

INTRODUCING THE

Silviculture Innovation Program

A program of the
**BULKLEY VALLEY
RESEARCH CENTRE**
Smithers, BC

Why does the SIP exist?

BACKGROUND | British Columbia's Old Growth Strategic Review identified innovative silvicultural practices as tools to help address forest resiliency, ecosystem health and climate change adaptation. The province wants to explore ways to use innovative silvicultural practices as tools to manage a diverse range of values and interests on the landscape.

In March 2023, the province invested \$10 million in establishing and advancing a silvicultural innovation program in BC. This investment directly responds to Recommendation #12 of the Old Growth Strategic Review to create a Silviculture Innovation Program (SIP) aimed at developing harvesting alternatives to clearcutting that maintain old forest values.

How does the SIP work?

STRUCTURE | The funds were provided to the Bulkley Valley Research Centre (BVRC). The BVRC is a not-for-profit organization in Smithers, BC, located on Gidimt'en Territory of the Witsuwit'en First Nation. The BVRC conducts research throughout the province and works to extend knowledge and build collaborative relationships. The BVRC is responsible for designing and implementing the SIP.

The SIP is managed by an Operations Team, consisting of two provincial staff and two staff from the BVRC. A ten-person Strategic Advisory Group, with representatives from diverse disciplines across BC, provides strategic oversight and direction to the program.

Silviculture Innovation Program (SIP)



The **purpose** of the *Silviculture Innovation Program (SIP)* is to **improve knowledge** regarding innovative silviculture systems that can be used to **inform practice and policy**. This includes **extension, applied and operational research**.

- SIP STRATEGIC PLAN

What **progress** are we making?



COMPLETE | Established Operations Team and Strategic Advisory Group (SAG); hired Program Manager.



COMPLETE | The SAG adopted a Strategic Plan, Vision and Mission that will guide SIP research and extension priorities. The Plan will be made public late Fall 2023.



IN PROGRESS | Two extension specialists (one technical and one engagement) will be hired to liaise directly with government, industry and Indigenous participants across the province.



PLANNED | A Knowledge Summit is being planned for March 2024 to collate the current state of knowledge in BC around silvicultural innovations, and to prioritize knowledge gaps and extension needs.

PLAN SNEAK PREVIEW!

How can I **get involved?**

We are building an attendee interest list for the Knowledge Summit in **March 2024**. We are looking to gather individuals who can build collaborations and shape our collective understanding of silviculture in BC.

The Summit will be a focused work session with breakout conversations and problem solving. We are seeking solution-oriented attendees who will participate with an open mind and commit to difficult conversations.

To register your interest,

..... **scan the QR code!**

<https://forms.gle/psxbaKLP68zWiiEt8>



WE'RE JUST GETTING

STARTED... More opportunities and updates to come - stay tuned!