



# Rainforest Alliance

## *SmartWood Program*

**Public Notice for  
Forest Management Certification Re-assessment of  
The Regional Municipality of York  
in York Region, Ontario, Canada**

**February 5, 2010**

**Introduction** - The SmartWood Program of the Rainforest Alliance is conducting a forest management and chain of custody certification re-assessment of the Regional Municipality of York in York region, Ontario, Canada. The re-assessment will be conducted in March, 2010.

**Scope of the Certification Re-assessment** – The forest management certification re-assessment will assess the environmental, silvicultural, aboriginal and socioeconomic aspects of Regional Municipality of York's management of the York Regional Forest in Ontario based on the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Standard – Field Draft April 2007. This Standard is available on the FSC Canada website at: <http://www.fscCanada.org/glsi.htm>. SmartWood is accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council and this re-assessment process will follow procedures which have been approved by the FSC.

### **Re-Assessment Team Composition**

**Vivian Peachey** has worked in the forest management sector for the past 9 years specifically as it relates to forest certification. Vivian has a Masters degree in Forest Conservation from the University of Toronto and Specialist in International Development. She has worked for seven years for the Forest Stewardship Council Canada as *Director of Certification Applications and Brand Management* on forest and chain of custody standards and policies. Specialties include green markets and private woodlot management. Vivian has conducted over 60 Chain-of-Custody assessments and has taken the SmartWood Lead Auditor training program.

**Tom Clark**, M.Sc. Zoology (wildlife ecology), has 25 years experience in wildlife ecology; environmental impacts on wildlife, particularly forestry. Tom is the certification coordinator for Westwind Forest Stewardship Inc. He has been lead assessor on several other Rainforest Alliance assessments, and is an experienced auditor using the Ontario Independent Forest Audit Protocol. Recent projects include a review of the Ontario Forest Management Guidelines for the Ontario Government, as well as a review of Ontario's Independent Forest Audit system.

**Christine Korol** has a Masters degree in Forest Conservation from the University of Toronto, and a Honours Bachelor of Science degree in Ecology from the University of Guelph. She is currently the SmartWood Chain of Custody Task Manager for Ontario and Manitoba, and has been with SmartWood for over a year. Previously, Christine has worked with organizations such as the World Wildlife Fund, the Grand River Conservation Authority and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. Christine has conducted approximately 30 audits/assessments for SmartWood.

**Re-Assessment Steps and Schedule** – Following is a short description of the re-assessment process and a tentative agenda:

- ◆ Re-Assessment preparation – The SmartWood team will receive and review written information pertaining to York Region's forestry operations prior to the field re-assessment.
- ◆ Field re-assessments – The re-assessment team will gather in Newmarket on March 9th, 2010 and will conduct field visits, review documents, and interview interested parties during from March 9th-10th.
- ◆ Consultation – From now until April 2nd, the team will contact a variety of interested parties (including government and aboriginal representatives, other forest tenure holders, workers and contractors, non-government organizations and individuals) in communities surrounding the forest area regarding the Regional Municipality of York's management of the York Region Forest. This will include private interviews and discussions. The re-assessment team will continue to seek and receive input until April 2, 2010.
- ◆ Report production – A final report will be written and a public summary will be posted on the FSC website (<http://info.fsc.org>) by mid-May, 2010.

**Your Input Sought** – As a part of the forest certification re-assessment process we invite any interested groups or individuals to offer comment and feedback on York Region's management of their forest management area in relation to the requirements of the forest management standard referenced above. We welcome input, either public or confidential, in whatever form is easiest and most secure for you. Your input will be valuable at any stage of the re-assessment process, but we would like to receive comments prior to March 9<sup>th</sup> so they can be considered during the field portion of the re-assessment. We will accept comments up to April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 and will take them into consideration in reaching a certification decision. Your options for communicating your observations to us are as follows:

1. Meet with a SmartWood re-assessment team member during the site visit. This can be arranged by contacting Vivian Peachey, team leader at [vpeachey@ra.org](mailto:vpeachey@ra.org) or (416) 604-0140.
2. Call and give comments to Vivian Peachey, team leader, or to Christine Korol, SmartWood task manager, at [ckorol@ra.org](mailto:ckorol@ra.org) or 905-844-9703.
3. Submit written comments by mail or email to Vivian Peachey or Christine Korol. Unless you request otherwise, these comments will be kept confidential and are solely for the purposes of assessing York Region's forest management area.

The source of any information provided will be kept confidential, available to only the FSC and SmartWood staff.

Anyone who may wish to dispute any aspect of the forest certification process or decision can access SmartWood's dispute resolution procedures at [http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/forestry.cfm?id=dispute\\_resolution](http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/forestry.cfm?id=dispute_resolution).

### **Contacting SmartWood**

Vivian Peachey

- ◆ Email: [vpeachey@ra.org](mailto:vpeachey@ra.org)
- ◆ Telephone: (416) 604-0140
- ◆ Mail address: 214 Gilmour Ave., Toronto, ON M6P 3B4

OR

Christine Korol

- ◆ Email: [ckorol@ra.org](mailto:ckorol@ra.org)
- ◆ Telephone: (905) 844-9703
- ◆ Mail address: 15-62 South Forster Park Dr., Oakville, ON L6K 1Y7