



AGENDA

8:30 am – 3:30 pm Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Location:

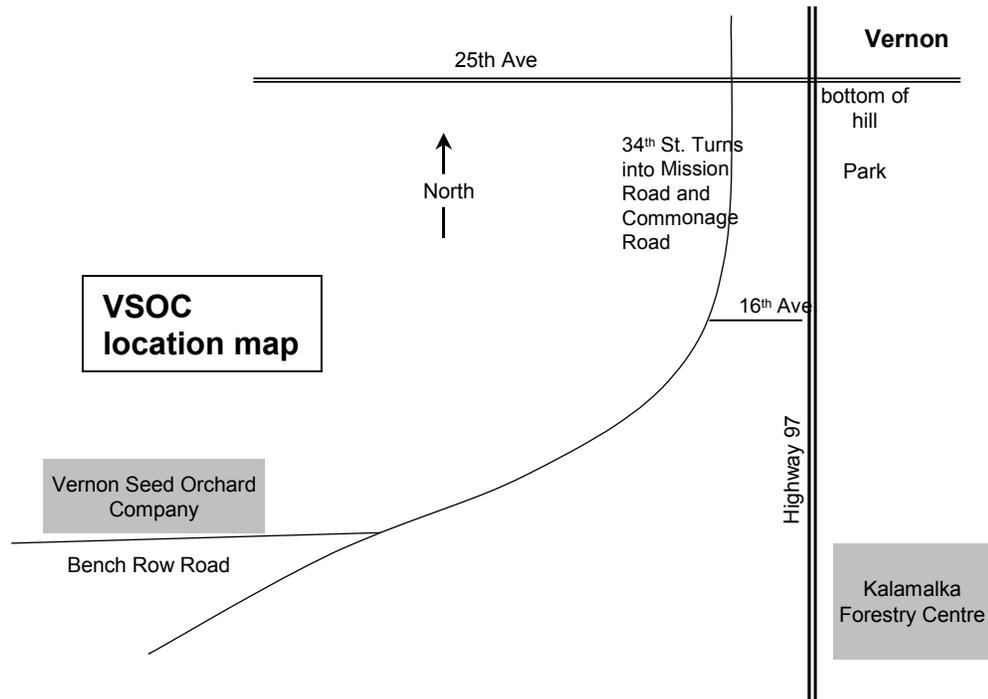
Vernon Seed Orchard Company office,
6555 Bench Row Road (location map below)
Vernon, BC (VSOC tel. 1-250-542-0833) (Jack's cell 250-715-6285)

Council members are invited to attend the VSOC 20th anniversary celebration on the evening of September 16th at the VSOC site. At this time, Dale Draper will be recognized for his contributions as past FGC Chair.

Time	Length (min.)	#	Item	Presenter
8:00			Coffee available prior to the meeting	
8:30	10	1	Approval of minutes from June 11, 2008	
8:40	15	2	Old business and action items from June 13, 2008 - CTAC and ITAC chairs: species committees and reporting to FGC - Letter to Jim Snetsinger regarding broadleaves	Annette / Jack for Mike C. Alvin / Jack
8:55	15	3	SelectSeed Board membership	Jack
9:10	25	4	2007/08 FGC Annual Report	Jack
9:35	15	5	Growing healthy, productive forests	Brian
9:50	30	6	Presentation on climate-based seed transfer	Dr. Greg O'Neill
10:20	20		Break	
10:40	45	7	Report of the Genecology and Seed Transfer Review Committee	Jack (and other committee members)
11:25	20	8	Proposed seed transfer changes	Lee Charleson
11:45	15	9	Proposals for the use of excess funds from the Genetic Conservation Subprogram	Keith / Alvin
12:00	45		Lunch (provided)	
12:45	60	10	Ministry and Industry orchard-seed production and use issues	Jack / Brian / Annette
1:45	25	11	FGC Strategic Plan update	Jack
2:10	10	12	Business planning for 2009/10	Jack / Keith
2:20	15	13	Presentation to the Forest Investment Council	Brian / Jack
2:35	20	14	FGC membership and Industry Co-Chair	all
2:55	25	15	New business	
3:20			Adjourn	

Next meetings – December 17, 2008, March 18, 2009

Attachments to the agenda (September 17, 2008)



Agenda item 2 – Old Business

1. CTAC/ITAC/Species Committee reporting to FGC:

At the June 13, 2008 meeting, Council received a final report on restructuring the Tree Breeding Subprogram. Council asked the CTAC and ITAC chairs (Annette and Mike Carlson) to discuss TAC meeting process and to bring recommendations to Council.

Agenda item 3 – SelectSeed Board membership

At the June, 2008 SelectSeed AGM, Henry Benskin and Bob Taylor were nominated for election to the SelectSeed Board. Henry has agreed to stand for election, but due to his commitments to the MFR would be unable to join the Board until April 1, 2008. I have not been able to contact Bob Taylor to date. Direction is needed on how to proceed.

Agenda item 4 – FGC 07/08 Annual Report and 08/09 Business Plan

An overview of the Annual report will be presented for FGC approval. The Annual Report is nearly ready for press, and will be completed following approval by Council

Attachments to the agenda (September 17, 2008)

The 2008/09 Business Plan is printed and will be distributed before the end of September.

Suggested resolution:

The Forest Genetics Council Annual Report for 2007/08 is hereby approved for publication and distribution.

Agenda Item 5 – Growing healthy, productive forests

The Minister of Forests, Pat Bell, is encouraging improvements in the process of “growing healthy and productive forests”. He is seeking input from the MFR in this regard. This item is intended to open discussion for ideas on how we can further contribute to this goal.

**Agenda item 6 – Presentation on climate-based seed transfer:
Greg O’Neill**

Greg will present concepts, rationales and some practical approaches to climate-based seed transfer. This important area is receiving increased attention, and will place demands on the FGC-led program. Greg is a research scientist with the MFR, based at the Kalamalka Forestry Centre in Vernon, and is leading the development of climate-based seed transfer systems.

**Agenda item 7 – Final report of the Genecology and Seed Transfer
Review Committee**

The Genecology and Seed Transfer Review Committee was set up by the FGC to review programs, business planning and delivery of genecology research and seed transfer policy. The committee has completed it’s work and a report was sent by email along with this agenda. This report was approved in principle by the review committee and is recommended to Council. It is understood by the review committee, however, that technical details in areas such as priority ranking or performance indicators still require work.

Agenda item 8 – Proposed seed transfer changes

Lee Charleson of the Tree Improvement Branch will overview the intent of proposed changes to the Chief Forester Standards for Seed Use, with respect to seed transfer. These proposed changes will be vetted through Species Committees and the CTAC and ITAC.

Attachments to the agenda (September 17, 2008)

Agenda item 9 – Proposals for the use of funds that will not be used in the Genetic Conservation subprogram

Roughly \$62,000 will not be used. Two proposals will be tabled:

1. Alvin: \$50,000 to deal with field sites that are caught up in the sale of private lands owned by Western Forest Products in the Jordan River area.
2. Mike Carlson: A \$10,000 project is proposed to do further work on lodgepole pine seed set. It would be led by Patrick von Aderkas of the University of Victoria

Agenda item 10 – Ministry and Industry orchard-seed production and use issues

This item will encompass several issues associated with orchard seed production and use, including:

- Jim Snetsinger has asked the FGC to review the following:
 - OTIP eligibility criteria and allocations to determine if this funding is inadvertently contributing to the Sx A seed oversupply situation. Also, what might FCG do to address the apparent Sx seed oversupply situation through a collaborative approach?
 - Pli seed supply and demand situation. This is a follow-up to the January 2007 meeting when the SelectSeed Board recommended, and FGC approved, no further expansion Pli orchards by SelectSeed. The MFR and VSOC are currently in the process of establishing three new Pli orchards. Recommendations are requested by January 2009. Context: VSOC requested review of access to FIA funds for establishing a PG Pli orchard in Quesnel.
- MFR to undertake an audit of the seed selection standard for the use of B seed over available A seed with a GW of greater than 4.
- Industry incentives to participate in orchard seed production and to optimize genetic worth in seedlots.

Agenda item 11 – Strategic Plan update

Council previously mandated the updating of its 5-year Strategic Plan. This process has not proceeded on the schedule initially proposed. Jack will outline where we are and discuss the primary elements of the plan.



Attachments to the agenda (September 17, 2008)

Agenda item 12 – Business planning for 2009/10

The FGC business planning cycle for next fiscal year begins this fall. Normally, species committees and TACs meet through the October, November period, to discuss technical issues and programs. This process will be outlined for discussion, and any issues identified.

Agenda item 13 – Presentation to the Forest Investment Council

A presentation to the Forest Investment Council is scheduled for October 9th. This has become an annual update at FIC's fall meeting, and is an opportunity to show how the FIA Forest Genetic Conservation and Management Program is progressing, and to advocate for a funding level in the coming year. Discussion is needed on what areas the presentation should focus on.

Agenda item 14 – FGC membership and Industry Co-Chair

John Elmslie's employment situation has changed and he can no longer represent industry as FGC Co-Chair under the current circumstances. Discussion is required on how to proceed.