

**Cheakamus Community Forest Board of Directors Meeting
January 6, 2010
Richmond Plywood Plant**

Attendance:

Jeff Fisher, Squamish Nation
Greg Bikadi, Lil'wat Nation
Peter Ackhurst, RMOW
Ken Melamed, RMOW
Tom Cole, Richmond Plywood

Peter Ackhurst chaired the meeting
Heather Beresford, RMOW, Secretary

Regrets:

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

Toured RichPly plant with Tom Cole and Angus Allison.

Key Points:

- 282 people in the company, each is a shareholder & part owner of company
- Started in 1956, goal is to enhance shareholders' lifestyle
- Seven Board members elected from shareholders/employees, and company is managed by four senior managers
- 49,000 m³ in Port Hardy, 18,000 in Soo Valley/Britannia
- Invested \$14M in new boiler – much improved air quality, no need for natural gas anymore, uses wood waste to burn and power the machinery at the plant.
- Doug Scott, General Manager introduced

MOTIONS & ACTIONS from this meeting:

- **ACTION:** develop a procedure/system to ensure consistency and accuracy of mapping database.
- **ACTION:** Jeff will do initial investigation into the JOP funding option.
- **MOTION:** Starting January 1, 2010, RMOW staff will track hours and invoice CCF. Rates to be approved at future BOD meeting.
- Moved and seconded KM/JF
- **MOTION:** Proposed Expenses Budget (\$17,100) approved. Moved and seconded KM/GB
- **MOTION:** Defer proposed Cheakamus CMA harvesting for at least one year, find an alternative location. Moved and seconded GB/JF.
- **ACTION:** The Squamish and Lil'wat Nations will complete the Cultural Management Area Plans by June 2011.
- **ACTION:** CCF write letter to the S2S Retreat with suggestion to develop harvesting protocols for area.
- **ACTION:** Host a meeting with commercial operators to discuss roads, cost sharing, maintenance. (June). MOF willing to attend, invite ILMB, MOTCA.

AGENDA ITEMS:

January 6, 2010 Agenda approved.

Minutes of October 15, 2009 BOD meeting approved. GB/KM

Notes:

- Tom Cole is sitting in, will remove himself if Board wishes to speak in private.
- Chair is aiming for as many approvals as possible to reduce number of meetings required.
- MLA McIntyre provided copies of her speech in the Legislative Assembly about the CCF. Will post on website (whistler.ca)

1. RichPly Agreement

RichPly agreement completed and signed. They agreed to all “subject tos” identified at last meeting. Resend to BOD.

2. Finances

- Hired Kath McCreery, Whistler Accounting and Bookkeeping to do statements, hiring another accountant to do taxes.
- Income of \$30,000 (3 partners @ \$10,000 each) plus \$800 from VANOC for community forest sign to go up at entrance of Brandywine Valley.
- Expenses \$5706, \$25,906 remains in reserve account
- Should expect AAC rent invoice from MOF before their year end of March 31/10
- No need for audit in 2009, not enough going on to warrant
- Non-profit organizations should set up a reserve fund, balance expenses & revenues to show no profit, therefore no taxes to pay.
- Don't need to apply for charitable status unless expecting donations. But can't directly receive/administer grants that require charitable status – would have to partner with someone who did.

3. 2010 Administration Budget

Reviewed itemized expenses for 2010 (\$17,100), optional projects and silviculture budget.

Expenses Discussion:

BC Community Forest Association membership (\$2900) – is it worth it? BCCFA lobbies government, provides support and networking for members. Consensus is to stay a member. Map Updating – currently using Ecotrust, proposing to use Lil'wat GIS department – Ecotrust will support. Will arrange contract in June (post-Olympics). Will use existing data as much as possible to keep costs down. Will coordinate with RichPly so databases are consistent. TEM mapping being completed for rest of CCF through FIA funding.

ACTION: develop a procedure/system to ensure consistency and accuracy of mapping database.

Optional Projects Discussion:

“Nice to do” projects, but would have to come out of reserve budget.

- Silviculture strategy – FIA funds possible but need to get on the BCCFA list (it administers the funds)

- EBM Phase II – could get a grant to complete social and economic side. The \$5000 shown in proposed budget would be the CCF contribution, not the budget of the whole project.
- Road & Bridge Upgrade – suggest to upgrade the Cheakamus Lake Road, in very rough shape, needs gravel and grading. Job Opportunities Program (JOP) funding may be available but tied to forest dependent communities – does Whistler fit that criteria? Proposals due January 22/10.

ACTION: Jeff will do initial investigation into the JOP funding option.

1. Old Growth Timber Preservation Project –
Discussion: FWAC concerned that CCF will log last of OG in valley bottoms. Noted that much old growth (OG) is already protected through other mechanisms. Need to integrate RMOW's Protected Areas Network (PAN) strategy. Most OG is up high, valley bottom OG is in deficit. Suggest a study to review how much OG, what kind, talk to MOF, etc. Could be done through Landscape Unit planning. Could be FIA funding.

No other grants pursued at this time. Possible \$12,000 in FIA funding – get on BCCFA list.

Silviculture Fund Discussion:

CCF invoiced VANOC \$55,000 for the parking lots. RichPly administers this account. Need to review NSR records – doubt about accuracy of database. If harvest predates 1988, FIA money can be used. RichPly might get back on FIA funding list, could contribute.

Finances Discussion:

Reserve will be \$9500 at year end if no optional projects done – what happens after 2010? Where is the projected logging revenue? Profits show up the following year. This budget shows the estimated \$1600 revenue from VANOC parking lots. 2010 revenue will be received in 2011. Taxes paid when revenue received. Partners won't put more money into the CCF.

RMOW Staff Services Discussion:

RMOW providing services to CCF that are not being invoiced or matched by other partners. How do we make that equitable among the 3 partners? RMOW staff will keep track of hours. Should be identified in the budget. A hidden cost for RMOW. But if we invoice all expenses, that increases the CCF budget beyond revenue.

MOTION: Starting January 1, 2010, RMOW staff will track hours and invoice CCF. Rates to be approved at future BOD meeting.

Moved and seconded KM/JF

MOTION: Proposed Expenses Budget (\$17,100) approved. Moved and seconded KM/GB

Revenue		
Admin Bank account	- reserve fund	\$15 500
2009 logging profit	- Vanoc parking lots	1 600
Total		<hr/> \$17,100
Expenses		

Annual community forest rent invoice		\$7400
BCCFA annual dues		\$2900
Director's insurance		\$ 800
Community information		\$ 500
Accounting - admin account		\$2000
GIS database and map updating		\$2500
Misc		\$1000
Total		\$17,100
2010 Profit/Residual		nil
2010 Reserve Fund	(\$25 000- \$15 500)	\$9500

4. 2010 Forestry Plan – Tom Cole

2. Five compartments shown – Wedge, Rainbow, Brew, etc.
3. Wedge – 10.8 ha proposed for 2010-01-08
4. Trying to stay away from interface zone until fire management plan complete, would like more direction from Board
5. \$2/m3 guaranteed to CCF even if harvested at a loss
6. Cheakamus 01 – would use upgraded access road BUT in cultural management area (CMA), high recreation use, mainly old growth – likely would be contentious
7. Wants to create a mix of harvesting opportunities between fire management, salvage and other methods

Discussion: CCF has agreed with First Nations that no logging takes place in the CMA until plan in place. Could ask for permission. Lil'wat is working on plan with Bruce Blackwell across the whole territory. Developing a model for how harvesting takes place and could apply that to CMA. CCF needs revenue but will continue to be sensitive to sensitive areas. Will know exact areas in June, once able to get on the ground.

MOTION: Defer proposed Cheakamus CMA harvesting for at least one year, find an alternative location. Moved and seconded GB/JF.

ACTION: The Squamish and Lil'wat Nations will complete the Cultural Management Area Plans by June 2011.

By April: RichPly will have draft FSP, 2010 Harvesting plan draft – must show harvest unit and actual area to be logged. Public will expect and demand it of CCF.

By June: FSP approved, integrate interface and targeted fuel types (needs Bruce Blackwell plan complete), complete 2010 harvesting plan.

5. 2010 Forest Investment Account (FIA) Funding

Ideas discussed in budget discussion. Other ideas? CMA plan? Allocations released in April. Need to get on BCCFA list. Be careful with administration of FIA funds – lots of conditions.

6. Sea to Sky Retreat (Buddhist Centre)

S2S Retreat asking for a large quiet zone around their property. Map reviewed. CCF activities will certainly respect their location, but would rather develop a protocol around when and how to log in the area, rather than designate the large area as a “no harvesting” area.

Suggest holding next CCF Board meeting at S2S Buddhist Retreat as per its standing invitation to the Board.

ACTION: CCF write letter to the S2S Retreat with suggestion to develop harvesting protocols for area.

7. Lil'wat Quota Transfer

Not much has happened since last meeting in October. Ure Creek agreement taking precedence but also tied to CCF quota. Lil'wat Land and Resources Department now handles all forestry licenses, not Creekside.

Discussion: CCF can't afford to pay compensation on this quota, needs to be a provincial solution. CCF involved in the situation but not liable for it. The CCF received its quota from the province.

8. FireSmart

Plan approved by RMOW Council on December 1, 2009. Fire department will apply for \$3M over 3 years to the UBCM wildfire management program. Staff report was distributed to BOD previously.

9. Western Forest Products Timber License Transfer

Still in progress.

10. 2009 Annual Report

Peter preparing annual report. Will distribute to BOD for comments before distribution to public and posting on website.

11. Road & Bridge Report

Due to be received this week. Peter and Mike Hedberg met MOF over Forest Service Roads (FSRs). MOF still undecided about which FSRs they want to keep. Study showed no serious problems with roads and bridges surveyed.

CCF not responsible for FSRs until it's actively harvesting an that area. Should discuss how many roads CCF wants to keep open. What is the process for getting to that decision?

Don Vanderhorst representing Whistler Bungee wants discussion over maintenance of Cal-Cheak road to their site. Many other commercial operators using FSRs – should contribute to maintenance.

ACTION: Host a meeting with commercial operators to discuss roads, cost sharing, maintenance. (June). MOF willing to attend, invite ILMB, MOTCA.

12. Research Project

Report done for free by Deb DeLong, a returning to the workforce forestry employee. Reviewed old research projects in Whistler Interpretive Forest and CCF. MOF decided to continue with some, abandon others (e.g. “sludge” projects in WIF). Since some of the research plots along the WIF roads are no longer active, it allows FireSmart to do some road widening and thinning in those areas.

13. Public Consultation Plan

Hold a spring and fall open house to show proposed plans and then describe what was done. Mount Currie holds quarterly general assemblies where information could be shared for input. Need to discuss opportunities for community input with the Squamish Nation. Also holding 2 tours in the spring (similar to last fall with last of CFOW money). Invite people to harvesting areas. Website maintained. Consider rotating the main open houses between the partner communities every year.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Next meeting to be held in May 2010.

Note: the BC Community Forest Association is holding its Annual General Meeting from June 3-6, 2010 hosted by the Westbank First Nation.

Thank you.

Heather Beresford
January 8, 2010