



FORREX welcomes new Aboriginal Forestry and Indigenous Knowledge extension specialist

Larry Joseph is our newest team member providing Aboriginal Forestry and Indigenous Knowledge extension services in north and central BC. His work will focus on extending knowledge to enable adaptation to social, economic, and environmental changes in Aboriginal communities; land-use planning principles and practices and; improving opportunities for knowledge management and exchange with Aboriginal organizations in British Columbia.

After a 20-year career in the pulp and paper industry, he became the first Executive Director of the Office of the Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs in 1992, leading Wet'suwet'en self-government negotiations to complete draft legislation for self-government. In 1993–1994, Larry helped to create Kyahwood Forest Products (JV), the largest secondary wood manufacturing plant in BC, employing 100 workers. After completing his Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resources Conservation at the University of British Columbia in 1999, he served as a forester for the Gitksan and assisted in reconciliation negotiations with the governments of Canada and British Columbia. From 2001 to 2003, Larry provided technical management for a strategic assessment of the hydrocarbon potential of Gitksan Territory. In 2005–6, through the Assembly of First Nations, he represented the First Nations of Canada within Canada's delegation to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Montreal and Bonn, Germany. He negotiated the use of indigenous knowledge into its five-year work plan to implement the Kyoto Accord. He also served on the Renewable Energy Expert Committee (REEC) in the North American Commission for Environmental Co-operation. Larry, a forester, has specialized in social forestry. He is a member of the Frog Clan of the Wet'suwet'en. Larry looks forward to contributing his knowledge and skills to his new role with FORREX and the Provincial Forest Extension Program.