From: FLNR Old Growth BC FLNR:EX

To: Old Growth Strategic Review

Subject: FW: latest old growth consultation

Date: Monday, November 18, 2019 2:22:55 PM

From: Pam <groclu@xplornet.com> Sent: November 18, 2019 1:55 PM

To: FLNR Old Growth BC FLNR:EX < Oldgrowthbc@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: latest old growth consultation

To Whom It May Concern:...........I confess to being puzzled as to why the govt. needs yet another consultation process...it is doubtful that govt. will learn anything they haven't already heard. Despite this concern, I'm writing a short note to you to let you know what I, an ordinary citizen, thinks about old growth forests.

- 1. Conservation values old growth needs to be actively conserved. There's very little left and old growth is valuable for other reasons besides logging and manufacturing with it. Reconciliation demands the province take note of Indigenous concerns and act on them. Old growth is valuable environmentally as it cleans the air, stores carbon, stores and cleans water, and provides habitat for animals, birds and plants. Conserving old growth is the right thing to do for our entire ecosystem. With climate change happening faster than forecast, anything we can do to preserve existing ecosystems is a crucial priority.
- 2. Tourism values these are some of the biggest, oldest trees on the planet. Tourists (and citizens) want to see them and walk among them. Govt. should conserve old growth areas in perpetuity, as well as promoting them. Govt. needs to help citizen and Indigenous groups to run tours thru them (on walkways). This will bring in money for BC and for Indigenous groups.
- 3. Speed the former govt. and the current govt. seem to be stalling on conservation of these old growth areas, while old growth continues to be logged. While I understand the forest industry was formerly a mainstay of the BC economy, and is suffering currently, this should not delay the conservation of old growth. The two issues are separate. Old growth is declining precipitously. We will not see their like again. **Action is needed now**.

Sincerely, Pam Grover, Box 118, Chilanko Forks, BC, VOL1HO