

DIVERSE SILVICULTURE PRACTICES FOR A DIVERSE FUTURE WOOD SUPPLY -

What Are the Barriers to Change and Innovation?

Outline

- Forest sector 2015-2025
- Communities 2015-2025
- Forest stewardship
 - Focus options
 - Desired infrastructure
 - Challenges & trends
- The 2015-2025 Silviculturalist
 - Barriers to change
 - Options

















21st century forest sector has & will remain changed cf the 1980 -2000 period



healthy **COMMUNITIES**

Forest Sector 2015 – 2025

Predicted construct

- Primary forest industry focused on short-term global competitiveness
- Smaller forest sector & company workforce
- Significantly reduced, lower quality & more varied wood supply
- Forest Professionals pressured to focus on delivering minimum required forest management
- Government supporting primary industry through complementary policies
- Government off-loading responsibilities to the forest industry, profession & others
- Forest management model to pressure Forest Professionals to minimize cost & take long-term stewardship risks

healthy **COMMUNITIES**

Community Focus 2015 – 2025 Community influence

Demand resilient communities - avoid boom & bust economy

- Long-term stewardship of local forests
- Local forest vision & goals customized to community desires & situation
- "Real" involvement in local forest strategic decision-making
- Increased forest-related knowledge capacity to ensure input into forest management decisions is informed
- More diversified, viable & sustainable local forest sector
- Forest Professionals providing leadership through balanced & independent support as per the Forester's Act

Forest Professionals can play a major part

Long-term Forest Stewardship Single or integrated focus

- Primary forest industry focuses on corporate needs & Government requirements
- Government focuses on supporting a competitive forest industry & applying constraints regarding public values
- Communities focus on economic resiliency

Integration & collaboration essential to avoid conflict & guide Forest Professionals



Long-term Stewardship Desired infrastructure

- Integrated local forest lands vision & goals that:
 - Is consistent with local forest conditions & potential markets
 - Emphasizes community vision & goals
 - Supports community, forest industry & Government needs
 - Provides guidance to Forest Professionals
- Supporting legislation, regulations & policy
- Efficient & effective public involvement process
- Government actions guided by sound long-term forest stewardship



Long-term Forest Stewardship Challenges & trends

- Forest managers focused on meeting employer's objectives predominately short-term
- Government desires to limit community influence
- Local Government politicians being pressured to demand longterm stewardship of local forests
- Government focusing on policies & actions to meet political goals
- Communities taking leadership role to ensure long-term stewardship & forest sector diversification
 - e.g., NRRM Forestry Rejuvenation Project
 - e.g., North Okanagan Regional District campaign against BCTS plans
 - e.g., Strathcona Regional District
 - e.g., Omineca BAC



Forest Professional 2015-2025 Barriers to embracing change

- Lack of recognition by decision-makers that things have changed & they need to as well
- Lack of innovation in balancing community demands, employer objectives & professional responsibilities in forest management plans
- Adopting a "risk adverse philosophy"
- Hesitation by Forest Professionals to move outside their comfort zone & be innovative in overcoming the barriers
- Failure to build community knowledge regarding forestry, forest management, land use, etc
- Failure to integrate public & forest manager demands with professional responsibilities
- Government reluctance to encourage secondary manufacturing



Forest Professional 2015-2025

Response to challenges & barriers

Option 1 - Retain the status quo

- Focus on employer objectives & rationalize that current practices lead to long-term stewardship
- Continue promoting the false image we are world leading SFM managers
- Take the position that the situation is beyond my control



Forest Professional 2015-2025

Response to challenges & barriers

Option 2 – Take a leadership role in adopting longterm forest stewardship

- Be a leader in encouraging development of an integrated vision & goals for local forests
- Listen to communities regarding their needs & help build knowledge capacity
- Be innovative in developing forest management plans that meet both community needs & employer objectives
- "Think outside the box" in utilizing available silviculture instruments
- Push the envelope



Summary

Forest Professionals 2015-2025

- Forest sector & Government focused on short-term decisionmaking & competitiveness
- Communities demanding influence on decisions with a longterm stewardship focus
- Need for flexibility in developing integrated vision & goals for local forests
- Existing challenges & barriers to practice long-term stewardship within an imperfect infrastructure
- Overcome challenges & barriers requires Forest
 Professionals to be innovative & take a leadership role

Will it be "status quo" or "leadership"

