

# Boreal Forest Plant & Seed Technology Access Centre (BFPS)

Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT)

📍 Peace River, AB



CENTRE FOR BOREAL RESEARCH

## ABOUT BFPS

The Centre for Boreal Research is an innovative applied research facility in Peace River, 500 kilometers northwest of Edmonton, staffed with a team of research scientists and technicians with professional designations in forestry, biology and agrology.

The facility is 9,000 square feet, includes two laboratories, office space for 15 people, an outdoor growing space and a three-bay greenhouse that features computer-controlled humidity, temperature and lighting. The Centre for Boreal Research is an Approved Seed Testing Facility. The facility was funded by NAIT, Alberta Innovation and Advanced Education, and the Canada Foundation for Innovation, with industry funding from Shell Canada and Penn West Petroleum.

Our mission is to promote the informed use of boreal resources through applied science, education, and partnerships with industry, government agencies, practitioners and academic partners.



## Contact BFPS

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🗣 **Services offered in:** English

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# RESEARCH AND INNOVATION EXPERTISE

## EXPERTISE

1. Optimizing nursery seedling stock quality of native boreal species
2. Site preparation options
3. Provide scientific guidance, develop methods and protocols for seed harvesting, handling, enhancement, treatment and determine optimum storage conditions to maintain long-term seed viability.
4. Develop systems to deploy and improve seed delivery at large scale.
5. Develop plant and seed delivery businesses within Indigenous and Métis communities to reduce barriers to reforestation and reclamation by training highly qualified personnel (HQP) from these communities.
6. Provide new or modified equipment to facilitate harvest, handling, and deployment of seeds and other propagules on disturbed sites to increase SME productivity.
7. Strengthen the industry-business seed supply chain within the region through a Seed Consortium and promote growth of SMEs.

## Previous Research Projects

- Hitchhiker seedling stock development and deployment on disturbed sites
- Roots in the bags reforestation
- Field Testing of Primed-Pelleted Seeds
- Development of Seed Nano-coatings to Improve Seed Germination, Seedling Growth and Tolerance to Abiotic Stress.
- Shrub Seed Orchard Development
- Use of Magnetic Field to Improve Native Seed Germination and Seedling Growth
- Applying Traditional Knowledge to Reclamation of Industrially Disturbed Boreal Forest
- Optimizing Seed Grow Mats Seeding Rate
- Salinity tolerance of regional native plant species and soil amendment potential for reclamation
- Priming and Pelleting of Boreal Seed for Forest Reclamation
- Examining the feasibility of terrestrial lichen transplantation and seeding technology for woodland caribou habitat restoration

## Fields of projects

- Native Seed production
- Native seed treatment
- Native plant propagation
- Reforestation
- Land reclamation

