



January 28, 2021
CLIFF: 260797

Distributed via email to: BC Community Forest Assoc, BC Pulp and Paper Coalition, COFI, Federation of BC Woodlot Assoc's, Independent Wood Processors Assoc of BC, Interior Logging Assoc, Interior Lumber Manufacturers Assoc, Western Forestry Contractors of BC, Northwest Loggers Assoc, Truck Loggers Assoc, Vancouver Island Assoc of Wood Producers, Forest Nursery Assoc of BC

Dear Colleagues:

Topic: Update to the Forest Sector Safety Measures Fund Program

I would like to thank you for your efforts to inform companies, throughout the forest sector in British Columbia, about the Forest Sector Safety Measures Fund Program, funded by the Federal government as part of Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan.

The purpose of the program is to address expenses, directly related to the implementation of health and safety measures, that were incurred between April 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020. It is not intended for mitigating future expenses.

As specified by Canada, the reimbursement rates (i.e., Regional Cost Adjustment Factors) used in this program are intended to address the portion of the eligible expenses not already covered by payments from other sources. It does not cover the expenses for implementing COVID-19 health and safety measures that have already been paid for by another company, for example, by way of higher fees.

Application to the Forest Sector Safety Measures Fund program is voluntary, and all eligible forest sector, small- and medium-sized enterprises, are encouraged to consider applying. However, companies should not apply if the COVID-19 related health and safety measures costs that they have incurred have been paid for by another company.

For program description, please visit <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/silviculture/working-in-silviculture-sector-covid-19/fssmf>. Funding applications close February 1, 2021 at 4 pm.

Yours truly,



Diane R. Nicholls, RPF
ADM, Chief Forester
Office of the Chief Forester
Caring for BC's Forests
Ministry of Forests, Lands,
Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development
Office: 778 974-5840
Email: Diane.Nicholls@gov.bc.ca
Assistant: Shannon.Pike@gov.bc.ca

