society intends to decline the invitation to apply for the 80,000 m³ Community Forest tenure (tenure K5) proposed by the Province of BC **subject to** the same volume and areas being offered to the Council of the Haida Nation as a Community Forest tenure. The Council of the Haida Nation and the four civic governments propose to enter into a corporate structure with shared governance, investment into, and benefits from the tenure. The CHN may choose to contribute additional land-based areas to the community forest.

It is the view of the civic government that the offer to the Council of the Haida Nation should not be viewed as part of reconciliation discussions. The CHN is accommodating the interests of civic governments and the interests expressed by the public during consultation with the people of Haida Gwaii. Those interests are sustainable forest management, increased local employment and avoiding an agreement with volume that is managed and auctioned by BC Timber Sales whereby 50% of net revenues flows to the Victoria. BCTS has been invited since January 2017 to advise how they would implement the principles agreed to by MIEDS and the CHN. BCTS has not done that.

The four civic governments who form the Misty Isles Economic Development Society and the board of the society have each provided official support for the tenure to be offered to the CHN and their willingness to determine a corporate structure and governance which will meet mutual goals they have with the CHN. A letter under

separate cover outlines the CHN's willingness to hold the tenure and enter into a corporate structure with the same local governments.

Please respond to myself and Trevor Russ, Vice President of the Council of the Haida Nation with a copy to Janine North and each local government at your earliest opportunity of the Crown's willingness to change the offer so that we can provide you with a final response by the Misty Isles Economic Development Society.



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Cc
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