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June 28, 2020

All BC Timber Sales Registrants

Dear BC Timber Sales Registrant:

This letter provides important information regarding the e-Bidding Pilot Project that BC Timber Sales (BCTS) has been engaged in since early 2017. BCTS has decided to extend the e-Bidding pilot indefinitely and it will, therefore, be in effect until further notice.

The Ministry of Citizens Services is currently developing what they refer to as the BC Bid Next Generation Application. The BC Bid Next Generation Application is anticipated to be available in the fall of 2020. This new application is expected to address many of the current weaknesses in BC Bid that have been reported by BCTS clients and are of concern to BCTS. Further information regarding the transition to the new application will be forthcoming as its implementation draws closer.

BCTS enterprises that register or renew their registration for the e-Bidding service through BC Bid during the e-Bidding Pilot Project will continue to have the annual e-Bidding subscription cost covered by BCTS.

Timber Sale Licence (TSL) opportunities will continue to be advertised online on the BC Bid website at <http://www.bcbid.gov.bc.ca>. To facilitate the e-Bidding process, all TSL tender information attachments will continue to **only** be available through BC Bid.

A short one-minute YouTube video demonstrating how to search the BC Bid website for information on past TSL auctions (posted on BC Bid since the e-Bidding pilot commenced on

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April 1, 2017) can be found at the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hLCYvmUPwKE> or you may search with the words “BC BID advanced search video” on the YouTube website.

Lastly, please note that during the e-Bidding pilot period, BCTS will continue to accept tenders for TSLs either through e-Bidding submission or by the current paper-based tender method. However, in specific situations the Timber Sales Manager (TSM) may still require a bid deposit and, in those cases, applications will only be accepted by the paper-based tender form method at the Timber Sales Office that had advertised the TSL.

To Summarize:

- e-Bidding pilot extended indefinitely;
- e-Bidding service registration costs will continue to be covered by BCTS during the e-Bidding Pilot Project;
- BCTS will continue to accept TSL tenders by e-Bidding or paper submission for the duration of the e-Bidding Pilot Project

If you have not already done so, I encourage you take advantage of the free registration offer for BC Bid and to try out the e-Bidding approach to offering you timber sale opportunities and submitting your tender applications.

For further information regarding registering for and submitting e-Bids, please visit the following web page: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/bc-timber-sales/tsl>.

Sincerely,



Ray Luchkow, RPF
Executive Director, BC Timber Sales
BC Timber Sales Headquarters

pc: Al Powelson, Director, Sustainability and Forestry BCTS
Rob Bigalke, Director Business BCTS
Timber Sales Leadership Team