## Securing the Working Forest is a top election issue for North Island residents

CAMPBELL RIVER, OCTOBER 5, 2020 – For too long, a "war in the woods" mentality has divided our forestry-dependent communities.

The BC Forestry Alliance (BCFA) is calling for measures to restore respect and balance, in line with recommendations from the Province of British Columbia's new report, A New Future for Old Forests.

Candidates standing for office this October are asked to commit to officially designating a Working Forest within the proposed Three-Zone Management Framework.

BCFA will be attending community town halls in the Courtenay-Comox and North Island and reaching out to all candidates in those electoral districts.

"Doing the right thing will result in a consistent and stable vision that provides long-term security for working families," said Carl Sweet, spokesperson for the BCFA.

Forestry provides a significant amount of direct employment and creates widespread business activity that creates more jobs. Today, these jobs are threatened on many fronts.

"We need political representation in Victoria that will stand up for us, the local residents," said Sweet.

The BCFA, as a registered third party in the provincial election, is contacting candidates to establish if they believe in:

- 1. Securing the Working Forest;
- 2. Promoting forestry awareness to end the polarization; and
- 3. Making forestry families and healthy communities a priority.

The BCFA recently launched its new website: <a href="https://www.bcforestryalliance.ca/">https://www.bcforestryalliance.ca/</a>. A number of News Releases describing BCFA position statements are being shared at this page: <a href="https://www.bcforestryalliance.ca/media">https://www.bcforestryalliance.ca/media</a>

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