

BC Natural Resources Forum

Panel Discussion – Charting Forestry's Future



Longstanding Issues in the Coast Forest Sector

Systemic Issues

- Increase in tenure concentration (top company held 28% of replaceable AAC in 2003, increased to 55% in 2017)
- Erosion of social licence, public trust for forest activities
- Lack of First Nations participation across forest sector
- Lack of investment in second growth milling capacity
- Rising levels of wood waste left in the bush (from ~5% to 6% of billed volume prior to 2003 to ~14% in 2017)
- Failure to harvest forest profile (e.g. focus on cedar)
- Log exports increased by 140% from 2003 to 2017

Coast Forest Sector Revitalization targeted at growing the economy, increasing domestic manufacturing and increasing jobs by addressing systemic issues

Objectives of Coast Forest Sector Revitalization Initiative

- Re-build solid wood and secondary industries to ensure more logs and fibre processed in BC
- Improve harvest performance to ensure more fibre available for domestic mills, including pulp and paper sector
- Maintain credible auction system by taking steps to enhance competition in bidding for Timber Sale Licences
- Increase First Nations participation through training and fostering stronger business-to-business relationships between BC Timber Sales, First Nations and licensees
- Restoring social licence and Public trust for forest activities, including regulatory and policy/program amendments

Ongoing Forest Sector Revitalization Process

- **Coast** - Engagement with First Nations, industry and labour ongoing.
- **Interior** - early scoping underway, issues:
 - declining timber supply;
 - mill closures;
 - corresponding need to generate more value from the resource;
 - critical importance of reducing risk to wildfires; and
 - community resiliency.

