

**Spray Lake Sawmills
Public Advisory Committee
SLS Boardroom
April 23, 2014**

Present: Tannis Zubot, Gord Lehn, Sandra Foss, Jean Lussier, Joe Nickel, Denise Nickel, Jacqueline Nelson, Erik Butters, Jason Mogilefsky, Corey Stoneman, Darrell Panas, Andy Marshall, Ken Birkett, Harvey Buckley, Mike Korman, George Roman, Tim Giese

Absent: Richard Right Hand, Patrick Brady, Judy Stewart

Welcome and introductions of new PAC members

- Round table introductions. Gord welcomed everyone to our meeting.

AESRD Organization Structure – Jean Lussier

- Jean Lussier from Environment and Sustainable Resource Development provided an overview of the new organizational structure of the department.
- Jean answered some of the questions from PAC members.

Outline of the 2014 Reforestation Program

- Darrell Panas did a brief summary of the program.
- After the harvest is completed, site prep is done. This is done by using heavy drags to scarify soils.
- This will lead us into the plant. The plant starts June 5th and be completed by July 1st. June is usually a good month to plant because of favorable precipitation and soil temperatures. Approximately 1.8 million trees are to be planted. We have about 40 contract planters.
- Site prep work has been completed on what has been harvested this year.
- Reclamation is completed after approximately three years.
- At year 14 we do a tree growth survey. The results indicate we are exceeding forest planning growth projections.
- We rely heavily on natural seed.
- If anybody has any other questions, please give Darrell or Gord a call.

FSC Update

- Jason Mogilefsky explained that Spray Lake Sawmills became certified with a program called Forest Care in 1996. Over time, other international forest certification programs came about and have grown in popularity. In 2010, SLS entered an agreement with the Rain Forest Alliance to oversee FSC accreditation. SLS received its FSC accreditation from the Rain Forest Alliance in August of 2013. There remain some minor non-conformances and we are working hard to close them.
- SLS has been hosting Protected Area and Collaborative Planning workshops, the results from these workshops are posted on our website.
- We have also been exploring available forest management watershed models and forest hydrology literature to incorporate into the development of our next Detailed Forest Management Plan.

Presentation/discussion of the 2014 General Development Plan

- Gord gave a brief description on what a general development plan is. It's a rolling five year plan.
- Jordan explained different ways to access information about the GDP on our website. This plan was submitted on April 1, 2014.
- We have a map on the website showing the areas we will be operating in 2014-15.
- Our production table is available for viewing. This explains the areas and the volumes forecasted to be harvested.
- Ground rules are updated yearly.

Presentation/discussion of the 2014 Forest Harvest Plans

- Jordan gave a presentation of the FHP.
- Public consultations are written into this plan.
- This plan is written 2 years prior to operations.
- Quick Links is a great place to go on our website and access our information.
- Jordan gave some quick tips to look at the maps using the different layers.
- Gord recommended to the PAC an interesting article to read on our blog. It is called "Optimal use of forest fibre".
- Jordan explained that we host two open houses annually for the public to learn about harvest plans. One open house is in Blairmore and the other is being held in Cochrane.
- Gord asked the PAC committee what level of information they would like to see? Would they prefer one on one or do people prefer to access the website for information?
- Ken asked if it has helped SLS, having access to the website and having information readily available. Jordan explained we are getting good responses at our workshops.
- Jordan mentioned that two main topics he usually hears, are about the watershed and concerns from recreation users.
- Harvey suggested that we have a display of pictures or a presentation showing SLS progress on the forests we look after. This would show more of a visual for the average person to see how the landscape looked pre-harvest what and how our forests look like after many years of growth.

Items from the floor

- Gord distributed a handout for everyone - Proposal for a Public Involvement Process. He recommended everyone should read it over.
- Ken suggested that we include a map showing the roads that we are using for log-haul.

Adjourn

- 6:43 p.m.