

# ***HIGH LEVEL FORESTS PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE***

Tuesday, August 5, 2003  
Fairview College  
5:00 pm

## **Minutes**

### **ATTENDANCE:**

John Thurston, Chair	Tracie Dahdona
George Friesen	Ted Edwards
Gale Dodd	Dennis Eckford
Henry Friesen	Marcel LeCoure
Clint Soltys	Brandon Boucher
Jordan Johnson	Lorraine Donovan
Ken Smith	Bill Hayday
Brad Asmussen	Byron Grundberg
Marilee Toews	

Recording Secretary: Arlene Powers, Mackenzie Economic Development

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

J. Thurston, Chair of the High Level Forests PAC called the meeting to order at 5:07 pm.

### **2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

#### **MOTION**

**Moved By George Friesen**

That the agenda be accepted with the following additions:

Under New Business;

- Trade Fair
- PAC Membership / Media
- Universal Log Haul Plans

Under Old Business:

- Outfitter Notification

*CARRIED*

### **3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES – July 8, 2003**

Changes to Old Business – Speakers / Education

T. Edwards advised group that his presentation would be on Sustainable Resource Development and not on ForestCare as per July 8, 2003 Minutes.

#### **MOTION**

**Moved By Lorraine Donovan**

That the High Level Forests PAC meeting minutes be accepted as amended.

*CARRIED*

#### **4. ISSUES AND CONCERNS**

Question was presented to M. LeCoure regarding boxes on main road to office toward Tolko.

Marcel explained that the “boxes: that can be seen along the access route to the Tolko millsite are actually pheromone traps which are being used to attract and trap wood borers. The purpose of the traps is to determine species and the frequency of the wood borers that are in and around the log yard.

There are about 18 traps strategically placed throughout the millsite and are checked daily.

#### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **5.1 Old Forest**

“Age Class Distribution” Map presentation by M. LeCoure showing current to future harvesting projection. Time period covered is 0 (current) 10, 50, 100, 150 and 200 years into the future.

- Query / discussion regarding fire hazard insurance.

##### **5.2 Trade Fair**

There will be a HLFAC booth at the Trade Fair. Anyone interested in attending the booth for a couple of hours to contact A. Powers at MEDC.

##### **5.3 PAC Membership / Media**

- Question presented “How does the PAC feel having media attending and writing articles about PAC meetings?”
- Some concern regarding context
- Suggestions:
  - that media should be involved on a regular basis in order for them to understand issues
  - If media are going to participate, they should sit down with J. Thurston, Chair to clarify context of information prior to being printed.
- J. Thurston to meet with media (Susan) prior to September meeting to clarify:
  - How she wants to report
  - Commitment to PAC

##### **5.4 Universal Log Haul**

- La Crete Sawmills, Tolko and FFP currently advertising re: summer log haul program

## 6. OLD BUSINESS

### A. FFP Summer Hauling

- Ken Smith, FFP, explained some of the reasons why “summer log haul”
  - Emphasized reduction in yard meaning: less stock in winter / haul in summer
  - Trying to aggressively decrease stock in yard
  - Working with private landowners / oilfield
  - Started hauling in June 2003 (extension of season)
  - Ken stated that there was never a commitment made to trucks to haul in summer. Assumptions have been made.
  - Trucks selected on basis of performance / quality / safety / costing / 1<sup>st</sup> Nation involvement – most productive trucks
  - Contractors do the hiring of trucks – mills do not hire trucks
  - 85% of harvesting will still occur in winter months – only 15% of the harvesting is being done in the summer
  - Focus is to have more professional drivers on the road

### B. Question of the Month

Handout – The Companies answer to the Question of the Month for August 2003 was distributed to the PAC and will be inserted into The Echo and Northern Pioneer

New Question for September:

- Why Summer log?

### C. Signage

- M. LeCoure presented draft sign (4 x 8). The Companies think that John Thurston’s suggestion of utilizing the roadside pullout along the Rainbow Highway for sign placement would be a great idea.
- The proposed sign would include a detailed satellite photo from High Level to the Chinchaga bridge and include specific details for a number of cut blocks. Some of the information would include harvest year, scarification treatment and number of trees planted (if any), as well as any block specific features that make the block different from the others (ex. roadside buffers, block design, etc.)
- Interpretive trail idea
- PAC to make request to Alberta Transportation requesting to put signage at road side
- Hoping to have sign finalized by September 2003 meeting.

#### **Km Signs**

- K. Smith gave brief history
- Letter was previously submitted to Alberta Transportation
- For emergency / medical services
- 4 km intervals starting at Grimshaw north – Grimshaw being Mile/Km 0

- A suggestion was made to accept gov't plan but have closer than 4 km apart but Ken was going to contact other stakeholders and look at what our options were then get back to PAC.

#### **D. Orientation Package**

- Updated package available
- On behalf of both companies, Marcel distributed a new letter sized map outlining both the Operating Areas and Forest Management Unit information for reference.

#### **E. Outfitter Notification**

- “Guide – Outfitter Notification Process” handout was distributed as information

### **7. AROUND THE TABLE**

- Stamp has been ordered for stamping in the books that are donated to the Ft Vermilion and High Level libraries.

### **8. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

- September 2, 2003 @ 5:00 p.m.
- Adjourned at 7:17 p.m.