

JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2014

# BC Forest

## PROFESSIONAL

### Where Do Our Logs Go?

Tracking BC  
Coastal Exports

### Rethinking Log Exports

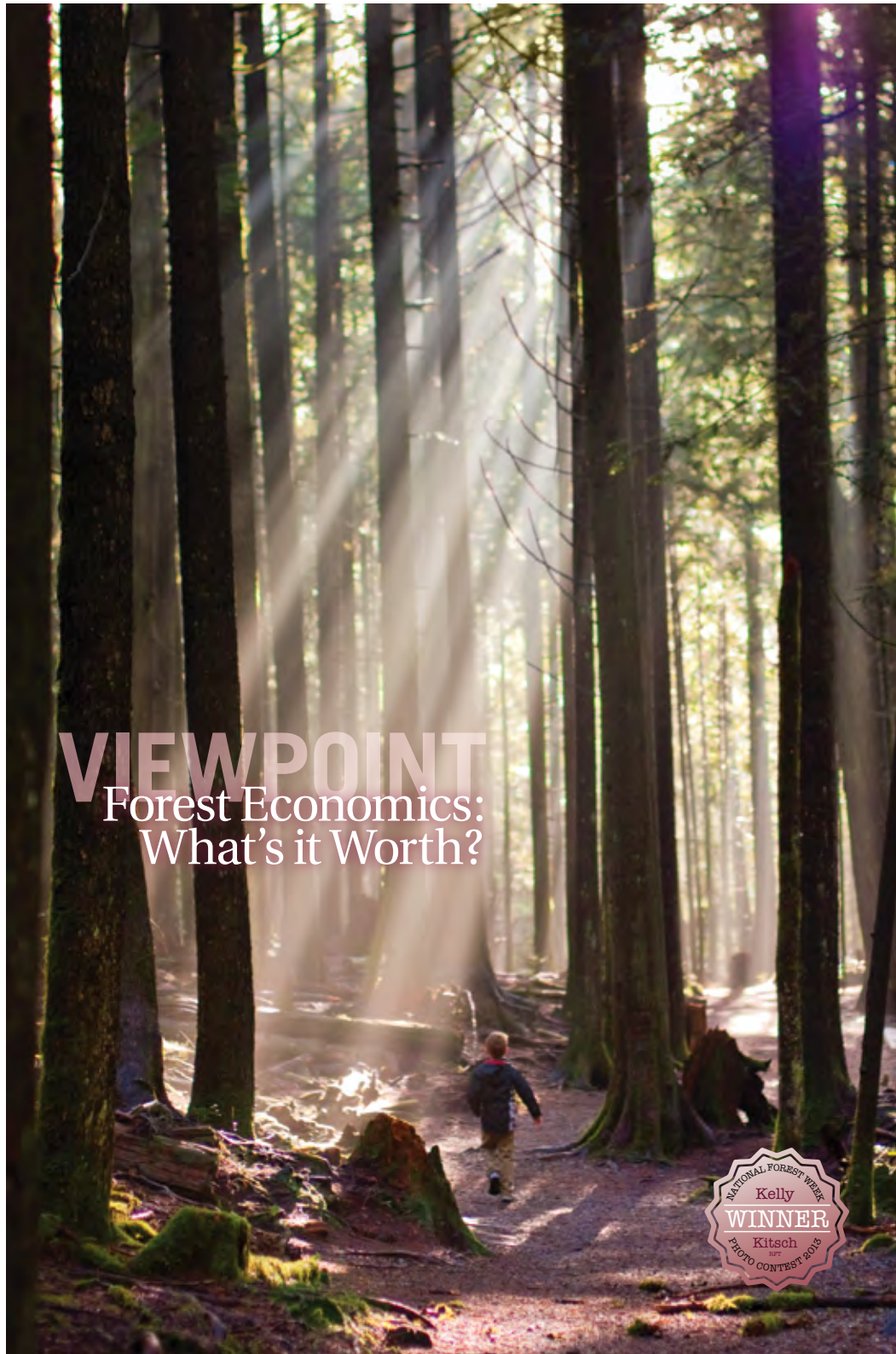
### Not Your Average Classroom:

High School Students  
Acquire Life Skills On  
a Woodlot

### National Forest Week:

The Full Roundup  
(Including Winners!)

**VIEWPOINT**  
Forest Economics:  
What's it Worth?



# Sawmill inspections continue.

WorkSafeBC Prevention staff have been working with industry, other provincial regulators, and stakeholders to ensure that BC sawmills and other businesses that deal with wood dust are, and continue to be, in compliance with safety requirements.

## Directive order, follow-up inspections and industry action

In April 2012, we issued a directive order to all sawmills in the province to conduct a risk assessment for combustible wood dust, and implement a dust-control program. Officers inspected every sawmill in the province for compliance with that order.

A CEO-led sawmill taskforce and industry advisory group developed safety resources to distribute to industry, including best practice guidelines and an audit tool for dust-control management.

Three new occupational health and safety guidelines related to wood dust were published, along with two hazard alerts to address risks specifically related to wood dust.

Our officers re-inspected all sawmills to evaluate the industry's efforts to manage combustible dust.

## Scope expanded to include wood processing operations

In 2012 and into 2013, officers also conducted

targeted inspections of other wood products manufacturing industries, including pellet plants, and plywood and pulp and paper mills. We inspected for compliance for the management of wood dust, and also examined ventilation and dust-collection systems.

## Ongoing and sustainable compliance

In 2013 and going forward, our officers will continue to address combustible dust as a regular part of their inspectional activity. This winter, a dedicated team of officers will re-inspect sawmills throughout the province. The sawmill industry has made significant progress in addressing dust management. We want to ensure that progress and compliance with wood-dust management requirements is being sustained.

Safety in BC sawmills is a vitally important issue, firstly to those who work in the industry, and also to their families and communities. Our common goal is to make wood-dust management an integral part of manufacturing operations. We will continue to work proactively with businesses around the province to make safety a fundamental part of this industry.

# Index

January – February 2014

BC FOREST PROFESSIONAL | Volume 21 Issue 1

## Viewpoints

- 9 The Numbers Don't Always Add Up  
BY DORIS SUN
- 10 Export Report: An Overview of Coastal BC Log Exports  
BY DAN HIGGINS, RPF
- 12 Log Exports: Perspectives From a Generalist  
BY RICK MONCHAK, RPF
- 14 Timber Pricing in British Columbia  
BY WILL WAGNER, PHD, RPF

## Interest

- 18 Charles Bloom Secondary School - Real Life Skills Taught in Wood lot  
BY SARA GRADY, RPF
- 20 Our Robin - A Rare Bird?  
BY LISA PERRAULT, RPF



Photo: iStock

12



Photo Illustration: Jung + iStock

15

## Special Feature

- 22 Campbell River Takes the Win in Battle of the NFPs!
- 24 National Forest Week Art Contest Winners
- 26 New Year, New Skills with Continuing Professional Development

## Departments

- 4 Letters
- 27 The Legal Perspective  
BY JEFF WAATAINEN
- 28 Member News
- 31 A Moment in Forestry

## Association Business

- 6 President's Report
- 7 CEO's Report
- 8 Association News

*"In the field it has saved us time and simplified field surveys. In the office it has saved us a significant amount of staff time"...*



SEE FULL TESTIMONIAL  
ON BACK COVER



## Inventory and Climate Change Spinoff Questions and Thoughts

The November-December issue of **BC Forest Professional** was extremely interesting. Our Editorial Board is to be commended for consistently producing a top rank professional publication.

I found the articles on forest inventory extremely informative. The article by Dave Gilbert, RPF, was really a walk down memory lane.

When I started with the Forest Service we were still using a lot of the 1937-based information. In 1953 I was stationed in Alert Bay as an assistant ranger and got to know a number of the Inventory Division staff who were working on the coast doing inventory surveys at that time. The points brought up by Gilbert Proulx with respect to wildlife inventories were also very interesting to me.

The article by Colin Mahony, RPF, on the climate change survey was also very good. As one of the people who responded from a rather cautious perspective, I found the numbers quite interesting.

Recently I read a publication entitled, "The Positive Externalities of Carbon Dioxide: Estimating the Monetary Benefits of Rising Atmospheric CO<sup>2</sup> Concentrations on Global Food Production" by Craig D. Idso, Ph.D, October 21, 2013. While this publication dealt

with agricultural food crops, the information was compelling. A bit more digging came up with some information on deciduous trees and a small amount on conifers. All of the information suggested plants grow better with higher levels of CO<sup>2</sup> and use water and nutrients more efficiently. I tried to come up with an estimate of possible growth increases in conifers over the past 50 years or so due to increased levels of carbon dioxide but any information I could find was quite limited.

However if conifers are similar to other plants it could amount to a growth increase of possibly four or five percent. If the projections for the future, as put forward by Dr. Craig Idso, are anywhere near correct we could be looking at another four or five percent increase in growth rates over the next 50 years.

When I put this information together with the articles on forest inventory and the responses to the Climate Change Survey, I began to wonder if there had been any work done in the area of tree response to increasing levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere as it might apply to BC forests. If we are seeing anything like the increases in agricultural crops, it could have a significant impact on forest inventories over the long term. This might be an interesting topic to explore in a future edition of **BC Forest Professional**.

**JACK CARRADICE, RFT (RET)**

## Put in Your Two Cents

The **BC Forest Professional** letters' section is intended primarily for feedback on recent articles and for brief statements about current association, professional or forestry issues. The editor reserves the right to edit and condense letters and encourages readers to keep letters to 300 words. Anonymous letters are not accepted.

Please refer to our website for guidelines to help make sure your submission gets published in **BC Forest Professional**.

Send letters to:

**Editor, BC Forest Professional**  
**Association of BC Forest Professionals**  
**602-1281 W. Georgia St,**  
**Vancouver, BC V6E 3J7**

**E-mail: editor@abcfp.ca**  
**Fax: 604.687.3264**



**BC Forest Professional** is published six times a year by the Association of BC Forest Professionals

602-1281 W. Georgia St, Vancouver, BC V6E 3J7  
Tel: 604.687.8027 Fax: 604.687.3264  
E-mail: editor@abcfp.ca Website: www.abcfp.ca

**MANAGING EDITOR:** Amanda Brittain, MA, ABC  
**EDITOR:** Doris Sun

**EDITORIAL ASSISTANT:** Michelle Mentore

**EDITORIAL BOARD:**

Sam Coggins, PhD, RPF; Nathan Davis, RPF;  
Ben Filewood, ASFIT; Ron Hart, RPF; Erika Higgins, RPF;  
Lindley Little, RPF; Pam Jorgenson, RPF;  
Michael Sandvoss, RFT (council rep.); Roy Strang, RPF (RET);  
William Wagner, RPF; Kelly Osbourne, RPF

**DESIGN:** Massyn Design

**PRINTING:** Rhino Print Solutions

**DISTRIBUTION:** Rhino Print Solutions

**ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER:** Doris Sun  
602-1281 W. Georgia St, Vancouver, BC V6E 3J7  
Tel: 604.639.8103 • Fax: 604.687.3264  
E-mail: forest-ads@abcfp.ca

**ISSN: 1715-9164**

Annual Subscriptions: Canada; \$44.80 incl GST  
U.S. and international; \$80 Canadian funds  
Publications mail agreement No: 40020895  
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:  
ABCFP Circulation Department  
602-1281 W. Georgia St, Vancouver, BC V6E 3J7



**PRESIDENT** Christine Gelowitz, RPF

**VICE-PRESIDENT** Dan Graham, LLB, RPF

**PAST PRESIDENT** Steve Lorimer, RPF

**LAY COUNCILLORS**

Tom Walker

**COUNCILLORS**

Douglas Campbell, RFT; Ken Hodges, RPF;  
Angeline Nyce, RPF; Sue Price, RFT; Michael Sandvoss, RFT;  
Christopher Stagg, RPF; Brian Westgate, RPF

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER** Sharon Glover, MBA

**REGISTRAR AND DIRECTOR OF ACT COMPLIANCE**  
Randy Trerise, RPF

**DIRECTOR, PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE  
AND FOREST STEWARDSHIP**  
Mike Larock, RPF

**DIRECTOR, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**  
Lance Nose

**DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATIONS**  
Amanda Brittain, MA, ABC

**DIRECTOR, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
AND MEMBER RELATIONS**  
Brian Robinson, RPF

**BC Forest Professional** is the professional magazine of the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP). Editorial submissions, comments, letters to the editor, articles and photos should be sent to the editor, address above. The opinions expressed in **BC Forest Professional** do not necessarily represent those of the ABCFP, its council or other members. Reprinting and copying of **BC Forest Professional** articles is encouraged. Please include a credit to both the author and **BC Forest Professional**.

## Hot Thoughts on Climate Change

I was very disappointed to read Greg Taylor's book review in the September/October issue of the **BC Forest Professional** and to see his rating of Ian Plimer's book, "Heaven and Earth: Global Warming the Missing Science," as 4/5 cones. Four cones! I wouldn't give that book four seeds!

Mr. Taylor would have been farther ahead in terms of time and understanding of the science and issues surrounding global warming if he had read Andrew Weaver's "Keeping our Cool: Canada in a Warming World." In this book Mr. Taylor would have found an answer for his first point of confusion — the difference between climate and weather. Climate is the average weather conditions of a region over a long period. Weather is the state of the atmosphere at a particular place and time. As Weaver says, "Climate is what we expect. Weather is what we get." We make reliable predictions of climate all the time based on our understanding of the physical world — e.g. it will be warmer in summer than winter, summer will be cooler in Port Hardy than Vancouver. Climate scientists use physically-based models to extend climate predictions into the future, but no self-respecting climate scientist would ever dream of predicting future weather beyond a few days.

Mr. Taylor states that he accepted Plimer's writing and citations without checks or critical assessment, which is understandable, given the many pages of references, but unfortunate, given the scientific disrepute of Plimer's book. Many of Plimer's 'factoids' and arguments have been shown to be misleading, misrepresentations, fallacious or false. An overview of responses to the book from scientists, the media and supporters can be found on Wikipedia<sup>1</sup>. Ian Enting from the University of Melbourne has gone so far as to write a 41-page critique<sup>2</sup> of the book; and Barry Brook, a colleague of Plimer's, has also written an extensive critique<sup>3</sup>. For those interested in science-based rebuttals to common climate change 'myths' employed by Plimer and others, I recommend Skeptical Science<sup>4</sup>.

As a scientist, I would not want to discourage anyone from asking questions and searching for evidence, but also consider the weight of evidence. Be skeptical if you wish, but be skeptical of all sides in the debate.

**BARBARA HAWKINS PHD, RPF**

- 1 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heaven\\_and\\_Earth\\_%28book%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heaven_and_Earth_%28book%29)
- 2 <http://bravenewclimate.files.wordpress.com/2009/04/plimer2a0.pdf>
- 3 <http://bravenewclimate.com/2009/04/23/ian-plimer-heaven-and-earth/>
- 4 <http://www.skepticalscience.com/argument.php>

## Contentious Issues Still Merit Open Discussion

I agree that global warming should be of concern to forest professionals and policy makers. The topic is controversial and it would have been beneficial for the review of "Heaven and Earth: Global Warming the Missing Science" to compare and contrast the book with other, and perhaps more current, literature with respect to global warming. However, I also believe that **BC Forest Professional** should carry book reviews on issues that we may dispute.

The public, I believe, want professionals to discuss the issue as noted in the letters to the editor. Restricting book reviews based on a reviewer's credentials and book content is indirectly saying to the public that we are not willing to discuss issues that are important to the public. I agree that climate change is a problem; however, the book review does indicate that issues remain with climate change prediction. Models used for predicting climate change are based on assumptions that may not accurately take into account the numerous variables that influence our weather. Do we really understand all the earthly, solar, and cosmic influences on climate?

We need to listen to voices that are different than our own, particularly when they diverge from our assumptions. Perhaps there is a kernel of truth in their words that is worthy of further review. A long time ago I remember an old man telling me a story about the building of a loading dock. He said, (not in these exact words) "I only know 10% of what the engineer knows; however, he needs my 10% in order to build that loading dock." Forest professionals need to listen and discuss.

**LESLIE HAWKINS, RPF (RET)**

## Forest Professionals a Critical Component of Accurate Inventorying

The Viewpoints article, *Due Diligence in Inventories and Timber Supply Forecasting—An Industry Case Study*, in the November-December issue highlights the efforts of companies like West Fraser and the work forest consultants do to ensure BC's forest inventory database is current and able to address the issues it was designed to address.

There has, of late, been too much negative and oftentimes, uninformed opinions in the media on the state of BC's inventory and many are quick to blame the government for perceived shortfalls in the sustainable management of BC's forests.

Yes we have had a major beetle epidemic and yes there is work to do to ensure the inventory data is kept current. That said, the work done by West Fraser and others we are aware of, speak to the diligence and ongoing efforts that many forest professionals undertake as part of their everyday work in the field of forest inventory. This type of editorial should be made public so that more are aware that the inventory is not as bad as the media might lead us to believe and that forest professionals work every day to maintain it in support of the sustainable forest management of BC's forests.

**THE SOCIETY OF CONSULTING FORESTERS OF BC**  
**JONATHAN LOK, PRESIDENT**

*More letters on page 30*



## How Passionate Are You?

In the last edition of **BC Forest Professional**, our CEO Sharon Glover talked about taking pride in your membership. She compared forest professionals to doctors and engineers who are loud and proud about their designations. Sharon linked pride in your profession to maintaining our social licence to operate in BC. I really liked Sharon's ideas and want to continue the topic in this column.

As forest professionals we don't often think about being proud of our RPF or RFT designation. I link pride and passion. One thing I believe is that we all started out with passion for the forest. Every forest professional — whether freshly minted or retired for many years — loves walking through a forest and pondering what is happening, or has happened, on that landscape. Almost all forest professionals I know also love to talk about times (whether it happened last week or 20 years ago) when they were out getting their boots dirty hanging ribbon, hiking through a piece of forest that has been replanted or improved in some way by the work they did, or sharing the excitement (a.k.a. terror) of being chased up a tree by a bear. When people talk about these experiences their eyes light up and you have no doubt about the pride, passion and excitement they have for being a forest professional.

As forest professionals mature in their careers, many stop getting their boots dirty on a regular basis. We spend more time in offices than in camps, and spend our time in front of computer screens and meeting room tables, not trees. As we become physically disconnected from the forest it is easy to lose sight of what led us to pick a career in forestry in the first place.

At the ABCFP, we see this erosion of passion and disconnection from the forest in our members fairly frequently. Some members have told us that they don't see value in maintaining their memberships if they are not actually out in the bush. While the regulatory services related to our exclusive right-to-title and right-to-practise in BC is the primary use of your membership fees, your membership is also about having a voice to

protect the forests that you love for the future benefit of your family, your community and the public at large. All forest professionals, those in the bush and those at desks, are part of the framework that continues to keep the public's confidence that their forests are in good hands with forest professionals.

So if you are an office-bound forest professional like me who doesn't get a chance to be in the forest often, let me offer a few suggestions that might help you stay connected to the forest and maintain your passion:

- Challenge yourself to connect the dots between the decisions you make and the directions you give your staff to determine how it is helping to ensure BC's forests continue to be managed sustainably.
- Find ways to physically connect with the forest — schedule meetings in the field or in a field office, take field trips a couple of times of year.
- Be inspired by the passion of youth who may become a future forest professional — volunteer for National Forest Week activities.
- Make the time to talk with your forest professional colleagues about the challenges we are facing on our landbase and within our membership — maybe even decide to volunteer for an ABCFP committee or run for council.

One thing I know that won't change no matter where your career takes you is that you will always care about what happens in the forest. So to those of you who have the fortunate opportunity to walk through the forest on a regular basis at your job, and to those of you who are contributing to protecting our forests from behind a desk, think about what it is that gets you fired up about being a forest professional...and then tell someone else about it! 🍷



## CEO's Report

By Sharon L. Glover, MBA

# Adding Value to Your Membership

I think the topics of pride, passion and value go hand-in-hand. While President Christine Gelowitz's column talks about pride and passion in your membership, I'd like to add to the discussion and talk about value in your ABCFP membership. Clearly having an exclusive right-to-title and right-to-practise that ensure only qualified and experienced forest professionals practise in BC is the most important value of your membership.

However, the ABCFP staff is acutely aware of the need to deliver added value to our members. While we make an effort every year to bring members low-cost workshops, papers on practice issues, and advocacy work, we are looking to increase our efforts in 2014. Stewardship advocacy continues to be a priority for both the ABCFP and our members. Some of our advocacy issues from the past will continue to be important but we are also focused on a number of new and emerging issues.

Nothing is black and white in forestry and to help you navigate the shades of grey, the ABCFP drafts papers and guidance papers on various practice issues. In 2014, we will be tackling at least five practice issues and gathering your input on guidance documents.

We are going to create more learning opportunities for members by holding a variety of events such as e-lectures, webinars and web-meetings. Senior staff and/or council members will be available at these sessions to answer questions or lead discussions. We will hold these during different periods of the day, including lunch and post-work sessions, to allow for as many members to join us as possible.

Our website is another area we're going to improve. After serving us well for more than eight years, it needs a major overhaul. We are going to focus on the navigation to make it more user-friendly and on reorganizing the information on the site. We won't be adding any fancy bells and whistles that distract from the main purpose of the site, which is to get you the information you need to do your jobs.

As more non-traditional forestry employers, such as oil and gas, and mining companies, work on the forested landbase, we want them to be fully aware of the need to hire forest professionals to do their forestry work. We plan on contacting many non-traditional

employers this year and letting them know that the practice of professional forestry can only be undertaken by members of the ABCFP.

Related to reaching out to non-traditional employers is our goal of promoting the profession and our members. We want to feature members on the newly designed website, in social media such as Facebook, and in advertising in 2014. Our staff will invite members to be 'featured' but if you want to volunteer, please drop me an e-mail ([sglover@abcfp.ca](mailto:sglover@abcfp.ca)).

Finally, we will be using multiple channels to communicate with you in 2014. Of course, the website, **BC Forest Professional** magazine and **The Increment** e-newsletter will figure prominently in our plans; however, we'll also use our social media channels including Twitter, Facebook and YouTube more than ever before.

This is going to be a year where you notice more value for your membership and more opportunities to tell us what you think.

If you have any questions or comments about our plans for 2014, don't hesitate to ask any senior staff member or send me an e-mail at the address above. 🐾

## ABCFP Welcomes Newest Staff Member

The ABCFP is pleased to announce that Anna Shcherbinina, FIT, has been hired to join the ABCFP team as a program coordinator and replaces Jackie Hipwell, RFT, who retired. Anna will work out of the Vancouver office and will be assisting Mike Larock, RPF, and Casey Macaulay, RPF, with all the committee work in professional practice and forest stewardship. She will be responsible for keeping the committees current and ensuring they have the information they need to operate efficiently. Her assistance will allow Mike and Casey to focus on the strategic and direct project work of the committees. Welcome Anna!

## New Lay Councillor

The ABCFP is pleased to announce the appointment of Tom Walker as its newest lay councillor. Tom brings to the position 35 years of experience with the BC Forest Service, as well as active involvement in municipal politics on Vancouver Island, including one term as Mayor of North Cowichan.

Tom also served actively on a number of other boards and brings to the position expertise in fire agreement negotiations, private forest land management, First Nations treaty negotiations and human resources. Welcome Tom and we look forward to working with you!

## Official Notice of the AGM

The ABCFP's 66<sup>th</sup> annual general meeting will take place on February 13<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 to 2:15 pm as part of the **Forestry Fast Forward: The 2020 Vision** conference in Kelowna. All members are invited to attend the AGM portion of the conference free of charge and pre-registration is not required. The AGM will take place in the Delta Grand Okanagan, 1310 Water Street, Kelowna. The agenda will include the following items:

- Adoption of minutes of the previous annual general meeting;
- Adoption by resolution of the annual report;
- Adoption by resolution of the audited financial statements;
- Appointment by resolution of auditors;
- Appointment by resolution of one (1) or more of the returning officer and scrutineers for the purposes of Bylaw 4.9;
- Reporting of council election results;
- Ratification by resolution of actions taken by council and staff on behalf of the association in the preceding year; and
- Any other business specified in the notice of meeting.

Only registered members in good standing may vote at the AGM.

## Submit Your Business and Advisory Resolutions

The AGM and resolutions session will take place on February 13<sup>th</sup> as part of the **Forestry Fast Forward: The 2020 Vision** conference in Kelowna. The deadline for submitting your business resolution is Thursday, January 9, 2014 (at least 35 days before the AGM). Advisory resolutions are also being accepted now. You can learn more about resolutions (including the differences between business and advisory resolutions) on the Resolutions Session page of the conference website: [http://www.expo4or.ca/program\\_info/resolutions.htm](http://www.expo4or.ca/program_info/resolutions.htm)

## New Life Members

The ABCFP grants Life membership status as a special honour to members who have made an exemplary contribution to the profession of forestry or the practice of forest technology. We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to these individuals who recently received this status. In recognition of their achievement and following ABCFP tradition, they will be recognized and presented with a gold seal at the upcoming AGM in Kelowna:

- Henry J. Benskin, RPF(Ret) #1172
- Randall L. Chan, RPF(Ret) #788
- Wesley Charles Cheston, RPF(Ret) #471
- Lowell A. Johnson, RPF(Ret) #693
- Brian W. McCloy, RPF(Ret) #719
- Norman Ralph Pelton, RPF(Ret) #461
- David J. Raven, RPF(Ret) #1152
- George Rupert Richards, RPF(Ret) #395
- Norman Richard Shaw, RFT(Ret) #0011, ATE
- Evelynne M. Wrangler, RPF(Ret) #1253



*Around the Clock:*  
**Our Insurance is Your Advantage**

**HUB International** OUR INSURANCE. YOUR ADVANTAGE.™

Now is a good time to evaluate your risk exposure. When you do, we think it makes sense to work with a professional who can fully serve your risk management needs.

Our Insurance works to Your Advantage on the strength of the best providers in the business. We're backed by vast global resources and solid local relationships.

That's why we're Canada's leading insurance broker for businesses and individuals who demand the best value, coverage and service.

**Make sure you're protected around the clock. Make now the time to call us at HUB International.**

HUB International | HUB TOS

Jordan Fellner T. 604.293.1481 [tos.vanprof@hubinternational.com](mailto:tos.vanprof@hubinternational.com)

[www.hubtos.com](http://www.hubtos.com)



## The Numbers Don't Always Add Up

**THE EDITORIAL BOARD MEETS BI-MONTHLY TO PREPARE FOR THE UPCOMING ISSUE OF BC Forest Professional** and brainstorm a 'wish list' of potential Viewpoints articles. For this issue on the economics of wood, the discussion was particularly fulsome. Ideas on a wide spectrum of economics-related stories were thrown out faster than they could be jotted down. One colleague suggested an article on log exports and why exporting was necessary. Another endorsed a piece on utilization of logs on the coast compared to the Interior and a discussion on why there appeared to be a discrepancy. Articles on value-added manufacturing and the management of global timberland portfolios for public, private and corporate entities were also enthusiastically suggested. In summary, this Viewpoints topic appeared to be one in which no shortage of interest and passionate opinions existed.

Although I went forth confident that I could successfully solicit a range of stories, the impending holiday season, prior commitments of would-be writers and general year-end frenzy meant it was difficult to achieve commitments from many of the potential authors recommended by the editorial board. The Viewpoints articles we did receive, however, successfully captured the vastness of this topic and encompass: a discussion on log exports and the overseas markets that consume BC logs; an examination of the provincial forest appraisal process; and common opinions and misconceptions about log exports. Indirectly, but still bearing an economic slant, one of our Interest articles profiles a secondary school offering a hands-on trades program in a woodlot, which is priming dozens of youth for careers in forestry.

We are proud of the quality of articles offered in this issue but realize it doesn't adhere as strongly to the Viewpoints theme as past issues. To that end, I must appeal to our members and colleagues in forestry to step forward to submit stories that are relevant and topical to the sector. Our March/April issue will focus on fire management and May/June issue will look at forestry and tourism. If you have expertise and an opinion on some aspect of either topic, please get in touch with me at [editor@abcfp.ca](mailto:editor@abcfp.ca). In addition to seeing your name in print (which, as a former reporter, I can tell you never gets old!), you will be in a position to influence thought and encourage a healthy discussion with your peers and the readership at large. I look forward to connecting with you. 🐿

### Stewardship Principles and Forest Economics

Economics is the study of choices that determine how scarce factors of production are allocated among their alternative possible uses to produce useful goods and services.<sup>1</sup>

For those who had the benefit of hearing Peter Pearse lecture about forest economics, you probably heard a lot of discussion about resource scarcity and allocation. At one time, the notion of resource scarcity in our forests was a distant concept. Today however, resource scarcity is a reality that all forest professionals face; whether it is timber, water or wildlife. Thanks to mountain pine beetle in particular, our province will have to deal with decreased timber supplies throughout the next generation. Complicating this challenge is the fact that economic objectives are inclusive of other social considerations as well. For example, the conservation of forest values now encompasses society's desire for biodiversity, endangered species habitat or cultural heritage values. This means that, while older forests may be less productive or in various stages of decay, our desire to salvage the timber values must be balanced with the other values assigned by society. Legislation often apportions the relative weight of these values (i.e. orders for Old Growth Management Areas); however, forest professionals are regularly entrusted to prescribe and allocate them on the landscape — an intimidating responsibility for any of us.

The ABCFP's stewardship principles<sup>2</sup> include a Social Foundation, which states the need for management strategies that create benefits consistent with the values and interests of society. While this creates a high bar for the forest professional and we are not always able to quantify the actual interests of society, the challenge to apply our knowledge, judgment and independence is a critical skill of the highest order.

<sup>1</sup> Pearse, P. 1990. Introduction to Forestry Economics

<sup>2</sup> The main document can be seen at [http://abcfp.ca/publications\\_forms/publications/committee\\_reports.asp](http://abcfp.ca/publications_forms/publications/committee_reports.asp)



## Export Report: An Overview of Coastal BC Log Exports

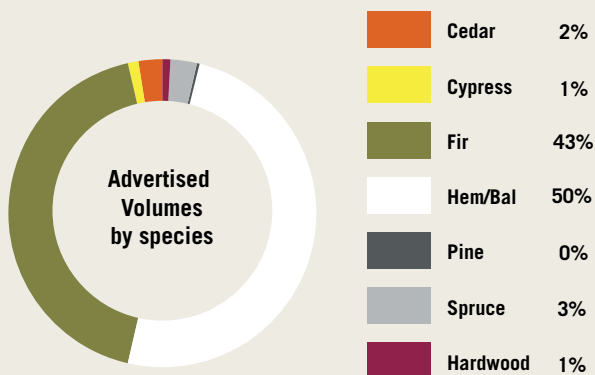


Fig 1: Advertised volumes by species (federal and provincial), Jan-Oct, 2013.

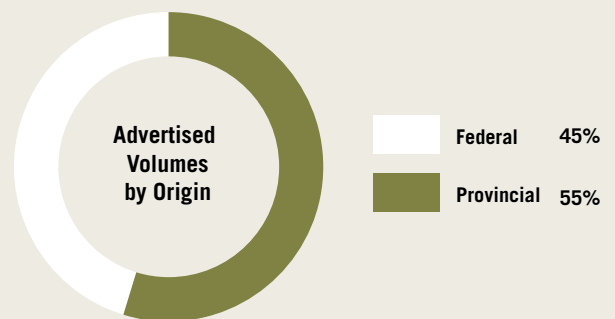


Fig 2: Advertised Volumes by Origin, Jan-Oct, 2013

**THE LINES ARE CAST AND THE 175 METRE LONG BREAK BULK VESSEL** eases from its berth at the Fraser Surrey docks with a 32,000 m<sup>3</sup> cargo (about 800 highway truck loads) of logs bound for the port of Taicang, China. Up next is a vessel to be loaded with logs for Japan. Coastal British Columbia is experiencing strong demand for its logs from China, Japan, the United States, South Korea and Taiwan.

### Why Do We Export Logs?

The export log markets are important to the health of the coastal forest industry for two primary reasons. First, export markets typically allow a timber owner to realize a larger return on the logs they are offering to market, with 5 to over 40% value increase over prices being offered by the domestic market. This is a strong incentive for both private and Crown land timber owners to participate in log exporting. Second, log exports at times provide a market for logs that may be over-supplied or be of inferior quality that is undesirable by domestic sawmills. For example, second growth spruce sawlogs are difficult to sell in the current domestic market, but are in high demand by the Chinese and Korean market. It is important that timber owners have the ability to sell their log inventory in a timely fashion for cash flow purposes, and export markets can provide options for the ready sale of logs that might be in low demand.

The ability to export logs at a premium allows the forest industry to log more of the timber profile profitably. Prior to the opening of the Chinese log market, second growth hemlock was undesirable as a species to harvest due to its low market value, so hemlock was generally avoided in favour of higher-value red cedar and Douglas-fir stands. Today, export China prices are on equal footing with China grade

Douglas-fir, opening up more harvest opportunities and restoring the species balance of the coastal timber supply.

Many in the log trading business believe that log exporting ultimately makes more fibre available to domestic mills. If it were not for export markets, times of weak domestic demand would result in logging curtailments, as the domestic log price is often less than the cost of production. Having a component of export allows the harvesting to proceed, at the same, time producing a volume of logs for the domestic mills.

### What Are We Exporting?

Logs sourced from Crown lands fall under provincial export regulations, with restrictions on allowable grades, and no red cedar or cypress logs are allowed to be exported. A percentage of higher grade logs from the Order in Council (OIC) areas (Haida Gwaii, North Coast, and Mid-Coast) are allowed, but still no red cedar or cypress. Logs sourced from private land can either be under federal export regulations, which permit all grades and species to be exported, or can be under provincial export regulations depending on when the private land was Crown-granted. All logs from Crown and private land need to undergo surplus testing before they can be exported. Logs are advertised in the Bi-Weekly Advertising List, which allows domestic manufacturers an opportunity to make an offer on the wood. If no offers are received, the logs can be exported. The exception is the OIC logs, which do not require advertising.

Figure 1 shows the species profile and origin of the logs on the cumulative Bi-Weekly Advertising List from January through October, 2013.



Typical sawmill operation in China

Photo courtesy of D. Henningsgaard



Fine grained BC spruce logs ready for sale in Nagoya, Japan.

Photo courtesy of C. Ogawa

## Where Do Our Logs Go?



**China** imported virtually no logs from coastal BC during much of the 2000s. In 2008, the US housing industry collapsed, causing a coincidental downturn in the log markets, resulting in harvest reductions and shrinking logging capacity as logging contractors downsized in order to survive. Many forestry workers had enough and went to work in the oilfields of Northern BC and Alberta. In late 2009, China began to inquire about BC logs and exporting began in a limited way with container shipments. Break bulk shipments followed soon thereafter and volumes have been on a more or less steady incline since then. China buys primarily hemlock, balsam, Douglas-fir, and spruce, favouring top diameters from 20 cm to 50 cm. The increased log and lumber demand from China is one of the contributing factors to the revitalization of the coastal logging industry.

Logs shipped to China are generally secondary in quality, with typically larger knots and rougher appearance than other Asian markets. Chinese house construction is predominately of concrete, brick and steel. The majority of our logs sold to China are milled into boards for concrete forming in three and four metre lengths. Our hem/bal species have proven over time to be superior to some other species they import in that they can reuse the boards on the next structure up to four times, where species like the fast growing Radiata pine (*Pinus radiata*) is considered single use due to its brittleness. Unlike a few years ago, coastal Douglas-fir and hem/bal now command a premium price on the Chinese market over the plentiful imported Radiata pine, commonly shipped from New Zealand and Australian plantations. As the Chinese market matures, we are seeing a small demand in better quality logs for uses such as door stock. In addition, China is beginning to cut higher grade logs for the export of lumber to Japan.



**Japan** has long been an importer of BC Douglas-fir, hemlock, balsam, spruce, with some yellow cedar and red cedar. Typically, the Japanese market buys the best quality logs available in a given species and generally pays the highest prices. Japanese sawmills like our finer-grained, second-growth Douglas-fir for use in traditional post and beam house construction. The Japanese use thick plywood for subflooring in tradi-

tional homes, which was, until quite recently, sourced from Russian larch logs. The Russian government instilled uncertainty of larch log supply with the announcement of stiff export duties, so the Japanese turned to North American Douglas-fir to replace the larch logs used to lay up the face and back material on their plywood. Fine-grained coastal hemlock used to be consistently exported to Japan, but, in coastal BC, they too have had mill closures, leaving only a few mills that cut hemlock at this time. Old growth Douglas-fir, spruce, hemlock, balsam, and yellow cedar are prized for their fine grain and even color, and command a premium price.

In Japan, there was a large program to plant Sugi (*Cryptomeria japonica*), commonly called Japanese Cedar, after World War II. The trees are now of harvestable size and are becoming more prevalent as a fibre supply in Japan, being utilized for veneer stock, post and beams and flooring material. Hinoki Cypress (*Chamaecyparis obtusa*) is also more readily available in Japan, and is now putting competitive pressure on our yellow cedar logs and lumber offered to Japan.



**Taiwan** is a fairly small market for coastal BC logs, preferring large-diameter fine-grained logs that typically have some defect and aren't quite the grade sought after by the Japanese market. Products produced are door stock, coffin material, temple components and lumber for the Japanese market. Often, logs are exported in containers for shipment to Taiwan. Fine-grained Douglas-fir, spruce, hemlock, balsam, red cedar and yellow cedar are desired by the Taiwanese.



**South Korea** sources hemlock, balsam, Douglas-fir and spruce logs from coastal BC. They usually prefer cleaner, rounder logs than China and need to be cut to fairly exacting lengths. The lumber they cut from our logs is used for furring strips and rafters, and there is a large market for exterior hemlock decking. South Korea has a large industrial machine manufacturing industry, and they use lower grades of lumber in packaging the machines for shipment. The lowest grades of lumber cut from our logs go into pallet stock. There is a small market for long





## Log Exports: Perspectives From a Generalist

**MORE THAN A FEW YEARS AGO, I GRADUATED FROM UNIVERSITY AND** began a career working in the forest industry. I have worked in many aspects of the business but have never dealt with log trading or marketing and certainly do not pretend to understand the intricacies of log exports. However, as a forester working in a coastal community, I find I am compelled to have a view on this issue. The subject of log exports comes up in conversation on a frequent basis — at parties, at the curling club, at meetings with stakeholders, etc. For the most part, the folks who want to talk about it are against it and for the most part, it's for the same reason — exporting logs is exporting jobs. Often, this sentiment is passionately held. And often, after a minute or two of conversation, I find this passion is not supported by knowledge of how log exports work — the rules, the surplus test, the global economy, and the like. I find this lack of knowledge, in an age of social networking and media communication, hard to understand. So, why are we where we are with the issue of log exports? Let's start by getting a grip on the log itself.

A few months ago, just prior to the provincial election, I had the distinct pleasure of speaking to a high school forestry class. The students were well-informed and particularly interested in current events. One student asked, "Why do we export raw logs?" Good question, and with that I knew it was going to be an entertaining morning. I asked a question back, "What is a raw log?" Hands went up and after some significant discussion the consensus answer was that a raw log was a tree that had been cut at both ends, loaded onto a truck and was ready to go to a mill. A decent answer. Then I asked, "What is a log?" The room fell silent. Of course, it is the same answer. There are no raw logs, just as there are no cooked logs. There are just logs. The term "raw log" was coined, it seems, to heighten the emotion around this issue. So, let's agree we just need to talk about logs.

Now, back to the passionate conversation. There are two basic, important points about log exports that I find most folks are not aware of. First, most logs that are exported, including those from private land, must first be offered to the domestic market; they need to pass a surplus test. In other words, no BC mill wants to purchase these logs. No other province has this test; only in BC do we put up this hurdle. And it's important to note the offered price is the domestic price, not the export price. This brings us to the second point — there can be a 100% or more difference between these two prices. And usually, the cost of supplying logs to the market is somewhere in between these prices. For the most part, companies lose money selling to the domestic market and make money selling to the export market. This fact leads you to question if a domestic-only market would have the supply of logs it currently enjoys. It seems reasonable to assume that further restrictions to log exports could have a negative impact on the supply of logs on the coast. Conversely, relaxing

### Logs and Log Exports

A log is both an intermediate product for further manufacture like lumber or paper and a final product like house manufacture, poles and pilings. When a log is exported it often has a higher value to purchasers because it has attributes that permit it to be manufactured into products of a higher value than those that can be exacted by the domestic industry.

British Columbia's early log export policy co-evolved with the retention of forest lands in the public domain (1887), appurtenancy (1888) and in-province manufacture of value-added products (1906). The softwood lumber dispute changed BC policy with both appurtenancy and in-province manufacture requirements being abandoned in some degree.

Since 1968, the US Forest Service has banned the export of logs from federal lands. Log exporters, including companies processing logs, have not been able to bid on federal timber. The Reagan administration tried to change this in 1989 at the beginning of the softwood lumber dispute. It did not happen.

restrictions on log exports may in fact increase the availability of logs which could benefit both the export and domestic markets.

If we are talking jobs, we should be looking at the total jobs of harvesting and milling. We need to remember that harvesting includes many direct and indirect jobs that contribute to the economy; road building, silviculture and planning, to name a few. And let's not forget the prospect of new industries like pellets and bio fuels. In addition to looking at jobs, we should look at the other economic benefits society receives from the forests. Higher pricing for logs should easily translate into higher stumpage.

I cannot argue that log exports are entirely good or entirely bad and I cannot argue the domestic milling business is more or less important than the domestic harvesting business. It seems log exports are a matter of degree and it seems reasonable that this degree should be somewhat flexible as economics change. In the time since I graduated, forestry has grown into a global market. We need to also grow in both our knowledge of and our attitude towards log exports.

Forest professionals have an obligation to the public to provide knowledge and to educate. We need to remember that forestry is about more than trees, it is about people and society. Our job as forest professionals is not always easy and difficult conversations are not always fun. Log exports are an example of an issue we all need to understand to some degree. You never know what will come up in conversation at the curling club. 🍷

*Rick Monchak, RPF, is an operations forester for TimberWest Forest Corp. based out of Campbell River. He is a member of the FRPA Coast Regional Implementation Team (CRIT) and the CRIT silviculture working group.*



# Timber Pricing in British Columbia

*“To those for whom wealth has literally sprung from the earth like milk from a teat, there is, at best, a poor sense of the cost of things, the value of work, or of soil.”*

PAUL SHEPARD (1982), *Nature and Madness*. San Francisco: Sierra Club Books, 1982

TO MANY FOREST PROFESSIONALS, ECONOMICS is truly the dismal side of forest science. Yet, economic tools are important aids in policy and decision-making. Without knowing the values associated with an asset, there are hazards in its continued exploitation. Skewed policy directions resulting from a lack of economic sophistication with regard to timber land and timber values caused issues that led to the softwood lumber discord and may be causing the current forest investment dilemma on the BC Coast (Zhang, 2007).

Valuation describes the procedure for finding an investor’s value of an asset, while appraisal is the procedure for finding its market value or the price the asset would be expected to bring at sale (Zhang and Pearse, 2011 p. 84). Several methods and techniques are available to actually produce appraisal numbers and can be loosely grouped into a half-dozen approaches. (Davis et.al, 2001) Choice in timber appraisal methodology is critical because more than 95% of the timber growing land in BC is public and not technically for sale. Further, access to that land in the form of major timber tenures is quite concentrated with five companies holding about 65% of tree farm licences in BC<sup>1</sup>.

Timberland valuations and appraisals were at the very core of the decisions associated with the Forest Revitalization Plan (FRP). To help resolve the softwood lumber dispute with the United States and obtain a better estimate of timber values, BC’s government engaged in a set of complementary reforms termed the FRP in 2003 by which it introduced its timber Transactional Evidence Pricing System (TEP), BC Timber Sales (BCTS) and reallocated about 20% of replaceable cut from major timber tenures to BCTS, woodlots, communities and First Nations.

Appraisal methodology was further complicated and limited by the United States’ requirement to use market transactions to price timber and then apply those transactions

on long-term tenures like tree farm licenses. Given the large proportion of public forest land and established tenure arrangements, how meaningful, in a market sense, are timber transactions? The key issues to be resolved to satisfy the Americans would appear to be the amount of timber being auctioned and the upset or reserve price of that timber. First, it is essential that the auction volume be large enough and of sufficient variety to represent the timber profile to enable the correct functioning of the pricing system while the upset needs to be set to assure that revenues will be substantial even if competition is weak. The upset also reduces the impact of collusive bidding and provides information to potential bidders. Yet, there are a few other realities to be dealt with besides timber pricing if BCTS is to function according to legislation.

Besides its primary goal of satisfying the American lumber interests, BCTS has four goals guided by the principles of safety, sound forest management and effective relationships. Its business plan is organized under three high-level outcomes — Economic Prosperity, Sustainable Resources and People and Organizational Excellence<sup>2</sup>. Its goals are:

1. A high performing organization with skilled, motivated and proud people;
2. Provide a credible reference point for costs and pricing of timber harvested from public land in BC;
3. Provide a reliable supply of timber to the market, through open and competitive auctions - subject to meeting the requirements of cost and price referencing as stated in goal 2;
4. Maximize net revenue for the province —subject to the requirements of cost and price referencing as stated in goal 2 and supplying timber for auction as stated in goal 3.

It would appear that the core business of BCTS is goal 2, providing a credible reference point for costs and pricing of timber, but is it? Is

BCTS attempting to do many jobs that are interfering with and compromising its ability to provide a credible reference point for costing and pricing public timber?

A recent article in the *Campbell River Mirror* (October 15, 2013) boasts<sup>1</sup>: BCTS is doing a good job of promoting safety within the forest sector and might be doing a reasonable job of managing two timber supply areas sustainably. Given the disproportionate amount of public timber, the varied timber resource — especially on the coast — and the concentrated nature of the industrial organization of the industry in the province, can BCTS, as presently instituted, really do a credible job of providing reference points of the market values of timber cut from public land while maximizing revenue for the province?

The answer is no.

Ten years after FRP, a comprehensive review of timber pricing in BC is overdue. Paraphrasing Paul Shepard, there needs to be a better sense of the cost of things and the value of soil. Thus, a review must also examine the institutionalization and performance of BCTS with respect to the values of timber growing and being harvested from public lands. 🍷

*Will Wagner resides in Campbell River where he is continuing research initiated while with the Canadian Forest Service. He studied forestry at UC Berkeley, forest engineering at Oregon State and the economics of forest resources at University of Victoria. He has practised forestry in three regions of the US and in the Interior and on the coast of BC.*

#### References

- Davis, L.S., Johnson, K.N., Bettinger, P., and Howard, T.E. 2001. Forest management, Inc., Long Grove IL. 804 pages
- Zhang, D. 2007. The softwood lumber war: politics, economics, and the long US-Canada trade dispute. Resources for the Future, Washington, DC. 300 pages
- Zhang, D., and Pearse, P.H. 2011. Forest resource economics. University of British Columbia Press, Vancouver, Canada. 412 pages.
- 1 <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hth/external/!publish/web/timber-tenures/apportionment/aptr021.pdf> (accessed November 25, 2013)
  - 2 <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/> Accessed October 23, 2013.
  - 3 <http://www.campbellrivermirror.com/news/227877331.html> Accessed October 23, 2013



Photo illustration: Eugene Joung + iStock source files

# CANADA'S GREEN UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA



## Featured Courses

### Building Resource Roads in Wetlands

Canada's forested landscapes feature numerous wetlands, such as fens, bogs and swamps, which present environmental and operational challenges during the planning, construction and maintenance of resource roads. The effects of these roads on the many ecological functions of wetlands are of increasing concern to Canada's resource-based industries, governments, communities and conservation organizations. The low bearing capacity of native soils and the high soil moisture levels that dominate wetland environments necessitate optimized planning strategies, specialized road infrastructure designs, and cost-effective construction methods.

This workshop will:

- Provide the participant with the tools to help identify and understand the differences of the various wetland types and associated hydrologic function.
- Describe the development and evaluation of resource road management and construction techniques and the application of alternative products and materials through the implementation of short and longterm environmental impact studies and road performance evaluations.
- Elaborate on the various techniques being employed during resource road construction across wetlands, a "state of practice"
- Showcase examples of foundation design solutions, site monitoring results and performance indicators.
- Discuss how to mitigate potential environmental impacts and reduce life cycle costs of resource roads.

### Economics Of A Renewable Energy Project

This three day course will provide an overview of the economics of renewable energy development, with a focus on a British Columbia context. Students will learn the following: Economics and Regulation of Energy in BC, Renewable Energy Project Economics, Business Planning for Renewable Energy Projects. Anyone who is interested in developing renewable energy projects either themselves as an entrepreneur, or within their organisation. However, the course will also be of interest to anyone who is interested in the changing energy landscape in British Columbia and is curious about how renewables fit into the mix.





## Upcoming Courses!

### Bridge Inspections

Date: Jan 15-17, 2014 Location: Kamloops

### GIS For First Nations

Date: Jan 20-24, 2014 Location: UNBC Prince George

### GIS For First Nations

Date: Feb 3-7, 2014 Location: UNBC Terrace

### GIS for Gas & Oil Industry

Date: Feb 17-21, 2014 Location: UNBC Prince George

### Economics of Renewable Energy

Date: Feb 18-20, 2014 Location: UNBC Prince George

### Northern Silviculture Committee

#### Winter Workshop

Date: Feb 18-19, 2014 Location: UNBC Prince George

### Building Resource Roads in Wetlands

Date: Feb 20, 2014 Location: UNBC Prince George

### GIS for Mining and Exploration

Date: Mar 3-7, 2014 Location: UNBC Prince George

### RoadEng Road Design

Date: Mar 4-6, 2014 Location: UNBC Prince George

### GIS for Mining and Exploration

Date: Mar 17-21, 2014 Location: UNBC Terrace

### GIS Certification Modules

Date: April 7- 25, 2014 Location: UNBC Prince George

### Five Day Silviculture Surveyor Training

Date: April 14-18, 2014 Location: Parksville

### Chainsaw Safety

Date: April 21, 2014 Location: UNBC Prince George

### S-100 Basic Fire Suppression and Safety

Date: April 22-23, 2014 Location: UNBC Prince George

Environmental Monitoring Certification TBA

## Wildlife Danger Tree Assesor's Course

### Wildland Fire Safety Module

Date: Mar 23-24, 2014 Location: Duncan, BC

Date: May 5-6, 2014 Location: Prince George, BC

Date: May 8-9, 2014 Location: Kamloops, BC

Date: May 20-21, 2014 Location: Merritt, BC

Date: May 22-23, 2014 Location: Nelson, BC

Date: June 5-6, 2014 Location: Penticton, BC

Date: June 19-20, 2014 Location: Kamloops, BC

### Parks and Recreation Module

Date: Mar 20-21, 2014 Location: Victoria, BC

Date: April 7-8, 2014 Location: Vernon, BC

Date: May 12-13, 2014 Location: Vernon, BC

Date: May 26-27, 2014 Location: Nelson, BC

### Forest Harvesting and Silviculture Module

Date: Mar 17-18, 2014 Location: Victoria, BC

Date: April 21-22, 2014 Location: Smithers, BC

Date: April 23-24, 2014 Location: Terrace, BC

Date: April 10-11, 2014 Location: Vernon, BC

Date: April 28-29, 2014 Location: Prince George, BC

Date: April 28-29, 2014 Location: Nelson, BC

Date: May 1-2, 2014 Location: Prince George, BC

Date: May 5-6, 2014 Location: Vernon, BC

Date: May 7-8, 2014 Location: Campbell River, BC

Date: May 15-16, 2014 Location: Merrit, BC

Date: May 20-21, 2014 Location: Nelson, BC



## CONTINUING STUDIES

To register visit [unbc.ca/continuing\\_studies](http://unbc.ca/continuing_studies) | 250.960.5980 | 1.866.843.8061



## Charles Bloom Secondary School – Real Life Skills Taught in Woodlot

**T**HERE ARE 867 ACTIVE WOODLOT LICENSES IN BRITISH Columbia and they provide much more than timber. Many play host to students of all ages, from elementary school to university, exploring environmental sciences with topics ranging from a very general introduction to the forest, to specifics such as silviculture and natural resource management.

With the average age of BC's forestry workers creeping into the 60s, and an expected boom in the sector that will see the creation of 15,000 new jobs in the next decade, it's vital that steps are taken to engage the next generation of forest stewards. At a woodlot in Lumby, students are given a completely unique, hands-on education in a 600 hectare 'classroom' and acquire skills they can use immediately, in forestry, heavy industry, or as a path to further education.

Arguably one of the most picturesque forests in BC, Woodlot #1908 on Trinity Valley Road — just a brief drive out of town — is a working venture run by the staff and students of Charles Bloom Secondary School. Faculty at the high school teamed up with a forest professional and career logger to deliver an innovative and practical learning experience. The 'CBSS Forestry & Trades' program has been running since the 70s, using small cut licenses year-to-year until getting permanent roots in 2002 with the acquisition of the Crown woodlot #1908. Grades 11 and 12 students from five high schools in School District 22 vie for 16 spots in this coveted trades program, which runs from September to January every year.

Students spend three days a week in the woodlot, learning worksite safety procedures, chainsaw and heavy-duty equipment operation and maintenance, and team skills. And by learning, the students are actually doing. Students have opportunities to get behind the wheel of skidders and cats, fall and buck trees, conduct site cleanup — basically every function required for a working logger.



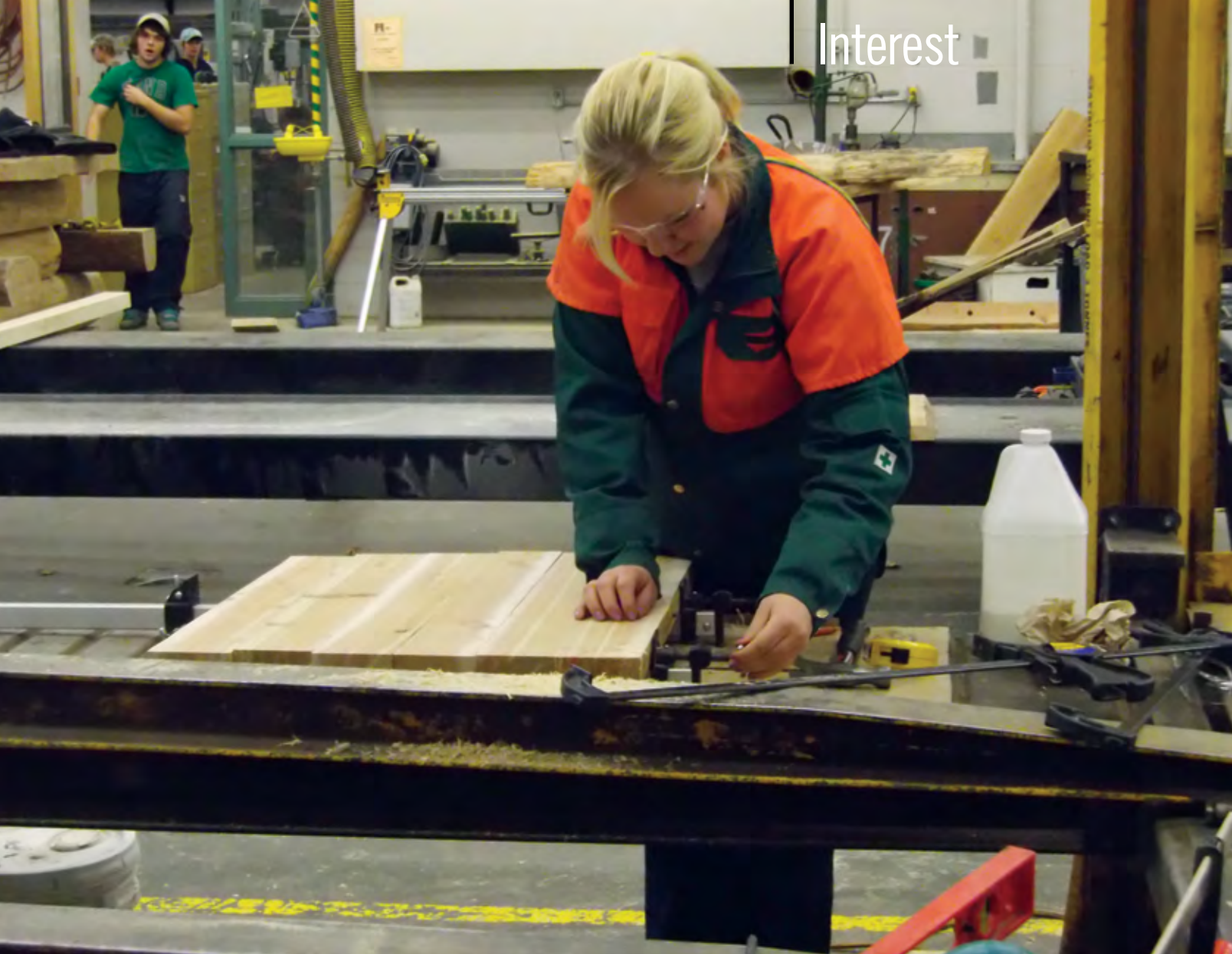
The remaining two days are spent in the school's well-equipped shop learning WorksafeBC safety procedures, furniture-building skills, techniques and design. The expansive workspace houses some creative projects, including an oversized picnic table made of beams bigger than railroad ties and a little log cabin that could be a charming playhouse for some very happy children.

With a high premium on safety, all students are taught first aid before heading into the bush. This training, coupled with their real-life experience handling chainsaws, cats and skidders, means their resumés pack a punch when they graduate. And the students know it.

Making a good impression on the dedicated teachers and industry professionals who run the program results in rock-solid references that give these young people an edge in a competitive workforce. Applying for an apprenticeship or a spot in a post-secondary trades or university program is that much easier when applicants can prove they have already built a strong foundation in the forest.

In fact, several of the students graduating in 2013 already have an apprenticeship or employment plan set for the summer and beyond. When questioned about their future, they speak about Plan A and Plan B, sometimes even a Plan C, and they're all viable plans. The program has opened multiple doors to employers in other sectors of the natural resource and manufacturing industry. One 15-year-old predicts she'll be the first female loader driver in the Okanagan when she takes over that job at her father's logging operation this summer.

Typical of most woodlots in BC, this one enjoys a strong relationship with community stakeholders. The local Stihl dealer makes regular contributions, and heavy equipment is either donated or sold at bargain-basement prices to keep the program equipped. The students sell firewood to locals, using the funds



to pay for their gear — in a classic case of input and output — the more firewood the individual students buck and sell, the more money they have to finance their kit. Initiative pays. Literally.

Community involvement is vital to the success of the program, and to the health of the forest. As Charles Bloom Principal, Ken Gatzke, — a graduate of the trades program himself — tells us, the school tries to keep the woodlot as accessible as possible. Students built a beautiful timber-framed gazebo one year, situated on an eyrie that affords a sweeping view of Trinity Valley; the gazebo is open for use by the public as a spot for meetings, retreats, picnics, reunions etc. A local hang-gliding company uses the woodlot as a launch site and a local rancher uses the forest as range land for his cattle.

At the school level, senior students aren't the only ones who have an opportunity to participate in the operation. Grade seven students are brought to the woodlot to plant trees and get an opportunity over the following years to watch the progress of the forest and see the fruits of their labour blossom during their years at the high school.

Gatzke bursts with pride when talking about the program, and rightfully so. This 'woodlot classroom' is an innovative use of a Crown resource, giving kids real-life skills today that they can use far into the future. 🌲





## Our Robin – A Rare Bird?

**A WELCOME SIGN OF THE ARRIVAL OF FALL IS** the migration of Robin Williams into local elementary classrooms, with her forestry program in tow. This has been going on in central Vancouver Island's communities since 1991 when the program was first offered in Gold River, Zeballos and Tahsis.

The nine-unit program that Robin teaches is designed to fit curriculum for Grades 3 to 5. It has evolved to cover Vancouver Island geology, forest soil, tree species identification, tree anatomy, tree products, forest plants, forest animals, users of the forest (people, workers, animals) and forest mapping.

Watching Robin in action is magical. As she enters the classroom dragging her wagon of forestry lesson "stuff," excitement and anticipation crackle in the air; lethargic kids come to life, overactive kids settle down and focus — what has Mrs. Williams brought today?

Robin quickly sets them to work with hands-on materials designed for the lesson. Examples include matching cones to branches using the BC Tree Book and guessing which items in the bagged jumble she hands out are made using tree products. What fun to see their consternation when they find out that they all are — even the toothpaste and plastic cutlery!

A kindergarten class requested the forestry program this year and Robin tailored it to them. There was story time with a book about a man who thought he was allergic to wood so had everything that had wood in it taken out of his life. The room was dead silent as she read on — the children very worried about how little this man would have remaining (and I'm not going to tell you the ending).

Furs and skulls of a bear, wolf and cougar loaned by the Ministry of Environment are popular props for the forest animal lesson. She also brings in cruiser vests, forest fire fighting clothes and hard hats for dress-up to help inspire kids to imagine what it would be

like to work in the forest when they grow up.

Navigating questions and enthusiastic interruptions with skill, Robin involves willing teachers and parent volunteers as needed. On my visits to these lessons, there is clear appreciation by the adults for both the lesson materials and the professionalism of the presentation.

Sometimes a year-end field trip wraps the program up with students getting out into the working forest to view active logging sites, dry land sorts, plantations and forests. They get some fun, hands-on time with tools of the trade — increment borers, clinometers, compasses and maps. Teachers have approached Robin to discuss forestry as a career choice for their own children after experiencing the forestry program with their classes.

The current schedule offers the program over three sessions a year — fall, winter and spring — covering three schools per session. Over the course of a school year, 36 classes and approximately 850 students are exposed to the program along with teaching staff and parents.

Over the years, student populations have declined in the smaller communities on the Island, but the program has gained traction since starting in 2002 in Campbell River where Robin now visits nine local schools per year.

The program is offered to the schools at no charge; schools provide photocopier use, paper and laminating as needed. It is currently funded by three forest companies, Western Forest Products, Interfor and TimberWest. In 2008-9, the Truck Loggers Association and COFI chipped in to keep the forestry program afloat.

So why does Robin choose to do this work?

"I love the outdoors, I loved my forestry career and I love being around kids...What a great recipe for forest education! It's an ideal way for me to blend and share my experience, knowledge and passions."

Robin graduated as a Registered Forest Technician from the College of New Caledonia,



Robin holding the trunk of the fabric program "training tree" showing how the wood inside can be made into lumber.



Robin doing the natural resources products unit, discussing all the things that are made with some part of a tree.

Prince George in 1982. She worked in the Interior and Vancouver Island in silviculture, timber cruising, fire protection and mapping. She also worked for the Ministry of Forests, silviculture companies and as an independent contractor.

"It's exciting to see the kids' enthusiasm as they learn about what's in a forest and hearing that they've shared this knowledge with family, whether it be on weekend hikes, or naming the native trees and plants in their

Dear Robin I really enjoyed your 8 weeks of teaching and I bet everyone else did to. I'm amazed at how much you taught us I came home and told my parents what you told me and my parents were amazed at how good you were. I like the skins and skulls please making cups out of salal and looking at 2-D maps making it 3-D through stethoscopes I love your teaching I wish you would stay longer  
from: mitchell

*A letter from a student whom Robin clearly made an impact on.*

## A sampling of comments from cards and letters from the students to Robin:

- "I learned about all the different bugs that live in the trees. They are really cool."
- "Thank you for telling us about invasive plants like broom and blackberry."
- "I liked how descriptive you were about the types of trees."
- "Thank you for teaching us. My favorite thing was making the maps. It was fun."
- "I learned about endangered plants. My favorite activity was seeing all the furs and skulls. You're very good with the environment."
- "It was awesome having you as our forestry teacher. I loved all of it. I learned a lot about the forest. My favorite was the treat. It was fun on all of the days. The forest touched my heart. I just loved how almost everything is made out of wood."

yard. Connecting children to the outdoors and the natural world is the planting of the seed and from there forest education can flourish and branch out into endless paths."

The importance and relevance of this program to children, their communities and the forest industry explains its longevity. Through it, children are connected with the natural world around them — even if there is no forest nearby. They come to understand the links between living things and understand what sustainability is. They come to know how many elements of the world they live in depend on trees, wood and wood products and how many ways there are to work in, share and enjoy the natural world. From this understanding, a balanced view of sustainable

resource management is achieved and an interest may be sparked in young minds to think about working in that world someday as ecologists, biologists, forest professionals, loggers — who knows what else is possible?

What we do know is that we need more Robins. Nine schools a year in one area is making a difference, but so much more is possible if this program is offered in communities across the province. A lot of people might find that this is their 'dream job.'

There must be someone in every community who would be irresistibly drawn to starting this program in their community. Let's get together and brainstorm how — before Robin migrates into retirement! 🍷



## Campbell River Takes the Win in Battle of the NFPs!

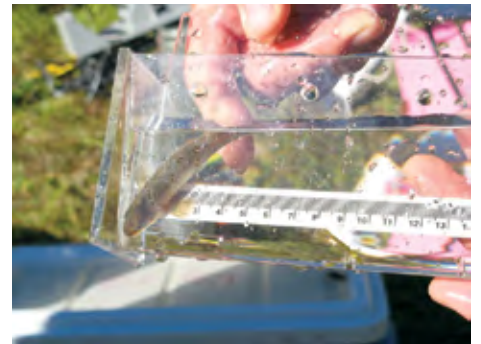
**IT WAS A HARD FOUGHT BATTLE BUT IN THE END, CAMPBELL RIVER** came up victorious in the 2013 Battle of the Networks of Forest Professionals (NFPs). Strong entries were submitted from around the province, including the North Island, Fort St. James and Cranbrook, but Campbell River had the edge. Here are some of the highlights that contributed to its win:

- The Campbell River Mirror included a 15-page National Forest Week supplement that reached over 40,000 people. In addition to providing background on National Forest Week and what it takes to become a forest professional, the supplement included profiles of several forest professionals including members Sarah Mukai, RPF, Jason Hutchinson, RPF, Samantha Griffore, TFT, and Rick Monchak, RPF.
- Volunteers made numerous visits to classrooms, hosting field tours, showing kids how to work with forestry equipment and allowing them to observe slash pile burning. The Campbell River Carihi Secondary School's Grade 11/12 Forestry class

hosted activities and competitions for their 900 student peers and 50 staff. They also visited local elementary schools including Cedar Elementary and Phoenix Middle School, where they presented the forestry program to 140 students. During a forest walk with grades 3 and 4 students from Campbell River Christian School, seven bears were observed fishing!

- The North Island Employment Foundations Society hosted a National Forest Week Employer Forum, which brought in a number of industry expert speakers and attracted close to 50 attendees.
- Smokey Bear visited the Quinsam Fire Base, where a tree identification contest was set up and arts and crafts — accented by cedar boughs, huckleberry twigs, leaves and fern fronds — were offered.

These are just some of the creative initiatives organized by the dedicated group of forest professionals in the Campbell River District. Congratulations on your impressive win! 🐻



*Volunteers made the difference in Campbell River's bid to win the Battle of the NFPs, as they carried out a host of educational activities, like leading field tours, visiting classrooms and educating young people with hands-on activities.*

## National Forest Week Art Contest Winners

EXOTIC WILDLIFE, HIKERS, LOGGING TRUCKS and mountain bikers — just some of the scenes submitted by students in the ABCFP’s and Truck Loggers Association’s (TLA’s) National Forest Week Art Contest, which asked students to depict what the forest means to them.

It was difficult to narrow down the top three in each age category among the hundreds of entries we received, but after much thoughtful deliberation, the judging panel came to a consensus. In addition to being published here and in the TLA magazine

and also being posted on the websites of both organizations, the first place winner in each age group received a \$50 Chapters gift certificate. Congratulations to all our winners and runners up! 🍷

Age Group	Winner	Runners Up
4-5 years	Maese Shea, age 5, of Quadra Island	Brooklyn Speck, age 5, of Woss and Courtney Wainwright, age 5, of Burns Lake
6-8 years	Kiana Danielson, age 8, of Campbell River	Reid Erickson, age 8, of Castlegar and Jaimar Laderas, age 7, of Vancouver
9-12 years	Maxine Creery, age 11, of Errington	Trent Perras, age 10, of Campbell River and Evelyn Wang, age 10, of Burnaby

Age Category 9-12 years



1 Maxine Creery, age 11, of Errington



2 Trent Perras, age 10, of Campbell River



3 Evelyn Wang, age 10, of Burnaby



Age Category 6-8 years



4 Kiana Danielson, age 8, of Campbell River

5 Reid Erickson, age 8, of Castlegar



6 Jaimar Laderas, age 7, of Vancouver

Age Category 4-5 years



7 Maese Shea, age 5, of Quadra Island

8 Brooklyn Speck, age 5, of Woss



9 Courtney Wainwright, age 5, of Burns Lake

## New Year, New Skills with Continuing Professional Development

AS THE TITLE SUGGESTS, CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD) is the process of continual exploration and education in areas related to one's profession. For forest professionals, CPD can take many forms including attending work-related workshops and seminars, embarking on post-secondary upgrading, conversations with peers who have expertise in areas you are unfamiliar with, reviewing current legislature and more.

Engaging in CPD is an important way to keep abreast with advancements in your practice areas, and discover areas of your knowledge base that need to be strengthened. As technology, legislation, the economy and the environment change, forest professionals must stay in-the-know and CPD will help to accomplish this goal.

The ABCFP is invested in assisting members to develop and upgrade their professional practice. The association has gathered pertinent information on the Continuing Professional Development page of the website: [http://www.abcfp.ca/practice\\_development/continuing\\_professional\\_development.asp](http://www.abcfp.ca/practice_development/continuing_professional_development.asp). In addition to links and information on components of the ABCFP continuing competency program (self-assessment, peer review and practice review), this page also includes: a tool to help you track your CPD activities and document the effectiveness of each activity; links to current forestry-related

legislation; links to ABCFP published stewardship and practice reports, practice guidelines and discussion papers; and links to workshops, news and information from the ABCFP and external CPD providers.

One of the ways most members already engage in an aspect of CPD is through the completion of a professional development plan as part of the annual self-assessment process (which is mandatory for many members). By completing the plan, members determine their professional competency needs and document how and when these needs will be met. Although self-assessment may not be mandatory for your particular member type, feel free to engage in this process (although there is no need to send us a self-assessment declaration!) There's a link to the Self-Assessment page on the Continuing Professional Development page or you can navigate directly there at: [http://www.abcfp.ca/practice\\_development/continuing\\_competency/self\\_assessment.asp](http://www.abcfp.ca/practice_development/continuing_competency/self_assessment.asp)

Mandated by the code of ethics, regular CPD must be a part of your practice as a forest professional. The Continuing Professional Development page is a great resource if you are looking for direction on how to engage in CPD. If you know of any other CPD opportunities that should be added to the website and would be of benefit to ABCFP members, contact Brian Robinson, RPF, director of professional development and member relations at [brobinson@abcfp.ca](mailto:brobinson@abcfp.ca)

Log Exports continued from Page 11

straight 90cm+ top diameter Douglas-fir logs for use in temples in South Korea. South Korea has had challenges recently trying to compete with China for coastal BC logs, as China takes a rougher appearance log with more length options for a similar price.



**The United States** BC has exported logs to the Pacific Northwest for many years, with annual shipment volumes rising and falling based on prevailing market conditions. The onset of the Chinese demand has certainly reduced the log volumes that might otherwise be exported to the US at this time. Douglas-fir, hemlock, red alder and red cedar are the predominant species shipped to our neighbours south of the border. As the US recovers from the housing crisis, we are seeing more demand from the US for our logs. Logs are either trucked directly to US sawmills, or towed down in boom form to various destinations in Washington state. At one time, barging logs to the Columbia River sawmills was occurring, as well as some rail transport of BC logs to the east side of Washington.

### The Future of Log Exports?

Domestic and export prices share common influences of supply and

demand, and currency fluctuations (virtually all log, lumber and veneer trade is denominated in US currency). One can be fairly certain that our logs will be in demand for the future, as our fibre has desirable properties and we have ready access to Asian and US markets.

We can expect interest in our logs from India, where there is a developing middle class population similar to the demographic in China. We have observed a decrease in the volume of log exports from Russia, due in part to the aforementioned log tariff implementation, but also due to the fact that there is a large investment required in road and rail infrastructure to get their logs to market. It has been reported that much of the low cost timber volume has been harvested to date. If Russia does invest the needed capital to access timber and get it to market, there could well be considerable competitive pressure on the logs we produce from Coastal BC for the export markets.

Overall, one can feel fairly optimistic about the future of both log and lumber exports from Coastal BC, with the usual ups and downs that are the nature of the business.

*Dan Higgins is a log trader with Storey Creek Trading Ltd. He has worked in the forest industry for 22 years—14 years as a log trader selling logs to the export and domestic markets. Dan has lived in Campbell River for 48 years and manages Woodlot W2001 with his wife, Erika Higgins.*

## Taking Accuracy Seriously

### IN WESTERN FOREST PRODUCTS LTD. v. GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH

Columbia, Decision Nos. 2013-FA-001(a) and 2013-FA-002(a) (the “Western Decision”), the Forest Appeals Commission has elevated the importance of “accurate information” in the appraisal of stumpage to something more than a legislative or professional obligation. It has, effectively, become a principle of interpretation applicable to BC’s stumpage appraisal manuals (the “Manual”).

As with most stumpage disputes, the Western Decision concerned a difference of opinion over some obscure provision of the Manual. At issue was the ability of licensees to account for the estimated costs of a road that would service multiple cutting permits in the appraisals of more than one of those cutting permits (rather than only in the appraisal of the first cutting permit serviced by the road).

On account of the minimum stumpage rate applicable in BC, a stumpage rate cannot “go negative” regardless of the magnitude of the estimated costs included in the appraisal of a cutting permit. To avoid any unfairness that could result if a licensee could only use the estimated cost of a road intended to service multiple cutting permits in the appraisal of a single cutting permit, the Manual contemplates that government and a licensee may enter into an “extended road amortization agreement” (or “ERAA”). An ERAA permits a licensee to divide the estimated cost of a road intended to serve multiple cutting permits among the appraisals of those multiple cutting permits. This ensures that all of the estimated costs that a licensee will incur to harvest timber over a particular road are recognized in the stumpage payable for that timber.

In the circumstances of the Western Decision, an ERAA was developed in the appraisal of the first of multiple cutting permits serviced by a particular road, and allocated the estimated appraisal costs of the road between the first two cutting permits. In the appraisal of the second cutting permit an issue arose as to whether the actual dollar amounts that the ERAA attributed to the appraisal of the second cutting permit remained static even though the licensee now had more accurate “as-built” information to estimate the costs subject to the ERAA.

Government took the position that the dollar amounts attributed to each cutting permit in the ERAA remained static regardless of new information. The licensee took the position that section 105.1(3) of the *Forest Act* required the licensee to submit data that was accurate at the time of the appraisal of the second cutting permit, and that its forest professionals had a professional obligation to do the same. According to the licensee, government was required to proportionately adjust the dollar amounts that the ERAA

initially attributed to the appraisal of the second cutting authority to reflect more accurate information that became available.

The Commission found that the Manual, the ERAA, and the past practice among the parties were ambiguous as to whether the dollar amounts specified in an ERAA remained static under the circumstances. To resolve this ambiguity, the Commission turned to the “dominant” factor in interpreting the Manual, and the “paramount” obligation of a licensee and its forest professionals: to ensure that “at the time the [appraisal] information is submitted ... the information is complete and accurate.” The Commission held that “the Government’s interpretation would mean that less accurate information would be applied to determine the stumpage rate ...” Accordingly, the Commission directed that government proportionately adjust the dollar amounts initially attributed to the second cutting authority in the ERAA to reflect the more accurate information that had subsequently become available.

Unlike some of the Commission’s interpretations of the Manual, the paramount importance that the Commission placed upon accuracy of information in stumpage appraisals is not something that government can simply do away with in a subsequent revision of the Manual. This paramouncy is, primarily, a product of the *Forest Act* and, to a lesser extent, the *Foresters Act*. While government is free to rewrite the Manual within the scope of the legislative authority given to it under the *Forest Act*, government cannot rewrite the *Forest Act* (or the *Foresters Act*) without the blessing of the Legislature, something that is far more cumbersome. 🐢

*Jeff Waatainen is an adjunct professor of law at UBC, has practiced law in the forest sector for over 15 years, and currently works in the Forestry Law Practice Group of Davis LLP’s Vancouver offices.*

**DAVIS** | LLP

[www.davis.ca](http://www.davis.ca)

JEFFREY WAATAINEN

DIRECT TEL 604.643.6482  
DIRECT FAX 604.605.4876  
MOBILE 250.618.5776  
[jwaatainen@davis.ca](mailto:jwaatainen@davis.ca)

2800 PARK PLACE, 666 BURRARD ST  
VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA V6C 2Z7  
T 604.687.9444 F 604.687.1612

VANCOUVER TORONTO MONTRÉAL CALGARY EDMONTON WHITEHORSE YELLOWKNIFE TOKYO

## In Memorium

It is very important to many members to receive word of the passing of a colleague. Members have the opportunity to publish their memories by sending photos and obituaries to [editor@abcfp.ca](mailto:editor@abcfp.ca). The association sends condolences to the family and friends of the following members:

### Donald Watson Munro

Life Members RPF #189

September 4, 1923-October 13, 2013



Don's favourite time of day was the morning, whether it be for fresh tracks on the ski hill in the winter, duck hunting with the guys on a crisp fall morning, getting to the office before the phones started to ring, or simply puttering around while the world was still. He chose the beautiful fall morning of Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> to slip away from us. He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather and leaves behind his beloved wife Anne, children Bruce (Jeannie), Sandra (Jay Wollenberg), Linda Blanchet (Paul), Bob (Lori) and grandchildren Stuart (Amber), David, Jennifer, Zoe (Justin), Kurtis (Kaitlyn), Rowan, Matt and Monique.

Don was the firstborn child of Ruth and Watson (Watty) Munro, who lived in Albert Canyon where Watty worked as a CPR engineer pushing trains over the Rockies. Don spent his first 14 years in Albert Canyon and Revelstoke where his lifelong love of the mountains and outdoors took root. He learned to ski and ski-jump from locals of Swiss and Austrian origin. In 1937, the family moved to Kamloops where he developed a strong love of the interior grasslands and forests. It was there he honed his skills as a marksman hunting pheas-

ants, grouse, chukars and ducks. Don graduated from Kamloops Secondary School, the same high school his children later attended.

After high school Don enlisted with the Canadian Army. Most of his service during World War Two was spent as a sergeant teaching recruits to shoot. When the war ended, Don resumed his education and graduated from UBC's Faculty of Forestry in 1951.

Don met Anne in a cafeteria at UBC when, in the midst of a food fight with pals, he accidentally struck her in the head with a potato. Anne, who had already noticed the good-looking, fun-loving Don, soon worked her magic to arrange a blind date — and he was hooked. They married in Trail in 1952 and settled in Nelson where Don began his career as a professional forester. Their first two children (Bruce and Sandra) were born in Nelson and in 1956 they moved to Kamloops where children Linda and Robert (Bob) were born.

As a Registered Forest Professional, Don pioneered industrial forestry in the interior of BC. He contributed significantly to forest development, pulp mill raw material supply and transportation systems. He initiated the export of surplus chips from the southern interior and served for many years on several industry committees. The ABCFP awarded Don a Life Membership, a special honour given to individuals who have made an exemplary contribution to the profession of forestry.

*Submitted by Sandi Munro*

### Dennis Hawksworth

RPF #891

July 18, 1948 - August 30, 2013



It is with sadness that we report the passing of Dennis Hawksworth on August 30, 2013.

Dennis was an enthusiastic supporter of forestry and forest management in Alberta.

His enthusiasm and high spirits made him many friends within and outside the forestry profession in Alberta and British Columbia. Raised in Kelowna, Dennis spent a lot of time around logs and sawdust at his best friend's father sawmill. His father convinced him to go to university and he began his studies in 1966 but always the adventurer, Dennis would take a year off school to travel around Eastern Europe, the Middle East and North Africa.

During the summers he worked in the industry in the Prince George area. After graduating from UBC with a degree in forestry in 1972, he went to work for Netherlands Overseas Sawmills in both woods operations and sawmilling. During his four years there, their operations grew from 200,000 to 700,000 units of annual production. In 1976 Dennis was recruited by Weldwood to help construct a new sawmill at Burns Lake and also to serve as a roving project

manager. He was promoted to general manager of Weldwood's Babine Forest Products in 1983. Then, when the expansion projects began at Hinton, he was asked to visit in 1987 to advise on the design of the proposed new sawmill — and a year later, move to Hinton as project manager to build it. In 1997 he was appointed vice-president of Hinton Forest and Wood Products. Among his accomplishments at Hinton, Dennis organized an integration of woods operations with the sawmill needs, oversaw the acquisition of Sunpine operations and achieved ForestCare certification for all their facilities. Dennis was also a member of Canada's Softwood Lumber Agreement negotiating team in 1999.

Dennis was active on a number of industry and government committees both provincially and nationally. After retiring from Weldwood/West Fraser in 2005, he joined the Alberta Government as director of forest products before finally retiring for good in March 2012.

Away from the job, few could resist the 'The Hawk's' enthusiasm and *joie de vivre*. He was a keen outdoorsman, skier and had an encyclopedic knowledge of roots, rock and roll music, with an extensive collection of both. Dennis is survived by his two children, Phoebe and Wylie, his partner Susan Bevan, as well as his sister Sherry.

*Submitted by Alan D. Fry, RPF (Ret)*

## Robert C. Watters

RPF#724

September 23, 1923 – October 19, 2013



Robert 'Bob' Charles Watters was born on September 18, 1923 in Big Valley, Alberta and passed away on October 19, 2013 in Nanaimo at the age of 90.

Bob was born to Eva and Harry Watters and was the youngest of three children. He joined the Canadian Armed Forces, Calgary Regiment in 1942 and trained as a gunner operator with the Calgary Tank Corp. He was sent overseas to England in 1943 and landed in Holland at the end of the World War II as a Sergeant in the occupational army until discharged in 1946. He returned to Canada and graduated as a forestry engineer with a bachelor's degree in applied science from the University of British Columbia in 1952. He met Rosamond Piggott at the

Fort Camp cafeteria at UBC and married her in Vancouver in 1954. They had three children: daughters Frances and Lorea, and son Bruce. Bob was both a Registered Professional Forester and a Certified Professional Engineer. He went on to obtain his master's degree in forestry from UBC in 1984 and would become a founding member and professor of the College of New Caledonia's forestry and construction technology program in Prince George. Bob 'retired' from the College to run the Nanaimo Foundry and Engineering Works from 1985 to 1995. He was 72 when he sold the foundry. 'Retired' was never a word that applied to Bob; he was always working on something. Travelling, skiing, hiking, restoring Model T cars, bridge and his family were just a few of his passions in life. It's no surprise that his favorite saying was, "I feel like a million bucks."

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Rose Watters and Nora Piggott Memorial Bursary Fund at UBC.

*Submitted by Fran Watters*

## Membership Statistics

ABCFP—November 2013

### NEW REGISTERED MEMBERS

Samuel William Bonner, RFT  
John Macdonald Forrest, RFT  
Michael James White, RPF

### NEW ENROLLED MEMBERS

Colby William Day, TFT  
Jeffrey Peter Eustache, TFT  
Todd Robert Singer, TFT

### REINSTATEMENTS FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE (REGISTERED MEMBERS)

Lee M. Fennell, RFT  
Noel Peter Gairdner, RPF

### DECEASED

James D. Eadie, RPF  
Donald W. Munro, RPF(Ret)  
Robert C. Watters, RPF(Ret)

### THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE ARE NOT ENTITLED TO PRACTISE PROFESSIONAL FORESTRY IN BC:

#### REMOVAL (ENROLLED MEMBERS)

Aaron Michael Watts, RFT\*  
Brian N. Bedard  
James Bruce Markstrom

#### RESIGNATIONS (RETIRED MEMBERS)

Brian N. Bedard  
James Bruce Markstrom

#### RESIGNATIONS (REGISTERED MEMBERS)

Robert Richard Bazett  
George Richard Bruckner  
Ian Roger Clay  
Gary A. Dolynchuk  
Michael Gregory Helfrich  
William Edward Hughes  
Brian A. McIntosh  
Donald John Raworth

#### RESIGNATIONS (ENROLLED MEMBERS)

Eric Bendix Andersen  
Donald Jeffrey Marshall  
Laurie Pauline Wein  
Sarah Bain Woods

\*active RFT; removed FIT

## Membership Statistics

ABCFP—October 2013

### NEW ENROLLED MEMBERS

Michelle Janette Connolly, FIT  
Sean Corey Fogarty, TFT  
Maciej Jerzy Jamrozik, FIT  
David Wayne Lishman, FIT

### REINSTATEMENTS (REGISTERED MEMBERS)

Sugu Thuraisamy, RPF

### REINSTATEMENTS FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE (REGISTERED MEMBERS)

John Jason Jarvis Millar, RPF

### REINSTATEMENTS (RETIRED MEMBERS)

Norman Yates, RPF(Ret)

### THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE ARE NOT ENTITLED TO PRACTISE PROFESSIONAL FORESTRY IN BC:

#### RESIGNATIONS (REGISTERED MEMBERS)

Grant J. McKinnon

#### RESIGNATIONS (ENROLLED MEMBERS)

David C.V. Miller

## Land Use Planning in the Peace

We read Jeff McWilliams' article, *In Support of Planning Within a Revised Forest Management Framework*, in the September/October issue of **BC Forest Professional** magazine with considerable reflection. Jeff's statement that "...other examples where landscape level planning have been relatively successful and these areas have most or all of the key elements attributed to the Stillwater situation" spurred our group to come forward and remind professionals of the accomplishments in the Peace. The Fort St. John Pilot Project mirrors many of the key elements that Jeff identified, including long-term planning, the strength of public involvement required under CSA certification and the long history of community involvement. Some of these components of the Fort St. John Sustainable Forest Management Plan are written directly into the pilot project regulation.

The most significant difference between the Stillwater example and Fort St. John is the Stillwater Tree Farm Licence is under an area-based tenure while the participants of the Fort St. John Pilot Project have volume-based tenures. The evidence is present, however, to acknowledge that this make-up of volume-based tenure holders can develop and implement sound and long-term planning initiatives. For example, the Fort St. John Pilot Project Regulation has long since outlived the very legislation (Forest Practices Code) from which it was conceived. From its formative planning stages in 1999 to the eventual approval of the Regulation in 2001, to the decision to continue the Pilot Regulation until at least 2016; it has withstood scrutiny from a variety of sources both internally and externally. The Fort St. John Pilot Project Regulation has been acknowledged by the Forest Practices Board following the release of their 2007 audit as "...results based regulation that works." The willingness and commitment of the various participants to work together on this project from the beginning has been the principle factor in its success. Fostering those relationships between participants and recognizing the benefits of strong community involvement have also been cornerstones for its continuity. Not one of the original members of the development team remains in an active role and yet the pilot project and its commitments continue because of the participants' belief and commitment of personnel and resources towards it.

One of the greatest challenges of the pilot project is that it only applies to the forest sector. There is a considerable presence of oil and gas, wind, mining and hydro energy, all this is leading to a greater footprint on the landscape and ultimately, that is a principle reason why many groups including First Nations are wanting answers on the cumulative impacts of further developments. Also looming large is the impacts of climate change and carbon sequestration and storage. But innovative spirit and ingenuity has forged meaningful bonds and developed solutions in the past. With the Fort St. John Pilot Project partnerships in place, more consensus-based solutions to address these challenges should be expected in the future. For further information go to [www.fsjpilotproject.com](http://www.fsjpilotproject.com).

### FORT ST JOHN PILOT PROJECT WORKING GROUP

DARRELL REGIMBALD, RPF

WALTER FISTER, RPF

ANDREW TYRELL, RPF

STEPHANIE SMITH, RPF

DAWN GRIFFIN, RPF

LAWRENCE MCFADDEN, RPF

JENNIFER MCCracken, RPF

## The Weight of a Word

The purpose of this letter is to stimulate discussion regarding changing some common wording. I propose that it's time to change, wherever possible, from using "natural resources" to "renewable resources." Why?

Decades ago, people involved with forestry, fisheries and agriculture proudly talked about managing natural resources, with all the positive impressions that the phrase brought. Various controversies arose with oil and gas, and with mining and — lo and behold — their marketing staff started using the term "natural resources" because their product came from the earth. That all-encompassing approach can be found in oil and gas company names, in both government and university department names, and most recently in discussions of LNG production and transportation.

Wikipedia defines renewable resources as "... ones that can be replenished naturally." They further state that "...these resources are susceptible to depletion by over-use. Resources from a human use perspective are classified as renewable only so long as the rate of replenishment/recovery exceeds that of the rate of consumption."

It's time for forestry, fisheries and agriculture to state strongly that there is a significant difference among those currently claiming to work with "natural" resources. Properly managed, these sectors can supply our renewable resources in perpetuity. Oil and gas, and mining, can't make that claim. No matter how good their extraction processes, the supply does not replace itself. It's time we distinguish ourselves again. The public must begin to see renewable resources in a different light if we are to ever achieve the long-term funding stability needed to manage them.

TOM RANKIN

### TD Insurance

You've paid your dues. Start paying less with TD Insurance.

Request a quote today  
1-866-269-1371  
[melochemonnex.com/abcfp](http://melochemonnex.com/abcfp)



The TD Insurance Meloche Monnex home and auto insurance program is underwritten by SECURITY NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY. The program is distributed by Meloche Monnex Insurance and Financial Services Inc. in Quebec and by Meloche Monnex Financial Services Inc. in the rest of Canada. For Quebec residents: We are located at 50 Place Gémeaux, Montreal (Quebec) H2P 1B6.

©The TD logo and other trademarks are the property of The Toronto-Dominion Bank or a wholly-owned subsidiary, in Canada and/or other countries.

## A Moment in Forestry

Submit your moment in forestry to Doris Sun at: [editor@bcfp.ca](mailto:editor@bcfp.ca)



### Pelican Sunset

Submitted by Graham Gerry, RPF

Sometimes working late has its perks. Member Graham Gerry, RPF, was able to capture this amazing sunset while working near Pelican Lake, west of Quesnel.

# STAY SHARP



**BC Forest Safety** Council  
*Unsafe is Unacceptable*

Slips, trips and falls are the second most common workplace injury. Stay on your feet with proper footwear, being aware of where you step and carrying only what is needed.  
**It's easier to stay well than get well.**

[www.bcforestsafes.org](http://www.bcforestsafes.org)

# The Ultimate Electronic Form!

We convert your paper forms into easy to use, digital forms - just download the app and go!



## Cloud Syncing

Deploy forms for mobile employees and sync data seamlessly without a trip to the office.



## Device Options

Take advantage of your existing devices like smart phones and tablets, or load SNAP onto ruggedized field ready units.



## Complete Data Collection

Add photos, voice clips, and video clips to get the complete picture!

## TESTIMONIAL

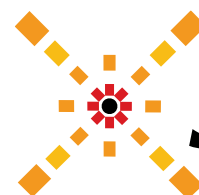
*"In the field SNAP has saved us time and simplified field surveys by summarizing sampling data and calculating confidence levels.*

*In the office it has saved us a significant amount of staff time through its ability to summarize and compare data, generate reports and transfer and compile information from other district offices."*

Ricardo Velasquez, District Silvicultural Forester  
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

Streamline your workload,  
call today for your **free** demo

Toll Free 1-800-535-2093 · [www.jrpltd.com](http://www.jrpltd.com)



# SNAP!

Data Collection Solutions