



***DIVERSE SILVICULTURE PRACTICES  
FOR A DIVERSE FUTURE WOOD  
SUPPLY –***

*What Are the Barriers to Change and  
Innovation?*

- Forest sector 2015-2025
- Communities 2015-2025
- Forest stewardship
  - Focus – single or integrated
  - Desired infrastructure
  - Challenges & trends
- The 2015-2025 Silviculturalist
  - Barriers to change
  - Options



21<sup>st</sup> century forest  
sector has & will remain  
changed cf the 1980 –  
2000 period

# Forest Sector 2015 – 2025

## Predicted construct

- Primary forest industry focused on short-term global competitiveness
- Smaller forest sector & company workforce
- Significantly reduced, lower quality & more varied wood supply
- Forest Professionals pressured to focus on delivering minimum required forest management
- Government supporting primary industry through complementary policies
- Government off-loading responsibilities to the forest industry, profession & others
- Forest management model to pressure Forest Professionals to minimize cost & take long-term stewardship risks



## Community influence

Demand resilient communities – avoid boom & bust economy

- Long-term stewardship of local forests
- Local forest vision & goals customized to community desires & situation
- “Real” involvement in local forest strategic decision-making
- Increased forest-related knowledge capacity to ensure input into forest management decisions is informed
- More diversified, viable & sustainable local forest sector
- Forest Professionals providing leadership through balanced & independent support as per the Forester’s Act

**Forest Professionals can play a major part**



# Long-term Forest Stewardship

## Single or integrated focus

- Primary forest industry focuses on corporate needs & Government requirements
- Government focuses on supporting a competitive forest industry & applying constraints regarding public values
- Communities focus on economic resiliency

**Integration & collaboration essential to avoid conflict & guide Forest Professionals**



# Long-term Stewardship

## Desired infrastructure

- Integrated local forest lands vision & goals that:
  - Is consistent with local forest conditions & potential markets
  - Emphasizes community vision & goals
  - Supports community, forest industry & Government needs
  - Provides guidance to Forest Professionals
- Supporting legislation, regulations & policies
- Efficient & effective public involvement process
- Government actions guided by sound long-term forest stewardship



# Long-term Forest Stewardship

## Challenges & trends

- Forest managers focused on meeting employer's objectives - predominately short-term
- Government desires to limit community influence
- Local Government politicians being pressured to demand long-term stewardship of local forests
- Government focusing on policies & actions to meet political goals
- Communities taking leadership role to ensure long-term stewardship & forest sector diversification
- Government & industry reduction in forest research
- Industry reluctant to inform the public regarding planning methodology used





# Forest Professional 2015-2025

## Barriers to embracing change

- Lack of recognition by decision-makers that things have changed & they need to as well
- Lack of innovation in balancing community demands, employer objectives & professional responsibilities in forest management plans
- Adopting a “risk adverse philosophy”
- Hesitation by Forest Professionals to move outside their comfort zone & be innovative in overcoming the barriers
- Failure to build community knowledge regarding forestry, forest management, land use, etc
- Failure to integrate public & forest manager demands with professional responsibilities
- Government reluctance to encourage secondary manufacturing



## Response to challenges & barriers

### ■ **Option 1 - Retain the status quo**

- Focus on employer objectives & rationalize that current practices lead to long-term stewardship
- Continue to promote the false image we are world leading SFM managers
- Take the position that the situation is beyond my control



## Response to challenges & barriers

- **Option 2 – Take a leadership role in adopting long-term forest stewardship**
  - Be a leader in encouraging development of an integrated vision & goals for local forests
  - Listen to communities regarding their needs & help build their knowledge capacity
  - Be innovative in developing forest management plans that meet both community needs & employer objectives
  - “Think outside the box” in utilizing available silviculture instruments
  - Push the envelope



## Forest Professionals 2015-2025

- Forest sector & Government focused on short-term decision-making & competitiveness
- Communities demanding influence on decisions with a long-term stewardship focus
- Need for flexibility in developing integrated vision & goals for local forests
- Existing challenges & barriers to practice long-term stewardship within an imperfect infrastructure
- Overcome challenges & barriers requiring Forest Professionals to be innovative & take a leadership role

**Will it be “status quo” or “leadership”**

