



PRESS RELEASE

Coastal communities and the forest industry sign landmark MOU addressing communication

April 7, 2017, Campbell River – The Truck Loggers Association commends the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) and the Coast Forest Products Association (CFPA) for signing a landmark memorandum of understanding today that will improve communication and strengthen the relationship between forestry companies and forestry dependent communities.

“The TLA understands the importance of good communication between the forest industry and coastal communities because our members straddle both groups,” explained David Elstone, TLA Executive Director. “Our members live and work in BC’s rural communities. They run small to medium-sized businesses that create steady, well-paying jobs within the forest industry. And they understand the importance of good communication at the local level.”

The TLA released a report this week, *A Further Look: Community Perspectives on the BC Coastal Forest Industry*. It follows up on the TLA’s report published last June and is a further look into the relationship between forestry and coastal communities. “In our first report, we spoke with the mayors. In this second report, we did some research to find out what community members thought,” explained Elstone. “While the report has much good news, it still shows how much work the forest industry has to do,” said David Elstone, TLA Executive Director. “BC’s forest industry is world class. We need to continue to tell our story to new audiences. And in doing so, the industry needs to demonstrate it is listening to community concerns.”

The TLA (Truck Loggers Association) represents 480 independent forest contractors and their suppliers operating on the coast of British Columbia. Our membership supports thousands of workers and, along with other independent contractors, accounts for close to 90 per cent of the trees harvested on the coast. The TLA promotes a thriving, sustainable coastal forest industry in BC.

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For more information: Brenda Martin, Director of Communications, The Truck Loggers Association
Phone: 604.684.4291 ◦ Cell: 604.339.7554 ◦ Fax: 604.684.7134 ◦ Email: brenda@tla.ca
Twitter: [@truckloggerBC](https://twitter.com/truckloggerBC) ◦ Website: www.tla.ca