



August 9, 2010

Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
PO Box 9100  
Stn Prov Govt, Victoria BC  
V8W 9B1

**Attention: Heinz Dyck, Negotiator**

Dear Sir:

**Re: Maa-nulth Treaty - Reasonable Opportunities Language**

The Coast Forest Products Association is peripherally aware of your Ministry's efforts to prepare the necessary processes in advance of the April 1, 2011 effective date of the Maa-nulth Treaty. As this Treaty will no doubt be a reference point for others on the coast, our members are very interested in gaining a better understanding of the implementation initiatives your Ministry is engaged in as the outcomes will have a direct impact on our member's forest and business planning, operations and capital investment.

Of immediate interest are your efforts to define Reasonable Opportunities (RO) language that will set the stage for post-treaty consultation in areas outside Treaty Settlement Lands. As such language has the potential to dramatically influence future operations and investment certainty on Crown land, we request an opportunity to review and provide input to any RO drafts prior to them being tabled with the Maa-nulth. In addition, we have asked the Ministry of Forests and Range to invite you to make a presentation, specific to this initiative, at their next Operational Issues Forum (OIF) on September 16, 2010 in Nanaimo.

Our interest is not to slow the process or be disruptive to what must be a very tight implementation work plan. Rather our intent is to provide productive advice, from a forest industry and Crown tenures perspective, to ensure that the Reasonable Opportunities language will work for all parties and to prevent unintended nuances from creating an unnecessary burden on our members in the Maa-nulth Treaty area and beyond.

1200 – 1090 W. Pender St.  
Vancouver, BC  
Canada V6E 2N7

T 604.891.1237  
F 604.682.8641

[www.coastforest.org](http://www.coastforest.org)

We look forward to your response and initiating a productive discussion relative to your Ministry's Treaty implementation efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R.M.' with a stylized flourish underneath.

R.M. (Rick) Jeffery  
President & CEO

Cc Mr. Bob DeFaye, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation  
Ms. Dana Hayden, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Forests and Range  
Mr. Steve Munro, Assistant Deputy Minister, Negotiations, Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation  
Mr. Mark Lofthouse, Chief Negotiator, Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation  
Ms. Sharon Hadway, Regional Executive Director, Coast Forest Region, Ministry of Forests and Range  
Board of Directors, Coast Forest Products Association

