The Way Forward on Forestry

The new Centre for Agriculture and Forestry Development, Wooddale, NL

Sector Work Plan
What is the Forestry Sector Work Plan?

As part of The Way Forward, industry and the Provincial Government have partnered, through the Cabinet Committee on Jobs, to support economic growth and foster private sector job creation. As part of this work, the Provincial Government and the Newfoundland and Labrador Forest Industry Association have jointly led the development of the Forestry Sector Work Plan. The Forestry Sector Work Plan includes actions that each of the partners and other industry stakeholders will take to achieve the collective goal of growing the forest industry and stimulating new private sector employment.
Vision for Forest Sector Growth

Together, we will pursue opportunities and remove barriers to support forest sector growth. Our actions will put in place the conditions necessary to sustainably manage our forest resources, diversify and generate new and expanding business activity, and increase private sector employment for residents in Newfoundland and Labrador.
Industry Growth and Diversification

This Work Plan outlines steps necessary to sustain, grow and diversify the forest sector:

- Recognize Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited as a keystone to the forest industry by:
  - Establishing collaborative research and development programs to grow the green economy and the diversification of product lines with sustainable, high-quality fiber-based products; and,
  - Establishing value chain optimization initiatives to improve the logistics of moving wood fibre to the mill, sawmills and to market;
- Increase forest sector business activity in Newfoundland and Labrador by working with local industry to expand sawmill production and to diversify wood products including engineered wood products;
- Establish joint ventures and economic partnerships, which includes Indigenous governments and organizations, leading to an increase in direct Indigenous employment in the forest sector;
- Increase the level of forest sector activity occurring in Labrador through issuance of a Request for Proposal;
- Support the Atlantic Woodworks program to promote the utilization of engineered wood products and to increase the utilization of wood in midrise construction;
- Continue to increase timber allocations and harvest levels to reach The Way Forward commitment of 20 per cent by 2020 (16 per cent achieved to date) over the previous five year period. This goal was originally established in 2016. It is anticipated that the 20 per cent goal will be met in early 2020; and,
• Continue to advertise timber sale agreements (5 advertised to date) and award 5 year permits (2 awarded to date) to increase timber allocations and harvest levels.

**As this industry grows, there are some things that you should know:**

• Wood is a sustainable, renewable and recyclable product that can be used in a wide variety of applications. It has the potential to provide global environmental and energy solutions now and into the future.

• Our forest industry is changing and becoming more diverse and innovative. Our industry is well positioned to excel in the new, dynamic, high-growth global marketplace for biofuels, biofuel refining, and engineered and composite wood products for use in residential and commercial construction.
• As part of The Way Forward, the Provincial Government and industry have come together through unprecedented collaboration to develop a plan to realize the full potential of the forest industry. By supporting partnerships, technological advances and product research and diversification, we will create viable transformational pathways for the industry leveraging the emerging bio-economy. This will generate new revenues and create employment for the people of our province.

Progress in the Forest Industry

Since the downturn in the newsprint industry and the resulting decline in lumber production in the saw mill industry, Newfoundland and Labrador is experiencing a slow and steady regrowth in saw mill activity:

• Three pressure treating lumber facilities have been established creating a large market for local lumber. These products were previously imported into the province and a local supply now exists.
• Saw mills have diversified to utilize small diameter wood previously supplied to the news print industry through investments in specific sawing lines designed for small diameter wood.
• A finger-jointing line has been incorporated into one of the largest saw mills, providing for the production of long length lumber, which traditionally has not been produced in the province.
• Diversification of saw mills into commercial firewood sales has also provided a market for small diameter wood.
• Biomass dryers have been incorporated into saw mill production lines allowing the drying of waste materials (chips, sawdust, bark) which can be burned in the Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited co-generation facility. These changes have provided the sawmill industry with new markets for small diameter wood, and are stimulating the growth of lumber production in the province. Finding outlets for small diameter wood remains the main impediment to the continued growth of lumber production within the province.

This Work Plan places a strong focus on finding innovative ways of using small diameter timber fibre in biomass heating, bioenergy and value added products. The activities in this Plan will position Newfoundland and Labrador to maximize private sector job creation and economic growth as set out in The Way Forward.
Sector Partners

The Forestry Sector Work Plan was collaboratively developed by representatives of:

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Newfoundland and Labrador Forest Industry Association
Newfoundland and Labrador Lumber Producers’ Association
Model Forest
Forestry Safety Association of Newfoundland and Labrador
Registered Professional Foresters of Newfoundland and Labrador
Maritime Lumber Bureau
Atlantic WoodWORKS!
FPInnovations
Tree Canada
Hearth, Patio and Barbecue Association of Canada
Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Industry Association
Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters Newfoundland and Labrador
Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture
Miawpukek First Nation
Qalipu First Nation
NunatuKavut Community Council
Government of Canada
Memorial University including:
- School of Science and the Environment
- Office of Public Engagement
- Navigate Entrepreneurship Centre
- Grenfell Environment Policy Institute
- Labrador Institute
College of the North Atlantic including:
- Office of Applied Research
- Center for Energy and Thermal Systems
Multi-Materials Stewardship Board
Western Regional Service Board
How We Are Working Together to Grow the Forest Sector

Together, industry, post-secondary institutions, Indigenous governments and organizations, and the Provincial Government, with input from federal representatives, have identified key challenges and opportunities related to: sustainable forest management, research, innovation and diversification, business development and risk management, public awareness, and human resources, skills and labour. What follows are the actions we will take together to generate growth and diversify the forest industry in Newfoundland and Labrador.
Sustainable Forest Management

- Undertake a review of sustainable forest management planning processes, legislation and permitting. (Completion target: 2021-22)
  
  **Lead:** FLR, MAE, TCII  
  **Partners:** NLFIA, CBPPL, MUN, IAS, QDC, MFN, NCC

- Identify options to enhance provincial forest inventory and operational planning including use of advanced technology and the development of multi-sectoral partnerships. (Completion target: 2021-22)
  
  **Lead:** FLR, CBPPL, QDC, NLFIA  
  **Partners:** NEIA, NRCan, CNA, MUN, FPI, MFN

- Enhance multi-year planning for forest sector activities (forest access, silviculture and harvesting) including consideration of infrastructure, road construction science and climate change mitigation. (Completion target: 2021-22)
  
  **Lead:** FLR, CBPPL, NLFIA  
  **Partners:** MAE, TW, MUN, CNA, QDC, MFN, NCC, IAS, NRCan, NLLPA, FPI, LAS

- Undertake a review of the provincial silviculture treatments and applied research to advance forest site productivity and product yield. (Completion target: On-going)
  
  **Lead:** FLR, CBPPL, NLFIA  
  **Partners:** RPFNL, FPI
Research, Innovation and Diversification

Strategically advance climate change research in both the short and long term to support the advancement of the forest industry through provision of scientific modelling, interpretation and recommendations to inform forestry operation, adaptation and provincial policy development. (Completion target: 2021-22)

**Lead:** MUN-GC, NLFIA  
**Partners:** FLR, CBPPL, MAE, CNA, QDC, MFN, NCC, ACOA, NRCan, NEIA, FPI

Advance land use research and planning through the exploration of collaborations with current practitioners and the establishment of a Canada Research Chair. (Completion target: On-going)

**Lead:** MUN-GEPI  
**Partners:** CBPPL, NRCan, FLR, NLFIA, NLFA, NEIA, TCII, MAE, QDC, MFN

Explore opportunities to pilot the use of biofuel systems. (Completion target: On-going)

**Lead:** TW, NR  
**Partners:** FLR, NLFIA, CNA, MUN, HPBAC, NRCan, MAE, NCC, NLLPA, NEIA, FPI

Explore the potential for greater use of wood for heat in Newfoundland and Labrador’s off-grid diesel-reliant communities, including the use of high efficiency wood stoves. (Completion target: On-going)

**Lead:** NR  
**Partners:** NLFIA, FLR, NEIA, FPI, HPBAC, NRCan, NCC, CNA-OAR, NLLPA, LAS

Explore biofuel technology in the development of the Provincial Renewable Energy Plan. (Completion target: 2019)

**Lead:** NR  
**Partners:** TW, TCII, FLR, MAE, NLFIA, HPBAC, CNA-OAR, CNA-CETS, CBPPL, NEIA, MUN, NLLPA, FPI
Examine the feasibility of creating a Wood Products Innovation Centre dedicated to applied research, technology transfer and innovation to assist industry in developing new products, including non-timber forest products and value added wood products. (Completion target: 2020-21)

**Lead:** CNA, NLFIA, CBPPL, MUN-GC

**Partners:** FLR, TCII, MAE, NR, NRCan, ACOA, MLB, AWW, NLLPA, QDC, NCC, MFN, NEIA, CME, FSANL, FPI

Recognize and promote use of green, energy-efficient materials for building construction where appropriate. (Completion target: On-going)

**Lead:** TW, MLB, AWW

**Partners:** MAE, FPI, FLR, NLLPA, NEIA, MFN

Explore and evaluate green innovative projects that will serve to reduce delivered fibre costs as well as provide additional revenue streams for small diameter wood and residues. (Completion target: On-going)

**Lead:** FLR, FPI, NLFIA, CBPPL

**Partners:** TCII, ACOA, NLLPA, MLB, AWW, MUN, CNA, MAE, NEIA, NR, MFN

Review transport trailer configurations and highway weight allowances to maximize hauling and transportation cost efficiencies. (Completion target: 2019)

**Lead:** SNL, FPI

**Partners:** FLR, NLFIA, NLLPA, FSANL, TW, CBPPL, MFN
Support firms and entrepreneurs to pursue research and development opportunities that evaluate new innovative wood products including utilization of small diameter timber for local and export markets. (Completion target: On-going)

**Lead:** TCII, FLR, NLFIA  
**Partners:** NR, FPI, MUN, CNA, ACOA, NRCan, NLLPA, QDC, NCC, MFN, CME, MLB, AWW, IIAS

Support the advancement of the Forestry and Agriculture Regional Innovation System pilot. (Completion target: 2021-22)

**Lead:** Regional Innovation System Committee  
**Partners:** MAE, NRCan, NEIA, NLLPA, FPI, NR, ACOA, MMSB, WRSB, MFN

Support new forest product development, clean technology, innovation and adoption. (Completion target: On-going)

**Lead:** TCII  
**Partners:** MAE, FPI, NEIA, MUN-GC, MFN

**Forest Business Development and Risk Management**

Identify and support collaborative processes to facilitate forest industry’s firm knowledge of wood product international certification, product standards and export marketing. (Completion target: 2019-20)

**Lead:** NLFIA, CNA, FSANL, NLLPA, CME  
**Partners:** FLR, NRCan, ACOA, FPI, NLLPA, QDC, CME, NCC, MFN, AESL, TCII, MUN-GC, MLB, AWW, NEIA, GAC

Facilitate collaboration between the forest and agricultural industry with regards to the utilization of merchantable timber. (Completion target: 2019-20)

**Lead:** FLR  
**Partners:** NLFIA, NLFA, CBPPL, TCII

Develop a forest stakeholder sub-committee to strategically leverage federal supports to advance forest sector growth in Newfoundland and Labrador. (Completion target: 2019-20)

**Lead:** NLFIA, MUN-GC, MUN-LI, CNA, MFN  
**Partners:** FLR, IIAS, TCII, NR, FPI, QDC, NCC, NRCan, CBPPL, NEIA, ACOA, LAS
Identify industry-led approaches to reduce greenhouse gas emissions of forest industry companies. (Completion target: 2019-20)

**Lead:** NLFIA

**Partners:** FLR, NR, MAE, MUN, CNA, CBPPL, MFN, NCC, NEIA, NLLPA, NRCan, FPI

Continue monitoring and control of forest pests and explore the development of new mitigation technologies and management tools. (Completion target: On-going)

**Lead:** FLR

**Partners:** NLFIA, NRCan, MAE, CBPPL, FPI, HCS, MUN, CNA, MFN, NCC

Promote and support industry collaboration leading to new commercial business partnerships between existing, new and Indigenous forestry businesses. (Completion target: On-going)

**Lead:** NLFIA, QDC, MFN, CBPPL

**Partners:** NCC, NRCan, ACOA, MUN, CNA, NLLPA, FSANL, FPI

Explore forest sector development opportunities with Indigenous partners on the island and in Labrador. (Completion target: 2019-20)

**Lead:** FLR, NCC, QDC, MFN, Other Indigenous governments and organizations

**Partners:** NLFIA, NRCan, ACOA, MUN, CNA, FSANL, IIAS, LAS, FPI, CBPPL
- Enhance the hardwood-based industry in Newfoundland and Labrador.  
  (Completion target: 2021-22)  
  **Lead:** TCII, NLFIA  
  **Partners:** FLR, NLLPA, MFN

- Support new entrants, existing industry, and Indigenous governments and organizations to invest in forest sector expansion and product development. (Completion target: On-going)  
  **Lead:** TCII, ACOA  
  **Partner:** FLR, CBPPL, NLFIA, IIAS, MFN

- Strengthen entrepreneurial supports for new forest sector businesses including hosting an annual forest startup event to showcase industry problem solving and new product development. (Completion target: On-going)  
  **Lead:** NEC, MUN-GC, CNA  
  **Partners:** NLFIA, FLR, CBPPL, QFN, ACOA, TCII, FPI, MFN

- Explore modern and efficient processes to support forest information management, operations, business reporting and data management requirements. (Completion target: 2019-20)  
  **Lead:** FLR, OCIO  
  **Partners:** CBPPL, NLFIA

### Public Awareness

- Increase education, awareness and communication of forest developments and Sustainable Forest Management practices amongst government, municipalities and the general public. (Completion target: 2020-21)  
  **Lead:** FLR, MAE, CBPPL, NLFIA  
  **Partners:** TCII, Individual forestry operators, NLLPA, NLFSA, TC, RPFNL, MFN

- Develop an industry-led coordinated plan for Forest Public Awareness and Education for Newfoundland and Labrador. (Completion target: 2020-21)  
  **Lead:** NLFIA  
  **Partners:** FLR, MAE, AESL, NLLPA, FSANL, NLFA, RPFNL, CBPPL, MUN, CNA, QDC, MFN, NCC
Promote the education of safe, low emission wood product burning appliances including the production of properly seasoned fuelwood as a primary source of residential heat. (Completion target: 2020-21)

**Lead:** NLFIA, HPBAC

**Partners:** FLR, MAE, NR, MFN

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### Human Resources, Skills and Labour

Develop a Forest Sector Attraction and Retention Strategy to address labour issues, strengthen human resource capacity and undertake new initiatives to attract and retain workers. (Completion target: 2019-20)

**Lead:** NLFIA, MUN, CNA, CBPPL

**Partners:** AESL, FLR, NLLPA, QDC, NCC, MFN, AWW, MLB, FSANL

Promote forest and agriculture sector career opportunities to secondary students through integration of forestry material into the Agriculture in the Classroom Program. (Completion target: 2019-20)

**Lead:** EECD, NLFIA, NLFA, AWW, MLB, MFN

**Partners:** FLR, NLLPA, QDC, NCC, FSANL
Acronyms

ACOA  Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
AESL  Department of Advanced Education, Skills and Labour
AWW  Atlantic WoodWORKS!
CBPPL  Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited
CNA  College of the North Atlantic
CNA-OAR  College of the North Atlantic - Office of Applied Research
CNA-CETS  College of the North Atlantic - Centre for Energy and Thermal Systems
CME  Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters Newfoundland and Labrador
EECD  Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
FLR  Department of Fisheries and Land Resources
FPI  FPInnovations
FSANL  Forestry Safety Association of Newfoundland and Labrador
GAC  Global Affairs Canada
HCS  Department of Health and Community Services
HPBAC  Hearth, Patio and Barbecue Association of Canada
IIAS  Intergovernmental and Indigenous Affairs Secretariat
LAS  Labrador Affairs Secretariat
MAE  Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment
MFN  Miawpukek First Nation
MLB  Maritime Lumber Bureau
MMSB  Multi-Materials Stewardship Board
MUN  Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador
MUN-GC  Memorial University - Grenfell Campus
MUN-GEPI  Memorial University - Grenfell Environmental Policy Institute
MUN-LI  Memorial University - Labrador Institute
NEC  Navigate Entrepreneurship Centre
NEIA  Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Industry Association
NCC  NunatuKavut Community Council
NLFIA  Newfoundland and Labrador Forest Industry Association
NLFA  Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture
NLLPA  Newfoundland and Labrador Lumber Producer’s Association
NR  Department of Natural Resources
NRCan  Department of Natural Resources Canada
OCIO  Office of the Chief Information Officer
QDC  Qalipu Development Corporation
QFN  Qalipu First Nation
RPFNL  Registered Professional Foresters of Newfoundland and Labrador
TC  Tree Canada
TCII  Department of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation
TW  Department of Transportation and Works
SNL  Department of Service Newfoundland and Labrador
WRSB  Western Regional Service Board
Select photos courtesy of the Canadian Forestry Centre and Corner Brook Pulp and Paper.
“Our vision for the future of Newfoundland and Labrador is a place where potential is realized and opportunities abound. Through unprecedented partnerships with high potential industries, we are fostering the economic growth, innovation, and job creation needed to support bright futures for the people of our province.”

Premier Ball