

2013 Conference and AGM
May 23-25, Smithers, BC



Welcome conference delegates to the beautiful Bulkley Valley, home of the Wet'suwet'en people and of the Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corporation (WCFC). WCFC takes its name from the Wet'suwet'en word *Wetzin'kwa*, which means "flowing blue green or clear waters" and refers to the river flowing from Morice Lake to Hazelton, or the Morice and Bulkley rivers. The community forest tenure is jointly held by the Town of Smithers and the Village of Telkwa.

The Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corporation is committed to:

- involving the community
- working with the Wet'suwet'en people
- land stewardship
- enhancing outdoor recreation and education
- a healthy community forest economy.



With Appreciation

The BCCFA would like to thank the Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corporation for hosting the conference. Special appreciation for the keen organizational efforts and wonderful Smithers hospitality goes to the Host Logistical Team: Jill Dunbar, Dean Daly, Lisa Ambus and Bill Golding.

We would like to acknowledge the support received from National Research Canada-Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC-IRAP) through the Digital Technology Adoption Pilot Program (DTAPP). NRC-IRAP provides contributions to eligible organizations that have the capacity to help small and medium enterprises in accelerating their adoption of digital technologies. NRC-IRAP is delivering DTAPP on behalf of Industry Canada.



National Research
Council Canada

Conseil national
de recherches Canada

Thanks also to the Bulkley Valley Credit Union for taking on the massive job of photocopying for our event.



Thursday, May 23rd

8:00 am-9:00 am

Meet at the Hudson Bay Lodge for registration and Field Trip transportation coordination. Hudson Bay Lodge @ 3251 Highway 16 E

9:00 am-4:00 pm

Field Trip – Wetzin’kwa Community Forest

A bag lunch is provided. The field trip will include information on:

- Background of the Wetzin’kwa Community Forest governance and key policies
- Management of recreation resources within the Wetzin’kwa area
- Wetzin’kwa grant program
- Wetzin’kwa plans for adaptive forest management
- Management of cultural heritage features on the Wetzin’kwa Community Forest
- Wetzin’kwa’s various alternate silviculture systems and proposed future treatments

On your own for dinner

5:30 ABCFP Members Meeting

5:30 pm -10:00 pm

Trade Show and Reception

Conference registration, cash bar and appetizers at the Hudson Bay Lodge. Free event and open to the local public.

7:00 pm

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Marc von der Gonna, BCCFA President
Welcome messages from Regional Dignitaries
Welcome from Sponsors

**The BCCFA Board of Directors and Staff
welcome you to the
2013 Conference and AGM**

Marc von der Gonna, President (McBride Community Forest)

Grant Thompson, Vice President (Westbank First Nation)

Don Brown, Treasurer (Logan Lake Community Forest)

Gord Chipman, Secretary (Esk’etemc First Nation)

Robin Hood, Director (Likely Xatsu’Il Community Forest)

Jack McLeman, Director (Port Alberni Community Forest)

Erik Leslie, Director (Harrop-Procter Community Forest)

Shane Bressette, Director (Valemount Community Forest)

Jennifer Gunter, Executive Director

Susan Mulkey, Manager of Communications & Extension

Friday, May 24th

7:00 am - 8:15 am

Hot breakfast at the Hudson Bay Lodge

8:30 am - 8:40 am

Overview of the conference program and housekeeping

Susan Mulkey, Moderator

8:40 am - 8:55 am

BCCFA – The Year in Review

Presented by Jennifer Gunter, BCCFA Executive Director

8:55 am - 9:10 am

Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations – Update on the Community Forest Program

Presented by Peter Graff, Senior Timber Tenures Forester, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Forest Tenures Branch

9:10 am – 10:00 am

Broadening Community Forest Opportunities - Management of Additional Resources

Moderated by Marc von der Gonna

This session will explore the potential for broadening the scope of resources managed by Community Forests. As an example, we will hear from Satnam Manhas, RPF, and Ecotrust's Ecosystem Services Program Manager about the progress of the Cheakamus Community Forest carbon credit project. Discussions will explore the various legislative opportunities and hurdles, identify the range of tenure options and look at issues related to liability. Kevin Kriese, MFLNRO, Assistant Deputy Minister, Regional Operations, North will join us as a resource person for the session. Kevin will also speak to government's 'Transformation Plan' which expands on the vision for 'One Land Base, One Land Manager'. The outcomes of the session are intended to provide direction to the BCCFA for further action and advocacy.

10:00 am -10:10 am Greeting from Doug Donaldson, MLA, Stikine

10:10 am -10:40 am Break

10:40 am - 11:40 am

Meeting the practical, day to day challenges of managing for climate change

Moderated by Don Morgan

We have all participated in workshops where the climate change projections are outlined. There is a need for adaptive responses in the long term management of our community forests. What policy, tools and knowledge are required to adjust our plans and practices? In this session we will hear from community forest managers, forest professionals and ministry staff that have direct experience

managing for climate change. There will also be an introduction to the MFLNRO's Adaptation Knowledge and Tools for Forest Stewardship website.

Presenters

Grant Thompson, Manager, Westbank Community Forest

Bill Golding, Manager, Wetzinkwa Community Forest

Casey MacCauley, Resource Operations Specialist, Association of BC Forest Professionals

Kathy Hopkins, MFLNRO, Technical Advisor, Climate Change

11:40 am - 12:00 pm

Non-timber Forest Resources and the Wells Gray Community Forest

Samantha Charlton, a masters graduate from Simon Fraser University in the Faculty of Resource and Environmental Management, conducted research in collaboration with the Wells Gray Community Forest (WGCF) and the Simpcw First Nation. She will present her research findings on the utilization and commercialization of Non-timber Forest Resources (NTFRs), including an emphasis on the differences and similarities in perspectives of First Nations and non-First Nations communities related to NTFR species. Her presentation will include lessons learned in the case of WGCF and recommendations for other community forests in BC.

12:00 pm - 1:15 pm Lunch

1:15 pm - 2:00 pm

Incorporating First Nation's Perspectives into Forestry Planning

Rick Budwha from Crossroads Cultural Resource Management and David deWit, Manager of Natural Resources with the Office of the Wet'suwet'en will give a presentation on the benefits of integrating First Nation's perspectives into forest management in a meaningful way.

2:00 pm – 2:15 pm Break

2:15 pm – 3:45 pm

Session 1 - Manager Forum

Don Brown, Moderator

The Manager's Forum is an opportunity for exchange of information, ideas and dialogue about the questions, issues and concerns of interest to community forest managers. The outcomes of the session will help to inform the work of BCCFA Executive Director and board of directors in their efforts to improve the success of community forest initiatives.

Session 2 – Community Forest Board of Directors' Forum

This session targets issues, questions and challenges of community forest boards with a special focus on the responsibilities and limitations of a director and the guidelines for effective board participation. The new Community Forest Guidebook II will be featured. We will also hear from Evelyn Pinkerton, School of Resource & Environmental Management, Simon Fraser University on her research on the benefits and challenges of municipally-owned corporations as community forests governance structures. Facilitated by Susan Mulkey, Guidebook II co-editor.

3:45 pm – 5:00 pm

BCCFA AGM

President's and Financial Reports, Special Resolutions, and Board Elections

Dinner on your own

Saturday May 25th

7:00 am - 8:00 am **Hot Breakfast at the Hudson Bay Lodge**

8:00 am - 8:50 am

Maximizing the Value of Community Forest Resources and Building Local Economies

Facilitated by Erik Leslie

The community forest model aims to maximize value from the forest. As key economic drivers in their communities and regions, community forests are seeking to enhance their local economies. What are the essential success factors for value added manufacturing and how can community forests effectively maximize the value from their forest resource? Marc von der Gonna will tell us about the efforts of the McBride Community Forest. Dean Daly from Wetzin'kwa Community Forest will give his perspective gained from a career in the forest industry. Dave McRae from FPInnovations will share his expertise on the conditions that will enable successful value added enterprises. We will also hear about the Bridges II Project which is aimed at building regional economic clusters.

8:50 am – 9:45 am

Smart Phones and Tablets: Tremendous Potential for Field Data Collection

Andy Muma, RTF will talk about mobile devices, smart phones and tablets and their potential for streamlining field work process and digital data management.

9:45 - 10:15 am **Break**

10:15 am - 11:15 am

Tracking Community Forest Benefits – Consideration of the Best Approach

There is broad agreement that finding a way to measure and track the benefits of community forests will be of great value to the BCCFA, to individual community forests, to the Province of British Columbia, and to the public. What aspects of community forestry should be tracked and how? In this workshop we will engage participants in discussions to begin to identify meaningful, cost effective, and time efficient indicators. Gary Bull, University of British Columbia, Faculty of Forestry will be a resource person for the discussion.

11:15 am – 11:45 am

Partners and Projects

- Gary Bull, UBC, Faculty of Forestry - Community Forest Management Planning, Marketing and Product Design Opportunity
- Frances Swan, Nakusp and Area Community Forest Corporation. UBC Summer Interns
- Cathy Koot, BCCFA Extension Program – Guidebook II and Effective Forest Management

11:45 am pm - 1:15 pm **Lunch**

1:15 pm - 2:15 pm **Concurrent Workshop Sessions**

Workshop 1

First Nations Dialogue Session

Building on the presentations from yesterday, this informal session will explore ways that community forests and First Nations communities can work together on issues of shared interest.

Workshop 2

BC Communities: Forest Sector Technical Support Services

Dave McRae FP Innovations, Industry Advisor, Lumber Drying Specialist and First Nations Liaison will introduce this new initiative; report on the recent pilots in Likely and Lower North Thompson Community Forests and give information on the future of the project.

2:15 pm – 2:25 pm Break

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm **WoodSourceBC.com Demonstration**

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm **Community Forest Showcase**

In this session we will hear the story of two community forests, how they are structured, their activities, benefits, & challenges.

- Esk'etemc First Nation's Alkali Resource Management - Presented by Gord Chipman, Manager
- Likely Xatsu'll Community Forest – Presented by Robin Hood, Manager

4:00 pm - 4:30 pm **Conference Summary and Wrap Up**

5:30 pm - 10:00 pm **Banquet**

5:30 pm **No host bar and Silent Auction**

6:30 pm **Dinner**

8:00 pm **Acknowledgements**