

Coastal Harvesting Advisory Group Terms of Reference

Safety performance has improved significantly throughout British Columbia and on the Coast since 2005. However, certain areas of the industry continue to show slow or plateauing progress. Forest Industry leadership including tenure holders, contractors, government and labour have commissioned the Coastal Harvesting Advisory Group (CHAG) to work together to ensure priority areas for safety are identified and actioned accordingly.

CHAG will identify, prioritize and develop a set of actions with the objective of improving the safety performance of coastal operations. CHAG will report back to the Coastal Leadership Group annually on progress and for input on the action plan(s) and objectives.

Defining the Objective - The objective of the Coastal Harvesting Advisory Group (CHAG) is to develop and implement systems, policies, procedures, expectations and mechanisms to produce a sustainable reduction in and eventual elimination of serious injuries and fatalities associated with timber harvesting and related operations in Coastal British Columbia.

Setting an Action Plan – CHAG is to develop an action plan to achieve the objectives. The action plan is to identify specific issues and initiatives that focus on reducing the most significant risks to forest workers within coastal operations. This includes tracking the impact CHAG actions have on reducing or eliminating serious injuries and fatalities.

Other Opportunities: Aligning with the group's objectives, the sharing of best practices and creating awareness of new risks identified in coastal operations will be encouraged.

Support: The Coastal Harvesting Advisory Group will have direct support of the BC Forest Safety Council. The Council will provide a chairperson, general meeting support, historic data and information regarding injuries and fatalities in Coastal operations, as well as updates on current efforts within the organization and forest industry in general. Action items that require significant financial support or internal resources from the Council will require Council Board/Program committee support.

Key Processes:

- Schedule rotating agenda-driven meetings
- Ensure that practice/key learnings sharing is on every meeting agenda
- Forward any issues or concerns that are outside of the scope to key leaders within this group
- Assign smaller scale initiatives to sub- groups where appropriate
- Establish communication procedures to keep key stakeholders, and group members informed
- Identify, define and establish the key metrics and baselines
- Identify emerging issues
- Create membership criteria for new organizations to join this group

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Value to The Industry of Being Successful

- Improved safety performance
- Lower WSBC insurance costs in the respective CUs
- Improved public image of the forest industries proactive approach to safety
- Support a solid working relationship with regulators

Value to The Individual Companies

- Improved safety performance
- Access to best practices
- More time spent on improving safety results in operations vs. time spent responding to legislated policy
- Improved business performance