
JOINT STATEMENT

For Immediate Release
2022FOR0049-001220
Aug. 4, 2022

Ministry of Forests
Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Ministers' statement on softwood lumber final ruling

VICTORIA – Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests; Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation; and George Chow, Minister of State for Trade, have issued the following joint statement in response to the U.S. Department of Commerce's final determination in its third administrative review regarding countervailing and anti-dumping duties applied to Canada's softwood lumber exports to the United States:

"We continue to be frustrated after today's announcement by the United States Department of Commerce that the U.S. will continue to apply unjustified duties on B.C. and Canadian softwood lumber exports to the U.S.

"At a time when we need to work together in the face of rising costs related to global inflation, these tariffs are making housing and lumber more expensive on both sides of the border.

"B.C. will always stand up for the 50,000 hard-working people in our forest industry against these unwarranted duties.

"Through the challenges presented to the forestry industry we have persevered and we will continue to do so. Our forests make B.C. one of the best places to live. Forests nurture plants, wildlife and fish in watersheds and provide good-paying jobs. As we strive to make a more robust, sustainable forest economy, what we need most is partners across the border who work with us, not against us, in making a stronger forest sector for Canada and the United States.

"We will continue to work with the Government of Canada to advocate for a fair market for B.C. wood products, and vigorously defend against this unfair U.S. trade action on softwood lumber. This includes relentlessly pursuing litigation through all available avenues, including under the North American Free Trade Agreement, the Canada–United States–Mexico Agreement and the World Trade Organization."

"Our government continues to stand with workers and their families while partnering with the federal government to resolve this dispute. We believe the best avenue is an agreement with the United States that benefits all parties."

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