

Submitted via email: CitizenEngagement@gov.bc.ca

January 18, 2017

Re: Professional Reliance Model Review

TimberWest Forest Corporation is a Canadian owned, BC based forest management company with history that dates back over 100 years of continuous operations. It is a testament to the generations of people who have dedicated their livelihoods to making the most informed decisions possible when managing a natural resource. We are proud of our leadership in forest management, and employing responsible and diligent professionals is the cornerstone of achieving world-class stewardship results. We herein provide a short comment on our perspective of professional reliance and applaud the BC Government's initiative to continuously improve the management of the province's natural resources.

Since registration of professionals began in this province early in the last century, their input and oversight has driven our forest management activities across varied landscapes, resulting in sustainably harvested wood products, environmental conservation, habitat management, and renewable local jobs. Today, approximately half of our staff are resource professionals as well as many more in our contractor/consulting community, adding up to thousands of professional, renewable jobs over the company's history. Instilling public trust that the land is being managed responsibly is of the utmost importance, and our professionals work every day to ensure that our on-the-ground results match that public expectation.

TimberWest has consistently acknowledged the benefits of professional involvement in our management, and has integrated it into all aspects of our business model. Our success is linked to the success of the model; here are examples of how our business and resource professionals work together to achieve world-class results:

- Operating under results-based legislation, improvements in our practices are encouraged because of the opportunity allowed for our professionals to make discretionary, and often innovative, decisions according to the specific local conditions.
- When faced with decisions that are outside of the scope of our staff professionals, we solicit the input of external professional experts, including foresters, geoscientists, biologists, and engineers.



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- Supporting professional competence is a priority for the company. Our professionals regularly engage in ongoing education, outreach, and professional development.
- Our professionals directly facilitate, participate in, and continuously incorporate a broad range of scientific research into planning for management of our operations.
- Third party forest certification is central to our business, and the policies and practices that meet the requirements of our Sustainable Forestry Initiative® and ISO 14001 certifications are designed and overseen by resource professionals.
- As TimberWest is audited for our environmental management standards and sustainability practices, so too are our professional staff audited for their work product, professional diligence, and competency, both by their peers and by the professional associations.

TimberWest believes that resource professionals are a necessary component to ongoing responsible management. In the timeless spirit of continuous improvement, it is incumbent upon the province, industry and professionals to demonstrate their effectiveness in transmitting public values into decisions on the ground. The public needs to hear from the province that it has a resource management model that has been updated to reflect today's expectations of public and First Nations. Government, professional associations, industry and all those interested in keeping British Columbia a world leader in resource management must show that they can adapt.

Sincerely,

TIMBERWEST FOREST CORP.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Domenico Iannidinaro".

Domenico Iannidinaro, RPF, RPBio, PEng

VP Sustainability & Chief Forester