

Terms of Reference



Forest Technology Integration Committee

(Approved by council at the November 27/28, 2004 meeting)

1.0 PREAMBLE

During 2003, by virtue of the new *Foresters Act* and the association's new bylaws, Forest Technologists have been brought under the jurisdiction of the *Foresters Act* and have been integrated into the membership of the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABC FP). Further, by virtue of a guideline adopted by council in November 2003, the rights of practice enjoyed by Registered Forest Technologists (RFTs) have been clarified.

Council recognizes that the successful integration of Forest Technologists into the membership of the ABCFP is a complex task that may need fine-tuning from time to time. In particular, council recognizes that the *Guidelines on the Scope of Practice for Registered Forest Technologists* is a living document that similarly may need refinement from time to time to better reflect: (1) the work of RFTs; (2) the evolving relationship between RFTs and RPFs and; (3) the evolving practice of professional forestry.

2.0 PURPOSE

Accordingly, the purposes of the Forest Technology Integration Committee are to:

- Periodically review, on behalf of council, the adequacy of the association's efforts to effectively and equitably integrate Forest Technologists into the ABCFP and based on those reviews, bring areas of concern to council's attention and;
- Carry out reviews of the ABCFP's *Guidelines on the Scope of Practice for Registered Forest Technologists* before the end of 2004 and 2005 respectively and upon council request thereafter, and when warranted based on those reviews, to recommend guideline revisions to council.

3.0 RELATIONSHIPS & ACCOUNTABILITY

The committee is appointed by, reports to and is accountable to the ABCFP council. Council may dismiss any or all committee members and may terminate the mandate of this committee at any time.

4.0 COMPOSITION & TERMS

The committee shall be comprised of four council members comprised of two RFTs and two RPFs. One of the four shall be designated as the chair by council.

Every effort shall be made to provide reasonable continuity within the committee membership and to stagger the terms of appointees. Committee members may not serve for more than four years.

5.0 Meetings, Decision-Making & Support

Meetings shall be at the call of the chair. To the extent feasible, meetings shall be conducted by conference call or other electronic means.

It is expected that decision-making will be consensual. In the event it is not, the chair may seek to resolve the issue by calling a vote in which a simple majority shall prevail. The chair may put a question to council for interim guidance if necessary.

Staff support shall be provided by the chief executive officer but this responsibility may be delegated to other staff. Staff may attend committee meetings and actively participate in discussions but may not vote.

6.0 COMMUNICATIONS & CONFIDENTIALITY

The committee may not undertake any external communication and its discussions shall be kept confidential unless otherwise directed by council.

7.0 BUDGET & EXPENSES

Sufficient funding shall be provided in the association's budget to cover committee expenses including necessary meeting expenses and reasonable committee-related travel, accommodation and communication expenses of committee members. The need to retain consultants is not anticipated and may not happen without explicit council approval on a case-by-case basis.