

AGENDA

1:00 – 3:30 - Wednesday, December 17, 2014

Conference call:

1-877-353-9184 (toll free from outside Vancouver)

604-681-0260 (from the lower mainland)

Code: 2396379#

Time	Length (min.)	#	Item	Presenter
1:00	10	1	Review agenda	Brian
1:10	5	2	Approval minutes from September 17, 2014	
1:15	10	3	Old business and action items from September 17, 2014	Jack
1:25	20	4	Breeder succession	Brian / Jack
1:45	30	5	Strategic Plan update	Jack / Brian
2:15	15	6	Seed supply/demand and orchard capacity	Jack
2:30	15	7	Extension subprogram	Brian / Jack
2:45	15	8	Non THLB use of class-A seed	Lee / Brian
3:00	10	9	Update of FGC business planning process	Jack
3:10	10	10	New business	
3:20	5	11	Dates for 2015 meetings	
3:25			Adjourn	

Agenda item 3 – Action items from September 17, 2014

Responsibility	Action	Action taken
Brian	Prepare thank-you letters to Patti Kagawa and Dan Peterson for their work and contributions to the FGC.	Done
Jack	Prepare a report on expected seed demand for all interior seed planning units with orchards for the December, 2014 FGC meeting.	To be presented Dec. 17th
Jack	Complete the 2013/14 Annual Report publication and circulate it to FGC members with a resolution to approve it for publication. A vote on the resolution will take place by email prior to October 31, 2014.	Done
Strategic Planning Committee	Develop framework objectives for a new Strategic Plan for the period 2015-2019. The following timeline was agreed upon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early November 2014 - first draft of framework objectives; solicit feedback from FGC members Mid January 2015 - prepare a full draft of the 5-year Strategic Plan for 2015-2019 Late February 2015 - Final draft of Strategic Plan 	Underway

Briefing notes

Agenda item 4 – Tree breeder succession – Brian / Jack

SelectSeed funding of breeder in FLNRO

Brian has proposed that SelectSeed Ltd. provide funds directly to the FLNRO to hire an interior tree breeder. Ministry Executive have approved hiring a person if SelectSeed pays. The SelectSeed board has reviewed this request. It is a substantial commitment for SelectSeed and is not currently built into its approved business plan. The Board has approved a set of terms for discussion that would be built into an agreement for the provision of the funding.

Attachments sent separately:

- SelectSeed Ltd. terms for breeder hire DRAFT Nov 17_14.docx

Manager, Tree Improvement Branch Forest Genetics Section

Barrie Phillips will be retiring early in January 2015. Recruitment for a replacement will take place in the new year.

Congratulations, Barrie, and all the best!!

White paper on breeder succession

Tree Improvement Branch staff are preparing a discussion paper on the need for breeder succession and the priorities for hiring. This is expected to be available early in 2015 and will support efforts for the approval and retention of FTE's.

Agenda Item 5 – Strategic Plan update – Jack/Brian

The following activities have taken place in support of Strategic Plan development since the September 2014 FGC meeting:

- Dialogue with FLNRO forest health specialists to get input on forest health priorities (information being gathered now)
- Genetic Conservation TAC discussion on Strategic Plan section; review underway
- Draft Strategic Plan prepared

Following input from forest health specialists and the GCTAC, further revisions to the Strategic Plan will be prepared and circulated to the Strategic Planning Committee for input. Completion of the Strategic plan by late February, 2015 is still expected.

Agenda item 6 – Seed supply/demand profiles and orchard capacity - Jack

At the September 2014 FGC meeting a report on interior seed supply and demand was presented. This report has been updated to include all Pli, Fdi, and Sx seed planning units.

Two key types of information are still required, both of which can substantially change expected seed supply and demand profiles.

1. Updated orchard seed production histories (expectations of seeds produced per ramet as orchards age). This information is being developed by a contractor working for SelectSeed Ltd. and is expected to be available in January, 2015.
2. Adjustments to the sowing factors used in the analysis. These factors should reflect future nursery sowing. Current sowing factors were summarized from SPAR by Stephen Joyce and these will be part of a discussion among ITAC members and nursery managers. SPAR information is not complete, as sowing factors assume some level of over-production that is not considered in SPAR, or

Briefing notes

sowing factors are changed at the nursery level from what is summarized in SPAR. Sowing factor assumptions can have a major impact on estimates of needed orchard size.

Using information from this report, seed planning units can be logically grouped to:

- adequate orchard capacity; no immediate changes needed
- insufficient orchard capacity; expansion needed
- excessive orchard capacity; reductions needed or reallocations of capacity to a different SPU desirable

A report entitled "Interior seed demand and supply Dec 2014" was sent separately

Agenda item 7 – Extension subprogram - Brian

Diane Douglas will be retiring in 2015. She has chaired the Extension TAC for many years. A discussion of how to proceed with extension is needed.

Agenda item 8 – Non-THLB use of class A seed - Brian

As reported to Council in March, 2014 by Lee Charleson, Class A Pli, Fdi and Sx seed is sometimes used for planting land outside the timber harvest land base for carbon offset projects. This use has averaged about 1 million seedlings per year over the past 5 years. A-seed is also sold periodically to clients in the USA and overseas. There are currently no controls or restrictions on the sale of A seed to third-parties.

Question for discussion: Considering the significant public investment in tree breeding and seed orchards in BC, should FGC or FLNR develop some principles or policies restricting the sale of seed to third-parties for use outside of BC's THLB?

Agenda item 9 - Update on business planning for 2015/16

Technical Advisory Committees have the following plans for developing budget recommendations:

CTAC - Late February meeting. Breeder budget discussions

ITAC - February 24, 25 meeting. Breeder budget discussions to be carried out prior to the meeting.

PMTAC - February 24th meeting. Project development to take place in advance of February 24th.

SelectSeed Ltd. business planning will be completed prior to the FGC March budget meeting.

Seed Transfer TAC - Conference call held Nov. 20th. Call for proposals to be released in December. Budget discussions to be completed in late February.

Genetic Conservation TAC - Conference call held Dec. 3rd. Budget discussions to be completed in late February.

Decision Support TAC - budget will be completed by late February

Extension TAC and - To be determined

The **Operational Tree Improvement Program** call for proposals was released in early December. Proposal reviews to take place in early February.