

October 2021

CITY OF
Quesnel

Forestry Initiatives Program

Newsletter

Community Forest enters land selection phase

Another major step in the community forest application is underway! The five governments – Nazko, Lhtako Dené, ʔEsdilagh, Lhoosk'uz Dené and the City of Quesnel – have hired a consultant to help them select the best pieces of land for the community forest. The group plans to select a large, continuous area rather than many small sections of land so that they can influence ecosystem values across the landscape. Protecting communities from wildfires is at the forefront of their management objectives, as well as restoring the ecosystem, protecting the watershed, allowing recreation space and providing jobs.

[Read more here](#)

UBC Masters of International Forestry program visits Quesnel

On October 5-7, we hosted a group of students and faculty representing 13 different countries to explore all aspects of forestry outside of the classroom.

Students visited a wildfire scar and discussed fuel management with BC Wildfire Service, sampled non-timber forest products with Moose Meadows Farm, visited West Fraser's Tree Farm License to discuss interior forest practices, engaged in Q&A with Mayor Simpson, and visited a number of mill sites to discuss manufacturing with West Fraser. The group also visited Wells to tour the Community Forest, art galleries, and discuss Community Forest governance.

Several of the students will be returning to our community to further their studies and potentially for internships or jobs.

[Read more here](#)

Stuart Lebeck, Woodlands Manager for West Fraser Mills, answers questions about Quesnel Plywood. West Fraser foresters spent the day with students touring their Tree Farm License and various mill sites, and engaging in discussions.



Forestry Manufacturing Analysis

The Forestry Manufacturing Analysis aims to carry out recommendations from the 2018 and 2019 Future of Forestry Think Tank sessions to optimize fibre utilization and diversify the manufacturing hub.

Five reports have been completed so far, exploring the various solid wood product and bioproduct opportunities that could exist for our region. Potential projects have been evaluated based on factors such as: availability of fibre, increased role and opportunities for First Nations, regional economic value, regional environmental value (resilience to wildfires and pests), climate change, and more.

[Read the October Update](#)



The research team visited Quesnel area October 14 - 15, and met with Forestry Initiatives Staff and Mayor Simpson to discuss Quesnel's MPB recovery strategy. Left to right: Nicole Klenk, Jenna Hutchen, Valerie Berseth, Vivian Nguyen, and Stephan Schott

Focal areas for the TRIA-For (Transformative Risk Assessment and Forest Resilience) research project, which will use genomic tools to manage Mountain Pine Beetle outbreaks.

Mountain Pine Beetle Research

Quesnel has been selected as a case study for a new research project focused on mountain pine beetle risk management (MPB) across BC, Alberta and Saskatchewan. MPB outbreaks persist in other provinces as a new and challenging threat. The researchers from Carleton University, the University of Toronto, and the University of Alberta will look at how Quesnel has responded to past outbreaks, and what can be learned from our experience. The project aims to improve communicate about MPB risks, enhance coordination between jurisdictions, and provide tools to select different management options.

For more information contact triacollaborative@carleton.ca

