REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

RDBN FORESTRY COMMITTEE
(Committee of the Whole)
Supplementary Agenda

Thursday, March 10, 2016

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RELEASE: $1 million two-year fund will provide $50,000 grants to support research and development, new technologies and techniques

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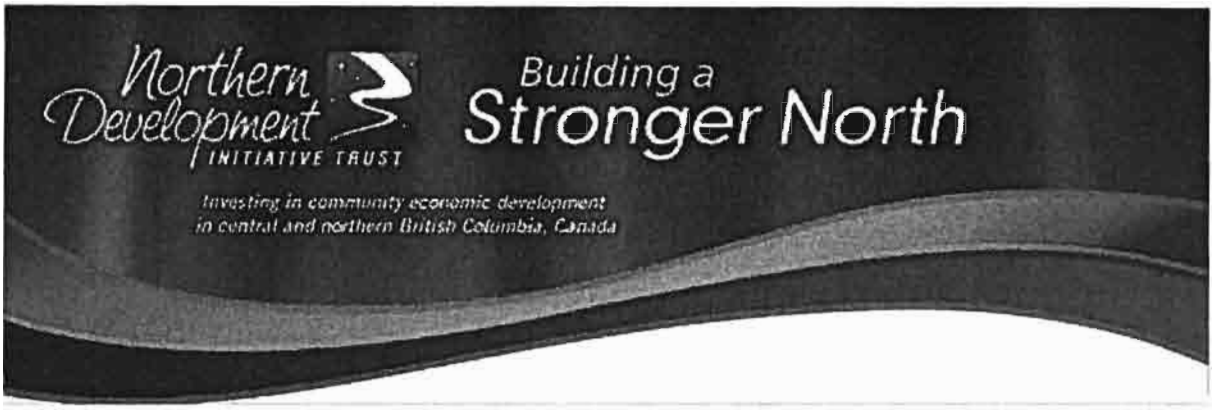

News Release

March 4, 2016
Northern Development Initiative Trust

Forest Innovation Fund will provide support for small business

PRINCE GEORGE – Forest sector research and development is getting a boost with the help of Northern Development Initiative Trust's new Forest Innovation Fund.

The fund will provide up to $1 million in grants over a two-year period for small and medium-sized companies and community forests engaged in resource extraction, resource processing and supply chain activities related to the forest sector.

The Forest Innovation Fund provides up to 50% to a maximum of $50,000 in grant funding per project to support research and development, innovative technologies, and new or improved products to optimize the fibre supply in central and northern B.C.

The fund is part of the Trust's ongoing response to the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic, which is anticipated to result in fibre supply reductions in the coming years that will impact jobs and communities in pine beetle affected areas.

The Forest Innovation Fund will focus on support for small and medium-sized enterprises, filing a funding gap in the current innovation landscape that will create positive results for the region's entrepreneurs and the communities they call home.

Examples of eligible projects include innovation in biomass and harvesting and gathering

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techniques, site remediation advancements, seedling survival enhancement, value-added forest products, new technologies and technology transfer.

Eligible companies must be privately owned, have less than 500 employees, annual revenue of less than $100 million and be based within the Trust's service area.

Applications for funding are being received on an ongoing basis. Application guides and forms can be downloaded at www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca

Quotes:

Evan Saugstad, Board Chair, Northern Development Initiative Trust
"The Forest Innovation Fund will provide support to the small and medium-sized businesses that call our communities home, employ our family members and friends and are directly impacted by the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic. These grant dollars will help our local resource sector businesses innovate and diversify, supporting jobs that are the backbone of our economy."

Shirley Bond, MLA Prince George-Valemount
"The Mountain Pine Beetle continues to have an impact on our communities. Providing support through this fund will encourage innovation and research with the goal of minimizing the impacts and maximizing business opportunities now and into the future."

Mike Morris, MLA Prince George-Mackenzie
"As we continue to address Mountain Pine Beetle damage and an increasing Spruce Bark Beetle infestation in an effort to support sustainable forestry and sustain our forest industry, it is important that we explore different ways to maintain the industry, which could include seedling survival enhancement, new technologies and technology transfer."

Steve Thomson, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
"The Forest Innovation Fund aligns well with the recent $85 million investment made by the Province to create the new Forest Enhancement Society of B.C. Projects eligible for the Forest Innovations Fund, such as innovation in biomass and harvesting techniques, site remediation and enhancing seedling survival will complement wildfire risk reduction activities and reforestation activities that will be undertaken by the Society. Both programs have similar goals – to help extend mid-term timber supply in the Interior."

Marty Hiemstra, Operations Manager, Lo-Bar Log Transport
"Northern Development has provided support to help Lo-Bar pursue innovative new ways to improve our harvesting operations and day-to-day practices, which will make our company more sustainable and position it for growth. The Forest Innovation Fund provides a new source of capital that companies like ours can use to stay competitive."

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Quick Facts:

- The Forest Innovation Fund will provide $1 million in funding over a two-year period for small and medium-sized companies and community forests engaged in resource extraction, resource processing and supply chain activities related to the forest sector
- The funding is being allocated from Northern Development's $26 million Pine Beetle Recovery Account
- Since 2005, Northern Development's Pine Beetle Recovery Account has been utilized to support 246 projects throughout the region, totalling nearly $25 million in funding
- Local governments, First Nations and non-profit organizations in pine beetle impacted areas can access funding support for community projects through the Pine Beetle Recovery Account
- The Trust expects up to $2.5 million in grant funding will be approved through the Pine Beetle Recovery Account in 2016 to support communities and businesses
- The Forest Innovation Fund will complement the Province of British Columbia's Forest Enhancement Society announced last week, which will be supported with $85 million in funding

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Read the full story here

DRAFT #12

Resolution

WHEREAS *clean green energy plants* are defined as those that burn only clean natural wood that has not been treated with any preservatives, paints, stains or other chemical process, and where *clean ash* is defined as the fly ash and the bottom ash resulting from the combustion of only clean natural wood from those plants.

WHEREAS *clean green energy plants* are becoming more common throughout British Columbia and soon there will be hundreds of thousands of tonnes of *clean ash* from those energy plants that is safe and beneficial as both a liming agent and a low level fertilizer for agricultural crops that will be unnecessarily going into landfill sites.

WHEREAS in British Columbia, government has classified fly ash, including *clean ash* in the same category as other soil amendments like pulp and paper mill wastes and sewer sludge bio-solids and requiring the same onerous and costly regulations and procedures and therefore causing unnecessary red tape and increased costs making it prohibitively expensive to apply *clean ash* as a soil amendment for agricultural crops

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the BCCA seek an amendment to the BC Code of Practice for Soil Amendments to facilitate *clean ash* from *clean green energy plants* to be put into a separate classification of soil amendments with a separate and less onerous approval process for permitting, and for application with less stringent regulation and red tape than for pulp and paper mill waste and sewage waste bio-solids when used as a soil amendment for both conventional and organic agricultural crops

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Backgrounder for Resolution regarding use of Clean Ash as a soil amendment:

Wood Ash as a Liming Agent and Low Level Fertilizer for Agricultural Land in British Columbia

There are a large number of green energy plants in operation throughout North America and around the world that produce green electrical power by burning wood and wood waste.
A by-product of these energy plants is wood ash that is usually at a rate of between 6% and 10% of the total wood volume that is burned, depending on the species of trees that the wood comes from and the electrical generation process used.
Many of the energy plants also burn material such as pulp mill sludge and paper mill mud etc. and these still count as green energy plants and in some jurisdictions such as Alberta, whereas when the ash is incorporated into the soil it can be used for producing conventional and organic crops.
In many jurisdictions ash is used on farmland to act as a liming agent and a low level fertilizer. In the north east United States over 80% of all wood ash is applied to farmland and in Nova Scotia nearly 100% is applied.

In BC there are several ***clean green energy plants***, some already operating, and some are still in the process of being built and with others in the planning stage. Due to the amount of trees and therefore the amount of wood available in BC, many more and much larger ones are expected to come on line over the next several years.

Unlike many other green energy plants these *clean green energy plants* are those plants that burn only pure clean natural wood that has not been treated in any way with preservatives, paint, stains, or any other chemical process and the wood is burned in its natural state. The fly ash and the bottom ash from these plants can be defined as *clean ash*.
No Pulp or Paper mill sludge or waste, no bio-solids, no human or animal sewage sludge or waste and no garbage. Just clean pure wood is used to produce electricity in *clean green energy plants.*

Clean green energy plants produce a lighter *fly ash* from the flue in the burning process and also a heavier *bottom ash* from that process that is recovered from the bottom of the boilers. The ash from *clean green energy plants* is not the same as the ash coming from coal burning energy plants or municipal waste incinerators.

Farmers have been burning trees and wood debris and using it as fertilizer in BC since the beginning of agriculture and the areas where the wood was burned and where the ash was spread as fertilizer continue to be the most productive land for many years afterward.

Most areas of BC and most areas in western Canada that grow agricultural crops including forage have low pH soils and the use of wood ash as a soil amendment is especially useful in those areas. The liming effect of the ash increases the pH level and the other elements in the ash work as fertilizer and micro-nutrients to help the plants grow. Tests have shown that with the application of wood ash rather than agricultural lime, the use of commercial fertilizers other than Nitrogen may not be required to produce many agricultural crops.

In Alberta and many other jurisdictions where the use of wood ash as a liming agent and low level fertilizer has been common place for many years, there is a relatively simple and inexpensive permitting procedure to enable the application of any wood ash from non-treated wood sources, often including those from pulp and paper mill sludge and OSB wastes on to agricultural land.

In British Columbia the *BC Code of Practice for Soil Amendments* has classified fly ash in the same category, and requires the same regulations and procedures as for pulp and paper mill wastes and sewer sludge bio-solids causing unnecessary red tape and increased costs making it prohibitive to economically apply even *clean ash* from *clean green energy plants* as a soil amendment for agricultural crops.

Clean ash from *clean green energy plants* should be in a completely different classification than the other soil amendments that are listed in the *BC Code of Practice for Soil Amendments* and should not be restricted in the same ways as the other soil amendments.
In other jurisdictions *clean ash* is considered as a much safer, more environmentally friendly product and is also more readily accepted by the general public and environmentalists alike.

With the huge amount of *clean ash* that will soon be available from *clean green energy* producers, BC should adopt a separate classification for *clean ash* in the *BC Code of Practice for Soil Amendments* that has a less onerous approval process for permitting and for application (with less stringent regulation and less red tape than for pulp and paper mill wastes and sewer waste bio-solids) similar to the *Standards and Guidelines for the Use of Wood Ash as a Liming Material for Agriculture Soils* that is used in Alberta.

Agricultural producers do not have a problem with having to take soil samples from their fields prior to any application of *clean ash* to determine the proper levels of application, nor do they have a problem with taking soil samples after application and keeping good records of cropping and applications of *clean ash* or fertilizer.
The energy plants have a requirement to have their ash products tested for the Calcium Carbonate Equivalence to determine the acid neutralization value, and the nutrient and micro-nutrient, and heavy metal levels as part of their normal process.

If BC continues to use the onerous rules from the Code of Practice for Soil Amendments to control and restrict the use of this valuable *clean ash* product from being used economically to improve agricultural land and the crop production on those lands, there will soon be hundreds of thousands of tonnes of *clean ash* filling our landfills to beyond capacity.

Changes need to be made now to the *BC Code of Practice for Soil Amendments* that will separate *clean ash* from *clean green energy plants* into a classification of their own, that is separate from other soil amendments that will allow for the economically beneficial use of *clean ash* on agricultural lands in BC for both conventional and organic agriculture, otherwise the overflowing landfills will become a costly environmental problem, not just for the energy plants, but for everyone living in BC.

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Cheryl Anderson

From: Gail Chapman
Sent: March-07-16 1:05 PM
To: Cheryl Anderson
Subject: FW: Notifications of updates to the Species at Risk Public Registry

From: Rob MacDougall [mailto:mayor@fortstjames.ca]
Sent: March-07-16 12:56 PM
To: Gail Chapman <gail.chapman@rdbn.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: Notifications of updates to the Species at Risk Public Registry

For information, forestry meeting. Thanks.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **EP.RPY / SAR.PYR (EC)** <ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca>
Date: Monday, March 7, 2016
Subject: Notifications of updates to the Species at Risk Public Registry
To:
Cc: "EP.RPY / SAR.PYR (EC)" <ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca>

Hello,

Please note that on March 4th, the following three documents were posted as Final on the Species at Risk Public Registry:

- **Recovery Strategy for Canada Warbler (*Cardellina canadensis*) in Canada**
- **Recovery Strategy for Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) in Canada**
- **Recovery Strategy for the Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) in Canada**

Thank you to all who provided comments and other contributions to these documents. Should you have any questions or concerns please contact us at:

Species at Risk Recovery Unit, Canadian Wildlife Service, Pacific & Yukon Region

Environment and Climate Change Canada / Government of Canada

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ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca / Tel: 604-350-1900

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CHANGING THE WAY WE MOVE LOGS

by Stephen Mackie | Feb 29, 2016

For the first time in many years, the way we haul logs in BC is changing.

Together with FPInnovations, Canfor identified an innovative transportation approach and embarked on trials to test moving logs using a nine-axle B-train truck allowing us to move more volume per load. Up until now, truck hauling has taken place on six-, seven- and eight-axle trucks.

Canfor began to rethink the way we move our wood in order to find ways to address the current shortage of truck drivers and to reduce hauling costs. This innovative transportation method not only addresses these issues but also results in several benefits.

The safety, environmental and economic benefits that result from using a nine-axle B-train truck include:

- Increased safety on the roads due to fewer trucks
- Decreased fuel usage
- Decreased greenhouse gas footprint
- Increased payloads
- Decreased hauling costs

Trials took place in December in the interior of BC and went very well. Authorization for the trial route north of Fort St. James, BC, has now been approved by government. Plans to build additional trailers and to put them to work on this route are now in place. We are in the process of making applications for additional routes as we plan to use the vehicles on these routes so that we can further expand upon the safety, environmental, and economic benefits that this transportation method provides.

A 6-axle truck with haults logs into our Plateau mill, located in Vanderhoof, BC.

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Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Fibre Recovery Tenures

Background

The Forest Act includes provisions for two timber tenures that have the purpose of accessing road and landing waste that will not be utilized by the person who conducted the original harvesting. These two fibre recovery tenures are the Fibre Supply Licence to Cut (FSLTC); and the Fibre Forestry Licence to Cut (FFLTC). The framework for issuing these tenures include a notification process whereby once harvesting is completed on a specific block, the primary harvester will be required to provide notice whether or not the waste remaining on the block will be utilized. If not, the rights to the fibre maybe allocated to the holder of one of these tenures.

Guidance

- Advertising, Awarding and Administration (Appendix F of Improving Fibre Recovery Administration Guide)
- Fibre Recovery Process - (December 14, 2015)
- Improving Fibre Recovery Administration Guide (December 14, 2015)

Licence Templates:

- Fibre Forestry Licence to Cut (FFLTC)
- Fibre Supply Licence to Cut (FSLTC)
- Fibre Recovery Permit (FRP)

Forms:

- Order to Provide Notice
- Order Not to Destroy Timber
- Primary Harvesters Notice (Harvest Commencement)
- Primary Harvesters Notice (Harvest Completion)

Legislation:

- ***Forest Act***

Applicable Sections;
FFLTC: 47.6 (2.11); 47.7; 47.73(1); 47.9; 79.1
FSLTC: 47.71; 47.72; 47.73; 47.9; 79.1

Regulations:

- OIC 465 - (June 22, 2012)

Contacts:

- Patrick Russell