

No one said it was going to be easy

Chris Hollstedt, FORREX Chief Executive Officer and *JEM* Editor-in-Chief

The development and management of British Columbia's forests and other natural resources continues to be a mainstay of the economy, supporting well-paying jobs and ensuring healthy, vibrant, and resilient ecosystems and communities. The people of British Columbia rely on experienced and knowledgeable resource professionals to make informed decisions. Although we are seeing some increase in recruitment at the university and college levels, the bulk of these decisions are, and will be for some time, made by those currently working in the field. FORREX is dedicated to providing these resource professionals with access to the best available science and information. But, no one said it was going to be easy.

As a charitable organization, FORREX relies on grants and agreements to deliver products and services, including the *BC Journal of Ecosystems and Management (JEM)*. Over the last few years, our contributions from the provincial government have declined to less than one-third of sustainable levels. The good news is our volunteer contributions to writing, editing, peer review, and strategic content guidance have increased—this at a time when all volunteers are experiencing unbelievable pressures on their time. So a big “thank you” to all of you who submit articles and participate in our peer-review processes. We could not produce such high-quality and relevant content without you.

FORREX is looking for alternative means to support future issues. The next issue of *JEM*, with funding support from the **Future Forest Ecosystems Science Council**, will showcase interim results from climate change and adaptation research. The current issue of *JEM*, made possible with funding in part from the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and the Ministry of Environment, is a great example of the breadth and depth of content being developed by our knowledge sector to inform our readers and help improve or support complex decisions in policy or on the ground. From community resilience tools and defining public expectations, to silvicultural systems considerations and new approaches such as assisted migration, species at risk, and the role of Indigenous knowledge, FORREX, through *JEM* and our volunteer contributors, is helping you make informed decisions.

And it goes without saying (but I will say it anyway), we couldn't bring you this timely, quality, and relevant information without the support of our editors, designers, and the publishing team. As with complex resource management decisions, no one said the funding of knowledge exchange and extension services was easy. Therefore, FORREX is pursuing creative solutions and remains committed to putting information within your reach, for years to come.

On behalf of the contributors and publishing team for this issue of *JEM*, we hope you enjoy and benefit from what you read.