



2021 BCCFA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

DAY 1: THURSDAY OCTOBER 21, 2021

8:00am -
8:15am

Welcome

Susan Mulkey – Manager of Communication and Extension, BC Community Forest Association

Harley Wright, President of the BCCFA and chair of the Lower North Thompson Community Forest

First Nations welcome

- Jordan Coble, Westbank First Nation councillor and President of Ntityix Resources (Westbank Community Forest)

Jennifer Gunter, Executive Director, BC Community Forest Association

Sponsor Acknowledgements

We recognize the traditional, unceded Coast Salish Territory of the Lekwungen and W̱SÁNEĆ nations peoples where the BCCFA headquarters is located and the First Nations within whose unceded lands the Village of Kaslo (where our conference technical hub is located) including the Ktunaxa, Sinixt, and syilx people.

8:15am -
10:15am

Session 1: Modernizing BC Forest Policy -

The Intentions Paper: A vision driving change

Moderator – Jennifer Gunter, Executive Director, BCCFA

The Intentions Paper (IP) covers a broad range of proposed policy reforms focused on sustainability, reconciliation, people and communities, competitiveness, and fairness. The Province is currently engaged in discussions with Indigenous Nations and stakeholders on the priority items in the IP. This is a very fast-moving file for the Province and new information may emerge any day.

In this session government representatives will introduce the reforms identified in the IP and provide current information on topics of importance to community forests including the Old Growth Strategic Review, FRPA reforms and the intention to harmonize pricing for small tenures.

Introduction to the Intentions Paper

- Sarah Fraser, Assistant Deputy Minister, Rural Opportunities, Tenure and Engineering Division, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- Doug Kelly, Director, Forest Tenures Branch, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) Improvement Initiative Update

- Rachael Pollard, A/Director, Resource Practices Branch, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Rachael will speak to the ongoing work to improve forest practices in BC, and to better align forest management with the provisions of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act.

Old Growth Strategic Review Provincial Update

- Margaret Gibbs, Director, Provincial Stewardship Strategies, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Government policy on old growth has been a hot topic in BC. Last June the Old Growth Technical Advisory Panel was appointed to support government's next steps in a science-based approach to transforming old growth management. We will hear from Margaret about the latest developments on this file.

Community Forests, Land Use Planning and Old Growth

Presenters will talk about their approach to these important questions - What is old growth? Where should old growth be? How do you see planning and managing old growth in a community forest?

- Mic Werstuik Community and Business Development Officer, and Dave Gill, General Manager of Forestry, Westbank First Nation, Ntityix Resources LP will talk about their landscape level plan that is guided by Indigenous values.
- Colin Macleod and David DeWit (Office of the Wet'suwet'en), both board members from the Wetzin'kwa Community Forest, will speak to their Old Growth Policy that guides management decisions on their community forest.

Q&A

10:15am -
10:30am

Break & Tradeshow

10:30am -
12:30pm

Session 2 - Wildfire and Fuel Reduction Panel

Moderator– John Cathro, RPF, Cathro Consulting, Kaslo

In this session we will debrief the 2021 fire season and learn about the new BC Wildfire Service (BCWS) initiatives and direction, which puts a focus on the importance of interagency engagement and relationship development in effective wildfire risk reduction and management. New research will be shared on the efficacy of fuel treatments in assisting fire suppression efforts and in reducing wildfire severity. Community Forests will tell their stories of the 2021 fires on their tenures and showcase the proactive work & critical role they have played in the development of beneficial partnerships and how those relationships on the fire prevention side, lead to better relationships on the suppression side.

Overview of the 2021 fire season and BCWS organizational changes and new direction

- Tony Pesklevits, BCWS Strategic Advisor

Debrief of 2021 Wildfire Season and the Intersection of Wildfire with Treated Areas – Presentations by Community Forest Managers impacted by 2021 Wildfires

- Logan Lake: Garnet Mierau
- SIFCo: Tom Bradley

Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction – Past, present, future

Overview of the Community Resiliency Investment program, including Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction, the BCCFA Economic Recovery Program and the importance of Partnerships and Agreements.

- Chris Hodder, BCWS HQ Manager
- Kelly Osbourne, Fire and Fuel Management Officer, BCWS
- Jennifer Gunter, BCCFA Executive Director, BC Community Forest Association

Update on the recent field season's research on community forests and efficacy of fuel treatments

- Dr. Lori Daniels, Professor, UBC Faculty of Forestry, Dept. of Forest and Conservation Sciences

Panel Q&A

**12:30pm -
1:30pm**

Lunch & Tradeshow

**1:30pm -
3:30pm**

Session 3 – Reconciliation, Provincial Forest Policy and Relationship Building

Moderator – Craig Candler, Anthropologist, Reciprocity Trusts

The Province is working to increase economic and land management opportunities for Indigenous Peoples and align new forest legislation, regulation and policy with the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. With 203 First Nations in the province, the process will not happen overnight. Meanwhile, community forest agreement holders (CFAs) must navigate the increasing expectations and keep their businesses going. For example: Approvals – how do CFAs navigate this new, challenging environment, and build the important relationships with First Nations that will be different at each TSA level? In this session we will learn more about the new direction of the provincial government. And we will hear from our colleagues working at the community level about the learning and unlearning required to make progress on the important relationships that will benefit everyone in BC, Indigenous and non-Indigenous. Recommended reading to prepare for this session - Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada Report and the Calls to Action

Reconciliation and the new direction of the Provincial government

- Tom McCarthy, Assistant Deputy Minister, Negotiations & Regional Operations Division, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
- Melissa Sanderson, Assistant Deputy Minister, Forest Policy and Indigenous Relations Division, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Building a Community Forest - The Quesnel Community Forest Team

- Bob Simpson, Mayor of Quesnel
- Erin Robinson, Forestry Initiatives Manager, Quesnel
- Jean Christie, Natural Resources Manager, Lhtako Dene Nation

The team will talk about the history of their process to receive an invitation to apply for a community forest, what they have learned so far, and what they hope to achieve.

Turning the Dial on Reconciliation

John Jack, Councillor for the Huu-ay-aht First Nations. The Huu-ay-aht First Nations are a modern treaty nation located on the west coast of Vancouver Island. The Huu-ay-aht are the community forest tenure holder of K3N (16,922 m3) and a partner with the community of Bamfield of K2E (860m3). John is the Nation's representative to the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District since 2012, and he has been its Chair since 2016. John will speak to his experience of what is required to truly build capacity and to make real, sustainable progress towards reconciliation.

Panel Q&A

**3:30pm -
3:45pm**

BCCFA Board Member Recognition

Jennifer Gunter, Executive Director, BCCFA

Day 1 Closing Remarks

Susan Mulkey, Manager Communication & Extension, BCCFA

**3:45pm -
4:00pm**

Break & Tradeshow

**4:00pm -
5:00pm**

Virtual Networking Sessions

Join our community forest hosts to meet up virtually with colleagues and friends for informal conversations.

- Group 1 – Hosted by Dave Gill (Westbank CF) and Duncan McKellar (Tumbler Ridge CF)
- Group 2 – Hosted by Harley Wright (Lower North Thompson CF) and Dave Lasser (Sechelt CF)
- Group 3 – Gord Chipman (Esk'etemc) and George Brcko (Wells Gray CF)

DAY 2: FRIDAY OCTOBER 22, 2021

8:00am -
9:30am

BCCFA AGM for Members Only

A separate link to attend the AGM will be sent to members in good standing.

9:30am -
10:00am

Break & Tradeshow

10:00am -
11:00am

Session 4: A Session with the Minister and Presentation of Robin Hood Memorial Awards

Moderator – Jennifer Gunter, Executive Director, BCCFA

Hon. Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

The Minister will address the delegates and present the Robin Hood Memorial Award for Excellence in Community Forestry for 2020 and 2021.

Acknowledgements from award recipients.

Q&A

11:00am -
11:15am

Break & Tradeshow

11:15am -
11:45am

Session 5: Community Forest Innovation in Forest Education

Moderator – Harley Wright, BCCFA President and Chair of the Lower North Thompson Community Forest

Community Forests are contributing to better forestry education in our schools and communities, contributing to a better informed public and encouraging post-secondary forestry education.

Dan Macmaster, Manager of the West Boundary Community Forest is a champion of utilizing the opportunities inherent in a community forest to promote forest education.

Q&A

Session 6: Update of Forest Safety Policy

Moderator - Dave Lasser, Sechelt Community Forest

**11:45am -
12:00pm**

Presentation by Dave Gill, Manager Westbank First Nation Community Forest and BCCFA director

Dave is a member of the Woodlot and Community Forest Safety Committee of the BC Forest Safety Council and will provide an update on new resources.

Q&A

Lunch & Tradeshow

**12:00pm -
12:30pm**

Session 7: Climate change adaptation in the Harrop-Procter Community Forest: An adaptation model using practical tools

Moderator - Roly Russell, Parliamentary Secretary, Forests, Lands Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, MLA for Boundary-Similkameen

**12:30pm -
1:30pm**

Erik Leslie, Manager, Harrop Procter Community Forest

Climate change projections and risks have been widely discussed for many years, but climate adaptation concepts have generally been poorly integrated into applied forest management decision-making. In 2011, the Harrop-Procter Community Co-operative recognized the need for real world adaptation examples, and is now ready to share their experience integrating climate science and risk assessment into tangible forest management decision-making. In this session, practical adaptation management tools will be discussed, including novel approaches to watershed planning, harvest prioritization and layout, wildfire risk reduction, and silviculture.

Q&A

Closing Remarks

**1:30pm -
2:00pm**