

**BC Community Forest Association AGM** 

June 2017





Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

# Overview of Responsibilities



**Chris Stagg RPF** 

Assistant Deputy Minister
Timber Operations, Pricing and First Nations Division



Responsibilities Include:

First Nations Relations



**Engineering Branch** 

**Forest Health** 

**Softwood Lumber Agreement** 

**Timber Pricing** 



# Importance of Softwood Lumber Trade in B.C.



#### In 2016:

- Forestry generated almost \$800M direct revenue to government, provided 60,000 direct jobs in over 140 communities.
- - Softwood lumber products accounted for nearly 50% of all B.C. forest product exports value.



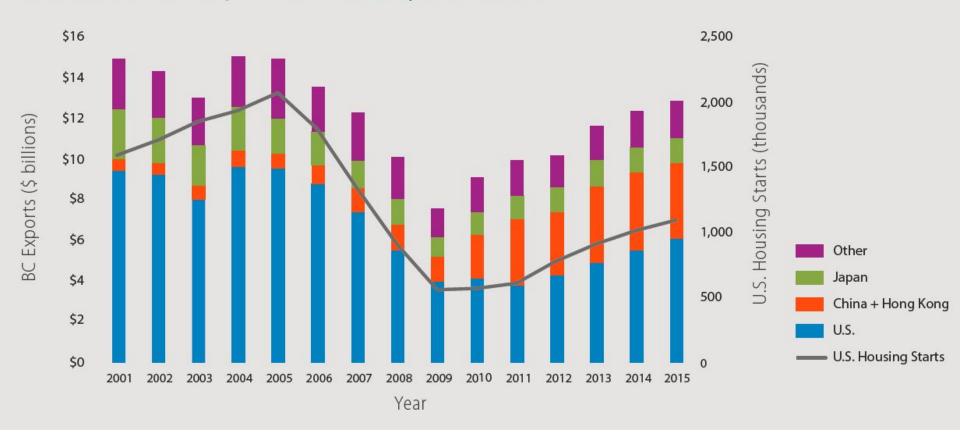
 BC produced about 50% of all Canadian softwood lumber, accounted for about 55% of Canada's exports to the US.



 Forestry accounted for \$14B in BC's exports, \$7.4B to the U.S.

### B.C. Lumber Exports and U.S. Housing Starts

#### Market Diversity – Annual Export Value



B.C. has made great strides in opening up Asian markets, but U.S. remains our number one market – \$4.6 billion U.S .exports in 2016.

# History of Canada-US Lumber Dispute





1983-86 No dispute

1986 *Lumber II* – CVD



1986-91 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

1992-94 *Lumber III* – CVD

1994-96 Agreement negotiation



1996-01 1996 Softwood Lumber Agreement (SLA)

2001-06 Lumber IV – CVD and Anti-Dumping (AD)

2006-15 2006 SLA

2015-16 Standstill Period

2016-? *Lumber V* 



# Negotiation of a New Agreement



 From Jan-Nov 2016, Canada, with significant input from B.C., met with the U.S. 18 times, exchanged numerous proposals and position papers.



 The insistence of the U.S. industry on imposing a hard cap quota, the Presidential election, and the U.S. initiated litigation put the negotiations on hold.



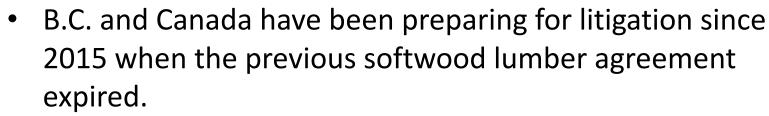
B.C. will continue to press for a new managed trade agreement that works for B.C., since managed trade is preferable to costly and lengthy litigation.



 Trade Envoy David Emerson and Chief Negotiator John Allan continue to advocate for B.C.'s interests in Canada and in the U.S.

### Litigation - Current Status







• In Nov. 2016, U.S. industry filed its allegations with the U.S. Department of Commerce that Canadian lumber exports are subsidized, injure the U.S. industry, and that Canadian exporters are selling lumber below market value (dumping) in U.S.



• U.S. is investigating five Canadian exporters – Canfor, West Fraser, Tolko, Resolute, and J.D. Irving Limited.



Each company will be assessed a specific subsidy & dumping duty rate. All other companies will receive an average rate based on the five company rates.

### Litigation - Current Status



April 24: US issued preliminary decision on subsidy.

Canfor: 20.26% West Fraser: 24.12%

Tolko: 19.50% Irving: 3.02%

Resolute: 12.82% All other companies: 19.88%



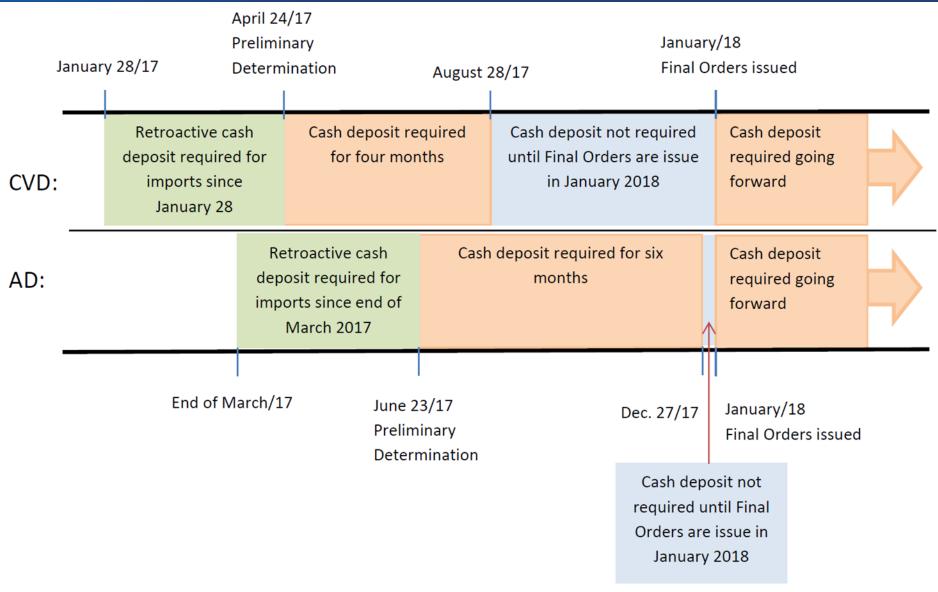
 Duties (cash deposits) are required starting April 28 for 4 months.



• Irving and the "all others" companies are also subject to retroactive duties on imports made in the 90 days prior to the preliminary subsidy rate decision.



# Litigation – Approximate Timelines



# Litigation – Next Steps



- June 23: Preliminary decision for anti-dumping.
- January 2018: Final determination.



- Companies will have 30 days to request an expedited review to establish a company specific rate.
- Canada can appeal through the WTO, and either NAFTA or the U.S. Court of International Trade.



 Historically, Canada has always successfully argued that our lumber exports are not subsidized but the appeal process can take several years.



Cash deposits are held in trust until all appeals are final.

### First Nations Relations



First Nations Forest Sector Strategy (2003) - Components of the Strategy include:



 Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreements (FCRSA)



2. Ownership and Access through Forest Tenure Opportunity Agreements (FTOA)

- 3. First Nations Forest Strategy Advisory Group
- 4. Relationship Building and Capacity Support



5. BCTS Relationships Strategy

#### First Nations Relations



Tsilhqot'in Nation decision in 2014

- New tools have been developed to help government address obligations for accommodation
- In 2015 the province began to negotiate new agreements to help create stability
- Look to BCCFA to support the Provincial First Nations Forestry Strategy by continuing to work with First Nations
- 2016 Indicators Report #15 measures First Nations Involvement





# First Nations Partnerships



Several Partnerships in the North between First Nations and Community Forests



In the North - Mackenzie, Little Prairie, Wetzin'kwa and the Chinook CFA in Burns Lake all include First Nation partners



New invite for 185,000 m3 has gone out in Fort Nelson, a partnership between community and the Fort Nelson First Nation



The Minister has also extended an invite to the partnership of Likely Xats'ull and the Big Lake Community Association for 20,000 m3

### **BC** Timber Sales



BCTS has expanded their ability to enter into various forms of partnerships



Bill 25 is a mechanism for BCTS to enter into voluntary disposition agreements and is already seeing some success.



Service agreements – *eg silviculture*Collaborative Mangement Agreements – *FSP level planning, certification etc.* 



Bill 12 enables Reduced Volume Licenses (with agreement of tenure holder) in very specific and unique circumstances to support MPS

# **Funding Opportunities**



Forest Enhancement Society (FES)



Rural Dividend Fund

Forests for Tomorrow (FFT)



Strategic Wildfire Protection Initiative (SWPI)

Forest Carbon Initiative (FCI)
 (funding currently allocated through FES)



# Thank you

