

Fort St. John Pilot Project Public Advisory Group Request for Representation

NE RT Meeting June 3rd, 2025

The Fort St John Pilot Project Managing Participants are actively seeking members to join our Public Advisory Group as interest representatives.

We are seeking representatives for:

- Commercial Recreation
- Forest Contractors/Workers
- Labour
- Energy
- Non-Commercial Recreation – Non-Consumptive

Background of the Pilot Project and PAG

- The Fort St. John Pilot Project was formed in the Fort St. John TSA Defined Forest Area in 2001 with the passing of the **Fort St. John Pilot Project Regulation**.
- Pilot Projects were permitted under the Forest Practices Code Act of BC, to allow the exploration of administrative efficiencies in forestry planning and operations, but could not be in effect for more than 10% of the AAC of a Forest Region (FSJ was in the PG Forest Region).
- The FSJPP was created in response for a desire to explore an alternative forest management framework in the Northeast. This allowed for **sustainable forest management in the Northeast to operate on a results-based management framework**, rather than the more prescriptive Forest Practices Code used in the rest of the project (at the time of establishment).
- The FSJPP supports a collaborative approach to forest management that involves participation from two industry licensees (Canfor, and LP), BCTS, and three First Nations (DRFN, HRFN, PRFN), who are informed, through the Public Advisory Group, by input from the public, stakeholders, and other Treaty 8 First Nations with interest in forest management within the FSJ TSA.
- A requirement of the FSJPP was to establish and maintain a Public Advisory Group, which would allow for representatives from different public interest areas and Treaty 8 First Nations within and near the FSJ TSA to provide input on Forest Management from the lens of their specific interests.

PAG Interest Representative Roles and Responsibilities

- In addition to First Nations representation, the PAG Interest Categories set out in the PAG Terms of Reference are:
 - Commercial Recreation
 - Environmental/Conservation
 - Forest Contractors/Workers
 - Labour
 - Energy
 - Non-Commercial Recreation – Fishing/Hunting
 - Non-Commercial Recreation – Non-Consumptive
 - Range
 - Rural Communities
 - Trapping
 - Urban Communities
- PAG Interest Representatives
 - **Ensure the Participants' forest management decisions in the Sustainable Forest Management Plan are made as a result of informed, inclusive, and fair consultation with local people directly affected by or who have an interest in sustainable forest management.**
 - Review proposed Sustainable Forest Management Plans and amendments and provide comments on these proposed plans or amendments.
 - Review audits conducted on the Pilot Project.
 - Review annual reports prepared by the Participants of the Pilot Project.
 - Inform others on their area of interest.
 - Attend meetings normally held on a biannual schedule.
 - Work towards reaching consensus on recommendations to the participants of the Pilot Project.

How to Get Involved

- Anyone who is interested in joining the PAG or getting more involved in Forest Management in the Fort St. John TSA is encouraged to partake in an upcoming PAG meeting (no date set yet) to sit in as an observer.
- To ask for more information or to be added to the meeting invite list, please contact Andrew Tyrrell (Canfor) at Andrew.Tyrrell@canfor.com or Ethan Brandt (LP) at Ethan.Brandt@lpcorp.com.
- More information can also be found at <https://www.fsjpilotproject.com>