



April 29, 2016

REPORT TO: Administration and Finance Executive Committee

FROM: Mark McCaig, CAO

SUBJECT: Crossroute Forest 2007-2017 Forest Management Plan Open House

On the April 25<sup>th</sup> Council agenda, there was an informational item regarding the Crossroute Forest. During some informal discussion, I advised Mayor and Council that I would attend the information session on April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Copper River Inn and report back with the details. I also understand that Mayor Avis attended the session as well so he could provide details too.

The session was an informal setting with printed materials and storyboards set up to explain what was taking place. I had the opportunity to speak with Mr. Phil Brown from RW Forestry, a firm engaged by Resolute Forest Products. I asked Mr. Brown to give me an overview of the issue at hand.

Mr. Brown advised that Resolute is waiting on a Forest Inventory (FRI) in order to complete a new Forest Management Plan (FMP). Resolute's current FMP expires at the end of this year. The FRI is needed to complete a new plan and in the absence of this information, Resolute can file a contingency plan for as many as 3 years. This informational session was regarding the Contingency Plan that is proposed for the Crossroute Forest for the period 2017-2020.

Mr. Brown advised me that the FRI is a very important piece needed for the development of a FMP. The FRI contains an abundance of information related to the stands within the area, eco sites within the forest, types of land, ponds, streams, types of trees within each stand, etc. The map with the FRI shows every piece of land within the area and is essential for harvesting decisions.

Mr. Brown indicated to me that the contingency plan would have few changes from the current FMP. The intent was to continue in the same fashion until a new FMP was in place. A new FMP would be for another ten year term (2020-2030).

I asked Mr. Brown if there was any plan to amalgamate the Sapawe and Crossroute Forests. He indicated to me that when developing an FMP, reducing red tape is always desirable. He further indicated that fewer management units translate to lower costs and an amalgamation would help achieve that.

Upon leaving the session, I put myself on the mailing list and indicated that the Town would like to be notified of future sessions and developments.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mark McCaig".

Mark McCaig  
CAO

MM/kl