

Draft Agenda - Forest Genetics Council of BC

8:30 am – 12:00 pm, Wednesday, April 8, 2020

Changed to Skype Video & Conference Call:

<https://unite.gov.bc.ca/gov/meet/keith.thomas/7ZDQ9V2C>

Conference call #:

1-877-353-9184

Participant Code: 2396379

Contact:

Brian: 250-888-7081

Participants

Forest Genetics Council of BC:

Annette van Niejenhuis, Bevin Wigmore, Bill Laing, Bob Johnson, Domenico Iannidinardo, Gord Chipman, Jeff Mycock, Juergen Ehling, Katherine Spencer, Keith Thomas, Mark Hay, Pat Martin, Tony Hopkin.

Guests:

Brian Barber (FGC Program Mgr), Shane Berg (OCF), Henry Benskin (SelectSeed), Stephen Joyce (FIRM), Kevin Astridge (FIRM), Darrell Wood (FIRM), Pat Bryant and Kat Gunion (Forsite).

Proceedings

This quarterly general meeting of FGC will be held via **Skype video and conference call hosted by FIRM**. Click on URL above. If you don't have Skype for Business software on your computer, join using the Skype for Business Web app. You will be prompted to download a Web app plug-in.

Please use Conference Call # for Audio. Please join meeting and call in 5 minutes in advance of the meeting start time to check video and audio connections.

Proposed Agenda

#	Time	Min		Topic	Presenters
1	8:30	10		Welcome, Intros and Agenda	Pat/Domenico
2	8:40	20		Safety First	All
3	9:00	10	✓	Minutes and Actions from December 11, 2019	Brian
4	9:10	10	✓	FGC Dashboard	Brian
5	9:20	60		Business Planning and Budget 2020/21	
				a. Overview	Pat M
				b. TAC Chair Reports	Kat - ITAC Annette - CTAC Juergen- GCTAC
				c. OITP	Darrell
				d. Est. Expenditures 2019/20 and Budget 2020/21	Keith
				e. Discussion, recommendations, next steps	All
	10:20	10		Break	
6	10:30	20		SelectSeed Business Plan 2020/21	Brian/Henry

7	10:50	20	Seed Needs Forecast Project	Brian/Pat B/Kat G/Jeff
8	11:10	10	Extension and Communication	Brian/Annette/Juergen
#	Time	Min	Topic	Presenters
9	11:20	20	FGC Strategic Plan Outline	Pat/Domenico
10	11:40	5	News and Events	All
11	11:45	5	New Business	
12	11:50	5	Next meeting	
13	11:55	5	In camera	
14	12:00		Adjourn	

Attachments

1. Draft Minutes December 11, 2019 (Word.docx)
2. FGC Dashboard – Updated April 3, 2020 (Word.docx)
3. Draft SelectSeed Business Plan 2020/2021 (Word.docx)
4. Forecasting Seedling Needs Project Report (PDF)
5. FGC 2020-25 Draft Strategic Plan (Word.docx)

1. Welcome, Intro & Agenda

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

New FGC Members include Katherine Spencer, ITAC Chair, and Gordon Chipman, Interior Seed User (Small Licensees). The FLNR Operations Rep position remains vacant.

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

2. Safety First

Members to report on Covid 19 and other safety-related initiatives within the purview of FGC.

3. Minutes and Action items from FGC Meeting December 11, 2019.

The draft minutes of the FGC meeting held Dec. 11, 2019 were circulated in advance.

Suggested Motion: The minutes of the FGC meeting held Dec. 11, 2019 are hereby approved.

Action Items from Dec. 11, 2019:

Person(s)	Actions	Status
Pat and Annette	Follow-up with BC Forest Safety Council to identify potential partnership with AgSafe BC.	Report
Brian	Follow-up with FIRM re posting OTIP Project Reports	In progress
Pat	Forward FGC nomination for ITAC Chair to Diane Nicholls	Completed
Pat and Brian	Discuss and arrange suitable recognition for departing councillors	In progress
Pat, Domenico and Brian	Discuss process for updating FGC’s strategic plan and present options to FGC.	Item #9
Brian	Strike committee to prepare CBST-based species plans	In progress Item #7
Brian, Annette and Juergen	Continue to work on Communications Plan and Website changes	Item #8
FGC Members	Provide comments on the draft FGC Governance Report to Brian	Completed
Brian	Prepare proposed changes to FGC Bylaws, Society Bylaws and Company articles for Dec 31, 2020.	In progress
Brian	Send Doodle Poll for FGC meeting for dates in early April 2020	Completed
Brian	Invite CoAdapTree social-scientist to present findings of their research at the FGC April meeting (as per June action item).	Completed but Deferred

4. Dashboard

Updated FGC & SelectSeed Dashboard provided as a separate attachment.

5. Business Planning and Budget 2020/21

Overview – Pat Martin

A revised business planning process adopted in Sept 2019 to better align with the Ministry’s budget cycle. FGC sent a letter to the Provincial Chief Forester (CF) on Nov. 29 requesting Land-based investment strategy (LBIS) funding for the provincial forest genetics program be increased to \$2.6M from \$2.5M. A response from the CF was received on Dec. 19, indicating an increased allocation would be a challenge but she would endeavor to secure additional funding.

Ministry staff and others subsequently prepared project proposals and budgets for FGC’s programs and presented to FGC’s TACs. Keith Thomas, FIRM, compiled a recommended budget to align with an anticipated allocation of \$2.5M.

Additional financial pressures are expected this fiscal due to the Covid 19 Crisis. Pat will provide further information at the meeting.

TAC Chair Reports

Brief updates from TAC Chairs regarding their respective meetings.

- Juergen - Genetic Conservation Technical Advisory Committee (Feb 28 at UVic)
- Katherine - Interior Technical Advisory Committee (Jan 22-23 in Vernon)
- Annette – Coastal Technical Advisory Committee (April 2 via Skype)

Operational Tree Improvement Program – Darrell Wood

Est. Expenditures 2019/20 and Budget 2020/21 – Keith Thomas

Estimated LBIS expenditures and budget for 2020/21 will be presented at the meeting.

6. SelectSeed Business Plan 2020/21

See attached Draft Annual Business Plan for Select Seed Company Ltd. for 2020/21. The plan outlines the proposed activities and budget for the Company, including services provided to FGC.

The multi-year agreement between the Ministry and SelectSeed (s. 4(2)) states the Company's annual business plan must be approved by the company's Board of Directors and FGC members.

The plan was reviewed and approved by the Company's Board of Directors on March 31, 2020. Henry Benskin, President, and Brian, will provide an overview of the business plan and key activities for the coming fiscal year, including development of an orchard replacement strategy.

Suggested Motion: SelectSeed's Business Plan for 2020/21 is hereby approved.

7. Seed Needs Forecast Project

See attached report for progress and outcomes of project to April 3. Also see project website <https://arcg.is/DHOPX>.

The project team will present an overview of the project's analysis and outputs, and their applications. The latter includes identifying breeding program and seed orchard needs and priorities, and building new CBST-based species plans. Volunteers for to assist with species plan design have been recruited from ITAC and CTAC.

8. Extension and Communication

Caroda Web Solutions, FGC's new webmaster and graphic designer, assisted with launch of a new [FGC Newsletter. Vol. 1 No. 1. - Jan. 10, 2020](#) and a subscription-based distribution list. The FGC website is being revamped and first draft will be revealed at the meeting.

9. FGC Strategic Plan 2020-2025 Draft Outline

See attached document: FGC 2020-25 Draft Strategic Plan (Word.docx)

10. News and Events

Covid 19 has resulted in cancellation and postponement of many forestry-related meetings and events. The North American Forest Genetics Society inaugural meeting scheduled for June 2020 has been postponed. Discussions underway with the Canadian Forest Genetics Society (Brian President) and Western Forest Genetics Association (WFGA) regarding joint meeting proposed to be held in the Okanagan in June 2021.

BC Seed Orchard Association meeting scheduled for June 2020 may be postponed to the following year.

11. New Business

Topics to be identified at start of meeting.

12. Next meetings

Next meeting will be held in conjunction with AGMs for the BC Forest Genetics Society and SelectSeed. These meetings are typically held in June following completion of the company's audited financial statements and annual report for the previous fiscal year.

13. 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.

14. Adjourn

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