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BC INTERIOR FOREST ADVISORY GROUP RECOGNIZED

Williams Lake, British Columbia –A public advisory committee working with Tolko Industries Ltd. on sustainable forest management in the Cariboo region of BC’s central interior for nearly a decade, has been recognized with the CSA Sustainable Forest Management User Group Chairman’s Award for their leadership and personal commitment to the public participation process and on-going continuous improvement.

“The Tolko Cariboo Woodlands Public Advisory Group is one of many dedicated multi-stakeholder public groups in forest communities across Canada that provide advice on locally adapted measures of good forest management. There are many demands placed on public forests that influence how they are managed. These advisory groups help balance these forest values within the context of the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) sustainable forest certification standard” said John Dunford, Chair of the group representing the forest companies certified to CSA in Canada. “We are fortunate to have many dedicated public advisory groups actively engaged in the development and certification of good forestry practices. I am pleased this year to recognize the achievements of the Cariboo Public Advisory Group.”

The Advisory Group has helped ensure local forest management meets strict on-the-ground tests required by CSA for each of the biological, environmental and social criteria under the sustainable forest management standard.

“This is well deserved recognition of the ongoing efforts and continued support of the Cariboo Woodlands Public Advisory Group” said Bryan Jakubec, Area Supervisor – Planning at Tolko Industries Ltd. “I continue to be impressed by the range of interests that the Advisory Group represents and the technical expertise that they bring to the table during discussions on a wide range of subject matter. It is great that these committed volunteers are being recognized for their efforts - definitely well deserved!”

CSA is Canada’s national forest certification standard and the world’s largest national forest management standard with roughly 40 million hectares of woodlands certified. It includes a suite of mandatory core indicators for consistently measuring sustainable forest management across the country. It also requires local adaptations through ongoing public dialogue with public advisory groups. This reflects the diversity of Canada’s forests, and the fact that over 94% of them are publicly owned.

The CSA SFM User Group is a voluntary group that represents organizations in Canada certified to the CSA SFM standard. All members of the Group are committed to the practice of sustainable forestry and to the international recognition and acceptance of the CSA SFM Standard.



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Cariboo public advisory group field tour – (Mule Deer Winter Range management demonstration – October 31, 2013).