



Slocan Integral Forestry Cooperative

MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

Form MA-01-07

In this Statement:

"integral forestry" means and includes:

1. Forest practices that first determine the ecological limits to human uses of a specified land area, and then, given these limits apply management strategies that will maintain a fully functioning ecosystem over time; and,
2. Management strategies that consider humans as part of the ecosystem and that aim to improve social conditions such as local employment levels, community stability, local economic opportunities and respect and understanding among residents; and
3. A board of directors and a membership that hold together the following understandings:
 - (a) residents hold diverse perspectives and value systems in relation to the forest that surrounds them,
 - (b) these perspectives and value systems are guided and influenced by a mix of social, economic, scientific, spiritual, psychological, cultural, political, historical and institutional lenses.
 - (c) each of these perspectives is valuable and pertinent and must therefore be considered into solutions that will work for all.
 - (d) by including and building upon these perspectives solutions found will be more complete and viable in considering how the community and the forest can interface.

"ecosystem" means a community of all plants, animals and humans and their physical environment, functioning together as an interdependent unit;

1. The overall purpose of the Cooperative is to serve as a model of integral forestry (see above definition) by owning and managing forest lands in a manner that is ecologically responsible, socially responsible, economically sustainable, and that provides the community with all the amenities of a fully functioning ecosystem.
2. Specific purposes are as follows:
 - (a) To manage the community forest license area according to site sensitive, ecologically based forestry practices modeled on an ecosystem-based approach that is defensible by peer review.
 - (b) To stimulate locally based employment and economic opportunities from these forest lands that are ecologically sustainable and socially responsible.
 - (c) To establish a financially viable forest product business that:
 - (i) provides forest management services and forest products marketing services;
 - (ii) supports forest-related educational, recreational, business and employment opportunities for the Slocan Valley;
 - (iii) supports the preservation of ecologically sensitive lands and the restoration of degraded forest lands;
 - (iv) provides a meaningful public participation process for the planning and development of domestic use watersheds;
 - (v) in as much as possible, preserves water quality, quantity and timing of flow in the community forest license area.

3. To fulfill the above purposes, activities of the Association may include:
 - (i) Managing the community forest license lands according to eco-forestry principles;
 - (ii) purchasing or acquiring additional forest lands;
 - (iii) providing consulting services and/or management services based on eco-forestry principles to Slocan Valley residents who are considering any logging development on their private land;
 - (iv) coordinating with, establishing and/or actively supporting labor intensive value-added forest products enterprises and forest-related educational activities;
 - (v) researching and defining habitat needs for wildlife, especially red and blue listed species;
 - (vi) establishing a framework for clear and meaningful community input in planning the development of domestic use watersheds within the community forest landbase.
 - (vii) conducting other businesses and activities as it deems appropriate from time to time as consistent with the purposes of the Association.
4. Phone contact with Cooperative office is: 250-226-7012
5. The surpluses of the Cooperative will not be distributed to members but must be distributed in accordance with Part 15 of the Rules of the Cooperative, as follows: for the purposes of the Cooperative as a whole; or for ecosystem restoration, ecosystem studies, water distribution works, or fire prevention works; or for community infrastructure, community projects, and economic diversification that will benefit the Slocan Valley Community.
6. The Cooperative may be financed, in part or in whole, by the sale of shares to its members, by debt financing that it may obtained from lenders, by receipt of grants or gifts, and by other means it deems appropriate as permitted by the Rules and Regulations of the Cooperative and by the Cooperative Association.

I have read and agree with the above as a requirement of membership in SIFCo.

Name: (Please print) _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____