



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

November 10, 2020

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

Dear Sharon Hadway:

The Misty Island Economic Development Society, representing the communities of Haida Gwaii, looks forward to meeting with Ministry staff as committed to in the February 7, 2010 meeting held on Haida Gwaii. We are still looking forward to meeting with your staff in Haida Gwaii as Pacific Coastal flights have resumed.

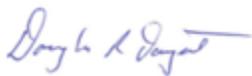
The Apportionment of the Haida Gwaii AAC was released October 28, 2020 and our directors noted that the apportionment to the TSA has shrunk by about 22.23% from 512,000 m³ to 398,000m³. This has a disproportionate impact on the Community Forest offer because there are currently licenses within the TSA that are defined by volume. Currently, within the TSA there is a 120,000m³ licence to cut held by Taan, and two licenses held by Husby Forest Products, one for 192,000m³ and one for 13,632m³. This would leave 72,324m³ of volume for the Haida Gwaii Community Forest and Timber Sales BC and if those volumes are maintained. Somewhere the Ministry is looking for 20% of the entire AAC to support market pricing and it is just not there. There has been no outreach from Ministry staff to the communities and MIEDS.

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We are in unknown territory regarding the offer of a community forest, and we would like to know the AAC decision implications for the offer. Could you please have your staff advise us:

1. Is the Area described in the initial offer still on the table?
2. What are the conditions? How much volume needs to be subject to whatever Market Pricing system is arrived at and will we have the flexibility to move to a new system if one evolves from current discussions between the Province and the CHN?
3. What volume remains for a locally managed Community Forest that is not constrained by a mandated partnership with BCTS? We would like to identify with the proposed tenure areas for operations that are not encumbered by the mandated partnership.
4. Will your staff work towards mutually acceptable conditions on market priced sales within the larger Community Forest area-based license, such as the volume and area of individual TSLs and/or requirements for manufacture in BC? I would request that BC Timber Sales consult with MIEDS about delivering Category 2 sales in 2020/21 that are located equitably across the TSA, and not just within the proposed community forest area, in a manner that is designed to foster micro/ small independent sawmilling, sustainable harvesting and employment in Haida Gwaii. Until there are answers to our other questions in this letter, we hope that an agreement can be put in place to ensure that the communities via MIEDS, receive at least the same revenue stream as the regulation permits, as much as we are gravely concerned that it provides very little return to the people of Haida Gwaii. We hope that localized contracting for all phases of forest management is directed for bids and contracts to Haida Gwaii based contractors, loggers and sawmillers. The local economy is suffering dramatically from lack of tourism visitation this year and unemployment from the pandemic.
5. Will we be informed of negotiations with other licensees within the TSA that might affect the offer to MIEDS and the civic communities and partnerships that we would potentially form with Skidegate and Old Masset?

Yours truly,



Douglas Daugert
Chair, Misty Isles Economic Development Society

cc. Gaagwiis, Jason Alsop, President of the Haida Nation
Trevor Russ, Vice President, Council of Haida Nation
Protocol Table membership
Nick Reynolds, Council of the Haida Nation
Stacey Gould, MoFNRORD, Timber Sales BC
Randy Aitkin, MoFNRORD, Coast Area Forest Tenures
Steven Rogers, MoFNRORD Coast Area Forest Tenures
Daryl Sherban, MoFNRORD, Haida Gwaii District