

ITEM	8
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	25
COUNCIL MEETING	90/04/02

RE: LETTER FROM VILLAGE OF HAZELTON WHICH APPEARED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE 1990 JANUARY 29TH MEETING OF COUNCIL (ITEM 22)  
 FOREST INDUSTRY CHARTER OF RIGHTS

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendation of the Municipal Clerk be adopted.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1990 MARCH 14  
 FROM: MUNICIPAL CLERK  
 SUBJECT: CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE VILLAGE OF HAZELTON RE: FOREST  
 INDUSTRY CHARTER OF RIGHTS

RECOMMENDATION:

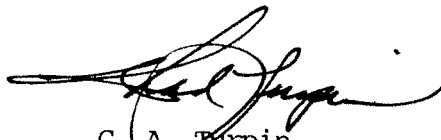
1. "THAT this report be received for information purposes."

REPORT

At the regular Council Meeting held on 1990 February 26, Council requested that staff prepare a draft response to the Village of Hazelton regarding their proposed Forest Industry Charter of Rights. Council also requested that the draft response be brought back for review before being sent to Hazelton.

Attached to this report as 'Appendix I' is the draft response.

Unless otherwise directed by Council this letter will be forwarded to Hazelton in the usual manner.

  
 C. A. Turpin  
 MUNICIPAL CLERK

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Mayor Alice V. Maitland  
The Corporation of the Village of Hazelton  
P. O. Box 40  
Hazelton, B. C., V0J 1Y0

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Dear Mayor Maitland:

The Council of The Corporation of the District of Burnaby, at the regular Council Meeting held on 1990 February 26, completed their review of your correspondence dated 1990 January 15 outlining a proposal for a Forest Industry Charter of Rights in B. C.

Although Burnaby does not have direct ties to the forest industry in the same manner as communities such as Hazelton, we recognize the importance of this industry and its economic and social impact on all our lives.

Council were very impressed with the detail and research which have gone into this comprehensive document and strongly support the principles expressed, such as the need for a biophysical inventory to determine the impact of clearcut logging on ecosystems and other resource values; assessment of the full range of social and economic costs and benefits of proposed timber harvests; and increased public participation in the decision-making process to deal with legitimate forestry-related community concerns and preservation of watersheds.

We feel we must stop short of endorsing the entire Charter, however, because we have some concerns regarding the rigid specifications you have set out. For example, in Section 7 under Harvest, you have stated "No clearcut opening larger than 15 hectares will be allowed," and in Section 3, that "75% of the annual harvest in any T.S.A. must be processed in the T.S.A." We are unable to support this type of statement without knowing how these figures were arrived at, their impact on current practices and so on. Such arbitrary limits also appear to contradict, in our view, the commitment to reflect ecosystem characteristics and specific community needs.

We recognize the tremendous impact of this industry on various areas of our Province and its economic benefits in terms of employment and growth in all regions. We also appreciate the need to sustain this resource and find a balance between preserving our environment and continued economic growth. We commend your Council for taking an innovative step toward these goals but we feel it would benefit from being stated in somewhat more general terms.

We also share your concerns in such areas as use of herbicides/pesticides, exports of round logs and protection for forestry workers laid off due to technological change.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on the proposed Charter. We hope these comments from an urban Municipal Council will be helpful.