

# Old Growth Strategic Review

December 20, 2019

I am composing this letter to express my disappointment with our currently elected government.

Once again they are listening to special interest groups such as the Sierra Club for their emotional and un-founded rhetoric on the health and well being of our working forests.

I have been working in the forest industry since 1976 and have personally been witness to some of the blunders that have taken place in this province. There was one that occurred in the early 1990's that comes to mind. The mis-guided decision was made to embark on a massive "creek cleaning" crusade. This was accomplished by forcing the tenure holders to clean the creeks in the areas where they logging by removing every single branch and twig. This may sound like a novel idea, but the aftermath was not. When the fall and winter rains came there was nothing in the creek beds to hold back the silt! The result was silted inlets and waterways. This is only one example of special interest groups pressuring the elected officials to produce very flawed legislation.

There are some facts that I believe should be made clear to the public and elected officials.

Fact: This is not the only "Old Growth" cycle that there has ever been, in fact it is the 52<sup>nd</sup> since the ice age.


Fact: Many of the "Old Growth" stands are decadent and diseased. Wind blown spores enter the tree through broken branches or leaders, once they enter the tree the outcome is inevitable, the tree will die and infect other trees in the stand.

Fact: Harvesting of the "Old Growth" stands will ensure a more healthy and robust THLB (timber harvesting land base)

Fact: Our new and healthy forests of today consume carbon dioxide at a much faster rate than the decadent "Old Growth" in a comparable land base.

Fact: The economic disaster that will happen if a moratorium on "Old Growth" harvesting takes place will be far reaching and will not be something we can wave a magic wand at to fix.

It is my opinion, along with hundreds of thousands of other tax paying citizens, that this government start listening to the people who actually work to build this province, not to special interest groups, many of whom, are not even from this country.



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