

## **Council Resolution - Island Timberlands Logging**

On February 16, the City of Parksville Council approved a resolution intended to protect the Englishman River as a major source of drinking water for the residents of Parksville. This resolution was brought forward to Council because recent logging near the Englishman River by Island Timberlands will affect the watershed and Council has a duty to protect the region's drinking water.

The City of Parksville Council strongly objects to ongoing logging activity near the Englishman River and is eager to explore opportunities to ensure that this type of activity does not occur again. It is Council's position that the security and protection of drinking water for Parksville, Qualicum Beach and the Regional District of Nanaimo through the Arrowsmith Water Service is a priority.

The City of Parksville resolution will be submitted to the annual general meeting and convention of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) meeting in April and the Union of BC Municipalities convention later in the year. The resolution moved by Councillor Burger, seconded by Councillor Powell and approved by Council states:

WHEREAS the Englishman River is a major source of drinking water for the residents of our city; and we have a corresponding duty to protect our interest in this river, the surrounding watershed, and our citizens from harm;

AND WHEREAS Island Timberlands is currently conducting logging activity on an island within the Englishman River as well as in areas on the slopes above the river;

AND WHEREAS the City of Parksville was not consulted prior to the commencement of this logging activity;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Parksville strongly objects to this ongoing logging activity and urges the Provincial Government to take immediate action to halt all logging in proximity to the Englishman River;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLDED THAT we request the provincial Government take all necessary steps to prevent this type of harmful logging activity from occurring in the future;

AND FURTHER THAT city staff immediately convey our concerns, including a copy of the above resolution to:

- Hon Barry Penner, Minister of the Environment and Minister Responsible for Water Stewardship and Sustainable Communities
- MLA Hon Ron Cantelon, Nanaimo Parksville, Minister of Agriculture and Lands
- Joe Stanhope, Chair, Regional District of Nanaimo
- Mayor and Council, Town of Qualicum Beach
- Stuart Macpherson, Executive Director, Private Managed Forest Land Council.

For more information:

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