



**NEWS RELEASE:** For immediate release

## **BC Forest Safety Council and FPInnovations work together to improve forest industry safety performance**

**Nanaimo and Vancouver, April 5, 2018** – The CEO of the BC Forest Safety Council (BCFSC), Rob Moonen, and the President and CEO of FPInnovations, Stéphane Renou, are pleased to announce that the two organizations have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to work collaboratively on enhancing safety performance in the forest industry by sharing leading, innovative scientific and technical applications.

Under the MOU, individual projects and financial support agreements for specific activities will be identified through consultation between the two parties, with FPInnovations providing research expertise and non-proprietary technical resources or materials to assist the BCFSC in improving or expanding the support it provides to the forest industry to reduce serious injuries and fatalities.

Examples that are currently underway include a steep slope harvesting calculator, feller buncher rollover analysis, fatigue and distraction technologies, a winch-assist harvester best practice manual and body cams for fallers.

### **Quotes**

“This MOU supports some of our key strategic objectives, namely to link safety and business success in a meaningful way and to improve the distribution and awareness of industry current best practices, guidelines and standards, while improving collaboration with government agencies and other stakeholders. Promoting innovation, science and technical solutions in support of improving safety in the forestry industry is key to long-term success,” said **Rob Moonen, BC Forest Safety Council CEO**.

“This MOU reflects the importance for the forest sector of increasing safety as a key metric of industrial performance and demonstrates the industry’s commitment to seek innovative solutions to managing risks. FPInnovations values this partnership as an opportunity to drive its research and expertise to field practitioners and achieve safer operations for forest workers,” said **Stéphane Renou, President and CEO, FPInnovations**.

### **About the BCFSC**

The British Columbia Forest Safety Council is a not-for-profit health and safety association (HSA) for forest harvesting, sawmills and pellet manufacturing in British Columbia. The organization is directed by industry and provides training, information, guidance, safety advisor advocacy, safety reviews and audits

to industry. The focus is on preventing fatalities and injuries by supporting industry participants implement best practice performance. Safety is good business. See [www.bcforestsafe.org](http://www.bcforestsafe.org).

### **About FPInnovations**

FPInnovations is a not-for-profit world leader that specializes in the creation of scientific solutions in support of the Canadian forest sector's global competitiveness and responds to the priority needs of its industry members and government partners. It is ideally positioned to perform research, innovate, and deliver state-of-the-art solutions for every area of the sector's value chain, from forest operations to consumer and industrial products. FPInnovations' R&D laboratories are located in Québec City, Montréal and Vancouver, and it has technology transfer offices across Canada. For more information about FPInnovations, visit: [www.fpinnovations.ca](http://www.fpinnovations.ca).

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