



British Columbia Community Forest Association





Presentation Outline

- What is community forestry?
- Community Forestry in BC
- Our challenges, solutions and successes



The Global Context





- Governments have recognized the important role of communities in sustainable forest management
- Community forestry is happening in every forested country on the planet.
- The World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 resolved to “...recognize and support indigenous and community based forest management systems .“



GLOBAL VISION FOR COMMUNITY FORESTRY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

A CALL TO ACTION 2008

Delegates from 20 countries reaffirmed that:

“Community forestry is an innovative approach that reconnects lands and people, fosters environmental stewardship, promotes social equity and supports livelihoods...”



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**Head-loading of sawn timber from a community forest in
Cameroon**



In British Columbia

Community forests are established when the government grants management rights to a local government, community group, or First Nation for the benefit of the entire community through a tenure arrangement, or licence.

Examples include

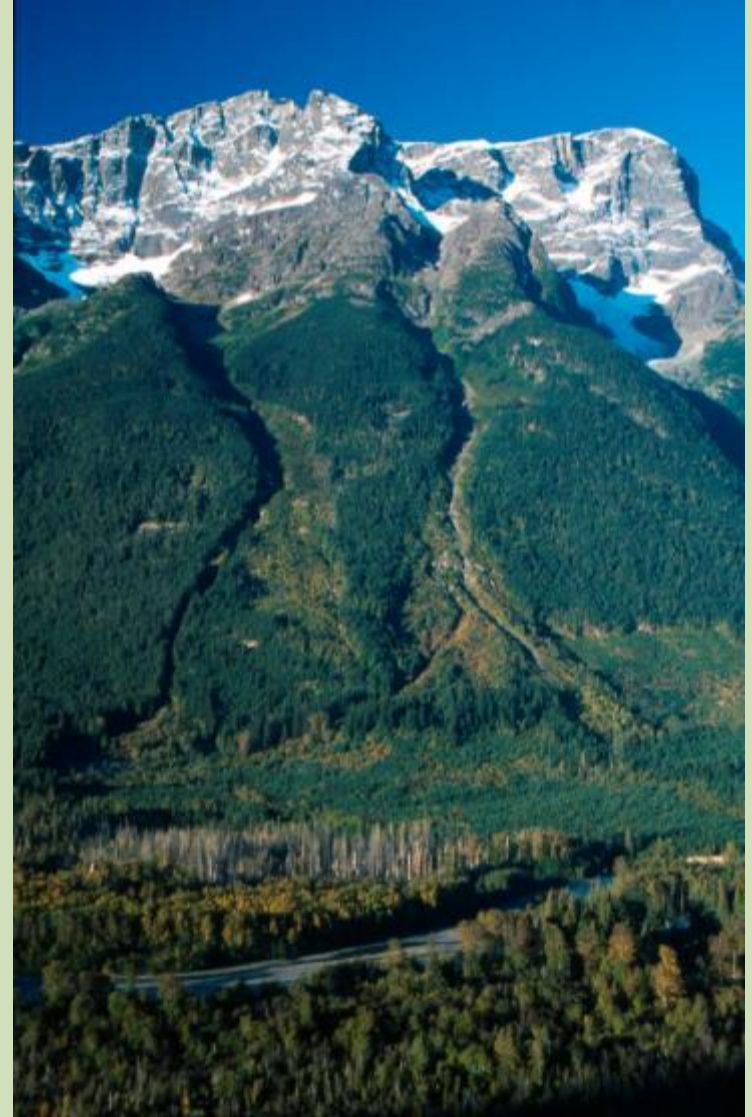
- Community Forest Agreements
- Forest Licences
- Tree Farm Licences





The Community Forest Agreement

- Area based
- 5 year probationary license
- 25 year renewable long term
- Gives communities exclusive rights to harvest timber, as well as the opportunity to manage forest resources such as timber and plant products, recreation, wildlife, water and scenic viewscapes.





Government Objectives for the Community Forest Tenure

- Community management of local forests over the long-term
- Manage for a range of community objectives, values and priorities
- Diversify forest management beyond just timber values
- Promote community involvement and participation
- Cultivate environmental stewardship
- Foster innovation
- Advocate for forest worker safety
- Promote communication and strengthen relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities and persons



Community Forest Timeline in BC

- 1945** First BC community forest in Mission
- 1976** Royal Commission
- 1990s** Industrial licenses in Revelstoke, Kaslo, and Creston
- 1998** Community Forest Pilot Program established
- 2002** BCCFA formed
- 2003** Forestry Revitalization Plan- Reallocation of 20% of long term logging rights
- 2004** Changes to the Forest Act; 1st long term tenure awarded
- 2005** Program Expansion
- 2006** Pricing Agreement negotiated



CFA Program Status 10 Year Anniversary September 2008

- 7 Long Term CFAs Awarded
- 21 PCFAs Issued
- 22 Communities Invited to Apply for a PCFA
- 50 Communities Involved in the Community Forest Program





Community forestry is:

*“Decisions being made by people who have to live with the outcome;
Finding local solutions to contentious issues;
Keeping benefits in the community;
A very good idea;
One of the hardest things I have ever done!”*

- John Cathro, RPF





BCCFA - Local land, local people, local decisions

- Serves as the voice and advocate for community forestry in BC
- Works with government to expand community forestry in BC
- Provides input to government to facilitate the success of community forest initiatives
- Provides support to BC communities striving to obtain and successfully implement community forest initiatives





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Purposes of the BCCFA

Provincial Policy

Education &

Networking





Timber Pricing

- Removes all cruising requirements for CFAs
- Provides an 85% rate reduction to the Interior Appraisal Manual Table 6.1
- Provides a 70% reduction to the Average Sawlog Stumpage Rates for the Coast Forest Region.
- Two zones created





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Extension Services

2007- 2008

Meetings with
18 communities

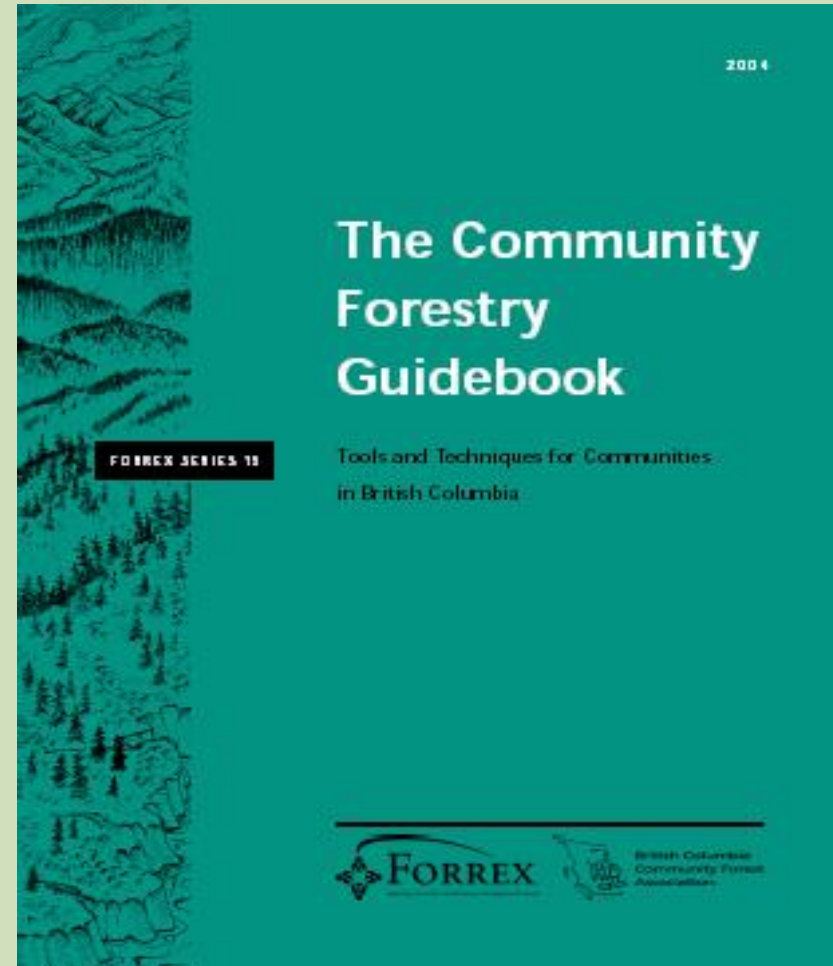


Cowichan Lake Community Forest Cooperative



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*The Community Forestry
Guidebook:*
*Tools and Techniques for
Communities
in British Columbia*



Generously supported by FORREX
and the Vancouver Foundation



Forest Investment Account

Provincial program to improve the forest asset base and support sustainable forest management practices on Crown land.

2007/2008 - \$460,000

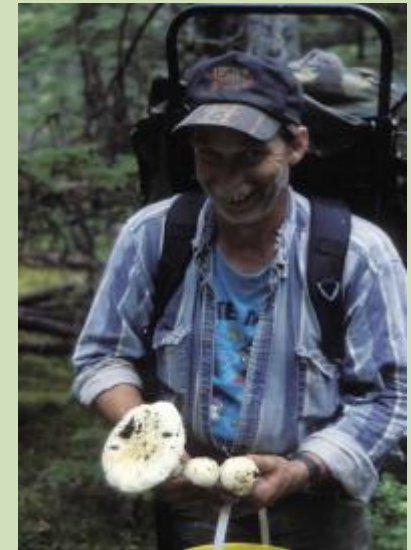
2008/2009 - \$650,000





Non Timber Forest Resources

- The rights to harvest, manage and charge fees for botanical forest resources and other prescribed products are granted to CFAs by legislation
- Currently no regulation or tenure mechanism to guide management of NTFPs
- Any regulation must respect First Nations rights and title
- BCCFA is working with the Centre for Non-Timber Resources at Royal Roads University to create an NTFR assessment guide for community forests





A BCCFA Special Project



Opening New Doors: Branding BC's Community Forests

- Funding received from WD/CEDI, SIDIT, NIDIT and SIBAC
 - Production of a CF documentary this fall/winter



Recent Policy Developments

- Community Forest Program Working Group
- Commitment from Government to remove the Probationary Period for Community Forests
- Improved Pricing for the Coast
- Continued Expansion of the Program



BCCFA/MFR Collaboration



BCCFA Submission to the Working Roundtable

- Long term stewardship through area-based tenures
- More Community Forest Agreements
- Large enough to be efficient, viable and provide community benefits
- Expansion of open and competitive log markets
- Appropriate pricing system





Annual Conference - Networking, Learning and Planning

2009 Conference and AGM
Port Alberni May 28 - 31, 2009





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“We don’t work at community forestry, we live it”.

Robin Hood



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A Likely Story





Likely Museum Project



Over 1000 Visitors in 2008



Promoting Mining History

- Cleaned up a local junk yard
- Received a 3.5 Ha. License to Occupy
- Partnered with a local mining company
- Built access and put in water to the site
- Negotiated a cutting permit to maximize the view
- Parking , picnic tables and info kiosk





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Likely First Response Vehicle

