A Road Diverged
Roots of Forest Management in Western Canada
Fort Edmonton  1795
North Saskatchewan River
Hudson’s Bay Express Route
4,000 kilometres – 3 1/2 months – over 40 years

Hudson's Bay Express

Map showing the route from Hudson's Bay Express, including cities and locations such as Fort Assiniboine, Fort Edmonton, and Norway House.
Rupert's Land
1670

Fort Edmonton

H.B.C.

Hudson Bay

York Factory

Montreal
1722 English Broad Arrow
Crown Timber Reserves
Spirit of 1776
U.S. Declaration of Independence
Peace Arch
Vancouver
USA & Canada:

"Children of a Common Mother"
“Two roads diverged in a yellow wood”

The Road Less Traveled
Two roads diverged …

Robert Frost

British North America

Crown Forest Land 94%

United States

Private Forest Land 72%
Napoleonic Wars
1796 – 1815

Battle of Waterloo
1815

Re-opened the Baltic Sea for Timber
Crown Timber Act 1826

Timber deemed “not fit and proper” for the Royal Navy

• Lease of logging rights
• Highest bidder
• Lands remained property of the Crown
Dominion of Canada -- 1867

Crown forest lands belong to provinces

North West Territories became Dominion Lands

Dominion Lands
Fort Edmonton,
North-West Territories
Fires a persistent problem – but no organized protection
Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) -- Calgary 1883
Logging on Dominion Timber Berths
Water:
Key Element for Irrigation
Dominion Forestry Branch

1899

Elihu Stewart
First Dominion Forester
Tree-Planting on the Prairies
Protecting the Forests from Fire
Alberta – Saskatchewan – Manitoba Provinces in 1905

- Dominion Lands and Mines remained Federal to 1930
Northern Fire Rangers
Protection Access and Patrol on the Forest Reserves
Cabins and Ranger Stations
W.N. Millar – 1911-1914
Inspector of Forest Reserves for Alberta
Multiple Use -- 1910
313. Fishing near Banff.
“Reforestation ...

... has not been taken up actively

... work of protection given first consideration.”
the interest of the Crown in all Crown lands, mines, minerals and royalties derived therefrom within the Province … shall … belong to the Province … and shall be administered by the Province …
Alberta Forest Service
October 1, 1930

- Forests now on Alberta Provincial Crown Lands
Drought and Dust Storms

Glenbow Archives NA-1831-1
Depression Years – Hard Times
• “... during the depression years ... no money could be made available;
• and during the war years the necessary labour could not be secured.”

T.F. Blefgen c 1946.
Annual Report of Director of Forestry -- March 1946
Eric Huestis, Director of Forestry
1948 – 1963

Forestry – Agriculture
Forest Inventory
Forest Management
Fire Control
Fish & Wildlife
Land – clearing for Agriculture
1948

Green Area

Green Area – forests reserved from settlement

Yellow Area – settlement possible if land suitable
Challenge of management and regeneration:
420,000 km$^2$ or 162,000 mi$^2$
1949 Forests Act

Forest Management Agreements

• The government may enter into an agreement --- for the purpose of growing continuously and perpetually successive crops of forest products – adjusted to the sustained yield capacity of the lands
Industry Assumes Management Responsibility

- Inventory
- Management Plan
- Roads & bridges
- Mill
- Logging
- Regeneration
- Multiple use – public access
North Western Pulp & Power Ltd., Hinton

1954 Agreement

North Canadian Oils & St. Regis Paper Co. Ltd.
Reg Loomis & Des Crossley
Foresters -- Forest Management

Forging Partnerships – Collaboration & Adaptive Management
Portable Mills
Winter
Rough Lumber
Lumber, Railway Ties and Planer Mills
1965  Timber Quota System Requirements –
Increased Investments and Utilization
1992 – National Forest Strategy

Described Sustainable Forest Management
Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)

- Sustainable forest management is as much a journey as it is a destination.
- Provincial commitment
- We are on the trail.

Natural Disturbance Approaches
Public Participation
"Children of a Common Mother"
"Brethren Dwelling Together in Unity"