

To: Honourable Michael de Jong
Minister of Forests

January 20, 2004

Re: Report of the Practices Advisory Council

The Forest and Range Practices Advisory Council (PAC) is pleased to provide you with its report. The report includes key recommendations on ways to improve the regulations and implementation of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*. The recommendations concerning the regulations were based on PAC's review of July 2003 draft regulations.

The recommendations are intended to assist you and inter-agency staff involved in finalizing the regulations and in the delivery of the new legislation. During its deliberations, PAC has been working closely with agency staff, and we understand that earlier draft PAC recommendations, which were the basis for this report, were considered as the regulations were being revised. In the interests of continued inter-agency cooperation, we are sharing our report to you with the Ministers of other resource agencies who are involved with forest and range practices. PAC would appreciate receiving a response from you regarding our recommendations. In keeping with our terms of reference, we request that our report, and your response, be posted on the PAC public website.

PAC consists of individuals with diverse perspectives who have collectively sought to provide broadly supported recommendations. PAC members accepted that providing a collectively supported report meant that not all individual views would prevail. PAC however believes that this report represents a balanced document which we hope the Minister will use to improve the *Forest and Range Practices Act* regulations, and their delivery.

Members of the Practices Advisory Council (PAC):

Duncan Barnett
Mark Haddock
Corinne Lonsdale
Brian McNaughton
Garry Merkel

Roy Nagel
Larry Pedersen (chair)
Kim Pollock
Ric Slaco
Deane Strongtharm

cc. Hon. Joyce Murray, Minister of Water, Land and Air Protection
Hon. Stan Hagel, Minister of Sustainable Resource Management
Hon. John van Dongen, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries