

The Evolution of Devolution

The Community Forest Agreement in British Columbia

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Agenda

- Introductions
- Presentation: A brief history of the CFA
- Discussion: Local Control

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- What inspires your work in *community forestry*?

A brief history - 1

- Recommendations by Royal Commissions on Forestry – 1945, 1956, 1976, 1991
 - North Cowichan, Mission, Tl'azt'en, Revelstoke
- 1998 - Community Forest Pilot Project
 - Part of the 1997 Jobs and Timber Accord
 - Ministry of Forests stated 6 broad objectives
 - Multi-stakeholder Advisory Committee
 - Legislation based on CFAC's recommendations
- 1999 7 pilot CFAs awarded

CFAC's vision

- Complete devolution of responsibility to communities
- Fully comprehensive (rights include some NTFPs)
- "In perpetuity" (duration of 25-99 years)
- No minimum cut control
- Diverse governance models
- Encouraged innovation
- Pilot CFAs selected by competitive process

A brief history - 2

- 2001 Provincial election
- 2003 Forestry Revitalization Plan
 - 20% tenure take back
 - CFA established as a program
 - Changed process to expedite the tenure reallocation
- 2005 election – 24 communities invited to apply
- 2006 – potentially 1,025,458 m³ managed by CFAs (1.2% of the AAC)

Implementation & Evolution:

some observations...

- CFAs mostly managing for timber
- 5 year pilot/probationary term has limited investment
- Longest term CFA is 25 years
- Invitations and direct awards instead of competition
- CFAC potentially obsolete
- Diverse community governance models
- CFAs administered like other timber tenures
- Challenge of interagency coordination for NTFPs
- CF program is under-resourced
- Unclear program objectives

■ forestry vs community forestry

- implies local participation, local control

■ forest management vs forest governance

- includes the 'community' dimension

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- What is local control?
- Why is it important?

Mapping Devolution: what does 'local control' look like?

Decision Making Authority
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Forest Management Decisions

■ **Thank you!**

■ To follow up, please contact me at lisa.ambus@shaw.ca