



February 13, 2020

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource
Operations, and Rural Development
Old Growth Strategic Review Panel
c/o Mr. Garry Merkel, RPF &
Mr. Al Gorley, RPF

RE: Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Input into Old Growth Strategic Review

Dear Mr. Merkel and Mr. Gorley,

On behalf of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Board of Directors we thank you for meeting with us on January 30, 2020 and providing us the opportunity to provide input into the Old Growth Strategic Review. At this meeting we were able to share and provide you with input into the review process from each of our areas of the Regional District. Additionally, we would like to provide you some direction to help you draft your recommendations.

Recommendations from the panel to the province should consider and encompass entire landscapes regardless of Crown or Private ownership; creating a coordinated approach between all players on the landscape. Any proposed changes to the management of Old Growth should apply on both Crown lands and Private Managed Forest Lands.

Recommendations must be based on science including exploring the actions and strategies taken by other countries who manage Old Growth forests. Similarly, decision makers must use relevant science to assist with Old Growth management decisions, helping to reduce political influence.

Recommendations must consider the social and economic consequences of decisions. Changes to old growth management can impact the forest industry, indirect industries, First Nations, communities, and the public; therefore must be considered carefully. It is important to the ACRD Board of Directors that a collaborative approach to the management of Old Growth is conducted with all relevant stakeholders.

Sincerely,

John Jack
ACRD Chairperson