

In 2014, the Forest Industry Advisory Council (FIAC) was established as the Forest and Wood Products Council (FWPC) under the RFA Act. FIAC meets RFA Act obligations by providing a forum for the minister and forest industry stakeholders to consult, and exchange advice.

With respect to meetings, S11(6) of the Act states that the 'Minister must ensure that the Council meets at least twice in every calendar year'. The Terms of Reference that were in place for the previous FIAC (as is on the department's website) stated that the council will meet at least once every six months. This is not a requirement under the Act and is not in the terms of reference for the upcoming FIAC.

The Act does not require that a physical meeting is attended by all members of the Council and the Act does not require the Minister to personally participate in a meeting of the Council.

The Act outlines the *Objects* and the *Function* of the council as follows:

Objects

- (2) The main objects of subsection (1) are as follows:
 - (a) the provision of a forum by which the Minister and stakeholders in the forest and wood products industry may:
 - (i) consult together; and
 - (ii) exchange advice and information;
 - (b) the promotion of co-operation between different sectors of the forest and wood products industry.

Functions

- (3) The Minister must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the functions of the Council include the following:
 - (a) to act as a means of liaison between the Minister and stakeholders in the forest and wood products industry, and between different sectors of that industry, in matters relating to that industry;
 - (b) to facilitate co-operation between different sectors of the forest and wood products industry;
 - (e) to do anything else conducive to the achievement of the objects mentioned in subsection (2).

The last FIAC meeting was a teleconference on 23 June 2017. All members appointment terms except for Dr David Brand, expired in September 2017. Dr Brand's membership expired in January 2018.