

Looking to the Future **Our Public Forest**

Government's Response to the Select Committee on Wood Supply

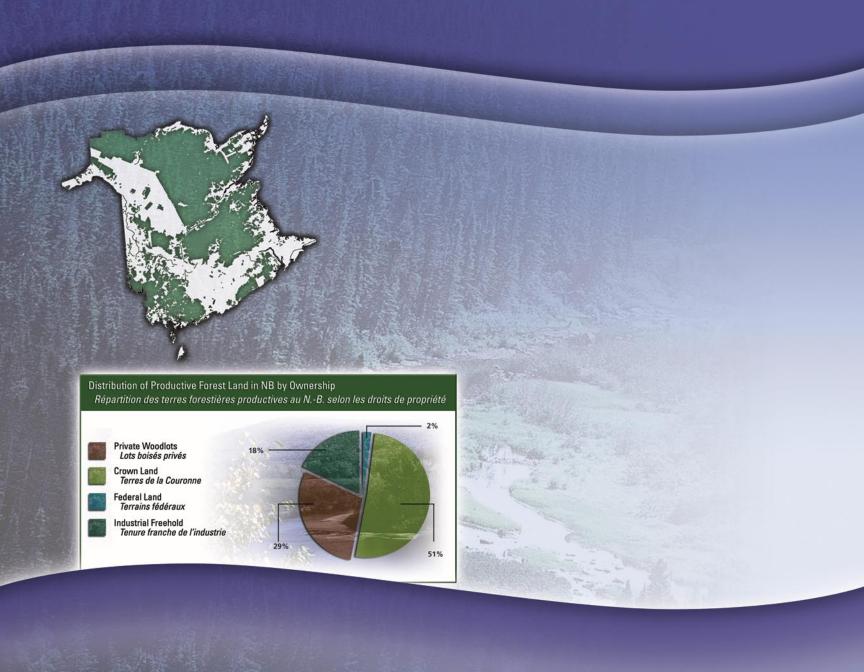














Minister's Message

The recommendations of the **Select Committee on Wood Supply** reflect the passion New Brunswickers have for their forest. The people of New Brunswick have made their wishes clear and we will respect their wishes. We will support the forest economy and the communities that depend on forestry. At the same time, we will work hard to conserve our natural environment.

The Select Committee's recommendations give us a framework for action: to balance the environmental, social and economic aspects of a healthy forest; to conserve the diversity and character of our forest; to ensure a reliable and secure wood supply; and to give New Brunswickers a stronger voice about the future of our forest.

There will always be challenges in balancing the interests of stakeholders, but the Select Committee has given us the direction to set a new benchmark for well-balanced forest management.

New Brunswickers have a reputation of rolling up their sleeves and working hard to get the job done. Let's come together and put that reputation to work and make the future better for everyone.

Keith Ashfield

Minister
Natural Resources



Respecting the Land

A healthy forest will be our first consideration.

Protecting wildlife habitat will be a priority.

First Nations peoples' traditional connection to the land will be respected.

No additional harvesting will be allowed in special management areas.

Quality stands of hardwood, red spruce, white pine and cedar will not be clearcut.









Public Participation

The public will have a greater say in how its forest is managed.

A public participation process will be implemented.

A Crown Forest Advisory Committee will be established with First Nations representation and major stakeholders invited to participate.

The Natural Resources Minister will present annual State of the Forest reports to the Legislature.

Acadian Forest

This forest's unique characteristics will be respected and conserved.

Working with First Nations and stakeholders, specific strategies and actions will be developed to support economic opportunities and to sustain our natural resources.

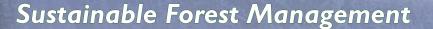
Government will adopt a strategy that balances the environmental, social and economic values that are important to New Brunswickers.







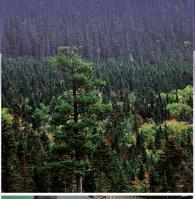




A new value-added strategy will be developed. This is one of the Total Development Strategies of New Brunswick's Prosperity Plan.

Everyone who has the privilege of working on public land will be required to ensure a healthy, productive forest remains for future generations.

Government will promote economic growth for our communities and a healthy natural environment for all New Brunswickers.











Long-term silviculture funding will be secured.

Future royalty rate increases will be dedicated to silviculture.

Current wood supply will be maintained in the short-term and increased over time.

Companies owning land and benefiting from public land silviculture will be expected to carry out silviculture activities on their land.









Our Future

This land sustains our communities and helps us prosper and grow.

This land supports wildlife and has natural resources that provide thousands of jobs and contribute millions to our economy.

This land provides us with a high quality of life and must be managed wisely to meet our present and future needs.

We must respect the land using wise conservation with a strong focus on keeping our forest healthy.

For more information on Government's response to the recommendations of the Select Committee on Wood Supply, please visit:

www.gnb.ca/0078 e-mail: DNRweb@gnb.ca or call (506) 453-2614







