

# WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS 2001-9

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## Research Issues, Strategies, Partnerships for Sustainable Forest Management in Northwestern Ontario and Beyond

February 24-26, 2001  
Thunder Bay, ON

Giuliana Casimirri, Susan Lee & Peggy Smith



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**DRAFT**  
**WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS**

***RESEARCH ISSUES, STRATEGIES, PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT IN  
NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO AND BEYOND***

**February 24-26, 2001  
Airlane Travelodge Hotel, Thunder Bay, Ontario**

**Sponsored by the Sustainable Forest Management Network**

Proceedings compiled by  
Giuliana Casimirri, Susan Lee & Peggy Smith

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## PREFACE

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From February 24-26, 2001 a group of university researchers and their community partners from First Nations, industry, government agencies and environmental organizations, as well as other supporters, came together in Thunder Bay to discuss research issues, strategies and partnerships for sustainable forest management in Northwestern Ontario and beyond. This was an opportunity to meet face-to-face to discuss the research objectives and progress of two projects in northwestern Ontario funded by the Sustainable Forest Management Network, and to share experiences, problems and opportunities.

Peggy Smith, one of the researchers, with the guidance of a steering committee, organized the workshop with funding provided by the Sustainable Forest Management Network of the Network of Centres of Excellence (NCE).

The following proceedings include presentations made by invited speakers at the workshop, rapporteurs' comments and summaries of discussions and breakout sessions. The text was produced using a combination of notes taken during the workshop by Guiliana Casmirri, Susan Lee and Peggy Smith and materials provided by speakers. In some cases, speakers provided text versions of their presentations which have been included in full.

Conference Organizing Steering Committee Members:

Fikret Berkes, Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba  
Iain Davidson-Hunt, Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba  
Cliff Hickey, SFM Network, University of Alberta  
Shashi Kant, Faculty of Forestry, University of Toronto  
Bruce MacLock, SFM Network, University of Alberta  
Peggy Smith, Faculty of Forestry & the Forest Environment, Lakehead University  
Marc Stevenson, SFM Network, University of Alberta  
Terry Veeman, SFM Network, University of Alberta

## **WELCOMING REMARKS**

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### **Rob Morriseau, Forest Technician, Fort William First Nation**

Robert Morriseau from Fort William First Nation began the proceedings by welcoming everyone to the traditional territory of the Fort William First Nation on behalf of his Chief, Peter Collins, Councilors and the community of Fort William First Nation. He also welcomed distinguished guests, Elders, speakers and participants to the workshop. He felt this workshop would be an excellent opportunity for First Nations and companies to obtain a better understanding of each other's needs, values and perspectives, not only for off-Reserve lands but on-Reserve lands as well.

Rob described the Fort William First Nation forested lands as being in a state of degradation as a result of lack of management and control in the past with the forest having been over harvested with little concern for sustainability. Fort William First Nation's forest is unique in many ways, from the availability of sugar maple and yellow birch to its close proximity to the City of Thunder Bay, which is home to major forestry organizations and large forest companies. This is like having a forest in their backyard.

Rob has been hired to revive and re-establish the forest to its original state. While this task will take time and money, more importantly, it will take a lot of communication and research within the community and with interested partners. The Fort William First Nation is interested in these opportunities, as they require the expertise and knowledge that comes with a good partner. To date the Fort William First Nation has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Lakehead University. This opens opportunities for thesis research, such as the one being done on the maple sugar bush, to future opportunities in education, training and other possibilities. The community is also looking into developing other partnerships with interested parties in hopes of turning a portion of their forested land into a demonstration/community forest.

Rob described this workshop as an excellent opportunity to learn more about research and partnership development and communicated his hopes that this workshop will provide his community with the tools and knowledge to move forward.

Following Rob Morriseau's welcome, the Elders from Iskatewizaagegan #39 Independent First Nation (Shoal Lake) conducted a pipe ceremony offering prayers and their support for the coming together of such a diverse group of people.

## PART I: SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT NETWORK

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### Sustainable Forest Management Network Overview

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#### **Dr. Terry Veeman**

Program Leader, Policy and Institutions, Sustainable Forest Management Network  
Dept. of Rural Economy, University of Alberta  
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Dr. Veeman provided an overview of the Sustainable Forest Management Network (SFMN) including a description of the purpose and objectives of this national research network as well as the main research areas, partners and accomplishments.

The SFMN, based at the University of Alberta, is one of Canada's 15 Networks of Centres of Excellence. The SFMN is a federal government-sponsored research initiative, which also receives funding from provincial government, corporate, university and First Nation partners. The SFM Network has been operating for five years as a non-profit organization with a partially elected board of directors. The Network currently supports 100 researchers at 30 Canadian universities. Additional information about the SFMN can be found at [www.ualberta.ca/sfm/](http://www.ualberta.ca/sfm/).

The SFM network is supporting research that aims to change the forestry culture of Canada, through research and working groups focused on natural disturbance management, intensive forest management, integrated resource management, policy and institutional analysis, economic and social sustainability and sustainable Aboriginal communities (SAC). Dr. Veeman described the SAC research area is the most rapidly expanding part of the SFM Network and as a Canadian research and policy imperative.

### Sustainable Aboriginal Communities Working Group

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#### **Dr. Cliff Hickey**

Coordinator of Aboriginal Sustainable Communities Working Group, SFM Network and Director, Northern Research Program, University of Alberta  
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Dr. Hickey extended his thanks for having been welcomed to the traditional lands of the Fort William First Nation. The text of his presentation was taken largely from the Sustainable Forest Management Network (SFMN) Renewal Document's Sustainable Aboriginal Communities (SAC) Group section. Since this is what the Network is proposing to accomplish, and for which it will be held accountable, the details have been included below.

The Sustainable Aboriginal Communities (SAC) is one of several "working groups" within SFMN. SAC was formed to co-ordinate and undertake research on four issues and priorities identified jointly with First Nation forestry experts and SFM partners.



Since a mid-term review two years ago, the Network has expanded its research with First Nations into a truly national program. There are now four Aboriginal partners in the Network with another three in the process of becoming partners. Three of the First Nation partners also have Network industry partners operating on their traditional lands, so these relationships enhance research on SFM issues and can serve as models for other companies and First Nations to follow.

<b>FIRST NATION PARTNERS</b>
Little Red River Cree/Tallcree First Nations, AB
Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board, NWT
Moose Cree First Nation, ON
Heart Lake First Nation, AB
<b>CONSIDERING PARTNERSHIP</b>
Matawa Tribal Council, ON
Waswanipi Cree First Nation, PQ
Central Yukon Sustainable Communities Initiative (Selkirk, Little Salmon, Carmacks, Tr'ondek Hwech'in, Nacho Nyak Dun)

The strategy articulated in the Network Renewal Document stresses that within the SAC there would be four Nodes of partnerships across the country, with various degrees of experience in research partnerships. The Western Node has the most experience and shall be sharing that experience and mentoring the other Nodes: the Northern, Central, and Eastern. That process has begun this morning.

The four principal foci of the Sustainable Aboriginal Communities Initiative are described below.

1. INTEGRATION OF ABORIGINAL INSTITUTIONS, KNOWLEDGE AND VALUES INTO SFM. The objective of this research sub-group is to develop and assess policy, processes and frameworks that integrate Aboriginal institutions, knowledge and values into SFM. Growing awareness that "business as usual" may be neither socially nor economically sustainable has led the Network to consider the sustainability requirements of Aboriginal communities living in Canada's boreal forest. It is important that forests be managed not just for timber but for other values, and that the cumulative impacts of all forest uses be understood. Integral to this is the incorporation of Aboriginal values, knowledge and management systems into sustainable forest management.

The lack of incorporation of Indigenous ecological knowledge (IEK) and values into forest planning and development remains a critical concern within Canada. Through its involvement with First Nations, the Network has determined that marrying IEK with scientific knowledge may not be the most useful exercise for Aboriginal Peoples or SFM. The knowledge and wisdom that many Aboriginal people possess about the forest and their relationship with it informs a uniquely different system and philosophy of management that has evolved and proven to be sustainable over countless generations. Echoing the World Commission on Environment and Development, there is much to learn about sustainability from Aboriginal Peoples and their time-proven approaches to managing relationships with the natural world. The challenge for the

Network is to undertake research that develops processes and frameworks to understand these systems while leaving them intact.

Most of the research projects within the SAC group deal with these issues. The two projects in northwestern Ontario that are the focus of this workshop are examples.

The network intends, also, to explore with the Moose Cree First Nation and Matawa Tribal Council the development of a "Natives Values Collection" framework that meets their needs in forest planning. A promising approach in this regard, currently being employed in northern Alberta, is the development of a model that seeks to understand what values Aboriginal people derive from specific forest resources, and how losses of and trade-offs among competing values can be best accommodated and compensated.

Within this research problem area, workshops involving researchers, Aboriginal partners and industry partners will be held annually to discuss results, challenges and opportunities. Annual interim policy recommendations will also be produced for distribution to partners, and then monitored for impact and efficacy. Research reports and publications detailing innovative approaches, models and significant research results will be produced on a regular basis. Each research project is to produce at least one graduate student and one highly qualified Aboriginal person. These are to be characteristic of each of the other sub-groups as well.

Within the Network, Aboriginal knowledge and values researchers will link with researchers within other groups, such as Social and Economic Sustainability, Criteria & Indicators, Integrated Resource Management and Policy and Institutions. Externally, researchers will network with other research institutions and Aboriginal organizations working in this area, including the Taiga Institute and especially the National Aboriginal Forestry Association.

**2. ACCOMMODATION OF ABORIGINAL AND TREATY RIGHTS.** It is vitally important that Network partners—and other forest stakeholders—understand each other's rights of access to forest resources if forestry and other industrial activities are going to be socially and economically sustainable. The goal of this research group is to develop recommendations, processes and institutional arrangements to accommodate Aboriginal and treaty rights in forest policy, planning and practice. Given recent court decisions, it is equally important to understand the ramifications of not incorporating Aboriginal and treaty rights into forestry regulations and practices, both now and in the future. Network researchers in Alberta have informed this issue, particularly in regard to the duty to consult, the constitutionality of Alberta's Forestry Act vis-à-vis the numbered treaties and the legal context for co-management involving Aboriginal Peoples. However, collective understanding of the implications of the Delgamuukw, Marshall and other court decisions for sustainable forest management is wanting. Nor is there a clear understanding of the application and exercise of treaty rights in the modern context.

Future research will explore such issues as the development of a tenure system that enables Aboriginal institutions to become integral components of sustainable forest management. Others will explore co-management models in national parks, and in developing appropriate forms of compensation when forestry legislation and practices infringe Aboriginal and treaty rights.

3. ABORIGINAL ECONOMIC AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT. This sub-group's focus is on the development of tools, opportunities and processes to enhance Aboriginal Peoples' participation in SFM. Aboriginal people are beginning to acquire the skills and knowledge to participate in the management and development of their forests, but not at a scale that has made a real difference in their communities. Given welfare dependency and birth rates in most Aboriginal forest communities, the consequences of not developing such capacity are unimaginable. Network researchers, working with their Aboriginal partners, will undertake research and explore ways to strengthen Aboriginal capacity to maximize the benefits from assuming greater control of sustainable forest management on their traditional lands.

As an example, over the next several years the Network will work with the Little Red River Cree/Tall Cree Nations, Kayas Cultural College and other educational institutions to create a pilot "Aboriginal Forest Managers Education Program" to be delivered by satellite to these First Nation communities. Again, these experiences will be passed along to other Nodes. However, we also expect developments in other Nodes, here at Lakehead University, for example.

Some of the research in this area currently being conducted and planned include the matching of local knowledge and local natural resources through the development of non-timber forest products, addressing the viability of Aboriginal communities developing non-timber businesses and markets and incorporating non-timber forest uses as a principal consideration in sustainable forest management planning.

4. ABORIGINAL CRITERIA AND INDICATORS FOR SFM. The goal of this group is to establish criteria and indicators that will assist and measure industry's performance on the incorporation of Aboriginal rights, interests, values, IEK and institutions into sustainable forest management. People around the world want to be assured that the products they buy are not harming Aboriginal communities and the forests in which they live. The Canadian Council of Forest Ministers' (CCFM) Criteria and Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management go a long way toward developing relevant standards. However, they do not explicitly address the rights, interests and values of Canada's Aboriginal Peoples. More pertinent in this regard may be the principles and criteria developed by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), an international, non-governmental, accrediting organization committed to preserving Aboriginal cultures and the forested environments in which they live. Certification is no trivial issue for SFM Network partners.

Increasingly, large secondary manufacturers and retailers of wood products (e.g., Home Depot) are choosing to purchase wood from certified forest companies in order to satisfy public demand. Failure to meet this demand could have irreversible consequences for Canada's forest industries and communities, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal.

Over the next seven years, the Network will undertake research and consultation to develop a set of Aboriginal forest standards. In this way, it will provide its industry partners a "leg up" on the competition with respect to the development of sustainable forest management practices and meeting the standards of various certification bodies. After three years, a set of criteria will be produced, which will then be monitored and assessed for its utility.

Part of Dr. Hickey's role and that of Network employees like Marc Stevenson, the First Nations Research Coordinator, will be to ensure that researchers in each of these sub-groups establish and maintain linkages with other groups and institutions both within and beyond the Network. Dr. Hickey ended his presentation with an invitation to the forest stakeholders in Northern Ontario to join with the Network to address these issues as they are dealing with them in other jurisdictions.

### **Panel: Sustainable Forest Management Network Aboriginal and Industrial Partners from Other Provinces**

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#### **Dave Natcher**

Researcher, University of Alberta

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Over the past twenty-five years there have been significant political developments that have reshaped the relationship between Canada's Aboriginal Peoples and natural resources. Contributing to this reorientation has been a number of landmark court decisions that have redefined Aboriginal rights to lands and resources. Specific to the management of Canada's forests, federal and provincial governments have called upon the forest industry to not only ensure the protection of Aboriginal and treaty rights but to include Aboriginal Peoples in the planning and assessment process. However, despite the affirmation of Aboriginal land rights, as well as recognize the need to involve Aboriginal Peoples in natural resource management, it will no doubt take many years for the various and competing interests to work out final relationships to renewable and non-renewable natural resources. The challenge, therefore, is to design frameworks for multi-party cooperation in which multiple values and interests can be accommodated.

It is in response to this challenge that we have undertaken two research projects aimed at developing strategies that promote cooperation in a manner that respects the rights and responsibility of those involved. While the strategies used in each of the two projects differ to some degree, the primary objectives are consistent. They include: 1) establishing mechanisms in which Aboriginal knowledge can be applied to industrial forest management; 2) providing a source of training and capacity-building at the community level in order to facilitate the equitable involvement of Aboriginal communities in forest management, and; 3) establishing a framework for which First Nation-industry cooperation can be exercised, monitored and evaluated. At the most basic level of operation, each of these projects demonstrates the importance of dialogue when adopting more sustainable approaches to forest management.

Specifically, these research partnerships include the Alexis First Nation (Treaty Six) and Millar Western Forest Products in one research setting and the Whitefish Lake First Nation (Treaty Eight) and West Frazier Forest Products in the other. Through these partnerships we are now implementing cooperative frameworks that will put into operation capacity-building programs in cultural, natural resource and business management that together will enhance the long-term involvement of these two First Nations in forest management as well as promote the sustainable management of Millar Western's and West Frazier's Forest Management Units.

## Primary Components of the Partnerships:

1. *Land Use Research and Information Sharing Agreement*: Dictates how community land use knowledge is to be shared (or not shared) and used in the land management process. In addition to establishing specific protocols for the implementation of local knowledge into forest management planning, this framework provides guidelines for consultation between First Nation and industry partners thereby overcoming many of the cross-cultural barriers that can limit effective communication.

2. *Curriculum Development*: In order to assume a more equitable role in forest management, education and training programs need to be made available to Aboriginal youth. Recognizing this need, a school curriculum is being developed and implemented that addresses forestry practices, Aboriginal land rights and Aboriginal resource management both in and outside of North America. This classroom instruction will also involve presentations by practicing Aboriginal foresters who, from experience, can address industry challenges and opportunities as well as post-secondary educational opportunities. In addition, a Job-Shadowing Program is being implemented where high school students work directly with a professional forester for a day or two undertaking daily activities. These activities will be supported locally through community-based field camps and forestry labs that will demonstrate different forestry techniques ranging from tree planting to GPS training. These field camps will also include instruction and lessons from community Elders in traditional forest uses and practices.

3. *Training and Employment Programs*: The third objective involves the implementation of community training and employment programs. Because the realities of economic dependency have long worked against Aboriginal Peoples, anxiety over the unknown has often led to adherence to the status quo. Thus the continued exclusion of Aboriginal Peoples from economic opportunities may further promulgate the perceived normality of economic dependency, thereby reinforcing the acceptance of their own economic marginality. However, through an employment and training program designed to enhance the role of the Alexis and Whitefish Lake First Nations in forestry operations, band members can begin to take direct control of their own self-defined socio-economic development. This will be achieved through increased (and measurable) employment goals in all phases of forestry operations, from planning to production. In order to help meet projected employment goals, an internship program with rotations through all phases of forestry operations is being implemented as well as on- and off-reserve technical training in GIS/GPS, silviculture, block layout and plot assessment. As a motivating factor, academic and financial incentives are being made available to community members for the attendance and completion of training programs.

### ***Successes to date:***

- Timber harvesting and salvage contract
- Brush-saw contract that has trained and employed 14 band members.
- Roadside maintenance and clearing contracts (4 band members).
- Cost-sharing programs for professional forestry training courses.

Finally, the establishment of parallel community-based management structures is being implemented in order to monitor each of the above objectives.

*4. Monitoring and Evaluation:* The establishment of management structures to oversee the implementation of these cooperative frameworks is seen by both First Nation and industry partners as critical to the success of the partnerships. The experience of other First Nation-industry partnerships suggests considerable variation in outcomes. While some partnerships retain the rhetoric of cooperation, in reality they have proven to be little more than an extension of industry's management priorities, with First Nations supplying the labor. Other partnerships have made a significant advancement towards collaboration through formalized agreements that establish the rights and obligations of each partner. These variations can be accounted for by recognizing that 'success' is dependent upon effective implementation at both the community and industry levels. That is, within Aboriginal communities the implementation of industry partnerships requires band members to coordinate their actions to coincide with industry goals. Industry, too, has needed to implement shared management regimes and to delegate management and production responsibility to communities. Further, there is little reason to expect a partnership established by band leaders and industry management will translate into acceptance at the operational level. This is especially true in cases where there is a history of conflict between First Nation communities and resource industries. Implementation can therefore stall at any of three different levels of operation—with the community, with industry or at the community-industry interface. Anticipating these challenges, we have established a mechanism by which this partnership can be monitored and evaluated on a continual basis. Embedding two facilitators into the management framework is approaching this. These facilitators/liaisons (a graduate student from the University of Alberta and an appointed band member) will work with myself in the development of a long-term adaptive framework for institutional analysis, including mechanisms for managing conflict. This will be accomplished largely through: 1) undertaking an analysis of successful and unsuccessful forest management arrangement in order to build upon tested strategies and avoid past mistakes; 2) identifying and articulating barriers, whether cultural, social, or economic, that may impede effective community-industry collaboration; 3) facilitating communication when conflict arises; 4) providing immediate feedback to First Nation and industry partners so when conflict arises appropriate actions can be implemented and; 5) developing criteria and indicators that reflect the interests and ideological positions of both the First Nation and industry partners in regards to sustainable forest management.

Despite the recognized need to enhance the involvement of Aboriginal communities in the forest industry, there remain formidable obstacles to achieving this goal. Among these challenges include: the lack of formal education and technical training within the communities to assume an equitable role in forest management; the geographical and social distances that limit the attainment of such skills and training; and the associated economic realities that continue to plague many of Canada's Aboriginal communities. However, owing to the partnerships that have been established, a unique opportunity exists which can serve to overcome many of these obstacles. While the long-term objectives of these partnerships are to both foster the capacity of these two First Nation communities in assuming a more equitable role in forest management and to facilitate industrial forest management objectives, these goals will not be achieved overnight. Understanding that positive change will only occur through incremental gains attained through

training, education and employment opportunities, a long-term approach has been taken in these partnerships. The project's short-term goal is to provide a foundation in which incremental change can occur as well as implementing a framework in which such change can be monitored and evaluated for improvement.

**Jim Webb**

Corporate Affairs/Intergovernmental Affairs Consultant, Little Red River Cree/Tall Cree Nations

Jim Webb described the involvement of the Little Red River and Tall Cree First Nations with forest management and the Sustainable Forest Management Network.

Little Red River and Tall Cree First Nations are comprised of six communities with a population of 12,000 located in Northern Alberta, west of Wood Buffalo National Park. The policy directive from council and elders guiding forest management activities in the communities has been to work toward regaining control and influence in traditional territories. To accomplish this a Co-operative Management Agreement has been signed for 30 000 km<sup>2</sup> of Crown forest, of which 19 000 km<sup>2</sup> is working forest and 6 000km<sup>2</sup> is protected forest area. A management board established under an MOU is responsible for managing all aspects of natural resources. The board identifies resource use priorities compatible with sustainable forest management, employment and wildlife concerns of interest to First Nations.

As members of both the SFM Network and the National Aboriginal Forestry Association, the Little Red River and Tall Cree First Nations have benefited from research conducted. For example, research carried regarding risk management planning for bison disease and recovery plans has allowed the communities to convince government and industry of the need for such a large resource base. Mr. Webb identified a need for a model to be created that addresses Aboriginal forest values. This decision matrix needs to be developed to determine the effect of modifications to forest management, which accommodate First Nations on timber harvesting given the resource base and existing jobs and businesses.

SFMN research has proven vital to resource decision making because it is impartial and less expensive than employing consultants. SFMN research is a reasoned approach to getting information that the government, industry and First Nations can use.

**Mike Walton**

Business Unit Leader, Federal and Aboriginal Relations, Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries

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**The Company**

Located in northeastern Alberta, Alberta Pacific Forest Industries (Al-Pac) is a world-class facility. It is the largest single-line kraft pulp mill in the world and typically performs near the top 10 producers in North America. The pulp mill is designed to produce a minimum of 1,500 ADT (Air Dry metric tones) per day of bleached hardwood pulp or 1,250 ADT of bleached softwood pulp. Al-Pac directly employs 428 people and contracts, mostly through its woodlands operation another 350 people.

The Greenfield mill began construction in May 1991 and operations started up on September 1, 1993. The 1.3 billion dollar capital investment injects approximately \$215 million annually into local and provincial economies. Multiplier effects create 3,600 person-years of employment and \$128 million dollars of tax revenues are directed to the Federal and Provincial governments.

Harvesting predominantly trembling aspen and balsam poplar, the Forest Management Agreement (FMA) between Al-Pac and the province of Alberta permits Al-Pac to harvest timber on a perpetual sustained yield basis from 58,000 square kilometres of provincial Crown Land. The majority of the land base from which the timber resources are harvested also falls within the boundaries of Treaty 8.

The entrepreneurs and leaders who convinced investors, governments and local people of the opportunity for a pulp mill did so with appreciation for the responsibility industry had to local people and specifically Aboriginal Peoples. Seven years after operations began the complexity of building relationships with Aboriginal Peoples has increased. What is absolutely critical for all parties to recognize during the process of relationship building is that despite what are overwhelming challenges at times, everyone is striving toward a better future.

Alberta-Pacific is a forestry company in the business of harvesting timber and manufacturing pulp for the global marketplace. A Forest Management Agreement (O.C. 556/91) was negotiated with the provincial government in 1991 that permitted the Company to grow and harvest timber within a specific region called the Forest Management Area.

Aboriginal Peoples have been living in this Forest Management Area for generations and their lives and culture have been closely linked to the forest. Alberta-Pacific has endeavored to work together in partnership with Aboriginal Peoples to manage forest resources, key ecological processes and the impacts of timber harvesting. The company is committed to continuing to work together for the mutual benefit of the company and Aboriginal Peoples.

### **Background to Aboriginal Relations at Al-Pac**

During the public consultations associated with Environmental Assessment approvals, Al-Pac officials visited with and consulted the 15 First Nations and Metis Settlements in the area that would be directly affected by the Forest Management Agreement. During those discussions Al-Pac indicated its interest in addressing Aboriginal employment and business opportunities.

Al-Pac introduced early to the organization an Aboriginal Affairs Resource Team (AART). Entirely staffed by Aboriginal people, the team was responsible for beginning the process of educating non-Aboriginal staff to the worldviews and culture of the people the organization was working with on a day-to-day bases. Housed as a dedicated unit, the AART provided consultation and advice to company managers on Aboriginal issues and concerns and assisted managers in implementing policies, programs and projects to ensure the participation of Aboriginal people in all aspects of the Company.



A significant step occurred in 1998 when the Aboriginal Affairs team finalized the Aboriginal Affairs Business Plan. Observing that integration with every aspect of the company was critical for the Aboriginal Affairs team to influence the thinking, understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal issues by non-Aboriginal people, the Aboriginal Affairs team was reorganized in December 1999. Officially, the AART was dissolved as a unique unit and integrated throughout the organization to achieve alignment with the company's mission and to tackle the omnipresent mythology around special treatment and "unfair" practices. Significantly, reassignment to the Corporate Services division allowed access to and influence over such key areas as staffing, training, human resources management, community relations, communications, government and industry relations and economic development. Significantly, a Corporate Director, Aboriginal Affairs was assigned to the Executive Team.

**Mission:** Alberta-Pacific is committed to Aboriginal participation in all aspects of the company.

**Policy:** Alberta-Pacific is committed to employment of Aboriginal people in all aspects of the company and to offering training to Aboriginal employees to ensure they participate and grow within the company.

**Key Messages:**

1. Relationships are built, then business is done.

Relationships that are meaningful and "deep" are built on understanding. In the case of Aboriginal Peoples, Al-Pac believes that meaningful relationships include understanding the different world views held by Aboriginal Peoples in Canada, acknowledging that many Aboriginal cultures exist in Canada and that colonialism has played a significant role in the types of relationships that exist today with Aboriginal Peoples.

Awareness of the rich diversity in cultures of a people who were never conquered and whose land we are operating on—not necessarily with clear permission but with a clear understanding that sharing of the resources is what was intended in treaty discussions.

There is a need for operations and field staff to understand and appreciate concepts such as Aboriginal law, Aboriginal title and traditional use in order to build relationships.

The need for such an understanding is captured when considering the perspective that: "Everything you do, every tree you take, is an infringement on rights."

2. Jobs Now.

Al-Pac understands that Aboriginal people need jobs right now. We also understand that industry has obligations to employ qualified individuals who can demonstrate skills in literacy, numeracy and attend the workplace ready to work.

In order to address these issues Al-Pac is working toward understanding the transition that is taking place to a wage economy within Aboriginal communities.

- a) Pre-employment training needs
- b) Employment training needs
- c) Future employment needs on a company and regional marketplace bases.

When industry undertakes employment of Aboriginal people they are also undertaking the responsibility to deal with issues such as racism, intolerance, bigotry and stereotyping, not an easy suite of indicators to address, but they inevitably must be addressed in order to achieve a welcoming environment for Aboriginal people.

### 3. Consultation.

AI-Pac is committed to understanding what consultation with Aboriginal communities and people looks like and then doing it properly. A great deal of guidance has been provided through Supreme Court decisions, research in the area of consultation exists in literature and, importantly, the SFM Network is addressing this issue and assisting the private sector to understand their role in consultation. Key direction is provided in the Sparrow court decision which (paraphrased) asks Aboriginal people two questions: 1) How do you want to be consulted? 2) Do you agree that you have been consulted?

While it is true that the responsibility for “consultation” is a Federal Government responsibility, it also true that industry operating on lands historically used by Aboriginal Peoples and presently occupied, as evidenced by reserves or trap lines, should seriously consider a program that keeps Aboriginal communities and leadership informed of their plans.

Two concepts—Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Traditional Land Use—are important for industry to address through understanding.

#### **Morris Monias**

Chief, Heart Lake First Nation

Chief Monias described the situation for Heart Lake First Nation in Alberta for which AI-Pac holds the forest management agreement. Chief Monias emphasized that significant work needs to happen before co-management takes place and pointed especially to the realities of life on the reserve, including isolation and the loss of livelihoods, which contribute to a general sense that the First Nation learning process is always one step behind.

The Heart Lake First Nation continues to try to obtain socio-economic benefits from forest management but they need action. In reference to different types of understanding, Chief Monias noted that treaties and land are at the centre of “understanding”.

#### **Questions to Panel and Responses:**

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Dr. Fikret Berkes (University of Manitoba) to Mike Walton (AI-Pac):

With reference to your statement that the ultimate test is for the industry to ask “Have you been consulted?”, what is your experience with this?

Mike Walton (AI-Pac):

Industry is not good at consultation. We need to understand the Constitution and how it relates to consultation. Delgamuukw provides good guidelines for consulting and we understand that to consult with Aboriginal communities means that we must consult with the community not just the chief and council.

Marc Stevenson (SFMN):

It is not the responsibility of industry to consult; rather it is the government's. If you are to develop an appropriate consultation process, then you need the Federal government. The Federal government ought to include or recognize their fiduciary responsibility. It is also important for First Nations to develop their own consultation processes

Mike Walton (AI-Pac):

AI-Pac recognizes that it is a Federal responsibility to consult, but they are not incorporating government because they are trying to build relationships without government. While they still respect the federal fiduciary responsibility, they also discuss with communities what industry can and would be willing to do. They are trying not to be involved politically.

Chief Monias (Heart Lake First Nation):

We feel that in the Treaty #6 territory consultation is not working. First Nations need to determine their own laws with respect to conservation, water, etc. The Federal government provides minimal funds to First Nations. We need to have more education and understanding of First Nation issues.

Jim Webb (Little Red River and Tall Cree Nations):

Each First Nation, industry and government will have its own way to deal with consultation. No one consults with our community because we do the consultation; we are a government and that's our responsibility. If we consult with industry partners, we consult a government or a corporation. We allow researchers access to our communities and our knowledge so that they can use the skills they have to provide an account of this information and knowledge that government and industry can understand. We expect that industry and governments will deal out of self-interest as we do and we carry our treaty to every meeting.

David Natcher (SFMN):

Whitefish Lake consultations are working because negotiation is done through government.

## **PART II: SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT IN NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO**

### **Sustainable Forest Management in Northwestern Ontario and Beyond: The Context**

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#### **Peggy Smith, R.P.F.**

Professor, Faculty of Forestry & the Forest Environment, Lakehead University, PhD Student, Faculty of Forestry, University of Toronto and Senior Advisor, National Aboriginal Forestry Association

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Peggy Smith provided a context to help understand issues and while this task is never simple, she hoped to simplify our complex world in the hope that, from a bird's eye view, things can be seen more clearly. The text from this presentation is included below.

We are located in the boreal forest of northwestern Ontario, a forest with many boundaries and actors. I mean actors, not in the sense of players on a stage, but human agents with control over our destinies and ability to make choices about our destiny. With our overlapping boundaries and converging interests and our different perspectives, we need to understand each other in order to figure out how we can work together to better manage our forests. As actors—whether Aboriginal Peoples, environmental non-governmental organizations, industry, government or forest dependent communities—we have some important choices to make.

Our boundaries are both artificial and natural. The artificial ones include provincial administrative regions, sustainable forest licenses, treaty areas, parks, municipalities, large areas of “Crown” or public lands, which all speak to forms of ownership and management. Natural boundaries include the forest itself, lakes and rivers, soil types and climate, all speaking to ecological limits.

#### **The Boreal Forest**

The boreal forest stretches from Newfoundland to the Yukon and is the largest forest ecosystem in Canada. Some say it is the forest that defines us as a nation. The boreal represents 25% of world's remaining intact forest and plays a significant role in global ecological cycles, including global warming and water filtration. It is characterized by a low number of tree species—pine, spruce, larch, poplar and birch—but a high diversity of animal and fungal species. It is perhaps one of the least studied ecosystems in the world, but is gaining prominence because of its huge area of intact wilderness, its contribution to global forest trade—primarily pulp and paper and dimensional lumber—and because it straddles the circumpolar region from Russia, through Scandinavia to Canada. It is also home to Aboriginal hunting and gathering societies.

## **THE ACTORS**

### **Aboriginal Peoples**

There are three Aboriginal Nations within the Boreal forest of Ontario: the Cree and Ojibwa who speak Algonkian languages, and the Metis, all of whom are recognized in the Constitution of Canada (section 35). The Cree and Ojibwa signed five treaties in this area with the Crown: Robinson-Huron (1850), Robinson-Superior (1850), Treaty 3 (1873), Treaty 5 (1875) and Treaty 9 (1905 & 1929). The Cree and Ojibwa practiced and, while they also participate in the contemporary forest economy, continue to practice a way of life based on hunting, trapping, fishing and gathering in the boreal forest. This way of life is reflected in their economies, culture and spirituality. Although there are differing legal interpretations of treaties, most Aboriginal Peoples understand that the treaties were signed with the spirit and intent to share resources and to protect their traditional way of life.

Aboriginal Peoples face great challenges in a contemporary forest economy. They have to address the responsibility they inherited for stewardship of the land while, at the same time, addressing the need for economic development to put an end to the extreme levels of poverty and unemployment experienced by many communities.

### **Industry**

Twelve large companies operate in northwestern Ontario with control of approximately 25 Sustainable Forest Licenses. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources issues these large area licenses for a period of usually 25 years. There are 30 major mills in the area, 16 sawmills, 10 pulp and paper mills and 4 panel board mills. There are over 15,000 people employed directly by the industry and it is estimated to contribute over \$2 billion annually to the regional economy (see web site <http://www.borealforest.org/billlee.htm>).

Under the new *Crown Forest Sustainability Act* (1994), industry gained more responsibility for forest management and with it some of the dilemmas outstanding between government and Aboriginal Peoples.

One of industry's main concerns is security of wood supply. In the recent Ontario Forest Accord, industry was guaranteed that even with the establishment of new parks and protected areas, they would not lose any wood supply. The commitments made on the Accord have led to increased interest in the northern part of the province not previously logged. It has also led to an increased interest on the part of industry and government to carry out more intensive forest management through tree plantations on more productive land closer to mills.

### **Environmental Groups**

Environmental non-governmental organizations are enjoying a growing influence on the direction of forest management at many different levels from international to national to provincial to local. These ENGOs have concentrated on several issues: to increase the amount of

land under protection, including parks, to ensure that some parts of forest ecosystems remain intact; to protect old growth; and to improve forest management

The Partnership for Public Lands (see web site: <http://www.wildontario.org/>), with its three main collaborators World Wildlife Fund Canada, the Wildlands League and the Federation of Ontario Naturalists, exercised significant influence during the recent Lands for Life planning exercise. Through involvement in the process the ENGOs were able to lobby the provincial government to increase the area of parks in northern Ontario. They worked with each other and local environmental groups like Environment North to reach their goals.

ENGOs have also been instrumental in developing a market-based campaign for certified wood. By developing regional standards which are considered “blue ribbon” or a cut above provincial forest management regulations, and by carrying out market-based campaigns to put pressure on large retailers like Home Depot, ENGOs have used certification to broaden the debate about what constitutes good forest management. In Canada, the Forest Stewardship Council Canada (see web site: [www.fsccanada.org](http://www.fsccanada.org)) is now considering the development of a national standard for the boreal forest.

## **Government**

A special fiduciary or trust relationship exists between government and Aboriginal Peoples. This historic relationship, first captured in the Royal Proclamation of 1763 and later in the historic treaties negotiated at the turn of the century, places a responsibility on the government of Canada to act in the best interests of Aboriginal Peoples. However with the delegation of authority between federal and provincial governments, Aboriginal Peoples have become caught in a bind. Under the Canadian Constitution provinces have jurisdiction over the management of natural resources while the federal government has responsibility for “Indians and Indian lands”. When Aboriginal Peoples approach the federal government about access to lands and resources, they are told this is a provincial responsibility. When they approach the provinces, they are told that because they are “Indians,” they are a federal responsibility. And so this passing of the buck has gone on for the past century. Slowly, this situation is changing, particularly because of recent legal decisions which recognize Aboriginal and treaty rights and which instruct provincial governments to address Aboriginal lands and resources issues.

Provincial governments, therefore, have increasing responsibility for Aboriginal interests in forest management. In 1994, one of the recommendations made by the Board of the Class Environmental Assessment for Timber Management on Crown Lands in Ontario was Condition 77, directing the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to provide a greater share of economic benefits to Aboriginal communities from forest development. The Class EA recommendations also led to improvements in forest management planning in Ontario. The new *Crown Forest Sustainability Act* (1994) led to the inclusion of both Native Values Mapping and a separate Native Consultation process. The Act, while it gives more authority to District Managers to make decisions at the local level, also gives the Minister of Natural Resources the option of entering into cooperative relationships with First Nations to manage forests. This ministerial option may provide a context for negotiating more cooperative arrangements with Aboriginal Peoples. The provincial government is also expected to represent the greater public interest, or what is often

termed “third party interests” by Aboriginal groups. This is a challenging role to play if governments lose the confidence of those third party interests.

Governments have also made commitments at the national level, including the National Forest Strategy with its Strategic Direction Seven on Aboriginal Peoples: Issues of Relationship (see [http://nrcan.gc.ca/cfs/nfs/strateg/control\\_e.html](http://nrcan.gc.ca/cfs/nfs/strateg/control_e.html)) and the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers Criteria and Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management (see [http://www.ccfm.org/pi/4\\_e.html#publications](http://www.ccfm.org/pi/4_e.html#publications)). Criterion 6, Accepting Society’s Responsibility for Sustainable Forest Management, includes provisions to recognize and protect Aboriginal and treaty rights and to increase Aboriginal participation in forest management. Criteria and indicators have become an important tool to define what “sustainable forest management” is. Criteria are a set of broad goals to achieve sustainable forest management and indicators are the measurements to determine if goals are being achieved.

### **Conclusion: Better Forest Management?**

If we agree that, as actors making significant choices from different perspectives, but all converging on the common ground of wanting to achieve better forest management, then we face a set of challenges. Government’s challenge is to become an ally to all groups, especially Aboriginal Peoples, and not an enemy. Aboriginal Peoples have to exercise their responsibility to act as stewards of forest land and to contribute to better forest management through their unique knowledge of forests. Industry has to accept that part of their corporate responsibility is social responsibility. And, finally, environmental groups have to broaden their scope to address social and economic issues as well as environmental ones. If we meet these challenges, I am convinced that the outcome will be better forest management.

### **Linking Scientific and Harvester Knowledge to Assess the Value of Forest Patches in Northwestern Ontario: A Case Study of Traditional and Commercial Non-Timber Forest Products**

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#### **Dr. Fikret Berkes**

Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba

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Dr. Fikret Berkes described the research project between the Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba and the Shoal Lake Resource Institute, Iskatewizaagegan #39 Independent First Nation (IIFN). The supporting partners in the project include the Elders of IIFN, the Chief and Council of IIFN, the Northwest Science and Technology Unit of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, the Ontario Forest Resource Institute and the Taiga Institute for Land, Culture and Economy.

The project is unique in its commitment to include a Community Researcher who will develop skills of working as part of an interdisciplinary research team, learn methods and techniques of botanical field work, build qualitative interview skills and gain experience in presenting research data to the community.

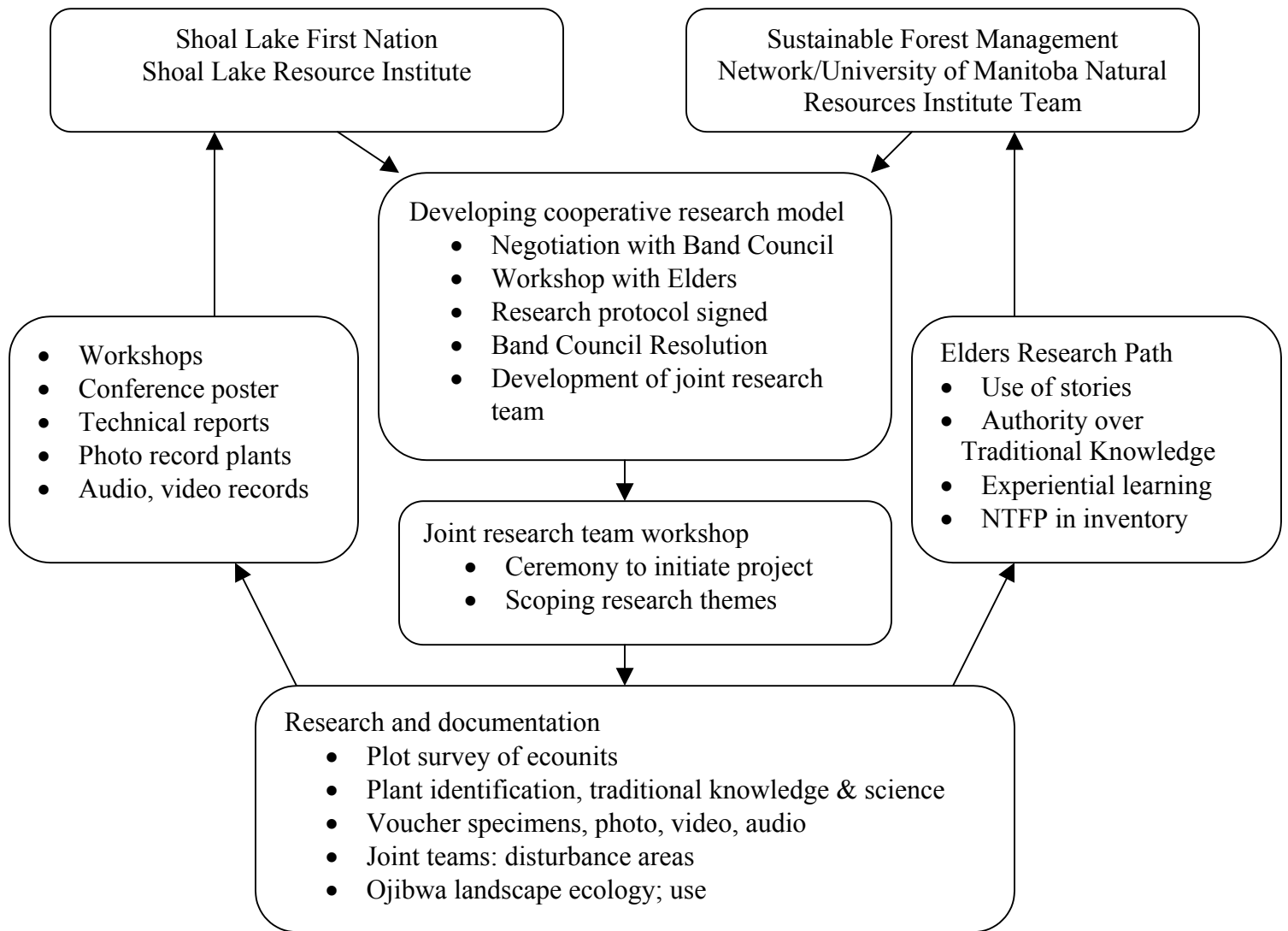
The project is located within the watersheds of Shoal Lake, Lake of the Woods and the Winnipeg River near the border of Ontario and Manitoba. Shoal Lake is the source of drinking water for the City of Winnipeg.

The purpose of the project is to develop a model for cooperative research between First Nation people and university researchers in order to build knowledge which contributes to sustainable rural livelihoods, increases ecological knowledge of non-timber forest products (NTFPs), documents harvesters' knowledge of NTFPs and assesses the non-timber forest product value of forest patches.

There are several models for treating traditional knowledge in scientific research. One model uses traditional knowledge as a source of data for scientific studies. This model is suitable for the data needs of scientists, but in it communities lose control over their knowledge, the traditional knowledge holders get no credit, the two forms of knowledge are not given equal weight (asymmetry) and the traditional knowledge is used out of context. In another model, scientists attempt to meld, synthesize or combine traditional knowledge with science. This model is good for some information needs and it may allow for more local control and credit to the knowledge holders. But both sides are often uncomfortable and do not fully understand the benefit of the other's knowledge (asymmetry) and, as with the first model, the traditional knowledge is used out of context. A third model is being attempted in this research project. This partnership model pursues cooperative research whose goals and tasks are formed at a table of equal partners. This model accepts that the parties will have different objectives and agendas, but those agendas are transparent. A research protocol is negotiated and objectives jointly set with mechanisms for feedback and accountability built in.

The following chart illustrates the partnership structure, objectives and tasks of each of the parties during the project:





## Sustainable Forest Management through Co-Management in Northwestern Ontario

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### Dr. Shashi Kant

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Dr. Kant started with welcoming and expressing his sincere thanks to all the participants. He gave the background of the workshop.

Human relations are of primary importance in sustainable forest management. Economists and technocrats believe that nothing is impossible in this world because technology can take care of all challenges and problems in the future. This emphasis on technology is inappropriate. Only

human relations, which have been neglected in the literature, can address future challenges and problems. A pre-requisite for improved human relations is open communication between the parties. Take the example of a family consisting of two brothers, two sisters, and their parents. All four siblings are based in different towns and work for different organizations. For example, one sister works for a forest industry, another for an environmental group, one brother works for the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and another for an Aboriginal group. However, if their father and mother fall sick, and they need care, normally, the brothers and sisters will try to work out a schedule so that they can visit them at different times and care for them. How is this possible when all four are working for different groups who have different values with respect to the forest? Open communication between the brothers and sisters helps in developing and strengthening human relations among themselves and allows them to develop a co-management plan to take care of their parents even though they may have different values. The same is required for sustainable forest management in northwestern Ontario. The four groups—the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, the forest industry, environmental groups and Aboriginal groups—need to communicate among themselves. One of the main objectives of this workshop is to initiate that communication process.

Describing the Research Project Sustainable Forest Management through Co-management in Northwestern Ontario:

In Canada, the federal government has recognized the active role of Aboriginal Peoples in Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) in the National Forest Strategy and the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers (CCFM) Criteria and Indicators (C & I) of Sustainable Forest Management. In 1994, the Ontario Environmental Assessment Board (EAB) directed the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) to incorporate various conditions related to Aboriginal groups in forest management plans, and these conditions have become the part of the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act (CFSA)* (1994) of Ontario. In recent years, many decisions in the Canadian courts, such as *Sparrow* (1990), *Delgamuukw* (1997), *Halfway River First Nation* (1997), *Haida* (1997) and *Paul* (1998), have also directed the provinces to recognize and protect Aboriginal and treaty rights in their resource development and planning. In light of these developments, the present challenge to forest managers is to design co-management institutions based on equitable and cohesive relationships with Aboriginal Peoples and the basic principles of sustainable forest management. This project aims to address this challenge. This project involves seven organizations: three industries (Weyerhaeuser Canada, BOWATER and KBM Forestry), three Aboriginal organizations (the National Aboriginal Forestry Association, Grand Treaty Council # 3 and Nishnawbe Aski Nation) and one environmental group (World Wildlife Fund Canada). All seven organizations have made financial contributions to the project. The main financial contribution comes from the Sustainable Forest Management Network, University of Alberta, Edmonton.

The main objective of the project is to develop a framework for designing co-management institutions for SFM. The main research questions, in view of this objective, are: (i) Do different groups value forests differently? (ii) Do different groups have different rules for managing forests? And (iii) Is it possible to develop a framework for better relationships among groups based on similar values and rules?

These three research questions will be answered by (i) documentation and comparison of the economic, cultural, ecological and other values of forests to different stakeholders (Aboriginal groups, other local groups, forest industries, environmental non-government organizations and the provincial government); (ii) documentation, analyses and comparison of the forest management institutions of Aboriginal groups, other community groups such as agreement forest communities, Local Citizens Committees and Sustainable Forest License (SFL) holders who manage forests on behalf of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources; (iii) developing an institutional framework for designing co-management institutions based on the relationships between the values and institutions of each stakeholder, the relationships of the values of one group to the institutions of another group, and vice-versa, and the associations of these relationships to the elements of sustainable forest management. The 3 CM method will be used for documentation of forest values and the Institutional Analysis and Development framework (IAD) will be used for the analysis of institutions and developing a framework for designing co-management institutions.

## **Sustainable Forest Management in Northwestern Ontario: An Aboriginal Perspective**

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### **Todd Lewis**

Class of 2001, Faculty of Forestry and the Forest Environment, Lakehead University

On presentation by **Ed Mandamin**

Shoal Lake Resources Institute; Email: <[slri@voyageur.ca](mailto:slri@voyageur.ca)>

The presentation by Mr. Ed Mandamin of Shoal Lake First Nation on Aboriginal perspectives on sustainable forest management discussed some of the steps Aboriginal people must take before true sustainable development can take place. Through his experience with projects within the Shoal Lake community, undertaken in co-operation with elders, community members, industry, government and the University of Manitoba, Mr. Mandamin focused on education.

Education is key in order for Aboriginal people to take control of their own affairs with respect to natural resources and sustainable development. Education is key to merging traditional knowledge and scientific knowledge and it is young Aboriginal people who will be the leaders in this field. Education is key to developing partnerships between Aboriginal communities, industry, government, educational institutes and neighboring communities so that every one will benefit from partnerships. Education is key to ensuring that enough Aboriginal youth are trained in sciences, which provide a foundation for forest resource management, such as biology, geology, fisheries, and forestry. Without this foundation it will be difficult to address partnerships or the application of traditional and scientific knowledge in forest management. Finally, Mr. Mandamin wished that more attention would be given to an epidemic that afflicts Aboriginal communities because he thinks it is linked with a loss of connection to the land. Diabetes is a disease that is devastating our communities and it should be studied to determine how western diet has contributed to the disease and how traditional country foods can curb the devastating hold it has on Aboriginal communities.

## **Sustainable Forest Management in Northwestern Ontario: An Ontario Government Perspective**

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### **Charlie Lauer**

Regional Director, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

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### **Introduction**

I would like to thank you for inviting MNR to address Sustainable Forest Management in Northwestern Ontario. I am pleased to be here today to share some thoughts on this important topic.

As you know, our forests play a vital role in Ontario's prosperity, as well as being homes for wildlife, sources of clean air and water, and places of solitude and refuge for people. Global trends in forestry are presenting us with serious challenges that we must meet with innovative practices and well-defined priorities in forestry research. Forest science and technology is critical. We will succeed in meeting these challenges if the forest science we pursue is based upon well thought out priorities.

Your presence here this weekend indicates that you want to participate in identifying the research needs related to ensuring sustainable forests in Ontario.

### **Ontario Context**

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources is responsible for managing the province's natural resources in accordance with statutes administered by the province. As the province's lead conservation agency, this ministry is the steward of provincial parks, natural heritage areas, forests, fisheries, wildlife and aggregates.

MNR's stated mission is to manage our natural resources in an ecologically sustainable way to ensure they are available for the enjoyment and use of future generations. Ecological sustainability focuses on safeguarding the province's natural-capital and nature's capacity to renew itself.

Our ministry's efforts are directed at ensuring that the levels and types of resource use and resource management practices protect and maintain nature's capacity to renew itself and to generate sufficient "natural interest" to meet present and future needs. Ontario's forest policy clearly states that the long-term health of the forest must come first. Second to this primary objective is the need to consider the social and economic opportunities.

### **Ontario's Forest Policy**

The need for change in Ontario's forest policy was driven by the global concerns that have evolved over the past 20 years. In 1980, the need to "achieve sustainable development through the conservation of living resources" was first expressed in the World Conservation Strategy. In

1987, a report by the United Nation's World Commission on Environment and Development, often referred to as the Brundtland Report, advocated sustainable development as a fundamental shift in how we view our world.

In 1989, the MNR was in the midst of a contentious public debate about the future of Ontario's forests and how they should be managed. Public concerns reflected the global debate about the need to move from timber management to forest management. The public hearings on the Class EA for Timber Management on Crown Lands in Ontario were underway and they provided a lightning rod for sustainable forestry issues.

In 1991, as a result of a ministry-wide program review, MNR made a major commitment to promote sustainable development with the release of "Direction '90s". This broad strategic policy framework guided the process of change in Ontario's forest management program. It included commitments to:

- adopt the concept of sustainability
- promote partnerships, and
- generate new scientific information and knowledge about Ontario's forests.

The past ten years have seen these commitments reflected in environmentally sensitive provincial policy and legislation, and in science and research investments in sustainable forest management.

### **Ontario's Forest Legislation**

Two pieces of legislation provide direction for the management of Crown forests: the ***Crown Forest Sustainability Act*** and the ***Environmental Assessment Act***.

In 1994, after more than 4 years of public hearings, the Environmental Assessment Board (EA Board) in Ontario issued its decision on the ***Ministry of Natural Resources Class Environmental Assessment for Timber Management on Crown Lands in Ontario***. The Board's decision required us to undertake management of Crown forests in accordance with 115 legally binding terms and conditions.

At the same time the EA Decision was being rendered, the ***Crown Timber Act*** was being replaced by the new ***Crown Forest Sustainability Act*** (CFSA). It became law in 1995. The ***CFSA*** captures Ontario's strategic forest policy direction with two guiding principles for the determination of forest sustainability:

- 1. Large, healthy, diverse and productive Crown forests and their associated ecological processes and biological diversity should be conserved.*
- 2. The long term health and vigour of Crown forests should be provided for by using forest practices that, within the limits of silvicultural requirements, emulate natural disturbances and landscape patterns while minimizing adverse effects on plant life, animal life, water, soil, air and social and economic values, including recreational values and heritage values.*

## **Forest Management Planning**

Both the CFSA and the Timber Class EA Decision require that forest management plans be prepared for forest management units. These plans are developed to provide the direction and authority for forest operations.

With the help of a local citizens committee, sustainability objectives are determined by a planning team through the development of a range of management alternatives. The objectives are further refined through a process of public consultation.

The forest management planning process includes specific provisions for the identification and protection of Native Values and a separate Native Consultation Program for communities that wish to become involved.

Forest management decisions influence stand composition and structure, largely through silviculture. Silvicultural practices are described in the forest management plan. They are designed to meet management objectives based on knowledge and an understanding of specific, stand and site attributes. The best silvicultural prescriptions are those that come from an intimate understanding of these attributes and the knowledge gained through applied forest research.

To provide direction on how to protect non-timber values when preparing and implementing forest management plans, Ontario has developed over 30 guidelines for use by planning teams. The application of these guidelines is currently under review. We need to balance the public demands for a comprehensive and consistently applied set of rules with the practitioner's need for the flexibility and innovation to adapt to local situations. Native involvement would enhance many of these guidelines and this is something we are currently working toward.

## **Social Aspect of Sustainability**

Certainly the well being of the citizens of Ontario is a critical factor that must be addressed in ensuring forest sustainability. The economic, recreational and spiritual needs of all Ontarians are integral components.

In Northwestern Ontario, the economy relies very heavily on the benefits created by the forest industry. It also relies significantly on the recreational opportunities available across the forested landscape. Balancing these needs with the environmental factors I have already spoken about is a continuing challenge.

Of particular significance is the traditional lifestyle and economic need of the Aboriginal people in Northwestern Ontario. I can tell you that we are committed to contributing to sustainable Aboriginal communities. These communities represent growing populations that must become actively involved in resource-based industries.

We are mandated by the Class E.A. to work to develop opportunities for Aboriginal people to participate more equitably in the benefits derived from forest management planning. There are a

number of examples of successes in Aboriginal involvement in forest management in Northwestern Ontario. Unfortunately, there are also examples of things that have not worked as well as they could have, or which did not fulfill their potential.

Creating new opportunities in a forest sector where the resources are by-and-large already allocated is a difficult process. This process is further confounded when MNR and Aboriginal governments and individuals do not always agree on the interpretation of laws, Treaties and policies. We need to work together to create economic opportunities that are based upon sustainable management of natural resources and will help to contribute to the creation of real wealth through participation in the forest sector.

A good example of this is MNR's Northern Boreal Initiative. We are working closely with several First Nation communities to create new opportunities in forest management north of where commercial forestry now occurs. These opportunities will be developed in an area where the forest resources are mostly unallocated. As part of this initiative, we have indicated to First Nations that we intend to issue Sustainable Forest Licenses to First Nation corporations and that we wish to see their management of the forest result in the generation of real wealth through the creation of new First Nation businesses.

### **Forest Research Perspectives**

There are key areas upon which we must focus our forest research efforts. Workshops such as this one, where representatives from a wide array of organizations are present, are key venues for interested parties to work together to identify priorities. These priorities, and the spirit of cooperation that is created, can then be used to generate partnerships and to influence the direction of applied forest research in Northwestern Ontario.

Currently, MNR is actively engaged in applying a rigorous performance management program to our investments in science. Through the use of this system, we have learned that it is critical to be able to articulate science research needs in the form of questions. Questions that can then be posed to the research community.

Given that MNR is committed to the goal of sustainable development and that our mission is ecological sustainability, I present the following broad science research questions which are particularly relevant to us in the northwest region.

#### ***Ecological***

1. What is the ecological capital required to sustain our forest, wildlife and fisheries resources so that we can management and use resources and account for uncertainties such as climate change or population growth?
  - i.e. How much do we have to keep safe in the bank in order to continue to generate benefits from the interest?

2. How do natural processes in our forests and in our lakes and waters sustain our natural ecosystems, and how are these processes impacted when we manage resources for human benefits? Of particular interest are natural processes associated with:
  - Wildfire at the landscape, stand and site level
  - Nutrient cycling
  - Forest succession
  - Insects and disease.
3. What sustainable forest management tools and techniques will allow us to produce greater benefits for our regional and local economies? Specific opportunities for study include:
  - Site specific silvicultural techniques that produce desired forest stand conditions in appropriate time frames to meet ecological or economic objectives
  - Decision support tools that integrate spatial concepts and address both economic and ecological factors
  - Intensive forest management techniques appropriate for the stand and forest level.

### ***Economic***

1. How can we increase the economic benefit derived from our natural resources?
2. How can the forest, tourism, mining and other resource-based industries best integrate their efforts to provide best economic return from the resources we manage?
3. How can First Nations and single industry towns build and diversify their economy to provide for increased community, social and economic stability? It is important to have economic growth within the region, but it is equally important that the diverse communities across the northwest region receive a fair portion of those benefits.

### ***Social***

1. How can First Nations communities reap maximum social benefits from resource development while fully respecting cultural values?
2. What is the common ground between First Nations vision of resource stewardship and current legislative concepts of forest sustainability? This question is very important to building meaningful dialogue over resource development opportunities in the north.

The depth and breadth of the challenge related to sustainable forest management presents tremendous opportunities in the areas of ecological, economic and social science research. I invite you all to take up the challenge to put research priorities into action and to work in a spirit of cooperation to move us along the path toward forest and community sustainability.



## Rapporteur Comments on the Ontario Government Perspective

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**Rike Burkhardt, R.P.F.**

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As seen in the presentations offered at the SFMN workshop, Aboriginal Peoples face a number of challenges for effective participation in forest management decision-making. Themes around capacity building, scarce human and financial resources and outstanding issues around interpretation of Aboriginal and treaty rights recurred throughout the weekend discussions.

In the context of increasing privatization of the forest industry, it is important to consider the provincial government's role in meeting legal, moral and fiduciary obligations to Aboriginal Peoples. The Regional Director for MNR's Northwestern Region presented an overview of the context for these issues in Ontario, as well as a discussion of challenges and steps taken by MNR to increase Aboriginal participation in the forestry sector. These are summarized as follows:

### *Policy Developments*

- Legislation and policy (National Forest Strategy, Ontario Forest Accord) are recognizing, in principle, the Aboriginal presence and right to access resources on the forest landscape
- MNR is making efforts to improve Aboriginal participation and benefit from the forest resource through initiatives related to Term and Condition 77 of the Class EA and the Native Consultation option included in the Forest Management Planning Process
- Any new forestry development north of the Area of the Undertaking will include significant First involvement

### *Challenges*

- New forestry development in the north will create massive information and research needs, especially on First Nations traditional territories
- Developing mechanisms for integrating traditional knowledge into existing science-based planning processes
- Finding forestry opportunities for First Nations in the context of a land base where almost all available wood supply has been allocated
- Given that forest management is largely the responsibility of industry, what opportunities can MNR offer First Nations and how can government meet its obligations under T&C 77?

### *Gaps/Omissions*

Acknowledgement of constraints faced by MNR in addressing issues around Aboriginal participation in forestry, including:

- Overlapping provincial/federal jurisdictions for natural resources and "Indians and Indian lands"
- Legacy of adversarial relationships between MNR and Ontario First Nations

- Funding constraints that prevent effective implementation of existing policies
- Accountability: MNR is accountable to many other stakeholders/forest users on Crown lands in addition to First Nations

## **Sustainable Forest Management in Northwestern Ontario: An Industry Perspective**

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### **Margaret Thomson**

Consultant with Consulting International on First Nation relationships with Weyerhaeuser and Bowater

Email: < [mthomson@air.on.ca](mailto:mthomson@air.on.ca) >

Margaret Thomson presented an overview of her experiences as a consultant for forest industry relations with First Nations. She noted that the foundation for partnerships between industry and First Nations is the industry's recognition of the need to share forest resources and benefits of economic development and employment. Industry also needs to recognize that First Nations may differ in their needs and that effective communication is built on trust and respect which often takes a long time to build.

Industries needs were identified including:

- shareholder values
- return on investments
- company objectives
- results oriented
- business to business agreements
- compliance issues
- separation of government and industry responsibilities

First Nations needs include:

- treaty and Aboriginal rights
- band member interests
- economic development and employment opportunities
- self-sufficiency
- youth involvement, employment and training
- community wellness
- traditional cultural values

Understanding these mutual needs and interests is the first step necessary for partnerships. If the goal is to build relationships and to involve First Nations within the planning process then industry must ensure they are there from the beginning.

To guide relationships some general principles were identified including:

- maintaining open communication
- being sensitive to each partner's needs and interests
- creating opportunities to be fully informed

- adopting the principles of sharing and honesty

Industry's expectations are that they will develop business ventures that are long-term for the First Nation, that projects will move at an agreed pace, that they will work jointly with Chief and Council for the benefit of the community at large and that the long-term benefits and the skills developed will stay in the community. The Wabigoon tree nursery and a youth forestry training programs were described as successful examples of joint partnership projects.

**Question from Jim Webb (Little Red River and Tall Cree Nations Consultant):** How is industry going to address the equitable allocation of forest resources?

Murray Ferguson (Weyerhaeuser): We need to determine what is fair and equitable. South of the undertaking (*in Ontario*) First Nations are still trying to get access to forest resources but it is difficult to create new opportunities for First Nations both because of existing infrastructure and people employed. Industry is trying to find new opportunities to involve First Nations, for example, in thinning, tree nurseries and new mills.

Marc Stevenson (SFMN): It is important for the industry to monitor the relationship between government and First Nations to ensure that the government fulfills its fiduciary responsibilities.

## Rapporteur Comments on An Industry Perspective

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### **Rapporteur: Julian Holenstein**

President, Environment North, Thunder Bay

Email: <[julian@tbaytel.net](mailto:julian@tbaytel.net)>

These comments are not based solely on Margaret Thomson's presentation that covered broad principles for working with Aboriginal Peoples. I have taken the great liberty of trying to identify industry issues based on all of the presenters and comments from the audience, and some from personal knowledge.

### **1) Consultation and Communications:**

Several issues were raised around consultation and communications:

Some people have suggested that we need to define what "consultation" is. Maybe we still don't know?

Several people addressed the issue of capacity. Do First Nations have the capacity for involvement in consultative processes?

Who should develop consultation processes? First Nations, government or industry? Some suggested the approach should be to ask First Nations how they want to be consulted. Margaret Thomson identified that industry felt that the key to consultation efforts included: looking for common ground; ensuring ALL parties are fully informed; mutual trust and recognition.

On the role of government, some suggested that consultation with First Nations is a federal government responsibility, rather than provincial. Some suggested that consultation must be a government-to-government process because of Treaties.

Some people questioned how effective Local Citizens Committees were and whether they were an appropriate avenue for First Nations' input into forest management planning.

## **2) Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK):**

A major focus is how to incorporate Traditional Ecological Knowledge into forest management planning. Does TEK fit within modern forest science? Who should pay for TEK data collection? – FN's, government, industry? The costs associated with compiling traditional land use studies should be a recognized cost for doing forestry business, just as Forest Resource Inventory data collection is. Sometimes TEK might conflict with provincial forestry legislation or policies (i.e. caribou guidelines). How should such conflicts be resolved?

## **3) Interpretation of Treaties:**

The interpretation of treaties relates to what has been described as “the dance”—industry and different levels of government all pointing in different directions when they tell First Nations to find their partner! The province deals with forest licenses for resource extraction, BUT the federal government is responsible for land claims and sharing of resources. Great frustration is experienced by industry because the Province assigned them a license and some are now suggesting that industry should monitor the treaty relationship. Margaret Thomson suggested that companies will not assume fiduciary responsibilities but instead can deal with First Nations in a business-to-business relationship only!

## **4) Aboriginal Employment:**

The need to address Aboriginal employment in the forest sector was described as a “jobs now!” need or urgency. First Nations have the fastest growing population with many youth needing work.

Questions were raised about who pays for “pre-employment” and “employment” training. And when it comes to education, should this be an industry responsibility?

There are also issues around unionization. Industry must be aware of union issues and when consideration of Aboriginal employment programs might displace the current workforce.

## **5) Legislative or Policy Directions**

An issue raised about legislative or policy directions was that new initiatives may be in conflict with Aboriginal desires or approaches to land management in their traditional areas, i.e. fire emulation guidelines.

## 6) Financial Benefits from Forest Resources:

Several issues were raised about the nature of the financial benefits which should accrue to First Nations from forest resources. Should First Nations expect financial benefits from the actual resource (value of timber) OR only through employment? Should First Nations receive a share of stumpage? What do the “best efforts” for fair and equitable treatment of First Nations really mean? Can these efforts be measured and monitored?

## 7) “Full Resource Allocation”:

South of the 51<sup>st</sup> parallel in the ‘Area of the Undertaking’ (determined for the Class Environmental Assessment for Timber Management on Crown Land in Ontario), people describe the forest as being fully allocated. Does this mean that no opportunities remain for First Nations? Who owns this “fully allocated” resource? How does industry maintain profit margins, shareholder value and returns on investment if they are expected to give up portions of their licenses?

Full resource allocation should not be an issue for the Northern Boreal Initiative because no licenses have been assigned.

## **Sustainable Forest Management in Northwestern Ontario: An Environmental Non-governmental Organization Perspective**

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### **Bruce Petersen**

Environment North (on behalf of Tim Gray, Partnership for Public Lands)

Email: <[bpeter@tbaytel.net](mailto:bpeter@tbaytel.net)>

Who are we? The Partnership for Public Lands is comprised of the Federation of Ontario Naturalists, the Wildlands League and World Wildlife Fund. These are charitable conservation organizations working to conserve biological diversity. The Partnership for Public Lands is a joint effort of all three organizations for our work in central and northern Ontario. What do we try to achieve? The goal of the Partnership for Public Lands is twofold. The first is to increase protected areas in Ontario. We see these protected areas as a network of sites that protects plants, animals and ecological processes (fire, wind, disease and flooding). These areas would be permanently free from logging, mining, hydro and roads. The second goal is to promote sustainable use of natural resources. We promote forestry that is economically, ecologically and socially sustainable, mining that does not pollute and hydro that conserves fish populations and water quality.

How do we work? We work in a cooperative fashion with government, industry and communities providing advice, technical support and information. We support First Nation treaty rights. We are not animal rights groups. We support hunting, fishing and resource extraction when done sustainably. We are non-political and seek conservation solutions.

How have we worked with First Nations? We have worked on the establishment of protected areas through land claims in Nunavut. We have worked with Iisaak Forestry, a First Nation forestry company in Clayoquot Sound, to achieve forest certification under the Forest Stewardship Council. We have provided advice and support in land-use planning in Temagami. We have undertaken joint legal efforts in the Bruce Peninsula, assisted in organizing First Nation and protected areas conferences in B.C. and provided community assistance in the Yukon.

Our view of First Nation land management: Protected areas include access by First Nations, hunting, fishing and gathering, tourism (appropriate to site) and management by First Nations. We support First Nation Treaty rights, land claim settlements, the right of First Nations to decide on land designations in their traditional areas and benefits from resource activity and lands (including parks) flowing to First Nations.

The Partnership for Public Lands promotes the principle of land use planning to provide a context for natural resource development. The benefits of land use planning in Ontario's Boreal Forest include:

- Appropriate sequencing of land use planning is very important;
- Ensures proper flow of benefits to communities;
- Ensures community values are protected and consensus achieved; and
- Conserves the land for future generations.
- Sets an important Canadian precedent.

Principles for land use planning include:

- All values of the land are addressed before resource extraction occurs;
- Areas to be protected are identified (natural, cultural, ceremonial);
- Areas for industrial activity are identified (forestry, mining, hydro); and
- Community benefit agreements and licensing are addressed.

How are we working with First Nations in Ontario's Boreal Forest? The Partnership for Public Lands are preparing a research paper on First Nations and protected areas with National Aboriginal Forestry Association. We have been discussing a draft Memorandum of Understanding with Nishnawbe-Aski Nation (NAN) to guide our relationship. We are working to aid proper land use planning through seats on the Ontario Forest Accord Advisory Board and the Living Legacy Trust. As well, we have applied to the Trillium Foundation to support NAN Chiefs' involvement in the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). We are working in a consensus seeking manner with First Nation members of the boreal working group of the FSC. We have had direct discussions and provided assistance to Pikangikum, Slate Falls, Cat Lake and Moose Cree First Nations as they begin land use planning. We continue to seek funding to provide land use planning staff support to these and other First Nation communities. For example, we are seeking funding with Matachewan First Nation to carry out a Traditional Land Use Study and to support resource management staff at the Tribal Council or NAN level.

What would we like to see in Ontario's Boreal in 20 years? The Partnership would like to see completed and use plans chosen by First Nations, forest harvest that is sustainable, mining that does not pollute and resource licenses and companies owned by local people. We would also like to see resource employment that is knowledge intensive, communities that are connected to their

environment and protected areas that are big enough for fire, caribou, untamed rivers and creation.

## **Rapporteur Comments on An Environmental Non-governmental Organization Perspective**

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### **Robert Craftchick**

Class of 2001, Faculty of Forestry and the Forest Environment, Lakehead University

In response to Bruce Petersen's presentation on behalf of the Partnership for Public Lands, a joint effort by the World Wildlife Fund, Federation of Ontario Naturalists and the Wildlands League, I was struck by the fact that these three environmental groups were demonstrating the ability to work together in order to achieve a common goal. This is an example that could be followed by Aboriginal people.

The presenter promoted the need for a land use planning process in the area north of the 50<sup>th</sup> parallel which had been exempted from Ontario's Lands for Life land use planning exercise. For the Partnership the forest management planning process isn't sufficient. However, I have spent six years studying forestry and know that the forest management planning process is very comprehensive, including public consultation.

I believe that we belong to the resources, not the other way around.

I believe that we have the responsibility to manage our resources in a sustainable manner, ensuring the forests will still be intact seven generations from now. This is going to take a co-operative effort and compromises will have to be made by all parties in order to achieve this goal. The need to work together has never been greater. In order to work together we have to be honest with each other and until this happens I see the resources as the loser.

The significant message of the day came for me not from workshop presenters but from the respected Elder from Shoal Lake. The message that I took home from the Elder's closing remarks was speak from within and don't be artificial. I hope that I have demonstrated that.

## **Lands for Life and the Ontario Forest Accord: A Catalyst for Changing First Nation and ENGO Relations** (written handout)

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### **Lorne Johnson**

Forestry & Forest Certification Advisor to World Wildlife Fund Canada

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My apologies for not being able to attend this workshop. I think Peggy Smith's thesis work and this workshop are both important efforts that the ENGO community needs to support and participate in. I understand that there are going to be presentations over the next two days from both Tim Gray and Bruce Petersen of the Partnership for Public Lands (Wildlands League, WWF and the Federation of Ontario Naturalists). I am writing this piece to complement what

they will present and to offer a less formal view on the evolving nature of relations between environmental non-governmental organizations (ENGOS) and First Nations.

Since graduating from the Faculty of Forestry at University of Toronto in 1995, my time has been roughly evenly split between working with the Wildlands League (1996-1999) and World Wildlife Fund Canada (1999-present). I have played similar roles with both organizations – namely coordinating and facilitating multi-interest working groups developing Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) standards for Ontario’s Great Lakes-St. Lawrence and Boreal forests. I also work with WWF Canada as an advisor on forestry and forest policy issues.

For those of you from out of province, in 1997, both the Wildlands League and WWF joined forces with the Federation of Ontario Naturalists to form the Partnership for Public Lands in order to more effectively participate in the Ontario government’s recent land-use planning exercise (Lands for Life). While some First Nations initially participated in the Lands for Life process, they subsequently withdrew their participation when it became clear that the process would not address First Nations concerns over Aboriginal and Treaty rights. While sympathetic to First Nations concerns, the partnership continued to participate in Lands for Life, pushing for more protected areas in Ontario.

Subsequent to the Lands for Life process, the Partnership for Public Lands entered into a series of negotiations with the forest industry and the Ontario Government culminating in these three parties signing the Ontario Forest Accord. This accord did essentially two things; 1) it doubled the amount of protected areas in Ontario; and 2) it guaranteed that the forest industry would not suffer a reduction in current harvest levels as a result of the establishment of the new protected areas.

The Ontario Forest Accord is an important milestone and turning point in the evolving relationship between ENGOS and First Nations in this province. Up to that point, there was a common (and I would argue untested) assumption that First Nations and ENGOS shared a similar set of values and that their goals were largely overlapping. With the signing of the Forest Accord, First Nations expressed their dismay at what they saw as a further violation of their treaty rights and felt betrayed by members of the environmental community.

There is no doubt that the Ontario Forest Accord has severely strained relations between ENGOS and First Nations - I have experienced the results first hand in my work on FSC certification standards in this province. The Lands for Life process and the Ontario Forest Accord were never set up to address longstanding grievances over Aboriginal & Treaty rights. And while I am no legal expert, I am sure these processes do represent a violation of those rights.

However I think we need to question the nature and strength of the relationship between ENGOS and First Nations that existed prior to the Ontario Forest Accord. I would argue that the assumption of solidarity between First Nations and ENGOS was as much due to a common struggle against government and industry as oppose to an underlying understanding of, and respect for, each other’s values, goals and objectives.



Like any relationship, there is nothing like conflict to test its strength and mettle. The Ontario Forest Accord has done just that. It has forced ENGOs and First Nations to communicate - starting with simple explanations of each other's core values and goals. While much more work is still needed, common ground is being found and differences better understood. Efforts such as the draft MOU between NAN and the Partnership for Public Lands are helping to better define the boundaries of ENGO/First Nation relations and lay the groundwork for improved cooperation and support of each other's goals. Sitting together at the table with industry and labour to develop FSC certification standards for the Ontario Boreal Forests is helping all involved develop a shared vision for the sound stewardship of these lands.

I am encouraged by the strengthening relations between First Nations and ENGOs today and think we are heading to a better place. Of course, there will continue to be differences and conflicts. First Nation communities are as diverse in values and objectives as are non-native communities and they will not always align with those of the ENGO community. As Aboriginal and Treaty rights evolve in Ontario and First Nations gain increased control over their traditional territories, ENGOs will make the same requests of First Nations Governments as they do today of the Provincial Government – namely asking for good forest management and the establishment of protected areas in the north. By working together today, we will hopefully be in a position to “agree to disagree” and maintain mutual respect, cooperation and dialogue when those conflicts do arise in the future.

## **Breakout Session Notes**

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### **Group 1: Aboriginal and Treaty Rights**

- Everyone must become informed, including First Nations, government and industry.
- First Nations must continue to exercise their rights.
- Industry and government must monitor activities with regard to political infringement of Aboriginal rights.
- Parties should look to courts for legal interpretations/parameters of Aboriginal and treaty rights.
- Determine how to reconcile spiritual values with industrial land use activities and also in context of infringement.
- Carry out in-depth consultations, including use of information and communication which is accessible to all community members as means to avoid infringement
- Compensation requires workable models.
- Education must develop capacity to appreciate and understand each other's values for all parties.
- Need adequate consideration of how forest policy and legislation, including provincial wildlife management initiatives incorporates and addresses traditional knowledge and land uses.
- Government's compartmentalization of Aboriginal rights
- Legislation is not up to speed with court rulings and treaties, some of which convey fiduciary obligation to provincial government.
- Research and funding needed to document traditional use areas and possibility to use traditional land use areas as a means to manage for different values.

What are some mechanisms to create more ‘certainty’ for all land users?

- First Nations: become informed, educate youth, exercise rights, pass on traditional knowledge develop own policies and encourage “Indian lawyers”.
- Industry: build relationships, become informed with regard to rights and take proactive role in monitoring.
- Government: take examples from industry, resolve jurisdictional issues and land use questions.

Balance and equity will be achieved by building relationships based on trust, respect and education and awareness.

## **Group 2: Incorporating Aboriginal Knowledge, Values and Institutions**

Initial questions:

Are current planning and healing processes adequate?

What changes are necessary?

- Education should be regarded as a two-way street.
- A political process should be developed in which Aboriginal groups need:
  - to determine their needs and develop processes to address those needs
  - to set research agendas
  - access to resources and research
- First Nations, government and industry need to find common ground (i.e. Waswanipi) and collaborate from both sides in research and planning, they need to do a needs assessment, if there are conflicts in land use planning try to balance these, and if they cannot move to conflict resolution.
- Time frames need to be flexible, as they are currently unreasonable.
- Need to question the status quo of scientific decision making because the track record is questionable. This is really a question of humility and we must be soft enough to incorporate Aboriginal knowledge.
- Need to develop communication with grassroots, for example, get front line staff to work or live with Aboriginal people or create opportunities to explore various layers and become familiar with other ways of thinking. This should be done not to prove who is right or wrong but to look at ways of shifting relationships and influence others to make the choice to learn about each other.
- Often there are vast amounts of willingness but we need to develop resources to follow through and get past ‘blue-sky’ thinking.
- It is only when Aboriginal people achieve equal power/partnership relationships government to government that all issues will be addressed across the country.

### **Group 3: Capacity and Economic Development**

Economic development: can be both short and long term, creation of jobs and employment opportunities for industry and First Nations, livelihood sustainability

Capacity Building: transfer of knowledge and skills, establishment of economic structures, human capital formation, social and physical aspects

Some problems associated with above:

- lack of opportunity to access capital for economic development
- culture shock associated with travel outside communities
- need to work at a community level because difficult at a macrolevel

Consultation:

- include information gathered from joint industry/community-focused land use planning, science, technology and traditional knowledge
- come together to identify a common goal for new and sustainable economic development opportunities in the area including forestry, tourism and traditional

Role of Actors:

- include the stakeholders to identify the actions that each “actor group” needs to do to work together to achieve economic development opportunities (build relationships of trust)

Education and Capacity Building:

- using information and focus of prior identified needs of soft and hard skills including; cultural values, norms, beliefs and identify needs to ensure sustainable economic development (e.g. Wabigoon Tree Nursery (Weyerhaeuser, Bowater)

### **Group 4: Certification and Criteria and Indicators**

Context: criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management are being defined through various processes – i.e. Canadian Standards Association (CSA) and International Organization for Standardization (ISO) management system (process) standards and the Forest Stewardship Council (national and regional performance standards)

Initial questions:

1. How to measure whether a) Aboriginal and treaty rights and b) increased participation are being met and to whose satisfaction.
2. Can industry meet obligations to recognize and protect Aboriginal and treaty rights – is this a government fiduciary obligation or is industry a “constructive trustee”?
3. Can certification solve these dilemmas?

Industry and government should:

- carry out consultations from the beginning – in planning stage

- acknowledge proprietary interest (shared interest following the spirit and intent of treaties) and ensure that issues of rights are resolved with governments
- Letter of Intent may be way to proceed
- products can be co-developed with Aboriginal labels
- areas of intensive management may be considered in co-managed outside of northern boreal and in prairies reclaim marginal farmland
- provide shared revenues
- provide shared tenure/equity with overlapping licenses and holdbacks designated to First Nations

#### Issues Identified:

- acceptability of use of herbicides – traditional uses damaged – many First Nations are uncomfortable with use and avoid silvicultural contracts which use them
- What is intensive forest management? – clearcutting or selection
- performance ecological monitoring
- landscape level – provision of habitat for values – endangered species, recreation, wildlife, watersheds
- changes to management boundaries – ecosystem based, watersheds (Angus Hill) Forest Ecosystem Classification – NE, NW, Central, South
- State of Forest Reports every 5 years – province wide
- landscape models are 160 years
- more control to industry – is this a good thing?
- government to government and corporation to corporation

#### Researchable Questions/Issues

- 1 What are best practices on Principle 3/ 6.1/6.2 C&I for industry and government?
- 2 Conduct landscape level case study/modeling with industry, First Nation cooperation and government involvement.
- 3 Monitor implementation of certification and develop a framework, guidelines and methodologies for monitoring.
- 4 Pursue capacity building opportunities through environmental monitoring by Aboriginal Peoples.
- 5 What is relationship between First Nations and ENGO's and how are they working on certification and market-based campaigns.
- 6 Explore the cumulative impact of resource (hydro, oil and gas, mining, forestry) development and role of government.

## **PART III: SFM NETWORK NORTHWEST ONTARIO PROJECT PARTNERS' MEETINGS**

### **Project Partners' Meeting Report Sustainable Forest Management through Co-Management in Northwestern Ontario**

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Principal Investigator, Shashi Kant, University of Toronto, Faculty of Forestry, David Balsillie, University of Toronto, Faculty of Forestry, Ph.D. researcher, Peggy Smith and Masters student, Susan Lee took the opportunity in their partners meeting to address some issues which have arisen during the course of research and conducted a Values exercise with participants. As a result of this "test run" of the Values exercise, in which participants pointed out that their personal values may differ from their group values, the methodology was changed to include both the participants' individual values as well as their perceptions of the values of the group to which they belong.

Below is a description of the revised Values exercise with an explanation about why it was chosen for this project.

#### **Describing a Method to Determine Forest Values**

Prepared by Peggy Smith and Susan Lee (M.Sc. F. Student)

Forest management involves several groups with diverse values, different perspectives and backgrounds in forest issues. This diversity of values and knowledge often leads to conflict over forest management decisions. It is essential to build relationships among the different groups that are based on the social, ecological, cultural and economic values of each group.

The purpose of our project is to provide guidance to groups interested in forest issues about how to make forest management decisions with other groups by encouraging an understanding of how group values are similar and different. The study area includes Treaty #3, Treaty #5, Treaty #9 and Robinson Superior treaty areas within the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Boreal West region.

We will be interviewing members from Aboriginal/First Nations, environmental groups, government and the forest industry. The interviews will use a technique called Conceptual Content Cognitive Mapping, also known as 3CM. In this technique, participants are given a bunch of cards, and asked to write a single value, or a reason why they value forests, on each card. Once they finish this listing, they are asked to arrange their cards in groups such that each group represents one category of values. After grouping, they first rank the values within each group, and then they rank the groups.

In the second round the same technique is used to find out the individual's perceptions about the forest values of four groups: the government, forest industries, environmental groups and Aboriginal groups.

We chose the 3CM method because it is a simple technique for finding out why people value forests. As well, it allows participants to describe in their own words why forests are important to

them. Each group, as well as individuals within each group, brings with them different experiences, culture and language. The 3CM accounts for these differences because it is the participant who describes their values, and there are no restrictions as to how they do this. We also chose the 3CM technique because it is like a game and, hopefully, an enjoyable exercise. It is an interesting way for participants to explore why forests are important to them, and to organize their thoughts and ideas on this subject.

Past studies have used this technique to assist in both forest management and environmental policy decision-making. One study was completed in the Pacific Northwest of the U.S. to identify the values and knowledge held by the United States Dept. of Agriculture Forest Service, timber industry and environmentalists. The second was done at the University of Northern British Columbia, and it looked at criteria and indicators for forest management to record Aboriginal resource values. A different study was done to evaluate the knowledge and beliefs of the different groups involved in a proposal of a hazardous waste incineration facility on Native American land in the U.S. A bibliography is provided for those who would like more information.

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### **Instructions for participants using the 3CM Method:**

#### **STEPS**

This is not a test. There are no right or wrong answers. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

- 1) **VISUALIZE WHY FORESTS ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU:** If you're having trouble finding reasons, try a visualization exercise. Close your eyes. Imagine yourself in a forest. What are you doing there? What do you see? Think about why forests are important to you.
- 2) **ONE VALUE PER CARD:** You have some index cards in front of you. Please write down the reasons why forests are personally important to you, one reason per card.

- 3) **ARRANGING OF VALUES:** Once you are finished writing your reasons on the index cards, categorize or arrange the cards in a way that will be useful in explaining why you value forests. You can arrange them however you like. You can add additional reasons at any time throughout this exercise.
- 4) **LABELS:** Once you have organized the cards, place on a separate card a label or heading which explains the arrangement.
- 5) **ORDER OF IMPORTANCE:** Rank both the groups and the individual cards within each group in the order of importance.
- 6) Repeat the exercise, from the point of view of the following groups: Aboriginal, environmental, forest companies and government.

### **Summary of Discussion:**

Several issues have arisen in the course of this research, which were addressed in the partners meeting. These included:

1. **NEED FOR STRATEGIC LEVEL PLANNING AMONG ABORIGINAL ORGANIZATIONS.** Given negotiations to expand industrial forest development and to increase protected areas in the area known as “North of 51”, and given the importance of forestry to Aboriginal communities in all parts of northwestern Ontario, it is noticeable that First Nations do not have a united strategic approach to negotiations with industry, the province or environmental groups on these issues. The question was raised about whether it is better to work at the local First Nation community level or to have a broader political strategic approach among the Aboriginal Political Territorial Organizations (PTOs), two of whom—Nishnawbe-Aski Nation and Grand Council Treaty #3—are partners in this research project. Some forest companies have attempted to negotiate at a broader level, but these negotiations have broken down. Negotiations at the local community level have been much more successful. It was stressed that the answer is not one or the other, but requires input from both the local and PTO level. Grand Council Treaty #3 is working on a treaty-wide approach to natural resources and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources has helped to fund a position within GCTC #3 to dedicate a staff person to working on these issues. OMNR support to Aboriginal organizations is helping government to meet obligations to First Nations outlined in Ontario’s Living Legacy. The federal government through the First Nation Forestry Program is also helping to fund the development of a forest strategy by Nishnawbe-Aski Nation. On the question of scale, the importance of working at the local level with First Nations was stressed because these communities are often organized by families who govern their land use based on family territories such as traplines. GCT#3 is now examining a watershed management approach which is closer to the family territory system and puts ecology first.

A second question raised was why Aboriginal PTOs have not been able to develop more collaborative relationships with each other in order to speak with a united voice on forestry issues common to their communities, especially on provincial wide policy and legislative

developments. There have been some recent developments that point to more collaboration among the Aboriginal leadership across treaty lines.

2. **NEED FOR CAPACITY BUILDING:** There have been a long list of failures in business development in First Nation communities, although there is a network of successful Aboriginal entrepreneurs involved in the forest sector. There is a need to share success stories about successful business operations among First Nation communities.

3. **NEED FOR TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY:** Trust must be build to establish better relationships and information must be shared in a full and open manner to improve decision-making. This lack of trust has made relationships difficult for all groups. It is also difficult to build trust when local communities feel there is a great rush to pave the way for development. Discussion about whether tighter rules and regulations were needed to govern relationships with First Nations and how current Ontario forest management legislation which covers Native Background Information Reports, Native Consultation and Native Values Mapping is sufficient to address this problem. There is need for both formal and informal rules and regulations, but trust cannot be enforced. Relationships take time. This relationship building is only complicated when there are development objectives in the background. It was suggested that universities and researchers might provide neutral ground for negotiating better relationships.

### **Project Partners' Meeting Report**

#### **Combining Scientific and First Nations Knowledge for the Management and Harvest of Traditional and Commercial Non-timber Forest Products**

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Dr. Fikret Burkes, Iain Davidson-Hunt, and Tracey Ruta took the opportunity during their Partners Meeting to describe their research project and preliminary results.

Tracy Ruta began by presenting her project; the text from this presentation is included below.

#### **Forest Patches and Non-timber Forest Products in the Boreal Forest: A Case Study from the Shoal Lake Watershed, Northwestern Ontario.**

##### **Purpose**

The purpose of this research is to examine the feasibility of utilizing the Ontario ecological land classification system to describe the flora of birch (*Betula papyrifera*) forest patches and to examine growth and bark values of birch across ecosites.

Birch forest patches are the focus of this research as they are culturally important to the First Nation people of the Shoal Lake watershed located in Northwestern Ontario. As well, birch trees and associated flora may be a potential source of economically valuable non-timber forest products (NTFPs).



## Objectives

1. To describe the flora of the culturally important birch forest patches found in the Shoal Lake watershed, and to compare the floral composition and abundance across ecosites (site types).
2. To assess birch growth and bark quality across ecosites (site types) in the Shoal Lake watershed.
3. To identify the commercial potential of the flora associated with birch forest patches identified in consultation with the people of the Shoal Lake watershed.

## Methods

### A) Site Information and Selection

Study sites are located in northwestern Ontario, within the Shoal Lake Watershed. Ecosites are site types defined by abiotic factors (soil depth and texture, nutrient regime, moisture regime, and hydrology) as well as biotic factors (plant community structure and composition) (Racey et al. 1996). The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) uses ecosites as mapable landscape units for Ontario's Forest Ecosystem Classification System to describe the forest land base and for forest management planning purposes.

Three different forested ecosites were chosen from the OMNR's 1999 Forest Resource Inventory (FRI) data for the Shoal Lake Watershed for the purposes of this study. Ecosites 12, 19, and 29 were chosen on the basis that each ecosite had a different soil type and moisture regime than the other 2 ecosites according to Terrestrial and Wetland Ecosites of Northwestern Ontario NWST Field Guide FG-02 (Racey et al. 1996).

**Ecosite 12** is Black Spruce – Jack Pine: Very Shallow Soil.

**Ecosite 19** is Hardwood – Fir – Spruce Mixedwood: Fresh, Sandy-Coarse Loamy Soil.

**Ecosite 29** is Hardwood – Fir – Spruce Mixedwood: Fresh, Fine Loamy-Clayey Soil.

Selection of sites within the ecosites was based on presence of birch (*Betula papyrifera*) (birch working group according to OMNR's 1999 FRI data) in a mature stand ( $\geq 60$  years) of similar stand origin (natural disturbance i.e. fire).

### B) Ecosite Sampling

Sampling of trees and associated flora was done using a combination of the Ontario Forest Growth and Yield (G & Y) plot design (Hayden et al. 1995) as well as the Ontario Forest Ecosystem Classification (FEC) plot design (Harris et al. 1999). Both designs are currently in use in Ontario.

A transect was placed within the site using a random azimuth as a starting point. Three 400m<sup>2</sup> circular G & Y plots were placed at random distances along the transect in each site. In each 400 m<sup>2</sup> circular G & Y plot information about trees was recorded according to

Describing Ontario's Ecosystems: Data Collection Standards for Ecological Land Classification (Harris et al. 1999).

Measurements in the G & Y plots:

- kind of species/tree and snag
- diameter at breast height/tree and snag
- height and age of sample trees (i.e. tree with largest dbh in order to check stand age)
- percent cover of each tree species

Within each 400 m<sup>2</sup> circular G & Y plot, a 10 x 10 m square FEC plot was placed. In each 10 x 10 m square FEC plot, information about herbaceous plant species, shrubs, tree seedlings and saplings as well as downed woody debris was gathered according to Describing Ontario's Ecosystems: Data Collection Standards for Ecological Land Classification (Harris et al. 1999).

Measurements in the FEC plots:

- kind of species and percent cover/species in layer 1 (dominant trees > 10 m), layer 2 (subdominant trees > 10 m), layer 3 (tall shrubs and saplings 2-10 m), layer 4 (low shrubs and regeneration 0.5-2 m), layer 5 (dwarf shrubs and seedlings 0-0.5 m) layer 6 (herbaceous plants: forbs and graminoids – any height), and layer 7 (mosses and lichens) (note: mosses and lichens not identified to species).
- kind of species (if identifiable) and decay class of downed coarse woody debris (stumps and logs)
- soil sample

**C) Birch Bark Sampling**

Birch bark was sampled as it is a raw material for use in non-timber forest products (Turner 1998, Marles et al. 2000), particularly birch bark baskets in regards to use by the Shoal Lake First Nation people. Birch bark samples were examined in order to detect if any differences in bark thickness or lenticel (pores in the outer bark) length existed across ecosites.

A 15 x 15 cm sample of birch bark was cut from a sample tree (i.e. the tree closest to the plot center) at each plot. Bark thickness and length of lenticels were measured and averaged for each sample. These measures were developed in the field. Their basis lies in birch bark characteristics required for NTFP use such as basket-making and other artwork.

**D) Commercial Uses of Flora**

A review of the literature on the plant species identified in the birch forest patches will be conducted in order to determine existing commercial uses of those plant species. Also, information may be derived from informal discussions with experts who are knowledgeable about NTFPs and their commercial uses.

## **Findings from Field Season 2000**

### **A) Preamble**

The findings are compiled from data collected during the summer field season of 2000. Six study sites in the Shoal Lake watershed representing three different ecosites containing birch (3 plots x 6 sites = 18 plots) have been sampled according to the methods described above. The data collected is being used to determine if any notable differences in birch tree growth, birch bark quality, and percent cover of associated flora exist across ecosites. The purpose of this is to determine if ecosites are useful units by which to measure non-timber forest product composition and abundance.

At this point, mean percent cover per species per ecosite is being used for preliminary comparison of plant species abundance among ecosites. In future analysis, it will be determined whether the differences are statistically significant.

### **B) Ecosite Vegetation**

Plant species were identified and a list of all species present or absent in each ecosite was compiled to provide an overall view of floristic composition. There was a total of 105 plant species found (not including mosses and lichens) with 67 species in ecosite 12, 63 in ecosite 19, and 56 in ecosite 29.

Mean percent cover of each plant species in each vegetation layer per ecosite gives valuable information about plant species abundance and how it differs across ecosites. For example, looking at low shrubs and herbs, bearberry was only found in ecosite 12, dewberry or dwarf raspberry was consistently found with the highest percent cover in ecosite 19, and wild sarsaparilla had the highest percent cover in ecosite 29. If abundance of certain NTFPs are consistently found to be higher in a specific ecosite, or only occur in a specific ecosite (which is a mapable landscape unit) then such information could be useful in determining management needs for non-timber forest products.

### **C) Birch**

The type of birch growth in each ecosite is partially described by the number of birch trees and snags as well as the size of trees and snags. There was no great difference in number of birch trees across ecosites; however, ecosites 19 and 29 have birch of a considerably larger size. Information such as this could prove useful if birch were to be harvested as an NTFP.

Mean percent cover of birch in each vegetation layer adds to this information by describing the vegetation structure for birch in each ecosite. For example, the structure in ecosite 12 appears to be at a stage where most of the birch is in the subdominant tree or sapling layers. The structure in ecosites 19 and 29 appears to be at a later stage with birch making up a good portion of the dominant tree layer. This is may be due to differing soil and moisture conditions.

Birch bark thickness, lenticel length, and number of lenticels was the information gathered to indicate whether birch bark characteristics change from ecosite to ecosite. Differences in bark quality across ecosites were small; however, it is not known at this point if any differences are statistically significant.

#### **D) Commercial Use of Flora**

Research has begun into the commercial uses of the plant species identified over the summer field season. This portion of the research has been undertaken to give some indication of the current commercial usefulness of the plant species, taken from published, accessible information.

#### **Summary of Discussion:**

Prepared by Iain Davidson-Hunt

We had a number of objectives for this workshop, which I think that we accomplished. I think that it is important that people from Iskatewizaagegan Independent First Nation #39 represented themselves at this meeting and considered whether participation in the network is of interest. Of course over the long term this would mean defining and following up with research projects, which directly respond to the interests of your people. People from the network were impressed with the level of interest shown by IIFN people through the numbers who showed up for the workshop and the active participation of attendees.

I think it is also important that people from IIFN see how we represent the information, which emerges, from our research project. This allows us to receive feedback and modify the information before we disseminate, or share, too widely. I think we still have some work to do on this topic but we can consider it on going. One way in which the information can become richer is to produce a multimedia product which showcases the videos we recorded with the elders, photos and written text. It will be possible for us to produce a demonstration of this type. This is one reason that we have gave a copy of photos, videos and audios to be held by the Shoal Lake Resource Institute in case there is interest in obtaining further funding to produce such materials. If there is support from the Band Council, I think members of the Shoal Lake Resource Institute would have the potential to obtain funding to produce such materials.

In year 1 of the project we have focused more on recording information. In year 2, while we will continue to record information, we will also start to produce outputs as we discussed at the Winnipeg workshop. The main materials we have thought of producing were the posters of plants with Ojibway, English and scientific names as well as the demonstration of the multimedia cd-rom. This will be our main focus for producing materials for the community. If people have other ideas we should continue to discuss this topic.

Realizing that people were interested in considering how to honour the knowledge of the Elders within a school setting we have also submitted a follow-up proposal to the SFMN to consider this question. While we have received a letter of support from the school, a letter of support from the Band Council would make a stronger proposal. We would encourage the Band Council to prepare such a letter that we allow us to consider how to honour the knowledge of the Elders in a

school setting through this research project. Ed Mandamin and Phyllis Jack should continue to follow-up on this request.

At this meeting I think that the Elders raised a number of research themes.

Walter Redsky, at the Monday morning meeting with other First Nations, raised three topics:

1. Walter mentioned that as we were out looking for plants he noticed that many plants that he used to find have become more difficult to find. For instance, elm trees. He asked that we consider why certain plants are disappearing.
2. Walter also mentioned that more emphasis should be given to the connection between the health of the forest, waters (i.e. integrated watershed) and the health of the people. In particular, he mentioned a concern with the level of contaminants, which may currently be found in "bush" foods and fish.
3. Walter also mentioned that the underwater springs, which feed Shoal Lake, have silted up due to the mining activity of the last century. One question he had was whether it would be possible to de-silt these springs.

Our current research project can start to contribute some knowledge about question #1 as it falls within the scope of the research project. However, we are just making a start and this would require a longer effort than our small project.

Question #2 and #3 would require starting up a new research project and involving people who would have more to contribute to these questions.

Likewise, Ed Mandamin's presentation reflected four concerns, from what I understood. They were:

1. Research projects need to be established and undertaken in cooperation with First Nations. First Nations need to begin to define their own research agendas and search out their own research partnerships.
2. Sustainable Forestry should include a holistic vision and consider the relationship between the health of the people and that of the forest.
3. Capacity-building: First Nation communities need to receive the training necessary to participate in forest management and research. Support should also be given to First Nation management institutions such as the Shoal Lake Resource Institute. Such institutions could then take on the responsibility for managing local resources.
4. The incorporation of Elders into all of these activities should be an important priority.

A theme that was mentioned by a number of people over the course of the workshop is that there should be a consideration of history in the research and this should be taught to the children.

While I do not think it is possible for us to begin recording the history of Iskatewizaagegan people, I do think we can bring a more historical perspective to our current research. Historical themes, which I would like to record during next summer's research, is that of blueberry harvesting and birch bark harvesting. The best way to do this would be for the Elders to think about the history of these activities and what they would like to teach so that we, and school children, can understand these activities. Given our budget and number of researchers I think we will have to restrict the history that we collect in some manner. This is my suggestion.

I would like to reiterate what Fikret Berkes said at the workshop: it has been an honour to participate in this research team and I am very proud of the work we have managed to accomplish in a short time on a restricted budget.

As most of you know, I am now off to Mexico for some research during March, April, May and part of June. Tracy Ruta will start up the research project in the spring and continue with some of the plot work. Fikret Berkes and John Spence will provide support from the University of Manitoba. I will then start my work in the community in July doing some plots and interviews with Elders.

I would like to say again that I think there is a lot of interest from both the research community, funding agencies and the Elders who have participated in the project. In the short term, it would be great if we could get more people working on ways, which the knowledge of the Elders could be shared within the school curriculum. We have stated our interest in this project and prepared a proposal that has been sent to the funders. We wait to see if there is a corresponding interest from the Band Council. Ed Mandamin has worked hard on these projects and we feel would do a good job on leading this project. However, he will not be able to do it without the support of Band Councilors interested in this work.

Bit by bit we will find ways which honour the deep and rich knowledge held by Iskatewizaagegan Elders. This is my dream and my vision and I am glad with what we have accomplished to this point working with the Band Council, Elders and the Shoal Lake Resources Institute. Given more support, I believe it will continue to grow for the benefit of Iskatewizaagegan people.

## Appendix 1: Agenda

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# ***RESEARCH ISSUES, STRATEGIES, PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT IN NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO AND BEYOND***

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**February 24-26, 2001, Airline Travelodge Hotel, Thunder Bay, Ontario  
Sponsored by the Sustainable Forest Management Network**

### **SATURDAY, 24 FEBRUARY**

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|--------------|--|
| 8:30–9:30 am | Pipe Ceremony  |
| 9:30-10:00   | Welcome, introductions, purpose, rapporteurs (Terry Veeman, Cliff Hickey)  |
| 10:00–10:30  | <b>Coffee break</b>  |
| 10:30–11:00  | Sustainable Forest Management in Northwestern Ontario: The Context (Peggy Smith)   |
| 11:00–12:15  | Sustainable Forest Management Network Projects in Northwestern Ontario (Fikret Berkes & Shashi Kant)   |
| 12:15–1:15   | Lunch  |
| 1:15–2:15 pm | Panel: Sustainable Forest Management Network Aboriginal and Industrial Partners from other provinces (Dave Natcher, SFM Network researcher, University of Alberta; Jim Webb, Little Red River and Tall Cree Nations; Mike Walton, Al-Pac; Morris Monias, Chief, Heart Lake First Nation) |
| 2:15–2:45    | Sustainable Forest Management in Northwestern Ontario: First Nation Perspectives (Ed Mandamin, Shoal Lake Resources Institute)   |
| 2:45–3:15:   | Sustainable Forest Management in Northwestern Ontario: Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Perspectives (Charlie Lauer, Regional Director)   |
| 3:15–3:45    | <b>Coffee Break</b>  |
| 3:45–4:15    | Sustainable Forest Management in Northwestern Ontario: Industry Perspectives (Margaret Thomson, consultant on First Nation relationships with Weyerhaeuser & Bowater)  |

- 4:15–4:45 Sustainable Forest Management in Northwestern Ontario: Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations Perspectives (Bruce Petersen, Environment North, on behalf of Tim Gray, Partnership for Public Lands)
- 4:45–5:15 Summary of Perspectives, Issues Identified (Rapporteurs: Todd Lewis, Lakehead University forestry student; Robert Craftchick, Lakehead U forestry student; Rike Burkhardt, KBM Forestry Consultants; and Julian Holenstein, Environment North)

**SATURDAY EVENING:** Dinner at Old Fort William

**SUNDAY, 25 FEBRUARY:**

- 9:30-10:30 Breakout Sessions: Group 1—Aboriginal & Treaty Rights; Group 2—Integrating Aboriginal Values, Knowledge and Land use; Group 3—Capacity and Economic Development; Group 4—Certification and Criteria and Indicators
- 10:30–11:00 **Coffee Break**
- 11:00–11:30 Wrap-up of Breakout Sessions

END OF COMPREHENSIVE WORKSHOP

**AFTERNOON, 25 FEBRUARY**

**NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO PROJECTS PARTNERS MEETING**

- 1:00–2:30 Partners Meetings for Kant and Berkes projects
- 3:00-3:30 **Coffee Break**
- 3:30–5:00 Partners Meetings for Kant and Berkes projects

**MONDAY, 26 FEBRUARY**

- 9:00–12:00 Open dialogue among Aboriginal community representatives, university researchers and SFM Network personnel



## Appendix 2: List of Registrants

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