

Cortes Island Community Forest

Application for Community Forest Agreement

Submitted by The Cortes Forestry General Partnership

February 26, 2013

Heather MacKnight, Regional Executive Director, South Coast Region
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Suite 200-10428 153rd Street
Surrey, British Columbia
V3R 1E1

February 26, 2013

Re: Revised Application for Community Forest Agreement on Cortes Island

Dear Heather MacKnight,

Please find attached the Cortes Forestry General Partnership's (CFGP) revised application for a Community Forest Agreement (CFA) on Cortes Island. We have carefully reviewed the requirements outlined in your letter dated December 5, 2012, and are confident that this revised application is consistent with the template referenced in the Minister's direct invitation to apply letter received on May 19, 2011.

A component of the CFA application is a letter from the District Manager identifying that the proposed CFA area and Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) are appropriate and that first nation's consultation has been concluded. This letter was received May 22, 2012.

The CFGP's CFA proposal is for an AAC of up to 13,600 cubic meters as per the Minister's invitation to apply dated May 19, 2011, and for the area identified in the Minister's subsequent letter received on May 22, 2012. Based on these letters and subsequent discussions with MFLNRO staff, the CFGP is comfortable proceeding with this application based on the inventory and TSR2 methodology used to determine the area and AAC.

The CFGP is an equal partnership between the Klahoose Forestry No. 2 Limited Partnership and the Cortes Community Forest Cooperative. These two entities are in turn directly responsible to their constituent memberships. This new partnership is considered by many on Cortes as one of the most important opportunities we've seen in a generation for building a resilient and vibrant future for our island community and an increasingly positive relationship between the two communities. As such, many of the concerns that have been expressed over the AAC and area included in the Minister's offer have been addressed in this resubmitted application. There is a strong desire in the broad Cortes Island community to move forward and get this CFA completed.

Brian Smart, our Professional Forester, has worked with the CFGP to prepare this application, and we are satisfied with his work on the Management Plan, reviewing the numbers, identifying uncertainties, and working with ministry staff to determine a Timber Harvesting Land Base (THLB) for the Cortes CFA.

This CFA is an opportunity to develop a world-class community-based forestry operation, in a community that has literally decades of local experience working to develop a community forest for the

Island. It is the CFGP's clear intention, and indeed that of the majority of this island community, to work with the ministry to make this vision become a reality in early 2013.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue and your timely review and approval of our CFA application. We will be following up by phone to ensure you have all the information you require.

Yours Truly;

Kathy Francis

Kristen Schofield- Sweet

Cortes Forest General Partnership - Executive Committee Co-chairs

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4. Executive Summary

The Cortes Forestry General Partnership (CFGP) received a letter dated May 22, 2012 from Mark Anderson, District Manager, Sunshine Coast District, stating that an appropriate area for a Community Forest Agreement (CFA) had been identified on Cortes Island. A copy of that letter is included with this application as **Attachment B**, and is referenced in Section 5 of this application document. This area is consistent with the AAC allocated for this CFA in the direct invitation to apply from Minister Steve Thompson, dated May 19, 2011. This letter can be found in **Attachment A**.

The legal entity that will implement and manage the CFA is the Cortes Forestry General Partnership (CFGP), which was legally established on June 27, 2012 (See **Attachment C**). The CFGP is a 50/50 partnership between the Klahoose First Nation and the non-aboriginal community on Cortes Island, the structure of which is described in sections 6 and 10. See **Attachment J** for the partners' documents of incorporation.

Section 7 provides a detailed overview of the proposed CFA area, as defined in the District Manager's letter dated May 22, 2012. Cortes Island is situated in the Sunshine Coast Forest District timber supply area (TSA), geographically about halfway between Campbell River and Powell River. The proposed CFA area is for approximately 3,869 hectares of unallocated Crown forest land, which represents approximately 31% of the island. A map showing the Ministry-delineated areas of North 1, South 1 and Core that comprise the application area can be found in **Attachment D**.

The proposed CFA area has historically been used by the Klahoose First Nation (KFN) for a range of traditional uses, and Cortes Island remains the centre of the KFN traditional territory at Squirrel Cove. The forest setting on Cortes also makes many places in the proposed CFA area popular recreation destinations for both residents and visitors who come to Cortes every summer from all over the world.

There has been very little timber harvesting in the proposed CFA area in the past half century, and much of the island is a mosaic of productive forest types mixed with rocky outcrops with thin soils and dry lower-productive ecosystems. The shorelines of Cortes Island are of particular importance for raptor perching, marine mammals, bird nesting, and its productive inter-tidal zone. These beautiful shorelines are one of the features of the northern Gulf Islands that attract visitors to the area, providing important economic contributions to coastal communities.

Section 8, the Management Plan, was prepared in cooperation with Brian Smart RPF, RPBio (CV: see **Attachment I**). This section begins with a description of the resource management objectives for the CFA, such as growing high-quality timber, maintaining water quality, protecting and enhancing biodiversity, as well as socio-economic goals such as generating long-term employment, and contributing to the overall well-being of the island community.

The Cortes CFA application is based upon the Ministry TSR2 inventory data and accepts the regional timber supply analysis undertaken for the proposed tenure area. The Cortes CFA proposal accepts the

allowable annual cut of 13,600m³/year determined by the Ministry TSR2 analysis, and includes all of the Crown provincial forest land within the Ministry-delineated areas of North 1, South 1 and Core as shown on the map in **Attachment D**. See section 8.2 of this document for details regarding the timber inventories and analysis.

The CFGP, as the island's representative body for implementing and managing the CFA, is confident that the management objectives established by the community and described in this management plan will underpin its strategy for how the Provincial CFA Program Objectives will be accomplished. This strategy is described in detail in section 8.2 (i), along with the CFGP's guiding principles in 8.2 (j) and a strategy for annual reporting back to the community in 8.2(l).

Community support for developing a community forest on Cortes Island continues to be strong. The original proponent, the Cortes Ecoforestry Society, had a membership of over 400 islanders and the support of the Klahoose First Nation, all working toward their goal of obtaining a community forest back in 1999. It has been a remarkable achievement to sustain that broad level of interest over more than a decade of work toward achieving a CFA. See **Attachments E, F, and H** for statements of continued support.

Section 9 of this application gives a short history of the process that has generated so much public involvement over the years and maps out a clear strategy for ensuring ongoing community awareness and involvement in the process as we move from tenure to harvesting.

One of the primary means of ensuring direct public involvement and consultation with the Cortes community in the long-term will be in the creation of a Community Forest Operating Plan (CFOP). This operating plan will describe in detail the management philosophy for the CFA, and will be developed in consultation with representatives from, and be reflective of the expectations of the broader island community. The Operating Plan will also establish a public input and monitoring mechanism for ongoing planning and operational activities in the CFA. The CFGP commitment to create this Operating Plan is included as **Attachment G**.

The mission of CFGP is to manage the Cortes Community Forest Agreement for the benefit of all residents of Cortes Island and to encourage local economic opportunities and initiatives related to timber and non-timber forest products. The CFGP was formally established June 27, 2012 to reflect the community's wish for the non-aboriginal community and Klahoose First Nation to be equal partners in this venture. The partners are the Cortes Community Forest Co-op (CCFC) and Klahoose Forestry No. 2 Limited Partnership (KF2LP). Each of the partners appoints three representatives to the Partnership's six-member board, and each board member has an equal vote.

The administrative authority and structure of the CFGP and the two partners is described in detail in section 10 of this application.

A description of the CFGP's business planning for the CFA is outlined in section 11 of this application. Although this submission does not constitute a fully developed business plan, the planning described in this section focuses on two key strategies.

The CFGP plans to develop into a successful forestry business known for the quality of its timber and its ecosystem-based forest stewardship. The main product CFGP will produce is logs. Initially local demand will account for approximately 20 percent of sales. To maximize return on log sales, it will be critical to access the broader log market. To do that effectively may require a services agreement with a log broker. We will want price commitments prior to harvesting trees, and we must be positioned to move into specific stands and be able to sort on-site to take advantage of specific target markets.

Our timber profile is weighted to second growth fir and we are aware that at current average market values CFGP needs to run a very cost-efficient logging operation. It is critical to take advantage of prices for premium grades and for products such as sawlogs, peelers, timbers, poles and pilings. We will also explore and take into account the economic advantage of chain-of-custody certification. This strategy of growing the highest quality timber possible will place a high degree of reliance on careful silvicultural planning and extended rotations.

The second key strategy is for the CFGP to keep its overhead as low as possible in order to reduce its exposure to log market volatility, which has become a perennial challenge for the industry. Most forestry activities will be contracted out. There are no plans to purchase equipment or hire workers directly to undertake road construction or logging, and while the CFGP may become involved in marketing products manufactured with CFGP wood, there are no plans for owning or operating a mill or manufacturing facility.

5. District Documentation

Attachment B of this application is a copy of the letter from the district manager identifying that the proposed CFA area is suitable for a CFA on Cortes Island and is consistent with the AAC allocated for this agreement. The letter also confirms that a consultation process has been carried out with First Nations and that any issues which arose during that process have been identified.

6. Legal Entity

The legal entity that will manage the CFA is the Cortes Forestry General Partnership (CFGP). The partners are the Cortes Community Forest Co-op (CCFC) and Klahoose Forestry No. 2 Limited Partnership (KF2LP). Both partners have invested equally and will be active in governance of the general partnership as well as management of the CFA. Managing the CFA is the primary mandate of the CCFC, as described in the memorandum of association for the CCFC.

Attachment C & J – Statement of Registration/Partnership Agreement, which identify establishment of the partners and the partnership agreement for the CFGP.

7. CFA Area Overview

7. (a) CFA Area Map

Attachment D – provides the map showing location of the land area proposed for the CFA, as indicated in District Manager Mark Anderson’s letter dated May 22, 2012. Also in attachment D is a detailed map of the THLB, prepared by Brian Smart, RPF using the data from the Ministry’s December 2011 Cortes TSA.

7. (b) CFA Area Historic and Future Uses

The forests of Cortes Island have cultural and spiritual significance for Klahoose First Nation and have been subject to a wide range of traditional uses. Squirrel Cove on Cortes Island is the Klahoose First Nation’s primary village site. Local residents and tourists have used the Crown forest areas of Cortes Island for a range of recreation pursuits, and the wilderness atmosphere and aesthetic appeal is important to the community and tourists alike.

There is a further discussion of the history of logging on private lands in Section 9, Community Awareness, Support, and Involvement.

Under the CFA, Klahoose First Nation will continue to have full access to the CFA area for traditional use. The CFA will reintroduce harvesting and management to the Crown forest landscape of Cortes Island in a manner that balances economic viability with the community’s ecological and social objectives. Recreational trails and forest roads will be managed in consultation with local user groups and the community. Important natural features will be identified and managed appropriately.

Forest management activities, timber harvesting and manufacturing are expected to provide a range of employment opportunities for residents of Cortes Island. Timber best suited for their needs will be made available to local manufactures at fair market price.

A significant portion of the Crown forest land base is excluded from the THLB and will provide for non-timber values such as biodiversity, wildlife habitat, identified sensitive areas, recreation and visual quality. These exclusions were identified by Jim Brown, RPF in the December 2011 Timber Supply Analysis for Cortes Island, and reviewed by Brian Smart, RPF.

Management under a CFA will bring an increased level of local knowledge and will lead to the development of a much more accurate inventory of forest values over time. There are many environmentally sensitive sites and unique natural features which will require special management.

Historically, conflicts related to harvesting on Cortes have revolved around conventional harvesting practices. More recently community protests with Island Timberlands (IT) have focused on foreign and corporate ownership, sending the logs and benefits offshore, as well as IT's industrial logging practices.

There are areas of potential conflict that may arise from implementing a CFA on Cortes Island including but not limited to harvesting of non-timber resources, conservation of biodiversity and wildlife habitat, recreational access, visual quality, and general timber harvesting practices.

The CFGP will continue to hold public forums and meetings to discuss the issues that arise. Issues and conflicts are inevitable when strong values exist for overlapping resources. The CFGP understands the need for comprehensive public interaction to solve resource management disagreements.

7. (c) Existing Tenures, Environmental, Cultural Considerations

i) Ownership and/or existing tenures or rights granted to others

The proposed CFA area is currently Crown provincial forest land, part of the Sunshine Coast TSA. The area is not currently assigned to the operating area of any forest licensees. The Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations regional staff have undertaken a land title clearance to ensure there are no conflicts with the issuance of the CFA tenure with other owners and rights granted to others.

Klahoose First Nation will continue to manage Woodlot 090 as the exclusive tenure holder. Issues of conflict within the CFA area will be dealt with through public forums to solve resource management disagreements.

Island Timberlands currently owns about 900 Ha of Private Managed Forest Land, mostly in quarter-section parcels throughout the center of the island. The relationship between CFGP and Island Timberlands will revolve mainly around property boundaries, road access and access to the log dump in Gorge Harbour. CFGP has no intention of partnering with IT, no interest in managing IT lands, and no interest in engaging in confrontation that would damage a future business relationship.

ii) State of land and resources, e.g. history and current management, existing tenures

The proposed CFA area, the Crown forest land on Cortes Island, has not been actively managed for many decades. Only several small areas have been harvested in the last 20 years. The island was heavily logged in the late 1800s and early 1900s, and the forests regenerated naturally afterwards. The regenerating stands are almost entirely unmanaged. While many are conifer-leading stands of good form and value, there are also many that will require rehabilitation. Such stands regenerated with conditions including mistletoe-infected residuals which are presently infecting new regeneration, off-site hemlock, mixed deciduous, as well as damaged understory cedars that have matured with decay and poor form.

Overall there is a large mature growing stock within the CFA area. This will allow an easy operational startup and should provide many options for undertaking stand management strategies such as commercial thinning to continually improve the forest land base.

The great deal of local knowledge of the islands forests will enhance the development of an increasingly accurate inventory of forest values over time. This ground based knowledge—along with airphoto interpretation and GIS mapping using ortho and satellite images—has already identified a number of forest attributes which have already been included in the December 2011 Timber Supply Analysis of the proposed CFA.

iii) Environmental considerations, e.g. sensitive sites or unique features

As mentioned in ii) above, airphoto interpretation and GIS mapping using ortho and satellite imagery was undertaken which also identified many environmentally sensitive sites and unique natural features that require special management. The ministry of environment also created a sensitive ecosystem inventory (**See Attachment M**) for all of Cortes Island in 2005. Much of the island is a mosaic of productive forest types mixed with small wetlands and rocky outcrops with thin soils and dry lower-productive ecosystems. The shorelines of Cortes Island are of particular importance for raptor perching, marine mammals, bird nesting, and its productive intertidal zone. The beautiful shorelines are also one of the features of the northern Gulf Islands that attract tourists to the area, providing important economic contributions to coastal communities.

iv) Cultural considerations, e.g. areas of cultural significance.

The entire Cortes Island is of cultural significance to the Klahoose First Nation and the residents of Cortes Island, however there are no areas within the CFA application area that are so culturally significant that they cannot be managed as part of the CFA tenure. As there is significant potential to encounter unrecorded archeological sites within the proposed CFA area, the CFGP will halt, modify and or revise all operations if such sites are encountered.

8. Management Plan

8.1 Management Objectives

The management objectives of the Cortes Island CFA are underpinned by the following principles:

- The Cortes Island CFA forest will be managed using a sustainable, site sensitive, ecosystem-based approach.
- All forest values will be considered in the CFA's appropriate management.
- The forest resources of the Cortes Island CFA are to be managed in accordance with all pertinent legislation and regulations and with the involvement of the community.
- The management of the Cortes Island CFA will include the lay, technical and professional input of the community.
- The Cortes Island CFA will be managed to produce forest products best suited to support and encourage local forest industries and to provide such industry with a supply suited to their needs.

The Cortes Island CFA is to be managed to accomplish the following general socioeconomic goals:

- To provide local employment opportunities through all aspects of the CFA's operations from administration and management to operations
- To make wood available to local industry for primary breakdown, value added and specialty uses in volumes and grades appropriate for their needs
- To provide revenue from the management of local forest resources to the community

The Cortes Island CFA has the following specific forest resource stewardship and management objectives, which will be further developed through the process of preparing the Community Forest Operating Plan (CFOP), Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP), and more detailed operational plans:

Timber

The timber resources of the CFA will be managed to support and encourage additional local industry including primary breakdown, value-added specialty manufacturing and other specialty uses.

In order to support local timber-utilizing business, stands of timber will be grown to produce logs that are best suited to local needs and local industry. In general terms, larger higher quality logs will support a more diverse local wood processing based economy, as it can be manufactured into a wider range of more valuable products.

The CFA application area, with its large maturing standing inventory and mature age class distribution lends itself very well to management of larger higher quality timbers. While there will be smaller trees as well as less-desirable species and grades also being produced, a high proportion of large high-quality logs will supply timber framers with good quality free-of-heart timbers and beams; window, door and flooring makers with clear fir lumber; and cedar poles for home building and larger architectural custom house components.

Salvage harvesting of cedar products, shake and shingle blocks, cants and rails may be available on a block-by-block basis.

Water

The Cortes CFA proposal area includes several licensed drinking water supplies, fish habitat, aquatic ecosystem biodiversity and community settings, many of which have high levels of recreational, aesthetic and tourism value. All forest management activities will be planned to ensure that they have no negative effects on water.

Where necessary, the CFGP through its forest management activities, will maintain and enhance, the surface and ground water resources.

Recreation

The forests on Cortes Island have very high recreation values. There is an extensive network of trails within the proposed CFA area for hiking, biking, equestrian use and motorized recreation opportunities. Forestry activities will be conducted in a manner that does not diminish these values. Recreational access to the forest can be enhanced through forest management, and recreational use of the forest is a positive way for the community to view the forest practices carried out in the area.

Biodiversity

Biodiversity will be provided for on all scales within the CFA tenure area. The CFA will support the Old Growth Management Areas (OGMAs) currently delineated and the Wildlife Tree Protection (WTP) rates assigned in the July 2012 Cortes Landscape Unit Plan. Large areas of sensitive ecosystems within the CFA tenure area have been identified and withheld from timber management zonation. The OGMAs, provincial parks, Public Use Recreation and Enjoyment areas (UREP) and these sensitive ecosystems together form a network of habitats across the tenure area that will continue untouched to age towards old growth. Smaller areas of remnant old growth also exist within the THLB and also will be protected during harvest.

Within the THLB, biodiversity will be restored and augmented through restoration practices, extended rotations, harvesting practices and retention of full cycle ecological components. This approach reflects the community's appreciation of the improved resilience of forests that encompass a richness of biodiversity.

Stand management prescriptions will address stand-level biodiversity values within forest activity areas. Forestry activities will be based on natural ecosystem disturbance patterns to best provide natural conditions within harvesting areas. The entire CFA area will continue to provide excellent habitat for all species present. The timber harvesting land base will retain mature forest components that will -- together with the sensitive sites, and early seral forest -- provide a full range of habitat types such as interior forest conditions, openings, edges and ecosystem complexes.

Visual Quality

The visual quality of the forests is extremely important for providing the natural forest setting that is valued by residents and visitors. Ecosystem-based forest management, based on natural disturbance patterns, together with visual landscape design will ensure that forest harvesting will maintain the visual qualities of the proposed CFA area.

Industrial Support

The CFA management must take into consideration:

- The needs of the local timber-processing industry regarding species, volumes, grades of timber required as well as timing of delivery
- The forest's species and potential product profile and the opportunities it presents for local industry use and expansion of capacity
- The spin-off benefits of local manufacturing of CFA timber, considered in the cost/benefit analyses for stand management investments

Utilization of Non Timber Forest Resources

Currently there are many unregulated uses of the CFA proposal area's non-timber forest resources, including but not limited to:

- Foliage harvesting such as salal, vaccinium, ferns, moss, lichens
- Commercial edible mushrooms and medicinal fungi harvesting
- Harvesting of wildcrafting supplies such as alder and willow whips, cedar bark and carving wood
- Removal of plants, such as ferns and trees for landscaping
- Development of a trail system
- Commercial and public access by motorized and non-motorized means

At this time there are no plans to manage or regulate these uses. If conflicts do arise regarding non-timber resource use they will be addressed through public consultation process.

8.2 Inventories, AAC, CFA Program Objectives and Guiding Principles

8.2 (a) Directions from the District Manager

The management plan has been prepared in accordance with the directions outlined in the May 22, 2012 letter from Mark Anderson, District Manger for the Sunshine Coast.

8.2. (b) Higher Level Plans

This management plan is consistent with the CFA (license document) agreement, forestry legislation, and higher-level plans under the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA), commitments agreed to by both parties to this agreement.

8.2 (c) Existing Inventories

The Cortes CFA application is based upon the TSR2 inventory data and accepts the regional timber supply analysis undertaken for the proposed tenure area. It acknowledges all non-timber inventory data and contribution factors that account for non-timber resource management pressures on the AAC.

Timber utilization standards will default to the Ministry standards for coastal second growth harvesting.

It is understood that a new Vegetation Resource Inventory is currently being developed for the area including Cortes Island and this should be ready for use within the next several years. Productivity figures are being further developed and refined by the provincial government for second growth stands in the south coast, which could be useful in reassessing the Cortes CFA AAC in coming years.

An analysis of the CFA proposal area was undertaken through airphoto interpretation along with GIS analysis of the forest inventory data overlaid with ortho and satellite imagery to identify sensitive sites and delineate the CFA timber harvesting land base (THLB).

8.2 (d) Other inventories related to timber and non-timber values.

The following inventories exist within the CFA tenure areas and will be referred to when developing the operational plan, and for other planning purposes in the CFA proposal area:

- The past work of the Cortes Ecoforestry Society, completed by the Silva Forest Foundation up to the year 2000.
- A Ministry of Environment Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory completed for Cortes Island in 2005. Further work is ongoing in the discovery islands to ground-truth this inventory.

8.2 (e) Allowable Annual Cut:

The Cortes CFA proposal accepts the allowable annual cut of up to 13,600m³/year determined by the Ministry TSR2 analysis, and the proposal includes all Crown provincial forest land within the Ministry-delineated areas of North 1, South 1 and Core as shown on the map attached as attachment D.

Based on the TSR2 assumptions and inventory, the Cortes CFA application recognizes the regional timber supply analysis undertaken for the proposed tenure area, and acknowledges all non-timber inventory data and contribution factors that account for non-timber resource management pressures on the AAC.

The Cortes CFA will be managed using standard Ministry legislation, policy and guidelines for silviculture practices and road and other site degradation levels.

8.2 (f) Rationale for the AAC

This management plan agrees to the rationale for the allowable annual cut as determined in the December, 2011 Timber Supply Analysis for Cortes Island.

8.2 (g) Management Objectives, Fees, and Prescribed Products

The CFGP does not intend to manage for non – timber forest products at this time.

8.2 (h) Other Agreement Resource Users.

(i) There are no known trappers, guide outfitters or range tenure holders currently within the Cortes CFA proposal area. If any come into existence they will be consulted in all areas of forest management that may affect them.

(ii) There is no known overlap with any aboriginal group. If and when the need occurs, consultation will be undertaken in a meaningful and respectful way.

(iii) Any conflicts that may arise regarding future tenured uses in the proposed CFA area, will be addressed by a meaningful process of community consultation.

8.2 (i) How the CFA will be managed to meet the Provincial CFA Program Objectives

The Cortes CFA will be managed to meet the Provincial CFA Program Objectives as described under each objective below:

1. Provide long-term opportunities for achieving a range of community objectives, values and priorities

The CFGP will manage all resource values with the long-term sustainability of the resources in mind to ensure that future generations will also benefit from the opportunities the CFA provides. Details of how this will be done are described in Management Objectives, subsection 8.1 of this application.

2. Diversify the use of and benefits derived from the community forest agreement area

The CFGP wishes to manage the CFA in a manner that brings the most value to the province and to the island community by realizing opportunities to enhance non-timber resources for tourism, recreation and to develop more forest products of a higher value, as described in Management Objectives, subsection 8.1 of this application:

3. Provide social and economic benefits to British Columbia

Management of the Crown provincial forest of the proposed Cortes CFA area will contribute to all levels of the provincial economy. Non-timber values will continue to attract tourists to the area supporting that industry, and the harvesting of Crown timber and its subsequent utilization on the island and beyond will create jobs and tax revenues every stage of the way.

4. Undertake community forestry consistent with sound principles of environmental stewardship that reflect a broad spectrum of values

The Cortes Island community is passionate about its forests and how they are managed. The level of public involvement will ensure all aspects of management are sound and appropriate, and that they reflect the diverse values of the community. Professionals will undertake all planning and administration of legislative requirements to ensure compliance.

5. Promote community involvement and participation

The Cortes Island community is a model for community involvement and participation. Interest in community forestry has remained high for the last 20 years. At the application stage, already 33% of the island's adult residents have joined the community co-op and have made a financial contribution to the CFA project. Public participation will always be encouraged and welcomed.

6. Promote communication and strengthen relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities and persons

The Partnership between the Cortes Community Forest Co-op and the Klahoose First Nation has formalized a strong relationship that exists now, and will continue to grow as the forest resources are utilized and benefits to the island community are realized.

7. Foster innovation

The Cortes CFA has great potential to demonstrate innovation in all aspects of CFA management and the subsequent wood utilization opportunities it will bring. The community is eager to once again have a forest-based economy present on the island. There are many skilled woodworkers on the island, and many are hoping to support their enterprises with locally sourced timber.

8. Advocate forest worker safety

Forestry work can be very hazardous. The CFGP understands its role in promoting safe work practices in all aspects of its undertakings with employees and hired contractors and to ensure Worksafe BC regulations and practices are strictly followed.

8.2. (j) Guiding Principles

The CFGP is pursuing a CFA for Cortes Island based on the following guiding principles:

- Use a sustainable, site sensitive ecosystem-based management approach to forest management;
- Place emphasis on creating local employment through business opportunities for local contractors, mill owners and value-added manufacturers, and use profits to fund community projects;
- Conserve remaining old growth patches, other sensitive ecosystems and salmon streams, and protect water quality in domestic use watersheds;
- Maintain a level of visual quality to satisfy residents and the needs of the recreation and tourism sector;

- Use opportunities to improve forest productivity on the timber harvesting land base (THLB) and develop strategies to address interface fire management.

8.2 (k) Economic and Resource Management Goals

The Cortes Island Community Forest is to be managed to accomplish the following social, economic and resource management goals:

- To provide revenue from the management of local forest resources to enhance community development;
- To provide local employment opportunities through all aspects of the CFA's operations, from administration and management to operations;
- To make wood available to local industry for primary breakdown, value added and specialty uses in volumes and grades appropriate for their needs;
- To meet all legislative and regulatory requirements of the tenure through management strategies developed by the community.

8.2 (l) Annual Reporting

The CFGP will report to the community at least annually regarding CFA program objectives, principles and goals using the following:

- Yearly newsletter;
- Periodic brochures of updates
- Notices on the CFGP, CCFC, KFN and public websites
- Public information sessions

8.3 Plan Signatures

Brian Smart, RPF, RPBio

Kathy Francis

Kristen Schofield- Sweet

Cortes Forest General Partnership - Executive Committee Co-chairs

9. Community Awareness, Support and Involvement

Cortes Island is situated in the Sunshine Coast Forest District TSA, geographically about halfway between Campbell River and Powell River. There are approximately 900 full-time residents living on the island. Klahoose First Nation's main village at Squirrel Cove is very much part of island community life. Approximately 40 percent (5,000 hectares) of the island is Crown forest land.

After decades of relatively little logging on the Island, the Cortes population woke up to the impact of "modern harvesting methods" during the early 1980's when Raven Lumber Co. from Campbell River acquired 1200 acres of timberland and logged the majority of it in a few years. This was followed in 1988 by MacMillan Bloedel Co. (M&B), which owned ~ 4500 acres of timberlands on Cortes, beginning to harvest their holdings.

The combined reaction of both Klahoose First Nation and the non-aboriginal community (NAC) on Cortes was to blockade the continuation of M&B's clearcutting in 1990, leading to the cessation of harvesting and their decision to develop an alternative approach that was acceptable to the community. M&B returned in 1993 to resume harvesting under a "lens/selection harvesting" approach.

In the meantime the Cortes community was broadly engaged in discussions and educating itself on all aspects of forest management. A local "Cortes Island Forest Plan" evolved during the mid '90s, reflecting the dominant attitudes, as determined by an island-wide survey, that strongly favoured (around 80%) ecosystem-based forest management. The community was becoming more confident in its capacity for dealing with off-island timber interests and was moving toward the concept of taking control of the management on the forests on the island.

By late 1998, the allocation by the Ministry of Forests (MOF) of all the Crown forest lands on Cortes to Canfor for future cutting, along with changes surfacing in M&B, resulted in KFN and the NAC on Cortes Island undertaking an effort to gain control of all the industrial forest land base (Crown and private managed forest land) on the island to incorporate in a Community Forest Agreement (CFA) tenure for Cortes.

In 1999, a legal organization, the Cortes Ecoforestry Society (CES), was formed to represent the NAC in its partnership role with KFN and in negotiations with M&B and MOF. In 1999, CES signed a Memorandum of Understanding with KFN to work together to gain control of the island forests and to manage them utilizing an Ecosystem Based Management approach. A copy of this MOU is included with this application as **attachment K**. Over the following years, CES enjoyed very strong support for this ambitious goal, with over 400 members in its ranks.

Negotiations were begun in 1999 with M&B and MOF. Efforts continued through the 1999 buyout of M&B by Weyerhaeuser and beyond, and despite the substantial amount of time and energy invested by all of the stakeholders, this first round of efforts toward the development of a CFA on Cortes Island was abandoned in the spring of 2001.

In terms of the Crown forest land, a proposal for a community forest was included in an expression of interest in the community forest pilot program and later when seeking an invitation to apply for a probationary community forest agreement. Issues previously identified by MOF for a lack of progress on the proposal were a lack of available AAC, conflicts with existing forest tenure holders' operating areas, and concern that CES's primary objective was conservation, not broader forest management. There were also unresolved issues between KFN and the province which precluded going forward with allocating a forest tenure on Cortes Island.

However, as a result of the Bill 28 timber reallocation process, volume was made available for small community tenures, including community forest agreements. Conflicts with other forest tenure holders on Cortes Island were removed during the reallocation process and the timber sale license major rollover process. KFN signed an incremental treaty agreement with the province early in 2009.

Late in 2008, KFN and CES representatives met to discuss revitalizing the community forest proposal. On December 11, 2008, a joint letter was sent to the MOF outlining a set of core principles which were intended to capture the original goal as well as speak to government's objectives for CFAs.

In 2010, a small community advisory group was formed to represent KFN and the NAC. To ensure the proposal was seen to be inclusive to all islanders, the proponent group was named the Cortes Island Community Forest Advisory Group. This group then began working with the MOF Sunshine Coast Forest District office to promote the goal of receiving an invitation to apply for a CFA.

The MOF district office provided their support for the concept early in 2009. What followed was a very long process to secure the direct invitation to apply. The actual briefing package for the minister was held up for over a year as the provincial government restructured the ministry responsible for forests. In a letter dated May 19, 2011, the Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO), Steve Thomson, wrote the Cortes Island Community Forest Advisory Group offering a direct invitation to apply for a CFA. The invitation was potentially applicable to all Crown forest land on Cortes with an AAC of up to 13,600 cubic meters per year, which is the remaining AAC in the Sunshine Coast Forest District's small tenure apportionment.

As the reader can appreciate, the combination of the background history described above over the last thirty plus years, along with the gathering of information on forest management and many, many meetings to discuss and debate it all, the level of community awareness on Cortes can be honestly described as "high". Also, the fact that we have to live with the results of whatever forest management decisions are made and executed, combined with the strong "initiative" factor that exists in the community, leads to the strong support for this CFA undertaking.

With this invitation finally received, something concrete after all the previous efforts, the work began to formalize the legal structure of our partnership, raise the funding necessary for undertaking development of the application.

The KFN chose to create a limited partnership organization, Klahoose Forestry No. 2 Limited Partnership (KF2LP) to represent it in the partnership, while the NAC chose to create a co-operative structure, called the Cortes Community Forest Cooperative. At the same time, the development of an overarching organization to apply for and hold the CFA was created by the two parties – the Cortes Forestry General Partnership (CFGP) – an equal, 50/50 legal relationship between KFN and the neighbouring non-aboriginal community.

While these legal necessities were pursued, the two partners were organizing the financial requirements for the CFA undertaking. A budget of \$120,000 was established to cover the costs of the creating the new legal entity, the development of the response to the invitation, the development of the Forest Stewardship Plan and the anticipated costs of creating access to the initial areas of the CFA that would be harvested. The budget was to be shared equally by the two partners in the CFGP.

The CCFC organizers canvassed the NAC to sign up those who wished to subscribe for Membership Shares (\$25) and those who offered further support in the form of purchasing Investment Shares (\$500). CCFC currently has a paid-up membership of 235 share holders holding 274 shares, representing about one third of the adult NAC residents. A total of over \$70,000 was generated, with no individual contribution exceeding \$3,000, which covered the CCFC commitment (\$60,000) to the CFGP overall budget, the cost of registering the CCFC, other associated incidentals and a small residual cushion.

KFN has contributed \$60,000 to the CFGP from its own resources.

The CFGP is pleased to note that this full budgeted amount has been derived from the two communities partnering in this undertaking without the need for outside financial support!

In addition to the above-described support for this application there is also, within the updating Cortes Island Official Community Plan Draft, 2012, Section 414, Forestry, the expression of support for the control of the Crown forest lands by the community within a CFA tenure. This section of the revised 2012 OCP draft is excerpted and included as **Attachment L**.

9.1. Letters of Support.

Early in this latest effort to obtain a CFA, an advisory group representative attended a Strathcona Regional District board meeting with the regional district area director from Cortes to outline the CFA proposal and request a formal motion of support. Their letter of support is attached to this application as **Attachment E**.

During the application development process, to address perceptions as to whether or not the proposal was inclusive of all islanders, the proponent name was changed to the Cortes Island Community Forest Advisory Group. The regional director for Cortes Island confirmed in a September 1, 2010, email that the Strathcona Regional District's support still applied to the rebranded effort. A copy of that email is also provided as part of that attachment.

In a joint letter with CES dated December 11, 2008, Klahoose First Nation provided a letter of support for the CFA. It has been copied under **Attachment F**. Chief Kathy Francis has confirmed in a November 24, 2011, email that Klahoose First Nation's support for the Cortes Island CFA continues.

There has been no change in support by the letters submitted from First Nations and the Regional District with regard to the content of this application.

9.2. Report of Public Events

On July 19, 2011, the Cortes Island Community Forest Advisory Group held a community information session for the public at Squirrel Cove. The event was advertised on www.cortesisland.com, and the advisory group was present to provide an overview of the CFA proposal. It was well attended, lots of questions were asked, and a straw poll taken at the meeting produced full support for the CFA initiative and the efforts of the advisory group members.

Feedback between the community and advisory group occurred again on Dec. 11, 2011 with 65 subscribed members to CCFC in attendance.

The now registered Cortes Community Forest Co-op held its first members meeting on Jan. 12, 2012 with 75 members attending. An update of activity toward the preparation of the CFA Application and a healthy discussion led to two motions being carried giving direction:

- Create a partnership with Klahoose.
- Get the CFA application done.

The first AGM of CCFC was held on Feb. 12, 2012 with 54 members in attendance. The first full Board of Directors was elected to replace the inaugural Board. Further discussion ensued, focusing on the previous months' motions, as well as around management philosophy of the CFA and the resulting annual harvesting levels.

On July 5, 2012, approximately 120 members of the native and non-native communities gathered for a traditional gift exchange and a celebration, at the Klahoose Multipurpose Building, to witness the signing of a document confirming the creation of the CFGP. Also in attendance was Mark Anderson, District Manager, Sunshine Coast District, in response to our application.

In late July, 2012, the draft of the CFA Application document being developed by the CFGP was made available electronically to the members of the CCFC for review and feedback. This review period was followed by meetings on Aug. 2 and 22, 2012 (18 and 10 members in attendance) to receive input. Many questions were answered and a number of verbal suggestions made for improvement of the document. In addition, two copies of the draft had been reviewed and were turned in with additional suggested changes.

All suggestions received were recorded and considered by the CFGP Executive Committee and those deemed beneficial and more reflective of broad community perspectives were incorporated in the revised draft and final application submitted. Additionally, the CFGP is providing a DVD with unedited

video footage of the Partnership Signing Ceremony of July 5, 2012 and the two public input sessions dated August 2, and 22, 2012. **Attachment M**

9.3. Process for Public Involvement and Consultation

The applicant, CFGP, is fully aware of the level of interest and concern that exists within the Cortes community surrounding the issue of forest management. It is the intent of the Applicant, CFGP, to engage the community, early and consistently, in setting down management philosophy through the development of the CFOP, in data gathering and monitoring over time and in the development of revisions as needed over time. We expect a very healthy and continuing community involvement and CFOP will formalize a public input and monitoring mechanism for ongoing planning and operational activities in the CFA, including preparation of the FSPs, and more detailed operational plans.

Following the Dec. 5, 2012 letter asking for revisions to the CFA Application, the substance of the request was conveyed to the CCFC membership electronically on Dec. 31, 2012, with more specific details, as available, on Jan. 23 and 24, 2013, in advance of a CCFC members meeting on Feb. 1, 2013. This meeting, attended by the CFGP executive, 44 CCFC members and 4 others, ended with a motion supporting the resubmission of the revised CFA Application by February 28, 2013.

During the Feb 1 general meeting, a document entitled “Commitment to the Cortes Community” was presented to the meeting, which contains a commitment from the CFGP’s to undertake the creation of the Community Forest Operational Plan. **Attachment G** contains a signed copy of this commitment. The text is as follows:

Commitment to the Cortes Community

Following the issuance of a Community Forest Agreement (CFA) tenure on Cortes Island, the Executive Committee of the Cortes Forestry General Partnership (CFGP) will create a Community Forest Operating Plan (the Plan) which will describe the management philosophy for the CFA. It will be developed in consultation with representatives of, and reflect the expectations of, the broader Island community.

The Plan shall also establish a public input and monitoring mechanism for ongoing planning and operational activities in the CFA, as well as a process for revising of the Plan where necessary over time.

The Plan will be approved by the CFGP Executive Committee and will require that all silviculture prescriptions must refer to and be consistent with it. Therefore a prescribing Forester must legally either be consistent with the Plan directions or, if conditions in the field warrant a deviation, a rationale must be provided and approved by the CFA manager and/or the Executive Committee of the CFGP.

A meeting to present and discuss the revisions to the Application was held on Feb. 18, 2013 prior to resubmission to the Ministry. Two weeks prior to that meeting, a schedule of next steps and

opportunities for community input was sent to Randy Aitken, Tenures Officer, South Coast. Thirty-one members of the public were in attendance, and the draft application was thoroughly reviewed. Four written submissions, and several verbal submissions were received. The executive committee of the CFGP met to review all input from this meeting, and incorporated appropriate input into the revised application.

As per the community forest agreement template, a minimum of one public meeting will be held each calendar year to inform the community of activities on the CFA. One of the challenges is informing part-time residents. Information will continue to be provided through our community websites; however, once operational, we plan to establish our own Cortes Island Community Forest website and also explore other forms of social media.

The Cortes Island community is most interested in the overall management approach as well as the upfront strategic and operational planning processes. Initially we can also expect high levels of community interest as it relates to the layout of actual cut blocks. Specific site plan information will be made readily available, and professional resources will be committed towards on-site reviews with the community

The partnership in this community forest agreement initiates a new model of improved working relationships between our non-native and native communities, as well as implementing leading-edge sustainable forest management philosophy. Chief James Delorme says: “Education is at the forefront of the Klahoose First Nation, and the community forest will be an important piece of this commitment.” The CFGP would like the community forest on Cortes to be a model of best practices and management approach, one that can be shared across the province.

10. Administrative Authority and Structure

10.1 (a) Mission Statement

The mission of CFGP is to manage the Cortes Community Forest Agreement for the benefit of all residents of Cortes Island, and to encourage local economic opportunities and initiatives related to timber and non-timber forest products.

10.1 (b) History of the CFGP

The CFGP was legally established in June 2012 to reflect the community’s wish for the non-aboriginal community and Klahoose First Nation to be equal partners in this venture. The partners are the Cortes Community Forest Co-op and Klahoose Forestry NO. 2 Limited Partnership. Each has received independent legal and financial advice to ensure matters such as governance and taxation have been fully considered. In terms of continuity, the CFGP executive committee includes folks who were involved with both the original CES efforts and the Cortes Island Community Forest Advisory Group.

Klahoose First Nation, through their limited partnership, brings capacity to the effort as both an investor and experienced forest manager with tenure holdings that include a woodlot license, non-replaceable

forest licence and a CFA. The CCFC brings an equal share of the initial \$120,000 funding contributed by the two partners to the CFGP as a reflection of the strong desire of its over 200 members and supporters to work with the Klahoose First Nation toward obtaining and managing a CFA for the benefit of the island.

10.1 (c) CFGP Governance Structure

The CFGP has an executive committee comprised of six members, three representing KF2LP and three representing the CCFC, with all members of the executive committee having equal votes. The executive committee is appointed annually by the Partners, and will manage and administer the business activities of the CFGP. See **Attachment C: Cortes Forestry General Partnership, Section 3: Rules Governing The Partnership.**

At an annual general meeting, the members of CCFC elect no less than three and no more than seven members to the board. See **Attachment J: CCFC Memorandum of Association: Directors and Officers.**

This elected CCFC Board appoints three persons to sit as partnership representatives on the executive committee of CFGP.

Klahoose Forest Inc. appoints the three persons of KF2LP to sit as representatives to the executive committee of CFGP.

10.1 (d) CFGP Executive Committee and Community Access

The Partnership Executive Committee will be accessible to the public via email, phone, websites, and by establishing and staffing a CFGP head office on Cortes Island. Members of the executive committee recognize that community members like receiving information in a number of different ways and encourage members of the public to contact them directly if their concerns and questions are not adequately addressed in the more public forums listed above.

10.1 (e) CFGP Decision Making Structure

The Executive Committee of CFGP will establish a process for decision-making that fully engages the island community and will integrate this process in the CFOP to be developed in consultation with the representatives of, and reflecting the expectations of the larger community. See **Attachment G: Commitment to the Cortes Community**

10.1 (f) Cortes CFA Benefit and Profit Sharing

Once profits are generated by CFGP, 50% will be distributed to CCFC and 50% to KF2LP.

Distribution of those funds to benefit community social and economic goals and projects will be made by the two organizations independently.

Each partner organization will consider proposals from various groups in their respective communities, which may include projects such as wildfire interface, infrastructure, education, recreation and trails, as well as programs and facilities for children and teens. A prime criterion for reviewing proposals will be the breadth of benefits to the community.

For its part, the CCFC will make its decisions around distribution of benefits with a community-based advisory group established for this purpose.

10.1 (g) Monitoring and Reporting

The CFGP Executive Committee will establish in its CFOP a public input and monitoring mechanism for ongoing planning and operational activities in the CFA, as well as a process for revising these plans where necessary over time.

The CFGP intends to report to the community through a yearly newsletter, periodic newsletters and updates, notices on the CFGP, CCFC, and KFN websites, as well as in the local flyer and public website.

10.1 (h) CFA Implementation and Conflict Resolution

The process of planning for and implementing the CFA on Cortes Island will involve an ongoing process of community engagement, education, and dialogue intended to give community members a chance to express how they want this community forest to be managed, and to monitor how their vision is implemented over time.

The process for conflict resolution regarding CFA implementation will be dealt with through community consultation and consensus. Typically on Cortes Island, conflicts are resolved through an exhaustive process of public meetings and exchange if necessary. If a dispute cannot be resolved through good faith consultation, then an unbiased external mediator may be sought.

10.2 (a) CFGP Business Activities

The CFGP will hire a general manager and registered professional forester with strong backgrounds in ecosystem based management (EBM) and community interaction to administer the implementation, planning, and day-to-day business activities of the CFA. Given the relatively small size of the operation, the CFGP expects that these two roles may be combined.

The CFGP does not intend to own equipment or infrastructure. Independent contractors will conduct all harvesting and operational activities in the CF, under contract to the CFGP. At this time the CFGP plans to focus its business activities on marketing and building a market around the Cortes CF Brand of wood products.

10.2 (b) Key Personnel and Roles

The CFGP will hire a general manager to oversee the implementation and operation of the CFA. Ideally this individual will have a professional forestry background and will be able to take on a large part of the

planning, contract management, business management, and harvesting oversight roles. This individual may be an RPF, in which case he or she will be able to carry out most of the necessary functions related to managing the proposed CFA. It is also possible that these will be separate roles, and the CFGP will require that any consulting forester will have a background in EBM and community education.

11. Business Plan

11.1.1 Business Plan Statement

- (i) CFGP acknowledges that the financial risks associated with operating this CFA have been, and will continue to be, thoroughly considered. The CFA management plan strategies will be factored into our business plan
- (ii) Specifically, the implications of an EBM strategy as well as extended rotations have been fully considered and factored into business planning.
- (iii) The relative ease of access to much of the THLB due to the existing road infrastructure on Cortes, as well as a maturing stock of second growth will be significant factors in our ability to operate successfully early on. In future years the CFGP commitment to extended rotations will be the key to increased financial viability and operating success from a business perspective.

The CFGP has the benefit of advice from forestry, financial and legal professionals, all with experience developing other community forest tenures.

11.1.2 Future Plans

Short Term (one year)

A considerable commitment of resources was required to proceed through the invitation stage and prepare the application. Unlike local government sponsored CFA proponents, CFGP has not had taxpayer support to undertake the initial part of the process and the Community Futures Development Corporation grant program used by other community forest applicants is no longer available. This is a truly community-driven initiative; all funds were raised locally.

Our short-term objectives will be basic, reflecting the need to create a sound financial base to begin implementing the CFA. From day one forest worker safety will be a key focus of the CFGP, and all harvesting personnel and contractors will be SAFE certified.

Once the CFA is received, and the CFOP is prepared, the executive committee of the CFGP will enter into a contract with a consulting professional forester to prepare, through further discussions with the community, the Forest Stewardship Plan and the initial road and cutting permits. If necessary, the executive committee will consider a number of options to finance any costs over and above the initial funding of the CFGP.

Medium Term (within five years)

The CFGP will develop into a successful forestry business known for the quality of its timber and forest stewardship. Early in this period the plan is to repay our investors and retire any long-term debt. Our business objectives will be balanced with the social expectations of the community and the management philosophy and socioeconomic goals mentioned in Section 8.2.

Currently, there are only a few small sawmills on Cortes Island and several cottage remanufacturing facilities. In part this has been due to inconsistent timber availability. Our initial estimate is that up to 2,000 m³/yr of the AAC will be sold locally. The CFGP will work with mill owners, builders and artisans to develop strategies which we hope will lead to increased use of community forest-harvested wood.

Along with our own forest development and regeneration strategies outlined in the MP, application will be made for Forest Investment Account funding to undertake silviculture treatments on our unmanaged stands, which will enhance growth and yield.

Long Term

Incrementally, the CFGP will increase opportunities for local contractors and forestry, mill, and wood workers. While our relative size limits the extent to which we can provide full-time, continuous work on the island, we expect our contribution will allow Cortes Island contractors and workers to develop to the point where they can expand their business both on and off the island.

The regulations for CFAs provide an opportunity to manage for non-timber forest resources. CFGP will explore the opportunities from both an economic and stewardship perspective and consult the community over any changes regarding what has historically been free access to the resource. There is an existing network of recreation trails within the CFA which could be enhanced. CFGP will work with user groups (many of them informal) to expand this system and ensure recreation values are incorporated into our forest development plans.

The CFGP will work with the FLNRO fire management branch, Strathcona Regional District and the local fire department to develop a strategy for community interface fire hazard abatement and fire management.

11.1.3 Service/Product Description

The main product CFGP will produce is logs. Initially local demand will account for a minor percentage of sales. Cortes Island has some geographical and access challenges. To maximize return on log sales, it will be critical to access the broader log market. To do that effectively may require a services agreement with a log broker. We will want price commitments prior to harvesting trees, and we must be positioned to move into specific stands and be able to sort on-site to take advantage of specific target markets.

Our timber profile is weighted to second growth fir and we are aware that at current average market values CFGP needs to run a very cost-efficient logging operation. It is critical to take advantage of prices

for premium grades and for products such as sawlogs, peelers, timbers, poles and pilings. We will also explore and take into account the economic advantage of chain of custody certification. There is a minor cedar component which will be desirable for supplying local mills and at the high end, cedar poles. In terms of low quality timber we have the additional challenges of managing fire hazard and social expectations regarding waste levels and appearance. Fortunately, pulp prices are relatively strong and on Cortes Island most homes are heated by wood, so access to dry firewood is considered critical.

12. Public Disclosure

It is the intent of Cortes Forestry General Partnership to make all content of this CFA application available to the community and the public at large.

13. Attachments

The following attachments form part of this application:

Attachment A: MFLNRO Minister Steve Thompson's Direct Invitation to apply for a CFA, dated May 19, 2011 Re: Direct Invitation to Apply and AAC.

Attachment B: MFLNRO District Manager Mark Anderson letter dated May 22, 2012, re: CFA area

Attachment C: CFGP Statement of Registration, and CFGP Agreement

Attachment D: MFLNRO map of CFA

Attachment E: Strathcona Regional District letter of support,

Attachment F: Klahoose First Nation letter of support,

Attachment G: CFGP Commitment to the Cortes Community,

Attachment H: Other First Nations letters re: Klahoose Territory,

Attachment I: CV of Brian Smart, RPF, RPBio.,

Attachment J: CCFC Memorandum of Association and KF2LP documents,

Attachment K: 1999 MOU between the Klahoose First Nation and the Cortes Ecoforestry Society,

Attachment L: Revised 2012 OCP draft, forestry section (excerpt),

Attachment M: Public meeting and SEI DVD attachments

Thank you for considering this application, and we look forward to hearing from you soon. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions.

Cortes Forestry General Partnership Executive Committee co-chairs

Kathy Francis

Kristen Schofield-Sweet