

NB Federation of Woodlot Owners

Political Party Policy Survey

The Private Woodlot Sustainability Act received Royal Assent in December of 2022. Currently, the scope of use for the Private Woodlot Sustainability Fund and the mechanisms to access this fund are not very clear. Over the past 20+ years, the province has eliminated direct technical and educational support for private woodlot owners.

1. Would your party support establishing a mechanism to ensure that the Fund go to programs that promote new and innovative private woodlot management beyond just increasing wood supply? If so, what might that mechanism look like?
2. Will your party support the creation of a formal Private Woodlot Extension service in order to provide private woodlots the support (training, education and programming) necessary to achieve the many benefits that private woodlots provide to the province? If so, are you willing to direct funds from the Private Woodlot Sustainability Fund to these activities – in keeping with the Private Woodlot Sustainability Act?

Publicly-owned Crown Lands are supposed to be the residual supplier of wood to mills not the primary source of supply.

3. What is your party's position on ensuring that the marketability of private wood is not impacted by company access to Crown wood?
4. Does your party support either Primary Source of Supply status for private woodlot wood or some other mechanism to ensure the sale of private wood is not impeded by other sources of wood?
5. Does your party see any value in a group negotiating system, such as the current Marketing Board System?
6. What is your party's position on the current Crown Lands and Forests Act? Would your party be in favour of a hybrid management approach which would collapse the existing DNR/Licensee management framework on Crown Lands and creating an agency with a board of directors to oversee Crown Land management, as was suggested by Don Roberts (CIBC world markets) back in 2010.
7. What policies does your party have regarding private woodlots that would allow our members to perceive the future with optimism and confidence?
8. Given the fact that countervail and anti-dumping duties on softwood lumber have taken more than \$678,000,000 out of the NB economy and considering that a system which ensures that private wood is the primary source and marketed at fair market prices would likely resolve

this issue, as it has in the past, how willing is your party to change the NB system to address this issue and ensure that NB once again is part of the Maritime exemption?

9. What is your party's position on formalizing the sale of carbon credits? Are you willing to provide support from the Private Woodlot Sustainability Fund or other sources to support small private woodlot participation? How would you implement it?

10. What is your party's position on compensating woodlot owners for conservation efforts that provide ecological goods & services to the province such as Other Effective Conservation Methods, maintaining forest cover, Forest Stewardship Council certification and prevention of land conversion to ensure the province can become net-zero by 2050?