

## PROVIDING LAWS TO DELIVER FOREST LANDS VISION

Andrew Gage has raised the issue of the current laws governing the management of resources on forest lands being inconsistent with the needs of the current view BC must integrate resource management. Since the laws have been traditionally developed through a focus on a single industry or resource, conflicts occur when decision makers have to address multiple resource use. The recent shift in the organizational structure of the Ministries with an attempt to streamline process and address cumulative effects is a real life challenge for the bureaucracy. Jon O’Riordon reflects on the need to balance ecological integrity and human well-being and the challenges of the staff to do so using existing laws.

The *Healthy forests-Healthy communities* initiative is encouraging the development of a Provincial forest lands vision and modified Community visions. As identified by Andrew, if the laws are not designed or modified to provide the framework for delivery or monitoring of movement towards the vision, it will be difficult to get the future forest condition desired by communities. Government staff must operate on the basis of legislation, regulation and policy. As identified by Jon, it has become clear during the delivery on the recent re-organization objectives this is a challenge for staff.

The presence of a Charter suggested by Ken Zielke, Bryce Bancroft and Gordon Weetman would be a good base for the establishment of the revision or creation of supporting governance structures.

- [A Forest Lands Vision and Current Regulatory Structures](#)
- [How Well do Strategic and Operational Plans Balance Human Wellbeing and Ecological Integrity?](#)
- [A Forest Management Charter for BC](#)

### Challenge

**What mechanisms are needed to allow communities to demand Government ensure the governance instruments are consistent with delivery of the Provincial and Community visions?**