Council Member Motion
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Nov. 7th, 2019

To:	Committee of the Whole	**Date:**	Oct. 31, 2019
From:	Councillor Jeremy Loveday and Councillor Ben Isitt		
Subject:	City of Victoria Input into Provincial Old Growth Strategic Review		

Background:

The City of Victoria has passed a number of resolutions regarding the protection of old growth forests in recent years. These resolutions consistently advocate for the protection of the old growth forests of Vancouver Island, recognizing their vital value for ecology, recreation and low-impact tourism.

The province of BC has recently launched an "Old Growth Strategic Review" public consultation. This review has the potential to shift how the Province manages and protects old growth forests. As part of this consultation, organizations are being asked to provide input by January 31, 2020.

In light of the City's prior advocacy for protection of old growth forests, it is recommended that Council direct staff to prepare a draft written submission for Council's consideration to inform the Provincial Old Growth Forests Strategic Review.

Recommendation:

That Council direct Staff to draft a formal submission to the Provincial government's Old Growth Forests Strategic Review stating the City of Victoria's support for protecting all remaining old growth forests on Vancouver Island, advocating for sustainable management of second-growth forests, and appending previous Council resolutions on this topic.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Loveday

Councillor Isitt