

## Draft Agenda - Forest Genetics Council of BC

**8:00 am – 12:00 pm, Friday, September 13, 2019**

**Location:**

Cowichan Lake Conference Centre  
7060 Forestry Road  
Mesachie Lake BC V0R 2N0  
[Link to Centre and directions](#)

**Contacts:**

Brian's mobile: 250-888-7081  
Station Office: 250-749-6811  
See Info Sheet for additional #s

**Conference call:**

1-877-353-9184 Participant Code: 2396379#

### Participants

**Forest Genetics Council of BC:**

Annette van Niejenhuis, Bevin Wigmore, Bob Johnson, Dan Peterson, Domenico Iannidinardo, Jeff Mycock (via ph) Juergen Ehling, Kori Vernier (via ph), Mark Hay (via ph), Pat Martin, and Tony Hopkin.

**Regrets (Proxy):**

Bill Laing (Kori), Dan Peterson (Pat), Gernot Zemanek ( ), Shane Ford (Pat), Shane Berg (N/A).

**Guests:**

Brian Barber (FGC Program Mgr), Henry Benskin (SelectSeed), Keith Thomas (FIRM), Kevin Astridge (FIRM), Kona Van Diest (BCTS).

### Proceedings

This quarterly general meeting of FGC will be held in person and via conference call at the Cowichan Lake Conference Centre (CLCC). The meeting is preceded by a field tour on Sept 12 hosted by the Ministry and Mosaic - agenda and details provided separately.

### 1. Agenda

There being adequate notice served and a quorum of members present, the chair may call the meeting to order, welcome participants and guests, confirm regrets and proxies, and review housekeeping and on-site safety, and confirm the agenda.

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

#	Time	Min		Topic	Presenters
1	8:00	5		Welcome, Intros, Safety and Agenda	Chair/Brian
2	8:05	5		Safety Updates	All
3	8:10	5	✓	Minutes from June 14, 2019	Brian
4	8:15	5		Action Items from April 2, 2019	Brian
5	8:20	10	✓	FGC Dashboard	Brian
6	8:30	10		Climate-based seed transfer - Update	Pat Martin/Kevin Astridge
7	8:40	20		Seed Needs Forecasting Project - Update	Brian
8	9:00	15		Extension and Communication	Brian
9	9:15	10		2019 Cone Crop	Brian
10	9:25	15	✓	FGC and SelectSeed Governance	Chair/Brian
11	9:40	10		FGC Membership	Chair

<b>12</b>	9:50	10	✓	SelectSeed Cash Flow and Income Statements	Brian
	10:00	20		<i>Coffee</i>	
<b>13</b>	10:20	15		SelectSeed Pli Orchard Update	Brian/Henry
<b>14</b>	10:35	5		Proposed Policy re Orchard Changes	Pat
<b>15</b>	10:40	15		LBIS Funding and Business Planning for 2020/21	Pat/Keith
<b>16</b>	11:00	10		Announcements and Events	Brian
<b>17</b>	11:10	10		New Business	Chairs
<b>18</b>	11:20	5		Next meeting – Dec Conference Call	Brian
<b>19</b>	11:25	10		In camera session	Chair
<b>20</b>	11:35			Adjourn	
<i>Optional – Visit to BC Forest Discovery Centre, Duncan</i>					

## 2. Safety

Members to report on any safety-related initiatives or concerns within the purview of FGC.

## 3. Minutes from FGC Meeting June 14, 2019.

The draft minutes of the FGC meeting held in Vernon and via conference call on June 14, 2019 were circulated for review and edits.

**Suggested Motion:** The minutes of the FGC meeting held June 14, 2019 are hereby approved.

Note: the minutes of the BC Forest Genetics Society and Select Seed Co Ltd's AGMs, also held on June 14, 2019, were also drafted prepared, circulated and signed-off by their respective directors for annual reporting purposed. Those minutes will be tabled for approval at their next respective AGMs.

## 4. Action Items from June 14, 2015

FGC Business Meeting:

Person(s)	Actions	Date
Brian	Request the Company's and Society's lawyer to review and identify options to streamline/simplify the Forest Genetics Council, BC Forest Genetics Society and Select Seed governance model.	Completed See #10.
Brian	Prepare FGC's 2019/20 Business Plan (minus Species Plans) including the Ministry's LBIS \$ allocations by program and activity by Sept.	In progress
Members	Provide Brian with written comments re Forsite's draft seed needs forecast project proposal.	Completed See # 7
Brian, Annette and Juergen	Establish a committee to oversee the develop and implement of a communications consultant contract and plan	Not started See item #8
Brian	Work with members and others to prepare an FGC Achievement Award Nomination for Jenji Konishi.	Deferred
Members	Confirm attendance at Sept 12-13 meeting at Cowichan Lake with Brian so accommodation and meals can be arranged in advance	Completed

Select Seed AGM (relevant to FGC)

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Brian	Request auditor prepare a paragraph explaining the differences between the company's financial statements and its cash flow (accountable advance statements).	Completed See # 12
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## 5. Dashboard

Updated Dashboard provided as a separate attachment. Refer to notes in document for summary of changes since June 14. Further discussion on several dashboard items below.

## 6. Climate-based seed transfer

Kevin Astridge was appointed to the position of Seed Policy Officer, FIRM, in July. A verbal update on CBST-related developments since June will be provided.

## 7. Seed Needs Forecast Project Proposal

At the June 14 meeting, Brian and Pat Bryant, Forsite, provided an overview of a project proposed to forecast future seed needs based on AAC, THLB, Stocking Standards and other criteria over the next 30 years by species and BEC variant. A terms of reference was shared with members and comments solicited.

Considerable progress has been made since. Brian will provide members with an overview and next steps, which include validating model assumptions with operational foresters in the weeks ahead.

## 8. Extension and Communication

At the June 14 meeting, FGC passed the following motion and action item.

**Motion:** Members request that SelectSeed provide financial support to develop and implement an FGC communication strategy. Annette/Bob. Carried.

**Action:** Brian, Annette and Juergen to establish a committee to oversee the development of a communications consultant contract.

No follow-up action by the committee has occurred to-date due to other priorities.

However, over the past few months Brian has been working in collaboration with Don Pigott, and staff from the Tree Seed Centre, WFP and Mosaic to create an interactive seed display at the BC Forest Discovery Centre's new [Forests Forever Exhibit](#).

\$1000 donations to the new exhibit were also made on behalf of the Forest Genetics Council of BC and SelectSeed, respectively.

The seed exhibit will be completed soon. Participants are encouraged to visit the Forests Forever Exhibit following the meeting. Brian will provide further details.

## 9. 2019 Crop Report and 2020 Sowing Requests

The 2019 Cone crop is much smaller than last year's record-high orchard and wild stand cone crops. Demand for seed, however, remains high and nursery space remains at a premium. Some preliminary orchard crop stats for 2019 will be provided at the meeting.

## 10. FGC and SelectSeed Governance

On June 14, FGC requested Brian ask the Company's and Society's lawyer to review and identify options to streamline/simplify the Forest Genetics Council, BC Forest Genetics Society and Select Seed governance model.

On July 30, Lance Robson, lawyer, provided a written response and the following options:

1. Re-constituting FGC in such a way that FGC and BC Forest Genetics Society become the same entity.
2. Re-constituting SelectSeed as a company under a special Act of the Legislature. The Act might provide that the company belongs to the province but that FGC appoints its directors.
3. Dissolving SelectSeed, so that the seed orchards are owned directly by BC Forest Genetics Society.
4. Amend the articles of SelectSeed to provide that FGC appoints its directors.
5. Amend the bylaws of BC Forest Genetics to provide that FGC appoints its directors.

Lance indicated the first 3 options would be difficult to achieve, but latter two would be straightforward. Brian forwarded Lance's note to the FGC co-chairs with recommendation to not make any changes at this time as the Society records and procedures are now in good order and changes would create additional work that may not result in significant time savings. If pursued, consultation with FGC, Board and others would be prudent. See attached email correspondence.

## **11. FGC Membership**

A replacement for Gernot (Interior Seed User Rep - small licensees) has not been confirmed. Representatives from community forest agreement holders are under considered.

The three-year terms for Pat (Co-Chair), Jeff (Interior Seed Producer Rep), Kori (ITAC Chair) and Dan (Ministry Operations) expire Nov. 3, 2019.

In the past, if a member does not wish to serve an additional term, the member's representative stakeholder "group" is solicited for replacement nominations. FGC recommends ITAC and CTAC chairs. All FGC nominations are forwarded to the Chief Forester via the Ministry Co-Chair.

## **12. SelectSeed Cash Flow vs Income Statements**

At the June 14 SelectSeed AGM the following request was made:

Brian to request auditor prepare a paragraph explaining the differences between the company's financial statements and its cash flow (accountable advance statements).

Angela Harrison, Manager, Grant Thornton (GT), the company's auditor, prepared a written explanation and annotated sample income statement in August. See attached PDFs. Brian will summarize Angela's response and attempt to answer any further questions.

## **13. SelectSeed Pli Orchard Update**

In July, Brian visited Quesnel to view several potential properties. He also made a presentation to Mayor Bob Simpson, city staff, and several community members re SelectSeed's intentions. Interest and support for the project was expressed. Dan Gaudet also hosted a tour of the Vernon Seed Orchard, Quesnel, for a couple of interested proponents and reporter, Lindsay Chung.

On Aug 11, Lindsay published an article of the SelectSeed's intentions in the [Quesnel Cariboo Observer](#).

On Aug 19, SelectSeed issued a call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for suitable properties for a 5000-tree Pli seed orchard through sale or lease. An EOI information package and application form is posted at [www.selectseed.ca](http://www.selectseed.ca).

Brian also prepared project plan, with key activities and timelines, for the Board. A summary of next steps for this project will be provided.

#### **14. Proposed Policy re Orchard Changes**

At FGC's April meeting, Pat Martin described several challenges associated with implementing changes to seed orchards under existing policies, procedures and the [Chief Forester's Seed Orchard Principles](#).

Feedback was solicited in person and in writing. The topic was deferred at FGC's June meeting pending internal Ministry deliberations. Pat will provide a brief update.

#### **15. LBIS Funding and Business Planning for 2020/21**

Over the past two decades the Ministry has distributed funds and issued contracts to seed orchards, and other proponents, based on eligibility criteria and a Call for Proposals jointly prepared by the Ministry and ITAC and CTAC members.

The Ministry is reviewing its policies and procedures respecting the distribution of government funds for OTIP projects. Pat will provide a brief update on proposed changes in advance of the next Call for Proposals, which were issued Nov-Dec in previous years.

Also at the April meeting, FGC discussed options request an increase in government funding for the forest genetics program, and the alignment with FGC and Ministry business planning timelines.

Pat and Keith will present some proposals to improve FGC business planning, clarify roles, and sync with Ministry's budget planning cycle for 2020/21.

#### **16. Announcements and Events**

Brian and several others from BC attended the Canadian Forest Genetics Association meeting in Quebec August. Brian will share a few meeting highlights and pictures of the field trip to Grandes-Piles Forest Nursery, Seed Orchards and Experimental Plantations.

Brian was elected Chair, CFGA, in anticipation of BC hosting the next biannual meeting in 2021. The CFGA meeting will be held in Vernon in (June?) 2021 in conjunction with the Western Forest Genetics Association (Nick Ukrainetz, President) and one or more IUFRO working groups.

Northern Silviculture Committee (NSC) field workshop will be held in Mackenzie on Sept 24-25. The Southern Silviculture Committee (SISCO) field trip will be held in the Okanagan the same week. The Forest Nursery Association of BC (FNABC) will meet in Sydney Oct 1-2.

The next meeting of IUFRO Seed Orchard Working Group will be held in Nanjing, China, in October 2019. Further details at: <http://seedorchard2019.njfu.edu.cn/>

#### **17. New Business**

Topics to be identified at start of meeting.

#### **18. Next meeting**

The December FGC quarterly meeting is usually 3-4 hrs and held via conference call. Participants are asked to identify available date. A Doodle Poll may be issued if no mutually convenience time is determined.

#### **19. In camera session**

Guests will be asked to leave during this portion of the meeting.

**Suggested Motion:** Move to meeting *in camera* for FGC members only.

## **20. Adjourn**

**Suggested Motion:** The meeting is hereby adjourned at (time)

### **Optional - Visit to BC Forest Discover Centre – Duncan**

Free admission to see new [Forests Forever Exhibit](#).

2892 Drinkwater Road, Duncan, BC V9L 6C2 (Next to Tourist Information Centre on Hwy #1)

**Phone:** (250) 715-1113