

**Cheakamus Community Forest Board of Directors Meeting**  
**February 16, 2012 9:30 – 12:00 p.m.**  
**Brew Creek Centre**

Attendance:

Geordie Ferguson, Lil'wat Nation  
Jeff Fisher, Squamish Nation  
Peter Ackhurst, RMOW  
Nancy Wilhelm-Morden, RMOW  
Tom Cole, Richmond Plywood  
Neil Hughes, Ecotrust Canada

Peter Ackhurst chaired the meeting  
Heather Beresford, RMOW, Secretary

Regrets:

Chief Bill Williams, Squamish Nation  
Lucinda Phillips, Lil'wat Nation

**MEETING AGENDA:**

February 16, 2012 Meeting Agenda approved by all.

July 6/11 Meeting Minutes Approved by all (JF/NW-M)

**1. 2011 Financial Statement**

- HST rebate not included as per accountant's direction
- Revenues of approximately \$60,000 in 2011 and expenses approximately \$37,500 for net income of approximately \$22,500.
- Logging overhead cheque received from Richmond Plywood (RichPly) in 2011
- Expenses: Forest Stewardship Council certification postponed due to changing criteria and increased audit cost.
- Revenue of \$4000 from WB Foundation for signs in 2011, but project completed in 2010.
- ~\$48,000 in bank as of December 31/11
- RichPly carries a separate set of books for CCF, but its activities are included in CCF income tax return
- Consider how much financial information is released. Be careful to separate RichPly's financials from CCF.

**2. 2011 Logging Results**

Reviewed RichPly's 2011 Log Production and Sales Summary.

In 2011, 38.4 ha harvested, 24 openings with average opening size at 1.6 ha. Total volume of 15,963 m<sup>3</sup>. Total estimated employment of 6700 hours/approximately 837.5 person days. First Nations workers and/or businesses did \$265,000 worth of work, much of that going to Squamish dryland sort. Not all of those workers are First Nations.

The balance RichPly is carrying was paid down substantially. Consider lowering the Planning, Engineering & Layout (PEL) cost from \$8/m<sup>3</sup>.

Discussion re: **3<sup>rd</sup> party log value audit by Graeme Fitch.** Conclusion is that RichPly is paying CCF higher than average pricing for wood.

Note: Geordie Ferguson arrived.

Mount Currie has concerns and would like an independent audit on all wood taken out of the CCF.

**MOTION:** Conduct independent review of all CCF sales. (GF/JF)

Review of CCF Non-consolidate Balance Sheet generated by RichPly dated Feb. 15/12.

- Need to sort out a couple of invoices for planting at VANOC parking lots
- RichPly holding ~\$55,000 in silviculture liabilities

Request by CCF BOD that RichPly create a more secure or separate account for the silviculture liabilities.

**ACTION:** RichPly to bring a recommendation to next meeting.

### **3. 2011 Annual Report**

Drafted and distributed to BOD for comment. Discussed in detail at the following AGM.

### **4. Whistler Landscape Unit**

The Whistler Landscape Unit (WLU) created by province by combining existing Whistler Landscape Unit with portions of Soo and Callaghan landscape units. Goes to watershed boundaries, and used by province as the higher level planning unit. The CCF sits inside the WLU. The Forest Service needs to designate OGMA's in the landscape unit.

### **5. Ecosystem Based Management Plan Update – by Neil Hughes, Ecotrust**

EBM plan updated in 2011. Discussion of next iteration.

Key points from presentation:

What the EBM plan actually does:

1. Assess what is represented within the community forest unit
2. Determine what is legally protected
3. Identify any significant gaps
4. Consider what additional areas need to be added to meet goals
5. Present recommendations and strategies to achieve ecosystem based management that is operationally achievable.

	<b>Whistler Landscape Unit Ha</b>	<b>Cheakamus Community Forest Ha</b>
Total Area	92,159	33,018
Forested	46,756	25,669
Non Forested	45,397	7,350
Protected	68,815	13,849
Not Protected	23,314	19,169
Protected Forests		9,049
Inoperable Forests		4,754
Timber Harvesting Land Base		11,865

Recommendation: Coastal Western Hemlock dry subaritime ecosystem (CWH ds1)

- Long-term goal a minimum threshold of 40% of the forested area as old forest, and protected from harvesting.
- Short term goal is to identify mature forest as recruitment in the CWHds1 subzone in order to achieve the minimum target of 40%. Total required approximately 70ha.

Recommendation: CWH moist subaritime ecosystem (CWH ms1)

- A long term goal is for a minimum threshold of 30% of the forested area in this subzone as old forest and protected from harvesting.
- Short term goal: Mature forest should be identified as recruitment in the CWH ms1 to achieve an initial minimum target of 20% with the area building up over time from other younger forest already protected to 30%.
- Spatially identify protected forest in the Interface area and inoperable stands.

Recommendation: Mountain Hemlock ecosystem (MHmm2)

- A long term goal to retain a minimum of 50% of the productive forest as old forest and protected. Implementation of the recommended strategy will preserve considerably more than the minimum.
- Immediate goal is 40% protected with the balance to be recruited from inoperable stands identified in the coming years.

Next Steps:

- Assess for site series representation across the CWHms1
- Work with Rich Ply to fine tune the EBM plan to ensure it is operationally achievable; produce some guidance documents and identify on the ground the necessary protected areas.
- Identify linkages to the greater tourism business
- Analysis of Community Watersheds

Discussion: How does the EBM plan allow for tourism? EBM work done to date maps the ecological values. Use that information to determine areas that are already protected, or should be protected for other values. Whistler area forests have moderate biodiversity values, but have high value for tourism.

## **6. Old Forest Plan**

Discussed during 2012 Logging Plan discussion. It is part of the EBM plan but the CCF is making a separate report.

## **7. Carbon Credit Project**

Discussed during Administrative Budget discussion. The project is delayed while waiting for the provincial government to clarify its policy.

## **8. Forest Stewardship Council Certification**

Discussed during Financial Statement review. Delayed due to lack of funds and changes in the FSC program that are under review.

## **9. Whistler Olympic Park – Madeley Trail**

Covered under 2012 Logging Plan discussion. Waiting for the WSL decision to proceed. CCF is not involved except for the removal of the logs.

## **10. Forest Growth Monitoring Plan**

Discussed during Administrative Budget discussion. Delayed due to lack of funds and lower priority.

## **11. Cultural Management Areas progress report**

Discussed at end of AGM.

Status: BCIT students researching cultural cedar trees in an area of the Cheakamus Cultural Management Area. Small scale forestry guidelines to be used. Tom Cole is updated on the Squamish Nation sensitive sites in the area.

**ACTION:** Plan for Cheakamus CMA completed by autumn 2012.

## **12. 2012 Proposed Logging Plans**

Proposed:

<b>Area</b>	<b>Forest Type</b>	<b>Wood Volume</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Brew 01	Second growth	5688 m <sup>3</sup>	Already roaded by Western Forest Products. Mature post-fire forest of ~140 years old. Small patch opportunities.
Brew 02	Second growth	4350 m <sup>3</sup>	See Brew 01 comments.
Fee 03	Old growth	4650 m <sup>3</sup>	Roaded by RichPly in 2011. Blackcomb Snowmobiles on side. Planning

			looped roads to facilitate multi-use trail use afterwards. Multi-pass shelterwood.
Whistler Olympic Park	Old growth	4250 m <sup>3</sup>	Wood volume from WOP's trail construction. Work done by others.
Rainbow 13	Old growth	5560 m <sup>3</sup>	Accessible with new WOP trail access. Not part of Canadian Snowmobile's identified core area. Don't have to use their roads.

Discussion: Backcountry use has exploded in recent years. Lil'wat concerned about motorized use that damages growing trees and affects wildlife. How to manage CCF in light of recreation use. Concerns over logging old growth and how it affects tourism. Mayor Wilhelm-Morden suggested not logging old growth in 2012, and discuss AAC reduction with Minister of Forests.

First Nations have a financial investment in the CCF and want an economic return on it. Lil'wat Nation sees logging as farming, they don't focus on old growth, and CCF activities are in line with their long tradition of managing the forest for other values such as burning areas to promote berry production. Squamish agrees.

Oldest second growth is located in the Interface zone along the lower slopes of Rainbow Mountain south to Sproatt that doesn't permit commercial logging as per the Forest Management Plan because of the high visual values. Can only log for wildfire or forest health issues. CCF has high targets for protection and working toward more.

The Old Forest Plan being developed in 2012 is to help define and identify areas of concern, and propose them for further protection beyond what already exists through government regulations and EBM plan. RichPly eager to define the long term Timber Harvesting Land Base so that it knows where logging can and can't happen.

Proposed RichPly harvesting plan is flexible. If WOP trail doesn't go ahead, remove from list and find alternate area that doesn't have old growth.

**MOTION:** 2012 Logging plan accepted as presented by Richmond Plywood. (JF/GF) NW-M opposed

**ACTION:** CCF/RichPly meet with RMOW Fire Services to discuss opportunities to integrate work in the Interface zone.

RichPly 2012 Project List:

- Composter – no confirmation yet if RMOW composter will use CCF debris

- Re-engage with FireSmart program
- Road Atlas – government hasn't responded yet. Dave Southam wants to meet.
- Red/Blue Listed ecosystems – need to learn more. Have a speaker at the AWARE old forest workshop?
- Old Forest Plan to act as OGMA plan for CCF. Get province to agree.
- Spotted Owl Management Plan – new this week. District Manager gave briefing to tenure holders. Probably not a big issue for CCF. Areas around Daisy Lake and Wedge included. EBM already creating the habitat. May be funding available.
- BCIT students researching cultural cedars along Cheakamus River. Will contribute to CMA plan. UBC students studying AAC implications under different management scenarios.
- WB Khyber Staircase trail – discussing construction of Grouse Grind-like trail on south side of Whistler using wooden stairs. Peter and Tom meeting with Doug Forseth.

### **13. 2012 Recreation Projects – Loggers Lake and Ancient Cedars**

CFOW is funding Loggers Lake outhouse.

WB EnviroFund funding for Ancient Cedars trail. Arthur DeJong, HIT team, WildPlay and others involved.

### **14. 2012 Five Year Business Plan**

Discussion deferred.

### **15. 2012 Administration Budget for approval**

Discussion: remove carbon project revenue, too uncertain. Forest manager to bill CCF directly, but change budget to \$20,000. Remove growth & yield line item. Remove frog ponds budget and monitor them in 2012. Remove trail and rec site budget. 2012 budget balanced.

**MOTION:** Budget is passed with amendments. (GF/JF)

Suggestion to make an extra payment earlier in 2012 to RMOW from 2011 profits.

**MOTION:** CCF pay an extra amount to RMOW. Date to be determined.

Discussion: Cheque signing. Now that Peter Ackhurst will be billing CCF directly, he will also be signing his own cheques. Request second person to be able to sign cheques.

**MOTION:** N. Wilhelm-Morden to be second signatory.

Peter will continue to sign all cheques except his own. Maintain single signature cheques.

Next BOD meeting in June hosted by Squamish Nation.