

BCCFA Conference 2026

Session 1

Community Forests in a Changing Sector: Growth, Governance and Accountability





BC **COMMUNITY**
FOREST
ASSOCIATION

Community Forest Program Goals (2008)

1. Provide long-term opportunities for achieving a range of community objectives, values and priorities.
2. Diversify the use of and benefits derived from the community forest agreement area.
3. Provide social and economic benefits to British Columbia.
4. Undertake community forestry consistent with sound principles of environmental stewardship that reflect a broad spectrum of values.
5. Promote community involvement and participation.
6. Promote communication and strengthen relationships between aboriginal and non-aboriginal communities and persons.
7. Foster innovation.
8. Advocate forest worker safety.



Community Forest Agreement Licence

Section 6.01 of the Licence includes the Management Plan Content Requirements:

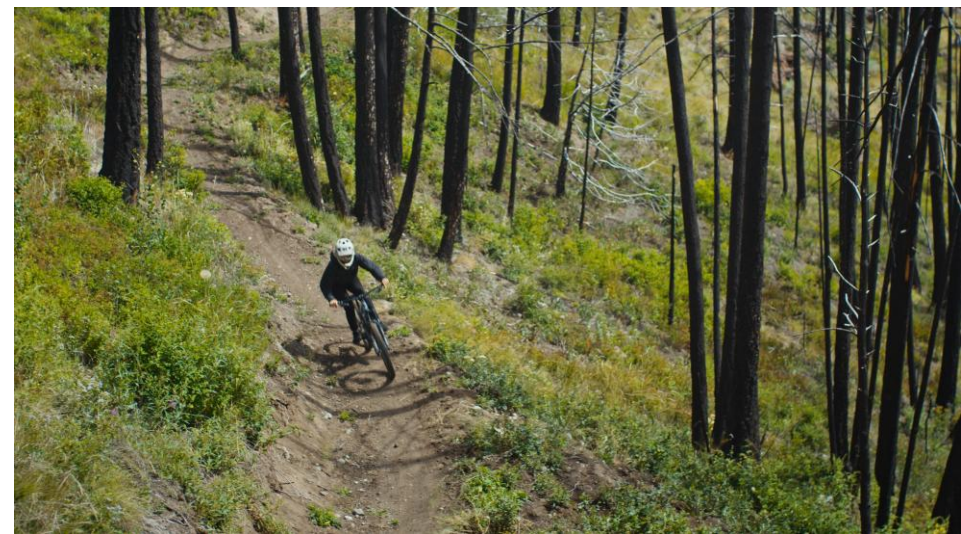
- (i) include the values or guiding principles to be applied to the management of the Community Forest Agreement area,
- (j) contain the broad social, economic and resource management goals proposed for the Community Forest Agreement area,
- (k) identify the linkage between the Agreement goals and the goals set by the Province for Community Forest Agreements, and
- (l) include a plan for annual reporting out to the community on the performance in relation to the values, principles and goals referred to in Subparagraphs 6.02 (i), (j) and (k).



Updated Program Goals

1. Empower communities to manage forests according to local priorities – Community forests are shaped by the knowledge, values, and vision of each community, ensuring management aligns with community-defined objectives and contributes to broader government priorities.

2. Support a diversity of forest uses and values – Community forests complement a range of forest uses and benefits.





3. Foster thriving communities and contribute social, cultural, and economic benefits –

Community forests support local jobs, community economic development, community wellbeing and long-term resilience.



4. Support sustainable fibre supply and strong partnerships –

Community forests provide a reliable, sustainable supply of fibre to market, building partnerships with local businesses, value-added manufacturers, provincial partners and industry to strengthen local economies.

5. Advance stewardship and climate resilience – Community forests contribute to ecological integrity, promote land-based investment, and take practical steps to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

6. Improve community wildfire resilience – Community forests collaborate to reduce wildfire risk and strengthen local mitigation, preparedness, and response.





7. Ensure inclusive, transparent, and accountable governance – Community forests are financially sound, community-led organizations that actively engage community members, First Nations, partners and the Province.



8. Advance relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities and peoples – First Nations have meaningful roles in community forest governance and operations, with their rights, culture, responsibilities and priorities considered throughout decision-making processes as direct partners or through ongoing engagement and collaboration.

9. Champion innovation and learning in community forest management –

Community forests serve as hubs for piloting new ideas and advancing shared learning.



10. Promote safety and respect –

Community forests prioritize safe practices and foster a culture of respect and care for workers, partners, and the public.





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BC COMMUNITY FORESTS ASSOCIATION

Session #1 Community Forests in a Changing Sector

Jun 4th, 2026





BREAKOUT DISCUSSION

- Opportunity to interact, engage with and learn from one another
- Discuss specific ways we can advance these goals within community forests

connecting **knowledge** to **practice**



10 GOALS AND 30 TABLES

Program Goal	Table #
1. Empower communities to manage forests according to local priorities	1, 11, 21
2. Support a diversity of forest uses and values	2, 12, 22
3. Foster thriving communities and contribute social, cultural, and economic benefits	3, 13, 23
4. Support sustainable fibre supply and strong partnerships	4, 14, 24
5. Advance stewardship and climate resilience	5, 15, 25
6. Improve community wildfire resilience	6, 16, 26
7. Ensure inclusive, transparent, and accountable governance	7, 17, 27
8. Advance relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities and peoples	8, 18, 28
9. Champion innovation and learning in community forest management	9, 19, 29
10. Promote safety and respect	10, 20, 30



GUIDING QUESTIONS

- What are the top actions we could take in our community forests to achieve this goal?

**What indicators could we use to measure success?*

connecting **knowledge** to **practice**

