

The Keeper of the Forests

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Foresters Act

- Practice of professional forestry
- ABCFP
- Practitioner

self-regulation $\longleftrightarrow$ *serve and protect
public interest*

Vision

*Leading the way to **diverse, healthy and sustainable forests** in British Columbia.*



Mission

*Our mission is to ensure British Columbia has **qualified forest professionals** and to support them in **providing excellence in forest stewardship**.*

There are five areas of focus in the strategic plan:

1. Leading in the Stewardship of BC Forest Lands and Ecosystems
2. Driving Excellence in Professional Practice
3. Growing our Profession
4. Enhancing Public Trust
5. Ensuring organizational Excellence



2. Driving Excellence in Professional Practice

➤ supporting practice of professional forestry

- 1. advise, judgement, perform service, direct work*
- 2. scope and implication to forests*
- 3. specialized knowledge and experience*
- 4. and includes the following*

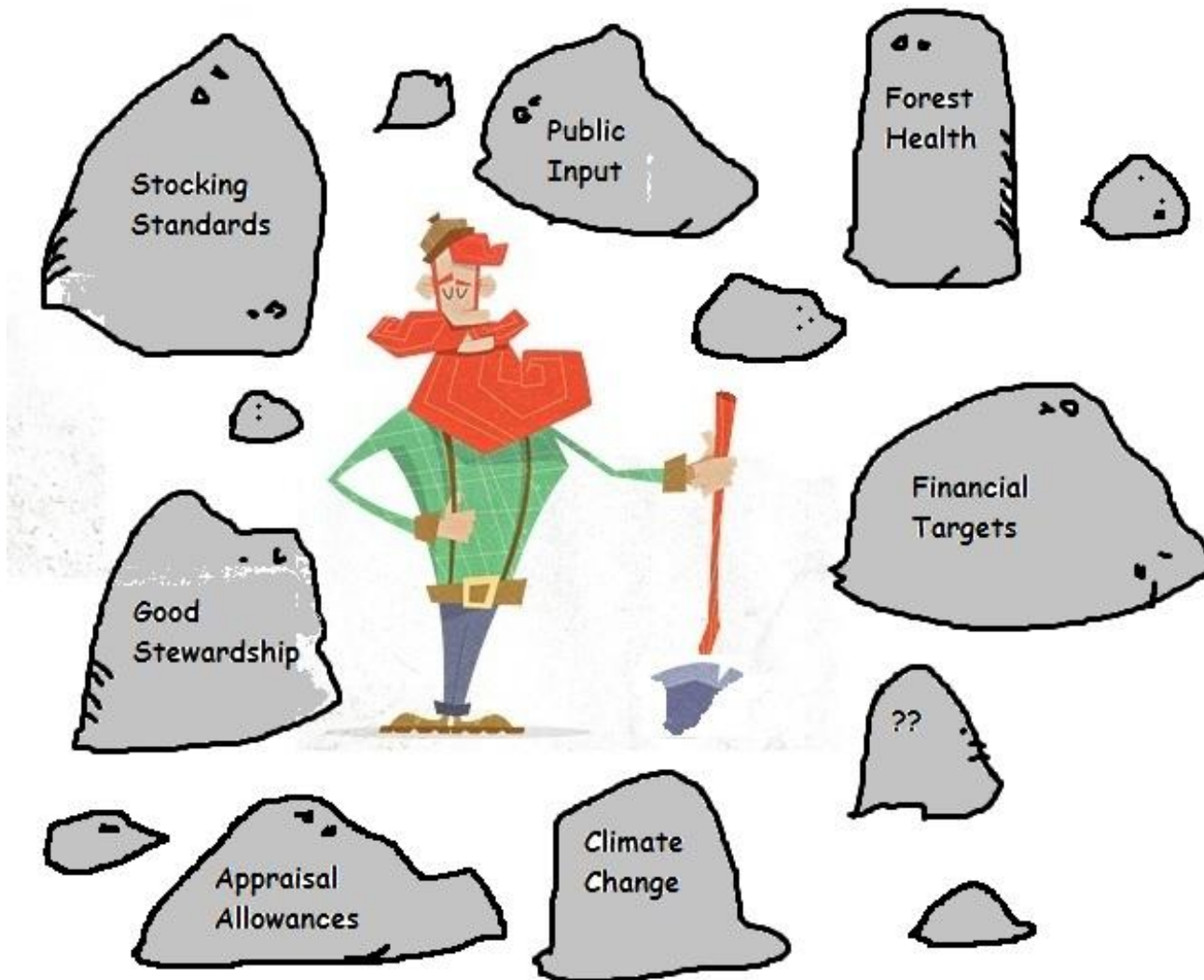
➤ Supporting independence

- *2 areas where members are consistently and independently applying professional judgement*

➤ Supporting professional service

- *written responses to questions from practicing professionals*

Managing Expectations: Between a Rock and a Hard Place



Many Forces affect the professional

➤ Willing Buyer ~ Willing Seller

Forest Act ; Finance and Administration Act

➤ Tenure holder obligations ~ Approval agency

FRPA

➤ Employer responsibilities ~ Employee duties

Employment standards Act

➤ Supervisor ~ worker

Workers Compensation Act, OH&S

Professional association ~ professional

The Forest Professional

- Stand obligations FRPA
- Revenue obligations FA
- Office responsibilities
- Employer interests
- Employment responsibilities
- Team builder
(participant)
- confidant

- Science knowledge
- Independence
- Professional judgement
- Perspective (time and size)
- Innovation

Role of the Keeper of the Forest

Value in Professional Service

- Understanding of complex issues and environments
- Application of science
 - Interveners
 - Conservators
- Leadership



The Challenge Landscape



How Can the Forest Professional Manage Challenge

- Scientifically sound (currency of knowledge)
- Recognizes / respects values and interests, often competing
- Includes relevant considerations and implications
- Clear analysis of practical options
- Balancing expectations: public, professional, employer
- Sufficient rationales provided
- Free of errors and omissions
- Meets all legal requirements
- Clearly understandable for the intended recipient
- Limitations stated and opinions qualified

The Forester Approach

- Competent (currency of knowledge)
- Gather background
- Clear analysis of practical options
- Provide the scope of options to employer
- Provide an opinion on the right balance: public, professional, employer
- Sufficient rationales provided

The Team Approach

- Common goals: adaptation, resilience.
- Allowances: silviculture is an investment as much as a cost (reversing the trend.)
- Tenures, Pricing, Stewardship, Licensees: Get together. The answer is in there.
- Build or re-build the collaborative process.
- Understand the fiscal realities and constraints of each others business.
- Find and enable the incentives for innovators.
- Problem solve locally: can be in spite of inadequate policy.
- Challenge status quo. Think forward. Think legacy.

Climate Change: What is the ABCFP doing?

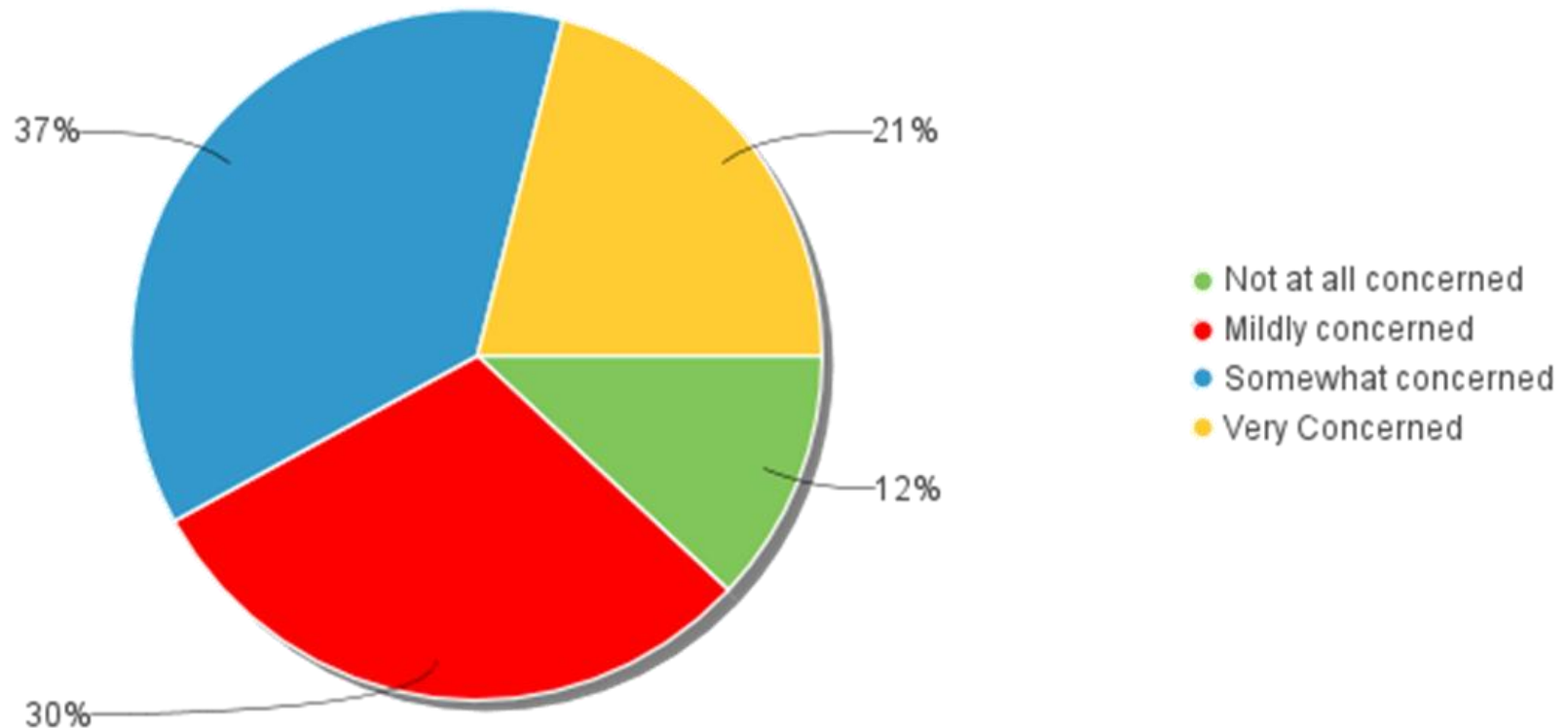
CEO established the Climate Change Task Force:

That professionals will be guided in adapting practices in a changing climate..

Work to date:

- 1st Member survey: baseline of awareness (Feb '13)
- 2nd Member survey: barriers to adaptation (Oct '13)
- Collaborating with other professions
- Working with government and the research community to foster awareness
- Practical research summaries

How concerned are you about adapting forest management to climate change?



How knowledgeable are you when it comes to deciding which forest management practices are appropriate or suitable for adapting to climate change?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
I have no knowledge		12%	123
I have some knowledge		71%	755
I am quite knowledgeable		16%	175
I am an expert		1%	8
Total Responses			1061

Please indicate to what degree the following aspects of legislation, government policy, or standards currently limit the development and implementation of adaptation strategies in BC forestry?

	Not at all limiting	Not very limiting	Somewhat limiting	Very limiting	Don't know/Not applicable
Stocking standards	5%	13%	39%	24%	19%
Harvesting levels/AAC	12%	21%	31%	18%	18%
Chief Forester's seed use	5%	14%	37%	15%	29%
Free growing policy	6%	19%	32%	20%	22%
Timber pricing policies	18%	20%	17%	12%	33%
TSR processes	10%	18%	31%	14%	26%
BEC zones	12%	24%	36%	11%	18%
Fire mgt standards/policies	11%	23%	27%	14%	26%
Organizational focus	6%	14%	30%	20%	29%
Existing higher level plans	7%	19%	37%	15%	23%
Unrealistic expectations from growth and yield models	6%	15%	30%	21%	27%
Reliance on models that are dependent on historic data	4%	12%	33%	29%	22%

Please indicate the degree to which the following cost items limit your progress towards developing or implementing adaptation strategies in the forestry profession.

	Not at all limiting	Not very limiting	Somewhat limiting	Very limiting	Don't know/Not applicable
Human resources are insufficient	9%	15%	26%	25%	25%
Training expenses	7%	17%	29%	29%	18%
There is no perceived economic benefit to my employer/client	11%	16%	26%	23%	24%
Cost of public engagement for strategic planning..	6%	17%	31%	19%	27%
Costs of balancing multiple priorities (trade-offs)	4%	13%	37%	25%	21%
Costs of landscape level planning	5%	16%	30%	25%	24%
No incentive for increased investment in adaptation strategies	4%	10%	27%	40%	20%

Thinking about the way you do business, please indicate the degree to which the following standard practices and procedures limit developing/implementing adaptation.

	Not at all limiting	Not very limiting	Somewhat limiting	Very limiting	N/A
SOPs not updated	10%	19%	37%	17%	17%
Practices do not reflect current science	6%	19%	35%	25%	16%
Adaptation would complicate decisions	12%	28%	31%	12%	17%
Desire for stability and predictability	8%	22%	35%	16%	18%
Inability to engage policy makers	6%	16%	30%	26%	22%
Forest health strategies don't incorporate C/C	5%	16%	37%	22%	20%
Lack of knowledge	5%	14%	31%	37%	13%
Contradictory science	7%	15%	33%	31%	14%
Adaptation is inconsistent with political/business mandate	8%	13%	28%	31%	20%
Lack of concern in organization	19%	23%	27%	13%	18%
Lack of capacity	8%	14%	30%	31%	16%
Inventory/monitoring inadequate	4%	11%	26%	39%	20%

What are your suggestions for removing the barriers?

- Incorporate climate change performance measurements into corporate strategic plans to encourage innovative policy development.
- Take approach similar to AAC determinations. Every 5 yrs the CF should review the latest data on climate change, and adjust forest policy.
- Add appraisal incentives for enhanced strategies (avoid minimums.) CF should allow 5-10% risk mgt allowance.
- Gov't needs to sponsor/work with the scientific community to clarify/quantify adaptation data, concerns, and resolutions.

What are your suggestions for removing the barriers? cont..

- Allocate staff time for group discussions about implications of CC.
- Legislative fix will be necessary so Licensees can use legal framework to justify actions instead of having to fight over professional interpretations.
- Stop driving up AAC calculations by assuming high conifer regeneration densities and high conifer growth rates based on an idealized past.
- Institute a legislated requirement for implementation of a long term climate management policy covering all users of the Provincial Land base.

What are your suggestions for removing the barriers? cont..

- Need to recruit more forest professionals so that everyone has the time to consider changes like this.
- Make inventory labels reflect current state and composition of forest.
- The issue boils down to who pays and who accepts the risks if things do not work out. Figure this out and we all can move on.
- identifying the economic consequences of doing nothing. Will provide incentive for gov't to find resources

What activities have you been involved with that demonstrate climate change adaptation and long-term forest stewardship?

- inter-agency work on climate change and forest carbon
- promoting higher establishment densities
- building fail safe roads
- built into AAC determination
- contribution to research regarding potential ecological impacts resulting from climate change
- support of sustainable, renewable, natural resources (clean energy)
- development of seed transfer standards that consider adaptation to future climates
- climate adaptation trials set up
- Synthesis of research results
- ER burns
- acceptability of existing understory stocking even if it does not match current stocking standards
- vulnerability assessment
- hydrology models for operations
- professional conversation (workgroup)



For more information, contact the Professional
Practice and Forest Stewardship Team

www.abcfp.ca

