

Minutes of the Forest Genetics Council

Time/Date: 2: 45 pm – 4:30 pm, Wednesday, June 14, 2021

Participants

Members: Annette van Niejenhuis, Bevin Wigmore, Bill Laing, Bob Johnson, Caitlin Harrison, Dan Mazerolle, Domenico Iannidinardo, Gordon Chipman, Jeff Mycock, Juergen Ehling, Katherine Spencer, Keith Thomas, and Pat Martin.

Regrets (proxy): Juergen Ehling (Dan)

Guests: Shane Berg, Deputy Chief Forester; Directors and Officers of SelectSeed: Henry Benskin, Kerry McGourlick, Jim Burbee, Rod Willis, Jack Woods and Brian Barber.

Proceedings

This quarterly general meeting of FGC was held immediately following the AGMs of the BC Forest Genetics Society and Select Seed Co. Ltd.

Summary of Actions:

Person(s)	Actions	When
Brian	Update Dashboard to include performance measures in the new 5-year strategic plan	Next meeting
FGC	Review new Strategic Plan’s activities and measures	Next meeting
Pat	To confirm and prepare CF re-appointment letters for FGC councillors, and a letter for Sally John, new SelectSeed Director	Sept.
Pat, Dom and Gord	Draft an FGC membership policy or memo	Next meeting
Brian	Issue Doodle Poll for fall field trip to Quesnel for Oct 12-15.	ASAP

1. Agenda

There being adequate notice served and a quorum of members present, Domenico, called the meeting to order, welcomed members and guests, confirm regrets and proxies, and reviewed the agenda.

Motion: The Agenda prepared for this meeting is hereby approved. Annette/Bob. Carried

2. Safety

No safety safety-related initiatives or concerns were reported. All operations continue to remain diligent in preventing spread of Covid-19. Most members have received 1 or 2 vaccinations!

3. Minutes from April 16, 2021.

The draft minutes of the FGC meeting held on April 16, 2021 were reviewed.

Motion: The minutes of the FGC meeting held April 16, 2021, as amended, are hereby approved. Kat/Dan. Carried.

4. Action Items from April 16, 2021

Person(s)	Actions	Status
Brian	Finalize 2021-2025 Strategic Plan and provide file to Pat for printing and distribution.	Completed
Co-Chairs	FGC to add climate change and other funding opportunities to a future agenda.	TBD
Co-Chairs	FGC to discuss the laws and principles respecting orchard seed pricing at an upcoming meeting.	TBD
Co-Chairs	FGC to review and identify priorities for 2021/22 at an upcoming meeting	TBD

Re climate change funding: Dan recommended FGC members review the Federal governments call for proposals under the 2 billion tree planting program to look for potential opportunities. Dan also indicated Michael Stoehr was contracted to help identify key R&D priorities for NRCAN in BC. An interim report will be shared with Pat and FGC.

Action: FGC to review new strategic plan activities and measures at next meeting.

5. Dashboard

An updated Dashboard was not provided in advance of the meeting. Brian apologized for the oversight.

Action: Brian to update Dashboard to include performance measures in the new 5-year strategic plan for next meeting.

6. Membership and Directors

FGC members are appointed for 3-year term by the Provincial Chief Forester. Members may be reappointed. Members represent various stakeholder groups, as per the Article 3 of the [FGC Bylaws](#).

Domenico was reappointed as Industry Co-chair for another 3-year terms on May 17, 2021.

The following members terms expire in the coming months.

Bevin Wigmore, RPBio	Coastal Seed Producer	Sept 30, 2021
Bill Laing, RFT	Interior Seed User - Large Tenures	Sept 1, 2021
Dr. Jürgen Ehlting	Academia	Aug 31, 2021
Robert Johnson, RPF	Coastal Seed User	Sept 1, 2021

Bevin and Rob expressed interest in serving another term. Others were asked to confirm before their terms end.

Action: Pat to confirm and prepare reappointment letters for FGC councillors, and prepare a letter for Sally John, new SelectSeed Director.

9. New Business

FGC Membership. In consideration of the recently developed guiding principles for appointing new directors to SelectSeed's board of directors, and since FGC Bylaws (Article 3 - Membership) do not identify desired qualifications/attributes for FGC councillors, interest was expressed in reviewing FGC's governance policies respecting membership nominations.

Action: Pat, Dom and Gord to draft an FGC membership policy or memo.

10. News and Events

The Canadian and Western Forest Genetics Associations co-hosted a successful virtual symposium featuring student and post-doc from around the world. Over 220 registered. 12 prizes were awarded to the top oral and poster presentations. There is considerable interest in hosting an in-person meeting in the Okanagan summer 2022.

The BC Seed Orchard Association will hold a virtual conference on June 16, 2021. A link to agenda and registration was provided.

Dan announced that Tony Hopkins, former FGC member, retired last week. Also announced Lise Caron, Director General, Canadian Wood Fibre Centre, will be retiring.

11. Next meeting

FGC has held a fall field trip each year, with the exception of last year due to Covid-19. Members were interested in a fall field trip to visit the new Pli seed orchards in Quesnel and PG. Jeff offered to include field stops for commercial thinning and reforestation en route to PGTIS. A half-day FGC meeting would follow in PG. The days following Thanksgiving in October was identified as a suitable week. Field trip and meeting would be subject to provincial health orders in place.

Action: Brian to issue Doodle Poll for fall field trip to Quesnel for Oct 12-15, 2021.

12. In camera session

Motion to move the meeting in camera. Annette/Bob. Carried.

Motion to move the meeting out of in camera. Keith/Gord. Carried.

13. Adjourn

The meeting is hereby adjourned. Dan/Kat. Carried.

Draft minutes by Brian Barber.

Approved October 15, 2021