

# Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

January 30th, 2002

## Forest Dependent Business

### Sub Committee Meeting - Minutes

Coast Hotel

Recording Secretary: Pam Dowding

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

7:08pm: Vice Chairperson of the Community Advisory Group (CAG) opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees. Brief history of the Forest Dependent sub-committee meetings so far was given. It was noted that meetings had taken place on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2001, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2002. It was also noted that the Community Advisory Group had held a successful open house on January 23<sup>rd</sup> with over sixty forest dependent businesses in attendance. It was noted that a lot of people were seen to be apprehensive about the whole process and were afraid to really speak up. Copies of the minutes of the past three meetings were available. It was noted that CAG's wishes and suggestions for a new policy concerning the purchase of wood from Weyerhaeuser included the following:

Policy must be made public

Prices of logs to be available at time of enquiry

Individual logs for specialty buyers – prices within 24 hours or next business day

Stillwater should have a person on site to deal with inquiries

Buyer's only conditions- should be able to pay

When deal is made, logs to be available for pick-up

All logs not to be re-sold

Increase size of Stillwater Dry Land Sort to have separate area for local business

#### **Introductions**

Facilitator led the group through introductions and new comers welcomed to the meeting.

Brief overview of CAG's involvement with the Pilot Project, Forest Stewardship Plan and the Sustainable Forest Management Plan and CSA certification was give by Doug McCormick. It was noted that the FSP is in the final draft stage and will be ready to go to the public for review in about two week's time.

### **Fibre supply to small business**

It was noted that the Pilot Project states that Weyerhaeuser will "*make it a priority to develop a system which ensures a sustainable log supply from Stillwater Timberland's production of appropriate grade timber is available, in a timely manner, at fair market price, for purchase by local small business.*" The CSA - SFM Plan states that *Stillwater Timberlands will make available 20,000 cubic metres of logs for local sale.* It was noted that the amount is set for the first year at 20,000 cubic meters, and the amount will be reviewed annually. Forecast of amount sold will depend on local demand.

### **Procedure and Policy**

It was noted that according to the Stillwater Pilot Project regulation,

new procedures and policy need to be written. Goal - to make it easier for local small businesses to get the logs they need for their businesses.

It was noted that Keith Shillito would be the local person to contact regarding log sales for local small business.

Suggestions and ideas were made by small businesses present

Ideas discussed-

Separate area at dry land sort for locals

Wood could be put aside for locals in a separate area of the dry land sort

Suggestion that a certain time once a week could be used for small business log buying

Arrangements could be made to meet Keith Shillito at the sort to buy wood

Businesses could let Weyerhaeuser know in advance what their requirements are

Prices should not change drastically at the time of purchase

Buyers should expect to pay more for specialty grades

Weyerhaeuser could advertise in advance what type of timber is being logged from Block I.

### **Solving Problems**

It was noted that the purpose of the meeting was to solve problems, and not to dwell on problems that may have happened in the past. Weyerhaeuser noted that different types of timber were available at different times of year and high grade only at certain times. Sometimes timber is already sold by the time it gets to the sort, and is not available for sale. It was also noted that there was a commitment to develop a system that works, but not at a cost to Weyerhaeuser. It was noted that Weyerhaeuser does not wish to hold inventory, due to lack of space, and also noted that there is the threat of bugs attacking the stored wood. It was noted that it was not a reasonable request to ask Weyerhaeuser to store wood for customers at the dry land sort. The cost of holding a log in the sort would be an issue. It was noted that there had been problems of business trying to give quotes on orders when information on log prices and availability was not easy to find. It was noted that developing good business relationships with Weyerhaeuser was a key to doing business and getting the wood that is needed.

### **Availability of Cedar**

Local contractor noted that cedar supply was becoming less and less, and that if new businesses were starting out and relying on cedar, they would have a difficult time.

### **Draft of Policy**

After discussions and brainstorming, a draft of Weyerhaeuser's new policy was outlined including the following points:

If we get a request for purchase – Can we supply? What is the price? Response within twenty – four hours.

Advertise in local paper to advise public that new policy exists for local log sales and new contact information

What Weyerhaeuser needs to know: What do you need? When? How much?

Answers and comments to CAG questions regarding policy:

Policy posted for public to review: Yes

Price set at time of enquiry on standard run? Yes within twenty-four hours

Individual log purchases price stated within twenty-four hours or next business day? Yes

The division will have a person that the community can make inquiries with and is responsible for a timely response? Yes

Weyerhaeuser will fill local orders at the earliest opportunity? Yes

Weyerhaeuser will write up a sales agreement including price within twenty-four hours? Yes

Purchaser will remove product in a timely manner? Yes, when payment received, customer would have to pick up purchase within twenty four hours

Quality – buyer beware

Feedback system – who to contact to communicate how system is working – Doug McCormick, Rod Tysdal or Chair of Community Advisory Group

### **Meeting of Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> 2002**

It was noted that the public meeting that was held on January 23<sup>rd</sup> was successful, and over sixty forest dependent business owners attended to give input and find out what was working and how things could be changed and improved. It was suggested that once creative solutions are found and the new system is put in place, word will spread around the local business community. It was noted that the value developed by CAG was a very important one to the community. Policy could be reviewed annually when indicators are discussed.

### **General discussion**

Member questioned whether there were less jobs in the forest these days, and Weyerhaeuser noted that there were more people working in the forest these days, and that the AAC for the area had gone up, creating even more jobs than before.

Member noted that it appeared that wood workers and cabinet makers needed lumber, not raw logs. It was suggested that more mills to process the raw logs would be useful, since value added producers could then buy lumber they needed, and not have to process whole logs.

It was noted that if the local businesses knew when certain species and grades were coming, they could plan to buy.

It should be a case of "buyer beware" if the odd log or boom is not up to standard, but maybe Weyerhaeuser will keep in mind next time the customer calls.

Letting Weyerhaeuser know what they need was an important point since certain businesses need specialty grade wood.

It was noted that small customers should be treated as well as the larger customers, who seemed to get preferred treatment in the past.

Building a good relationship with Weyerhaeuser – very important.

It was noted that wood from other areas other than Block 1 could become available if required.

Policy will be drafted and brought to CAG at next meeting (Feb 13<sup>th</sup>)

**Meeting adjourned 9:06pm**

<b>Stillwater Timberlands Advisory Group</b>		
<b>Forest Dependent Business Sub Committee Meeting</b>		
<b>January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2002</b>		
<b>Attendance</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Member Seat</b>
<b>Ken Jackson - Vice-Chair</b>	Primary	Recreation
<b>Kathleen O'Neil</b>	Primary	Education/Training
<b>Joanne Cameron-Nordell</b> <b>(left early)</b>	Primary	Local Business
<b>Rory Maitland</b>	Primary	Contractors
<b>Paul Holbrook</b>	Alternate	Forest Dependent

		Business
<b>Doug McCormick</b>	Weyerhaeuser	
<b>Rod Tysdal</b>	Weyerhaeuser	
<b>Walt Cowlard</b>	Weyerhaeuser	
<b>Taylor Holbrook</b>		Guest
<b>Pat Salisbury</b>		Guest
<b>Alan Cole</b>		Guest
<b>Cathy Bartfai</b>	Facilitator	
<b>Pam Dowding</b>	Secretary	