



**NEBC Resource
Municipalities Fall Forum**

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Panel Session #5

Decision Making related to Resource
Development

Greg Van Dolah

Director of Authorizations, Northeast Region &
Acting District Manager, Peace Resource District



OVERVIEW

- Legislation Boundaries
- Early Engagement
- First Nation & Stakeholder Engagement
- Balanced Approach
- Monitoring





Bound by Legislation

- Decisions based on specific legislation
 - Land Act, Forest Range Practices Act, Water Sustainability Act, Range Act and Wildlife Act
 - Associated regulations
- Decisions based policy
- Decisions based on non-legal requirement
 - Social license





Active Engagement & Negotiations

- Provincial Negotiation & Engagement
 - First Nation Agreements
 - Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment
- Proponent and Licensee Engagement
 - Pro-active information sharing
 - Development of BMPs



First Nation Reconciliation

- The Province is legally obligated to consult and accommodate First Nations, where required, on land and resource decisions that could impact their Treaty Rights.
- While the Province is responsible for ensuring adequate and appropriate consultation and accommodation, it may involve the proponent in the procedural aspects of consultation.

Key Initiatives:

- Provincial Agreements
- District Manager's Letter of Expectation
- Environmental Assessment
- Resource Management Plans



Stakeholder Engagement & Consultation

- Individual interviews of stakeholders and businesses
- Business sector roundtable discussion/focus groups
- Public meetings



Key Initiatives:

- Range/Cattleman meetings
- Union of BC Municipalities meeting (UBCM)
- NE Strategic Advisory Group
- Public Advisory Group (PAG)(Sustainable Forest Management Plan)
- NE Wildlife PAG



Balance Approach for Decisions

- Sustainable resource management decisions & activities
- Well-being of the Province's environment
- Communities and the economy





Environmental Monitoring to Support Decision Making

Integrated, science-based resource monitoring provides government decision-makers with the tools required to make informed decisions.



Key Initiatives

- Forest & Range Evaluation Program
- NE Cumulative Effects Assessment & Management Program
- Wildlife Population Inventories
- Fish Sensitive Watershed



Key Messages:

- Engage early and often
- Develop and work through collaborative solution
- Understand the limitations of legislation
- Initiate communications with the Province





Questions?