



# PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

November 19, 2021

554210 BC Ltd (Woodlot) - Harvesting Board briefing note:

School District 22 (Vernon) holds a woodlot on Crown land near Lumby. This license is held through a subsidiary company, 554210 BC Ltd. which supports the School District's educational forestry program at Charles Bloom Secondary.

Douglas-fir beetle is present in an area of the woodlot that is visible from Lumby. If the trees in this area are left standing, the beetle will continue to kill the trees over time, creating an increased and substantial fire risk. Additionally, the beetle will potentially spread to other areas.

Managing forest health concerns is an obligation of any Woodlot Licence. The proven remedy to this situation is to cut down and remove the trees, thereby removing the nesting opportunity for the beetles.

To that end, 554210 BC Ltd has entered into an agreement with Tolko to harvest the trees and purchase the wood. Harvesting will commence this winter, before the end of February. All activities will be monitored by a professional forester in agreement with 554210 BC Ltd. and the British Columbia Forest and Range Practices Act. All First Nations whose traditional territory overlaps with this area have been consulted and their interests addressed. A geotechnical engineer is being consulted as well.

Melissa Yurkowski, Principal at Charles Bloom Secondary, and president of 554210 BC Ltd., is pleased with the potential experience this project will offer students, as well as the proactive measures towards reducing forest fuels and risk during forest fire season.

For more information please contact:

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