

First Nations and Forestry: New Opportunities



Agenda



- ❑ History - where we were
- ❑ Current Status – where we are now
- ❑ Future – where are we going



Forestry Agreements

Where were we?



Forestry agreements :

- ❑ Prior to 2002, no concerted efforts to involve First Nations in Forest Sector
- ❑ Forest Act changed in 2002 to direct award forest tenure
- ❑ Forestry Agreements:
 - Are completely voluntary
 - Outline an agreed to consultation process
 - Revenue Sharing and Forest Tenure provided
- ❑ In 2005, the New Relationship and Transformative Change Accord created the vision for 'closing the gap'

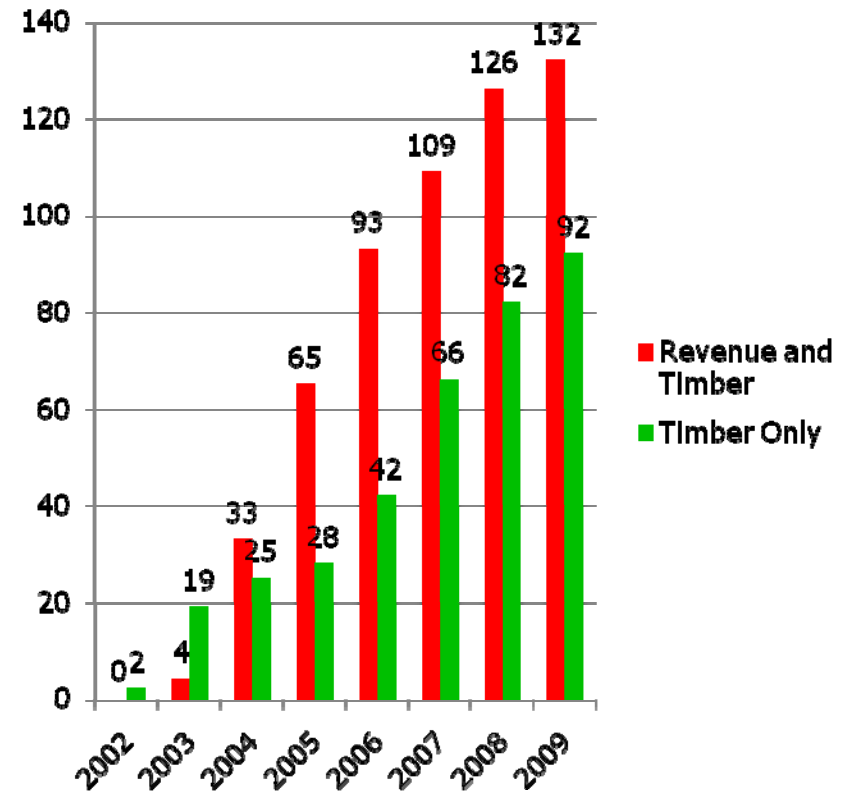


Forestry Agreements – Where are we now?



Forestry agreements :

- 139 First Nations participating in 132 FRAs/FROs
 - 20.1 million m³
 - \$243 million
- 80 First Nations participating in 92 direct award tenure agreements
 - 24.7 million m³
- 168 First Nations participating
- 4 of 5 First Nations involved



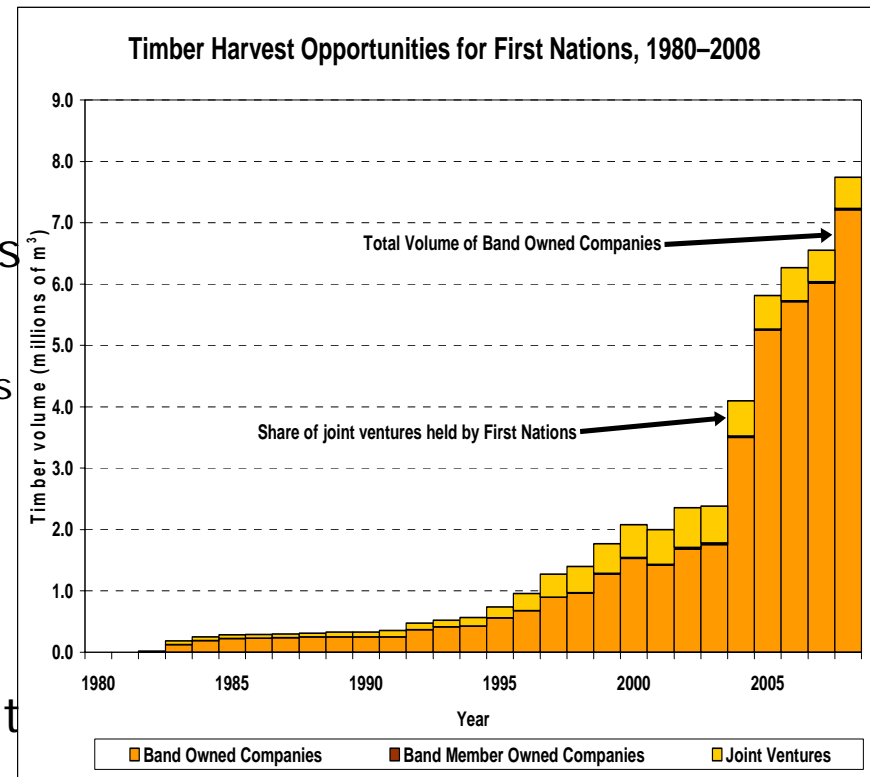
Forestry Agreements

Timber Component Status



Forest tenures:

- ❑ 260 tenures – about 8 M³/yr
- ❑ About 11.8% of provincial AAC is now in control of First Nations
 - 6.3% of AAC in competitive tenures
 - 5.5% of AAC in direct award tenures
- ❑ Less than 25% of tenured volume has been harvested
- ❑ About 54% are under direct management control
- ❑ About 1,000 full time equivalent positions have been created
- ❑ Tenure holders with direct management control have invested about \$30 million



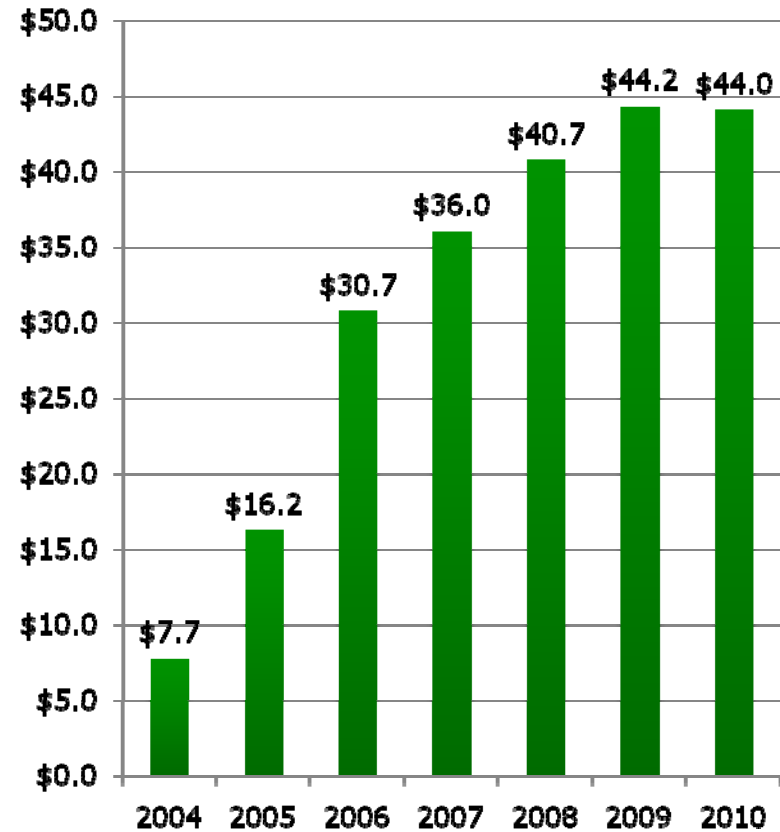
Forestry Agreements

Revenue Sharing Component Status



Revenue Sharing:

- In 2003 \$50 M per year available to First Nations, if they choose to enter into a forestry agreement
- End of March, \$44.0 million committed in agreements.
- Over the life of approved Forestry Agreements, about \$243 million will be provided.
- Stumpage in the province has declined from \$1.3 billion to about \$180 million.



Future Direction

Where are we going??



- ❑ Five recommendations from the Working Roundtable on Forestry with active work
- ❑ Two priority recommendations:
 - ❑ Recommendation #25 - *"Create area based forest tenures and create legislation for a First nations tenure"*.
 - ❑ Expand the term of volume based tenures
 - ❑ Recommendation #26 – *"Revenue sharing proportional to the value of timber harvested in traditional territories."*
- ❑ Two Agreements - Tenure will be delivered in separate interim measures agreement from revenue and consultation.
- ❑ Strategic Engagement Agreements led by ILMB will create one interagency consultation process and support First Nation governance
- ❑ Reconciliation Agreements led by MARR are being negotiated – first 2 have provided carbon offsets



Future Direction

Where are we going??



- ❑ Provide work for First Nations contractors as part of FFT – about \$8 M per year.
- ❑ Grow the successful First Nation Fire Suppression unit crew workforce
 - First nations make up 35% of WMB unit crews – 200 seasonal employees
 - 2 of 5 new unit crews are First Nation
- ❑ Carry out fuel management with FNESS and the First Nations MPB Fuel Management Working Group.
 - 95 of 103 affected MPB communities contacted
 - 30 communities pursuing funding for fuel management planning and treatments
- ❑ Support where we can marketing initiatives
- ❑ Build partnerships with business and educational institutions





Looking to the Future

- ❑ BC is first jurisdiction in Canada to share forest revenue
- ❑ First real program in BC to get First Nations into the forest sector
- ❑ Recognition that First Nations Tenure opportunities need to be improve
- ❑ Increasing FN participation in the forest sector will improve land use certainty, improve stability, and close the socio-economic gap.

"After climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb"
Nelson Mandela



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Thank You.