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Abstract

A knowledge exchange system: Putting innovation to work

David DeYoe, Chris Hollstedt

Effective and efficient application of new knowledge and technology in Canada's forest sector continues to challenge both government and industry. This impedes the development of government policy and advancement in private sector diversification and productivity growth. This paper outlines a knowledge exchange system by which researchers and customers in government and industry can achieve desired business outcomes through the optimal development and application of innovative approaches. The system integrates three major functions—knowledge generation, knowledge exchange, and knowledge application. The importance of extension professionals is highlighted as a critical link in helping to ensure that new knowledge and innovative technologies are put into practice. Nine knowledge system elements are introduced and the role of each in bridging the research-to-operations gap is described.

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