



November 5, 2022 | For Immediate Release

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **District of Lantzville Adopts Tree Protection Bylaw**

Lantzville, BC – On Saturday, November 5, 2022, Council adopted “District of Lantzville Tree Protection Bylaw No. 331, 2022” to prohibit the cutting of trees on parcels of land greater than one (1) acre in size.

The *Community Charter* provides that a local government is allowed to prohibit and/or regulate the cutting of trees. At a Council meeting on April 6, 2022 Council, via a unanimous vote of Council, requested that staff provide a report on preparation of a bylaw to provide for the protection and preservation of trees.

Accordingly, at the open meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Council gave Bylaw No. 331 first three readings, received public input and on November 5<sup>th</sup> adopted Bylaw No. 331. The Bylaw provides the following exceptions to the prohibition on tree-cutting:

- Trees identified for cutting by the Ministry of Forests due to disease or pest infestation
- Dangerous trees
- Trees required to be cut down to meet any BC Hydro or Workers’ Compensation Board safety regulation
- Trees required to be cut down to allow the creation and maintenance of a public service corridor or highway
- Municipal employees, or their agents, during the discharge of duties that involve maintenance, surveying of the creation and upkeep of walkways and trails
- British Columbia land surveyors during the discharge of their duties
- Trees authorized to be removed in accordance with a Development Permit issued by the District
- Trees on Crown land or land subject to the *Private Managed Forest Land Act*.

The intent of Bylaw No. 331 is to prohibit the cutting down of trees with a trunk greater than 20 centimetres while Council develops a more comprehensive bylaw to present to the community. Over the next two to three months, it is anticipated Bylaw No. 331 will be amended to include additional regulations, such as, but not limited to, provisions for the cutting down of trees and reviewing the minimum parcel size to which the Bylaw applies.

In the meantime, the District of Lantzville Council considers it is in the public interest not to permit the logging and clear-cutting of treed parcels of land.

For additional information regarding “District of Lantzville Tree Protection Bylaw No. 331, 2022” contact Frank Limshue, Director of Planning & Community Services at 250.933.8083 or [flimshue@lantzville.ca](mailto:flimshue@lantzville.ca) .

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