



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

Tuesday, February 3, 2004  
Fairview College  
5:00 pm

**Minutes**

**ATTENDANCE:**

John Thurston, Chair  
Ted Edwards  
Peter Nicholson  
Jordan Johnston  
Marilee Toews

Susan McNeil  
Lorraine Donovan  
Bradley Asmussen  
Marcel LeCoure  
Walter Sarapuk

Leo McNamara  
Laurie Jenkin  
Dave Cole  
George Friesen  
Arlene Powers

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

John Thurston, Chair of the High Level Forests PAC called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm.

**2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION**

**Moved By Leo McNamara**

That the agenda be accepted with the following additions:

Under New Business: ForestEdwest Conference  
Summer Employment  
Critical Incidence Stress Management  
ISO Audit - Tolko  
Personnel Changes @ Mills

*CARRIED*

**3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES – January 13, 2004**

**MOTION**

**Moved By Lorraine Donovan**

That the High Level Forests PAC meeting minutes be accepted as presented.  
*CARRIED*

**4. ISSUES AND CONCERNS**

- 4.1** Susan expressed a concern regarding wrapper checks not being done at the highway intersections. The companies explained that depending on where the harvesting is taking place and where the log trucks are coming onto the local highway, some trucks might not be stopping at the wrapper check stations because they all check their wrappers prior

to coming onto the highway. Some of these drivers may still want to stop at the wrapper check stations to do a second check if they feel their load may not be secure.

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

### 5.1 **ForestEdwest Conference** (handout)

Leo gave a brief report on the ForestEdwest Conference that he attended in Banff on Jan 15-18, 2004. It was recommended that the HLFAC consider sending a delegate to the 2005 Conference.

### 5.2 **Summer Employment**

Leo brought to the attention of the group that there is a young man (Jacob) currently studying EnviroScience interested in working in the North – possibly forestry department. Is looking for summer employment.

### 5.3 **Critical Incidence Stress Management (CISM)**

Brad gave a brief report on CISM explaining what it is and its purpose. CISM was undertaken by FFP to be better able to deal with critical incidents concerning their staff or contractors.

### 5.4 **ISO Audit – Tolko**

Marcel reported that Tolko had just successfully completed an independent audit on the Environmental Management System (EMS) on Jan 26-29, 2004 and have been recommended for ISO certification.

The auditors, who have done audits on similar operations throughout North America, indicated that all the contractors (including Friesen Logging Ltd.) we have in the area are some of the best they have seen. Camp cleanliness, organization and the contractor's willingness to improve their performance is impressive.

Brad advised the group that FFP will be auditing the EMS this fall.

### 5.5 **Personnel Changes**

Jorden expressed a concern regarding personnel changes. It was suggested that members advise the group when there are changes in office personnel that will affect HLFAC.

Ted – Has accepted a position in Hinton. His last day with Forest Services will be February 13, 2004. Will advise Arlene who his replacement will be.

Brad introduced Peter Nichol森. Peter started with FFP on January 5, 2004 on the operations side of the mill.

David Cole – 2 weeks ago accepted position as Little Red River Woodlands Manager. Allan Plantinga the Silviculture Supervisor at Tolko has accepted the position as Dave's replacement at LRRF.

Marcel – Tolko is currently recruiting to re-fill Allen's position.

## 6. OLD BUSINESS

### 6.1. *Salvage*

Laurie Jenkin is the Land Use Coordinator at Tolko. However, she represents FFP on Salvage. Laurie explained that the companies have very little control over the Oil & Gas Companies. This is partly due to the fact that these Oil & Gas companies do not always develop in the year that their activities have been requested. She also advised the group that the companies will purchase all salvage that meets quality standard however, they are only allowed to purchase salvage from their area(s) of interest. If there is a company that is wishing to sell salvage, the companies have a simple agreement to be signed. They want to make the process as convenient and as time efficient as possible.

A question was raised regarding destruction of timber. Laurie noted that both Tolko and FFP do not waive any timber for destruction. She also advised that if anyone has a professional interest in selling rates, please contact the company reps.

Ted advised the group that every forest officer has a ledger of what is being harvested. Very little timber is waived from salvage. If an officer wishes to waive timber, they must first go to their manager for approval.

A question was raised whether or not the companies are tracking the amount of wood coming in from the Blow down. The companies advised that approx. 60 – 70,000 cubic meters of timber have been planned for harvest this winter, including volume that the La Crete mills will be harvesting.

If there are additional questions regarding salvage or the condition of approval, please contact Ted's office. Caller will be asked to provide the location of the pile.

A request was made by the group as to the magnitude of this issue. As this is an issue that should be addressed by the Forestry, Ted to inquire with Land Use personnel. The companies and gov't to meet to and report on at a later date.

### 6.2. *Public Land Sales*

Brad advised the group that the moratorium is still currently on. However, they are currently in discussions with the MD. Walter advised that the MD would like a more equitable method of disposition as there is a limited amount of farm land available in the region.

### 6.3. *Winter Haul Road*

Brad distributed a map to all members present indicating where the winter haul road is located. There are 18 trucks currently hauling on this road and have hauled approx. 200 loads of timber already of the expected 3200 loads. A concern was raised by one of the members that he felt that there should be more trucks hauling on the Winter Haul

Road and not on the Highway. Brad reminded everyone that it is FFP intention to have all of their trucks using the winter haul road but there may be instances where they will still have to use the highway. At this time, because the haul road comes out south of High Level, Tolko is not planning to use it so their log trucks will still be using the highway.

**6.4. Tolko's Burner** (update)

Marcel advised members that the Beehive burner was repaired on Saturday, January 31, 2004. He stated that the thermocouple malfunctioned and was reading the temperature outside of the burner rather than inside. This caused the burner to overheat and destroy the beehive top. The thermocouple has since been replaced with 2 thermocouples (1 as a back-up). The next dust monitoring air quality program check to be completed in May. The reports will be distributed to HLFAC as soon as they become available

**6.5. Caribou 3 Field Tour**

Attendees reported a fantastic trip. Leo presented the group with a picture album compliment of Treetech Logging, Footner Forest Products and Tolko. Companies are hoping to host another field trip in the summer.

**6.6. Road Signage Update**

Nothing to report. There is a draft plan for the road sign that is to be placed on west of High Level (Rainbow Lake road).

**6.7. Question of the Month**

The companies presented their findings to the question "What are the stopping distances for log trucks?" To be inserted into the next edition of both the Northern Pioneer and The Echo.

A suggestion for the new question of the month was for companies to provide some information relating to the Blow down.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

7.1 None

**8. AROUND THE TABLE**

**8.1 Lorraine** - Northern Lights Forestry has purchased kits for Forest Education. Sheryl Pelletier will keep these kits at the library but would like to know if donations such as these are for local use or if anyone from the province can borrow (provincial borrowing service). The consensus was that the books that HLFAC have donated to the Library are for local use. Suggestion was for a copy of the minutes (yearly) to be placed in local libraries - **Tabled**

**Marcel** - Companies have subscribed to 4 newspapers. Globe & Mail, National Post, Edmonton Journal and Vancouver paper. Staff are currently clipping articles of interest to be brought to meetings.

**Marilee** – mentioned that there was a significant article on songbirds in the latest Canadian Geographic.

**Brad** – mentioned article on Sierra Club

**Ted** – Gave some parting thoughts.

**Leo** – Suggested topic for Q of the M – co-generation  
Lac La Biche is the 2004 Forestry Capital of Canada  
(to be added to the agenda for next meeting)

## **9. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

**9.1.** March 2, 2004 @ 5:00 p.m.

**9.2.** Adjourned @ 6:56 p.m.