



December 2024

ROBSON AND NORTH THOMPSON FORESTRY COALITION (RNTFC)



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Introduction

The vision for this group originated from an April 2024 field tour of the Robson and North Thompson region to identify opportunities to support local manufacturers and the Specialty Forest Products sector. This tour was organized in response to Simpcw First Nation representatives' concerns around the economic sustainability of the region's forestry sector, raised in conversations with BC Timber Sales (BCTS) and Ministry of Forests (MOF) value-added programs and initiatives. Discussions on this tour identified the need for all players in the area to collaborate and create a framework that better supports a robust local forestry sector including supporting access to volume for small manufacturers.

The Robson and North Thompson Forestry Coalition is comprised of a broad and inclusive group of members and stakeholders who are vital to the success of our mission. These members include:

- **Forest Products Manufacturers:** Businesses dedicated to processing wood and creating value-added products within the Robson and North Thompson region.
- **Forest Tenure Owners:** Individuals and organizations holding rights to manage and harvest forest lands, contributing to the region's resource base.
- **First Nations:** Indigenous communities with a deep connection to the land and a critical role in sustainable forest management and economic development.
- **Community Forests:** Locally managed forests that support community-driven resource utilization and conservation efforts.
- **Woodlot Owners:** Small-scale forest managers who contribute to the diversity and sustainability of the region's forestry sector.
- **Local Government:** Municipal and regional authorities who support local economic development and community well-being.

Together, these members form the backbone of the Robson and North Thompson Forestry Coalition (RNTFC), working collaboratively to build a thriving, competitive, and sustainable specialty forest products manufacturing sector that benefits the entire region.

Although provincial government staff are not members, the RNTFC is well supported by the Ministry of Forests (Forest Sector Transformation Division, BC Timber Sales (BCTS) Provincial Operations, and BCTS Kamloops and Prince George Business Areas).

Definitions

FOUNDATION STATEMENTS

Mission Statement: This statement describes the overall purpose of the organization. It sets the boundaries of the organization's activities and is the starting point for developing a strategic vision.

Purposes: These provide more specific detail on the work of RNTFC.

Vision: This statement describes an ideal future, and answers the question: What impact do we want to have on society?

Guiding Principles: We include a set of principles that provide a framework to guide our decision-making and actions.

Value Statements: These reflect the core ideology of RNTFC and answer the question: How do we carry out our mission?

AREAS OF FOCUS, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Focus Areas: These are the priority headings, or areas of emphasis, under which the strategic goals and objectives of the Association are organized.

Goals: Each focus area has a related goal. It is in essence the vision statement for the focus area.

Objectives: These are the desired result of each goal and are stated as measurable outcomes.

Foundation Statements

VISION

The RNTFC represents the Robson and North Thompson region, enhancing local community and citizen benefits from forestry activities in the region. Thriving economy, people, communities and environment.

MISSION

To enable and support local processing of harvested logs within the region, fostering local capacity building, community employment, and sustainable development through cooperation and partnerships amongst our members. The RNTFC is dedicated to supporting and promoting small and medium value-added specialty forest products producers in the Robson and North Thompson region.

PURPOSES

The purposes of the RNTFC are to:

- Prioritize local manufacturing and high value use of regional forest fibre resources within the Robson and North Thompson region, benefiting regional manufacturers and communities.
- Promote capacity building and employment opportunities in the local forest products manufacturing sector.
- Facilitate the exchange of fibre and resources among members, optimizing utilization and adding value.
- Foster innovation within a diverse forest products sector, encouraging sustainable use practices, and new business opportunities.
- Align with the Simpcw directive to prioritize long-term sustainability and well-being of both people and forests.
- Attract investment in the locale by providing access to stable fibre supply and promoting sustainable fibre management practices that support long-term growth and economic stability.
- Foster collaboration among members regarding the purposes outlined above.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

To achieve our vision, RNTFC promotes:

- **Local Manufacturing:** We are committed to supporting local manufacturing of logs harvested in the Robson and North Thompson region, supporting local industry and jobs.
- **Collaboration:** We believe in fostering strong partnerships among members and stakeholders to achieve mutual benefits and drive regional growth.
- **Sustainability:** Our actions are guided by a commitment to sustainable practices that protect the environment and support long-term community well-being.

- **Inclusivity:** We actively engage diverse voices in our initiatives and decision-making processes.

VALUE STATEMENTS

The values that guide the RNTFC are:

- **Thoughtful decisions:** We make decisions that honour the diverse approaches, opinions, and values of our members, recognizing the importance of each affiliation within our collective.
- **Accountability:** We are accountable to our members and the broader community, ensuring that our actions consistently align with our mission and guiding principles.
- **Dedication to improvement and prosperity:** We are dedicated to the continuous development of our members and the value-added sector, driving long-term prosperity for all involved.
- **Commitment to our local communities:** We ensure that our actions contribute to the well-being and sustainability of the regions we serve, fostering thriving and healthy communities.
- **Focus on strong relationships:** Between the Simpcw Nation, local governments, and stakeholders, together forming a coalition that reflects the unique needs and values of the region.

RNTFC Strategic Plan

The priorities for RNTFPA are categorized into the following Areas of Focus:

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Area of Focus	Goal	Objectives

