

Preface

The 2009 version of the Engineering Manual (Manual) is a document intended for internal use by Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations staff. The Manual underwent a detailed review through a collaborative effort of operational district, regional, branch and BCTS (including the Access Working Group) staff. All those that contributed to the revised Manual are to be commended for their attention to detail and perseverance.

Although the Engineering Manual is accessible to the public, it is intended for internal staff use. The Manual is a primary reference for Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations operational engineering practices and administration. The Manual can also be considered a training and succession tool. It provides mandatory procedures, a *Forest and Range Practices Act* focus on safety (for more comprehensive guidance on expected safety or other business related protocols staff must be guided by their applicable safety procedures in addition to this manual), and due diligence (implementing best practices), related to road and bridge administration, design, construction, maintenance and deactivation works funded by the Ministry of Forest, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNR), in the form of:

- policy direction on implementation of legislation and regulations
- mandatory procedures;
- project checklists;
- business practices for and administration of forest roads on behalf of government;
- best practice technical and professional practices throughout FLNR;
- professional reliance; and
- recommended technical, professional and administrative applications.

As with any such policy, procedures and best practices, in exceptional situations where the implementation of a policy, procedure or practice will not result in achieving the expected result, the local decision maker could vary the practice for that specific application. In such cases, the rationale for variation should be clearly documented.

The Engineering Manual is a “living document” and will be regularly reviewed and continually improved. The responsibility for maintaining and updating the manual rests with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Chief Engineer. This Manual is an electronic document and, as such, changes can be made efficiently and in a timely manner as regulations, policies and practices evolve. As an electronic document, it provides linkages to external sources within the context of individual topics. As such, the users must recognize that any printed text out of this Manual must be considered for short term use only so as not to risk their information becoming outdated due to subsequent amendments on-line.



Brian Chow, M.Eng., P.Eng.
Chief Engineer

