



MAY - 1 2008

Garry Merkel, Co-Chair
Forest and Range Practices Advisory Council (PAC)
466 Second Avenue
Kimberley, British Columbia
V1A 2P7

Dear Mr Merkel:

Thank you for your letter of March 3, 2008, from the Forest and Range Practices Advisory Council (PAC) regarding the regulatory review and Forestry Roundtable. I appreciated receiving PAC's recommendations and support for these initiatives.

To date, over 500 submissions related to the regulatory review have been received. Many have been submitted from sectors represented by PAC members. The results of the review will be published.

The Forestry Roundtable membership has been determined and meetings have begun in communities across British Columbia. The Working Roundtable will develop recommendations and ideas that government, the forestry industry, and others can act on to strengthen British Columbia's forest sector over the next five to 10 years. The Roundtable's primary focus will be on identifying conditions for the long-term success of British Columbia's forest sector within the global marketplace.

Key considerations will include:

- climate change and the challenges and opportunities it presents for B.C. forests
- remaining competitive in evolving world economies
- the impact of innovation and technology on forestry
- changing demographics within an aging workforce
- issues affecting B.C.'s forests, such as the mountain pine beetle
- changing social expectations of forests and the forest industry
- upholding First Nations' rights
- sustaining B.C.'s world-renowned environmental standards

Ministry of
Forests and Range
and Minister Responsible
for Housing

Office of the
Minister

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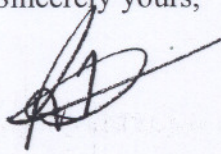
underway, I anticipate that range user interests may be better addressed through discussions currently in progress with the British Columbia Cattlemen's Association on a beef cattle industry strategy and regulatory issues. Please continue to work with David Borth, Director of Range Branch for the Ministry of Forests and Range, to identify and address those issues.

If PAC has specific suggestions it wishes to make to the Roundtable, it can provide them to:

Dana Hayden
Deputy Minister and Vice-Chair
Forestry Roundtable
3rd Floor, 1520 Blanshard Street
Victoria, BC V8W 3K2

Or by email to: Donna.Hall@gov.bc.ca

Sincerely yours,



Rich Coleman
Minister

pc: Dana Hayden, Deputy Minister and Vice-Chair
Forestry Roundtable