



PROJECT REPORT

Science, Indigenous Knowledge and Sustainable Forestry: First Nations and the FIA Forest Science Program Workshop Series

September 6, 2006: Kamloops

September 19, 2006: Nanaimo

September 22, 2006: Prince George

Summary Report

**Science, Indigenous
Knowledge and Sustainable
Forestry: First Nations and
the FIA Forest Science
Program Workshop Series**

Summary Report

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WORKSHOP FORMAT AND OBJECTIVES

The Forest Investment Account (FIA) Forest Science Program (FIA–FSP) and associated Provincial Forest Extension Program (PFEP) strive to develop and extend the best available knowledge relating to forest sustainability, timber growth, and value. The Forest Science Board, a voluntary body, advises the Deputy Minister of Forests and Range on strategic direction and investments to the FIA–FSP. FORREX, a non-profit charitable organization, is the delivery agent for the PFEP. Three regional workshops were hosted by FORREX and held throughout the province—in Kamloops September 6, Nanaimo September 19, and Prince George September 22—in efforts to: 1) create awareness and increase the involvement of First Nations in the FIA–FSP; 2) gather input from First Nations on how the FIA–FSP program could be changed to better engage First Nations; and 3) incorporate First Nations interests and perspectives for future priority-setting activities and Calls for Proposals.

During each workshop, presentations were made by members of the Forest Science Board about the FIA Forest Science Program, the Sustainability Program, the Timber Growth and Value Program, the Mountain Pine Beetle program, and the Call for Proposal and Review processes by representatives of the Forest Science Board and the FIA–FSP program administrator, PricewaterhouseCoopers, respectively. An overview of the Provincial Forest Extension Program was presented by FORREX. Presentations were also made by local First Nations with research expertise describing important elements of First Nations' research processes and priorities.

This report provides a brief overview of the presentations and summarizes discussions between representatives of the Forest Science Board and First Nations participants at the workshops. This report is not intended to reflect the views of all First Nations, nor the First Nations Forest Science Board representatives. For more information and details on the presentations by the Forest Science Board members on the Forest Science Program, thematic areas and topics, or the Call For Proposal and Review Processes, visit the Web site at <http://www.fia-fsp.ca>.

OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATIONS ON THE FIA FOREST SCIENCE PROGRAM

FIA Forest Science Program (FSP)

Dr. Bill Bourgeois, Chair of the FIA Forest Science Board, provided an overview of the structure of the Forest Science Board and Program, vision, goals, key activities, and research funded under the FSP. It was noted that applied research studies related to sustainability, improving timber growth and value, extension and infrastructure maintenance are eligible for funding under the Forest Investment Account (FIA) Forest Science Program (FSP), and that resource and cultural inventories, including traditional use studies, are not eligible. The Forest Science Board has been in existence for three years, but only in April 2006 were two First Nations representatives appointed to the Board. Because of this late appointment, it was

stressed that 2006 is a *transition year*. The intent of the three regional workshops was to gather input from First Nations on the FSP and the Call for Proposal and Review processes on ways to increase First Nations involvement in the FSP and Call for Proposal process. By next year, the FSP board hopes to have two First Nations representatives on the Sustainability and Timber Program Advisory Committees (PACs), and one on the Extension Program Advisory Committee (EPAC). Efforts are being made to promote collaboration and awareness of forest science and traditional knowledge.

FIA–FSP Sustainability Program Research Themes and Topics

Gerry Still, Chair of the Sustainability Program Advisory Committee (SPAC), provided an overview of the sustainability program structure, the 2006-2016 research strategy, PAC members and mandate, incorporation of First Nations input, and program investments to date. Research themes include: ecosystem structure and processes, and biodiversity related to forest management, decision support tools for sustainable forest management (SFM), SFM indicators, targets and monitoring systems, and scientific information to inform policy development. The presentation also provided information about the process for setting the eligible research topics for the sustainability program that are recommended to the Forest Science Board for approval.

FIA–FSP Timber Growth and Value Program and Mountain Pine Beetle Research Themes and Topics

Kathie Swift or Steve Stearns-Smith, both members of the Timber Growth and Value Program Advisory Committee (TPAC), provided an overview of the Timber Growth and Value program structure, mandate, and representation on TPAC. The Timber Program has eight major themes: basic research on timber growth and stand development, design and analysis of silviculture systems, growth and yield modeling/prediction, analytical techniques and models for strategic analysis, timber losses to environmental and biotic factors, marketable resources other than timber, climate change and forest harvesting, and salvage of mountain pine beetle-killed timber. Information was also provided on efforts to incorporate First Nations input in the May 2006 “mini call for proposals, and the process for setting eligible research topics and priorities that are recommended to the FSB for approval.

FORREX and the Provincial Forest Extension Program

Chris Hollstedt, CEO of FORREX, provided an overview of FORREX and its roles and responsibilities in designing and delivering the Provincial Forest Extension Program (PFEP). FORREX is a non-profit organization, based in B.C. and dedicated to enabling people to make informed decisions about the use and management of natural resources. FORREX is also the delivery agent for the PFEP. The presentation also discussed the vision, goals, and objectives of the PFEP program and the five-year strategic priorities. It was noted that the vision of the PFEP is to provide and link the forest community to credible and relevant scientific, indigenous, and experiential knowledge to enable knowledge-based sustainable forest management policies, plans, and practices. PFEP strategies include technology transfer and participatory strategies. For more information about FORREX and the PFEP, please go to <http://www.forrex.org>.

The FIA-FSP Call for Proposal and Review Process

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) administers the FIA–FSP Call for Proposal and Review processes. Michael Armstrong, a Director at PwC and the project manager for the Forest Investment Account, reviewed the 2006/07 Call for Proposals process and 2006 timelines. At the Prince George workshop, Monty Locke, a Forest Investment Forester with the B.C. Ministry of Forests and Range, gave the presentation on behalf of PwC. The Call for Proposals has been structured into two stages: the Letter of Intent (LOI) stage and the Full Proposal stage. There are three weeks between the Call for Letters of Intent (LOIs) (September 25, 2006) and the deadline for submitting LOIs to PwC (October 16, 2006). Thereafter, if the LOI is approved (sometime in the second or third week in November), the deadline for submitting full proposals to PwC is December 19, 2006. Discussions also focussed on how to change the Call for Proposals process to increase the number of proposals from First Nations, and on how and when First Nations wanted to be consulted and involved in the review of research proposals submitted to PwC.

OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATIONS ON FIRST NATIONS' RESEARCH PROCESSES AND PRIORITIES

John Jules, Kamloops Indian Band, Kamloops Workshop, September 6, 2006

John Jules is the Administrator of the Cultural Resources Department at the Kamloops Indian Band. John was born on the land and taught the teachings on how to protect the values of his community on the land. One of the biggest problems John sees is the lack of participation by First Nations in research and science, as the process makes it unavailable to First Nations. John discussed the need to involve First Nations in the whole process from the beginning to the end; in the research, the modelling or data gathering, and implementation. He stressed that First Nations should play a part in the whole process, and be involved in how the research within their territory takes place. John also discussed communication and the need to ensure the research process, information, and products are brought back to the community in languages and ways they understand. The information, research, and story are owned by the community and thus they need to understand the research results and products. Communication and language are real barriers. Academic research and papers that have no value to First Nations communities and just collect dust are of no use to them. John is more interested in applied research as that is core to the process First Nations have used for over 200 years. How, why, when, and where First Nations do things matter very much to them.

John noted that the Call for Proposals process and timelines are too short and present a real barrier to First Nation participation in the Forest Science Program. More than one approach should be looked at. Scientists and First Nations should sit together to develop an adaptive process that works for all parties. John also discussed the different research projects the Kamloops Indian Band has been involved in over the years, such as the development of the Archaeological Overview Assessment model for the Kamloops Timber Supply Area, and management of range and grasslands.

It is important that First Nations reviewers are involved in the peer-review process. Peer reviewers should include Elders, men, women, and youth. There is a need to respect traditional knowledge and take it seriously, and to recognize Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

and the ownership of First Nations to their knowledge and information collected, gathered, and shared. In the past, First Nations processes, maps, and information have been taken away from communities and claimed by someone else. This has made First Nations reluctant to share information or become involved in collaborative research or research conducted by others outside of the community.

Bernadette Manuel, Upper Nicola Band, Kamloops Workshop, September 6, 2006

Bernadette Manuel, a community researcher with the Upper Nicola Band (UNB), discussed UNB's involvement in land and resource management and their experience in doing community research over the last several years. The UNB is one of seven bands that make up the siylx^w (Okanagan) Nation and is the only siylx^w band in the Nicola Watershed. UNB has a distinct territory that overlays three forest districts: Cascade, Okanagan Shuswap, and Kamloops. Bernadette noted that her participation at the Kamloops workshop did not constitute meaningful consultation with the Upper Nicola Band on FIA or the FSP. She also noted that nothing in her presentation was intended to impact or infringe on the rights of any other First Nations.

Involvement of UNB in Land and Resource Management

The siylx^w people have prospered on their traditional lands for thousands of years through their special relationship with, management, ownership, and sovereignty over their traditional territories. Land and resource uses were based on annual seasonal uses founded on the knowledge and close observation of cyclic and seasonal patterns. Resource gathering and management practices were conducted in a sustainable manner that ensured the perpetuation of species and habitats for future seasons. This is the founding principle of sux^wtxtem as defined in UNB policies and subsequent agreements. Sux^wtxtem is also a siylx^w word meaning “taking care of” or stewardship.

The UNB takes a strong position on its aboriginal title and rights, with the full understanding that inherent rights always come with responsibilities. This means the UNB must be included in all planning, management, and decision-making processes for land and resources within our traditional territory. In order for this to happen in a meaningful way, it is important that the UNB continue to build their technical capacities to participate in these processes.

Involvement in Research

In 2000, UNB entered into a relationship with Nicola Similkameen Innovative Forestry Society to start mapping and recording UNB's traditional knowledge. It is the only Innovative Forest Practices Agreement with First Nations representation at the Board level. This process allows for First Nations participation in development of land use inventories and modelling databases that incorporate aboriginal knowledge and values.

UNB's research team began collecting, analyzing, and managing new data related to the community's knowledge of traditional land and resource uses. The goal was to establish a formalized knowledge base from which to develop a culturally appropriate Land and Resources Stewardship Plan, based on the principles of sux^wtxtem that could also be incorporated into non-native land and resource management planning activities within the

Band's traditional territory. The protection of intellectual property rights and traditional knowledge are of fundamental importance to this work. UNB has developed a *Declaration of Exclusive Ownership and Rights to Our Cultural, Heritage and Intellectual Property* (February 2001) and their own Cultural Heritage Protection Policy. The Cultural Heritage Policy is based on the principles of informed consent, capacity building, and the UNB's right to participate as a partner in research projects and contribute to final research papers. The UNB Cultural Heritage Protection Policy is an effective mechanism to control use of traditional knowledge, share in the products of research which use UNB cultural resources, and ensure accurate and fair representation of UNB's culture. It recognizes the rights of the individual and the community to be fully informed of research projects and to control dissemination of cultural knowledge. For example, the Sux^wtxtem Committee has the final authority to approve or deny a research request involving UNB members, archives, or other sources of information about UNB's traditional territory.

Luschiim, also known as Arvid Charlie, Elder, Cowichan Tribes, Nanaimo Workshop, September 19, 2006

Luschiim is a Cowichan Elder. "A little bit of knowledge can be dangerous." Together, science and local traditional knowledge can be more powerful. Luschiim gave an example of a research study on where the marbled murrelet nests. All the scientists had to do was ask the First Nations people. Luschiim talked about spirituality and the connection First Nations have to the land. The integrity of the place is important. Thus, there may be a need to protect the whole area, maybe even the whole valley. There is a need for First Nations to be understood. Things have to be implemented in a sustainable way. Luschiim was very concerned that after these workshops and talking to First Nations, business would go on as usual. It is very important that First Nations are heard and that there is further communication with, and involvement of, communities.

Dr. Charles Menzies, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of British Columbia, Nanaimo Workshop, September 19, 2006

Charles Menzies is Gitxaala Tsimshian, and an enrolled member of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska. Charles focussed his presentation around four fundamental principles of research with First Nations communities: values, time, collaboration, and dynamics.

This presentation pointed out a possible conflict of values between scientific research and traditional knowledge. Science tends to be acquisitive and to prioritize knowledge. Traditional knowledge is not acquisitive, and views everything as connected, with human beings as part of, and not above, the system. It takes time to build trust and effective relationships with people and capacity. In collaborative research, everyone can benefit from the different types of knowledge and expertise. Traditional knowledge is dynamic and built upon collaborative relationships. Traditional knowledge is good detailed science, done in a local framework.

There are also problems with language. Even though people may be using the same words, they may have different understandings of what those words mean. There is a need to be aware of breaks in communication and understanding. The process of research carries a range of responsibilities and burdens. There may be a need for the Forest Science Program to develop and grow in ways that allow the program to recognize and use different paradigms of research.

Beverly Bird, First Nations FSP Board Member, Prince George Workshop, September 22, 2006

Beverly Bird is a member of the TI'azt'en Nation, a treaty negotiator, and a First Nations representative on the Forest Science Board. Beverly talked about experiences and ideas developed over five years of community-based research through Forestry Innovation Investment (FII) and CURA (Community University Research Alliance). This is a partnership between University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) and TI'azt'en Nation to develop local-level criteria and indicators of co-management success on the John Prince Research Forest.

The FII funding in 2003 and 2004 opened doors to ideas on working together; however, the third year (2005) was questioned by First Nations views on the political landscape. However, the ideas were picked up through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) project. Of important note, in addition to this academic-community partnership model of research, FSP should also work to support First Nations- or community-controlled research.

Beverly talked about three important lessons learned through this process: 1) examine some barriers to community-university collaborative research; 2) discuss elements of research with First Nations that need to be recognised and supported; and 3) make recommendations relevant to a research sponsor such as FSP.

Barriers include lack of understanding or trust when there is inadequate understanding of the fundamental interests, internal politics, or decision-making structures of the other partner. Funding agencies need to support the costs related to creating trust between partners and to understand effective relationship building (especially when university and First Nation partners may be located far apart), time frames, numbers/volumes of research products used as measuring sticks vs. community-driven outcomes and projects that are overselling, i.e. accomplishments & timelines. Additionally, if researchers are viewed as knowledge brokers whose goal is to “produce,” meaning may be construed as means against First Nations’ interests. There were broader concerns about the sponsors of the research. There were worries about how results would be presented to FII, how they would be used and interpreted, and if FII would claim ownership of the materials. For instance, there were concerns about our study findings being used by FII without community consent as evidence of local perspectives on controversial initiatives such as Canadian Council of Forest Ministers criteria and indicators, forest certification, and co-management. Finally, collaborative work has potential to impede the careers of university researchers because there are no mechanisms to recognize and reward the time and effort they invest. Ultimately this can undermine faculty members’ careers and chances for tenure and promotion. Because university partners may not be rewarded if a project succeeds, they may either suffer the consequences or assign collaboration a low priority. Funders can play a role in supporting collaborative research in a university setting through their funding decisions. They can also create mechanisms to recognize and reward effective collaboration.

Based on our experience, research needs to incorporate the following elements:

1. Research needs to be community-based (identifying the issue or problem, constructing research questions, developing research tools, collecting and analyzing data, interpreting results, creating research products, issuing recommendations, and implementing initiatives). Research questions are found in the needs of communities. It

has the aim of combining knowledge production with action and achieving change to improve people’s lives. The process of doing research becomes a source of growth and change for everyone involved. Community-based research meets high ethical standards, for example, two central ethical considerations relate to issues of consent and confidentiality: intellectual property; effective community-based research including knowledge; benefits flow to the participating communities who allow the research to take place; useful academic products should result in meaningful community products; community-based research with products resulting from work done by the community—results in oral, written, or visual forms; research can produce information and tools that can assist communities to improve their programs, promote their interest, attract new resources, or in other ways contribute to improving the lives of local people.

2. Individual or group contributions should be acknowledged in research products, according to peoples’ wishes and right to remain anonymous. Researchers must ensure participants and resources are protected from any negative impact that might result from the research findings being made public; in all research, appropriate respect must be given to cultures, languages, knowledge, and values of First Nations people, and to the standards used by communities to define legitimate knowledge.
3. All aspects of the research should be designed with and give consideration to the knowledge of community experts. Community members should be part of the analysis and interpretation of data and should have input into how the results are distributed. This does not imply censorship, but rather the opportunity to verify and edit findings, and incorporate community feedback into research products prior to final publication or distribution.
4. Development of a true research partnership should be based on trust and should not prejudice the interests of any partner.

Based on this experience, it is recommended that FSP needs to:

- Examine the benefits and challenges of collaborative research from a community perspective;
- Look at the potential limitations of academic research policies that govern collaborative research with local communities;
- Support collaborative research by promoting the inclusion of the above elements in research plans; and
- Support collaborative research by recognizing the increased time and monetary demands of this approach.

Funding bodies may not allow for adequate capacity building and support: while these costs may be included in Calls for Proposals, it must be recognized that significant support is needed to build capacity in First Nation communities, and to provide resources for staff to assist with administrative and partnership building tasks.

There should be evidence that communities have guided the development of the proposal and, mechanisms for continuing influence exists.

“Know your language. Look after the land and the land will look after you.”

SUMMARY OF COMMON THEMES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FIRST NATIONS PARTICIPANTS

The following section is a reiteration of the common points raised by participants from all of the workshops. It is intended to represent a summary of the main concerns and recommendations. For a complete list of points and concerns raised at each workshop, please refer to Appendix 1.

Input into Forest Science Program Areas, Priorities, and Eligible Topics:

- First Nations representation on the Forest Science Board and on Program Advisory Committees (SPAC, TPAC, and PFEP) to better align and ensure eligible topics reflect First Nations values, priorities, and interests—part of process that sets priorities on the PACs
- Development of alternate research paradigms or ways to better incorporate Indigenous science and knowledge into the FSP
- Huge issue that the FSP doesn't fund inventories—funding for cultural science and cultural inventories are needed as basis of First Nations research
- Research on non-timber forest products also high priority for First Nations
- Need for criteria that connect culture to the land—could fall under the sustainability program
- Better communication with First Nations to develop trust in the process
- Development of a First Nations research program, and a separate budget
- Allow for changing paradigm—development of research paradigm that values and incorporates First Nations methodologies and priorities, addresses knowledge gaps
- Rather than integrate First Nations practices and approaches, which runs the risk of assimilation, may have to modify the process
- Need to ensure adequate funding for First Nations research proposals—more resources are needed to support partnership and capacity development

Use of Traditional Knowledge:

- Ownership and control of how information used—intellectual property and cultural rights must be addressed; First Nations need to control how and where their information is used
- Research involving First Nations traditional knowledge or information—process and contribution agreement must state that the intellectual property and cultural rights, and ownership of the information and results, reside with the First Nations community
- Research must be ethical and useful to the community; must deal with issues of consent and confidentiality

Call for Proposal and Review Processes:

- Research proposals should support meaningful partnerships with First Nations
- First Nations should have involvement in all stages of the process, including involvement on peer-review committees

- Issues around capacity—First Nations are competing with organizations that have different capacity and skill levels
- Development of evaluation methodologies and criteria (that include First Nations research processes and methodologies) to assess First Nations research proposals
- First Nations involvement in all stages of the research, from the beginning and development of the proposal, to the implementation and extension of results
- Resources are needed for First Nations to develop the technical capacity to do the research
- Need to broaden what ‘scientific merits and accreditations’ mean in review and evaluation of proposal to include criteria and methodologies that First Nations deem qualifications of a good proposal
- Policies and mandates may need to be changed to better incorporate First Nations science, interests, and priorities into the FSP

Proposal Process:

- Proposal process needs to be made more accessible to First Nations (e.g., need for hardcopies of proposal forms to be sent out to communities; not just online as not all First Nations communities have access to the internet)
- First Nations need access to resources to develop the proposal
- Have someone funded to help First Nations complete [proposal] forms: 1-800-LOIs
- Modify Call for Proposal timelines—more time is needed in the Call for Proposal process, from LOI stage to submission of full proposal
- Look at different models and processes that work for First Nations (e.g., BC Capacity Initiative Call for Proposal process)
- Link between proposal and final outcomes needs to be clearly stated in proposal
- If research is to be done within a community, community must be informed and subsequently Band Council will be informed [must get political support, may need BCR]
- If Community is lead proponent, must inform Band Council and follow community research protocols
- See Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council 2-page statement of significance and consider including in the Call guidelines

It is important that the community:

- is aware of the research going on;
- has the opportunity to collaborate;
- has the opportunity to be the lead proponent; and
- is consulted.

Involvement of First Nations in the Proposal Development and Review Processes:

- First Nations input at LOI stage—LOI support from First Nations could be built into review criteria
- Communities should have a chance to see Letters of Intent (LOIs) and full proposals. The person receiving will decide if this should go to Band Council. Full proposals may need to go to Band Council.

Suggestion to provide the LOIs and Proposal Information in a Matrix.

Matrix would describe:

- Who—First Nations could then decide if they know them and/or trust them
 - Identify any association with pharmaceutical [firms/companies]
- Research method and end product(s)
- If First Nations knowledge will be used or if First Nations knowledge will be affected
- Interest in research partnership
- Interest in involvement in review of proposals
- Medicinal value/potential for value (of immediate interest)
- Recognition of who holds the knowledge; who did the work

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The workshops were designed to be a starting point for improving awareness and dialogue between First Nations and the FIA Forest Science Program and associated Provincial Forest Extension Program. The objectives of the workshop included the following:

1. As a result of these workshops participants will say they are:
 - More aware of the FIA Forest Science Program and the Provincial Forest Extension Program goals and objectives and how to benefit from these programs.
 - More aware of how to get involved in both the FIA–FSP and PFEP processes and more aware of the First Nations research processes.
 - More aware of how the FIA–FSP and PFEP link to other research and extension initiatives, including the Federal and Provincial Mountain Pine Beetle initiatives.
2. The Forest Science Board will say it has appropriate initial input to further engage with First Nations on matters relating to FIA–FSP business, and to incorporate First Nations interests and perspectives in FIA–FSP processes; and,
3. FORREX will say they have appropriate input to further engage with First Nations on matters relating to the PFEP business.

Workshop evaluation results¹ indicate that all these objectives were achieved. The workshops were a successful starting point for dialogue between all interested parties and continued dialogue was recommended. Results from the presentations and dialogues sessions will be communicated to the Forest Science Board and FORREX, and will inform future decisions made regarding the FIA Forest Science Program and the Provincial Forest Extension Program.

¹ See Hollstedt, C. 2006. Science, Indigenous Knowledge and Sustainable Forestry: First Nations and the FIA Forest Science Program – Workshop Evaluation Results. FORREX Forest Research Extension Partnership, Kamloops, BC. Project Report. URL: http://www.forrex.org/publications/other/filereports/FIA-FSP_FN_WorkshopEval.pdf

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APPENDIX 1: WORKSHOP DISCUSSION SESSIONS FLIP CHART NOTES

Kamloops Workshop, September 6, 2006

Session 1. Discussion on Forest Science Program (FSP) Governance and First Nations Research Processes and Governance

- Concern over First Nations researchers having to fund most of their research
- Research – generating discussions
- Make the proposal process accessible
- First Nations need to be part of the [whole] process [from beginning to the end]²
- Need priority in certain areas
- [First Nations need to be involved in] reviewing what is proposed

- FSP Criteria: anyone can apply – process of approval must demonstrate scientific credibility
- Who sets criteria for approval? (program advisory committees) Board, *including First Nations representatives on PAC committees, sets recommendations and priorities to go to the Deputy Minister of Forests
- Criteria for review of proposals goes to PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)
- Need First Nations on review board
- First Nations Review at Letter of Interest stage
- Need First Nations [representation] on [all] PACs

- First Nations territories/ecosystems are different and diverse
- Different cultures, cultural diversity
- FSP Program overall needs to look at things more holistically
- More inclusive of resource users; ministries
- [Need to protect lands and resources for future generations]
- [Can't overlook connection to our children and to socio-economic issues]
- Access to research dollars is difficult
- Need more involvement of First Nations
- First Nations need own research programs because competing with organizations that have different capacities and skill sets
- How many First Nations organizations drove a research project/process?

- Problem: Accounts are provincially driven
- Reality: Many First Nations are now licensees
- Need partnership with First Nations
- First Nations Involvement in defining processes that are provincially driven

² Information in the [] is additional information not recorded on flip chart notes, and is for context only.

- . What is funded: Science
- . What is not: Inventories
- . Need criteria that connect projects to culture and the land
- . Archeology is a science—to do archeology you need to do inventories
- . Ask First Nations what their ideas of science are and in developing indicators
- . Beliefs are connected to the land
- . Non-Timber Forest Products [are important]—indigenous economics
- . Applied research for users—implementing results
- . Doing TUS Studies—turn traditional knowledge into scientific knowledge and the ability to access it
- . Dilemma—lack of dollars for inventories
- . TUS proposed as applied research could be eligible for funding
- . Exchange of benefits—filling in the holes in the database

- . PriceWaterhouseCoopers, review of First Nations proposals; 10 proposals received; 4 approved

- . Add/include micro-business in value added (must be research related)—FSP does not include development of a business
- . Research lays out the regional economic values and resources that are there
- . Economic development studies aren't funded
- . Socio-economic envelope emerging priority
- . Managing non-timber forest products sustainably is a priority

Session 2. Discussions on Sustainability PAC and Timber Growth and Value PAC

- . Need to disseminate information to FN provincially
- . Identify 4 First Nations advisors [First Nations must be part of process that sets priorities]
- . Provide PACs a full list of priorities
- . Hoping to have 6 First Nations advisors [by next year]
- . How do we improve communications?
- . How do we communicate the results from the Call? Get information out to communities.
- . FSP is developing a communications strategy.

- . *Problem with Advisory Process as First Nations are not decision makers—need to have First Nations as decision makers
- . Political appointments don't work (2-3 year rotation)
- . We have technical people (in communities)
- . Solicit First Nations technical reps from communities; get around political appointments

- . Does research take into account infringement?
- . [How do the research priorities address First Nations community priorities?]
- . Right to control access to and use of information
- . Compensation and benefits in the form of...
- . Protectionism mechanisms

- Recognize rights of the holders of their information
- Action: Review the structure of the PACs
- Streamline bureaucracy
- Where is the accountability?
- Look at process of representation
- All have a different approach to how we represent ourselves; agree with how process is set up
- Simplify and streamline, with correct people in place

Session 3. Discussions regarding Call for Proposal and Review Processes

- At the beginning stage, need consultation input
- Consult before or after?
- 3-week turnaround too short [isn't long enough for First Nations communities to put together a proposal and complete consultations with community—whole team in the community that First Nations go to get a final decision]
- [Issues around the technical capacity First Nations need to put together a proposal]
- Prefer to get information from all areas and political
- For researchers coming into the territory
- In a community, LOI not done without permission from Band or Bands in Territory [cultural programs/research will not succeed without the support of the community—need to consult with community]
- Internal preparedness to reply or consent or support
- *What is the requirement that research should be looking for?

- First Nations input at LOI stage [letter of support from First Nations community, if needed, should be at LOI stage]
- Issues
- Timing
- Complexity of review
- Intellectual property rights questions [research involving First Nations, and the information collected, have been misused and abused in the past]

- Results of research: ownership of information [needs to be determined from the start of the process] gleaned from research.
- [Proposal needs to identify how and what the information will be used for—this should be defined by First Nations]
- Past misuse of research related to First Nations contributions a dilemma
- Aboriginal interests include information that influences policy and legislation
- [Aboriginal title and rights—how do First Nations benefit from the research, royalties?]
- LOI explicitly states if it will be related to A.I.[aboriginal interest]
- [At what level do we develop partnerships?]
- [Need for First Nations on review committee]
- [Whole process is bureaucratic]

- Discussion on Intellectual Property Rights
 - Canada does not have *sui generis* regimes [to recognize collective ownership rights]
 - Review what others are doing internationally [UN Convention on Biological Diversity]
- Working Groups
- Critical to implement immediately

Suggestions [Recommendations]

- Each band should be approached
- First Nation focus and broaden research as well because technical expertise is within band membership; capacity to participate
- Ask each band “where do you want to fit in?”

Community Information: Do I want to share? At what cost? How much detail?
“At what point am I going to make allowances and give up control?”

- Become part of decision making
- Process where we designate where funding will go
- Build capacity to do research within
- Improve application approach

Levels of Influence [Recommendations]

More First Nations at decision-making level

[First Nations representatives] on the Board [and on the PACs]

Setting priorities on the PACs

Being on review committees

Review of full proposals (First Nations peer reviewers)

- [Need to broaden what “scientific merits and accreditations” mean in review and evaluation of proposal to include criteria and methodologies that First Nations deem qualifications of a good proposal]
- LOI support from First Nations could be built into review criteria
- Implementation an issue
- Community informed consent about research project
- Difficult to find a balance between Elders advisory, youth, technical and leadership in Communities [there is a need for this diversity on PACs]
- Define contacts as requirement for nations, territories, community reps
- Not sufficient timing to provide process within the community for review and/or applications
- Criteria inappropriate for First Nations situation and context
- Criteria favours interests of others
- Focus on process
- Vagueness of research required

- Methodologies and process take time in First Nations communities
- Encourage researchers to work out methodology
- See SFM Network model
- Capacity to participate
- First Nations involvement on PACs
- First Nations dedicated budget to IK
- Part of decision process and in deciding major research and knowledge gaps

- [Need for] opportunities for First Nations to say what they want from Extension
- [Need for more workshops to review and comment on PAC programs and eligible themes and topics]

Nanaimo Workshop, September 19, 2006

Session 1. FIA–FSP Governance Structure and First Nations Structures

On Structure

- This is an opportunity to build connections/linkages with western science and cultural/traditional science (Modify the current model)
- [Policies and mandates may need to be changed to better incorporate First Nations science, interests, and priorities into the FSP]
- [“There are very special sacred areas, only the people that have the knowledge know about...to me this is science.”—Cowichan Elder]

On Process

- Also consider linkages between the FSP processes and landbase programs
- Consider modifying the model rather than assimilating First Nations into existing model

On Involvement

- Involve communities (every community); Elders
- This is a journey of learning
- Include social sciences in the process
- Need to Look and See [training in how to see without seeing]
- Learn from others
- Understand and reflect the context
- Consider capacity (time and dollars) that may be required to make the modified model work

On program advisory processes (PACs)

- Is there a place for other research methods in these processes?
- Review process requires future adjustments
- Use resources available (people here have already contributed to solutions with other processes)

- Question formulations and imbedded assumptions (in existing list of themes, topics, and priorities)
- Allow for changing paradigm [development of research paradigm that values and incorporates First Nations methodologies and priorities, addresses knowledge gaps]
- Cultural diversity and biological diversity are inextricably linked

- Local knowledge plus science will make the whole very powerful

(There were specific questions on FSP Board Structure and where the Programs fit)

- Question the split for what SPAC covers versus TPAC
- Culture [cultural inventories] and traditions could be part of SPAC [need to include research proposals that find ways to protect sacred sites and spiritual areas]
- Current [language of] presentations don't reflect (language) understanding of traditional science
- FSP is within the context of sustainable forest management, planning, and practices
- There is an opportunity to seek and build capacity in First Nations communities
- [Credibility and Credentials mean two different things]

Session 2. Discussion On First Nations Research Processes and the FIA–FSP Call for Proposals Processes

Contact information: Charles.menzies@ubc.ca, www.ecoknow.ca Forests and oceans for the future

Forest Science Program Call Information: www.bcfsp.com

- Capacity: Assistance may be needed in developing proposals
- 1-800-LOIs
- [Have someone funded to] help First Nations complete [proposal] forms
- [Need] time
- Need for hardcopies of proposal forms sent to communities not just online [not all First Nations communities have access to the internet]
- Link between proposal and final outcomes needs to be clearly stated
- [How] are the results evaluated? [Evaluate outcome, need to know that researchers actually completed what they said they would, should be a penalty if they didn't]
- Can the process accommodate different types of budget items (such as community meetings, [paying honoraria] as part of the research process, or funds to bring results to communities)?
- Could the review by communities be part of the peer review?
- Look to BC Capacity Initiative as a process that has been/is successful with First Nations
- What are we talking about sustaining? Need to define this [what is the focus of the research?]
- Consider different process needs for remote versus urban First Nations
- Revise and continually update the mailing list since change in people is continuous

- Modify call timelines [Use the BC Capacity Initiative process as a model and example of a process that works for FN]
- [Need to fund cultural inventories, cultural science explains our traditional science, western science can't stand alone]
- [Elders are trained on the land for their whole life]
- [Need to value and make connections between First Nations science and knowledge and western science and knowledge]
- [See us/First Nations as a Species at Risk – as we are losing our culture and traditions]
- [Incorporate studies on cultural values under sustainability program]
- [Need for separate targeted funding for First Nations]
- [Offer development grants to develop and outline process of engagement, relationship building cost, both time and money]; collaborative research

When to involve communities in the proposal development and review process:

- [Need for prior, informed consent]
- Communities should have a chance to see Letters of Intent (LOIs) and full proposals. The person receiving will decide if this should go to Band Council. Full proposals may need to go to Band Council.
- If research in community, community must be informed and subsequently Band Council will be informed, must get political support [need BCR]
- If Community is lead proponent, must inform Band Council and follow community research protocols [research proposal may still require a BCR]
- See Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council 2-page statement of significance and consider including in the call guidelines
- Address First Nations interests without unduly affecting the FSP processes
- [Researchers need to find out the First Nations in the area and contact them]

It is important that the community is:

- Aware of the research going on
- Has the opportunity to collaborate
- Has the opportunity to be the lead proponent
- Is consulted

Call for Proposals Process:

- [Existing timelines limit First Nations access and participation]
- Consider development grants for first year to build relationships, trust, and ideas.
- Spectrum of access (internet, mail, in person, etc.)
- Funded projects are available on Web site
- Confidentiality issues with LOIs will be considered
- Define relationships – where, and with whom
- [Send communities research proposals in their area – based on geographic location]
- It is recognized that FSP can delegate procedural measures required for meaningful consultation

- [Research involving First Nations knowledge or information—contribution agreement must state that the ownership of the information and results resides with the First Nations community]
- [First Nations must be able to] see/understand the value of the research to the community [Elders and community must see value in research – good project]
- Formalize advisory committee [the process on how First Nations representatives are chosen]
- Provide the LOIs and proposal information in a MATRIX
- Matrix would describe:
 - Who [is involved/doing the research] [First Nations can then evaluate if they trust, know them)
 - Identify any association with pharmaceutical [firms/companies]
 - [If commercial application, get researcher to sign over their rights to the First Nations community]
 - Research method
 - End product
 - If First Nations knowledge will be used or if First Nations knowledge will be affected
 - Interest in research partnership
 - Interest in involvement in review of proposals [peer-review committee]
 - Medicinal value/potential for value (of immediate interest)
 - Recognition of who holds the knowledge; who did the work

Session 3. Comments on Provincial Forest Extension Program

Consider and include [recognition of] Intellectual Property Rights [in proposal application and contracts]

- *Does ownership of research results reside with government?
- *Board will examine IPR as opposed to copyright
- Research with older people is delicate
- *MOU – risk of being too specific
- *Researchers do not know how to protect indigenous rights

Prince George Workshop, September 22, 2006

Session 1 – Discussion on FIA–FSP Structure and First Nations Research

Proponent driven process – What is it?

- Long-term installations are small amount of funding
- There are dollars for continuing research (see Tab 6 in the binder)
- Some themes in the strategy plan are not priorities for any given year
- Communities can submit proposals that fit in long-term plan but that may not fit in the short-term

- . You have to select which of the categories your proposal will go under—if it is not for the current priorities, it is “proponent-driven”
- . Need to know timelines—when the call will start and where the call information will be
- . This information will be posted on the FIA–FSP Web site and will be discussed in detail this afternoon

How are research products going to be reflected politically?

- . Ownership?
 - . How will Province use the information?
 - . [Will] proponent include how this will happen in the proposal?
 - . E.g., Publications – public documents [proponent must identify what they are going to do with results – and extension plan]
 - . Need community input on this issue, especially intellectual property rights
 - . Need to recognize the larger context
 - . Vision, land use plans, [implement] new relationship
 - . Joint management [research should have an effective end-point]
 - . Needs to contribute to community needs
 - . Community-based research needs to be new part of the FSP
 - . First Nations context – making shared decisions
-
- . Good to involve First Nations [in process], but concerned about FSP “boundaries” [re: what is not funded]
 - . Need to change criteria for eligible topics [of what can be funded]
-
- . Politics should not be placed in the parking lot
 - . Issues related to MPB dollars as well [funding from province and federal government]
 - . Disagree with government deciding who should get research dollars for what—should be decided by First Nations—we own the land [money is generated on our land]
 - . [\$\$ and funding should be going back to First Nations communities without conditions]
 - . First Nations capacity is needed
 - . Competing with government for First Nations employees
 - . Need to acknowledge this program
 - . Losing valuable staff
 - . Need funding for staff
 - . Need help from universities and colleges (e.g., Malaspina fisheries and forestry training – science)
 - . Significant funding is needed
 - . [Communities need training in basic science and this costs money]
 - . No welfare research [budget is the issue, research needs to be adequately funded]
-
- . Sustainability is most important to First Nations
 - . Very dependent on forestry
 - . Don’t make us spend \$10,000 writing proposals

Mountain Pine Beetle Action Group will be getting First Nations input

- Shouldn't be treating FN as “stakeholders”—we are Owners, not Users
- Concern about First Nations forest licenses and paying taxes
- Acknowledge land rights and title issues—e.g., fisheries

Are proposals just forestry?

- FSP—yes, but other aspects [proposals] for range could be part
- First Nations have integrated natural resource management structure
- Next year's Call for Proposals may reflect this

Session 2 – Sustainability Program and Timber Growth and Value Program and Program Advisory Committees

Assumptions on priority-setting for First Nations projects

Pamela's Perreault's experiences—general areas

- Cross reference Pam's with FSP objectives
- Reviewed by First Nations advisors
- Concerns about limitations to priority list
- Should spend time prioritizing research topics today
- Community capacity concerns
- Pam's job was to collate research topics identified by First Nations
- Over 3 weeks, Pamela collected this information
- List of community research projects specific to Mountain Pine Beetle, and from affected regions
- Pamela Perreault and Beverly Bird joined the FSP Board in June, assembled an advisory committee
- Involved in ticking off the priorities on FSP list (with respect to First Nations perspectives)

First Nations forestry council now being formed—things will change when First Nations more involved in PACs.

What criteria to join PACs?

- [The Forest Science Board has a list of criteria for PAC members]
- Would like 2 reps on SPAC: 1 Coastal First Nations rep and 1 Interior First Nations rep
- No criteria or process has been established [invitation by PAC chairs]
- (FSP) Board member criteria and process was formed for appointments to the FSP Board
- PAC chairs extending invitation to First Nations Advisors
- Unsure how formal the process needs to be
- First Nations representatives will need networks
- Want First Nations input on these processes for coming years; engaged earlier in the process
- First Nations need to understand process for funding; get access to funding
- Proponent-driven topics are an option; but smaller “pots” are available

- Internal community interests, multiple interests should factor into member selection for PAC
- Role of representatives on PAC so far does not include consultation with the groups being represented
- FSP should sponsor First Nations-led process [suggested a two-day workshop] to identify structure, not FSP-led [establish a more meaningful process]
- FSP indicates this is first step
- No dollars allocated specifically for First Nations—it is an open competition
- Pamela and Beverly led process to identify PAC members. Majority of these people got permission from their Bands. Part of today’s goal is to provide advice to Beverly and Pamela on First Nations thoughts

Who are “constituents”?

Action: [need a list of who these constituents are] A list is requested

- Broadly – provincial government, researchers, industry (licensees), and First Nations now – recognition that they were missed.

Recommendation to PACs

- [Management] of non timber-resources is very important [to First Nations] and should be a high priority (non-timber)
- *Forest and Range Practices Act* Evaluation Program (FREP)
- [What are the indicators for cultural heritage resources?] Need to develop a set of indicators for cultural resource objectives
- Indicators could be a future topic—proposals

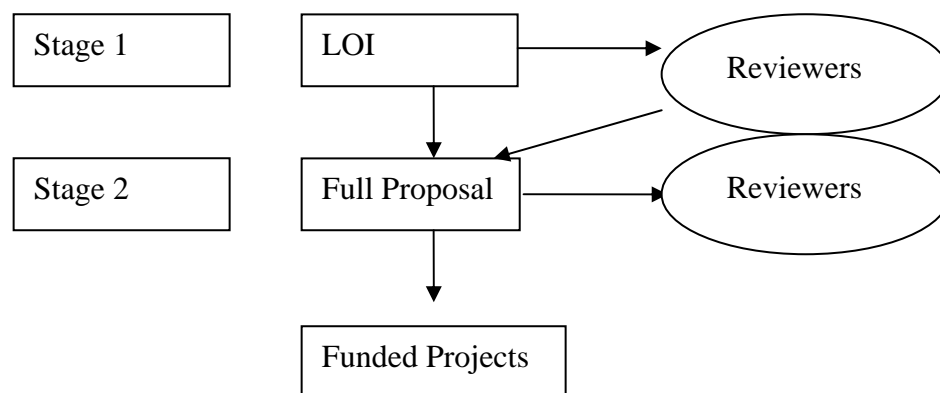
TOPIC: Scientific information to inform policy

- Are there political implications?
- First Nations perspectives needed here
- Need to identify criteria for research projects
- No limitations on the number of proposals from each (any one organization)
- Need separate pot of funding for First Nations
- [Have to find a way for scientific world to work with First Nations communities]
- [Science and social science to come together]

How stable is the program (given political/government shifts over time)?

- Answer – Depends

Session 3 – Provincial Forest Extension Program and Call for Proposals Process



For Questions: Michael Armstrong, PwC: (604) 484-3490

Monty Locke, MOFR: (250) 356-6987

Web site for information about the process www.fia-fsp.ca or www.bcfsp.com

- Two-stage process
- Opportunities to be a First Nations reviewer (volunteers needed)
- Parking lot item – timelines for the process
- Info on proposals is on-line
- Anyone can apply
- Extending expanding/continuing projects
- Extension is sharing research findings
- No [opportunity] for rewrites on rejected LOIs
- First Nations need to define criteria for successful proposals
- Need First Nations reviewers
- “Criteria for proposals” needs to be led by First Nations
- Capacity – especially for proposals, process needs to respect capacity issues
- [no track record to trust the system or the process]

Action: Need for a proposal-writing workshop

How is money distributed regionally?

- Proposals accepted just on the basis of the ideas and the quality [of the proposal]

Is funding based on matching funds?

- encourage leveraging but not a requirement

Will you accept proposals on land use planning processes from First Nations, need long term money?

- [FSP] provides up to 3 years of funding
- Need to ensure it is in a research format (cannot fund a land use planning project)

Can research a new way of LUP, but not [to do] complete a LUP?

- Can be multiple research outcomes
- Research-oriented
- Community benefit

Why strict Letter Of Intent (LOI) guidelines?

- Community-based research can be [as] scientific as other scientific research
- Need skills to create priority list
- Need to respect Elders' knowledge and community knowledge in proposal evaluation process

Where to incorporate these community values in proposal process?

- Geographic location is part of the proposal process
- Should have a local reviewer, depending on topic (e.g., traditional knowledge)
- Less strict guidelines for First Nations proposals (e.g., at the LOI stage)
- [Need to understand each others' values, research priorities should reflect First Nations needs and values, for mutual benefit]
- [Need to value the knowledge of Elders and people on the land]
- [Language barriers and interpretation are key issues]
- [Suggestion Elders Council]
- Recognize First Nations capacity issues
- Proposal package should include resources [to cover the costs to develop a proposal]
- Proposal needs to recognize language differences between science and communities
- First Nations having to compete against one another, but also with non-First Nations, very hard to compete
- [FORREX may provide some support on this]
- Important to get feedback on rejected proposals; include synthesis review process