



**PROJECT REPORT**

# **Science, Indigenous Knowledge and Sustainable Forestry: First Nations and the FIA Forest Science Program**

## **Workshop Evaluation Results**

**Science, Indigenous  
Knowledge and Sustainable  
Forestry: First Nations and  
the FIA Forest Science  
Program**

**Workshop Evaluation  
Results**

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## **ABOUT THIS REPORT**

Three workshops entitled “Science, Indigenous Knowledge and Sustainable Forestry: First Nations and the FIA Forest Science Program” were held on September 6, 19, and 22 in Kamloops, Nanaimo, and Prince George, British Columbia respectively. This report summarizes the feedback from workshop participants who completed workshop evaluations. Thirty-five percent of workshop participants completed and submitted an evaluation. The results presented in this report reflect that input. Results of the workshop evaluation will be used by FORREX and the FIA Forest Science Program to guide future events and to assist the workshop presenters in improving future presentations.

## **WORKSHOP EVALUATION RESULTS**

### **Overall, how worthwhile was the workshop?**

Ninety percent of respondents said that the workshop was very worthwhile or worthwhile. Less than 1% of respondents felt that the workshop was not at all worthwhile.

### **How would you rate the quality of the workshop organization?**

The majority of respondents (92%) stated that the workshop organization was excellent to very good. Eight percent felt that the workshop organization could be improved, and suggested better room size selection would have improved the workshop.

### **How would you rate the quality of the facilitation at the workshop?**

Of the 85% of respondents who felt the facilitation was good to excellent, 28% said it was excellent. Fifteen percent of respondent felt facilitation could improve.

### **How would you rate the quality of the facilitation of the dialogue session?**

Ninety percent of respondents said that the facilitation of the dialogue session was good to excellent. The 10% who mentioned it could be improved recommended keeping more control over certain people in the audience.

### **Did this workshop increase your awareness of:**

- a) The FIA Forest Science Program purpose, governance structure, and how to benefit from the program
- b) The Sustainability Program themes and topical priorities
- c) The Timber Growth and Value Program themes and topical priorities
- d) The Mountain Pine Beetle Program themes and topical priorities
- e) The Provincial Forest Extension Program governance structure and priority objectives, and how to benefit from this program
- f) The FIA FSP call for proposal process administered by PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLP.
- g) First Nations research processes

Thirty-two percent of respondents stated they are very much more aware of the FIA FSP program. Ninety-five percent felt that the workshop increased their awareness of the FIA FSP

purpose, governance structure, and how to benefit from the program. Only 5% felt that the workshop only somewhat increased their awareness of the program.

Eighteen percent of respondents felt that the workshop very much increased their awareness of the Sustainability Program while overall 87 % felt they are more aware overall. 13% of respondents did not feel that the workshop achieved this objective for them.

Eighty-five percent of the respondents felt that the workshop made them more aware of the Timber Growth and Value Program, including 18% who felt it made them very much more aware of the program. Fifteen percent felt that the workshop only somewhat made them more aware of the Timber Growth and Value Program.

While 77% of respondents felt that the workshop increased their awareness of the Mountain Pine Beetle Program, 54% of respondents felt that the workshop only somewhat increased their awareness of the Mountain Pine Beetle Research Program. Twenty-three percent felt it did not at all increase their awareness.

Eighty-nine percent of respondents felt that the workshop increased their awareness of the Provincial Forest Extension Program. Eleven percent felt that it only somewhat increased their awareness. No respondents felt that the workshop did not increase their awareness at all.

Eighty-two percent of respondents felt that they are more aware or very much more aware of the FIA FSP call for proposal process. Eighteen percent felt that the workshop did not increase their awareness of the FIA FSP call for proposal process.

Sixty-six percent of the respondents felt that the workshop increased their awareness of First Nations research processes, while 33% felt that it only somewhat increased their awareness. No respondents said it did not at all increase their awareness of First Nations research processes.

**Did the workshop increase your ability to identify ways to become more involved in the FIA Forest Science Program?**

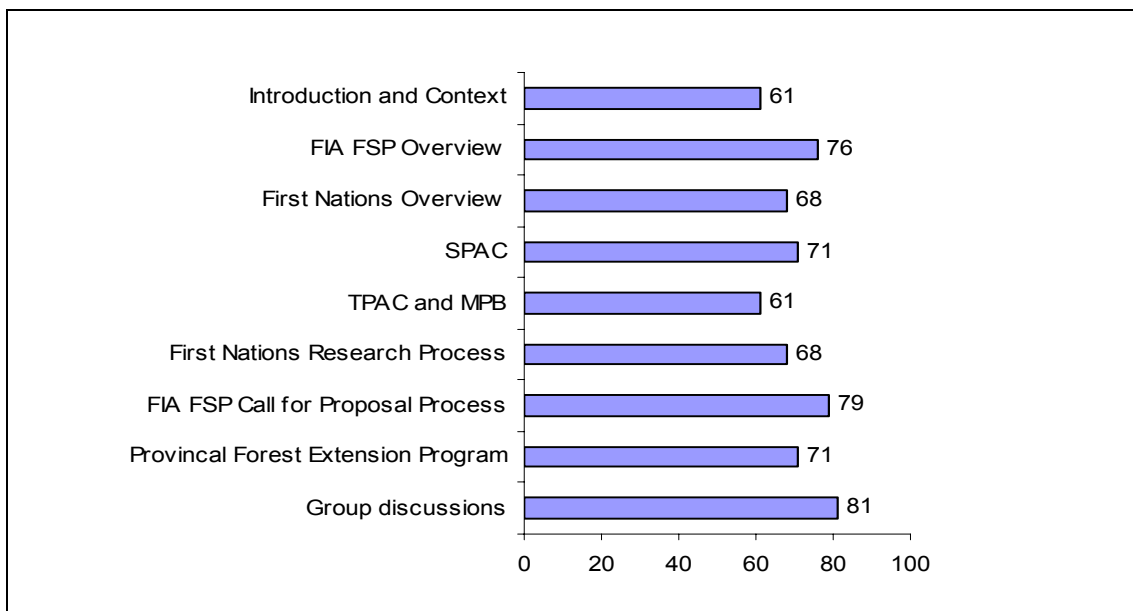
A total of 89% of respondents said that the workshop increased their ability to get more involved in the FIA FSP program; 25% said it very much increased their ability to get more involved. Only 11% of respondents said the workshop only somewhat increased their ability to get more involved. No respondents said the workshop did not help at all.

**Did the workshop increase your ability to identify ways to become more involved in the Provincial Forest Extension Program?**

A total of 86% of respondents said that the workshop increased their ability to become more involved in the PFEP; 14% said that it very much increased their ability to become involved. Fourteen percent of respondents said that the workshop only somewhat increased their ability to become involved, while no respondents said the workshops did not at all increase their ability to become involved in the PFEP.

### Please indicate your opinion on the topics presented at the workshop

Workshop participants were asked to evaluate the level of usefulness of the topics presented during the workshop, including the dialogue session. Figure 1 present the percent of respondents that chose very useful of somewhat useful.



**Figure 1. Percentage of workshop respondents who said topics were very useful or somewhat useful.**

All sessions presented at the workshop were considered very or somewhat useful by no fewer than 61% of the respondents. The most useful topic was the summary group discussions (81%) followed by the FIA FSP Call for Proposal process (79%), FIA FSP Overview (76%), Provincial Forest Extension Program and Sustainability Program (both at 71%).

### As a result of this workshop, I plan to...

Workshop participants were asked to say what they will do as result of this workshop. The following statements reflect the feedback from those responding to the evaluation survey.

As a result of this workshop, I plan to:

- Update operations managers at the district, and also provide update to clients who were not able to attend.
- Consider ways of how First Nations concerns can be addressed.
- Contact FORREX and utilize their knowledge.
- Further discuss with our partners whether they will apply for any of the funding sources presented here today...contact PWC for the review notes on our proposal.
- Review options to access funding via the workshop and hard copy and Web links; discuss options with First Nations clients.
- Do more research on FIA; do more research on FORREX. A lot of useful information which shows me what else I can be working on for my community.

- Follow up with RPF for Band and make necessary recommendations to Band Council.
- Determine what opportunities exist and if they are legitimate or "white wash".
- Push for more meaningful involvement/access for First Nations research projects.
- Research additional forest issues, especially the MPB concerns.
- Submit LOI to Sustainability folio in regards to follow up riparian harvesting research.
- Work with local bands to encourage applications for research to answer questions related to applied forest science that First Nations have. Also, encourage extension opportunities for First Nations locally. I plan to review forest research papers for applicable knowledge to apply in local forest management processes on a regular basis.
- Adjust my SPAC presentation based on questions and comments received; think about how to incorporate First Nations into FSP.
- Review FORREX Web site more often. Look into the implications for consultation accommodation with regards to provincially funded research programs.
- Assist in LOI preparation.
- Share the information I received with others not aware of government programs in forestry activity.
- Contact Chris and get more information on FORREX so that I can get involved with FORREX objectives.
- Work at developing a proposal for research.
- [prepare a] LOI.
- Keep an eye on these programs.
- Look into possible funding programs available.
- Generate questionnaire for our community members to see if research work with our community and traditional territory would help our members understand what research is necessary.
- Help to better deliver extension.
- Find a way for professionals to be able to use Elders' knowledge at their professional level and to [ensure] information that is passed is credited to the appropriate person.
- Contemplate my career.
- Look for opportunities to submit a future proposal.
- Further research studies and apply for funding that will benefit our unique zone (high cost of logging and low value wood).
- Get involved with FIA FSP and cultural heritage resources.
- Look into our community gaps relating to forestry.
- Would like to know what kind of research projects we have on the go at home.

### **Additional Comments**

Some respondents chose to provide additional comments regarding the usefulness of topics and suggestions to improve future events. Constructive comments relevant to the workshop evaluation are included below. Some respondents included suggestions on how to improve the FIA Forest Science Program and involvement of First Nations. These suggestions will be included in the final workshop report.

- During project proposal consultation, prior to development, ensure District staff are competent and have knowledge of First Nations culture, communication styles, and respect of culture.
- There should be both a single Band First Nations research presentation and a group of Bands First Nations research presentation.
- Did not have introductions of workshop participants [*the suggestion to have participants introduced was suggested at the first workshop and implemented in Nanaimo and Prince George workshops*]
- Meal provided was awesome – CCI staff very professional.
- What is happening on the ground? Is it resulting in better management?
- Is there an extension program already in place that provides First Nations meaningful consultation/referral input into Forest Stewardship Plans of Major Licensees?
- An annual review of First Nations research for First Nations' benefit is an idea.
- It would be great if the Upper Nicola Band would be involved in an extension program to showcase their successful research endeavors to other bands.
- Everything was fine, well organized and input received will be very helpful. I thought the workshop was primarily about informing First Nations regarding the existing FSP programs and processes. It turned out that this objective was blurred a bit in so far as many also took it as an opportunity to provide feedback. This was a good thing and shouldn't have surprised me, but it did.
- Would like to have more tangible presentations by First Nations researchers such as the one provided by Bernadette Manuel.
- Alright info. Need in-depth ½ day sessions on each program.
- To me, government defines what we need once again.
- Very well organized workshop and information.
- John Jules did great.
- Too many timelines...way too much for 1 day.
- Very good overall. The event brought together a very appropriate small group of people and the discussions went well and were useful and relevant. Hopefully organizers can take away useful suggestions and work to implement them as possible to improve their processes, outreach, and outcomes.
- It was good to see appropriate protocols followed involving local Elders and ensuring they had opportunity to speak.
- [Some] negative language. Need to look at consequences of this language.
- Need to build trust.
- List of possible funding agencies for First Nations-led research projects
- Science has an important role in aiding local communities to understand better issues, but we don't deal with [this] every day and these workshops help grassroots people and their technicians [know] that there are processes in place to help them cope with all the issues facing our communities.
- The meeting was a good success in showing respect to the local First Nations and Elders.
- I liked the balance of speakers.

## **SUMMARY**

This report summarizes the workshop evaluation results for the Science, Indigenous Knowledge and Sustainable Forestry Workshops held in Kamloops, Nanaimo, and Prince George on September 6, 19, and 22 respectively. The stated objectives of the workshop were that:

1. As a result of these workshops participants will say they are:
  - More aware of the FIA Forest Science Program and the Provincial Forest Extension Program goals and objectives and how to benefit from these programs.
  - More aware of how to get involved in both the FIA–FSP and PFEP processes and more aware of the First Nations research processes.
  - More aware of how the FIA–FSP and PFEP link to other research and extension initiatives, including the Federal and Provincial Mountain Pine Beetle initiatives.
2. The Forest Science Board will say it has appropriate initial input to further engage with First Nations on matters relating to FIA–FSP business, and to incorporate First Nations interests and perspectives in FIA–FSP processes; and,
3. FORREX will say they have appropriate input to further engage with First Nations on matters relating to the PFEP business.

The evaluation results indicate that the workshop did achieve the planned objectives. Participant recommendations on the FIA Forest Science Program and the Provincial Forest Extension Program will be forwarded to the Forest Science Board and FORREX for consideration in future program developments.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The workshop Steering Committee thanks all workshop participants and speakers for their constructive and helpful contributions to this workshop. We also thank Angie Grant, Dianne Hinkley, and Geraldine Solonas for their exceptional regional workshop co-ordination services.



▪ **The Timber Growth and Value Program themes and topical priorities?**

Very much  
1                    2                    3                    4                    5                    6                    Not at all

▪ **The Mountain Pine Beetle Program themes and topical priorities?**

Very much  
1                    2                    3                    4                    5                    6                    Not at all

▪ **The Provincial Forest Extension Program purpose, governance, structure and priority objectives, and how to benefit from this program?**

Very much  
1                    2                    3                    4                    5                    6                    Not at all

▪ **The FIA FSP Call for Proposal process administered by PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLP?**

Very much  
1                    2                    3                    4                    5                    6                    Not at all

▪ **First Nations research processes?**

Very much  
1                    2                    3                    4                    5                    6                    Not at all

**5. Did this workshop increase your ability to:**

▪ **Identify ways to get more involved in the FIA Forest Science Program?**

Very much  
1                    2                    3                    4                    5                    6                    Not at all

▪ **Identify ways to get more involved in the Provincial Forest Extension Program?**

Very much  
1                    2                    3                    4                    5                    6                    Not at all

**6. Please complete the following sentence:**

As a result of this workshop, I plan to...

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**7. Please indicate (✓) your opinion on each of the topics/presentations and discussions using the chart below:**

<b>Opinion Scale</b>	Very Useful	Somewhat Useful	Useful	Not useful	Interesting but not relevant to my work
<b>Topics presented at this workshop</b>					
Introduction & Context Setting					
An overview of the FIA Forest Science Program					
First Nations Research					
Sustainability Program Research Themes and Topics					
Timber Growth and Value Program and Mountain Pine Beetle Program Themes and Topics					
First Nations Research Processes					
FIA – FSP Call for Proposal and Review Process					
Provincial Forest Extension Program					
Summary from Group Discussions					

**8. Please provide us with any additional comments you have regarding the usefulness of the various topics covered in this workshop and/or priority information needs for future events. Include suggestions for improvements to the overall workshop, as well as specifics about presentations listed above.**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**9. Is follow-up required:** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If Yes, please provide your contact information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK-YOU FOR YOUR INPUT!!**