

2010 BCCFA Conference and AGM Report



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Summary

Solutions for a New Decade

In early June, 100 participants gathered in Westbank on the traditional lands of the Westbank First Nation. The conference sessions put a focus on the issues where there is potential for community forests to enhance their capacity to bring additional benefits to their communities and to support community forests to be an active part of the solutions for this new decade. With an emphasis on discussion and information exchange between community forest practitioners, while light on formal presentations, the participants grappled with how to build linkages with value added manufacturers, and how to best promote the products from community forests. They learned the truth about managing for biofuels and carbon sequestration, and shared the models, challenges and lessons learned about how community forests are distributing their profits back to their communities.

The Conference Report is indented to provide a summary of the conference sessions to inform the readers who were not able to attend. It also serves as a record of the discussions and identifies any key outcomes. The report includes a range of notes, excerpts and quotes from the speakers as well as the [links](#) to the conference presentations for access to additional detail.

Conference Feedback

Yet again, we tried to pack too much into the conference time, and we got feedback that some redesign should be considered. There is always a desire when planning the agenda to maximize our time together, to hear from the membership on each topic that the Board and staff are working on. The motivation lies in the grassroots, consultative nature of the BCCFA and the value that the Board and staff put on the opinions, experiences and wisdom of the membership. But the point is well taken that 4 days is too long and there are lots of ideas for improvement already being discussed.

Overall, the most powerful aspect of the conference was what each

2010 Conference Feedback

It is difficult to put "dollar value" on the sessions. I always feel that if you come away with one idea that makes you more efficient/effective in your job (which ultimately saves dollars down the road), it is worth it. I found the networking valuable, and it was very interesting to see where everyone else is at. Some stories made me feel really good (in a bad way - in other words, I don't have those problems or to the extent some did!), but I heard some things that I felt showed me ways I can improve what we do here as well, so that was good.

Dawn Stronstad, RPF
Burns Lake Community Forest
Manager

participant gained through the act of showing up. Repeatedly we hear how the annual gathering motivates, inspires and diminishes the shadow of isolation that can grow through the year. We were reminded of the strength of our network and the value we all gain through the sharing of our community forest experiences and insights.

With Appreciation

The BCCFA would like to thank the Westbank First Nation for hosting the conference on their traditional lands.



Special appreciation for perfect organizational efforts and wonderful hospitality goes to the Host Logistical Team, based in Heartland Economics, Ltd., lead by Grant Thompson and to his marvelous crew: Vicki Hansford, Wes Zawertailo, Colin Pierre, Bob Swite and Norma and Joannie Tronson (the catering sisters).

We are truly grateful to the session note takers who make the reporting out so much easier. Thanks to Erin McGuigan from UBC – Forests and Communities in Transition (FACT), Andrea Inwards, MFR, and Jennifer Gunter. Thanks also go out to the folks who helped out in the break out sessions.

We would also like to thank Leasa Kennedy of the Cove Resort and the staff there for meeting our every need and to Joy Lindsay of the Two Eagles Golf Course for setting up the inaugural Robin Hood Invitational Golf Tournament.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the BCCFA, the members, the dedicated Board of Directors, and the most brilliant Executive Director, Jennifer Gunter for another dazzling year.

To work with this dynamic and important organization is, without a doubt, both challenging and fulfilling. I am the one with the luck and the great job.

**Respectfully,
Susan Mulkey
BCCFA Staff and Conference Organizer**



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2010 Conference Session Notes

Welcome Message from Robin Hood, BCCFA President

Robin welcomed everyone to the annual conference and thanked Chief Louie and the Westbank First Nation for hosting us on their traditional territory.



Excerpt of Robin's Address:

- Introductions to the BCCFA Board and staff
- In a good economy, solutions come easily, hurdles seem temporary and motivation is high. In an economy like today's hurdles seem larger and changes in the system seem to make things harder. Frustration kicks in and it is easy to lose your drive.
- But it is spring again, time to meet with the community forest gang and find some fresh motivation.
- We will be launching into our new Bridges: Linking Resources for Community Forests project which includes a section on community forest governance, forest management along with an aggressive value added and marketing and branding section.
- To make the most of these projects, we need to strengthen our network, explore new opportunities and share our experiences with each other.
- I have talked to others in the industry – the log house guys, the wood lots, timber framers, reman guys and it seems that we share the same problem. WE are too small to make an impact in the big picture of the industry.
- What would happen if we set aside our independence and started to work together to improve our viability? We may be able to lessen our reliance on the big guys.
- Russ Cameron and some of the Independent Lumber Remanufacturers are here tonight to see what can happen when we learn more about each other and our businesses. I urge you to take advantage of them being here.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions and to share your own experiences. We all have lots to learn from each other.

Community Forest Showcase

I was surprised at the value in being the "sharer". As a new comer to the conference and with few previously established relationships, it certainly assisted in breaking the ice with other CF's. It was also engaging to feel seen and heard, to establish at least a base line understanding for other communities of who we are and what we have accomplished.

Lisa Farr, SIFco

This event is an opportunity to hear the story of the organization, activities, benefits, & challenges of some of the BCCFA member organizations.

Lisa Ambus, Wetzin'kwa Community Forest - Lisa gave an overview of the Smithers/Telkwa based CFA. [Link to the presentation](#)

Lisa Farr and Stephan Martineau, Slocan Integral Forestry Cooperative (SIFco)– Stephan gave an update on the Slocan Valley water user based organizational structure of the cooperative and their recent fire interface project. [Link to the presentation](#)

Field Tour

Managing a Community Forest in an Urban Environment

The Westbank First Nation Community Forest shares over 30 km of its eastern boundary with the District of Peachland, District of West Kelowna and the Regional District of Central Okanagan. In addition, portions of Peachland and West Kelowna overlap the Community Forest. The field trip took participants to three operational sites: Trepanier Creek fuel management, the Glenrosa wildfire which seriously impacted Gorman's mill site and 2 homes of the owners, and the Rose Valley reservoir where we had an opportunity to review some of the co-operative activities going on with the municipal neighbours.



Community Forest Updates



**Jennifer Gunter, BCCFA Executive Director and
Jim Langridge, MFR, Director, Resource Tenures Branch**

BCCFA Annual Update - Jennifer Gunter

As a way to set the stage for the conference, Jennifer gave an introduction to the past year's activities. Details of the 2009-2010 activities are contained in the President's Report. [Link to the presentation](#)

Ministry of Forests and Range Update - Ron Greschner and Jim Langridge

[Link to the presentation](#)

Ron Greschner, Ministry of Forests (MFR), Senior Timber Tenures Forester gave an update on:

Changes in MFR organizational structure and staffing

- MFR Staffing for CFAs:
Victoria - Ron Greschner and Dave Haley
Northern Interior Forest Region (NIFR): Rob Norwell
Coast Forest Region (CFR): Neil Edwards
Southern Interior forest Region (SIFR): Andrew Inwards, Mike Djukic
- Resource Management coordination – MFR is aligning with the other dirt ministries. More importantly we are sharing resources with those people. We have initiatives underway that help to align policies and procedures so that if you have to work with more than one ministry we are equipped to align. This includes coordination of First Nation consultation.

Expansion of the CF Program

- Now 54 communities and 1.5% of the provincial AAC
- 1,200,000 m³/year and 671, 600 hectares +

CFA Regulation

- The Forest Act was changed in March last year. New CFAs will go directly to a 25 year license. A transition was included to allow for Probationary CFAs to become a 25 year CFA
- As part of that transition the Management Plan for the existing Probationary CFAs will require minor amendments to transfer to the 25 year CFA. The amendments include:
 - How provincial CFA program objectives will be managed for
 - Licensee's guiding principles
 - The social, economic, & broad resource management goals proposed for the CFA
 - A strategy for reporting out to the community on 1, 2, 3 above.

The First Nations Woodland Licence (FNWL)

- Bill 13 created the new FNWL. The details are still being developed and it, won't come into action until later this fall
- Origins in the Forestry Roundtable recommendation #25. FNs and BCCFA were consulted.
- Only FNS with an Interim Measures Agreement (IMA) will be able to get a FNWL



Ministry of Forests partners: Ron Greschner and Andrea Inwards

- The tenure will be very similar to a CFA - Area based tenure with no size restriction
- 25 - 99 years exclusive right, replaceable every 10 years
- No tenure deposit required, can include private land
- Existing tenure tied to a IMA (i.e. forest and Range Agreement /Opportunity) will be able to transfer to a FNWL
- Annual rent and stumpage payments required.

Other issues in Ron's presentation included:

- One Cutting Permit for CFAs concept
- One CP concept over the whole CFA
 - MFR will pilot the idea on Wood Lots first (test areas include: Quesnel, Campbell River and Peace)
 - The timeline for the project is unclear. Will have more information in a year.
- Community Forest Partnership with BC Timber Sales
 - Forestry Roundtable Recommendation # 23 expand CFA program & #20 increase number of auction from BCTS
 - A committee between MFR & BCCFA has been struck to explore this concept/possibility
 - A few conference calls have occurred, with good dialogue between the parties
 - A session later on in the conference will explore this further
- Cut Control
 - Reminder to CFAs - There is no minimum cut control
 - Unharvested volumes can not be carried forward
 - However the regional manager may issue licences to a third party to harvest the unharvested volume
- Bioenergy - BC Hydro phase two call has been launched.
- CFA Program continues to expand. MFR Continue to work with the BCCFA.

"I think the "New CFA/Applicant Informal Q&A Session" was very important, and could have been longer and in a better setting to get more questions and concerns out of the new CFAs and Wannabes.

I know that my community had lots of initial questions and concerns, and it really helped that I was available to answer questions and give them confidence about the Financial, Liability and Opportunities aspects of accepting a CFA.

Maybe one way to improve that session would be to have a few more existing (and successful) CFA Holders sit in who can offer to provide "mentoring" to the new folks."

Jim Langridge, MFR, Director, Resource Tenures Branch, outlined some of the changes in the MFR restructuring

- We have aligned the Ministry to reflect the new reality and where we are moving forward. We have a new division that has been established to deal with Competitiveness and Innovation.
- Ron identified the FNWL. It is a classic example of expectation management. We realized it would involve not only legislation but regulation. Because of the legislative window, the idea

that was hatched last fall could not be brought in until this spring. Then regulation is limited by the Cabinet schedule. Then FNs have to work with the district managers to identify appropriate areas. This is not something that is going to happen overnight. We have to calibrate our expectations around how quickly we can expect change around the province.

- Bioenergy - We recognize that there is a lot of waste going on now. Buyers are demanding a pretty high quality log in this market and there is a lot of wastage that needs to find a home. BC Hydro phase two call has been launched. We are aligning our tenures to try and facilitate this.

Welcome from Chief Robert Louie

Chief Louie welcomed everyone to the traditional lands of the Westbank First Nation.

"I would like to talk about why the Community Forest (CF) means and what it means to us. Forestry is one of the main economic drivers of the economy of this province and we have all benefit. Many of our community members have been involved in the forest industry, and this goes way back to when the first logs were cut. We have experienced forestry workers who represent what we are.

We also have a CF license that we take very seriously. Since 2005 we have now harvested in excess of 400,000 m³ and this year we are going to be planting our one millionth tree. This is all a responsibility we accept and it reinforces our responsibility and connection to the land.

From the CF there have been all kinds of benefits, and I think each of the communities here have experienced these benefits. First of all we have revenue that connects to opportunities for our contractors to work at home. All of the spin offs (road construction, hauling etc) have been a huge revenue generating opportunity.

Also, we are now a decision maker on our lands and that is significant for us. We are directly involved with making decisions that affect our traditional territory and all of the southern province. We also contribute to a future for our youth - that is important.

Our management has been successful. We have shown to the government and our peers that we are able to successfully manage a CF and that is very important.

I want to give thanks to the board of directors of the BCCFA. It has been very representative of all the communities. It has provided a number of benefits and opportunities to us and all of the CFs. They worked towards implementation of the tabular stumpage system without which a number of our workers would have been unemployed. They have assisted us to secure funding from the Forest Investment Account, and had a large role in the showcasing of the Olympic podiums. The numbers I have are that 14 of the 23 podiums that were put in the Olympics came from wood from the CF lands.

Now we look forward in the future to building on our successes as a member of this Association. The Association and been integral to our success and without you we would not have come this far. Again I congratulate you and thank you."



Left to Right: Minister Bell, Grant Thompson, Councillor Mike De Guevara, Minister Ben Stewart, and Chief Robert Louie

Presentation: Hon. Ben Stewart, Minister of Citizens' Services and Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism and the Public Affairs Bureau and MLA Westside-Kelowna

Minister Stewart acknowledged the Westbank First Nation's contribution of wood to the 2010 Olympic Podium project.

"Thank you and it is an honour to be here today. Thank you to Chief Louie for those opening words. The Olympics brought a lot of pride to the province. A number of Olympians won medals on podiums constructed from wood from Community Forests throughout BC. I would like to ask Chief Louie to accept this shadow box. Each shadow box contains a medal tray and a picture of the world's best athletes celebrating on the world's best wood. Each CF that donated wood on the podium will receive one of these shadow boxes. On behalf of the province of BC I want to thank the Westbank FN for contributing to the 2010 Olympic Games. "

Minister's Address: Hon. Pat Bell, Minister of Forests and Range and the Integrated Land Management Bureau

The following points are excerpts from the Minister's presentation:

- Thank you very much. Thank you Chief Louie, and thank you for being a strong community leader. You have demonstrated that FNs are becoming a partner. Your leadership is noted throughout the province of BC.
- I want to share with you my enthusiasm about the work you have been doing and what I feel is the future of forestry in the coming decade. I am convinced that we have come through what

was the most challenging time that forestry ever saw. Despite what we have experienced I think we are well positioned moving forward. I believe no one is better positioned than CFs.

- When we released the Forestry Roundtable Report, one of the goals was to increase the volume for FNs, CFs and Wood Lots. At the time we were at 10% and I remarked that 20% was a good goal. My staff has taken that very seriously, through new tenures and the development of CFs. Currently the largest tenure holder is BCTS and they hold 20% of the volume. If we were able to achieve the 20% goal you would be the largest, or tied with the largest holder. It is something we need to bring other communities on side with, particularly the smaller communities.
- All of the aspects of CFs that are so important to you - the ability to manage the land base around homes local employment and local benefits are all values that I share. I want to see the growth of CFs and we are going to stay committed.
- I recall a meeting with Mayor Diane St Jacques of Ucluelet when we were at the UBCM and Diane said to me you are the eighth minister that I have had to talk to about my CF and it has been 15 years. I expect that you won't be the last minister. I said I am prepared to accept that challenge. Three months later we signed the agreement.
- This is the message for you and your colleges: it wasn't perfect. I think it is important that in the pursuit of perfection we don't give up on what is important. Every time I see that the Ministry has received a request from a community for a CF. Often times, the first letter that I see is from my staff saying "there isn't any volume available". But my staff knows now not to bring that letter to me because it will receive a blue line. We do not want to turn communities down. We want to be successful in finding volumes.
- Extracting higher volumes is a goal for MFR. I know that isn't the case for all CFs. But we need to find better ways of supplying fiber to our milling operations around the province. We have all seen increasing pressures on the land so we have developed the notion of a commercial forest reserve - An area that doesn't have the pressures of species at risk and which may exclude it from forestry. We need to identify the areas for intensive forestry practices.
- When it comes to growing trees, Sweden looks at us as backwards. Many of the sites in Sweden are similar to northern BC yet Sweden extracts higher volumes from their land base.
- Other pressures (on the land) (parks species at risk etc) are going to continue to ramp up. In the future we may be faced with having insufficient fiber on the landscape. I worry that the AAC is going to be ramped down over time due to the pressures. I think there is a better way. Finding sites that are of higher (forestry) value and managing them aggressively, and then taking other areas and having a lighter footprint. I cannot think of a better way. I think CFs (could set the tone going forward and allow intensive forestry in designated sites.)

In the next ten years I expect to see the following:

- Better utilization and bioenergy. We are seeing significant developments. We have seen a growth from the point where we not recovering a lot of "slash" to the point where we captured 3 million m³. It was used to produce energy, pellets, in green houses and in pulp for chips. There are new and very exciting projects that are out there today.
- Gasification (Nexterra Energy). They have created a partnership with GE and are moving forward to create heat and electricity and moving forward with a proposal for 2011. They are working at UNBC, the plant is ¾'s built. It will be producing heat for the UNBC and circulating it throughout the building. CFs are well suited to take advantage of this because you can sell timber and non-

timber resources. We have also gone out with a phase two call for BC hydro.

- Growing trees more efficiently and faster. I challenge you to find better ways to manage resources. The Pacific Carbon Trust has issued a call for 3 million dollars to manage carbon offset and carbon credit opportunities. A \$100 investment in fertilization can yield a \$145 return in carbon offset. Drive your Growth & Yield opportunities through carbon offsets. For a 100 investment in fertilization can yield a 145 return in offsets over a short period of time. Get involved in the discussion on protocols with Pacific Carbon Trust. I encourage you to get involved in the discussion of carbon offsets and the development of protocols. I think it is important for all of us to be involved and it is an unusual opportunity. It is difficult to make changes in established policy. Develop a consolidated position and utilize your combined lobby power.
- China. The market growth that we have seen in China is absolutely enormous. If you go back four to five years ago, we had virtually no presence. When you think about the impact of the increase in the market, it now represents about 17% of the total volume we ship around the world.
- I was speaking to a man from Vanderhoof and he was called back earlier this year than he has been in 30 years. As of the end of first quarter, the shipments are running at 197% of last year. We are on track for 3 billion board feet this year.
- In the last few weeks we have had two announcements that have shown where these are coming from. Canfor mill completely metric - all for China and Tolko 400 million board feet into China
- One of the things that is always in the back of my mind is the Softwood Lumber Agreement. The current agreement expires in 2013. Wouldn't it be nice if we had another country that matched the volumes of the US? Wouldn't that put us into a better bargaining position? The discussion would be about how much you can send us not limiting the market. That is the direction.
- Working towards higher and better use of wood in construction. Larger non-residential construction. Cross laminated timber (CLT) edge glued 2x4 or 2x6 and then face glued panels. There was a nine story building built in England that was all wood (other than foundation). From the time the foundations were completed to lock up was 28 days. Total cost for construction was 4 million British Pounds. More importantly when you think about the amount of wood that was consumed, it was enormous. Seismically stable, green and energy efficient. CLT has huge potential. We are working to expand the opportunity. Currently there are only one or two plants in Europe. None in North America. We are working on establishing a plant here. This new material can displace much of what we currently build out of concrete.
- Land Base Investment Funds I am happy to tell you that we have set aside \$600k specific to CFs. And we will be going out on a call for projects such as brushing, spacing and fertilization. We have been under tremendous pressure on the FIA account but we have set aside those funds.
- I understand there has been some concern about the new First Nations Woodlands License. I actually just see this as being very complimentary to the BCCFA and I will be encouraging the FNs to participate in the BCCFA. You share the same values. You should be pursuing a strong working relationship aggressively because FNs will continue to be key players.

- Often times we forget about the folks that work in our forests. I was one of those individuals. Often times the attitude can be a bit cavalier. We have to change the way people think about safety in our forests. We have gone from a time where we averaged 20 deaths, to about 11. Still too many. We have reduced reportable accidents by 50% but the forest is a dangerous place to work and we need to make sure that is always in the window in front of us. Ask your contractors about their safety records and if they are Safe Certified.
- Question: The return on investment on fertilization? (How does it work?)
Minister Pat Bell: Through the Chief Forester's office we have done quite a bit of work on the incremental growth. Based on a value of about \$25/tonne, typically the return on investment for 2.5 - 3 cubic meters per year (mid quality site) that will put on incremental growth will yield a return of about \$145.
- Question: My name is Debbie Miller with the Katzie FN. For those of us who were declined (an opportunity to apply for a CFA), are we going to have to go through the process again?
Minister Pat Bell: Just send the letter again.
- Question: Under land based investment program, we are back to having the ministry deciding the priorities, how do we reverse that trend and get back on track for innovation?
Minister Pat Bell: The intent is not for the process to take a step back. The deficit is large and we have recently gone through workforce reductions. The FIA account has taken a hit, and so we are trying to focus on our key priorities: Advanced silvicultural practices. Our interest is to make sure that we are moving forward as cost efficiently as possible.
- Question: How do we move towards perspective of value as opposed to pursuit of volume? More dollars not more cubic metres.
Minister Pat Bell: I think there can be some validity and it depends where you are. Clearly coastal systems need to look at value not volume. Often times you hear people talk about value added, in a tough market you are not going to compete with Chinese people. You won't. In China, I was in a remanufacturing plant that was making large hemlock doors. These doors were spectacular. Here they would sell for around \$800. They were putting that door on the dock for \$58. I want to see an industry that sustains itself on the long-term and that leads you to the place where you need to do what you can do better than anyone else and in a tough market you will continue to operate when no one else does. This period we have just come through, but people probably don't realize that we have outlasted other provinces. We have the best mills in the world. There are guys like Kalesnikoff in the Kootenays and he will survive, but I think we have to stay focused on what we do really well. And what we do really well is grow and mill trees.
- Question: Can we expect any silviculture announcements?
Minister Pat Bell: John will be out having intense conversations throughout the province about what our options are.
- Question: You have spoken about identifying the areas that have potential for higher volume production? Can we use FIA funding to identify those sites?
Minister Pat Bell: Yes.

- Minister Bell was presented with a video of the Westbank First Nation and their community forest efforts from 1999-2006 by Grant Thompson.

Introduction to the Bridges Project: Linking Resources for Community Forests

In 2009 the BCCFA directors and membership identified a number of key activities and tools that would best support the development of Community Forests over the next few years. Given successful fundraising efforts and generous donations, the three priorities below will be addressed in BCCFA's new Bridges Project. Throughout the project BCCFA will be working with UBC Faculty of Forestry to lay the foundation for a long term extension program. Each project component was introduced through the conference sessions.

Bridges Part 1 - Community Forest Products: Development of Value-Added Fibre Supply Strategies

How do you get the right log, to the right person, at the right time? What is the best approach to turn our vertical round product into horizontal square products? In an informal session on Thursday evening and in this conference session participants addressed some key questions that will help to decide the best approach to this Bridges Project component. Community forest practitioners were joined by some members of the Independent Lumber Remanufacturer's Association and a few local value added manufacturers for the discussions.

Conference breakout groups addressed the following questions:

1. What information is required to create a database of suppliers and buyers?
 - Type of wood and harvesting timing
 - Available fibre: piece size, specs specific to timber frame or final products
 - Simple search with location and species on database.
 - Link from BCCFA database to seller and buyer's websites.
 - Include real specialties such as character wood and decorative pieces.
 - Create top level "window shopping"
 - Include non-timber resources
 - Update weekly/daily to keep it "alive"
 - Proximity analysis to match buyers and sellers
 - Take advantage of existing programs such as WOODEX
 - If you are going to be a Farmer's Market need to build up and maintain the BCCFA website.
 - Include biofuels
2. How do we organize logical groupings or clusters for supply relationships? Geographic? Species?
 - Geographic may not work because buyers need to look province wide for the product.

- Be persistent with relationships
 - Geographic coordination between CFAs can help to capture more of the market.
 - BCCFA can not take responsibility for organizing regions, but should be a clearing house for good ideas.
 - Location, attributes, amount, sell price, species.
 - Must be customer driven
 - Valhalla consulting has a program. Boss-HBS limited
3. How do we identify potential buyers?
- Advertizing and word of mouth
 - Develop the relationship between BCCFA and other organizations such as Interior Lumber Remanufacturers and the timber framers and log home builders
 - Don't underestimate the value of face-to-face
 - Brokers are an option, although more focused on volume rather than quality
 - Utilize local Chambers and Community Futures
4. Should we plan face to face meetings with CFAs and buyers? If so, when is the best time?
- Face to face is important. Don't rely solely on the computer to make relationships.
 - Utilize the BCFFA website, more effective.
5. Potential challenges and pitfalls?
- Issue with regulations and harvest times. One cutting permit is essential to allow for wood to come available when a buyer needs it.
 - Getting paid on time from small operators. Develop a good relationship will help.
 - Challenge to advertize small lots.
 - Transportation costs to market. Ramona from Harrop Proctor CF said for them it works within a 60 km.
6. What local Value Added initiatives are underway?
- H-P is milling their wood and creating finished lumber and flooring. Certification (FSC) helps them get a premium, but it is mostly eaten up in transportation costs.
7. Other
- Leap frog up the supply chain – skip the middle people.
 - Log brokers need to be a part of this. We need them involved.
 - Focus on high profile, broad based marketing strategies and materials. (global marketing materials)
 - Emphasize availability of CFA wood to small local buyers and underline COMMUNITY.

Bridges Part 2: Community Forest Management- Development of Planning Tools

This Bridges Project component will develop a guide and appropriately scaled tools for Forest Management Planning for the Community Forest Agreement beginning at the application phase and will link with subsequent and incremental long term planning. Ken Day with the UBC Alex Fraser Research Forest is the lead on this project component. Ken made the following points as he introduced the project.

- Are you tired of writing plans that are just compliance but not really expressing what you want to do on the ground? Question to the group - When you wrote your Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) how did you do it?
Answer: Went to default
- At outset of the application, you all did a management plan. How do you measure if your activities are taking you to your stated goals?
- This project is intended to help you to understand and accomplish forest management for our area based tenures at the landscape level, manage electron data and demonstrate targets to the community.



Sally Sellars from Likely Xatsull CF and Gina Thomas from Forrex/FN Forestry Council

Participants broke into small groups to address the following questions:

1. How does your community forest manage data?
 - a. Maps
 - b. Electronic Submissions
 - c. Liabilities, Obligations, deadlines
2. Your community forest set long term goals and objectives as part of your application.
 - a. What process did you use to determine those?
 - b. What tools do you use to implement those on the landbase?
3. In BC the general Timber Harvesting Landbase is a set of stands managed for timber with constraints. Community Forests, however, are forests managed for objectives, with timber as an outcome. What tools do you need to help you understand the following things at the forest level?
 - a. Risks
 - b. Priorities
 - c. Objectives
 - d. Harvest planning

Summary

- Data management is a significant issue for Community Forests – we spend a lot of money on consultants or time on in-house expertise, or we use paper maps that are hard to store, out of date, and difficult to integrate and analyze.

- It seems that a majority of Communities are using GIS to manage and interpret map data.
 - Electronic submissions are mostly prepared by consultants.
 - Obligations are kept in various forms – Phoenix database by DR Systems was mentioned several times, but many Communities are using spreadsheets or paper files.
- Goals and objectives directing forest management are either contained in documents (Application, Forest Management Plan) or developed through various types of community consultation in an ongoing way. Board vision is an important component of the process of determining goals and objectives. The achievement of goals and objectives is monitored in a variety of ways, particularly by relying on good professional staff, or by tracking indicators.
 - Communities need tools to help identify and manage risk at the forest level. A good inventory is important, but is generally lacking. Funding is necessary to upgrade inventories, but other risk-related issues such as finances, safety, and liability that affect the business enterprise were at the top of mind for many. There was very little linkage evident between risk, priority for action, objectives and harvest planning.

Over the next two years, the Bridges Forest Management component will seek to do three things:

1. Find ways to help communities reduce their cost and improve their efficiency in managing data.
2. Reinforce the importance of Goals, objectives, and monitoring to ensure that Community Forests develop in a sustainable fashion that helps a community achieve its larger goals.
3. Develop tools to help communities manage risk in a transparent way throughout all of their business and land management activities.

Bridges Part 3: Community Forest Governance- Development of Educational Resources

The Governance component of the Bridges Project will produce educational resources for internal policy development and organizational design for Community Forests. As a starting point for this work, the conference session turned a focus on the different mechanisms being used for organizational design and distribution of profits back to the community. The session included presentation of examples, and the benefits, pitfalls and lessons learned through implementation.

Models for Distribution of Benefits

Bella Coola – Hans Granander

- At the beginning we used the Community Forest Guidebook and contacted BCCFA Members. We took their advice to keep the politics out of it, and run it as a business.
- We formed a Non Profit Society, where members paid a one time \$5 fee.
- The Regional District has one seat reserved on the Board of Directors.
- Then formed a company made up of 63 local investors. We raised \$253,000. They elect a board of directors, they have the rights to manage the license, which is held by the Society

- The Shareholders receive the profits. And the Society....They have a 15% share. No entity can have more than a 15% voting share.
- We have only been operating for 2 years, so have had no distribution of benefits.
- We also have a community advisory group (targeted group) that advises the Society and the company. The Society board will decide how to distribute their 15%.
- Question: How does it affect your tax structure? Hans: Don't know.
- Question: Is there pressure to do another intake? Another share offering? Hans: We might if we need to raise additional capital, then we would offer more?

Wetzinkwa – Lisa Ambus

- The CFA is held by a numbered company. There are two 50% shareholders: Village of Telkwa and the Town of Smithers.
- This year they have \$150,000 for grants. There are a few direct awards to organizations that Wetzinkwa has MOUs with. Then there is a competitive process based on the Mountain Equipment Co-op (MEC) grants program. Max grant is \$15,000. Grants have gone to a wide variety of community organizations.



Lisa Ambus and Jen in front of the new Community Forest Map. Thanks to Gord Borgstrom and Hugh Flinton of the Community Development Ministry and Alex Masun from ILMB for making it happen.

- Grants are only available to a charitable organization or non profits.
- Any profits that they don't need for reserve funds go to the grants program.
- The shareholders don't receive any money.
- The process, call for proposals, recipients etc. are all posted on the Wetzinkwa website.
- Question: Are you out to make as much money as you can or do your policies promote other values that might limit your amount of profit? Lisa: The mission is about having a viable CFA, but also about good stewardship.

McBride Community Forest – Marc von der Gonna

- The Village of Mc Bride set up a corporation, wholly owned by the Village. We act as a business, and do not put the tax payers at risk.
- Any money we make we pay back to the Village as a dividend. Projects are funded both within and outside of the Village limits. They use the dividends to leverage other funds.
- We also felt that we should do more in terms of a small grant and aid program. As a manager, I felt it was not my job to dispense funds – too political. The Board set up a program where anything up to \$250 Marc can decide on and anything else is decided upon by the board.

- We do about \$10 – 20,000 /year in the grant and aid program. There are 2 intakes annually, and the board decides.
- Through Northern Development Initiative Trust, we started a Community Development Trust. They matched our contribution. There is a community group that distributes funds annually – it is at arms length from the company. The interest made on the fund is paid out annually.
- The key issue is managing expectations. There are differing expectations about employment and distribution of benefits, hiring local (maybe even at a loss), and selling wood locally.
- Our policy is that all local businesses should pay a fair price, at least close to market price. The CF does not want to prop up businesses that aren't viable in the marketplace.
- It is very important to be clear with these policies from the beginning, including hiring local.
- Question: If you sell too much below market price, can it be seen as a subsidy by the Softwood Lumber Agreement? Jen: Not sure, something to research.
- Question: Which CFAs have a policy to donate funds to the local community foundation? Burns Lake, McBride; Likely; Cheslatta; Slocan; Kaslo all donate funds to community foundations

Wells Gray Community Forest Society– Ted Richardson

- We do not have a municipality, but are structured as a Society.
- In 2003, we looked at a separate entity for our community forest organization and we chose the North Thompson Community Foundation.
- We originally thought that our shares would be held by the Foundation also. Once we got into the details, there were issues. The Foundation was not interested in holding the shares. They were only interested in taking our funds. So we did not go that route but decided that the profits would be distributed by the Foundation.
- Canada Revenue Agency has strict rules about how funds are distributed by a Foundation and our local one was bound by those rules. When funds were needed in the community, people would come to the CFA and request funds, but we couldn't help because the distribution of funds went through the Foundation. The CFA found that the foundation model didn't work for our goal to be able to be responsive to local needs in a timely fashion.
- We have done some direct awards in cases where there is broad community support. We did it this year, and then had to shut down that process because we started to get more demands. So far there has not been debate in the community about where the funds would go.
- We would still like to give the Foundation some funds for their own process, but we don't want them to be the sole mechanism for distributing funds. It is too cumbersome and too slow. We want to be able to make quick decisions.

Likely Xatsull Community Forest – Robin Hood

- The CFA is a 50/50 partnership between the Likely and the Xatsull FN communities. Each holds 50% of the shares in the limited company.

- Every year, we set profits aside. They are split 50/50 between the 2 communities to disperse as they choose.
- Some joint projects. Firewood for elderly and single moms.
- Likely disperses their share on the dot-mocracy model. All projects are submitted and posted on the walls of the community hall. People vote for their favorite projects with their specific number of dots. The projects with the most dots win until the money runs out. Tourism projects are consistently the priority.
- Xatsull profits are distributed by chief and council. They used some funds to leverage for their community/health centre.

Westbank FN - Grant Thompson

- In 2002 Westbank achieved self government. Made us independent. Tax payers on the reserve – 6500 non-band member residents.
- Westbank FN Development Corporation. Heartland is the prime company which manages the CFA. Chief and Council appoints a board of directors. Heartland was born 20 years ago.
- There are 2 sets of revenue streams. The first is that 90 percent of the expenses come to the reserve first through our contractors. We do not have a formal structure as to the distribution of profits.
- Profitable the last 5 years. We are a business and are not subsidized.

Field Tour participants



First Nations Dialogue Session

The goal of this session was to widen the circle of understanding, respect and connections between First Nations and Community Forests. Participants were invited to share their experiences of what works and what doesn't as First Nations and non- First Nations work together. Ellen Simmons of the En'owkin Center and Forrex was the resource person for this session.

- Ellen spoke about a First Nations needs assessment recently conducted through Forrex. The assessment was to focus on the natural resource information and knowledge needs of the communities themselves, and identify factors that may limit their participation in natural resource management.
- A strong message was you cannot just go out there and practice "indigenous knowledge" or "aboriginal forestry". That knowledge is woven tightly together with an essential cultural value of respect for the land and living with the land.
- There is a tendency to create silos around "indigenous knowledge" or "aboriginal forestry" and that knowledge is not given as much importance as western science. The silos create a protection of indigenous knowledge and the story of what actually happened on the land base thousands of years ago.
- First Nations stories can provide long term historical information about ecosystems and their functioning that western science often has limited information about. There multiple values in learning how to incorporate indigenous knowledge into forest management and a healthy sustainable land base.
- Community Forests have an opportunity to explore ways to use indigenous knowledge alongside western science. Through that process, respectful relationships can be built with First Nation neighbours and partners.
- An example of incorporating indigenous knowledge into forest management: A couple of days ago we had a field trip of our cultural areas and the Chief was with us and he told us that the place we were in was where they would traditionally collect young Douglas fir for their dip nets. So now we can adjust our prescriptions and work with that information.
- Ted Richardson, Wells Gray Community Forest: One of the issues we are dealing with right now is an expansion of our community forest. We work directly with First Nation (FN) members on our board. Our approach is to work together and by relationship building, we can approach the government so that we can both succeed.
- Grant Thompson, Westbank FN: The West Bank First Nation has demonstrated what quality of life can be achieved when FN people can participate in social and economic activities in the larger community. Example is the new Kelowna Bridge that the WFN had an opportunity to work on. From the WFN perspective the four opportunities in a community forest are:
 1. Manage forests within WB territory
 2. Meaningful employment our prime contractor is a fourth generation contractor who could not get good local employment
 3. Revenue
 4. Capacity development

Through the CF WFN has demonstrated their capacity to manage the land base and create meaningful opportunities. 80-90% of revenue goes into road building and silviculture on the CF but even that revenue stays here in the community as jobs and purchases.

- Debbie Miller who works for the Katzie FN expressed her frustration at their inability to secure a CFA. They are in Treaty Negotiations and have always made it clear that they wanted an area based tenure. They have worked hard with local NGOs and collaborated with other sectoral interests to secure support and have demonstrated that to government. Yet there has been no action on part of government towards offering a tenure in their traditional territory. There are lots of other people who would like to be here too but would feel out of place or not be able to afford the cost. It creates an “us and them” situation.
- Jennifer Gunter: I really value what you have said here and particularly our reflections on the group and the Association. Part of the reason we have these dialogue sessions is to figure out how the BCCFA can better serve our FN members and reach out to FNs that aren’t members. We are a virtual organization and work remotely. We place a lot of value on these chances that we have to come together. So to hear that this kind of forum is formal and maybe intimidating is very good feedback.
- Dan Chervenke, Bella Coola: We have a very good working relationship with the Nuxalk FNs. They wanted to do some logging; they did not have their license in place so we invited them to come onto our license. We met several times with them and let them know that if anytime they need any help just to contact us and we would be there.
- Ramona, Harrop Proctor: Our FN partner was key in getting our license and that was very valuable in teaching us that people are busy. There are a lot of referrals coming at FN people in our area. In the process to becoming FSC certified there was a requirement to get to know our neighbors and the true tenure holders of the land. We learned a lot about patience and dialogue.
- Susan Mulkey: Our aboriginal partners can help us with reshaping our timeframe for forest management.

Aligning with the New Economy – Panel Presentation and Discussion

It has been said that carbon management is like a cloud. You can see it but can't touch it. There is enormous misconception and misinformation circulating about opportunities for carbon credits and bio-mass. As well, there is a wide spectrum of ideas and projects underway that are receiving mixed reviews. Policy direction for carbon offsetting on crown forest tenures is still under development. Yet, community forests want to be ready and not foreclose on future options. The goal of these sessions is to inform BCCFA strategic planning activities and to equip community forests with the information they need to be a ready and nimble player in the new economy.

Community Forests and BC Carbon Sequestration Policy - Jeff Monty, RPF, Forest and Agriculture Associate, Pacific Carbon Trust

What role can Community Forests play in offsetting greenhouse gas emissions? Jeff Monty with the [Pacific Carbon Trust](#), a Crown corporation of the Government of BC, created to deliver greenhouse gas offsets, gave us the low down on the opportunities and barriers for Community Forests in forest based carbon offset projects. Link to the presentation

Fast Facts:

- 50% of the dry weight of wood is carbon
- 1m³ wood contains 0.25 tons of carbon
- When burned 1 m³ releases 1 ton of CO₂
- 1 ton of CO₂ has a volume of 557m³
- The carbon contained in a 1m³ of wood is equal to the carbon in 350 litres of gasoline
- Carbon offset potential : Tonne of CO₂ = 557m³



Jeff Monty and conference participants

There are four types of Forest Carbon projects:

- Afforestation is putting trees back – June 14th proposal deadline
- Improved – Silviculture practices including fertilization, spacing, limbing. Must establish a baseline. Only get credit for the additional volume. To qualify as a project there must be an incremental difference. Risk management needs to be factored in.
- Conservation- Management reserve – must provide a risk management guarantee (fire)
- Reforestation – The planting and use of improved seed. To qualify for this type of project the reforestation must be incremental to the basic requirements under local law. Based on sequestered carbon. For us it would be the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA). Since improved seed is a requirement under FRPA, and since FRPA requires reforestation of harvested sites incremental reforestation on CFAs would be difficult to achieve

To be effective at reducing greenhouse gas carbon offset projects must:

- produce measurable results. Measurement protocol is the key
- prevent leakage
- produce additional reductions
- produce reductions with some permanence

- be managed according to protocols
- be validated and verified

Question: What is an example of improved forest management project?

Jeff Monty: incremental silviculture system

Question: If already doing incremental silviculture, does baseline rise?

Jeff Monty: No, base line is basic silviculture

Question: Prices?

Jeff Monty: Based on risk, greater risk = lower price

Question: What is the stability of Pacific Carbon Trust (PCT)?

Jeff Monty: PCT in for long term

Question: Is it retroactive?

Jeff Monty: Yes -to Nov. 29, 2007

Question: What about ownership of carbon credits on crown land?

Jeff Monty: The crown has to transfer credits-no licenses include carbon

Community Forests and Carbon Credit Opportunities: Are they too good to be true? Brian Smart, RPF, RPBio

What options are being considered by a coastal community forest to plan for carbon sequestration opportunities? Brian R. Smart, RPF, RPBio. from Smart Forest Biomass Ltd. and the [Sunshine Coast Community Forest](#) and Kevin Davie, Ops Manager of the Sunshine Coast community Forest told us about their investigation into factoring in carbon stock in their forest management decisions and to separate fact from fiction. The presentation really gives a lot of useful information if you are reading this and considering management of carbon on your CFA.

Link to presentation



Brian Smart and Kim Allen at the banquet at work on their winning strategy in the Community Forest name

- Is the idea of money for not cutting trees on your community forest too good to be true?? In this presentation we aim to dispel the myths.
- CFAs are a license to harvest and sell crown timber, not water, not deer, not carbon.
- The Crown owns the carbon resource.
- Community forests are designed to *utilize* merchantable timber for the benefit of the community *not conserve it*. Government must look at social advantages to sequester. What is the best use and opportunity in a CFA in light of carbon credits?
- The truth about the CFA situation is that:

- crown owns carbon
- C FA owns wood rights
- can't sell future sequestration at this time
- Pacific Carbon Trust, the Provincial government's CC procurement corporation, will buy CFA CCs, but only of three types of improved management:
 - Use of select seed (*not eligible as it is already a requirement*)
 - Fertilization (*only since 2007 and many protocols don't support fertilization*) Fertilization could be eliminated – urea and production costs – many protocols don't support fertilization
 - Afforestation (*only carbon sequestered since 2007*)

Summary

- If it sounds too good to be true, it is.
- Trees do not provide carbon credits on their own, management does. *You don't get paid for nothing.*
- Compare all potential projects to the base case
- Forest carbon is a Provincial resource to be utilized for the benefit of the Province as a whole. Socio-economic benefits of timber utilization must be compared to those of carbon management.
- Provincial mechanisms are not fully developed – stay tuned.

Bio-mass Energy, David Dubois, Green Heat Initiative

David Dubois of the [Green Heat Initiative](#) gave a good review of this rapidly growing alternative for post harvest and mill waste. Learn about the current issues, relevant information on bio-mass energy opportunities and about systems and technologies to meet community needs. Link to the presentation

- The Green Heat Initiative is a free service and an independent source of information. Through the program they are interested in helping to establish 18 new projects in the north.
- Helping to develop the technical side towards a shelf ready project. They can do a heat assessment in your community to see what your costs could be based on the right size. They assess potential-needs assessment and availability and provide project support through independent info and education
- Over 90% efficient approaching same emissions as natural gas



- Bioenergy is one piece of the puzzle not the only solution
- The best idea for bioenergy projects: Start small and grow large- What buildings, what structures in your community can you convert?

Feedstock Supply Logistics - Challenges & Opportunities for Biofuels, Ken Day, UBC, Alex Fraser Research Forest

Ken Day of the [Alex Fraser Research Forest](#) is a forest manager of a small, area-based operation. Ken gave a presentation that addressed the realities of fuel supply logistics and land management for small scale bio-mass energy production from his unique research-to-boots-on-the-ground perspective. You are encouraged to have a look at the full presentation. The presentation has excellent information that will help community forest managers in the development of their own biofuel management program. Link to the presentation

Based on learnings from Finland, Sweden, and 6 pilot projects in the Cariboo, Ken shared his observations. The following is a summary:

- Observation 1 In terms of bioenergy projects – engineers are in charge. And they don't understand forest management and operations
- Observation 2 - Small is good – agrees with David. Convert waste to cost savings. At this point using biofuels for heating is a good idea. Biofuels for electricity is still inefficient if on the grid, since electricity is still inexpensive.
- Observation 3 - Biomass from the forest has a cost. Can't afford to make it if someone can't afford to pay for it. Ken needs an average of at least \$40/m³ of logs to bring a product to the gate
- If you want to source biomass from the woods \$40/m³ equates to about 0.67¢/kW of heat or CHP, or 1.67¢/kW of electricity only
- Observation 4 –
 - Emerging demand must develop according to future supply capacity
 - Caution about building a demand for biofuels based on the beetle wood.
 - Can our forest ecosystems sustain all the demand for wood, and still continue to keep BC "Supernatural"?
- Don't treat biofuels like waste but as a product that is managed for. Need to develop a culture that we are manufacturing product not managing waste



- Moisture content must be consistent. Important to stack and cover
- Can create conflicting management objectives with coarse woody debris requirements.
- Gather in spring – stack to dry in summer – can rut the place if you go in when the ground is wet.
- Oven dried ton = ODt
- Best to chip right into the trucks in the field
- Trucking – need lots of logistical planning – need room to move around
- Winter operations are a problem. Not unlike gathering firewood. Better to gather and bring in when it is dry.

Community Forest Strategy Sessions

Community Forest Branding and Marketing

What is next? How do we build on the momentum of our work over the past year including our film, the new brochure and the podium project? The BCCFA Board of Directors facilitated this strategy setting session. The format was an open discussion and the points raised will be incorporated by the Board in planning for the next steps and linkages with the Bridges Value Added project.

The following are comments that were made in the open discussion session:

- Lower North Thompson CFA: We have used a professional marketing consultant to help us come up with our brand. It cost about \$7000.
- Do we know what we are branding? Have we established what the message is that we have tied to the products? We need to get the fundamentals first.
- BCCFA started some of this work through the messaging of our brochure and DVDs.
- The DVD is great - Use the DVD
- Dave McCrae of FP Innovations: The DVD is amazing and the brochure is confusing. I'm confused about your story. The brochure is about the belief systems you have. We hired a consultant: What is the story that the customer is going to be interested in. They are interested in supporting communities, not so interested in local management. BC Wood – Where is BC Wood as a connection for BCCFA? They have a network in BC, Canada and around the world.
- BC Wood has some criteria that make it difficult for a CFA to get involved. A certain % of your business has to be in manufactured goods. As a group we may be able to do that.



BCCFA 2009-2010 Board of Directors

Left to right : Marc von der Gonna, Ross Hamilton, Kevin Davie, Robin Hood, Jack Mc Leman, Grant Thompson, Ramona Faust

- Between organic and industry, we have an opportunity to market ourselves without a high cost. Support local, 100 Mile Diet mentalities. There is a market for local wood.
- If BCCFA establishes an effective brand, someone is going to want to use it. Once it is successful, people will want to use it and needs to be protected. Rob Kozak has a marketing bent in his work at UBC and we should develop this connection through the Bridges project.
- Be careful not to say that we are not part of the industry. We are different but we are part of the industry. Maybe a smaller % of what comes out of a community forest can be marketed as the farmers market.
- Customers ask: Are You FSC Certified, comes every time? Are you sustainable? You're not industry or associated with boreal or coastal forest.
- Move to sustainable or local... has broader appeal. The farmers market is not very catchy and meaningful at a bigger scale.
- Brochures should have a spot for each CFA to use their own logo and contact information. Buyers need to be able to contact individual CFAs.
- We need to clarify if we are talking branding or self-certifying? If you are self-certifying then you have to sell that to the certifying people – you are talking about quasi certification.
- Managing for the future, managing for the long term, managing for the local. These are the things we share in common, and they are the beginning of our branding.
- Certification – is millions of dollars to create a new scheme, and you should never get into that.

- We have this tenure – managed by the community with the benefits back to the community. We don't want our certification system. We can sell us on our own virtues.
- Do you think people know what community forestry means? This is the first step – education. Show, don't tell. There is need for an education program. People do care once they know, but they don't know about community forestry yet. BCCFA's role should be at the strategic level because every CFA is different. Emphasize the commonality and provide education.
- Pacific Reforestation Technologies (PRT, a tree nursery) is in the Shwag business. They give seedlings. CFA Shwag could go to tradeshow.
- We should be careful of when we borrow metaphors. Farmers Market – we are not agriculturalists –farming trees.
- The expertise that the marketing people have is very helpful. They asked us to have real clarity of on what we want to achieve: usually you want to have more volume of people buying your project, or to get a premium on your project. You go to your customers and find out why they would want to buy your product and pay more. Do we want to move more product? If we can sell everything, then the next question is do we want to get more \$\$.
- The marketing of CFs as "sustainable" is confusing. I think the marketing of CFs as creating the "sustainable communities" is more the story. Healthy communities where the jobs/profit stay in the community.
- BCCFA should host an electronic mailing list (same as the current listserv used for membership correspondence) for buyers/sellers to advertise through....similar to www.WoodX.com but could help connect smaller buyers (house logs/timbers/etc) with sellers.....a single email would give instantaneous notification to all potential buyers when products are available (ex. If i have a load of fir house logs for sale, could advertise this along with my name and contact info). Same could apply for buyers as could advertise if looking for something specific. The biggest benefits to this are that it would save time (log sale calls), improve existing connections, and help create new ones between buyers and sellers. Sign up would be optional through BCCFA website, and could be split into regional mailing lists to focus on local connections.
- The other thing to think about is the consequences of branding – if we become so successful then we might get on the radar for Softwood Lumber Agreement.
- Parallels with Fair Trade Coffee. Can we connect with the people that created that and learn from their experience?
- What is the problem statement? Is there a lack of local markets, a lack of awareness? The current brochure doesn't have a clear audience, and so it is confusing. It's not clear what you trying to achieve.

The Future of Community Forestry: Meeting the Challenges for Existing, New and Wannabes*

What are the key issues and challenges for communities involved in or wanting to be a part of the community forest program? While the number of CFAs has increased rapidly in the last decade, they still only represent 1.5% of the provincial AAC. In line with Roundtable recommendation #23, the Minister of Forests and Range has committed to expanding the program. The challenge is to find a way to allocate more volume and area to Community Forest Agreements. This session explored different options for a program expansion.

**Wannabees is the friendly BCCFA term given to communities with no CFA, and no invitation for one, yet who are interested in securing a CFA.*

Marc von der Gonna, Chair of the Community Forest Program Expansion Committee, presented the work to date and the options developed by the Board (see below).

The following options were presented by the BCCFA to the Minister of Forests and Range on May 31, 2010

Option 1: Amalgamation of BCTS chart areas

Each CFA would have a chance to expand into surrounding BCTS chart area. The area would be identified as category C land with its own separate AAC from the original CF chart area. Sales, managed by the CFA holder, would meet the data requirements for MPS and the Softwood Lumber Agreement.

Option 2: Re-alignment of the Available AAC in BCTS Chart Areas.

The Province would initiate a timber supply analysis of its own BCTS chart areas and the uplift of AAC would be assigned to CFs.

Option 3: CFs Purchase Volume

CFs would purchase volume and re-pay province over a specified time period.

Underpinning this work is a number of key principles that we believe must be upheld:

- The integrity of the CFA tenure must be maintained. CFAs are, by legislation, area-based and have the exclusive right to harvest timber.
- To be a community forest, the license must be managed by the community. This is the cornerstone of community forests.
- The Management Plan must be developed by the community.
- The government objectives of the program must be met and the unique characteristics of the requirements for a CFA must be upheld.
- Any mechanism for expansion must not affect the current pricing of CFAs, or subject them to increased scrutiny through the SLA.

Group discussion points:

- You need to make a clear statement to the public that you are looking at expanding both existing CFAs and getting new ones. The potential for conflict is that you are all representing existing CFAs – and you want to expand. Woodlands tenure will need space on the ground as well. There may be competition

- BCCFA is planning a survey. We want to include wannabe communities that aren't part of the BCCFA. It is important to understand what the current interest is for additional CFA opportunities.
- In Williams Lake, there is a case to ask BCTS to rationalize their area again. How much ground do they need to provide their cut? BCTS is still undersubscribed by 1.5% , so if they reinventory, they may take the volume

Jim Langridge made the following comments:

- If you are going to work with BCTS, you have to find something that works for them and Option 1 is the closest. The reason BCTS got the area they did is because it is representative. If you take an area out, another place has to be found in the TSA. They landed their volumes based on the representative sample.
- Rather than just going to BCTS do look at the majors operating areas as well. When we took the 20 percent (less 200 K m3) from the major licensees volumes, we divided it between BCTS (4M m3), First Nations (3M m3) and small tenures (1.2M m3). We then conducted a rigorous program of operating area determination for the BCTS volumes so that we could be assured of representative areas for pricing purposes. Those areas came from the major licensee operating areas. Since that time, we have placed some First Nations tenures and CFAs/WLs on the landbase. The majors, who often are the mills that purchase logs from the FNs and small tenures, have put subtle pressure on those parties to locate whenever possible in the BCTS operating areas rather than further eroding the major's operating areas.
- At this point, the majors have given up the 20 percent of their license volumes but have arguably only given up maybe 60-70 percent of the area that would be needed to support that AAC. What I was pointing out was that any further areas for CFAs, FNWLs, etc should come first from the majors operating areas before going after BCTS. If the BCTS area is taken then BCTS will have to look at the major's operating areas for replacement areas that have similar characteristics so that BCTS retains the representative pricing areas.
- The reason for 20% BCTS unsold was because of the market. In the management units, the AAC will start to be impacted because of beetle and other social decisions – AACs will start to go down. There is going to be competition for area as we land the FN Woodlands License. This will make expansion that more difficult in the short term.
- 12 – 20% Pat Bell was talking about includes WLs, CFAs and FNWLs.

Principles to consider:

- We don't want to be in a position where we have to compete against other community-based groups. UBCM is a good vehicle to push for change.
- We need to help the Minister by offering solutions.
- Part of the challenge is finding an area that is meaningful to the communities. We want to work with the ministry and not be adversarial.

Communities that are interested in expanding their areas:

- Wells Gray wants to expand, but our local FN would also like to have a CFA on the same area. We've decided that we will work together and have greater clout. The FN has said they would like both a CFA, and a FNWL. Option 2 – Updated inventories would help us make better decisions.
- On Haida Gwaii we are pursuing all of these options. We were offered initial volume, then more with a BCTS partnership. We said that's not at all what we asked for. And then BCTS said the same. But it might be the only option. For a small part of the puzzle, we might make it work. The community will do the sales, so it won't be a partnership, but they will provide info to MPS. On Haida Gwaii there is a goal to have all of the forests managed by the communities and the Nation. TFL 60 is going to be acquired by the Haida soon. We would like to bring our 80,000 m3 into a partnership with them.
- The Kaslo story is that the major industry licensee surrounding us is basically bankrupt, but MOFR doesn't want the bad press of them going down. They have 75,000 m3 and they are asking 2-3 million. Option 3 is of interest to us. Option 1 has me jumping out of my boots. The majors would try to get the wood as cheaply as possible, and this is not where you want to be. SLA is a red herring. They have no interest in CFAs as long as the logs are going to the open market.
- HP is interested in an expansion, and it is BCTS that holds the area that we want. Reinventory of the TSA might be an option.
- Wells has been invited to apply for 5,000. This seems that it may be below borderline feasible. I'm hoping we can get some more volume down the road.
- Esketemc FN CFA is 26,000 ha, and the AAC was 15,000 m3. There is opportunity to expand to 20,000 on the condition that appropriate area can be found. They are identifying extra area for the expansion of the CFA. 60% is mule deer winter range, and half of that is in OGMAs. In the Cariboo, there may be 20% of the BCTS volume that is not being sold and could be up for grabs.

Next Steps

- The board will continue to have conversations with the MFR to explore the options.
- A meeting will be set up with the Minister to discuss the issues
- A survey will be conducted to assess the actual need for additional volume from CFA licensees and applicants. "Wannabe" communities that do not have an invite will also be contacted to include their interest for volume for a CFA in the analysis.
- UBCM will be utilized as a venue to further the cause with the local government as advocates.

Banquet and Silent Auction

Thank you to all who donated to the silent auction. Over \$800 was generated and fun was had by all. The money will be directed to 2011 conference fees support.



Fun at the banquet. Yes, many of us tried out the segway, courtesy of John Henderson from the Sunshine coast Community Forest. Photos top row left to right: Erik Leslie and Stephan Martineau; Jack Mc Leman and friend; Dave McRae and Jennifer Gunter; Second row: Evan Putterill on the segway, John Henderson and Tony Greenfield; Susan Mulkey, Evan and Andrea Inwards; Jennifer, John and friend. Third row Marc and Tracy von der Gonna; Kevin Davie, Kim Allan (with his Value Village jacket, given to the winning team at the Robin Hood Invitational Golf tournament) and Brian Smart; Buffet line up

Speaker Profiles

Chief Robert Louie

Order of Canada - 2006

Bachelor of Law, LLB, University of Victoria – 1982 Graduate

Business Commerce Courses – 2 years

Business Administration Diploma, Okanagan University College – 1975 Graduate

Chief Louie is an Okanagan business owner/operator with several successful enterprises over the past 20 years. With his wife Bernice he shares a family of three children. Louie was Chief for the Westbank First Nation Council from 1986 through 1996 returning to office in 2002 and re-elected in 2004.

After passing the bar in 1984, Louie entered the private practice of law until becoming involved in aboriginal governance. He was subsequently appointed as the Chairman of the First Nations Lands Advisory Board and was elected as a Task Group member of the First Nations Summit. His experience led to an invitation to become involved in B.C. treaty negotiations representing the Chiefs of British Columbia.

Honourable Pat Bell

Pat Bell was re-appointed Minister of Forests and Range and appointed Minister Responsible for the Integrated Land Management Bureau on June 10, 2009. He was re-elected as MLA for Prince George-Mackenzie on May 12, 2009. He was first appointed Minister of Forests and Range on June 23, 2008. He previously served as Minister of Agriculture and Lands as well as Minister of State for Mining. Minister Bell was elected to represent the riding of Prince George North in the 2001 election and re-elected in 2005.

He has served on the Government Caucus Committee on Natural Resources and B.C. Task Force on Mining, and as chair of the Small Scale Salvage Review Committee. Minister Bell has also served on the Legislative Select Standing Committees on Education and Crown Corporations.

Prior to becoming an MLA, Minister Bell owned a trucking company and co-owned a logging company. He owns two Wendy's Restaurants in Prince George.

Ken Day

Ken Day is the Manager of the Alex Fraser Research Forest in Williams Lake, B.C. Ken came to UBC in 1987, after working for various consultants and sawmills in the Okanagan Valley.

Ken received his Honours Bachelor of Science in Forestry from Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario, and has been a Registered Professional Forester since 1982. In 1998 he received his Masters of Forestry from UBC, focusing on the management of uneven-aged Douglas-fir in the IDF.

Ken is married and has two children.

Brian Smart

Brian is an RPF and RPBio forest management consultant based in Halfmoon Bay. His experience spans work with many ministries, First Nations, and private land owners. He is the planning forester with the Sunshine Coast Community Forest and has also worked with the Klahoose FN on their CFA.

His expertise is in habitat, natural resource and biodiversity management. He is working on both crown and private land carbon offset credit projects and recently investigating opportunities for community forests.

Brian is an avid photographer and many of his nature shots grace the new BCCFA website.

David Dubois

David Dubois was hired as project coordinator for the Northern Rural and Remote Communities Green Heat Initiative in October of 2009.

David grew up in the small northern Alberta town of High Level, where he lived for 18 years. He attended the University of Alberta in Edmonton and received a degree in Chemical Engineering, in 1995.

His first job involved research into the bio-filtration of ambient air. David transitioned into the finance industry and was an auditor for GE Commercial Distribution Finance, followed by sales and marketing in the transportation industry.

David's broad experience in research, finance, transportation, and technical training; coupled with living in a small isolated community has provided him perspective around the needs of rural and remote communities and the many challenges they face.

Jeff Monty

Jeff Monty brings over 31 years of forestry experience to his role as Pacific Carbon Trust's Forestry and Agriculture Associate. A professional forester, Jeff has broad experience in both the public and not-for-profit sectors.

At the BC Ministry of Forests and Range, Jeff was manager responsible for scaling, cruising and waste assessments for the province. Jeff also served in the Forest Inventory Branch of the ministry, completing BC's first carbon analysis of Crown land.

As President and CEO of Tree Canada Foundation, Jeff and his team raised \$3.5 million in sponsorships and donations, resulting in the planting of over 76 million trees across Canada. Their work garnered a runner up prize at the prestigious 2007 Canadian Environment Awards.

At the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs in Whitehorse, Yukon, Jeff acted as Regional Manager of Forest Resources, responsible for forest planning, inventory, forest renewal, land claims implementation, harvesting, regulations and stumpage.

Jeff received his BSc in Forestry from the University of New Brunswick. He also holds a Certificate in Public Administration from the University of Alberta. He is a certified association executive (CAE) and registered professional forester (RPF) in BC.

At home and at work, Jeff is a passionate advocate for the environment.

Ellen Simmons

Ellen Simmons is currently working with the En'owkin Center and Forrex. The En'owkin Centre is an Indigenous cultural, educational and creative arts institution located in Penticton, BC, which offers university/college transfer diplomas and certificate programs. She is a biology instructor at the En'owkin Centre that has an alternate focus on the use of Indigenous Knowledge.

Ellen is also the IRF (Interdepartmental Recovery Fund) project manager for Ecommunity Place, working with the Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) Specialist, the Ecommunity Place Project that is enhancing and restoring the habitat for six identified (nationally listed) Species at Risk.

For Forrex, Ellen is an Indigenous Knowledge Extension Person. Previously, Ellen has had experience in the NWT where she developed a forestry consulting company that specialized in ecosystem restoration, which included ongoing working relationships with members of the Dene Nation in the Northwest Territories.

Ellen holds a Bachelor of Science in forest management from the University of British Columbia and is a Forester in Training. Additionally, she represents the En'owkin Centre as a board director for the Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Alliance.

Her interests and expertise range from the flora of boreal forests to silviculture, ecosystem restoration, and Traditional Ecological Knowledge.