

BELLA COOLA COMMUNITY FOREST LTD.

Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

January 25, 2022, 7:00 pm

Representatives Present:

Watershed Society: Rae Kokes	Nunamus Dev Corp: Keith Hamilton
DFO Advisory: Holly Willgress	Nuxalk Forestry:
BC Valley Tourism: Tom Hermance	CCRD: No rep
Snootli Hatchery:	Member At Large: Nicole Kaechele
Arts Council/BCVRR: Heather Ross	CCCS:
Rod & Gun Club: John Willis	
Trails Alliance: Ivy Strother/ Sam McKoy	BCRS: Mark Nelson, Ezra Mecham, Elijah
BCCFL: Hans Granander	Mecham, Neil Osborne, Sandy Maclaurin
Roger Brandt	

Meeting held via Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

1. Community poll results: (poll conducted by Innovative Research (late Fall 2021))
 - 1) H. Granander reviewed poll process and summarized results - poll results were mostly positive. Summary stated that “BCCFL has good approval rating in delivering on the key economic, social and environmental objectives for which the BCCFL was established”.
 - 2) The plan is to use this information to do better job of informing the community/asking for input.
 - 3) The poll is only the first step in engagement process and the BCCFL is still looking for other ways for engagement.
 - 4) It was pointed out that at the previous meeting there had been disagreement about validity of surveys/polls.
 - 5) There was some concern that this particular survey was not representative of the whole community, was not a large enough or broad enough sample group, and did not prove consistent support for logging/BCCFL through the valley.
2. Old growth management strategy:
 - 1) Reminded that the Prov. of BC has already identified and set aside several areas of old growth timber, including in the Bella Coola Valley.
 - 2) The BCCFL also has done review of old growth timber in the valley and have identified four categories
 - already protected
 - inoperable
 - possible to log/not enough information
 - prime timber
 - 3) Need to clarify definitions such as old growth – over 250 yrs or over 400 yrs?
 - 4) Need to develop a plan/strategy that takes into consideration the eco-system, protected areas, especially high-risk areas that are in danger of collapse, and the value of timber.
 - 5) Question of who develops the strategic plan – BCCFL could start but needs input from all stakeholders in the valley.

3. Community engagement

- 1) Last spring the BCCFL requested (and received) proposals from 3 businesses to help with developing and facilitating the public engagement process;
- 2) After discussion it was agreed that these 3 proposals be shared with this Advisory Committee for input from interested committee members (before upcoming deadline).
- 3) Continued discussion about need to include all stakeholders, including First Nations, in whole community engagement process.
- 4) BCCFL has begun review of its 5 yr. management plan; that updated plan is then sent out to the Ministry for approval.

At 8:55 it was agreed to adjourn meeting and defer further discussion until next meeting.

4. Discussion items from July 1st meeting
5. BCCFL 2022 operating plans