DOWNIE TIMBER LTD.

Forest Enhancement Society of BC
101 – 925 McMaster Way
Kamloops, BC
V2C 6K2

To whom it may concern:

Re: Mountain Labyrinths Inc. FESBC Application for Landscape Scale Fuel Breaks to Protect Revelstoke and Area

Please accept this letter of support to the Forest Enhancement Society of BC from Mountain Labyrinths Inc., in partnership with B.A. Blackwell and Associates Ltd. and local wildfire expert Archie McConnachie, to design and initiate implementation of landscape scale fuel breaks to protect the City of Revelstoke and the local area from Downie Timber Ltd. – a Division of *The Gorman Group*.

The community wildfire protection plan for the Revelstoke area was initiated in 2009, with the most recent project, completed in 2013, being the identification of *community scale* fuel breaks or defensible areas the populated area, and updating the Revelstoke and Area Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

One of the highest priorities in the updated CWPP is to identify and establish *landscape scale* fuel breaks or defensible areas around the community. Their project plan outlines a collaborative approach with staff from the City of Revelstoke Fire Rescue Services, BC Wildfire Services Columbia Base, Parks Canada and Columbia Shuswap Regional District, as well as with the District Office of the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, forest licensees and local First Nations. The team also has contacts with recreational and other local user groups.

As one of the largest employers in the Revelstoke area, Downie Timber fully supports the concept of active management of the forested landscape to protect the resources that our community relies on to stay economically healthy and vibrant. As an added benefit, we expect that our forest management activities (harvesting) will be informed by the planning work being undertaken by this group.

Based on our past positive working relationships with team members, we are confident that this team brings together the best local knowledge, provincial scale wildfire expertise, GIS capacity and project management skills to complete the project efficiently to meet our local needs.

We will allocate staff time to participate in this project throughout the design and implementations phases. We encourage you to support this application.

Please feel free to contact me if you require more information.

Kerry Rouck, RPF – Corporate Forestry Manager
The Gorman Group

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