



## **Forest companies spent a quarter of a billion dollars in Campbell River last year**

CAMPBELL RIVER, OCTOBER 8, 2020 – A report out today highlights the critical role forestry plays in the economies of Campbell River and other Vancouver Island Communities.

The 2019 Regional Supply Chain Study by the BC Council of Forest Industries estimates BC forest sector companies purchased \$7 billion in goods and services in the province last year, supporting 9,900 BC-based suppliers in 340 communities and 120 First Nations and affiliated organizations.

With a quarter-billion dollars spent in the community with some 300 suppliers, Campbell River was the third largest beneficiary of this economic activity, after only Vancouver and Prince George.

“This report puts numbers to what we already knew – Campbell River is a hub of forestry activity and investment for northern Vancouver Island, supporting literally thousands of BC families as the money spent here ripples through the province’s entire economy,” said Carl Sweet, co-founder and spokesperson for the B.C. Forestry Alliance (BCFA), based in Campbell River.

“Forestry companies spent more than a quarter-billion dollars with 300 suppliers in Campbell River last year alone. Those suppliers are local stores and restaurants, contractors, truckers, and other businesses. They are owned by moms and dads raising children in our community, coaching our soccer teams, themselves purchasing groceries and supplies in local businesses.”

Vancouver Island had 5 communities featured on the report’s top 25 community list that accounted for \$806 million spent on suppliers:

- Campbell River
- Duncan
- Nanaimo
- Chemainus
- Port Alberni

Other Vancouver Island communities included Victoria \$55 million invested with 130 suppliers, Port McNeill with \$39 million spent with 40 suppliers. The entire report can be read [here](#).

The BCFA is urging all candidates running in the provincial election to represent northern Vancouver Island ridings to publicly state their perspective on forestry and to read this report and the Oct. 6 report from the Campbell River Business Recovery Task Force to more fully understand the importance of the industry in northern Vancouver Island communities.

Residents of the North Island constituency will soon have a chance to ask candidates where they stand on forestry issues:

- Tuesday, Oct. 13: [Campbell River & District Chamber of Commerce All Candidates Debate](#)
- Wednesday, Oc. 14: [Mt. Waddington Provincial All-Candidates Meeting, 7 pm.](#)

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