

INNOVATION IN  
**ACTION**  
GRANTS

**Silviculture  
Innovation  
Program**



Bulkeley Valley  
Research Centre

*Stream 1: Innovation in Action*

**Application Guidance  
2024**



# About the Silviculture Innovation Program (SIP)

## Background

BC's forests are symbols of resilience, legacy, and diversity, but their future lies at a crossroads. With reduced timber supply, a changing climate, and mounting concerns from many groups, including the forestry sector, there is a shift happening to manage forests for multiple values and embrace an ecologically-centered approach. By using alternative and innovative approaches in forestry, we can help ensure BC forests continue to provide values and services that will support communities for generations to come.

**The purpose of the Silviculture Innovation Program is to improve knowledge regarding innovative silviculture systems through extension, applied and operational research.** The Silviculture Innovation Program (SIP) is a program of the Bulkley Valley Research Centre (BVRC), a non-profit based in Smithers, BC. Learn more about the SIP at <https://sip.bvcentre.ca/>.

The SIP is grounded in principles that support collaborative partnerships with communities and practitioners, involve interdisciplinary approaches, and support diverse perspectives. By addressing critical knowledge gaps, from key topics to under-researched regions, and expanding or initiating research trials, our grants program aims to overcome the challenges related to knowledge and its application that currently limit innovative silviculture across BC.

## Program Objectives

Knowledge, tools and innovations, both new and old, are required to inform and accelerate the uptake of innovative silviculture techniques and practices across BC. Solutions must be collaborative, so we encourage projects that leverage existing funds, research trials/installations and relationships. We also encourage projects that create new partnerships, support Indigenous and other forms of knowledge, and transfer knowledge through mentorship and/or knowledge sharing (extension) with the broader natural resource management community and the interested public.

### KEY DEFINITION | *Innovative Silviculture Systems*

**Innovative Silviculture Systems** include systems for the harvesting, growing and tending of forests where the primary objective is to support holistic stewardship of the land base, including maintaining ecosystem health, water quality and quantity. Innovative silviculture systems are driven by an appreciation of ecological, social, cultural, and economic values of forests, where stewardship is focused on maintaining the continuity of dynamic ecosystem processes and functions.

**CAPACITY**  
**BUILDING**  
GRANTS

**INNOVATION** IN  
**ACTION**  
GRANTS

# Silviculture Innovation Program



## SIP Grants Program Description

The SIP will be launching its first round of grants, closing November 1, 2024, and will focus on supporting smaller operationally-rooted projects, building capacity and creating relationships. This intake marks our journey of offering funding opportunities to support implementation of innovative silviculture and we look forward to offering more opportunities in the future.

This grant program is one initiative of the SIP that builds on the Innovative Silviculture Knowledge Summit held in March, 2024. We heard from diverse voices working in the forestry and innovative silviculture space and the resulting roadmap has guided the direction of our programming. One of the intentions of the SIP grant program is to advance diversity, equity and inclusion in the forestry space. As a result we have focused grant calls in support of First Nations-led or co-led projects and supporting individuals who identify as members of marginalized groups through capacity building.

The first round of funding will create opportunities to learn from innovative silviculture implementation ("Innovation in Action Grants") and increase capacity in innovative silviculture ("Capacity Building Grants"). These grants will seek to learn from action - implementing initiatives and trials with clear innovative objectives and data-driven learning opportunities. We will seek to support practitioners to develop relationships,

receive mentorship and training. We will also raise awareness of and support extension to facilitate knowledge being translated into action.

Applicants are eligible to submit one application to each of the grant types. Successful grantees will still be able to apply for grants in subsequent years.

**The SIP grant program will support projects that align with our vision, mission and values.** The SIP mission is to accelerate the growth of innovative silviculture by improving knowledge of these systems in BC. This includes a commitment to:

- Assess the needs and state of knowledge of the forest management community;
- Be inclusive of multiple and diverse knowledge systems;
- Link extension needs to a motivated network of forest practitioners around the province;
- Make existing information more accessible, transparent and easier to interpret;
- Bridge existing gaps in knowledge that advance practices and inform policy;
- Develop projects that advance innovative silviculture practices and approaches to forest management.

Our **values** include community, collaboration, ecological integrity, accessibility, transparency and excellence.

- **Community:** The work of the

Silviculture Innovation Program will contribute to vitality and diversity across British Columbia.

- **Collaboration:** The Silviculture Innovation Program will work to strengthen and foster reciprocal and respectful relationships to co-create new research opportunities that are equitable, inclusive and improve cross-sector communication.
- **Ecological Integrity:** All work will be guided by the principle that ecological integrity is a requirement for resilient cultural, social, economic and environmental systems.
- **Accessible:** Co-created knowledge will be communicated and shared in respectful ways to the public, forest practitioners, communities and Nations to inform decision-making.
- **Transparency:** We strive to create knowledge and research that is readily accessible and publicly available with acquired permissions, when necessary.
- **Excellence:** Research will meet or exceed accepted scientific and Indigenous research methods and ethical standards in the relevant fields.



# 2024 SIP Grants Program

## Aim

The grants program will support research and extension to increase the application of innovative silviculture in BC, aligning with SIP mission and values, and priorities identified at the Knowledge Summit. Knowledge production and transfer is a critical component of each grant and will be measured by outputs including: project reports, published articles, research reports, theses, handbooks, decision support tools, software, methodologies, databases and how this information is translated to different target audiences, which can be measured by the number and diversity of participants engaged.

## Applications

Applications can be submitted through the grant portal, here: <https://silvicultureinnovation.grantplatform.com>

The grant application portal will be open from 8:00AM (PST) on September 3, 2024 to 11:59PM (PST) on November 1, 2024.

## Decisions & Awards

Applications will be reviewed by an external panel throughout November and December. Successful applicants will be notified by January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and are anticipated to receive funding as early as January 2025.

## Streams

There are currently two grant streams available:

- 1) Innovation in Action Grants and
- 2) Capacity Building Grants

## STREAM 1

INNOVATION IN  
**ACTION**  
GRANTS

INFORMATION IN THIS GUIDE

## STREAM 2

**CAPACITY**  
BUILDING  
GRANTS

SEE CAPACITY BUILDING GUIDE

# INNOVATION IN **ACTION** GRANTS

## Silviculture Innovation Program



### Overview

Innovation in Action Grants support operational research and/or implementation of innovative silviculture projects. These grants will allow the SIP to distribute funding widely across BC to complete smaller projects and operational trials or reduce financial barriers to completing elements of larger projects already underway. This is a two-year grant beginning in winter of 2025, with all reporting requirements due by December 31, 2027.



*Projects must deliver tangible outcomes that increase the knowledge and extension of innovative silviculture in BC.*

These smaller grants are targeted towards operational implementation but open to individual practitioners, organizations, and researchers. Preference will be given to projects that are “shovel ready”, that is projects where all permissions and permits are in place, and are intended to support ideas and collaborations that are ongoing or already established. Project support can include planning, data collection, reporting and extension. In addition, we will accept some projects that are at a conceptual level, if the concept aligns with SIP mission and values, and priority themes, but may require further time and effort to develop the details of the prescription or implementation plan. Projects that are at the concept level will still be expected to demonstrate existing collaborations or partnerships. If applicants require support to build initial relationships, they should first apply to the Capacity Building grant.

We note that this fund cannot be used to cover basic activities included in the stumpage system (such as layout, roads, logging and reforestation). It is intended to target additional activities applicants may not otherwise have time or resources to complete, but that are critical to knowledge creation and knowledge sharing on innovative silviculture. This could include prescription planning, research and monitoring design, equipment needs, data collection beyond what is required for cutting permit issuance, developing knowledge sharing products, and extension of results. Leveraging existing funds and in-kind support is encouraged.

2024 SIP INNOVATION  
IN ACTION GRANTS

## KEY NUMBERS

<b>\$10,000</b>	Minimum request
<b>\$50,000</b>	Maximum request
<b>16-20</b>	Estimated number of grants funded
<b>\$0.8 million</b>	Total available for Innovation in Action Grants
<b>2 years 2025 to 2027</b>	Project duration Beginning as early as January 2025 with final deliverables due February 2027

### KEY DEFINITION | *First Nations-led*

Initiatives that include meaningful decision-making and engagement by First Nations, ensuring their voices, perspectives and priorities guide the direction of the project or program. **First Nations-led** means ensuring First Nations peoples are not just passive participants or beneficiaries; rather, they take an active and leading role throughout the entire process of a program or project. This leadership role extends to project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. This approach recognizes the principles of self-determination, cultural autonomy and the importance of respecting First Nations’ rights. The goal is to create partnerships that are equitable, respectful and contribute to positive outcomes for First Nations peoples.

# Applicant Eligibility

The SIP Innovation in Action Grant welcomes all organizations engaging in innovative silviculture to apply. Preference will be given to grant applications led or co-led by First Nations. Collaborative grants are encouraged but not required.

## ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- ▶ Individuals
- ▶ First Nations (bands, Treaty First Nations, and Indigenous Governments with authority for lands and resources in BC)
- ▶ Non-profits whose mandate includes work on forests, forest management or sustainable forestry activities (registered charities, incorporated societies, community foundations)\*
- ▶ Consultancies whose scope includes work on forests, forest management or sustainable forestry activities\*
- ▶ Community forest agreement holders
- ▶ Woodlot licensees
- ▶ Research forests
- ▶ Major licensees\*
- ▶ Researchers from academic institutions or non-profits.

\*With your application, please provide a copy of the articles of incorporation or registration to confirm that the organization is validly incorporated or registered. This is not required for universities and colleges.

Eligible lead applicants/ organizations must be located in B.C.

Preference will be given to grant applications that are led or co-led by First Nations. We encourage collaborative grants. Proposed projects that are not led or co-led by First Nations are still encouraged to apply. These applicants may demonstrate support from First Nations, such as identifying supporting project team members on the grant application, letter(s) of support, etc.

Applying for an Innovation in Action Grant does not preclude you from applying for a Capacity Building Grant or additional funding launched by the program in later phases.

Please note that Provincial and Federal Government agencies can partner on grants, but are not eligible to receive funding.

# Eligible Themes

Proposed projects are expected to align with one or more of the priority themes listed below. Priority themes were determined at the Innovative Silviculture Knowledge Summit hosted in March 2024. Projects may also align with the broader themes listed in the “Open Call Themes” category.

## ★ PRIORITY THEMES ★

- ✦ **THEME 1** | *Old-like in a new light*: Using partial harvesting and/or other innovative silviculture techniques for the recruitment of old growth characteristics.
- ✦ **THEME 2** | *A burn a day can help keep wildfire away*: Supporting cultural and/or prescribed fire as a tool for managing multiple values including eco-cultural restoration, fuels management and/or risk reduction, restoring Indigenous food sovereignty and pyrosilviculture-related economic opportunities.
- ✦ **THEME 3** | *Thin it to win it*: Exploring prescription development for partial harvesting and/or thinning to improve forest resilience, reduce wildfire risk and manage multiple forest values.
- ✦ **THEME 4** | *Training tomorrow’s forest innovators*: Innovative silviculture practitioner and/or operator training, education or practical forestry experience opportunities.
- ✦ **THEME 5** | *Beyond the sawlog*: Innovative and optimized use of fibre to create higher-value products, increase employment and support local economies.
- ✦ **THEME 6** | *Success, failure, learn and tailor*: Share learnings of successes and failures of using innovative silviculture techniques to enhance adaptive management strategies and build on BC’s collective knowledge.

## OPEN CALL THEMES

- **THEME 7** | Partial harvest, variable retention, and/or ecological forestry to manage for multiple values (including recruitment of old growth structure).
- **THEME 8** | Using Western and Indigenous science together to better understand fire effects on forests with innovative silviculture treatments.
- **THEME 9** | Post-harvest silviculture treatments (planting, thinning, pruning, fertilization) to manage for multiple values (including recruitment of old growth structure).
- **THEME 10** | The intersection between and across the above open call themes (theme 7-9).

### KEY DEFINITION | *Multiple Values*

Conventional forestry approaches have historically emphasized commodity production of timber. Innovative silviculture creates the framework for considering multiple values at the stand and landscape scale, ranging from the physical to the spiritual. Managing **multiple values**, such as water, wildfire resilience, wildlife habitat, food sovereignty, and forest health requires a holistic approach.

## ✘ INELIGIBLE THEMES

- ✘ Single or multiple forest values without the inclusion of any of the above eligible silvicultural treatments or themes (e.g. researching wildlife forage quality in an old growth conservation area).
- ✘ Projects outside BC.



# Eligible Activities

An innovation in Action Grant can support projects by covering a variety of expenditures, from travel expenses for accessing project locations, to facility rental and catering costs to host a workshop.

## ✓ ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- ✓ Silvicultural treatments that align with provincial and local land managers' regional and/or district priorities on provincial crown land that occur on the timber harvesting land base and provincial parks in BC (including tenure, Crown land, and Old Growth Management Areas). Applicants are responsible for ensuring qualified regulated professionals will be used when legally required, such as a Registered Professional Forester.
- ✓ Planning of innovative silviculture techniques, such as prescription writing, site visits, mentorship/advice, field measurement protocol development, pre- and post-treatment data collection.
- ✓ Design and implementation of research and monitoring plan, including post-harvest evaluation and measurement/data collection.
- ✓ Studies, research and data collection assessments.
- ✓ Purchasing of operational equipment directly needed for implementation of the project to meet objectives and that aligns with SIP mission and values.
- ✓ Events or activities that support silviculture prescription development, planning, and implementation (e.g., travel costs associated with field visits, meeting in person).
- ✓ Events or activities associated with extension, including knowledge sharing, mentorship, and/or contributing to the collective knowledge of innovative silviculture.
- ✓ Development, sharing and/or application of tools, practices, and knowledge to support innovative silviculture, including decision support tools, technical guides, best practices, software development and training modules, case studies and summary reports, etc.
- ✓ Outreach and training activities or services that enhance capacity, education and outreach materials for stakeholders, rights holders, networks, and/or communities.

## ✗ INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- ✗ Activities which are considered tenure obligations or for which a proponent has received cost allowance(s) included in the Interior Appraisal Manual or Coast Appraisal Manual. This includes treatment costs and activities associated with the stumpage system, such as layout, roads, logging, and reforestation.
- ✗ Capital costs greater than \$5,000 for the construction of buildings or the purchase of land or buildings.

# Eligible Expenditures

An Innovation in Action Grant can support projects by covering a variety of expenditures, from travel expenses for accessing project locations, to facility rental and catering costs to host a workshop.



## ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES

- ✓ Salaries, benefits, stipends
- ✓ Travel expenditures, including meals and accommodation
- ✓ Training, working groups and professional development costs including facility rental and costs to develop training
- ✓ Conference fees
- ✓ Refitting, repairs, and refurbishment of equipment
- ✓ Purchase of materials, supplies and equipment such as laboratory and field supplies and equipment for forestry activities (e.g., forest mensuration equipment, fuels assessments, wildlife assessment, climate stations, etc; communications equipment; personal protective equipment). *Whole or partial costs of materials, equipment and technology are eligible, but considered on a case-by-case basis and must be included as a line item in the proposed budget. The applicant must clearly indicate how the equipment is required to meet project objectives that align with SIP mission and values.*
- ✓ Informatics and information technology and systems, including software and hardware.
- ✓ Data collection services, including processing, analysis and management.
- ✓ Additional dependent care costs associated with attendance of a professional event such as workshop, conference, or field visit. Dependents include children, elders, or family members with disabilities. This would include travel for a caregiver to and from the event and costs of care at the location of the event, or the costs of caregiver travel to your home, or increased expenses at home incurred because the primary caregiver attended the meeting (such as a babysitter). *If requesting dependent care costs, applicants are expected to detail estimated costs for each expenditure type and include details on location of event (e.g., cost of flight for family member to conference to provide childcare). Grantees may request up to \$2,000 over the time period for dependent care.*



## INELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES

- ✗ Purchase of firearms and/or ammunition.
- ✗ Expenses or costs paid or committed to by other funding sources.
- ✗ Costs for activities that are considered tenure obligations or for which a proponent has received cost allowance(s) included in the Interior Appraisal Manual or Coast Appraisal Manual. This includes treatment costs and activities associated with the stumpage system, such as layout, roads, logging, and reforestation.
- ✗ Costs that are incurred prior to receiving grant approval.
- ✗ Costs for activities/phases outside the intent of this funding.

# Example Projects

The following are examples of projects that would qualify for an Innovation in Action Grant.

## EXAMPLE PROJECT 1

**THEME 1 | Old-like in a new light:** Using partial harvesting and/or other innovative silviculture techniques for the recruitment of old growth characteristics.

A research forest seeks to complete a new partial cutting entry in an existing trial. They need to access funds to pay for pre- and post-harvest data collection of the treatment effects. They are working in partnership with a First Nations-owned forestry company and will access Innovation in Action Grant funds to monitor whether the treatment helps recruit old growth characteristics relevant to that ecosystem. They also want to understand the impact of the treatment on wildlife and may want to purchase cameras or acoustic recording devices to look at wildlife and/or bird use.



## EXAMPLE PROJECT 2

**THEME 3 | Thin it to win it:** Exploring prescription development for partial harvesting and/or thinning to improve forest resilience, reduce wildfire risk and manage multiple forest values.

A not-for-profit would like to work with industry partners to better understand how commercial thinning will impact timber and non-timber values in a forest adjacent to a protected area. The Innovation in Action Grant funds will provide support for a field team to collect data on multiple values in treated and untreated areas. The funds will also support the creation of a guide for commercial thinning in sensitive habitats to support the long-term management of multiple values.



## EXAMPLE PROJECT 3

**THEME 2 | A burn a day can help keep wildfire away:** Supporting cultural and prescribed fire planning as a tool for managing multiple values including (but not limited to), eco-cultural restoration, fuels management, Indigenous food sovereignty and pyrosilviculture-related economic opportunities.

A Nation would like to return fire to their territory as a tool to manage multiple cultural, ecological, and economic values. The Nation enters into a new relationship with BC Wildfire and university researchers to co-develop a modified wildfire response plan that identifies suitable locations for cultural and prescribed fire prescription development and locations that are suitable for wildfire to occur. The landscape-level plan assesses the risks and benefits of fire on forest values, including moose browse, grizzly bear habitat, food and medicinal plants, and reduction of fuels.



# The 5 Project Elements

The following five project elements will be considered for SIP Innovation in Action grant applications. After an initial eligibility screening, applications will be evaluated in these areas by an external review panel.

## 1 ALIGNMENT

The project demonstrates clear alignment with the SIP Strategic Plan including the vision, mission, values and priority areas.

▶ **VISION:** aims to increase the knowledge and/or application of innovative silviculture in British Columbia AND demonstrates stewardship of multiple values.

▶ **MISSION:** aims to impact one or more elements of the SIP mission.

▶ **VALUES:** the project is in alignment with the SIP values.

▶ **PRIORITIES:** impact is clear and measurable and will advance several goals of the SIP on a provincial scale OR is highly impactful towards advancing a specific priority area or region/forest type.

*How will my project make progress on improving knowledge and/or application of innovative silviculture in BC to support multiple values?*

## 2 NEED & GAP

The project aims to fill an important innovative silviculture knowledge and/or extension gap. The project may also directly support the needs of a specific community or region.

▶ **COMMUNITY:** provides benefit and/or support for the local/regional community and/or economy.

▶ **GAP OR NEED:** aims to address a known priority project area or SIP theme with a clear indication of steps taken. Alternatively, the project describes a previously unknown important gap/need and provides a clear description of why it is important, and how the project will address it.

▶ **REGION:** significantly advances knowledge specific to a region and/or forest type. In addition, universal lessons learned or knowledge (including data collection methodology, social lessons, etc.) can be shared and/or applied elsewhere in BC.

*What knowledge or extension gap will my project help fill? What knowledge, skills or experience can be shared with other practitioners?*

## 3 PLANNING

The project demonstrates leadership, competency and capacity to do the work, providing support for sound investment of SIP funding. The project shows planning for success by outlining key objectives, milestones and impactful deliverables.

▶ **OUTLINE:** defines objectives, milestones, deliverables.

▶ **BUDGET:** credible, accurate and includes only eligible expenses.

▶ **CAPACITY:** project team demonstrates the capacity and qualifications to do the work.

▶ **EXTENSION:** shows an understanding of the target audience(s) and consideration for how the work could be effectively shared.

▶ **CONTINGENCY:** shows awareness of foreseeable challenges or obstacles to project completion with possible solutions identified.

*Is my planning realistic and comprehensive for the size of objective? Is my team capable and ready to do the work and report on our results?*

## 4 DIVERSITY

The project upholds respectful, reciprocal and collaborative relationships with First Nations, communities and organizations. The project supports and promotes equity, diversity and inclusion of marginalized voices.

▶ **FIRST NATION PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP:** acknowledges and demonstrates respect and consideration of First Nations peoples, communities and organizations, and respects their lands, values, and ways of life. Letters of support are provided where appropriate to show engagement and active relationship building. All projects are encouraged to apply but preference will be given to First Nations-led or co-led projects.

▶ **EDI:** demonstrates competency and leadership in progressing and upholding equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) values.

*Is my project First Nations-led, co-led, and/or co-created? How does my project involve or support First Nations peoples and communities? Does my project promote equity, diversity and inclusion?*

## 5 PRIORITY

The project is focused on advancing one or more priority eligible themes. The project is “shovel ready” and/or is expected to help promote positive awareness and support for the SIP across BC.

▶ **PRIORITY:** the project is a top priority to advancing the goals and profile of the SIP.

▶ **EXECUTION:** the project has a high probability of completion with no or limited external support needed, fills a major gap AND/OR project stands out as uniquely innovative.

▶ **PROMOTION:** provides excellent opportunities for improving SIP public awareness through extension and networking. Links to current extension projects that are underway.

*Does my project provide the SIP team with strong opportunities to promote awareness, engagement and profile of innovative silviculture?*

# Disbursement & Deliverables

All grant recipients will be required to submit three types of deliverables. Funds will be disbursed upfront (60%), halfway (30%) and at the end of project (10%) as deliverables are received.

## DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE

Grant recipients will receive **60% of requested project funds upfront** with the remaining 40% tied to deliverables.



### DELIVERABLE 1: 30% funds on receipt

## HALFWAY REPORT

Applicants will be expected to provide a progress report halfway through the project time period using a template (to be provided). Applicants will be expected to be able to report on milestones outlined in the proposed work plan and deliverables for each milestone.

**WHY?** Halfway reports will be used by the SIP team to see how projects are going and report on grant interim progress. This report creates an opportunity for grant recipients to share their knowledge and experiences along the way, leverage the silviculture community to problem solve issues, and celebrate interim successes instead of waiting until the end.



### DELIVERABLE 2: 10% funds on receipt

## FINAL REPORT & EXTENSION PRODUCTS

**FINAL REPORT:** Applicants must provide a final report at the end of project time period using a SIP template (to be provided). The final report will be narrative and financial. Reporting will relate back to milestones and expected deliverables set out in the work plan.

**WHY?** Final reports will be used by the SIP team to measure and report on the success of the SIP grant program. Information collected across all submitted reports will help the SIP understand how the grant program was impactful and how it can improve.



**EXTENSION PRODUCTS:** Applicants for the Innovation in Action grant will be asked to briefly describe how extension processes and products have been considered throughout the project, as well as commit to at least two extension products or activities (*see the following two pages for a definition and description of extension, with examples*). A commitment and strong plan for meaningful extension products will be a significant consideration for successful applicants.



**WHY?** Extension is where the SIP has its biggest impact on moving the dial in increasing the application of innovative silviculture in BC through improving our collective knowledge. Completed extension products will be shared through the SIP, further benefiting grant recipients by reaching a wide audience and building their networks.

# Required Deliverables: Extension

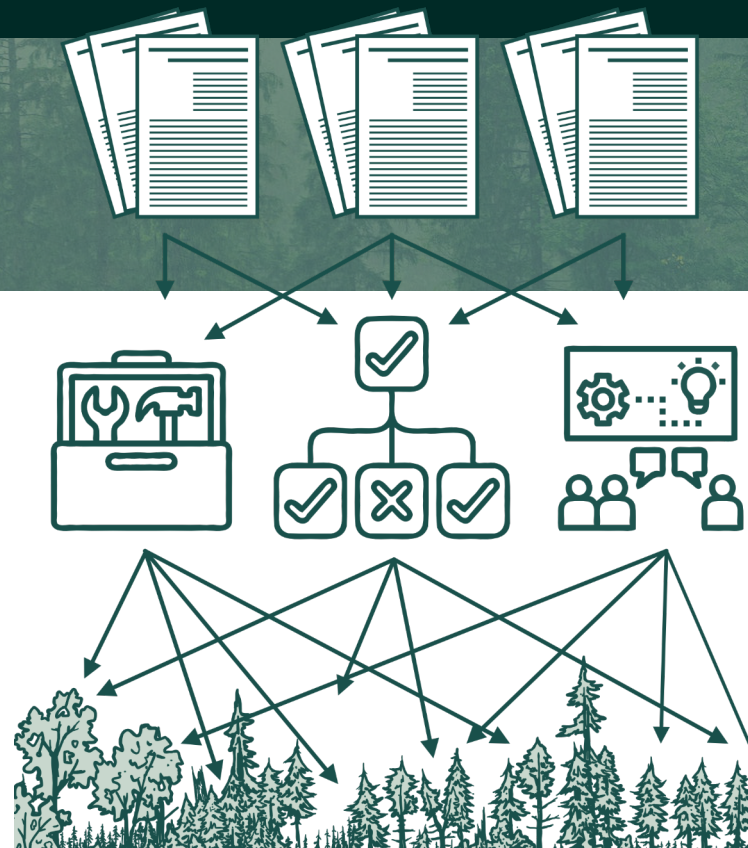
The SIP is built on the foundation that applied research and extension are a powerful combination to translate knowledge into action. The following outlines extension expectations for Innovation in Action grant recipients.

Extension is a process that should be considered at the beginning of any project, and includes identifying the target audience(s), developing extension products and engaging to extend this information in different formats.

We understand that extension can be a new activity to many groups. We note that the SIP will be able to support extension deliverables (such as, assistance carrying out a field tour, developing an infographic or decision aid, connecting with practitioners for delivery etc) when and where necessary, and when capacity permits.

For your project application, you will be expected to briefly describe how you intend these deliverables (knowledge and products) to be extended to different knowledge users/ audiences. Types of different audiences include foresters, practitioners, operators, managers, policy makers, community members, researchers, students, local and informed public, youth and more. The type of extension, how it is communicated and designed, and how it is delivered will vary depending on the target audience(s) for your project.

Some examples of extension activities include convening workshops, hosting training sessions, creating course modules, holding community meetings, delivering presentations, supporting land-based learning, and creating communication tools and resources in creative and targeted ways (e.g., summarize what was learned on project planning and implementation). Extension products include items such as extension notes, peer-reviewed papers, decision aids, blogs, infographics, video explainers, social media series, additions to newsletters, contributed magazine articles, interviews on podcast episodes and more.



## KEY DEFINITION | Extension

Extension is a practice of building trust, relationships, and capacity to enable collaboration. Extension supports active engagement with diverse stakeholders and all levels of government (Indigenous and municipal, provincial, federal) to identify opportunities, information needs, and synergies. A foundational principle of extension is spanning boundaries and centering reciprocity, with a focus on two-way knowledge mobilization. The SIP goal is to increase the understanding of innovative silviculture systems by connecting the producers of knowledge with the users of knowledge. In this way, extension ensures outcomes are useful, informing the implementation of site plans, landscape planning, community decision-making and even policy transformation. When it comes to knowledge dissemination, extension actively reframes, translates, and mobilizes knowledge depending on different audiences and contexts.

# Required Deliverables: **Extension**

The following are some examples of extension products that could be delivered by Innovation in Action grant recipients.

## Extension examples

A **field tour** with local First Nations community members and regional silviculturalists to share the treatment prescription and walk through how decisions were made and what trade-offs were assessed.

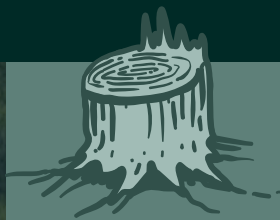


A **site plan** or **prescription** paired with a narrative description of the decisions and considerations that informed the plan.

A **blog series** describing the treatment process with accompanying video footage of the prescription.

A short **decision aid** for practitioners that describes how different multiple values were monitored in the region and a plan to share the decision aid at an upcoming professional conference or workshop.

An **article** about the work, featured in a professional association magazine or other media outlet.



## ... Stumped?

**Unsure of where to begin?** We encourage applicants to consider these questions below when reflecting on how extension can be integrated into the project throughout:

- ❓ Who are the audiences that will benefit from learning about the project results?
- ❓ What are the information needs from the target audiences? Are there ways that you can better understand those specific needs?
- ❓ What are the different ways project results or project updates can be delivered to various users?
- ❓ How can knowledge sharing from this project help support the goal of increasing uptake of innovative silviculture?
- ❓ Are there extension activities that would benefit from further hands-on support from the SIP?



For further information on extension, explore <https://sip.bvcentre.ca/extension/>

If you have questions, you can contact [sip.extension@bvcentre.ca](mailto:sip.extension@bvcentre.ca)

# Additional Details & Requirements

Information on data ownership and sharing, authorizations & permissions, procurement processes, project workplans and the grant review process.

## DATA OWNERSHIP & SHARING

The SIP supports data sovereignty, which is the grantee's right to govern and manage their own data. Primary ownership of data will lie with grantees.

For the "Innovation in Action" grant stream, the SIP has an expectation that data, in some form, will be shared with the SIP by the end of project life. Data sharing agreements between grantees and the SIP will be created and include details on data storage, confidentiality, permitted uses, and/or suitable data openness.

The SIP respects and appreciates the need for confidentiality of sensitive data, such as the identification of culturally-sensitive places, species, or stories. The Data Sharing Agreement process, or other appropriate agreement(s), will assess how sensitive information is managed and shared, if appropriate.

## AUTHORIZATIONS & PERMISSIONS

If authorizations are required to implement the project, it is the responsibility of the project applicant to ensure authorizations are in place from the applicable Land Manager. Work plans should include steps to acquire authorizations, if they have not yet been acquired. Applicants are also responsible for ensuring qualified regulated professionals will be used when legally required, such as a Registered Professional Forester.

Project applicants should demonstrate permissions and/or support from project partners, rights holders and stakeholders impacted by the project activities, when and where possible.

Applicants are responsible to ensure all First Nation consultations are completed before the start of the project.

## PROCUREMENT PROCESS

Applicants should have a process to determine suitable contractors, if the projects include third-party contracting in the work plan and budget.

Procurement processes should consider:

- Existence of a comparable contract,
- Existing contractors established through an internal selection process,
- Availability of skilled contractors or professionals,
- Operating areas where it is beneficial to use or build local expertise, or
- Use of First Nation contractors.

## PROJECT WORKPLAN

A project workplan is *not* required at the application stage. The intent is to reduce barriers to applying by minimizing administration time and effort required at the application stage.

Successful applicants must be prepared to deliver a basic project workplan to the SIP at the time of contract (estimated January 2025) in order to receive their upfront funding. A basic project workplan will need to include an estimated timeline of activities and milestones, including work on planned extension products.

## REVIEW PROCESS

Applications will be evaluated between November 2<sup>nd</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> 2024. A detailed review will be completed by an external panel of subject matter experts to assess the nature and scope of the application, the expected results and the applicant's readiness to implement the project. All information pertaining to applicant identity will be anonymized. Applications will remain confidential and will not be disclosed outside of the review and evaluation process.

SIP aims to select a range of projects that address current needs and gaps in innovative forestry in BC. As the SIP is provincial in scale, the SIP aims to distribute grants across all of BC.

**Successful applicants will be notified by January 10, 2025.**



# Application checklist

(Printer friendly!)

- Determined project eligibility:**
  - Project is eligible to apply (*See Applicant Eligibility*)
  - Eligible theme(s) selected (*See Eligible Themes*)
  - Funding will be requested for eligible activities only? (*See Eligible Activities*)
- Reviewed the 5 Project Elements and considered how my project would align:**
  - Alignment: improving knowledge and/or application of innovative silviculture in BC to support multiple values
  - Need & Gap: project helps fill a knowledge or extension gap and/or outcomes can share knowledge, skills and/or experience with the innovative silviculture community
  - Planning: project outline and budget; team has capacity and qualifications to do the work; extension products; awareness and preparation for foreseeable challenges/obstacles
  - Diversity: demonstrates respect and consideration of First-Nations peoples, communities, lands, values and ways of life. Preference for projects that are First Nations-led, co-led and/or co-created. Demonstrates competency and leadership in equity, diversity & inclusion values.
  - Priority: provides the SIP with opportunities to promote innovative silviculture.
- Reviewed disbursement schedule and understand required deliverables**
  - Halfway report (30% of funding released on receipt)
  - Final report (10% of funding released on receipt, in combination with Extension)
  - Extension products (minimum two) (10% of funding, in combination with Final Report)
- Attend the SIP [Grants information webinar](#) on September 24, 2024 12:00PM (PST) (optional)**
- Register for the SIP grant portal and application form:**  
<https://silvicultureinnovation.grantplatform.com>
- Review the online application form to understand information required in application**
- Acquire supporting documents, such as letters of support (if necessary)**
- Complete the mandatory online application form on the SIP grant portal**
- Review your application, ensure all attachments and information is correct**
- Submit completed application via SIP grant portal! NOTE: Email or mail-in applications will not be accepted.**

## SUPPORT

After reading this guide, are you still unsure if your project or program is eligible? If you have questions or are seeking support regarding extension or reporting requirements, please contact the SIP Extension Specialist:

Email: [sip.extension@bvcentre.ca](mailto:sip.extension@bvcentre.ca).

If you are seeking support regarding the grant application portal or general eligibility requirements, please contact the SIP Program Manager:

Email: [sip.manager@bvcentre.ca](mailto:sip.manager@bvcentre.ca)

Phone: 250-847-2827 \*

\* (Monday-Thursday between 9AM-11:30AM and 1:30PM-4PM; If your call is not answered please leave a message (requesting grant information, name, date, phone number, email address).