

Key Findings:

Community Perspectives on the BC Coastal Forest Industry

1. Optimism is Fading

Mayors are concerned about job loss in their communities; more than 25 timber harvesting contractors have sought insolvency protection over the last 10 years.

2. Forest Industry is Seen as Not Healthier

Control of BC's forests must be broadened so independent timber harvesting contractors, small mill owners and rural communities can get fair value from our public resource.

3. More Needs to be Done

Log exports help create job stability, increase the fibre supply domestically and improve utilization of the forest resource, which should lead to better forest management.

4. Lack of Confidence in Forest Stewardship

The TLA continues to champion sustainable forest practices and works with all levels of government to promote them along with community social and economic interests.

5. Support for the Working Forest is Even Greater

Since 1990, the allowable annual cut on the coast has fallen more than 23 per cent. The economic impact of this is evident in the loss of 33,000 direct jobs in the 10-year period ending in 2011.

6. Sharing Our Resource

TLA member companies are dedicated to responsible harvesting and sustainable forest management to ensure forestry, tourism and outdoor recreation can co-exist in our vibrant province.

7. Shaping the Future

Over the next decade the forest industry's aging workforce will lead to shortages in the professional, production management and skilled trade occupations.

8. First Nations are Part of the Industry

The TLA believes strong, positive and lasting relationships with First Nations will not only support local communities, but will also help attract First Nations youth to the industry.