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April 23, 2021

BY EMAIL: pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca

Peter Luckham, Chair
Islands Trust Council
200 – 1627 Fort Street
Victoria, British Columbia
V8R 1H8

Dear Peter Luckham:

Thank you for your July 30, 2020 email to Doug Donaldson, former Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, Selina Robinson, former Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Scott Fraser, former Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, and your September 18, 2020 email to Doug Donaldson regarding your concerns with the oversight of forestry activities within the Islands Trust Area and a request for amendments to the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* (PMFLA). I have been asked to respond, and I apologize for the delay, but feel it is the appropriate time to report out on our collective work that has been undertaken on the issue over several months.

I appreciate your concerns regarding Section 21 of the PMFLA, which is in place to ensure that oversight of forestry activities is conducted under the authorities of the Managed Forest Council. The legal opinion that you have included regarding potential legislative changes is duly noted. I appreciate the complexity of this issue as Islands Trust seeks to revise their policies to address the development of properties under their jurisdiction. I have allocated resources in our branch to work with Islands Trust and fully examine this issue to formulate possible solutions.

As you are aware, in 2019 a review of the Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program was undertaken. Though still underway, this review brought to light a number of issues for communities across the province. I would like to thank Islands Trust for providing feedback to the process since its initiation.

To better understand the interaction between the PMFL Program and Islands Trust, as identified by both yourself and brought to light through the PMFL Program review, in January 2021 my staff undertook a specific examination of forestry activities within the Islands Trust Area. The object of this work is to fully understand the mandate and aspirations

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of the Islands Trust, and to explore options for better integrating the Islands Trust mandate with the goals and regulatory framework of the PMFL Program.

On March 4, 2021, a meeting was held with representatives from Islands Trust to better understand your perspective and the guiding principles within which Islands Trust operates. After incorporating the additional information provided by Islands Trust from that meeting, we have been able to share a draft of our analysis for review and feedback. It is my understanding that another meeting has been scheduled for later this month to continue the work started in March.

We will continue to work collaboratively with Islands Trust to continue to address issues as they evolve, and I am optimistic that this approach will develop options for consideration by the Honourable Minister Conroy and the Honourable Minister Osborne. I want to thank you for your letter, and for the commitment and effort that Islands Trust has dedicated to working with our ministry.

Yours truly,



Doug Kelly
Director

pc: Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)
Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MUNI.Minister@gov.bc.ca)
Honourable Murray Rankin, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (IRR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)
Sarah Fraser, Assistant Deputy Minister, Rural Opportunities, Tenures and Engineering Division (sarah.fraser@gov.bc.ca)
Richard Elliott, Executive Director, Rural Opportunities, Tenures and Engineering Division (richard.elliott@gov.bc.ca)
Patrick Russell, Manager, Timber Tenures, Forest Tenures Branch (patrick.russell@gov.bc.ca)
Tara Faganello, Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government Division, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (tara.faganello@gov.bc.ca)
Kris Nichols, Manager, Planning and Land Use, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (kris.nichols@gov.bc.ca)
Phil O'Connor, Executive Director, Managed Forest Council (phil@mfcouncil.bc.ca)