

A topographic map of the coastal region of British Columbia, Canada. The map shows various geographical features including mountains (Good Hope Mountain 10630, Monmouth Mountain 10429), rivers (Squamish), and islands (Flores Island, San Juan Islands). Major cities and towns are marked, including Vancouver, Richmond, Nanaimo, Port Alberni, and Victoria. The map also shows the Pacific Rim National Park and Cowichan Lake. A semi-transparent blue and green box is overlaid on the map, containing the title text.

Community PERSPECTIVES

on the

BC COASTAL FOREST INDUSTRY



**THE TRUCK LOGGERS
ASSOCIATION**

**Linking Communities
and Provincial
Decision-Makers**

The background of the entire page is a close-up photograph of several large, stacked logs. The logs are cut horizontally, showing the light-colored wood grain and the darker, textured bark. The logs are piled on top of each other, creating a sense of depth and texture. The lighting is natural, highlighting the organic shapes and colors of the wood.

TLA and the COMMUNITY

The TLA works to shape a business environment in the coastal forest industry that ensures the sustainability of timber harvesting contractors and the communities they support. Our members operate businesses engaged in logging, road building, log hauling, small forest licence management, log brokerage, independent sawmilling, remanufacturing, heavy equipment sales and service, fuel delivery, camp operations and other businesses that service the coastal forest industry. Together, with other independent contractors, we are responsible for close to 90 per cent of the timber harvested on the coast.

Many TLA member companies have a successful history of working with First Nations, building collaborative relationships that are rooted in a foundation of deep respect. A growing number of First Nations are TLA members. This activity helps boost employment and build capacity within First Nations communities as well as increase First Nations participation in all aspects of the forest economy.

TLA member companies are committed to the sustainability of the coastal forest resource and the communities they support. Representing more than 450 community-based businesses, TLA members live and work in more than 100 coastal communities, many of which rely on the forest industry for their economic and social well-being. For more than 70 years, the TLA's membership has sustained those communities by providing high-paying jobs, supporting other local businesses in the coastal region and generating economic activity that contributes to municipal and provincial revenues. TLA member companies know a healthy, vibrant and sustainable forest industry means jobs and economic growth.

The TLA fosters relationships with all levels of government to ensure the timber harvesting sector's needs are understood and communities are heard. As an intrinsic part of these communities, the TLA is a trusted voice, one that provides leadership by working closely with civic leaders and the provincial government to create and maintain a healthy and sustainable industry that supports local communities.

As part of that work, the TLA encourages the provincial government in its goal to "work with the forest industry on a new Forest Sector Competitiveness Strategy to maintain and enhance the industry, protect jobs and forest dependent communities and extract maximum value from our forest resource."

With responsible harvesting and sustainable forest management practices, our province's fish, wildlife, forests, watersheds and outdoor recreational activities can co-exist in a vibrant healthy ecosystem, one for British Columbians to enjoy for generations to come.

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TABLE of CONTENTS

04 PREFACE

04 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

06 INTRODUCTION

07 KEY FINDINGS

Optimism is Fading

Forest Industry is Seen as Not Healthier

More Needs to be Done

Lack of Confidence in Forest Stewardship

Support for the Working Forest is Even Greater

Sharing Our Resource

Shaping the Future

First Nations are Part of the Industry

15 CONCLUSION

16 APPENDIX

I COMMUNITIES PARTICIPATING IN STUDY

II COMMUNITY LEADERS PARTICIPATING
IN STUDY

III QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

IV SOURCES

V ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PREFACE

By acting as a vital link between communities and the province and providing hands-on advice to government, industry and community leaders, the TLA helps to create workable solutions that address the challenges facing today's forest industry.

To this end, the TLA undertook a follow-up study to the one it conducted in 2004 to measure the pulse and perspectives of our coastal communities.

As in our previous study, community leaders (Appendix II) were surveyed (Appendix III) because we wanted to see what impact the massive forest policy changes that took place over the last decade had on the viability of the communities they represent. A total of 27 coastal BC communities responded (three more than in 2004), including many where forestry has the greatest local economic impact.

Our 2004 survey was the first ever to gather opinions related to the changing forest industry from leaders in the communities where TLA members live and work. In our follow up, we have collated these unique perspectives into this report, comparing responses with previous ones so we can benchmark how the changing forest industry has affected the sustainability of our sector and our communities.

This report is not meant to be exhaustive, but rather identifies forestry related issues of concern to coastal community leaders today. All community leaders contacted were appreciative of the opportunity to exchange views with an organization dedicated to supporting community-based business.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is the result of two surveys the TLA undertook—the first of its kind in 2004 and the other in 2015, nearly a dozen years later—designed to measure the impact on coastal communities of the coastal forest industries massive restructuring. The most recent survey allows us to benchmark changes in attitude and expectation from over a decade ago.

When we conducted our first survey in 2004 there was a strong sense of optimism about the future. The community leaders we reached out to at that time hoped changes in forest practices and policy would help transform a flagging forest industry. However, our current survey found optimism has faded in our coastal communities. In 2004, 88 per cent of community leaders surveyed were optimistic about the future of forestry compared to only 56 per cent today.

BC's forest industry has undergone a transformation,

but many coastal communities that were once heavily reliant on the forest industry are still reeling from the impacts of tenure consolidations and mill closures, with timber harvesting contractors and forestry-related businesses closing their doors. Policy changes from 2003 have not, for the most part, yielded as much positive impact on our coastal communities as expected. Today, 62 per cent of community leaders surveyed feel that the forest industry is in worse shape today than it was a decade ago. Interestingly though, there is even stronger support for the working forest with 86 per cent of community leaders supporting the concept compared to 80 per cent in 2004. In 2004, the number one concern voiced by community leaders was job loss in their communities and today this remains a major concern. The leaders who responded to our survey are quick to acknowledge the importance of forestry to their local economies and some see a recent market



Photo: Erin Wallis Photography

recovery in the coastal forest industry bringing hope back to their communities. There is also strong support for First Nations involvement in the coastal forest sector, which has generated new opportunity in business and employment since our last survey. Community leaders continue to recognize the need to improve the image of the forest industry in order to attract young people to fill the projected 4,700 job openings in the coastal industry between now and 2022.

Campbell River, a hub of the coastal forest industry, identifies a significant difference between rural and urban communities in their understanding of the importance of the forest industry to our province. “The larger urban centres are indirectly benefiting from the resource around the province, but they don’t live it, feel it, breathe it, on an everyday basis like we do in Campbell River and other forest sector related communities.” Not all urban communities are alike however; as a port, The

Corporation of Delta is quick to recognize the value of the forest industry on both a local and provincial level.

There is consensus that more needs to be done. People in coastal communities, both rural and urban, need to have a better understanding of the sustainability of the coastal forest industry, stewardship practices and the benefits it offers to all British Columbians. Our survey indicates community leaders are frequently unsure of the province’s efforts to improve forest practices and policies and even when they are aware they often have difficulty being heard.

The TLA’s membership is a grassroots, community-based organization in the forest industry, with community prosperity and that of TLA member companies’ often going hand-in-hand. We believe these voices should be heard and are committed to fostering dialogue on the critical issues that face communities and threaten the sustainability of the timber harvesting sector.



INTRODUCTION

About a dozen years ago, the BC forest industry was about to undergo a massive restructuring, detailed in the province's 2003 Forestry Revitalization Plan, which came about following the industry's steady decline that began in the 1980s. The forest industry had reached a crisis point, blamed on a number of challenges—some of which are still in play today. These include the softwood lumber's countervailing and anti-dumping duties, loss of market share in Japan, the continued decline of the allowable annual cut, increases in the cost of production, pressure from environmental groups, lack of capital investment and uncertainty created by unresolved land claims with First Nations. Many were optimistic the industry restructuring would bring solutions and opportunities for coastal communities.

Since then, the world weathered one of the worst global financial crises in history, which the BC forest sector continues to recover from. And the industry has faced new challenges from the collapse of the US housing market to the mountain pine beetle epidemic and a landmark conservation agreement affecting land use in the Great Bear Rainforest. At the same time, the industry has benefited from market diversification over the last decade with the stellar rise of China as a dominant new market. BC's shrinking forest industry has seen a transformation resulting in tenure consolidations, mill closures, and timber harvesting contractors and forestry-related businesses closing their doors.

Through this period of unprecedented change, the provincial economy diversified yet many small rural coastal communities remain heavily dependent on the forest industry and are vulnerable to its downturns. The TLA has a role to play creating greater stability in the timber harvesting sector, and recognizes itself as a vital link between communities needing to be heard and the provincial government, which governs forest policy and practices.

KEY FINDINGS

1

OPTIMISM IS FADING

We are the centre of the coastal forest sector, so Campbell River certainly has been adversely impacted by the [decline of] the forest industry over the past decade—severely, with the loss of the TimberWest sawmill and the Catalyst pulp mill. We see that [industry] starting to come back and we're certainly welcoming it," *Andy Adams, Mayor of Campbell River*

FACT

The coastal forest sector generates 10 per cent of all employment on the BC coast.

Coastal mayors are not nearly as optimistic as they once were about the future of forestry in their communities, marking a significant change in tone. Just over a decade ago 88 per cent of community leaders surveyed felt positive about the direction forest policy changes were taking and were confident these changes would lead to a successful forest industry in their community. A dozen years later, only 56 per cent of community leaders are optimistic about the future of forestry.

However, some communities such as Campbell River are seeing the beginning of a renewal of the coastal forest industry, aided by newfound certainty created by land use decisions that determine allowable annual cuts and provide clarity for planning and harvesting activities. As opportunity shifts in industries outside of the province, people who were once commuting long distance are returning to work at home. Optimism is emerging here because there is an underlying sense that the forest industry "is on the right track."

Mayors are concerned about job loss in their communities. That concern is illustrated by comments like these: The closure of a major forestry company office resulted in "fewer loggers employed in the Port Alice area" and in Gold River "we used to have a pulp and paper mill and sawmills." Many blame these job losses on a lack of local manufacturing stating, "manufacturers of wood products cannot get enough wood supplied to them, which means we are not only losing jobs now but also future jobs."

TLA RESPONSE

Contractors are the economic backbone of many rural communities. Since our last survey, more than 25 timber harvesting contractors have had to seek insolvency protection in communities throughout coastal BC.

When logging contractors go out of business the effects are far reaching with obvious negative impacts on employment, local businesses and population. However, the domino effect also impacts property values, infrastructure maintenance, healthcare, schools and access to recreation centres and sporting facilities. Powell River, Campbell River, Duncan and Squamish are just a few of the communities that have witnessed the negative impacts of a major timber harvesting contractor that has sought insolvency protection or has left the industry within the last decade.

At a time when merchantable timber is becoming harder to access and more expensive to harvest on the coast, prosperity derived from our resource must be fairly shared between forestry companies and timber harvesting contractors. With this fair sharing of profits, BC's rural communities would benefit from a more stable industry, one that remains a key economic driver of local economies.

KEY FINDINGS

2

FOREST INDUSTRY IS SEEN AS NOT HEALTHIER

We've seen contractors go out of business in Powell River. First, you see job loss. These contractors are huge, great community supporters. When they're gone you don't see that support for your hockey teams, your baseball teams, your cultural events, your political events, your drives that you're doing to help community members. It leaves a big hole in the community,"

Dave Formosa, Mayor of Powell River

FACT

More than 40 per cent of BC's regional economies are estimated to be dependent on timber harvesting and forest products processing



Perhaps optimism is fading because the forest policy changes from 2003 have not, for the most part, had a positive impact on our coastal communities. Today 62 per cent of community leaders surveyed feel that the forest industry is in worse shape today than it was a decade ago. This finding is virtually unchanged from our last survey when 60 per cent of community leaders felt the forest industry was in worse shape.

In the last 12 years, many BC communities have experienced the impact of tenure consolidation amongst BC's forestry companies. As the push for global competitiveness has grown, the industry has shrunk, resulting in just a few forestry companies holding the rights to manage Crown timber on behalf of the people of British Columbia.

Some community leaders cite "short-term goals" and blame a "lack of long-term planning" for the challenges the industry faces today. They also identify a number of complicating issues, such as the high costs of production, limited access to fibre, export policy, continuous shifting, red tape, First Nations' land claims and climate change as contributing factors. As well, it was noted "community involvement in decision-making" could have a positive impact.

TLA RESPONSE

The TLA agrees that tenure consolidation has impacted the coastal forest industry negatively. However, the gradual erosion of Bill 13 is another serious culprit that has caused many contractors to go out of business at the expense of the communities they support.

In 1991, when Bill 13 was introduced, it was meant to address logging contractors' security in British Columbia. It was also supposed to provide a quick and inexpensive system for resolving contract disputes between independent contractors and the large forestry companies which held timber rights. But the Bill 13 rate test changed to require "fair market rates" and did not consider the sustainability of contractor businesses. Rates have actually gone down as expenses have gone up, driving many contractors out of business.

The TLA believes the solution lies in leveling the playing field by updating Bill 13 so that forestry companies will have a secure, stable and safety trained contractor workforce to support their supply chain. With this, communities could feel confident that local timber harvesting contractors—who support the community and employ local people—will have security of work to sustain a stable economy. Furthermore, a review of forest tenure and its narrow control should be examined.

KEY FINDINGS

3

MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE

It's one of those hold your nose kind of questions. In our region log exports help us to fully utilize our forest, logging a mix of species that otherwise wouldn't be economical to harvest," *Mike Ruttan, Mayor of Port Alberni.*

FACT

145,000
jobs in BC
depend on
a healthy
forest
industry



One of the biggest concerns community leaders had when we talked to them over a decade ago was the lack of local manufacturing in their communities and, regrettably, this hasn't changed.

Mayors continue to be frustrated by BC's inability to compete with other regions and other countries in manufacturing and with the lack of local mills capable of efficiently utilizing the harvest while recognizing the true value of our fibre.

As in the past, log exports remain a hot topic in British Columbia. The community leaders we surveyed show guarded support for log exports with 62 per cent supporting them today as compared to 60 per cent in the past. Many see the logs leaving their communities as a missed opportunity.

Several community leaders we surveyed understand that when the processing sector faces economic downturns and mills reduce output or shut down, log exports can help ensure that a significant portion of the workforce remains employed, because activity in the woods carries on and continues to contribute to the provincial and local economies.

Even though only a small number of community leaders surveyed specifically oppose log exports, it remains a complicated and sensitive issue. Many mayors reluctantly recognize that log exports bring greater employment stability to the extremely cyclical, commodity-based forest products industry and contribute to community stability through these difficult cycles. For the majority of mayors the goal is to ensure an appropriate balance between domestic manufacturing and log exports.

TLA RESPONSE

The TLA believes log exports are a necessary part of the coastal forest industry. They help create job stability, increase the fibre supply domestically and improve utilization of the forest resource, which should lead to better forest management.

A thriving and sustainable forest industry requires a balance between a healthy domestic manufacturing sector and log exports. BC's diversified mix of products being sent to markets around the world, ranging from logs to lumber and pulp and specialty papers, ensures the forest industry keeps running and people keep working.

KEY FINDINGS

4

LACK OF CONFIDENCE IN FOREST STEWARDSHIP

There is immense potential for sustainable forestry that would employ local people with safe, rewarding, active careers. It is challenging to see the path to that transition, but we must begin that shift as soon as possible,” *Cameron Bell, Economic Development Officer with the Misty Isles Economic Development Society for the Villages of Masset, Port Clements, and Queen Charlotte.*



Many community leaders, we learned, are concerned about how our forests are being managed today. Over a decade ago 63 per cent or two-thirds of those surveyed believed we were being good stewards of our forests while today only 26 per cent would agree with that statement, and nearly half are not sure. This is a disturbing finding for people who work in the woods.

TLA RESPONSE

Timber harvesting contractors look to the future, are committed to BC’s stringent forest practices laws and environmental standards, and in many cases take measures that go beyond regulatory requirements to safeguard our resource, so our forests can continue to be sustainable for generations to come.

BC has approximately 55 million hectares of productive forests, with 32 per cent or 17.6 million hectares, made up of a mix of second-, third-, and old-growth forests, located in the coast region. Our province is unique among the world’s timber producers because 95 per cent of its forests are publicly-owned and subject to provincial forest management regulations. Moreover, BC has more land certified to recognized sustainability standards than any other jurisdiction in the world.

The TLA continues to champion sustainable forest practices and work with all levels of government to promote environmentally sustainable forest practices, and communities’ social and economic interests.

With this in mind, we found these results surprising and confusing. A drop of 37 percentage points in the belief that we are good stewards of BC’s forests is serious, especially in contrast to the recent pollster’s announcement that only 20 per cent of Canadians hold a negative opinion of forestry. The TLA plans to dig deeper into this.

FACT

200 million trees are planted annually in BC, or about three seedlings for every tree harvested

KEY FINDINGS

5

SUPPORT FOR WORKING FOREST IS EVEN GREATER

“We need to balance recreation, tourism, and all our natural amenities while maintaining a healthy working forest,” *Mayor Patricia Heintzman, District of Squamish*

On the positive side, today there is even stronger support for the working forest with 86 per cent of community leaders supporting the concept compared to a strong 80 per cent just over a decade ago.

In a province rich in natural resources this support from community leaders acknowledges the important role forestry plays in our communities, but also recognizes that the multi-use of our forests “leads to a more diversified economy.” At times, communities can find themselves in the middle of “competing land uses such as recreation and tourism.” Having land designated for activities like forestry also recognizes other industries, including tourism and recreation, as important users. In many cases, logging roads have increased access to the back country for tourism and recreational use in these rural and remote areas.

In Powell River community members nurtured the Sunshine Coast Trail, which is now receiving world-wide accolades, ranking in the world’s Top 50. Powell River’s mayor says the key is common sense not blockades. “There’s a balance” he says, “between maintaining our high-paying forestry jobs and sharing the resource with other industries that benefit the community. Community members sit down with forestry companies and negotiate and fight hard for recreational values, and those values are reaping the rewards of our tourism market here in Powell River. We talk to each other and we have respect for each other, but I think it’s mostly communication and the will of everybody to get along.”

TLA RESPONSE

Since 1990, the allowable annual cut on the coast has fallen more than 23 per cent. Over time, continuing to chip away at the size of our sustainable working forest has caused BC’s coastal communities and the province to lose jobs and millions of dollars of local revenue. That revenue helped pay for infrastructure, recreation centres, schools and hospitals in communities throughout BC. The economic impact of the decreasing AAC on our shrinking industry is evidenced in more than 33,000 direct jobs in the forest sector that were lost in the province in the 10-year period ending in 2011.

Protecting the working forest ensures TLA members can maximize opportunities to harvest the allowable annual cut so our forests continue to be well managed, sustainable and an excellent source of employment in coastal communities. But the TLA also fully understands the importance of industries like tourism and forestry working and thriving side-by-side.

Homalco Wildlife Tours provides an excellent example of this cooperative approach. The Homalco First Nation own Homalco Wildlife Tours and Homalco Forestry, a TLA member company. Homalco Forestry likes to show off its natural resource planning, and believes it’s easy to get single-minded about managing one’s own resource—be it tourism, fishing or forestry. Because the Homalco manage many resources—hydro, forestry, wilderness tours and a fish hatchery—they have a broader perspective and a commitment to working together. Homalco management found communicating well with tour providers and guides to ensure they are aware of the sustainable forestry practices being used is important to help shift perspective. Emphasizing how both industries are integral to the area, tour guides are now pointing out two-year, five-year and ten-year-old cutblocks on the way up to Bute Inlet so tourists understand that while new cutblocks can be visually unappealing for a short while, it is only a matter of time before they green up and are difficult to distinguish from the rest of the forest.

For the TLA, the goal always is to create a balance between the socio-economic reality facing our industry and local communities and sustainable solutions.

FACT

In 2013, about **70.9 million cubic metres** of timber was harvested in BC, 29 per cent of which was harvested from the coast region

KEY FINDINGS

6

SHARING OUR RESOURCE

Forestry is one of the province's important economic resources and provider of good jobs for our people,"
Mayor Lois E. Jackson, The Corporation of Delta



Currently, BC's timber harvesting land base makes up 2.5 million hectares, while 3.14 million hectares has been conserved through the establishment of parks, ecological reserves and protected areas.

When we conducted our last survey in 2004, 12 per cent of British Columbia's land base was protected. Just over a decade later, more than 16 per cent is fully protected, and much more of the land base falls under some type of special management regime, where values such as wildlife habitat, biodiversity or recreation take precedence.

We wanted to know how today's leaders felt protecting BC's land base for parks and recreation had impacted their coastal communities. Nearly 30 per cent of the mayors we reached out to think their communities were impacted by the creation of parks and protected areas, some positively, some negatively. Most mayors agreed a diversified economy is important, creating a balance between the economic interests in the area and the biological ones.

TLA RESPONSE

Science continues to play a significant role in guiding policies that have helped the BC forest industry achieve its reputation as a world leader in sustainable forest management. TLA member companies are dedicated to responsible harvesting and sustainable forest management practices to ensure our province's fish and wildlife, forests, watersheds and outdoor recreation can co-exist in a diverse and vibrant ecosystem. Not surprisingly, the mayors we surveyed recognize that for regional and local economies to thrive, tourism, forestry and other sectors need to successfully co-exist and that the future of all British Columbians lies in the balance.

FACT

**Less than
1 per cent**
or BC's forests
are harvested
annually

KEY FINDINGS

7 SHAPING THE FUTURE

“Most young people believe there is no career in forestry, but those who have joined the industry are astonished at what a good life they can create for their families and themselves. That story needs to get out!” *Bill McKay, Mayor of Nanaimo*

FACT There are **4,700** job openings projected in coastal forestry and timber harvesting operations between now and 2022—95 per cent are due to pending retirements

From our survey it is evident community leaders understand the value of the forest industry to their local communities and to the provincial economy—an industry that today contributes approximately one job in every 16. They also recognize the need to improve the image of the forest industry in order to attract young people to it.

Clearly, they believe there is much more to be done with support for training, education and hiring locally. Community leaders acknowledge that the forest industry provides well-paying local jobs, but say it suffers from “short-term contracts limiting long-term stability” and needs to introduce “stable shifts so young people can raise families.”

They say everyone has a part to play in educating current and future generations about the benefits the forest industry has to offer. On top of offering “safe, dependable, high income jobs to support families,” the forest industry is “high tech, green and sustainable” and we should be working hard on “defining it as a renewable resource.”

TLA RESPONSE

The average forest worker earns from \$23.70 to \$33.30 per hour, depending on the occupation. For example, the average salary for a registered professional forester is \$69,000 annually.

Over the next decade the forest industry’s aging workforce will lead to shortages in the professional, production management and skilled trade occupations, as well as a wide range of production workers who harvest and transport products from the forest to the market. An estimated 25,000 new recruits will be required in the sector or about 2,500 per year due to anticipated turnover rates of 60 per cent for forestry and logging and 40 per cent for the solid wood and pulp and paper sectors in BC.

The TLA supports the development of a provincial recruitment and training strategy to ensure there are enough skilled workers to meet the growing industry demand, but there are challenges to overcome. As the BC Forest Sector Workforce Initiative reports, “overall, many young people view the industry as low tech, environmentally unfriendly, seasonal and uncertain, and geographically remote.” In contrast, the interest for “First Nations youth is increasing and more positive given the jobs are often local, however additional support is often required to upgrade, ladder and advance candidates to the skilled jobs available.”

The association is committed to playing a greater role in raising awareness about the importance of the forest industry and the benefits it has to offer young people. Along with these efforts, the TLA continues to support education programs that community leaders take pride in, such as high school forestry programs in Port Alberni, Campbell River and Port Hardy, and the BC Forest Discovery Centre in Duncan. Additionally, the TLA’s Forestry Education Fund will continue to provide scholarships to students in the trades and universities, which have over the years contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to the education and training of our future forestry workers.

KEY FINDINGS

8

FIRST NATIONS ARE PART OF THE INDUSTRY

First Nations manage the resource and hire locally, which is a big plus. When allocating tenure in the future a big emphasis should be given to harvesters who commit to having more and more of the proceeds stay on the north Island,” *Hank Bood, Mayor of Port Hardy*

FACT

Since 2002, the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations has signed forest tenure agreements with 175 of the 203 First Nations in BC, providing them with \$324 million in revenue-sharing and access to 63.2 million cubic metres of timber



First Nations are significant and valued participants in the coastal forest industry as tenure holders and through revenue-sharing agreements. Since our last survey, the province has redistributed approximately 10 per cent of the allowable annual cut to First Nations communities as a step towards economic integration and development in the forest industry.

The majority of mayors we surveyed acknowledged the growing and positive impact First Nations’ involvement in forestry has had on their communities, identifying First Nations as “partners throughout the whole process.” Several mayors were quick to point out that First Nations “don’t leave the community.” For those communities who weathered the mass exodus of workers to the oil patch over the last decade, this is a definitive advantage. It also illustrates a specific need for training to be provided locally.

TLA RESPONSE

The TLA believes strong, positive and lasting relationships with First Nations will not only support local communities, but will also help attract First Nations youth to the industry. Importantly, this solution can advance career opportunities for First Nations, helping to address underemployment while also tackling the shortage of skilled workers facing BC’s forest industry.

The association’s strong, successful partnerships with First Nations are proving so positive that First Nations like the Ts’elxweyeqw Tribe in Chilliwack are joining the TLA as members with its Ch-ihl-kway-uhk Forestry Limited Partnership. This business is building capacity within its workforce and working with all stakeholders active on the land base including other natural resource industries, recreation and tourism.

Forestry is also coming together on a lot of fronts in the Lil’Wat First Nation territory, near Mount Currie just past Pemberton, including providing training for a new, local workforce. The Lil’Wat developed tenure within their traditional territory and now have three different types—a non-replaceable forest license, two woodlots and a regular forest license—making up an allowable annual cut of 65,000 cubic metres. This is just one of many First Nations collaborations that feature a mutually beneficial partnership between established harvesting contractors and a newer First Nations forestry business.

Now and into the future, First Nations are an important part of the TLA as both members and partners in the coastal forest industry.

CONCLUSION

Despite the concerns some community leaders have shared with us about the enormous changes their communities have faced over the past dozen years and the serious challenges they currently face, there are also important successes acknowledged.

Moreover, our survey has revealed a path to the future. A series of findings signify an increased role the TLA can play in the future, creating stronger links between coastal communities and the provincial government that, hopefully, will lead to improved understanding between all stakeholders in BC's coastal forest industry.

The TLA shares a unique bond with the people who provide leadership in the communities where we live and work. In many ways, their problems are our problems—our victories, their triumphs. The TLA is committed to expanding our reach by sharing our unique community perspective with the provincial government to address the concerns expressed by our members and these communities.

More than half of our community leaders are still optimistic about the future of forestry in the face of all the adversity the coastal forest industry has withstood. We stand with them, but there is a lot of hard work ahead.



APPENDIX I COMMUNITIES PARTICIPATING IN STUDY

1. Campbell River
2. Central Coast Regional District
3. Chilliwack
4. Courtenay
5. Cumberland
6. The Corporation of Delta
7. Duncan
8. Village of Gold River
9. Village of Harrison Hot Springs
10. District of Lantzville
11. Village of Massett
12. District of Mission
13. Nanaimo
14. Municipality of North Cowichan
15. Port Alberni
16. Village of Port Alice
17. District of Port Hardy
18. Town of Port McNeill
19. Powell River
20. Village of Queen Charlotte
21. Village of Saanichton
22. Village of Sayward
23. District of Sechelt
24. District of Squamish
25. Village of Tahsis
26. Terrace
27. Resort Municipality of Whistler

APPENDIX II COMMUNITY LEADERS PARTICIPATING IN STUDY

Mayor Andy Adams	Campbell River
Richard Hall	Central Coast Regional District
Mayor Sharon Gaetz	Chilliwack
Mayor Larry Jangula	Courtenay
Mayor Leslie Baird	Cumberland
Mayor Lois E. Jackson	The Corporation of Delta
Mayor Phil Kent	Duncan
Mayor Brad Unger	Village of Gold River
Mayor Leo Facio	Village of Harrison Hot Springs
Mayor Colin Haime	District of Lantzville
Mayor Andrew Merilees	Village of Massett
Mayor Randy Hawes	District of Mission
Mayor Bill McKay	Nanaimo
Mayor Jon Lefebure	Municipality of North Cowichan
Mayor Mike Ruttan	Port Alberni
Mayor Jan Allen	Village of Port Alice
Mayor Hank Bood	District of Port Hardy
Mayor Shirley Ackland	Town of Port McNeill
Mayor Dave Formosa	Powell River
Mayor Greg Martin	Village of Queen Charlotte
Mayor Ryan Windsor	Village of Saanichton
Mayor John MacDonald	Village of Sayward
Mayor Bruce Milne	District of Sechelt
Mayor Patricia Heintzman	District of Squamish
Mayor Jude Schooner	Village of Tahsis
Mayor Carol Leclerc	Terrace
Mayor Nancy Wilhelm-Morden	Resort Municipality of Whistler



APPENDIX III QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- 01.** Is the forest industry healthier in your community than it was 10 years ago?
- 02.** What are the issues facing the forest industry in your community today?
- 03.** Is the provincial government doing enough to support forestry in your community?
- 04.** Is the forest land-use planning process working well in your community?
- 05.** BC protects nearly 4 per cent more of its land base for parks and recreation than it did a decade ago. Has this impacted your community?
- 06.** Do you support the concept of the working forest: a portion of the land base designated specifically for forestry?
- 07.** Is the forest industry managing BC's forests responsibly?
- 08.** Log exports help create job stability, increase the fibre supply domestically and create fair market pricing that can lead to better forest management. Do you support log exports?
- 09.** Is there more that could be done to attract young people from your community to enter the forest industry?
- 10.** What role do First Nations have in forestry in your community?
- 11.** Are you optimistic about the future of the forest industry in your community?
- 12.** What could the TLA, an association of community-based timber harvesting businesses, do to help support the forest industry in your community?

APPENDIX IV SOURCES

Interviews with BC coastal mayors: spring 2016

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This report is posted on the TLA's website: www.tla.ca



APPENDIX V ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to all those community leaders who took time out of their busy schedules to share their concerns and hopes for their communities and for the coastal forest industry in order to make this report possible. The provincial government also deserves praise for its efforts to restructure the BC forest industry and expand markets for BC forest products, especially through the very difficult economic times of the last decade. The TLA believes the combined efforts of government, industry, labour, First Nations and the commitment of all stakeholders will prevail with a thriving and sustainable forest industry in our province to the benefit of communities up and down the coast of BC.

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725 – 815 West Hastings Street Vancouver, B.C. V6C 1B4 | 604.684.4291

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