



OBISHIKOKAANG RESOURCES CORPORATION FORESTRY POLICY

February 13, 2016

Obishikokaang Resources recognizes the importance of managing the Lac Seul Forest in a responsible manner that is based on forest sustainability. As a forest management corporation owned by Lac Seul First Nation, we have great respect for the lands and waters in which we live. Obishikokaang Resources understands the innate connection that Lac Seul First Nation people have to the land.

The customary stewardship responsibilities of the Lac Seul First Nations peoples will continue and be reaffirmed through sustainable forest management practices. Obishikokaang Resources supports the responsible stewardship of resources, including the forest, fish and aquatic habitat, wildlife, air, land and water.

Responsible stewardship is the cornerstone to ensuring sustained economic development and improving the quality of life for both the Lac Seul First Nations people and those that live in the surrounding communities. In this spirit, Obishikokaang Resources is committed to implementing and maintaining an effective environmental management systems program that will govern its environmental matters and will benefit the environment, the community, the shareholders, employees and customers.

Obishikokaang Resources can meet these obligations through:

- Sustainable Forest Management- Practicing land stewardship that integrates the management of the forest with the conservation of soil, air and water quality, carbon, biological diversity, wildlife and aquatic habitats, recreation, aesthetics and the protection of special sites. This includes maintaining the productive capacity of the forest landbase and maintaining long term forest ecosystem health.
- Social Laws - Complying with social laws, such as those covering civil rights, equal employment opportunities, anti-discrimination and anti-harassment measures, worker's compensation, Indigenous People's rights, worker's and communities' rights, prevailing wages, worker's right to organize, and occupational health and safety. Staff, consultants and logging contractors will respect the rights of workers and labor representatives in a manner that encompasses the intent of the International Labor Organization (ILO) core conventions.
- Legal Compliance - Complying with the applicable federal, provincial, and local forestry and related environmental laws, statutes, and regulations. This includes: access to relevant laws and regulations in appropriate locations; a system to achieve compliance with these laws and regulations; and demonstration of commitment to legal compliance through available *regulatory action information*.

- Research – Supporting advances and investing in forestry research, science and technology, upon which sustainable forest management decisions are based and broaden the awareness of climate change impacts on forests, wildlife and biological diversity.
- Training and Education - Improving the implementation of sustainable forestry practices through appropriate training and education programs. Staff, consultants and logging contractors will have education and training to fulfill their roles and responsibilities.
- Community Involvement and Social Responsibility - Through joint engagement, Obishikokaang Resources and local communities (aboriginal and non-aboriginal) discuss the specific social, environmental and economic interests of the community. This also includes the appropriate contact with local stakeholders over forest management issues through provincial, federal or independent collaboration.
- Commitment to Recognize and Respect the Rights of Indigenous Peoples - The recognition and respect of Indigenous Peoples' rights and traditional forest-related knowledge are paramount to Obishikokaang Resources and the people of Lac Seul First Nation. Obishikokaang Resources will confer with the local aboriginal communities with respect to sustainable forest management practices on the Lac Seul Forest. This will provide insight to their traditional forest-related knowledge, protect spiritually, historically, or culturally important sites, understand their non-timber forest products, and to communicate inquiries or concerns.
- Transparency - Broadening the understanding of forest certification by documenting certification audits and making the findings publicly available. To increase transparency and to annually report progress on conformance the *SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard*.
- Continual Improvement - Reviewing commitments, programs and procedures to evaluate effectiveness. Continually improving the practice of forest management, fostering improvement in the professionalism, monitoring, measuring and reporting performance in achieving the commitment to sustainable forestry.



Chief Clifford Bull, Lac Seul First Nation



Bert Hennessey, General Manager-Obishikokaang Resources