Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA)
RPF Study Session

February 25, 2017
Delegated Administrative Organizations

- Created to deliver specific programs or services.
- Usually an association with a focus on a theme or service area.
- A mandate or service responsibility is typically delegated through regulation.
- Accountability is described in a delegation regulation and the Societies Act.

DAOs include FRIAA and:

- Alberta Conservation Association
- Alberta Motor Vehicle Industry Council
- Alberta Used Oil Management Authority
- Alberta Recycling Management Association
- Beverage Container Management Board
- Alberta Professional Outfitter’s Association
- Petroleum Tank Management Association
- Alberta Boilers Safety Association
FRIAA Authority

- FRIAA has been delegated authority through the Forest Resource Improvement Regulation (Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act)
  - Section 17 of EPEA authorizes Minister to delegate any authority conferred by the Act (except authority to make regulations);
  - Section 37 of EPEA authorizes Lt. Gov in Council to make regulations respecting establishment of designation of delegated authority
  - Originally proclaimed September 1, 1997
  - Amended May 2000 to include Community Reforestation Program
  - Recent mandatory review resulted in a renewal until 2018.
FRIAA Authority

- Regulatory authority further defined through Forest Resources Improvement Regulation
  - Section 2 – establishes FRIAA as a DAO
  - Section 3 – outlines purposes of FRIAA
  - Section 4 – duties of FRIAA (submission of business plan and annual reports to Minister)
  - Section 5, 5.1 – authority to collect FRIAA dues (FRIP dues) and reforestation levy
Supporting regulatory authority through Timber Management Regulations.

- Section 80 – general rate of dues for coniferous timber (Schedule 3) includes FRIP dues
- Section 86 – general rate of dues for deciduous pulp (Schedule 5) includes FRIP dues
- Section 142.4 (4.1) – commercial timber permits pay reforestation levy to FRIAA
- Section 142.3 (2.4) – quota holders with AAC < 10,000 m3 per year may elect to pay reforestation levy to FRIAA
FRIAA Structure and Governance

- FRIAA is a not-for-profit association created under the Societies Act of Alberta.
- Members include 31 companies that harvest Crown timber in Alberta and that have paid FRIP dues at some point in time.
- An eight-member Board of Directors governs FRIAA:
  - Four directors elected by the membership at large (category A and B members)
  - One director elected by category B members
  - One director appointed from the public at large
  - One director appointed by the Minister
  - One director representing companies and individuals that pay reforestation levies.

(Category A members are those that harvest more than 107,000 m3/yr. Category B members are those that harvest less than 107,000 m3/yr)
FRIAA Structure and Governance

- Directors select roles and formal positions among the Board.
  - President
  - First Vice President
  - Second Vice President
  - Treasurer

- Directors also establish committees:
  - Fund Management Committee
  - Audit Committee
  - Advisory panels and tribunals as required.
Purpose of FRIAA

- Purpose of FRIAA is outlined in Section 3 of Forest Resources Improvement Regulation

- The purpose of the Association is to establish programs or initiatives to:
  - Improve the forest resources of Alberta
  - Improve the management of Alberta’s forest resources
  - Improve the sustained yield of Alberta’s forests
  - Promote improved integrated resource management
  - Reforest public land
What Does FRIAA Do?

FRIAA administers seven independent programs:

- Forest Resource Improvement Program
- Community Reforestation Program
- Wildfire Reclamation Program
- Mountain Pine Beetle Control Program
- Mountain Pine Beetle Rehabilitation Program
- FRIAA FireSmart Program
- Incidental Conifer Replacement Program (Completed)
- Caribou Landscape Restoration Program (New)
The Forest Resource Improvement Program (FRIP)

- Administration of FRIP delegated to FRIA in 1997.
- Stumpage is split into timber dues and FRIA dues, both which vary according to North American lumber markets.
- FRIA dues, also known as FRIP dues, are payable directly to FRIA and apply only to the FRIP program.
- FRIP dues are held in a single FRIP account and are available for eligible activities carried out under approved projects.
- Projects approved for funds enhance and manage forest resources at a level beyond legislated responsibilities.
The Forest Resource Improvement Program (FRIP)

- Timber Operators pay FRIAA dues if they harvest under the small operator rate ($0.50/m3) or pay general rate of dues for:
  - Coniferous Roundwood (Schedule 3)
  - Deciduous Pulpwood (Schedule 5)

- FRIAA dues are not paid on timber volumes
  - Designated for OSB or veneer production
  - Exempted from general rate of dues (e.g. marginal or endangered timber) or
  - From competitive bid sale

- Projects are categorized into 4 groups—operational field projects, planning and inventory, applied research and others (usually education and protection)
Community Reforestation Program (CRP)

- Reforestation had historically been carried out by government. Over time, government’s role changed from doing most reforestation work to doing reforestation work only for small quota and permit holders.

- Prior to 2000, a reforestation levy was paid to government in lieu of reforestation responsibility:
  - Optional for quota holders under 10,000 m$^3$/yr.
  - Mandatory for permit holders with no quota rights.

- Government carried out reforestation activities under its own program delivery/budgeting process.
Effective May 30, 2000, the Community Reforestation program was delegated to FRIAA, consistent with government’s focus on stewardship rather than operational delivery.

FRIAA’s responsibilities are to collect reforestation levies according to the processes laid out in the T/M regulations and to deliver a reforestation program.

FRIAA delivers the program to:
- Promote sustained yield of timber resources.
- Support community timber programs.
- Maintain healthy forests.
The WRP program relates to specified wildfires that occurred between 2006 and 2016.

Blocks included are those that have been damaged or destroyed by wildfire to a point where the applicable reforestation standard or target is unlikely to be met.

All eligible areas must have been actively treated, aimed at meeting the applicable reforestation standard.

Funding is made available to forestry companies to carry out silvicultural treatments aimed at achieving reforestation targets.
The program is funded through grants from the Province:
- Funds can only be spent on areas specified by the Province.
- All funds must be spent on activities directly related to cutblock retreatment, including administration.

For 2006 to 2016 blocks
- Companies must commit to meeting applicable performance survey standards.
The program is funded through grants from the Province:
- Funds can only be spent on areas specified by the Province.
- All funds must be spent on activities directly related to Mountain Pine Beetle control or mitigation activities.

The Program’s purpose is to maintain and enhance the forest resources of Alberta by assisting the department in the control, suppression and eradication of the MPB.

MPB proposals submitted by FRIAA members in response to a call for proposals.

A Panel consisting of representatives from FRIAA, AAF and public reviews proposals and makes recommendations to Board; FRIAA Board makes funding decisions.

FRIAA is responsible for monitoring the projects, managing the contracts and ensuring the activities are carried out as planned.
The program is funded through grants from the Province:
- Funds can only be spent on areas specified by the Province.
- All funds must be spent on activities directly related to Mountain Pine Beetle Rehabilitation activities.

The program’s purpose is to maintain and enhance the ecosystem function of forest resources of Alberta by assisting the Department in the rehabilitation of pine dominated stands that have been impacted by MPB infestation.

MPB proposals submitted by FRIAA members in response to a call for proposals.

A Panel consisting of representatives from FRIAA, AAF and public reviews proposals and makes recommendations to Board; FRIAA Board makes funding decisions.

FRIAA is responsible for monitoring the projects, managing the contracts and ensuring the activities are carried out as planned.
The program is funded through grants from the Province:
- Funds can only be spent by organizations and on areas specified by the Province.
- All funds must be spent on activities identified through the 7 disciplines related to FireSmart.

The purpose of the Program is to support the Province’s FireSmart Initiative by providing funds for eligible activities that:
- provide for enhanced public safety and improved protection of at-risk-communities, forest resources, and other landscape values;
- provide financial assistance to communities, organizations and groups that wish to reduce the threat of wildfire; and
- support community education and involvement in the continuing dialogue on wildfire prevention, management and suppression issues.
FRIAA FireSmart proposals are submitted by FRIAA members in response to a call for proposals.

A Panel consisting of representatives from FRIAA, AAF, AMA, AUMA, AAMDC and Partners in Protection makes funding decisions, as authority is delegated by the Board.

FRIAA is responsible for monitoring the projects, managing the contracts and ensuring the activities are carried out as planned.
Incidental Conifer Replacement Program (ICP)

- The program is funded through a grant from the Province.
- The purpose of the program is to provide for improved coniferous timber supply by funding effective silviculture treatments of Specified Replacement Areas (defined by AAF).
- Specified Replacement Areas are those areas that will be reforested with coniferous species to replace the coniferous growing stock harvested as incidental to deciduous timber harvesting operations.
- This program is scheduled to expire this fiscal year.
The program is funded through a grant from the Province.

The CLRP is a relatively new program established in 2015 to help fulfill the requirements of the federal recovery strategies for boreal and southern mountain woodland caribou populations, and Alberta’s woodland caribou recovery plan.

The primary objective is to support efforts that sustain and improve caribou habitats in such a way that caribou populations will be healthy and self-sustaining.

Initial pilot project related to development of a restoration guide including a field guide, and the development of an operational plan/detailed prescription.

These results will likely be used to start active restoration in the pilot area (Little Smoky/A La Peche range).
Forest Resource Improvement
Association of Alberta (FRIAA)
Overview

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