



March 20, 2024

VIA EMAIL: domenico@mosaicforests.com
 Keith.Thomas@gov.bc.ca

Domenico Iannidinardo, RPF, PEng, RPBio Industry Co-Chair and
Keith Thomas, PAg Ministry Co-Chair
Forest Genetics Council of British Columbia

Dear Domenico and Keith;

The Forest Genetics Council of BC (FGC) provides valued advice and coordination of forest genetics activities in the Province. Your contributions over the past couple of decades have helped make British Columbia a world leader in forest genetic research, tree breeding, and orchard seed production.

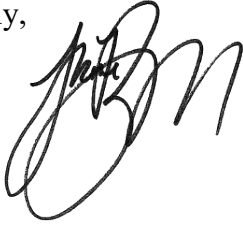
As you are very much aware climate change is impacting British Columbia's forests at a level never before seen with drought, pests and fire impacting the landscape. These disturbances combined with changing forest values present challenges in seed supply and seed planning. So, it was with great interest that I read the results of your recent FGC Challenge Dialogue workshop that focused on advancing the stewardship of BC's seed supply and forest genetic resources in this time of significant change.

Your workshop produced a number of progressive and forward-thinking actions that will provide the province with a seed supply that will help meet the challenges we face. I feel you have captured the priority ranking of the actions and I would appreciate you focusing your efforts on the following as they will set the stage for implementing other actions on the list:

- 1) Update seedling demand and supply forecasts using the existing tool, and to reflect changes to the THLB, fires and 2BT.
- 2) Develop a seed supply strategy that assesses current orchard capacity, identifies gaps, quick wins, and longer-term needs.
- 3) Introduce First Nations Forestry Council to FGC by hosting one of its meetings at the Kalamalka Research Station and discuss the best ways to engage FNs.
- 4) Update the genetic conservation strategy in consideration of CC and Canada's commitments to biodiversity under COP 15.

Thank you for your continued commitment to advancing the management of BC's forest genetic resources and I look forward to receiving updates on the progress you are making on these actions.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shane Berg', with a large, stylized 'B' and 'M' at the end.

Shane Berg, R.P.F.
ADM Chief Forester

pc: Albert Nussbaum, Deputy Chief Forester, Office of the Chief Forester
 Kevin Astridge, Seed Policy Officer, Office of the Chief Forester