



TimberLess Times

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Looking Back

Photo by Bonnie Hayward



YTS director Ken James and MLA Doug Routley seen at Raw Log Export Rally in Lake Cowichan June, 2006.



Informal YTS directors meeting circa summer 2003. Back left to right—J Casey, K Dickens. Front left to right— R Wiles, K James

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Court Roller Coaster Ride Over

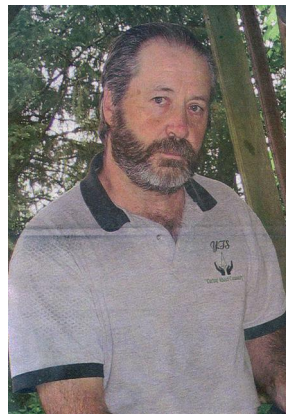
Following last November's disappointing news from the BC Court of Appeals, plaintiff Ken James and lawyer Joseph Arvay announced plans to file a *Writ of Summons and Statement of Claim* in the BC Supreme Court that would seek an order to set aside the *Consent Dismissal Order* from the previous IWA Action. It would now appear this planned action will not take place.

After more than five years it now looks as though the roller coaster ride through British Columbia's Legal system has finally come to an end.

Plaintiff Ken James, following lengthy consultation with his lawyer Joseph Arvay and much personal soul searching has now announced an end to his participation in the Class Action against the BC Government. This decision was a tough call for both James and Arvay and was only made after every possible legal avenue was investigated

thoroughly.

At this time Joseph Arvay stated there is "still a lot of paperwork to clean up" before the case is officially closed. He also warns of the possibility of personal action against Ken James for costs.



Plaintiff - Ken James

Although our goals were not met in seeking justice in this case we can perhaps seek solace in the fact we did not lose in court, but were instead defeated by the complexity of our own legal system.

The YTS and every former employee of TimberWest's Youbou Sawmill owe Ken James and Joseph Arvay an enormous debt of gratitude for their efforts on our behalf. For both, the burden was not only financial and time consuming, but it also became deeply personal.

A huge thank you also goes to everyone that offered their financial support.

WCWC Rally Huge Success

Almost three thousand people attended a hugely successful rally outside the Parliament Buildings in Victoria on October 25. The demonstration, organized by the Western

Canada Wilderness Committee was aimed squarely at raw log exports and protection of our Ancient Forests. Environmentalists, forestry workers, First Nations,

seniors, students and kids all joined hands and circled the parliament buildings in a display of unity rarely seen today. Mr. Campbell, we sincerely hope you were watching!!

YTS New Beginnings

Even though attempts to seek justice for former Youbou Sawmill employees in the courts were unsuccessful, the Youbou TimberLess Society continues to thrive. With a solid membership base and dedicated group of directors the way is now clear to move forward to new beginnings.

Since January, 2001 the YTS has championed a ban on raw log exports, community forestry, improved forest land management and a host of other initiatives. We now see countless other groups of like minded people echoing our views.

On October 7, 2008, YTS member K. Dickens attended the British Columbia Forests Society informative AGM in Victoria. The BCFS describe themselves as "*a citizen advocate for high standard forest stewardship*" and they also have very strong views regarding the importance of Community Forests. The significance of this should not be lost. A group of professional

foresters not only agree with YTS views, but are actively working on formally taking their views to the public in their "Centennial Proposal"

An exploratory meeting with BCFS directors to discuss their proposal is actively being sought and hopefully will take place some time in November. Liaisons with groups like the BCFS are both desirable and necessary. Shared expertise and views quickly educate, and expanded membership always offers a much stronger voice.

The YTS will hopefully over the coming months be working hard on what it does best., "Caring for Community". Our vision of an ecologically sound and economically viable Community Forest that will benefit local people and their community remains as clear and strong today as it did when the society was formed in 2000.

Xmas With the YTS

With the world's economy in turmoil, gas prices going through the roof, major banks collapsing and thousands losing their home because they have lost their job, it is nice to know there is at least one thing you can still count on!!!

The YTS Xmas party will be held at Youbou Community Hall on Saturday December 6th. Please see enclosed flyer for full details. It is still free and all are welcome!!!!

