

## ATTACHMENT C

### Backgrounder re: Raw Log Exports

Historically, companies such as MacMillan Bloedel and Crown Zellerbach were vertically integrated and included forestry, logging, pulp, paper and lumber operations in systems that ensured that feedstock was shared across these different operations. When these companies were sold and their assets dispersed, the independent companies and operations that took over various assets did not have the same commitment to support all aspects of the BC value-added chain.

BC pulp mills such as Harmac Pacific in Nanaimo and Domtar in Crofton have struggled to access adequate affordable fiber supply on Vancouver Island, requiring them to bring in fibre from as far away as the interior of BC. Domtar's December 2, 2025 media release highlights "the lack of access to affordable fiber in BC" as a deciding factor in the closure of their pulp mill in Crofton.[1]

These same companies watch log ships loaded for export from port facilities beside their mills on a weekly basis. According to BC Government statistics, over the last five years (2020-2024), raw log exports from BC ranged from 2.8 to 3.5 million cubic meters annually. The vast majority of these raw logs are exported from the coastal forest region, predominantly from Vancouver Island. The export of raw logs from the coastal region ranges from 2.2 to 3 million cubic meters per year.[2] It should be noted as well that these statistics do not include the export of lumber cants—essentially raw logs with their rounded edges removed—because they are considered to be partially processed.

The forest industry in BC is in crisis. As noted in a December 12, 2025, *Times Colonist* opinion piece, "While mills are shutting down, raw logs are leaving B.C. on giant ships every week." [3] Prohibiting the export of raw logs and lumber cants, as called for in the resolution, would ensure that forests harvested in BC are processed in BC, encouraging value-added manufacturing in BC and supporting employment in BC's forest industry.

[1] <https://media.domtar.com/Domtar-to-permanently-close-Crofton-Mill>

[2] [https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/forestry/log-exports/bc\\_log\\_export\\_permit\\_report\\_2020-2024.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/forestry/log-exports/bc_log_export_permit_report_2020-2024.pdf)

[3] <https://www.timescolonist.com/opinion/comment-bcs-forest-industry-needs-massive-overhaul-11609073>