



DISTRICT OF STEWART

Office of the Mayor

January 28, 2022

Mr. Taylor Bachrach, MP for Skeena-Bulkley Valley
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

sent via email to: Taylor.Bachrach@parl.gc.ca

Dear Mr. Bachrach,

Re: BC Wildfires Petition – Letter of Support

Council considered correspondence from the District of Lillooet at the January 24, 2022 Regular Council Meeting, and made a resolution to support the community's BC Wildfires Petition.

The BC Wildfires petition that was previously sent to BC Municipalities from the District of Lillooet, is addressed to the Government of Canada and asks for the Government of BC and Canada to empower local persons, those working with licensees, industry and contractors, Indigenous communities, ranchers and workers such as fire fighters, forestry workers, and all those that see the day-to-day issues and have front line knowledge to provide feedback on the inconsistencies and shortcomings with regard to forest management and wildfire prevention in order to help bring about much-needed change.

Inspired by the Ontario government who assembled an 'All Hazards Agency' that employs people to manage fire, flood and slides, we believe that BC needs this type of agency as well.

We support the District of Lillooet's belief that impacts to lumber prices and job availability, mill closures, current and future mudslides, damage to critical habitat, and house insurance increases are trickle effects that will continue to have detrimental effects on BC's future if we do not make necessary changes to current forest practice procedures.

Consequently, the District of Stewart calls upon the Provincial and Federal Governments to provide better forest management and wildfire protection by assessing the current policies and guidelines to enhance those that are working to re-evaluate and change those that are not.

We respectfully request that you present our letter supporting the District of Lillooet's BC Wildfires petition to the Clerk of Petitions and upon receiving certification, to the House of Commons.

On behalf of Council, thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Gina McKay
Mayor
District of Stewart

Cc: Hon. Nathan Cullen, MLA for Stikine
District of Lillooet
Councils of BC Communities