



Council Member Motion
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 22, 2017

Date: June 20, 2017

From: Councillor Ben Isitt and Councillor Jeremy Loveday

Subject: UBCM Resolution: Optimizing Community Benefits of Forest Resources

Recommendations:

THAT Council endorse the following resolution for consideration at the 2017 annual convention of the Union of BC Municipalities, and directs staff to forward this resolution to member local governments requesting favourable consideration and resolutions of support:

Resolution: Optimizing Community Benefits of Forest Resources

WHEREAS British Columbia's regions are rich in forest resources, a renewable source of employment, revenues and materials that provide vital habitat for biological diversity, water quality, outdoor recreation and economic development;

AND WHEREAS employment and public revenues from British Columbia's forests have declined substantially in recent decades, at the same time that watersheds and ecosystems have experienced negative impacts due to existing forestry practices;

AND WHEREAS British Columbia's diverse communities can realize substantially improved outcomes from forest resources by adopting best practices in forest stewardship and forest management from Scandinavia and other jurisdictions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of British Columbia work with First Nations, regional districts and municipalities to substantially improve community benefits of forest resources, including: expansion of community tenures, introduction of regional log markets, incentives for value-added production, and strengthened standards of forest stewardship to increase legislated protection of drinking watersheds and biological diversity.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ben Isitt'.

Councillor Isitt

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeremy Loveday'.

Councillor Loveday

Appendix: "The Future of Forests and Communities on Vancouver Island: