



Province of
British Columbia
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

JACK J. KEMPF, M.L.A. (Omineca)

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, VICTORIA, B.C. V8V 1X4 - 387-3038

March 21, 1989

Dear Fellow British Columbians:

The attached letter and draft terms-of-reference are designed to start a movement which will result in action being taken by government to begin to resolve crucial forestry issues.

I seek your support by way of either a letter to me, the editor of your local newspaper, or both. I will use your support to continue my endeavours.

Together it is hoped we can mount a campaign, the magnitude of which cannot be ignored. Perhaps if we each do our part, the truths and myths respecting our most important resource industry will indeed be known.

Thanking you in advance.

Sincerely,


Jack J. Kempf
M.L.A. for Omineca

JJK/cp

MAR 28 1989

**Draft Terms of Reference
for either a
Royal Commission on the Sustainability of
British Columbia Forest Resources**

-or-

All-Party Standing Committee of the Legislature

Reporting to the people of British Columbia through the Legislative Assembly

Justices _____/_____/_____

- or -

an all-party Standing Committee of the Legislature

Shall investigate and recommend changes to provincial legislation, regulations and policy so as to give force and effect to the broadly held interest of all British Columbians in forest affairs, to thereby ensure the public interest; and most especially, without limiting, to the establishment and revision of statutes:

- a) to obtain a comprehensive and periodic inventory of all forest resources from both public and private forests;
- b) to achieve the fullest direct public participation in the development, review and revision of all forest resource(s) management plans, on an ongoing basis – provincially, regionally and locally – and to ensure a direct role for the public in all permit referral processes; and to ensure the coordination of all such plans with local units of government, provincial agencies and the federal government;
- c) to ensure equitable management for all uses of forest lands and grasslands, including timber, range, fish, wildlife, water, wilderness, recreation, forest-based tourism, and to maintain and restore the biological integrity and diversity of forest ecosystems, incorporating the latest management concepts and principles set forth in current literature;
- d) to ensure that each forest plan reflects the optimum obtainable benefits to be derived from the totality of forest resources and to identify the costs

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Dear Fellow British Columbians:

Citizens from across British Columbia, from all walks of life and political persuasions, are acknowledging that the time has come to begin - together - a constructive process to heal the escalating conflicts over forest land use. It is time to replace the divisive philosophy and attitudes behind current forest use practices which breeds these conflicts.

It is time to seek a cure. This is why I am writing to you, to ask your participation in drafting comprehensive terms-of-reference to be applied to either a Royal Commission on the Sustainability of the Forest Resources of British Columbia, or a comparable investigation carried forth by the Legislative Select Standing Committee on Forests.

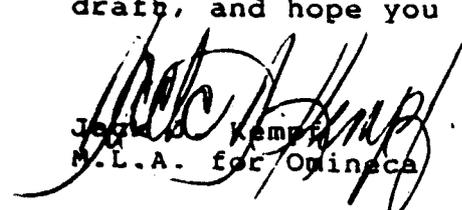
Forest use has become a major political issue. It is time for government to become responsive to the wide range of public needs in our forests. These needs, to be fulfilled, require major initiatives and changes in forest-related legislation, regulations and policy.

Please review the attached draft which has been prepared to assist our common beginning toward forest conflict resolution. Do you see additional changes that are required? Additions?

Whether or not to have a Royal Commission or a thorough investigation by a duly constituted all-party committee of the Legislature, is no longer an issue. Only the timing, structure, and context of the Commission or Legislative Committee remain to be decided. The content of the terms-of-reference are vital and will determine our ability to effect meaningful change.

Please join with me and contribute toward ensuring that the ultimate work of the anticipated inquiry will measure up to our commonly-held aspirations. Through broad review of this draft by people throughout British Columbia, it is my desire to contribute toward making the next provincial investigation on public interest forestry concerns a moment in our history of which we can be justifiably proud.

I seek your endorsement, with additions as appropriate, of this draft, and hope you find this material useful.


Jack Kemp
M.L.A. for Okanagan

MAR 23 1989