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Forest Summit & Convergence, October 26 & 27, 2019
Hart Hall, 501 Carbonate Street, Nelson, BC
Info and Register: www.boundaryforest.org

SPEAKERS AGENDA

It has never been more critical to build a broad, united movement in British Columbia to take action to restore and protect our ecosystems. It is up to the people of BC to decide where we want to go and how we want our ecosystems treated.

This Convergence is a grassroots call to action to:

1. Identify the basic principles and values that should underpin forestry activity and our work, to identify and summarize solutions, and to outline next steps.
2. Motivate fellow citizens and communities to mitigate the climate crisis, protect forests and water, and preserve species biodiversity.
3. Influence and steer government legislation, policy, and action.

We know what the problems are: climate crisis, deforestation, species extinction, imminent ecological collapse, threats to water and food supply, job loss, and governments that compliantly support corporate agendas.

At this point, there is nothing to be gained from more discussion about the problems. Now is the time to generate and implement solutions from the ground up. It is time for broad-based, citizen action.

3 Main outcomes:

- Building citizen power.
- Creating a unified message
- Deciding what actions we want taken (by individuals, by communities, by government).

Day One: Saturday, October 26, 10-5

Speakers & Conversation Cafe (including a few minutes with each speaker for Q & A if time allows)

10:00-10:15 – Jennifer Houghton - Building People Power & the Big Picture

We are here to ensure our values become part of the system. Deep changes are required. Right now, the ecosystem policy, economic policy, forestry policy, and actions of the BC government are cemented in the pursuit of money for corporate shareholders. Safety and welfare of the workers, integrity of ecosystems, and the welfare of the community aren't taken into account. Now is the time for citizens to demand that the system be grounded in a moral and ethical framework that protects ecosystems. The solution to the climate crisis, the solution to our dying ecosystems, and the solution to loss of community representation all lie in demanding that the government operates on the basis of values, morals, and ethics.

10:15-10:45 - Jeff Brown – Opportunity: Leveraging Changes to Provincial Legislation - What Regulations and Policy Would Allow _____ to Happen?

The BC interior timber supply has radically changed. For the last decade and a half forestry has been focused on extracting financial value out of a natural disaster - the pine beetle. The Allowable Annual Cut in pine-dominated areas was intentionally increased to unprecedented and unsustainable levels for over 15 years, and is only now being reduced. But the disaster response phase is winding down and the extra forestry workers employed to respond to the increased harvesting are being laid off. No one is surprised. Now comes the phase when interior forestry must adapt to a new normal: radically less trees, record breaking fires, and massive climate uncertainty. Anything less than equally radical changes to how forestry is managed would be irresponsible, indeed irrational. We've never had our interior forests in this situation. Old ways and old thinking simply won't work. What regulations and regulatory changes will be necessary to guard non-timber values and give them real standing in legislation and regulation?

11-11:45 Herb Hammond – Public Forests—Private Control: Changes to Provide for Protection of Ecosystem Integrity

The *forest tenure* system in British Columbia gives the illusion that public forests are managed for the public good by the BC government. Unfortunately, public forests have been virtually given to private timber companies through "forest" tenures. Private interests are profiting from public timber and by selling tenure rights to "public" lands. Herb will explain the contradiction between private control and the public interest, and share examples of systems that illustrate that where public control has been maintained, ecosystem services are protected. The climate emergency provides a clear ecological, social, and economic rationale for re-establishing public control of public forests throughout BC. Public forests need to be reclaimed as important sources of carbon sequestration and storage, water conservation, and biological diversity to enable ecosystems to adapt to and mitigate the effects of global heating. This may be done in a short transition, i.e. 2 – 3 years.

12-12:45 Lunch Snacks and Coffee will be provided (in an environmentally sensitive way). Lunch is brown-bag-it. Kitchen is available for heating food and washing up.

1:00-1:45 Erik Piikkila - Alternatives to the Current Forestry Model: Learning from the past to understand the present and to plan for the future.

Erik will include lessons from BC, the US Pacific Northwest, and California; past BC Forest Practices Code 1994-2003; and BC forest research. He will talk about what we can learn from rediscovering our European forestry roots, why forestry extension in BC & Canada went extinct, plus other forgotten, useful, and unique records of BC forest management, fisheries, and science.

2-2:45 Douglas Gook - Natural Selection Forestry (NSF) - Stewardship Systems where Wild Forests set the Standard

Douglas will highlight over forty years of experience working to bring about NSF, a silvicultural system that promotes small scale, non-industrial forest stewardship. It will compare NSF with the BAU corporate industrial fibre mining which leaves depleted forest plantations in its wake. A forest managed with NSF principles encourages employment intensive harvesting systems where its 'value added silvicultural system' can supply quality timber for community-based value-added manufacturing in perpetuity.

3-3:45 Dr. Brian Horejsi – Bridging the gap between the science, land use, and democratic processes to reform of public land management

Brian has observed and participated with activist citizens and scientists in efforts to strengthen public ownership and protect and recover ecological viability of public landscapes in western North America for

half a century. The absence of a common legal and social democratic foundation limiting the actions of government, including the civil service, have led to fragmented and ineffective resistance to today's commercialized forest exploitation. If we can largely agree to a half dozen fundamental principles and practices, citizens might yet reclaim forest management that is socially, scientifically, and economically accountable to the people of BC.

4-ish-5:00 Conversation Cafe Attendees will have an opportunity to sit in group conversations with Herb, Douglas, Erik, Brian, and others.

Day Two: Sunday, October 27, 9:30-3:45 **Synthesis & Strategy Sessions**

- 9:30-10 Herb Hammond - Synthesis of the information
- 10-10:30 – Synthesis of Conversation Cafe input
- 10:45- 11 Introduction to Strategy Sessions by Lead Facilitator
- 11-12 – Strategy Sessions - World Cafe style
- 12-12:45 Lunch
- 1:00-3:00 Strategy Sessions
- 3:00-3:45 – Sharing the Solutions – results from the Strategy Sessions

REGISTER

Visit www.boundaryforest.org and click on Forest Summit & Convergence. Prepay online prior to Oct 20.

- \$60 for both days
- \$40 for October 26 only
- \$30 for October 27 only

At the door/after Oct 20.

- \$75 for both days
- \$50 for October 26 only
- \$40 for October 27 only

This event is being organized by volunteers from a number of groups in southern BC, including people from the Boundary Forest Watershed Stewardship Society, Peachland Watershed Protection Alliance, BC Coalition for Forestry Reform, Kootenay Water is Life, Ymir Community Watershed Society, Public and Private Workers of Canada, West Kootenay Ecosociety, as well as other concerned and dedicated individuals. The event will be funded by attendance revenues and sponsors.

JOIN THE CAUSE! SPONSOR US!

Sponsorships are available for companies or individuals who believe in the cause and want to be involved in the community. You can sponsor one of the speakers, sponsor the general event, or provide sponsorship for students to attend. Please contact Lead Organizer below.

Our sponsors: Theresa Hart, Real Estate Foundation BC, Oso Negro Coffee, Hume Hotel, Nelson, BW Plus Baker Street Inn, Tom Newell, Area Director F, RDCK, Andy Davidoff, Area Director I, RDCK, Kootenay Coop.

ACCOMODATION

The Hume Hotel and BW Plus Baker Street Inn in Nelson are offering a 10% direct booking discount to Summit attendees. You can receive the discount by calling the hotel directly to make your booking.

Hume Hotel – 1-877-568-0888 www.humehotel.com BW Plus Baker Street Inn – 1-888-255-3525 www.bwbakerstreetinn.com

Lead Organizer: Jennifer Houghton, Contact: boundaryforest@gmail.com 250-584-4091