
Draft Agenda – FGC Business Meeting

8:30 am – 4:00 pm, December 8, 2017

Location: Executive Airport Plaza Hotel, Richmond BC
7311 Westminster Highway, Richmond, BC, V6X 1A3

Conference call: 1-877-353-9184 Access Code: 2396379#

Contacts:

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#	Time	Min.	Item	Presenter
	8:00	30	<i>Coffee available</i>	
1	8:30	5	Welcome and Introductions	Chair
2	8:35	5	Agenda	Chair
3	8:40	20	Action Items and Approval of minutes from Oct 18, 2017	Brian
4	9:00	30	Climate based seed transfer	Pat/Margot
5	10:00	30	CF's Principles re Public and Private Seed Orchards	Brian
	10:30	15	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
6	10:45	45	2 nd Generation Pli Seed Orchards	Kori
7	11:30	30	Seed use recommendations in response to 2017 wildfire	Pat
	12:00	45	<i>Lunch - provided</i>	
8	12:45	45	Proposals for SelectSeed funding of Ministry Positions	Pat
9	13:30	15	Response SelectSeed Board letter of Oct 8 th	Chair
10	13:45	15	FGC 2017/18 Business Plan	Brian
11	14:00	60	Budget and Business Planning for 2018/19	Chair
12	15:00	15	Future Meetings	Brian
13	15:15	15	New Business	
14	15:30		Adjourn	Chair

1. Welcome and Introductions

Call meeting to order. Confirm members and guests attending, regrets and proxies, and minute-taker. Housekeeping and safety announcements. Motions vs Resolutions.

2. Agenda

Review draft agenda, including attachments and presentations.

Suggested motion: The Agenda for this meeting is hereby approved.

3. Action Items and Minutes from October 18, 2017

Review action items and draft minutes of FGC's meeting held on October 18, 2017 in Prince George. See separate attachment.

Action Items:

Who	Actions	Status
Pat	Confirm data source (e.g. RESULTS vs SPAR) and “automated process” Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch will use to incorporate genetic gain in TSR.	Completed
Members	Send Skype contact request to “Brian T Barber” . Skype or Skype for Business to be used for future FGC conference calls	In progress
Tony, Pat, Annette and Shane Ford	Discuss Forest Health positions to assist tree breeders and resourcing options (employee, partnership with CFS or university vs consultant)	In progress
Shane Berg	Share proposed FLNR research positions with FGC and invite comments.	Completed
Pat	Prepare position description(s) for FGC to consider funding salary through another MoU with SelectSeed.	See item #8
FGC	Subject to outcome of above action item, FGC to prepare a response to SelectSeed’s June 14th letter.	See item #9
FGC or Company Members	Subject to outcome of above items, to consider drafting letter to Ministry requesting additional base-funded tree improvement position(s).	TBD
FIRM	Consider private investments in seed inventories and seed orchards (\$ and seed supply) in CBST transition plan.	See item #4
FGC	Refine FGC’s draft 2017 Wildfire Seed Use Principles and Recommendations at Dec meeting. .	See item # 7
Various actions related to Streamlining Motion	Co-chairs to to communicate new model and changes to TAC chairs and members. – Brian to prepare note for Pat to send ASAP	Completed
	ITAC/CTAC chairs to work with Ministry and FGC Program Manager to complete and issue OTIP call for proposals.	Completed
	Solicit interest from FGC members to chair GCTAC.	Completed - Shane Ford new chair
	Review historical and current allocations to programs and activities, set targets for each program at FGC’s December conference call.	See item #11
	Set date for FGC budget planning meeting end of February or early March; align TAC meeting and budget preparation with this date.	See item #11
	Review new model and update FGC Bylaws following 2018/19 budget submission – spring 2018. – as deemed necessary	TBD
	Initiate processes to develop an FGC Communication and Extension plan –2018/19	TBD

Brian	Arrange FGC thank you gifts for Pia Smets, GCTAC chair and Raoul Wiert, former NRCan rep.	Completed - Presented to Pia Nov 8, Raoul Dec 11
Brian	Initiate FGC Achievement Award nomination for Jack Woods, for FGC's consideration and presentation at March meeting.	In progress
Brian	Prepare an issue statement re need to update CF Principles for Public and Private Seed Orchard in response to CBST	See item #5
Brian	Issue Doodle Poll for full-day face-to-face meeting end Nov/early December in Richmond	Completed

Minutes

A motion approving the draft minutes from the October 18, 2017, meeting is required. The Approved minutes will be posted on the FGC website.

Suggested motion: The minutes of the FGC meeting held October 18, 2017 are hereby approved.

4. Climate-based seed transfer

Pat and Margot Spence will provide an update on CBST, informed by a stakeholder policy working group meeting to be held the previous day.

5. CF Principles re Public and Private Seed Orchards

At the previous meeting, Brian suggested these principles be updated and reviewed through a CBST-lens and in consideration of other items identified by FGC. Discussion on the item was deferred and an issue statement was requested.

Background:

In July 2010, Jim Snetsinger, Chief Forester, endorsed a set of Guiding Principles Respecting Public and Private Seed Orchard Management in BC. (see [Principles](#))

These Principles were drawn from a 2009 background paper prepared by Jack Woods and Brian Barber and comprehensive consultation process. The Principles serve to clarify the roles and responsibilities of agencies involved, and processes for planning and dispute resolution.

Discussion:

Some orchard managers have indicated further guidance from FGC is required where CBST changes the orchard parent trees that are suitable for their clients' operating areas. Excerpts below with Brian's emphasis.

Principle # 6 reads, in part...

MFR and private sector orchard owners will avoid creating redundancies when expanding existing orchards or establishing new orchards...

Where orchard redundancies result from changes in seed demand, changes to SPUs, or introduction of climate-based seed transfer standards, it is expected that orchard managers, with guidance from the FGC, will work collaboratively on FGC technical committees to develop plans to eliminate such redundancies in a fair and reasonable manner.

Principle #8 also reads, in part

Persons who manage an orchard for an SPU have a right to continue to manage an orchard for that SPU, including access to new material for that SPU.

Does the latter principle also provide a person with the right to *establish* a new orchard using parent tree materials selected using CBST and deemed suitable for the SPU's geographic area, if the new orchard would create a redundancy?

For example, can Company A with an orchard producing for SPU X replace it with an orchard consisting of parents from SPU Y (now deemed suitable for all or part of SPU X's area under CBST), if Company B already has an orchard for SPU Y and if seed supply from the latter orchard is sufficient to meet demand?

Options:

1. Existing Principles provide sufficient guidance to help resolve potential redundancies and access to new materials.
2. Replace (or interpret) "SPU" in Principle #8 with (to mean) "Operating Area."

FGC clarification will assist TACs, seed orchard managers, and tree breeders in planning orchard changes in response to CBST.

6. 2nd Generation Pli Orchards

In 2016, FGC undertook extensive analyses and discussions regarding projected Interior seed supply and demand in response to changes in AAC, harvest profiles, stocking standards, new programs and climate change.

On January 23, 2017, ITAC adopted a resolution and strategy to guide orchard expansions during this period of uncertainty. The strategy for Northern Pli Class A included

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 EOIs 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.

On March 14, 2017, FGC directed Kori Vernier (Chair of ITAC), the tree breeders, and the three parties (SelectSeed, VSOC and the Ministry orchards), to present a plan for identifying the materials and timelines for advancing towards establishment of the new second generation orchards.

This action item was deferred due to the pending introduction of CBST. In the interim, the Ministry and VSOC have submitted letters of intent (attachments). Kori will present and seek direction from FGC.

7. Seed Supply and FGC Recommendations to Diane Nicholls, Chief Forester

On September 12, 2017, FGC held a conference call to discuss seed supply and demand in response to this year's wildfires. A draft set of recommendations and principles were prepared, shared with the CF and discussed again at the Oct 18 meeting. Several edits were suggested.

A revised document is attached. Upon finalization, the recommendations will be provided to the Chief Forester for her consideration and distribution, as appropriate.

8. Proposals for SelectSeed funding of Ministry Positions

At the last meeting, members expressed support for SelectSeed to continue funding a Ministry position if term-limited, the position was incremental or transitional (e.g. succession for retiring tree breeder) and served to advance FGC's goals. Options were requested, informed by the Forest Health position discussion, for consideration at FGC's December meeting. Pat will present three potential positions for FGC's consideration. See attachment.

Suggested resolution:

RESOLVED THAT FGC direct SelectSeed to renew its MOU with the Ministry for another 3-year term to fund one FTE (salary and benefits) in the tree breeding program.

9. Response to SelectSeed's October 8th letter

On October 8, SelectSeed's Board of Directors submitted a letter to FGC regarding future revenues and investment recommendation for the Company (attachment). FGC was asked to provide direction regarding use of the company's profits.

Subject to outcome of the above agenda item, FGC should prepare a response to the Board's letter.

10. FGC Business Plan 2017/18

Brian will provide an overview of the FGC Business Plan for 2017/18. Hardcopies, if available from the printer, will also be distributed.

Updated species plans have been posted on the FGC website at:

<http://www.fgcouncil.bc.ca/doc-04-speciesplans.html>

11. Budget and Business Planning for 2018/19

FGC approved a new governance and business planning model for the 2018/19 fiscal year at its October 18 meeting (see Minutes and Streamlining Subcommittee's report).

The follow-up action items include

- Review historical and current allocations to programs and activities, set targets for each program at FGC's December conference call.
- Set date for FGC budget planning meeting end of February or early March; align TAC meeting and budget preparation with this date.

The following table includes the historic allocations to FGC's subprograms over the past several years, including 2017/18. These figures may not correspond to actual expenditures.

Subprogram	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	Ave %
Genetic Conservation	\$ 220,000	\$ 252,000	\$ 222,391	\$ 238,970	\$ 188,700	\$ 164,094	8%
Tree Breeding	\$1,062,000	\$1,265,000	\$ 1,123,265	\$ 1,130,734	\$ 1,180,000	\$ 1,341,238	43%
Genecology and Seed Transfer	\$544,240	\$387,000	\$ 265,000	\$ 361,052	\$ 428,800	\$ 455,085	15%
Operational Tree Imp. Prog.	\$584,000	\$525,000	\$ 512,274	\$ 502,622	\$ 424,000	\$ 333,201	18%
SelectSeed Orchard Expansion	\$540,000	\$0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	3%
Extension and Communication	\$28,000	\$18,000	\$ 12,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
Cone and Seed Pest Mgt.	\$112,500	\$125,000	\$ 80,670	\$ 71,072	\$ 137,000	\$ 90,383	4%
Decision Support	\$90,000	\$65,000	\$ 115,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 76,500	\$ 116,000	3%
Tree Imp. Branch administration	\$30,000	\$40,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -	1%
Applied Biotech and Other.	\$289,260	\$182,000	\$ 159,400	\$ 125,550	\$ 55,000	\$ -	5%
total	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,500,000	

Note: In 2017/18, the Forest Enhancement Society of BC provided funds to UBC's Centre for Forest Conservation Genetics to support Dr. Tongli Wang and his work on the *in situ* forest genetic conservation catalogue and ClimateBC/ClimateWNA. These costs were previously included the Genetics Conservation and Genecology subprograms, respectively.

Under the new governance and business planning model, GCTAC remains responsible for proposing budget recommendations for conservation activities. CTAC and ITAC are responsible for recommending budgets for Tree Breeding, Resilience (Genecology), and OTIP. All TACs may propose extension projects. Furthermore, tree breeding and OTIP activities will be tracked according to which value goals they contribute to (select seed % use, ave. genetic gain and pest resistance).

The 2018 OTIP Call for Proposals has been issued and closes on December 15. A committee will review applications and report recommendations to CTAC and ITAC. CTAC, ITAC and GCTAC will meet in January to early February to prepare subprogram proposed activities and budgets.

FGC may wish to consider allocating some funds to support of development of a Communication and Extension Strategy (as per Streamlining report recommendations), and contingencies.

FGC direction is required in advance to guide TACs' business planning processes and meetings.

12. New Business and Announcements

13. Future meetings

Subject to agenda item #11, the next meeting will be a budget meeting held in late February or early March.

Potential locations and dates for FGC's 2018 fall field trip will also be discussed.

14. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the FGC meeting is needed.