

JOLEEN A. TIMKO, PhD

Accomplished consultant with over 15 years of experience in human environment research, engagement and land use planning. Expertise in qualitative research design, implementation and analysis, including +800 interviews and focus groups in 7 countries across 3 continents. Proven ability to lead complex projects, author influential reports, and translate technical information into actionable insights to support decision-making. Provides significant technical input across a range of sectors (forestry, protected areas, climate change, mining, marine), regulatory jurisdictions (e.g., BC EAO, DFO FAA), and regions (BC, Yukon, Alberta, International).



Vancouver, BC



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WORK EXPERIENCE

Principal Consultant

2013-Present

Shared Ground Research & Consulting

Vancouver

Principal consultant providing human environment research and community engagement expertise to Indigenous, academic, and non-governmental clients across a range of projects:

- **Carbon4Good Programme, Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)/UBC.** Feb - Apr 2026
Led desk study to identify, profile and prioritize Canadian private sector actors with potential interest in high-quality forestry carbon markets in Viet Nam.
- **Canada-Yukon Nature Agreement, The Firelight Group.** Jul - Nov 2023
Technical Consultant. Led assessment of the Canada-Yukon Nature Agreement for inclusion of Liard First Nation (LFN) values and priorities for reconciliation and cumulative effects management.
- **Global Forest Expert Panel (GFEP) on Forests for Poverty Alleviation, IUFRO** Sep 2019 - Jun 2021
Co-authored (with international panel of experts) a foundational 240-page global assessment report: 'Forests, Trees and the Eradication of Poverty: Potential and Limitations' for the International Union for Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO), Vienna, Austria. Co-author of policy brief for African policy-makers.
- **Indigenous Forest Governance Study, CIRDI** Sep 2019 - Mar 2020
Led research and authorship of a commissioned desk study producing 10,000-word report 'Indigenous forest governance: challenges, enabling conditions and factors for success'; presented key findings in a global webinar.
- **The Longhouse Dialogues, BC Council for International Cooperation** Mar - Jun 2019
Director. Collaborated with Indigenous/civil society and all levels of government to erect temporary Indigenous longhouses in downtown Vancouver; directed a small team in designing programming for six days of free Longhouse Dialogues on issues pertinent to Indigenous women and girls in BC.
- **Global Assessment of Community Forests, UBC Forestry** Mar - Oct 2017
Led research and authorship of a desk study commissioned by Rights+Resources International (RRI) entitled 'Exploring First Nation-held forest tenures and community-forest enterprises in British Columbia'; co-authored comprehensive global assessment of Indigenous and community forest enterprises (CFEs).
- **Forests and Climate Change in Teslin, Yukon** Mar 2013 - Nov 2014
Designed and led a community-based forest and climate change study including 45 semi-structured interviews with elders, knowledge keepers and community members; collaborated with Teslin's renewable resources co-management council; hosted open houses; abided by Nation's ethical and archival standards.

The Firelight Group

Vancouver

Supported Indigenous rights-based work for Indigenous governments and organizations including:

- **Liard First Nation (LFN)** – Led technical review/gap analysis of land management plans; provided strategic advice for Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs) in Kaska Traditional Territories.
- **Blueberry River First Nations (BRFN)** – Engagement Lead for the landmark BRFN Implementation Agreement Planning Project for permanent protection of BRFN values (eg, water, spiritual and cultural, ecosystem and wildlife) in seven priority watersheds. Designed Engagement Strategy, Communications Plan, and on-the-land engagements, community open houses, and family meetings.
- **Assembly of First Nations (AFN)** – Designed methods and led a small team to complete an environmental scan of IPCA resources and tools to build a Marine IPCA Toolkit database; worked closely with AFN staff; developed agendas and presentation materials; facilitated meetings.

Technical Lead, Human Environment Group**Jan - Jun 2023****Senior Social Scientist, Human Environment Group****Dec 2020 - Dec 2022**

Hatfield Consultants

North Vancouver

Led and contributed to 14 human environment projects spanning sectors including land use, protected areas, climate change, and mining:

- **Fraser River Tunnel Project (FRTTP) Detailed Project Description (DPD) – Technical Lead.** Led assessment of the FRTTP DPD and other EAs for inclusion of Quw'utsun Nation's interests, issues, engagement.
- **Fraser River Stewardship Project – Technical Lead.** Led archival research and development of an Indigenous knowledge study and river stewardship plan; collaborated with the Quw'utsun Nation Technical Working Group (representing five bands) and the Province of BC.
- **Mud Bay Nature-Based Foreshore Enhancements – Senior Social Scientist.** Provided technical input to Initial Project Description (IPD) including Indigenous Nations, Rights, Title, Interests; engagement summary; existing human environment conditions; and ID of potential project effects on VCs for an EA Exemption application.
- **Socio-Economic Impact Screening for a Forest Carbon Project – Project Manager/Senior Social Scientist.** Led socio-economic baseline study and key informant interviews with Indigenous and public leaders for a proposed Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) project in Northern Ontario.
- **Gwa'ni Socio-Economic and Environmental Assessment (SEEA) – Project Manager/Senior Social Scientist.** Worked closely with Gwa'ni Technical Committee ('Namgis First Nation, FLNRORD) to identify 'Namgis values, objectives, and indicators; led research and writing of environmental, social, cultural and governance priorities for modernized land use planning in the Gwa'ni project area. Provided feedback to the Province of BC on draft SEEA Guidance on Modernized Land Use Plans.
- **Community Quality of Life and Rail Services in Northern BC – Senior Social Scientist.** Designed and administered 132 surveys to 41 First Nations and 39 municipalities to assess the impacts of freight and passenger rail on community quality of life; led 20 in-depth interviews with Indigenous organizations; led data analysis and reporting.
- **Social Values Assessment on Fisheries and Oceans Canada Transition Plan - Technical Lead.** Analyzed Indigenous and stakeholder engagement documents and led key informant interviews to identify social values on open-net pen fish farming; made recommendations on incorporating social values into communication materials.
- **Indigenous Engagement Services, Equity Metals Corp. – Technical Lead.** Led research and development of briefing memos to provide client with background, history and natural resource development protocols within Wet'suwet'en Traditional Territory.

- **Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment, BC Parks - Project Manager/Engagement Lead.** Developed and administered online survey to 35 regional staff and led focus groups to develop a vulnerability assessment tool for park infrastructure.
- **User Needs Analysis Framework, Environment & Climate Change Canada - Project Manager/Engagement Lead.** Led a desk study and developed a framework for assessing user needs for climate services information and products; refined the framework through online surveys and interviews with climate service providers and users across Canada.
- **Economic Cluster Stakeholder Engagement for Resource Municipalities Coalition - Project Manager/Engagement Lead.** Collaboratively developed a strength-weakness-opportunity-threat (SWOT) analysis using an online survey and virtual workshops in northern BC; provided recommendations for supporting regional economic clusters.
- **Cawley Point Overview Marine Effects Assessment, TELUS Inc. - Engagement Lead.** Led key informant interviews to gather expert opinions about impacts of marine vessel traffic on local conservation values at Cawley Point in shishalh Nation Territory.
- **State of Knowledge Study on Finfish Aquaculture Effluent and Waste Collection, Fisheries and Oceans Canada - Senior Social Scientist.** Led development of interview schedule for expert interviews, interview transcription and analysis using QDA Miner Lite software, and results summary for final reporting.
- **Neptune Bulk Terminals Berth 2 Expansion Offsetting - Senior Social Scientist.** Supported Neptune's engagement with Tsleil-Waututh and Squamish Nations and Musqueam Indian Band to identify priorities and objectives for marine habitat offsetting within Burrard Inlet as part of the client's Fisheries Act Authorization (FAA) application.

Program Director, ForLives

Nov 2016 - Dec 2018

Lecturer and Program Coordinator, Master of International Forestry

Jul 2014 - Jan 2017

Co-founder and Managing Director, AFRICAD

Jul 2008 - Jun 2014

Faculty of Forestry, University of British Columbia

Vancouver

- Led multi-agency, inter-disciplinary research cluster on 'Forests and Livelihoods for the UN Sustainable Development Goals' (ForLives).
- Launched and led a new graduate degree programme, the *Master of International Forestry*
- Led and launched interdisciplinary research and teaching group, the Africa Forests Research Initiative on Conservation & Development (AFRICAD).
- Secured research and scholarship funding; mentored graduate students.
- Co-managed 22 project sites in five African countries; oversaw \$1.46M of grants; mobilized knowledge for African and European policymakers.
- Devised curricula and taught 4 graduate-level courses.
- Ranked in top tier of faculty for teaching (2015/16).

EDUCATION

PhD (Forestry), University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver, BC

MSc (Resource Management & Environmental Studies), UBC, Vancouver, BC

BSc (Major: Biology; Minor: Environmental Studies), University of Victoria, Victoria, BC

CERTIFICATES AND TRAINING

- San'yas Indigenous Cultural Safety Training, 2024
- Tools for Stronger Argument & Clearer Writing, International Assoc.for Impact Assessment, 2023
- Indigenous Consultation and Engagement, Indigenous Corporate Training, 2022
- Working Effectively with Indigenous Peoples, Indigenous Corporate Training, 2022
- Project Management, Tracy Page Consulting, 2015
- Leadership: Communication and Conflict Resolution, Possibil Consulting, 2015
- Structured Decision Making, Compass Resource Management, 2013