

Agenda - Forest Genetics Council of BC

9:00 am – 12:00 pm, Tuesday, December 11, 2018

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

In-person (for those in Victoria area): Rm 273, 1520 Blanshard, Victoria

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Proceedings

These meetings will be conducted via conference call. Members and guests may also attend in person at address above. Please confirm attendance in advance for security check-in

Revised Agenda – Forest Genetics Council of BC

#	Time	Min.		Item	Presenter
1	9:00	3		Introductions and Agenda	Co-chairs
2	9:03	2		Membership	Co-chairs
3	9:05	5		Safety	Co-chairs
4	9:10	5	✓	Minutes from Sept 27, 2018 meeting	Co-chairs
5	9:15	5		Action items from Sept 27, 2018 meeting	Brian
6	9:20	15	✓✓	Climate-based seed transfer update	Pat/ Margot
13	11:10	20	✓	Budget and Business Planning 2019/20	Pat
7	9:35	15	✓	OTIP Review and new Pli Seed Orchards	Annette/Pat
8	9:50	10	✓	SelectSeed Co. Ltd. Business Case for new Pli Orchards	Brian
9	10:00	10		Select seed use trends	Brian
10	10:10	15	✓	Communications Strategy	Juergen/ Brian
11	10:25	15	✓	Dashboard	Domenico
	10:40	20		Bio Break	
12	11:00	10		TAC reports	Shane/Kori/Annette
14	11:30	5		Next meeting	
15	11:35	5		New Business	Brian
16	11:40	5	✓	<i>Next Meeting of the BC Forest Genetics Society</i>	Brian
17	11:45	15		In camera session	Co-chairs
				Adjourn	

1. Introductions and Agenda

There being adequate notice served and a quorum of members present, the co-chairs may call the meeting to order, welcome members and guests, confirm regrets and proxies, and review the agenda.

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

2. Membership

On Oct. 1, Bevin Wigmore was appointed to FGC as the Coastal Seed User Rep for a 3-year term effective Oct. 1, 2018. Welcome Bevin.

On Nov. 22, a luncheon was held for Dr. Rob Guy at UBC to thank him for his contributions to FGC from 2019 to Sept 2018 as the University Rep. Pat, Brian, Jack Woods, and several others were in attendance.

3. Safety

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

4. Minutes from Sept. 27, 2018.

The draft minutes of the FGC meeting held in Golden on Sept 27 were circulated for review and edits. Revised draft attached.

A motion approving the draft minutes from the Sept 27, 2018, meeting is required.

Suggested motion: The minutes of the FGC meeting held Sept 27, 2018 are hereby approved.

5. Action Items from FGC Sept 27, 2018 meeting:

Person(s)	Actions	Status
Pat	Forward recommendation to Diane Nicholls, Chief Forester to appoint Bevin Wigmore, TimberWest, to FGC as the Coastal Seed Producer rep.	Completed
Pat	Provide key messages and speaking points regarding the tree improvement program to members.	In Progress
Pat, Juergen, & Mark	Start scoping out an FGC communication and extension strategy.	See item #9
Ministry	Provide summary of CBST seed gaps and impacts.	See item#5
FGC Members	Provide comments on the draft OTIP briefing note and options	See item #6
OTIP Sub-committee	Review comments received on OTIP briefing note, revised and circulate to ITAC and CTAC, and set up conference call with FGC to discuss.	See item #6
SelectSeed	Prepare a business case proposal for a next generation seed orchard for the new 'BV' zone, in the range of 5-10k ramets, for FGC by Nov 30.	See item#7
Domenico, Bill & Brian	Scope out an FGC "dashboard" and provide progress report.	See item #10
Brian	Issue Doodle Poll for next FGC meeting Dec 11 or 12.	Completed

Updates

The ministry's public consultation on a proposed update to seed and services fees has been delayed to January.

The future seed forecast analysis championed by Jeff Mycock and Pat Martin (terms of reference shared earlier) has been delayed. A request for proposals will be issued soon with consultant selected in the new year.

6. Climate-based seed transfer update

Standing item. Margot Spence will provide an update on the CBST – including gaps and impacts. See two attachments.

7. OTIP Review and new Pli Seed Orchards

At FGC's Sept 27 meeting, a draft briefing note regarding Operational Tree Improvement Program (OTIP) funding eligibility for orchard ramet replacements and expansion was circulated and discussed.

The briefing note was revised, and comments solicited from FGC and ITAC members and others. The ad hoc OTIP review committee submitted its final note to FGC and the Ministry on Nov 14, 2018. (Attached)

The Ministry accepted the committee's recommended eligible activities for ramet replacement to improve genetic gain and included them in its annual OTIP [Call for Proposals](#) issued on Nov. 29.

The following additional restriction (in bold) was also added to this year's call.

- Establishment of new orchards and expansion of existing orchards will not be considered under this call. **This includes funding for grafting and planting ramets for seed orchard expansion**

Pat will explain the Ministry's proposed plan for organizing and funding scion collection and grafting of second generation Pli ramets.

8. SelectSeed Co. Ltd. Business Case for a new Pli orchard

Following a discussion on SelectSeed's cash reserves and future Pli seed orchard needs, FGC passed the following motion.

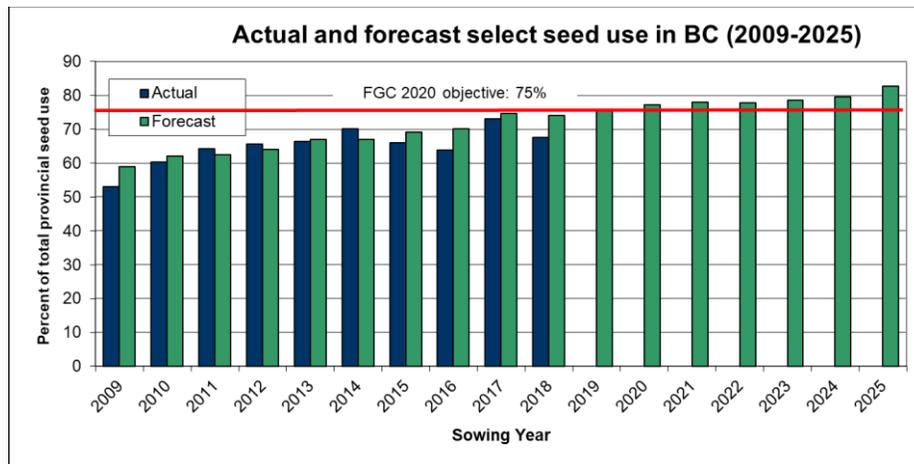
Motion: Council directs SelectSeed to propose a business case for a next generation Pli seed orchard for the new BV zone in the range of 5,000-10,000 ramets.

A short report outlining SelectSeed's progress to-date and next steps in developing its business case is attached.

9. Select Seed Use Trends

This information is provided to inform FGC of current seed use trends and as background for the next agenda items.

FGC's Annual Report tracks progress of goals and performance measures for select seed use and genetic gain. The 2017/18 annual report, also in progress, will include the following select seed use graph.



Select seed use (A and B+ seed) as a percent of total seed was 73% in the 2017 sowing year. It dropped to 68% in 2018 as a result of higher total sowing requests - 268M in 2017 vs 280M in 2018 (including non-SPAR sowing requests for private land) and limited supplies of Pli orchard seed. Of the 104M Pli seedlings requested in 2018, only 28% were grown from Class A seed, compared to 40% in 2017.

Sowing requests for 2019 currently total 211M seedlings, compared to 203M at this time last year. Total seedling requests for 2019 are estimated to be 280-300M due to the 2017-18 wildfires. Nursery space is limited and seedling prices are higher, which could result in higher seed utilization to optimize seedling production. The 2018 Pli orchard crop has also not yet been registered due to the large Sx and Fdi crops.

Members comments on response to [Chief Forester Guidance on Seed Supply and Use in Areas Affected by the 2017 Wildfires](#) are welcome.

10. Communications Strategy

At the last meeting, Pat, Juergen, Mark volunteered to start scoping out an FGC Communication and Extension strategy.

See a separate report with options and next steps attached.

11. Dashboard

At the previous meeting, Domenico, Bill and Brian offered to scope out Dashboard.

A separate report attached for members consideration and comment.

12. TAC Updates

The Genetic Conservation Technical Advisory Committee (GCTAC) held a meeting at UBC on Nov. 22. A revised species conservation status report (including updated methodology and data), project reports, and TAC membership were reviewed. GCTAC will hold a face-to-face meeting before fiscal year-end to complete the status report, identify species priorities, and update the [2009 genetic conservation strategy for white-bark pine](#).

Interior TAC (ITAC) will hold its annual extension and business planning meetings in Vernon on Feb 5-6, 2019. Agenda and registration information to follow soon.

Coastal TAC (CTAC) is also planning a meeting in Feb 2019. Dates and location to be determined.

13. Business and Budget Planning for 2019/20

In Jan 2018, Pat provided the TAC Chairs with a letter containing instructions for preparing plans, priorities and budgets for fiscal year 2018/19. See attached.

The following table outlines the targets, recommendations and the ministry's subsequent LBIS allocation to FGC's programs.

Program	2017/18 Allocation	Budget Targets 2018/19		TAC Recommendations		FGC Recommends		FIRM Initial Allocations (April 20 2018)
Genetic Conservation	\$ 164,094	\$ 200,000	\$ 220,000	\$ 199,994	\$ 219,845	\$ 199,994	\$ 219,845	\$ 193,994
Tree Breeding (Vol & Pests)	\$ 1,341,238	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,680,750	\$ 1,680,750	\$ 1,453,847	\$ 1,610,338	\$ 1,521,006
Resilience (e.g. CBST)	\$ 571,085	\$ 550,000	\$ 580,000	\$ 521,159	\$ 521,159	\$ 521,159	\$ 521,159	\$ 460,000
OTIP	\$ 423,584	\$ 350,000	\$ 400,000	\$ 325,000	\$ 348,658	\$ 325,000	\$ 348,658	\$ 325,000
Total	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,700,000	\$ 2,726,903	\$ 2,770,412	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,700,000	\$ 2,500,000

Pat will outline the expectations for the 2019/20 LBIS allocation to tree improvement, and how the ministry's proposed activities and budgets for conservation, breeding, and resilience activities will be prepared and presented to TACs.

Members will discuss business and budget planning for 2019/20, and direction to TAC chairs and members.

14. Next Meeting

FGC has also held a one-day face-to-face business planning and budget meeting in March. A location and dates should be identified well in advance. Members are asked to check their calendars for suitable dates the weeks of March 4, 11 and 18. A Doodle Poll can be issued if a date cannot be agreed upon at this meeting.

15. New Business and Updates

As part of Brian's annual performance review, the FGC Co-chairs and SelectSeed Board tasked Brian with the following for this fiscal year:

Identify relevant new and emerging issues and opportunities, and assist FGC in developing strategies in response to these by conducting one-on-one interviews with FGC members to solicit their view and ideas, identify challenges and options, manage conflicts and create alignment on potential solutions.

Brian will contact current and recent-past FGC members to schedule interviews between mid-Dec. and the end of Jan 2019. Brian will provide some questions in advance to help guide these conversations. Feedback will also be used to improve FGC conducts its meetings and affairs. A report to Co-chairs will be provided in advance of FGC's March meeting.

16. Next meeting of the BC Forest Genetics Society

As reported at previous FGC meetings, all BC societies were required to update their constitution and bylaws, and submit a Transition Application to the BC's Registrar by Nov 28, 2018 to comply with the [BC Societies Act \(2016\)](#). Several minor changes to the [BC Forest Genetics Society Constitution and Bylaws](#) (last updated in 2002) were required. The changes were administrative in nature and did not require a members' resolution.

The Society's updated Constitution and Bylaws, and transition plan were filed by the Society's lawyer on Nov. 21, 2018. See attached Transition Plan.

An extraordinary meeting of the BC Forest Genetics Society will be called in January to review the Society's Constitution and Bylaws, membership, and to elect new directors (Rob Guy and Scott King are no longer members of FGC but remain officers of the Society). The Society's relationship with FGC and SelectSeed, and members duties and obligations will also be reviewed.

A Doodle Poll will be used to identify a mutually suitable date for a 60-90 minute conference call in mid- January 2019.

17. In camera session

For FGC members only. Guests will be asked to leave for this portion of the agenda.

Adjourn

A resolution to adjourn the FGC meeting is needed.