

## MINUTES

### FGC Interior Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) Business Meeting - 23 January 2017

Location: Kalamalka Forestry Centre, Vernon, BC

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#### Attendance:

Val Ashley - FLNR-TIB	Barry Jaquish* - FLNR-TIB	Todd Schmidt* - WFM
Brian Barber- FGC	Stephen Joyce* - FLNR-TIB	Michael Stoehr - FLNR-TIB
Mike Brown* - PRT	David Kolotelo* - FLNR-TIB	Ward Strong - FLNR-TIB
Marilyn Cherry - FLNR-TIB	Tyrell Law* - WFM	Nicholas Ukrainetz* - FLNR-TIB
Krista Copeland* - Tolko	Dan Livingston* - PRT	Kori Vernier* - CanFor
Trevor Doerksen - FLNR-TIB	Penny May - FLNR-TIB	Tia Wagner* - VSOC
Shane Ford - FLNR-TIB	Sarah McArthur - FLNR-TIB	Jack Woods - SelectSeed
Dan Gaudet* - VSOC	Greg O'Neill* - FLNR-TIB	Alvin Yanchuk - FLNR-TIB
Gary Giampa* - FLNR-TIB	Alana Phillips - FLNR-TIB	
Hilary Graham* - FLNR-TIB	Alan Rasmussen* - FLNR-BCTS	

*\*ITAC Committee Members (Tyrell Law attending (with proxy) on behalf of Jason Regnier)*

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#### 1. Welcome, Membership Updates and Agenda *Kori Vernier, Canfor*

The meeting was opened at 10:30 am by Kori Vernier.

**MOTION** (Nick Ukrainetz/Hilary Graham): To accept the agenda as presented. CARRIED

**ACTION:** Kori Vernier to recruit a Forest Health specialist to serve on ITAC.

#### 2. Review Minutes and Action Items from Jan 19, 2016 *Kori Vernier, Canfor*

The minutes from the previous Business Meeting (Jan 19, 2016) were reviewed, and the following corrections noted:

- Attendance: Add Todd Schmidt, Tia Wagner
- Item 11: Guy Burdikin retired from West Fraser, not MFLNRO
- Stephen received a letter from VSOC in reference to 2nd generation pine (to be attached to Minutes)
- Tia voted in on ITAC in Jan 2016 but that was missed from the minutes

**MOTION** (Dave Kolotelo/Dan Gaudet): To accept the Minutes of the ITAC 2016 Business Meeting with amendments noted. CARRIED

**ACTION:** Alana to send revised 2016 Minutes and draft 2017 Minutes to Kori within month, Kori to circulate to members for online approval, Brian to post on FGC website.

Updates on Action Items from Jan 19, 2016 Meeting:

1. Identify FGC Objective #5 as a FLNRO goal: *In progress*
2. Hire support staff for data analysis: *In progress (Provincial Data Manager being hired by TIB)*

3. Initiate outreach and regional liaison for pest management: *Done ( see Item 9 below)*
4. Coordinate support / relationships for pest management: *In progress*
5. Lead discussion on priority processing, and report back to TAC: *In progress ( see Item 7 below)*
6. Register Orchard 352 in CP, and investigate as to registering Orchard 352 in BV as well: *In progress (Ukrainetz)*
7. Seek more information on projected demand for Pli seed: *In progress ( see Item 8 below)*

**3. FGC Update and Business Planning for 2017-18** *Brian Barber, FGC/SelectSeed*

Brian Barber presented an overview of the FGC Strategic Plan Objectives.

**4. Breeder Presentations: Sx, Fdi, Lw** *Trevor Doerksen, FLNR-TIB*

The proposed budgets for 2017-18 are as follows:

- Western larch: \$227,000
- Douglas-fir: \$193,000
- Spruce: \$105,000

It was noted that there is currently no breeding program for wood quality, nor is there a line item for this in the budget.

**4. Breeder Presentations: Pli, Pw, Py** *Nicholas Ukrainetz, FLNR-TIB*

The proposed budgets for 2017-18 are as follows:

- Lodgepole Pine: \$300,000
- White Pine: \$50,000

Other notes:

- Whitebark pine funding usually comes from Genecology TAC. Work is primarily done at Kalamalka, with auxiliary costs split with other work at Kal.
- Paper birch orchard established at Kalamalka.
- Comandra Resistance trials now have 10 years of really strong data

**5. Forest Genetics Breeding Budget Summary 2017-18** *Shane Ford, FLNR-TIB*

Total requested budget for Interior Tree Breeding for 2017/18 is \$807,000. Programs that contribute to FGC objectives will need to be cut if not funded at this amount.

**MOTION** (Stephen Joyce/Dan Gaudet):

- (1) To fully support the \$807,000 for the breeding program as submitted; if requested to make cuts to the program due to funding, that the genetics section internally prioritize, make cuts and inform ITAC of the resultant cuts and programs that will not be completed; and
- (2) To submit concurrently as an unfunded pressure this difference, and if subsequently funded, notified of this early enough in the season so that field work can be started before the window closes.

*CARRIED.*

**6. OTIP review** *Alana Phillips, FLNR-TIB*

Last year (2016/17) there were 46 projects submitted for Interior OTIP; \$375,083 was requested; \$298,636 was ultimately awarded by FGC. This year (2017/18), 38 projects have been submitted for a total request of \$316,269.

**7. Cone and Seed Pest Management** *Tia Wagner, Vernon Seed Orchard Co / Ward Strong, FLNR-TIB*

PMTAC is about to put out a Call for Proposals for specific trials of pesticides that are currently not on-label for seed orchard pest control, as follows:

- European pine shoot moth: Larger-scale pesticide trial using Matador
- Fir coneworm and Douglas-fir cone moth: Assess alternatives to Dimethoate
- Pine foliar disease: (1) Assess foliar diseases and risk factor diagnosis in seed orchards, produce monitoring protocol to determine optimal control timing. (2) Screen a range of fungicides for efficacy.
- Western conifer seed bug: Trial to compare and determine efficacy of Surround vs. Matador, Delegate, and/or Perm-Up

**7. TSC Priority Processing: Protocols, Expectations and Ranking** *Dave Kolotelo, FLNR-TIB*

New procedures were implemented in 2016 for priority processing at the Tree Seed Centre. Since then, the TSC has increased capacity (including 3 new auxiliaries). One third of cone volume had priority processing requested. On average it took 61 days from receipt to having seed balances on SPAR (range: 25-109 days).

**8. Interior Seed Supply and Demand using Harvest Flow Data** *Jack Woods, SelectSeed*

Jack Woods incorporated harvest flow data (obtained from FAIB) for provincial forestry management units (MUs) into Interior seed supply and demand models for northern Lodgepole pine SPUs. Seed demand is predicted to increase due to BC Government planting programs (particularly in sites affected by mountain pine beetle), climate change effects, and harvest profile shifts.

Discussion ensued around predicting seed supply and replacement vs. expansion of seed orchards. It was noted that the current predictions have a fair amount of uncertainty and it would be useful to have more accurate models.

**MOTION** (Hilary Graham/Kori Vernier): To confirm additional number of ramets required, if any, to meet future seed demand for the SPUs noted, and use CF Principles and annual business plan process to guide orchard expansions where and when deemed necessary. *CARRIED*

**Proposed N Pli Class A Supply Strategy**

1. Proceed with selecting and establishing second-generation orchards to replace first gen orchards.
2. Keep 1st gen orchards until supply increases and/or demand declines
3. Remove 1st gen in sequential order by GW (low to high) subject to demand/supply.
4. N Pli orchard managers to submit expressions of interest to establish new 2nd gen orchards to ITAC.
5. FGC/ITAC to recommend to FLNR (CF) which orchards (and public resources) to proceed with based on EOs and as per CF Principles, including projected seed yields (per hl, ramet, and/or area).
6. FLNR to start identifying selections in 2017 for grafting and future allocations.
7. Continue to examine and refined future seed demands including government programs.
8. Strategy allows ITAC to incorporate new information and decisions re CBST, SPU areas, and forest health objectives.

**9. Extension Activities Update** *Nicholas Ukrainetz, FLNR-TIB*

Nick Ukrainetz, Margot Spence and Dan Gaudet gave several extension presentations and tours in the northern Interior. The events were well attended and feedback indicated that although tree improvement concepts were not well known among the audience, the information was well received. In 2017, plan is to do similar extension events in the southern Interior, combined with field visits if safety parameters allow.

Upcoming events:

- Barry Jaquish will be attending SISCO next week.
- Dan Gaudet and several FLRNO staff will be attending NSC.

The Tree Seed Working Group posts its newsletter online. To view and/or subscribe, visit:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/tree-seed/tree-seed-centre/cone-seed-improvement-program/tree-seed-working-group>

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The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM. Kori Vernier/Jack Woods

Next meeting: Jan 2018 in Vernon (date TBD)

Minutes prepared by Alana Phillips, FLNR

Thanks to Gary Giampa for hosting the meeting location, Greg O'Neill for organizing the lunch, and to SelectSeed for sponsoring the lunch.

Minutes approved at ITAC meeting Feb 1, 2018 held at Vernon Seed Orchard Co.