

Ministry of Forests

2025/26 – 2027/28 Service Plan

March 2025



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Minister's Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Forests 2025/26 – 2027/28 Service Plan was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Ravi Parmar', written in a cursive style.

Honourable Ravi Parmar
Minister of Forests
March 4, 2025

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Strategic Direction

In 2025/26, the Government of British Columbia will continue to prioritize delivering the services and infrastructure needed for people to build good lives in strong communities.

To support this objective, Government will focus on growing the economy, responding to the threat of tariffs, creating good paying jobs, improving affordability, strengthening health care and education, and making communities safer.

Government will also continue deepening relationships with Indigenous Peoples while advancing implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan.

This 2025/26 service plan outlines how the Ministry of Forests will support the government's priorities and selected action items identified in the Minister's January [2025 Mandate](#).

Purpose of the Ministry

The Ministry of Forests (the Ministry) supports resiliency of the province's land-base and economy by providing collaborative management of forest, range and archaeological resources, supporting a robust forest sector, and leading the Province's wildfire response and mitigation. With a commitment to sustainable natural resource management, the Ministry is managing forests to support healthy ecosystems, and working to ensure greater value for B.C.'s resource through a strong primary sector and high-value wood manufacturing. The Ministry is continually pursuing ways to strengthen partnerships, collaboration, and engagement with First Nations, and is working closely with other government ministries in conducting this work.

The Ministry also supports the Minister in his governance responsibilities for the [Forest Enhancement Society of British Columbia](#). A complete list of Crown Agencies associated with the Ministry can be found in [Appendix A](#).

Economic Statement

B.C.'s economy experienced moderate growth last year amid relatively high interest rates, persistent price pressures and ongoing global economic uncertainty. The labour market ended the year on a positive note, supported by high immigration and strong population growth. Inflation in B.C. continued to moderate as the price growth of goods eased, while inflation for services remained elevated. Consumer spending and home sales activity were weaker for most of 2024 in the wake of still elevated interest rates and high prices. Subdued global demand and lower prices for key commodities led to a decline in the value of the province's merchandise exports in 2024. Meanwhile, B.C. homebuilding activity remained relatively strong following record high housing starts in 2023.

The Economic Forecast Council (EFC) estimates that B.C. real GDP rose by 1.2 per cent in 2024. In the near-term, the EFC expects B.C.'s economy to grow by 1.8 per cent in 2025 and 1.9 per

cent in 2026, in line with the national average. For Canada, the EFC estimates growth of 1.4 per cent in 2024 and projects national real GDP growth of 1.8 per cent in 2025 and 1.9 per cent in 2026. These projections do not fully include the impact of the evolving U.S. tariff situation.

Restrictive global trade policies, particularly potential U.S. tariffs, pose a risk to the outlook and there is uncertainty over the degree and timing of impacts on B.C.'s economy, and among the province's trading partners. Other risks include lower population growth due to changes to federal immigration policy, as well as the potential for renewed price pressures leading to interest rates remaining elevated for longer, weaker global demand, and commodity market volatility.

Performance Planning

Goal 1: Economic Benefits and Resilience for All People in British Columbia

The Ministry is committed to supporting a strong future for the forest sector in B.C. and is taking action to increase the value and resilience of forests and rangelands to achieve economic value for people and to support good jobs for families and communities across the province.

Objective 1.1: Create the conditions for innovation, diversity and sustainability in the forest sector to support a strong economy

This objective directs Ministry efforts towards creating the conditions for a vibrant, innovative forest sector that supports workers and communities. The Ministry is responding to challenges and opportunities facing the sector by leading a forest sector transition to grow forest sector participation and economic resilience and map out the next 100 years.

Key Strategies

- Encourage forest industry diversification through initiatives that strengthen B.C.'s value-added manufacturing sector, including the [BC Timber Sales Value-Added Manufacturing Program](#) that will provide a dedicated supply of fibre to the value-added sector;
- Work with the [Provincial Forestry Forum](#) that includes representatives from communities, labour organizations, forestry and forest product companies and the [First Nations Forestry Council](#) to review BC Timber Sales to ensure a strong connection between B.C.'s forests, a consistent flow of fibre on the market, and sustainable jobs for British Columbians;
- Expand the [community forest program](#) to support a more sustainable future for First Nations communities and communities that depend on local forests for their economic strength;
- Represent B.C.'s interests in Canada-US litigation on the softwood lumber dispute and fight unwarranted softwood lumber duties by working with the federal government to

challenge the duties through the [North American Free Trade Agreement](#), [the Canada – U.S. – Mexico Agreement](#), [the U.S. Court of International Trade](#), and the [World Trade Organization](#) dispute settlement processes.

Objective 1.2: Integrated, coordinated and timely delivery of permitting services to citizens, clients and businesses

This objective promotes effective management of service delivery processes to ensure the Ministry is supporting a strong economy and providing public services that British Columbians can rely on.

Key Strategies

- Ensure prompt, efficient and effective delivery of forest, range, and archaeology authorizations services and decisions in accordance with the requirements of service users and standards of the Ministry;
- Provide focused compliance and enforcement services to ensure responsible natural resource stewardship.

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Target ¹	2026/27 Target ¹	2027/28 Target ¹
1.1 Annual BCTS timber volume auctioned, targeted at the value-add sector	508,000 m ³	1,150,000 m ³	1,270,000 m ³	1,390,000 m ³

Data source: BC Timber Sales

¹Starting in 2025/26, targets have been increased to 20% of BCTS' rationalized apportionment.

Discussion

Under the direction of the Ministry, BC Timber Sales manages about 20 percent of the province’s allowable annual cut for Crown timber, operating in 33 communities, directly supporting over 8,000 jobs across B.C.

In order to support a strong forest sector for B.C. it is critical that BCTS maintain a consistent supply of fibre to the open market to support fibre needs for manufacturing facilities. The value-added sector is primarily comprised of small- to medium- sized companies that manufacture a diverse range of specialty products that maximize the value of B.C.’s forests. BCTS increased its target volume specifically dedicated to value-added manufacturers from 10% to 20% to provide additional opportunity for value- add facilities.

One of the contributing factors to the value-added sector’s ability to maintain capacity and create new and innovative products and processes is access to fibre (both logs and lumber); however, many value-added manufacturers do not hold replaceable Crown tenure and may source input materials through the open market. In order to support this vital sector of the forest industry, BCTS provides harvest opportunities through competitive auction to Crown timber for non-tenured or minimally tenured timber processing facilities.

This performance measure tracks the volume of timber sold at auction to the value-added sector, providing critical data to the Ministry to guide decisions about how to better support the growth of this sector. An increase in the Value-Added Manufacturing Program (Category 4) Volume Auctioned performance measure target demonstrates BCTS' commitment to enhancing opportunities for value-added manufacturing in British Columbia, aligning with the Province's strategy to modernize forest policy by transitioning from high-volume to high-value forest sector operations. Targets are set based on the amount of volume apportioned to BCTS and may be adjusted annually based on market conditions and government direction.

Goal 2: Partnerships to Advance Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples

Furthering Government's commitment to work toward true and lasting reconciliation, the Ministry is taking action to expand opportunities for First Nations to participate and collaborate in forest planning, share decision-making, and realize benefits from forestry and the forest economy.

Objective 2.1: Strengthen partnerships and meaningful engagement with First Nations in the management of the land base and forest resources in B.C.

This objective is directed at implementing activities that would result in economic development for First Nations communities and people. The Ministry is committed to reconciliation and to share the sustainable management of the province's natural resources with First Nations.

Key Strategies

- Continue implementation of the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) (UN Declaration) through application of the [Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act](#) in alignment with the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, and other ministries;
- In collaboration with First Nations and with support from the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport, reform the [Heritage Conservation Act](#) in accordance with the [Declaration Act Action Plan](#). Additionally, bring forward reforms that support more efficient and effective permitting;
- Continue to reform forest legislation, regulations and policy to reflect a shared strategic vision with First Nations that upholds the rights articulated in the UN Declaration.

Objective 2.2: In partnership with First Nations, implement a new vision for forest management that prioritizes B.C.'s ecosystem health and community resiliency

The Ministry recognizes and honours First Nations' rights and title on their traditional territories. To further the government's commitments in this respect, the Ministry continually

seeks opportunities to partner with First Nations communities to ensure forest management practices benefit from Indigenous stewardship, values, and knowledge.

Key Strategies

- In partnership with First Nations and other interested parties, continue to advance implementation of the recommendations from the [old growth strategic review](#), which will be guided by the [Old Growth Action Plan](#) and advanced in collaboration with partner ministries;
- Continue to work toward full partnership with First Nations in managing B.C.’s forest resources through collaborative management agreements, shared decision-making tables, and [forest landscape planning](#);
- Work collaboratively with the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship and First Nations governments to develop land-use objectives through [modernized land use planning](#) and other stewardship initiatives, ensuring that sustainable natural resource management reflects shared social, cultural, economic, and environmental values.

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target ¹	2027/28 Target ¹
2.1 Number of forest landscape plans initiated with First Nations through government-to-government agreements	3	2	TBD	TBD

Data source: Forest Resiliency & Archaeology Division

¹Targets for 2026/27 and 2027/28 will be determined over the course of 2025/26, based on resourcing and other criteria.

Discussion

Forest landscape planning was introduced in [Bill 23, the Forest Statutes Amendment Act in November 2021](#) as a new forest management planning regime under the [Forest and Range Practices Act](#) that will replace the existing [Forest Stewardship Plans](#) regime over time. Forest landscape plans will be integral in delivering on the recommendations of the Old Growth Strategic Review.

Conducted in partnership with First Nations governments, in collaboration with forest tenure holders and through engagement with local communities and stakeholders, forest landscape plans provide legal direction for where and how forest management activities, such as timber harvesting, road layout, and silviculture activities, can occur on the land-base, for the 10-year life of the plan. These plans will also address values such as climate change adaptation and mitigation, old growth management, species-at-risk and wildlife habitat, wildfire risk reduction and wildfire resiliency management, recreation, cultural values, and watershed health.

This performance measure tracks the Ministry’s efforts to successfully engage with First Nations on this initiative, which is a first critical step towards implementing forest landscape

plans across B.C. Priorities for new projects are identified in collaboration with First Nations partners and natural resource sector ministries, and are considered initiated once a government-to-government agreement has been signed by both parties. Four forest landscape plan pilot projects are currently underway in partnership with First Nations, communities, and the forest sector, which will help inform future forest landscape planning processes.

In early 2023 the Ministry identified resourcing to support eight new forest landscape plan projects over a three-year period, and initiated engagement with First Nations to build agreement on priority areas. In mid 2024, the Ministry confirmed additional three-year funding to support two more forest landscape plans projects. As of January 2025, there are 15 forest landscape plans underway across the province at various stages from early scoping discussions with First Nations to final plan preparation.

Goal 3: Proactive and Collaborative Natural Hazard Management

The Ministry is committed to delivering the very best wildfire mitigation, preparedness, response, and land-based recovery to support strong, healthy, and resilient forests and communities. Through collaborating with First Nations, other governments, and agencies, the Ministry continues to implement a year-round, all-hazards approach to address the threat of extreme fire and other climate change induced events.

Objective 3.1: Improve community resiliency and reduce wildfire risk

This objective aims to reduce the risks and impacts of wildfires through the implementation of a risk-assessment based approach, including incorporation of Indigenous values, knowledge and practices.

Key Strategies

- Reduce risk and increase community resiliency through the continued implementation of [Government's Action Plan - Responding to wildfire and flood risks](#), and continue implementation of the [Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction](#) program to reduce the wildfire risk in B.C. through targeted fuel management activities in high wildfire risk landscapes;
- Implement the [cultural and prescribed fire](#) program with First Nations and local governments to enable cultural and prescribed fire as an accessible, efficient land management tool that supports the integrated and expanded use of prescribed fire, and enables the use of cultural fire by Indigenous Peoples;
- Support work in treating [the Wildland Urban Interface](#) through delivery of [FireSmart](#) activities, and continue to provide advice, support, and funding to local governments through programs such as the [Community Resiliency Investment program](#) and FireSmart to strengthen capacity, reduce risk to communities, and improve preparedness for wildfires and other natural hazard events.

Objective 3.2: Deliver excellence in natural hazard incident management and support strong, healthy land-based recovery

This objective focuses on the Ministry’s efforts to improve natural hazard incident management and wildfire land-based recovery, which includes preparing for and responding to wildfire and natural hazard incidents, and repairing the land-base affected by a wildfire.

Key Strategies

- Advance the action-oriented recommendations of the [Premier’s Expert Task Force on Emergencies](#), and strengthen capacity of local emergency authorities and Indigenous communities to prepare and respond to wildfire events;
- Continue to make strategic investments in predictive technologies and capabilities to strengthen the Ministry’s ability to anticipate and rapidly respond to wildfire events;
- In collaboration with First Nations governments, partners and interested parties, continue the development and implementation of a [wildfire land-based recovery program](#) to enhance ecosystem resilience and reduce future negative impacts from wildfire.

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2020/21 Baseline	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Target ¹	2026/27 Target ¹	2027/28 Target ¹
3.1 Area treated with the priority objective of reducing wildfire risk in and around communities and critical infrastructure	3,000 ha	7,500 ha	9,600 ha	10,150 ha	10,150 ha

Data source: BC Wildfire Service

¹Includes fuel management activities projected to be completed by the Forest Enhancement Society of BC (FESBC), as reported in the FESBC 2025/26-2027/28 Service Plan with 2,250 hectares in 2025/2026, 2,550 hectares in 2026/2027, and 1,850 hectares in 2027/2028.

Discussion

With the ever-increasing frequency and severity of wildfires in B.C., proactively mitigating the effects of wildfire on public lands around communities is a priority for the Ministry.

Through the BC Wildfire Service, the Community Resiliency Investment program funds wildfire risk reduction activities including cultural and prescribed fire, fuel management planning and treatments, and wildfire risk reduction activities targeting critical infrastructure such as government owned radio repeaters, weather stations, and airtanker bases. The BC Wildfire Service uses its Wildland Urban Interface Risk Class Framework to support and prioritize these wildfire risk reduction initiatives and improve public safety.

Performance measure 3.1 reports the area of completed fuel management activities with a primary objective of reducing wildfire risk by modifying forest fuel attributes around

communities. The targets are set using a trend-based analysis, and data is collected through various programs and initiatives such as BC Wildfire Service spatial databases. The forecast includes fuel management activities funded by the Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction program, inclusive of cultural burning and prescribed fire and reflects the 2024/2025 forecast which is currently reporting for Q3 as of January 2025.

In the short to medium-term, targets reflect planning activities happening under Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction and [FireSmart Community Funding and Supports](#), which are needed before operational fuel management activities can take place. Over the longer term, treated areas will be maintained (e.g., prescribed fire and brushing to manage surface fuel) to ensure ongoing effectiveness.

Performance Measure	2024/25 Forecast ¹	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target
3.2 Percent of prescribed rehabilitation treatments implemented within 30 months of wildfire occurrence	n/a	90%	90%	90%

Data source: BCWS Wildfire Service

¹This is a new measure for the 2025/26 Service Plan.

Discussion

Government's Wildfire Land-Based Recovery process aims to reduce the negative impacts of select wildfires through repairing the land base affected by a wildfire, and by wildfire suppression activities. One of the areas of work is [wildfire suppression rehabilitation](#), which is a form of deactivation, specific to fire suppression activities. Prescribed rehabilitation treatments address detrimental impacts to the land during wildfire suppression while promoting ecosystem resiliency. The amount of fire suppression activities can range from 100 to 5,000km of disturbances annually, and rehabilitation project completion is a year-round effort.

This performance measure is new to the 2025/26-2027/28 Service Plan, replacing the previous performance measure reporting the creation of rehabilitation plans created for wildfires that require rehabilitation treatment. This new measure tracks the timely completion of rehabilitation treatments in areas affected by wildfire suppression activities, including creation of fireguards, modified roads, trails, and handguards constructed during a wildfire response. This work helps ensure that the undesirable impacts of wildfire suppression activities, such as surface erosion, soil instability, and impacted natural drainages, are reduced.

Targets are set based on an average wildfire year and are tracked closely by the BC Wildfire Service. Prescribed rehabilitation treatments begin in the following year after a rehabilitation plan is created, or sooner where possible. The Ministry targets to have 90% of all rehabilitation work completed after 30 months of a wildfire occurrence. The Ministry collaborates with First Nations communities, especially when it comes to planning and implementing rehabilitation works on Crown land.

Performance Measure	2020/21 Baseline	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target
3.3 Number of cultural and prescribed fire projects with an approved burn plan, or which fall under an agreement with an Indigenous governing body ^{1,2}	5	25	40	60	70

Data source: BCWS prescribed fire provincial project data tracking spreadsheet

¹An approved burn plan is defined as a burn plan that has been developed and submitted to an official, and received the official's approval in writing, per section 23 of the [Wildfire Regulation](#). An agreement with an Indigenous governing body is defined as an agreement referred to in section 23.1 of the Wildfire Regulation.

²The reporting period for this performance measure is January 1 to December 31.

Discussion

Cultural fire is an Indigenous-led practice of using fire on the land as part of First Nations stewardship practices, informed by cultural knowledge and objectives. Prescribed fire is the planned and controlled application of fire to the landscape to achieve objectives, including fuel management (risk reduction), habitat enhancement, ecosystem restoration, climate adaption and resilience, and forest health. These two practices have their roots in different management systems, but each contributes to ecosystem health and resilience, as well as reducing the risk of large-scale wildfire. Partnership-based burn planning for both cultural fire and prescribed fire projects supports the resilience of ecosystems and communities while also allowing multiple agencies and organizations to build collective capacity, expertise and relationships to work with fire on the landscape.

Burn planning helps ensure the use of fire is carried out safely and does not damage environmental and other values, and incorporates considerations including fuel types, weather, topography, fire intensity, rate of spread, smoke management, and various local community values and objectives. Projects are often developed through collaboration among burn proponents, burn practitioners and professionals.

The Ministry's work to expand the use of cultural and prescribed fire on the land continues to be guided by the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* Action Plan. First Nations' values, objectives, and knowledge are incorporated into cultural and prescribed fire projects throughout B.C., and First Nations' participation in burn projects takes many forms depending on each Nation's interest, priorities and capacity.

For the 2025/26-2027/28 Service Plan, this measure has been updated to reflect recent amendments to the Wildfire Regulation that enable the Province to enter into agreements related to open fire with Indigenous governing bodies. The Ministry takes a collaborative and inclusive approach to burn project planning and delivery, and these updates also better capture the full range of partnerships involved in cultural and prescribed burning, including with First Nations, local governments, community forests and other forest licencees, wildlife and conservation organizations, and other partners.

Goal 4: Sustainable Forest Stewardship for All Values

The Ministry is dedicated to ensuring that the climate, biodiversity, environmental and economic benefits, recreational opportunities, and cultural significance associated with B.C.'s forests, rangelands, and heritage resources are responsibly managed and preserved for future generations.

Objective 4.1: Revitalize and protect B.C.'s forests, and strengthen climate change mitigation and adaptation activities

The [Intergovernmental panel on climate change](#) recognizes that land management is critical for mitigating climate change and its impacts. In this context, strengthening B.C.'s ability to mitigate and adapt to climate change continues to be an important objective for the Ministry.

Through this objective, the Ministry is advancing towards its goal of sustainable natural resource management while taking steps to protect B.C.'s forests by fostering climate change mitigation innovative management activities, modernizing forest policies to include Indigenous Peoples' perspectives, and strengthening the resiliency of B.C.'s forests to the effects of climate change.

Key Strategies

- Invest in forest management activities that reduce emissions, enhance carbon sequestration, and rehabilitate and restore forests, such as reforestation using higher densities, improved genetic worth and climate appropriate seed and species, forest nutrient management, forest health treatments and reduced slash pile burning through improved fibre utilization;
- In partnership with Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, continue to work together with First Nations to meet the ecological integrity and human wellbeing commitments under the [Great Bear Rainforest agreement](#);
- Enable forest carbon-offset projects on provincial public forest lands and generate new scientific knowledge on forest carbon and climate change to support decision-making, and support changes in behavior and practices through education, outreach, and development of decision support tools.

Objective 4.2: Deliver exceptional research and scientific analysis to sustainably manage B.C.'s forests and natural resources

This objective relates to the Ministry's role of conducting [research](#) and analysis that informs the development of science-based policies and regulations that guide sustainable natural resource management and decisions.

Key Strategies

- Provide scientific expertise and analysis, and continue to invest in operationally relevant and innovative science-based research to guide resource management decisions and forest landscape planning;

- Advance the goals and priorities of the [Future Forest Ecosystem Centre 2023-2025 Strategic Plan](#), focusing on climate data, ecological forecasting, and capacity building;

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2024/25 Forecast ¹	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target
4.1a Number of trees planted per year through the Ministry's Forest Investment Program	n/a	40,000,000 ²	TBD ³	TBD ³
4.1b Provincial forest area with nutrients applied per year through the Ministry's Forest Investment Program	n/a	25,000 ha	25,000 ha	25,000 ha

Data source: RESULTS Database, Office of Chief Forester

¹This is a new measure for the 2025/26 Service Plan.

²Subject to approval of resourcing.

³Targets for 2026/27 and 2027/28 will be determined over the course of 2025/26, based on resourcing and other criteria.

Discussion

The Ministry has a long history of planting trees, with 10 billion trees planted in B.C. since reforestation programs began in 1930, including two billion planted in the past seven years alone. Applying nutrients to the forests is a long-standing silviculture activity that can increase tree growth and forest and wildlife habitat cover, increase carbon sequestration, and accelerate stand development toward older stand structure including old-growth character.

Both planting trees and applying nutrients support government's climate change mitigation goals through enhanced carbon sequestration. These activities also improve biodiversity, enhance future timber supply, and aid wildfire recovery. Both planting and nutrient application provide employment in the forest sector with the investment in reforestation estimated to create more than 400 jobs in 2023/2024.

This performance measure is new to the 2025/26-2027/28 Service Plan, replacing the previous performance measure reporting greenhouse gas emissions reduced or sequestered through forest investment activities. It reports the annual number of trees planted and provincial forest area with nutrients applied per year through the Ministry's [Forest Investment Program](#). This data helps the Ministry better understand and manage B.C.'s forests, as well as calculate forest carbon benefits.

Financial Summary

(\$000s)	2024/25 Restated Estimates ¹	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Plan	2027/28 Plan
Operating Expenses				
Forest Resiliency and Archaeology	3,690	3,804	3,804	3,804
Integrated Resource Operations	58,468	59,017	59,017	59,017
Office of the Chief Forester	130,293	130,995	130,995	130,995
Timber, Range and Economics	11,781	12,017	12,017	12,017
Fire Preparedness	46,992	47,744	47,744	47,744
Regional Operations	98,994	101,032	101,032	101,032
Executive and Support Services	57,871	57,975	57,975	57,975
Fire Management	232,736	238,047	238,047	238,047
BC Timber Sales Account	203,941	240,147	258,387	237,076
Total	844,766	890,778	909,018	887,707
Capital Expenditures				
Executive and Support Services	55,448	54,903	34,678	34,678
Fire Management	16,000	14,762	11,001	2,575
BC Timber Sales Account	54,095	48,843	48,288	42,867
Total	125,543	118,508	93,967	80,120
Other Financing Transactions				
BC Timber Sales Account				
Disbursements	106,017	91,419	82,461	84,896
Receipts	0	0	0	0
Total Net Cash Requirements (Source)	106,017	91,419	82,461	84,896

¹ For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2024/25 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2025/26 Estimates.

* Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the [Estimates and Supplement to the Estimates](#).

Forest Practices Board Resource Summary

The Forest Practices Board (the board) independently monitors and reviews forest and range practices in B.C.'s public forests and rangelands. The Board audits both tenure holders and government ministries for compliance with forest and range practices legislation, carries out special investigations and issues reports as appropriate, investigates concerns and complaints from the public, and participates in appeals to the [Forest Appeals Commission](#). It informs both the B.C. public and the international marketplace of forest and range licensees' performance in carrying out sound practices and complying with legal requirements.

The Board's mandate is provided by the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and the *Wildfire Act*. While the Board operates independently from the Ministry of Forests, its budget vote is the responsibility of the Minister. The Board reports its accomplishments and priorities through an annual report that can be at: www.bcfpb.ca.

Forest Practices Board	2024/25 Restated Estimates¹	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Plan	2027/28 Plan
Operating Expenses (\$000)				
Total	3,991	4,162	4,162	4,162

¹ For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2024/25 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2025/26 Estimates.

*Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the [Estimates and Supplement to the Estimates](#).

Appendix A: Public Sector Organizations

As of March 2025, the Minister of Forests is responsible and accountable for the following organizations:

[Coastal Logging Equipment Support Trust](#)

The purpose of the Coast Logging Equipment Support Trust is to help eligible contractors that are negatively impacted by the ongoing labour dispute between the United Steel Workers and Western Forest Products, and the continued weakness in key markets for lumber and limited access to logs.

[Forest Enhancement Society of British Columbia](#)

The purpose of the Forest Enhancement Society of British Columbia (FESBC) is to identify and fund projects that advance the environmental and resource stewardship of British Columbia's forests.

[Forest Practices Board](#)

The Forest Practices Board provides independent oversight of tenure holders' and government ministries' compliance with the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and the *Wildfire Act* through monitoring and reviewing forest and range practices in B.C.'s public forests and rangelands.

[Managed Forest Land Council](#)

The Managed Forest Council is an independent provincial agency established under the *Private Managed Forest Land Act*. The objective of the Council is to encourage forest management practices on private managed forest land in B.C., taking into account the social, environmental, and economic benefits of those practices.

[Timber Export Advisory Committee](#)

The Timber Export Advisory Committee provides recommendations to the Minister regarding the export of timber originating from lands within British Columbia that is regulated for manufacture in British Columbia by the Government of British Columbia.

Appendix B: Minister Mandate Letter



January 16, 2025

Honourable Ravi Parmar
Minister of Forests
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Parmar:

Congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Forests at a critical time for our province. Serving as a member of the executive council is a privilege and responsibility which I am confident you will fulfill with integrity and a commitment to the people of our province.

British Columbians have trusted us with a mandate to deliver for them in ways that make a tangible difference in their daily lives. They expect us to listen and learn from people of different perspectives – and work together to make things better for everyone.

Specifically, we will tackle the challenges people worry about at the kitchen table:

- **Grow the economy by creating good jobs across British Columbia.** We will collaborate with businesses, workers, and communities to attract investments in both new and traditional sectors as well as emerging sectors of the economy. This approach will bring certainty for business, security for workers, and generate the wealth needed to support the essential services British Columbians rely on.
- **Reduce costs for families** including by helping people access homes they can afford through support for first-time homebuyers, increasing the supply of rental housing stock, and stronger measures to crack down on housing speculation.

.../2

- **Strengthen health care** by expanding access to family doctors and recruiting and training more health professionals, ensuring that every British Columbian can access the care they need, no matter where they live. We will also increase access to addictions treatment and provide help for people whose struggles require intensive supports.
- **Make our neighbourhoods and communities safer** by working with law enforcement and social agencies to address street disorder, crack down on organized crime, and do all we can to ensure repeat offenders stay behind bars.

Our commitment to take action on climate change remains foundational and will be key to a healthy and prosperous BC for future generations.

Underlying all this work is our partnership with Indigenous peoples. Advancing reconciliation, implementing the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and working in partnership with First Nations rights-holders to advance shared interests is the responsibility of every Minister.

Over this mandate I expect you to prioritize making progress on the following:

- In order to protect key services that British Columbians rely on, work with the Minister of Finance to review all existing Ministry of Forests programs and initiatives to ensure programs remain relevant, are efficient, support the connection between forests and jobs in our province, and help keep costs low for British Columbians. This is important in the context of current Provincial budget constraints, the crisis in the sector, and the threat of expanded American tariffs.
- In light of the threat of American tariffs, the existing softwood lumber tariffs, the price crisis in the timber sector, and the reduction in available annual allowable cut, work with communities, labour, forestry and forest product companies, and Indigenous governments to review BC Timber Sales to ensure that the model is responsive to the new realities of the industry and the need for a strong connection between our forests and sustainable jobs for British Columbians for generations to come.
- Continue to bring together industry, First Nations, and communities through forest landscape planning tables – to chart a path forward for the stewardship of BC's forests and forest industry.
- Work to increase value from BC's forests by supporting value-added and innovative forest products, creating good local jobs and diversifying BC's wood products for local and international markets.

- Work with your ministerial colleagues and First Nations to ensure the prompt, efficient, and effective delivery of permits required by industry while maintaining our world-leading environmental standards.
- Work with all partners, including Indigenous governments, toward ensuring a sustainable land base to enable harvest of 45,000,000 cubic meters per year, while fulfilling our commitment to protect old growth.
- Work to secure a more sustainable future for First Nations and communities that depend on local forests for their economic strength by expanding the community forest program.
- With support from the Minister of State for Trade, continue work to protect and create jobs by fighting for a fair deal for BC wood products in softwood lumber negotiations and other tariff challenges with the United States.

As you are aware, we have established an accord with the BC Green Caucus that supports our shared commitment to ensuring stable governance focused on delivering progress and tangible outcomes for British Columbians. The commitments in that accord complement the direction in these mandate letters.

As a Cabinet, we will uphold the highest standards of ethics, collaboration, and good conduct in service of the public, and as a Minister of the Crown, you are expected to review, understand, and act according to the *Members' Conflict of Interest Act*. You will establish a collaborative working relationship with your Deputy Minister and the public servants under their direction, who provide the professional, non-partisan advice that is fundamental to delivering on our government's priorities. Your Minister's Office must meet the highest standards for integrity and provide a respectful, rewarding environment for all staff.

The work we have ahead takes place in a profoundly challenging geopolitical environment. Close friends and neighbours to our south are contemplating imposing draconian tariffs on our products that would hurt both Americans and Canadians. Our allies internationally face governmental instability. Hate and racism are on the rise around the world. Artificial intelligence breakthroughs with unclear implications and astonishing potential are announced daily. Global inflation, snarled supply chains, and war are threatening global economic growth and prosperity as well as the transition to a low-carbon economy.

We have an obligation to protect and defend British Columbians, as well as seize opportunities, in these uncertain times.

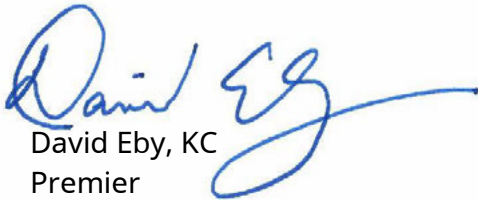
The good news is that we have everything we need to succeed, and we will succeed. British Columbia's people – our workers, entrepreneurs, business leaders, artists, and

innovators – are among the most talented in the world. We are home to world-class educational institutions and public services. Our natural beauty is unmatched, we have internationally envied resources, and we are one of the most diverse places on the planet. Your job is to help us leverage these advantages in perilous times.

Use this mandate letter to guide your work, and do not be afraid to challenge assumptions, or be innovative, bold and aggressive in achieving the goals set out for you and your Ministry by the people of this province.

Thank you for joining me in the work ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Eby", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Eby, KC
Premier