

JULY - AUGUST 2010

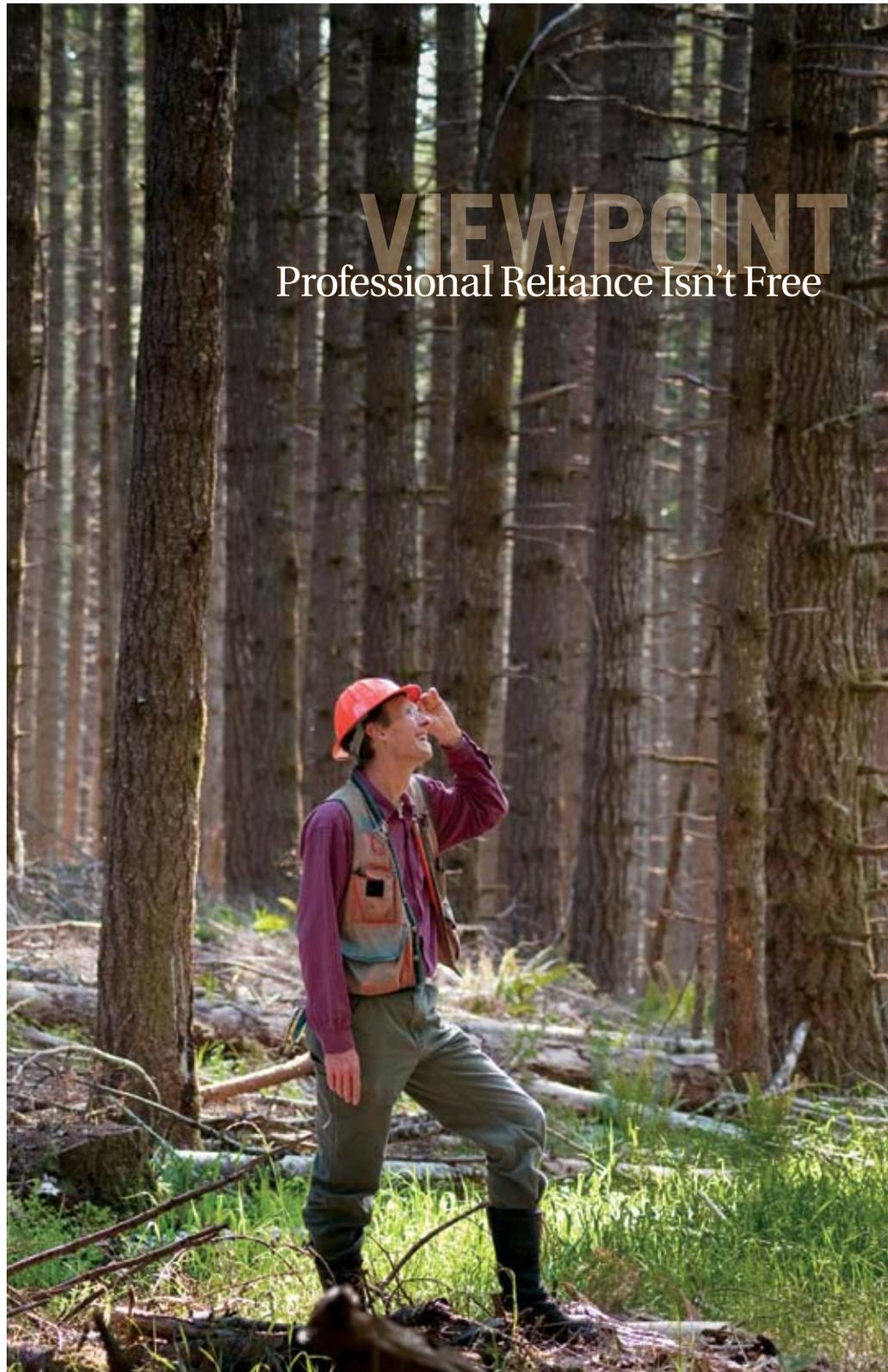
# BC Forest PROFESSIONAL

VIEWPOINT  
Professional Reliance Isn't Free

## ExpoFor 2010

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**Saving Money:**  
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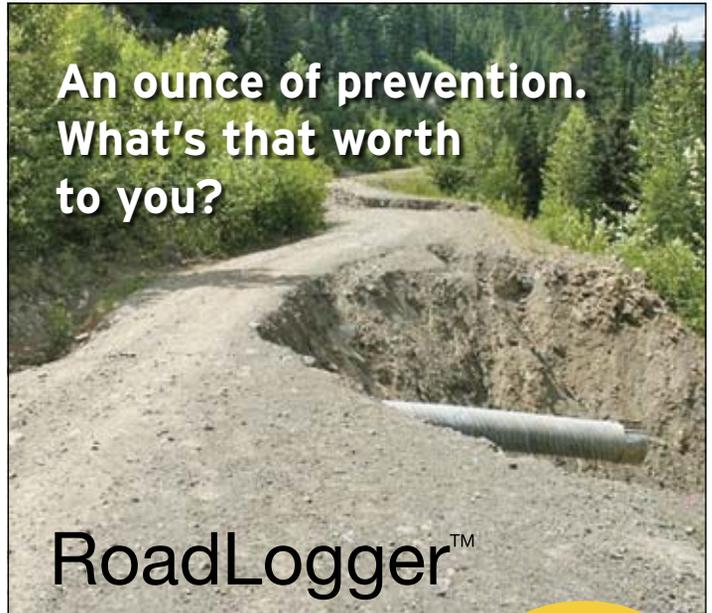
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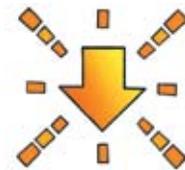
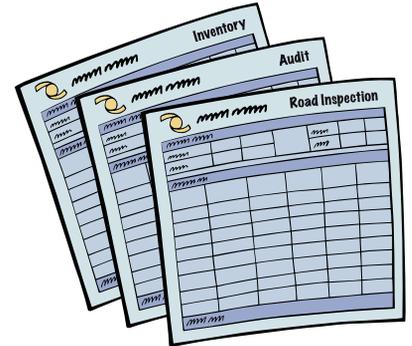
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## A Wider Perspective Needed

The last issue covering tenure reform (BCFP May-June 2010) needed wider perspective. Additional discussion is needed perhaps under the heading provided by Criterion 7 of the Montreal Process "Legal institutional and economic framework for forest conservation and sustainable forest management."

Tenure in a public forest is an oxymoron. Tenure reform is likely to push us further down the path of enclosure of our public forests into the private interest. Do we really want to stay on this path?

The following blog considers another path: [www.greenbccommunities.com](http://www.greenbccommunities.com)

**ANDREW MITCHELL, RPF (RET)**  
NORTH SAANICH

## Taking Species at Risk Seriously

Ferguson and Pinkus (BCFP Jan-Feb 2010), in "Where's the Law," suggested that British Columbia requires a more powerful piece of legislation to protect species at risk (SAR). When British Columbia introduced the Forest Practices Code everybody complained that it was highly prescriptive. With the *Forest and Range Practices Act* (FRPA), we ideally have less prescription and more reliance on expertise and due diligence. Under either piece of legislation, have we really seen a major halting in biodiversity loss? I agree that we need new SAR legislation that is based on science; identifies, protects and recovers species and habitat; is transparent and accountable; and most of all, is enforced and funded. Though, I do have a few concerns about any proposed legislation.

First, biodiversity problems are not evenly distributed over the province and thus areas will require different approaches. Given the large land base and ecological diversity of the province, I suggest a powerful but flexible piece of legislation that allows professionals to adapt land-management decisions regionally. Therefore, any legislation should be able to take the differences between the north and south of the province into consideration. Second, a new piece of legislation should not be limited to forest and range management, but encompass all land-use activities, paying greater attention to the connectivity of ecosystems and the maintenance of key elements of the natural habitat regardless of land use.

If British Columbia is to continue being "The Best Place on Earth" and "Super Natural" I agree that new legislation must be adopted (e.g., SEPA) to address species at risk; however, significant efforts towards true sustainable land use must also take into consideration the great differences that occur across the province.

**BORIS EGLI, FOREST ECOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT STUDENT**  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

## 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**  
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**Email: [editor@abcfp.ca](mailto:editor@abcfp.ca)**  
**Fax: 604.687.3264**

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Tel: 604.687.8027 Fax: 604.687.3264

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**MANAGING EDITOR:** Amanda Brittain, MA, ABC  
**EDITOR:** Brenda Martin

**EDITORIAL ASSISTANT:** Michelle Mentore

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# President's Report

By Rick Brouwer, RPF

# Balancing

**AS FOREST PROFESSIONALS, WE ARE OBLIGATED TO PROVIDE BALANCE** in our advice and decisions, and this is key to professional reliance. It takes both a formal education and on-the-ground experience to gain the knowledge required to understand and find that important balance. But do we really understand what we mean when we talk about balancing?

Commonly, we speak about balancing between environmental, social and economic factors. But I find these terms difficult to work with: social factors are driven by the environment and the economy; economic values are influenced by the needs or wants of society... aargh! It's all muddled together!

So, instead, I have taken to thinking in terms of there being three distinct environments in which we work:

There's the physical environment – the ecosystems and infrastructure that determine what the land has provided in the past and what it can provide in the future.

There's the economic environment – the engine that allows us to implement our desires and plans on the land.

And there's the cultural environment – the framework that provides us with the bounds of how we can, or should, treat the land.

This approach helps me better grasp the concept of balancing and how I must use it to make decisions or provide advice. We are balancing the physical, the cultural and the economic environments every day at work.

For instance, if a species is identified as at risk, does this mean we should stop all activities that may impact that species? Our cultural mandate seems to indicate that curtailing harvesting activities would be prudent; but our economic mandate also comes into play. There is a certain quality of life to be maintained in BC, by way of standards of health care and education, that comes from forestry revenues. In addition, we should look beyond our own borders to how we interact with the global environment. Our physical environment will constrain the range of options available that will influence the at-risk species in different ways. The economic environment shows the costs and benefits that could accrue from the available options.

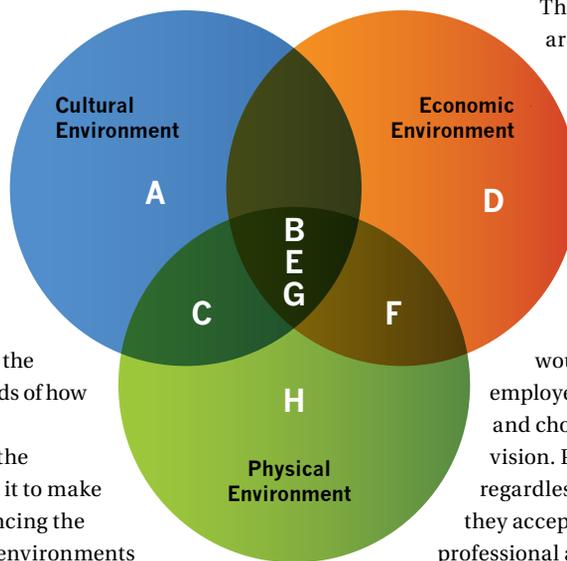
Often the information is in qualitative, rather than quantitative form, but having the following information at least allows the balancing to begin.

Only those physical and economic options that pass through our cultural filters will be acceptable for consideration. For instance, we should not carry out or recommend an action that we know will cause the species to cease to exist.

Only those physical and cultural options that are economically achievable will be accepted for consideration. For example, we should not implement or recommend actions that are beyond the ability of society to support.

Only those cultural and economic options that are physically possible will be accepted for consideration. For example, using a Star Trek transporter to selectively harvest trees might be both culturally and economically desirable but it doesn't exist in the physical world.

Let's consider another example: the Protected Area Strategy of the early 1990s, and let's look at the problem in the form of a diagram.



The balance has been achieved when solutions are found that fall within the intersection of the three circles in the diagram. The question then becomes: Which of the range of possible solutions are to be chosen? As professionals, this is what we are mandated to look for and recommend. In accordance with the concept of balancing all of the solutions in the darkest zone, i.e. Options B, E, and G, are acceptable; the prescribing professional would put these options in front of the client/ employer, who will exercise management prerogative and choose the option that best conforms with its vision. Professional deference would require that regardless of reviewers' personal or professional biases, they accept the recommendation of the prescribing professional as long as it falls within the clear zone.

Balancing is a difficult concept to implement, and this is why it is so important that we continue to have qualified, competent forest professionals involved in decisions being made on the landscape. I believe that a core precept of professional reliance is that professionals have a good understanding of balancing.

Your council just went through a difficult balancing process: after much deliberation, we concluded that without adequate resources, the ABCFP will not be able to provide the services that you, as members of the association, need to fulfill your role as forest professionals and to deliver professional reliance. Nor will we be able to continue to fulfill the objects of the association as described in the *Foresters Act*. This is in spite of the financial efficiency efforts that have occurred over the past few years. Therefore, we have instructed CEO Sharon Glover to prepare for a fee increase ballot. As you read more about the proposed increase in Sharon's CEO Report, on the ABCFP website and in the special insert in this issue of BCFP magazine, consider all that is necessary to deliver professional reliance, and find where the appropriate balance lies. 🐾

## Fee Increase. It's Time.

**BY NOW, YOU'VE HEARD THAT THE ABCFP IS** seeking a revenue increase from our members. I can assure you that a lot of discussion took place as to whether or not we should ask for a revenue increase. Council was committed to asking for an increase in 2008 and then again in 2009 but postponed it until this year because of the economic conditions. Since 2007, we have been realigning what we do and cutting costs. We have also been trying to do more with less. For example, we have started to offer our workshops online to members. In that way, the workshops are more accessible to a large group of our members at a cost that is cheaper than attending workshops in person.

Many of you have said in response to the proposed fee increase—tighten your belt and do more with less. Well, we have been and we've tried to think of everything we can do to get the job done with less. So I realize that this year may be no better than others to ask for an increase, but the profession is at a crossroads and unfortunately either we keep moving forward, or take one giant step back.

If we continue to move forward and lead as a profession, there are major changes we are dealing with including an increase in the focus on professional reliance by the Ministry of Forests and Range. The increased focus of professional reliance means that the ABCFP is

spending more on: our complaints system (to ensure only ABCFP members are practising forestry, that members are practising properly, and to deal with the large number of complaints coming in from the public); ensuring member competency (including practice reviews); and a large increase in the number of guidance papers published.

Other changes that the ABCFP must respond to include the government's move towards managing the land as a whole as opposed to individual resources (the Resource Management Coordination Project) as well as climate change and the move to stand-as-a-whole cruise-based billing. In each of these areas the profession would be worse-off if the ABCFP did not participate in the issue.

As I mentioned, we have spent several years cutting as many costs as possible. Some of the major cuts have included reducing two full-time positions to part time (a 7% workforce reduction); a two-year staff wage freeze and moving to smaller, cheaper office space. Spending has been cut on important but discretionary items such as advertising and recruitment. Other cost-cutting actions include having staff instead of consultants conduct practice reviews (which means fewer can be done each year) as well as reducing training for some of our key

committees. We've also been saving money by using web conference technology instead of meeting face-to-face for all committees including some council meetings.

Members have not approved a fee increase in 17 years. In those 17 years, there have only been three minor inflationary fee increases—\$2.88 in 1997, \$7.10 in 2002 and \$6.00 in 2008.

While the cost cutting and increased revenue streams have helped, the ABCFP still needs an additional \$800,000 a year in order to continue to deliver our mandate. This works out to \$165 per member per year. There are a number of ways we can collect these funds and you will have the opportunity to vote on which method you prefer in August.

If you do support the increase, you can then choose whether the increase should happen in one year or split it over two years. If the fee increase is not supported by a simple majority of members, the ABCFP will implement a special levy of \$165 per member.

I'm sure none of you are happy to hear that a levy is an option. We have been accused lately of not treating members with respect, being heavy handed, authoritarian, undemocratic and out-of-touch. I apologize if the announcement of the levy came across in any of those ways. It certainly was not intended to be unnecessarily harsh. I can assure you



# CEO's Report

By Sharon Glover, MBA

	Annual Fee Increase in One Year	Annual Fee Increase Spread Over Two Years	Special Levy
	The full \$165 fee increase is implemented in fiscal 2011.	The \$165 fee increase will be spread out over two years. The first year (2011) will have an \$85 increase and 2012 will have a further \$80 increase	If the fee increase is not supported by a simple majority of members, the ABCFP council will institute a \$165 special levy for the 2011 fiscal year. Special levies will follow in subsequent years with the amount at the discretion of council.
PRO	Members may have this increase paid for by their employers on an ongoing basis. The increase may be tax deductible for self-employed members and members whose employers don't pay for annual fees. The ABCFP receives the funds it needs to carry out its mandate immediately.	Because the fee increase is spread over two years, members are better able to plan for it. Members may have this increase paid for by their employers on an ongoing basis. The increase may be tax deductible for self-employed members and members whose employers don't pay for annual fees.	The ABCFP receives the funds it needs to carry out its mandate immediately.
CON	Members may find it difficult to absorb a large fee increase in one year.	The ABCFP will continue to have a reduced ability to deliver its mandate until the full increase is realized.	The amount of the levy can vary from year to year making it difficult for members to plan. Special levies may not be paid by an employer and may not be tax deductible, as they are distinct from annual membership dues.

that council does not like the idea any more than you. The problem is that a “no” on a fee increase will seriously impact our ability to carry out our mandate. And as a profession which has a responsibility to be good stewards of the forest—this is not really an option at all.

So as I mentioned earlier, you are truly, as a profession, at a crossroads. Your peers on council who you have voted to lead the profession have made a very difficult and unpopular choice. Some of them have participated in the discussion about fees for years at council while others have joined the conversation more recently.

As the CEO, I can assure you that the staff has been asked many difficult questions

by your council and have been asked to explore many different options. Your council keeps itself well-informed as to what the association is doing and are not afraid to challenge staff conclusions on issues. They represent you well. However, when we discuss revenue opportunities at the ABCFP, we all keep ending up at the same place.

The ballot will ask you to vote in favour of one of the following options:

*I support a fee increase of \$165.*

*I do not support a fee increase and understand that a special levy of \$165 for each member will be assessed.*

If you selected *I support a fee increase of \$165,*

please indicate your preference for a one or two year plan.

*I prefer:*

*\$165 to be applied in the 2011 fiscal year.*

*\$85 to be applied in the 2011 fiscal year and*

*\$80 to be applied in the 2012 fiscal year.*

All members will receive a ballot in early August and will have until mid-September to vote on which option they want. You can find more information on the proposed revenue increase in the special insert in this issue of the magazine and on the website. We welcome your comments and questions. Please contact us at revenue2010@abcfp.ca or 604.687.8027. 🐿

## Upcoming Member Meetings

Members are invited to attend the upcoming meetings in several communities. If you live in one of the following communities, you will receive an e-mail with the details of the meeting but anyone from any community is welcome to attend.

Fort Nelson, July 12

Fort St. John, July 13

Dawson Creek, July 14

For more information, contact Brian Robinson, RPF, manager of professional development and member relations at 604.639.9187 or [brobinson@abcfp.ca](mailto:brobinson@abcfp.ca)

## Professional Development Opportunities: Online Workshops

The ABCFP is pleased to announce the launch of two new online workshops. *Writing the Best Exam Possible* and *Professional Ethics and Obligations* are both available on the Workshops page of the website.

## Policy Review Seminars

Policy Review Seminars will take place in Kamloops on September 9 and 10 and Nanaimo on September 16 and 17. Both seminars will be webcast live so all members can attend without incurring travel costs. Check the Policy Seminars page of the website for more information.

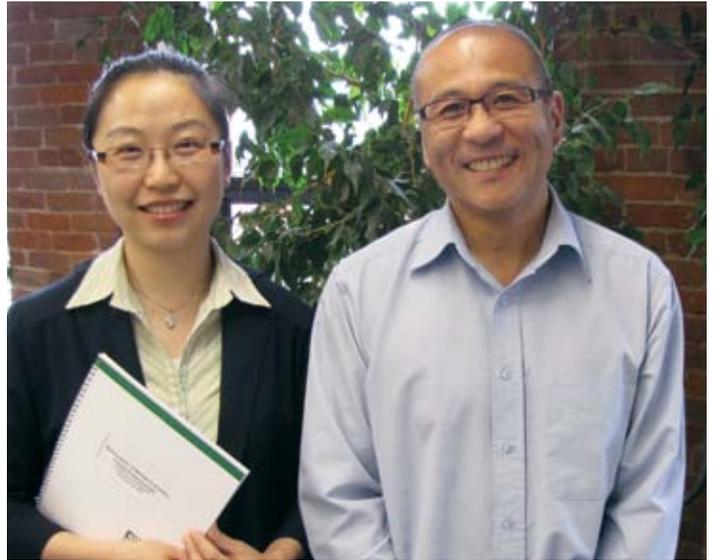
## See Your Work in Print! Contribute to Forestry Team in Action

What have you been up to for the past year? Are you working on interesting projects, conducting research or finding innovative ways to get the job done? If so, share your story with your fellow forest professionals by making a submission to the annual Forestry Team in Action feature in the November/December issue of **BC Forest Professional**. Read the Contributor Guidelines on the website to find out how to make a submission to this feature. The submission deadline is September 7, 2010.

## Nominate Your Community for the 2011 Forest Capital of BC

This is your chance to promote forestry in your town. Whether you live in a large, urban centre or a small community, BC's forests influence almost every aspect of life in this province. However, many people don't know this fact and it's up to the ABCFP and our members to try and change the situation. With this in mind, we are pleased to announce the search for the 2011 Forest Capital of BC. Every community in BC is eligible to be nominated. The ABCFP will evaluate nominations based on a community's relationship to its surrounding forests and the strength of the bid proposal. The winning community will be announced in December and will carry the Forest Capital of BC title from January 1 to December 31, 2011. If you think your community has the stuff and could be the 2011 Forest Capital of BC, download a nomination package available on ABCFP website. The nomination deadline is November 12, 2010, so start gathering support for your community's bid today.

## Meet Lance and Julia: The ABCFP's Finance and Administration Team



There are a handful of reasons for a member to phone the ABCFP's finance team. You'd phone Julia if you needed help with a finance enquiry about workshop registration fees, your membership fee or an online job posting invoice. You'd call Lance if you needed special consideration regarding your membership renewal. Together, they run the mass billing for membership renewal – sending out notices and reminders, fielding questions and processing fees. However, most of Lance and Julia's work goes on outside of our members' experience.

Julia is responsible for processing receipts and disbursements for the ABCFP. This involves the input of accounts receivable and accounts payable data, conducting a cheque run twice a month, depositing cheques to the bank, handling online transactions and making collection calls on outstanding invoices.

Julia also does the background work to reconcile general ledger accounts and manages the financial queries in our database. This work helps Lance prepare financial statements that ensure we comply with financial regulations and facilitates the year-end audit.

Lance is responsible for developing an annual budget and presenting it to Council. He prepares monthly financial statements and forecasts for presentation to the finance committee and Council. He is responsible for cash management and oversees our operating and reserve funds. He also looks after any special funding initiatives and the reporting that's required for them. He oversees the year-end audit and makes sure the ABCFP is compliant with regulators such as Canada Revenue Agency and WorkSafeBC.

Separate from his finance work, Lance is also responsible for HR, IT and general office operations. He looks after payroll, HR policies and employee benefits. He is responsible for overseeing our IT contractor. He is in charge of the management of iMIS, the ABCFP's database, and oversees our database contractors. Finally, he is a trustee of ForesTrust, the ABCFP's registered charity.

# Professional Reliance Isn't Free

**THE ABCFP'S CODE OF ETHICS REQUIRES THAT** forest professionals do the following:

- Practice only in those fields where training and ability make you professionally competent (3.7);
- Express a professional opinion only when it is founded on adequate knowledge and experience (3.9);
- Accept only those assignments for which you are qualified or seek assistance from knowledgeable peers or specialists whenever a field of practice is outside your competence (5.4).

The *Forest and Range Practices Act* is based on the premise of professional reliance. Where appropriate, professionals apply good judgment and act in the interest of the public and the environment. Professional regulatory bodies hold their members accountable for matters of conduct and competency to serve and protect the public interest. One way members ensure they are competent is through professional development.

In this issue, we look at how the number of professional development opportunities for forest professionals has shrunk over the years. Candace Parsons, RPF, and Gordon Weetman, RPF (Ret), discuss what the Forest Management Institute of BC achieved and the gap it has left in the sector. Chris Hollstedt, RPF, looks at how a comprehensive system for maintaining competency could be developed and what we are currently working with. Mike Larock, RPF, talks about the learning cycle forest professionals depend on and how they can work to strengthen it. It turns out that while professional development opportunities are fairly lean at the moment, there is a vision being developed.

As a separate part of this topic, we also looked at professional development outside



Photo: iStockPhoto

of a BC forestry standpoint. The College of Dental Surgeons of BC kindly wrote an article about their professional competency standards. Even though dentistry is very different from forestry, we thought it would be interesting to learn how another regulatory body works. Then, for a viewpoint closer to home, the Ontario Professional Foresters Association talk about their new competency assessment and professional development program. Finally, Iain MacDonald, managing

director of the UBC Centre for Advanced Wood Processing, outlines how they are developing the skills and building the capacity needed for tomorrow's forest product industry.

Professional reliance and professional development are two important topics shaping BC forestry right now. We hope this issue shows readers the broader issues at play and helps them decide how they are going to access professional development in the coming years. 🍷



## From Saw Teeth to Real Teeth: Taking a Look at Dentists' Continuing Education

Forestry and dentistry are very different professions in many ways. However, we wanted to provide an example of another self-regulated profession's continuing education program. The College of Dental Surgeons of British Columbia was kind enough to explain how dentists and certified dental assistants stay up-to-date with evolving dental practice.

**WHILE THE NEED TO MAINTAIN COMPETENCE** remains constant, the way in which professionals are accomplishing this is changing. Self-regulating professions in Canada, the US and Europe are recognizing the importance of linking professional development activities to improved practice and better outcomes.

The College of Dental Surgeons of British Columbia (CDSBC) regulates dentists and certified dental assistants (CDAs) in the public interest. Through the College, the dental profession is accountable for the quality of dental care that is provided in BC. Over 3,100 dentists and more than 6,000 CDAs are registered with the CDSBC.

The acceleration of scientific and technological progress in today's world reinforces the need for ongoing learning over the span of an individual's professional career. To renew their registration and certification each year, dentists and CDAs must meet mandatory continuing education (CE) requirements, which are established by the College's Quality Assurance Committee. The CE requirements are based on a three-year cycle, with dentists needing a minimum of 90 credits over three years, and CDAs needing 36.

Continuing education credits can be obtained in a number of categories and through various learning modalities (e.g. courses, conferences, teaching, publication authorship). To be eligible for credit, CE activities must meet the objective of the Quality Assurance (QA) program.

The Quality Assurance Program's objective is "...to promote competence and professionalism at all stages of dentists' and CDAs' careers. It is expected that activities undertaken within the Quality Assurance Program will have significant intellectual and/or practical content related to the practice of dentistry and/or the

management of the dental practice. Activities can also be related to the professional responsibilities or ethical obligations of the participant."

The Quality Assurance Program is led by a volunteer committee of dentists, certified dental assistants and members of the public. Staff provide management-level advice and administrative support. A CE subcommittee meets regularly to review activities that have been submitted for CE credit, but do not appear to meet the objective of the Quality Assurance Program. Ultimately, the subcommittee is interested in knowing how the course or activity contributed to making the dentist or CDA a better practitioner.

Dentists and CDAs are urged to consider the following core principles of the CDSBC's Quality Assurance Program when they are planning for continuing education activities.

- It is the responsibility of every dentist and CDA to maintain his or her own competence to practice.
- The incorporation of self-reflection and self-assessment into day-to-day practice are important components of this responsibility.
- Practice improvement and professional growth are the ultimate goals of continuing education within the CDSBC's Quality Assurance program.
- Dentists and CDAs are encouraged to link learning activities and professional development to their individual practices as a means of enhancing competence.

The Standards of Practice for Dentists and CDAs is a core document that should be used for self-assessment by dentists and CDAs. Examples of other documents include the Code of Ethics, Dental Records Management and the Clinical Practice Guideline for the Early Detection of Oral Cancer in British Columbia.

In addition to meeting CE requirements, dentists and CDAs must also meet a condition for continuous practice. This means that in order to work in BC, they must maintain current practice in dentistry through clinical practice, or work in teaching or research. Dentists need 900 hours of continuous practice over three years while CDAs need 600 hours.

CDSBC is also in the process of updating its approach to Quality Assurance by enabling dentists and CDAs to play a more active role in being accountable for identifying their individual learning needs and then finding ways to meet them.

The revised Quality Assurance Program will include already-established modalities but also more flexible approaches to meet learning needs. One of these approaches is focused on creating a framework for dentists and CDAs to capture the process of learning from their personal experiences of solving problems in their daily practice.

The subject of quality assurance in healthcare continues to evolve as more research becomes available about how professionals can use self-reflection and other techniques to support lifelong learning and maintain competence at all stages of their careers.

More information about the CDSBC's Quality Assurance Program can be found on the College website at [cdsbc.org](http://cdsbc.org) under the 'CE and Quality Assurance' tab. 🐾

*The College of Dental Surgeons of BC assures British Columbians of professional standards of oral health care, ethics and competence by regulating dentistry in a fair and reasonable manner. Our regulatory mandate as a self-governing profession stems from the Health Professions Act and the Bylaws made under the Act.*



## Ontario Professional Foresters Association and Professional Development

ONE OF THE EXPECTATIONS OF A LICENSED profession is that it has a quality assurance program in place that is focused on helping its members maintain their professional competency. The *Professional Foresters Act* in Ontario describes that requirement as follows; “the principle object of the Association is to regulate the practice of professional forestry and to govern its members... in order that the public interest may be served and protected.” The Act authorizes Council to pass bylaws “prescribing a quality assurance program” and “prescribing a continuing education program.”

It is a goal of the Ontario Professional Foresters Association (OPFA) to adequately ensure that each registered professional forester is maintaining relevant professional competencies to protect the public interest. The intended outcome of a competency support program in the OPFA is that the public is assured that:

- The practice of professional forestry is being carried out at a consistently high standard.
- The OPFA is carrying out its responsibilities in ensuring that each active member is competent to practice their scope of professional forestry.

As a result, OPFA membership is considering amendments to the OPFA’s bylaws, in part, to find out how the OPFA can assure the public that their interests are protected with respect to our competency to act as stewards of private and Crown forests in Ontario. In the fall of 2008, OPFA started to develop a competency support system to help members make such assurances to the public interest, in a manner that members find useful in their own professional development efforts.

Today, we think we’ve done it. We have a draft guide describing a methodology for members’ use in planning and monitoring their individual competency maintenance, where reporting on the last year’s continuing education efforts is a by-product rather than the objective. The new objective is to enable members to identify their personal practice focus, and through focused learning, speed their professional development.

There are four components to the competency assessment and professional development protocol:

1. A personal practice focus;
2. A learning plan;
3. Continuing education; and,
4. Archiving and reporting.

All documents are suggested to be periodically revised. For example, the personal practice focus should be revisited at least every three years or whenever a change in the course of a member’s career occurs. Learning plan and continuing education documents should be updated annually.

### Component One: Personal Practice Focus (PPF)

The personal practice focus (PPF) catalogues areas of existing competency, and is a tool to help members identify what new or improved knowledge, skills and experience would facilitate career development.

There are three elements to a personal practice focus, presented here as questions:

1. What are my current competencies? You might opt to update a resume, draft a job description, or address the following supporting questions:

- What DO I know or am able to do?
- What MUST I know or be able to do?
- What do I consider to be my specialty?

2. What competencies should I build or strengthen? You might opt to identify new knowledge or skills you anticipate needing for your current job, for professional interest or for career progression. You might also consider refreshing knowledge and skills in order to do something better or to learn the latest state of practice. The following supporting questions can help frame this assessment:

- What do I WANT to know or be able to do?
- How is my job changing?
- What are my short, medium, and long term career goals?

3. How do I plan to build or strengthen key competencies? You might opt to identify strategic actions you feel are necessary to continue competent practice in your job, and/

or to facilitate achieving your career goals (e.g. improve my knowledge of silvicultural practices). This element need not identify specific courses or activities—this will be addressed as part of a learning plan.

### Component Two: Learning Plan

The learning plan is a tool to help members maximize the effectiveness of continuing education, by identifying in advance (where possible and where appropriate), what courses and activities can help build or strengthen the competencies needed in current practice and/or for career progression.

### Component Three: Continuing Education

The core purpose for having drafted a PPF and learning plan is to help members identify their own continuing education needs, so that they might efficiently and effectively develop and maintain the competencies identified as being important. Randomly pursuing training opportunities as they present themselves, simply to meet and report the minimum hours the OPFA requires, serves no purpose for the OPFA or for members.

### Component Four: Archiving and Reporting

Members are required to archive what continuing education activities they’ve completed, and to report their total education hours for each year. Moreover, members are now asked to archive their personal practice focus and learning plan, and to report on their status.

This work to-date covers only the first four of seven components of the OPFA’s competency support program. Based on member feedback, the committee will recommend refinements. We will then embark on forming recommendations on whether and how to implement the remaining components, which, depending on the adoption of the new bylaw may include: peer rereview; audit, and professional assessment.

*OPFA regulates forestry in the public interest within Ontario*



## Developing Skills and Building Capacity for Tomorrow's Forest Product Industry: The UBC Centre for Advanced Wood Processing

**N**ESTLED WITHIN THE FOREST SCIENCES CENTRE complex at UBC's main campus, the Centre for Advanced Wood Processing (CAWP) is identifiable first by the familiar stacks of lumber and engineered wood products arrayed around the yard. Visitors venturing inside will find a manufacturing lab equipped with the latest manufacturing machinery, a computer lab brimming with computer-aided-design tools and a staff dedicated to carrying out the training and industry service mandate of Canada's national centre for education, extension and research for the advanced wood products industries.

### Who We Serve

CAWP was established in 1996 in response to the lobbying efforts of a group of Canadian value-added manufacturers. Its services are typically aimed at producers of furniture, cabinets, millwork, doors and windows, remanufactured products and factory-built homes. The enterprises range in size from three or four employees to several hundred. Primary lumber manufacturers also benefit from activities such as CAWP's kiln drying certificate program and its product development service.

### Continuing Education

CAWP's newest certificate program was developed for the Wood Manufacturing Council and launched this year. It consists of eight 30-hour management skills modules that can be taken online, covering areas such as production planning, factory layout, quality management, new product development and business finance. The program was created primarily to help small to medium sized enterprises develop the in-house expertise to implement management systems into their businesses and prepare for further growth.

The program was developed with direct input from an industry committee that

reviewed and commented on every page of course text and a full-scale pilot launch of the first module was done to ensure that it met industry needs. This program is unique in that all of the case studies and examples discussed in the course modules are from the value-added wood sector. "We had 10 companies from St. John's, Newfoundland to Delta, BC take the pilot course. Then we interviewed all 30 learners during a packed two-week road trip last April [to get their feedback on the course]," explains Jason Chiu, the project manager. Each management skills module is being offered twice a year and is taught by instructors who all boast extensive experience in the industry.

### Making Learning Flexible

The range of continuing education programs offered by CAWP is diverse, from one-day skills workshops and seminars to week-long technical training courses, in-factory training, e-learning courses, to certificate programs.

We've been offering training for more than 10 years and there has been a conscious effort in that time to make workplace learning more and more flexible for our industry clients. The first certificate program we offered was on kiln drying and was delivered face-to-face at UBC and onsite at various kilns. The course consisted of four one-week modules, but the travel costs and time away from the workplace really hindered many companies from taking part.

To address this issue, subsequent certificate programs incorporate web-based e-learning portions so that learners can study the theoretical side on their own time at their home or workplace and then travel to a shorter face-to-face session in which they apply the information they've learned. An example is the Industrial Wood Finishing Certificate, in which participants complete 100 hours of study online between January and March,

then visit UBC in April for a six-day intensive practical course that includes hands-on sessions, demonstrations and factory visits.

### Developing and Prototyping New Products

In addition to offering training, CAWP works one-on-one with companies to help develop and prototype new products. In the last year, CAWP has helped furniture and millwork companies to design new furniture lines and determine the most cost and time-efficient manufacturing sequences to produce them. It has also worked with two companies seeking to adopt prefabricated construction methods for residential homes.

One project involved analyzing various computer-aided design and manufacturing software applications and recommending the best one for the company to use to produce panelized walls and roof sections. Once this was done, technicians used CAWP's Hundegger K2, an advanced computer-controlled joinery machine, to pre-cut a whole house package as a test of the cost savings and efficiency gains that the company could expect from prefabrication. CAWP expects to do around ten such projects this year.

BC companies can receive funding support to cover 50% of the costs because these activities are supported by the Business Innovation Partnership, an initiative that is funded by Forestry Innovation Investment and delivered by CAWP, BC Wood Specialties Group, and FPInnovations. The Business Innovation Partnership provides one-stop shopping for BC manufacturers seeking to access technical or business/marketing services.

CAWP was originally established with grants from Forest Renewal BC and the BC Ministry of Advanced Education. Nowadays its activi-



Student-designed blue pine furniture destined for the Olympic Athlete's Villages.

ties are funded through an endowment that was established at its inception, as well as through an industry partnership program, various project grants and cost recovery on some of its services. CAWP is fortunate to be supported by a large number of industrial equipment and technology suppliers, whose in-kind contributions of software, machinery, supplies, and services significantly enhance the facilities and the training and education experiences that CAWP is able to offer.

For more information on CAWP see [www.cawp.ubc.ca](http://www.cawp.ubc.ca) or [iain.macdonald@ubc.ca](mailto:iain.macdonald@ubc.ca).

*Iain Macdonald is managing director of the UBC Centre for Advanced Wood Processing. Born and raised in Scotland, he has worked in training and education for the wood products industry for the last 11 years.*



Product development: A timber-frame gazebo prototype cut on the Hundegger K2.



Parts for the 2010 Olympic medal ceremonies podiums in the CAWP lab after CNC machining.

Photos: CAWP



## Staying Current and Embracing Change:

# The Role of Continuing Education in Emerging Areas of Practice

**RIGHT NOW, IT'S SAFE TO SAY BC'S FOREST** professionals lack a comprehensive system for maintaining competency in our areas of practices. That's not to say we are not competent. Our minds and associations are willing, but capacity for continuous learning is weak. We have a Practice & Development section on the association website. And we have several organizations and agencies that offer high quality material for self-directed study. We report on what we do to become and remain competent in areas of practices. However, where do we go for more comprehensive training for emerging areas of practice or for significant upgrading when desired?

If we assume we are all competent in our areas of practice when we are accepted into the profession as RPFs or RFTs. And we assume the half-life of knowledge—the time it takes us to forget half of what we learned—is five to 10 years. Then professionals need approximately 48 continuing learning hours per year to remain competent in a chosen area of practice.

As Weetman and Parsons point out in their article (page 18), we've lost some pretty important continuing education capacity with the closure of the Forest Management Institute of BC and the BC Forestry Continuing Studies Network. Ongoing funding for existing organizations is also at risk. In addition, continuing education capacity at colleges and universities is being directed to focus on cost recovery instruction. This leaves a huge gap in available courses for those seeking to remain current in their area of practice. The good news is training is available for practices requiring certificates. But where do you go for need-to-know, state-of-the-art information on the science of sustainable resource management?

The responsibility for ensuring competency does not rest solely with professionals. There is a vested interest from employers, regulators, associations and educational institutions to ensure resource professionals have access to timely, affordable and relevant continuing education opportunities. A commitment on behalf the employer to provide resources and/or time for professional development is critical part of an effective system. Regulators and associations must adequately resource the system so that educational needs are addressed. Engagement and collaboration among educational institutions are critical for the efficient and effective development of continuing education products to ensure what little development funding is available is spent wisely. And finally, resource professionals need to make their educational needs known and be willing to spend the time to achieve the highest standards of competence in their areas of practice while knowing when to rely on associated professionals for additional expertise.

Are professionals accessing self-directed continuous learning opportunities? Yes. While time and travel funding are severe limiting factors these days, professionals are finding ways to remain current. Since I am most familiar with FORREX, I'll provide our case in point based on statistics from April 2009 to March 2010.

More than 660 registrants participated directly in FORREX events (workshops, conferences, eLecture Series and discussion forums)

- Another 102 people accessed the recorded FORREX events.
- Related FORREX event documents were downloaded over 68,500 times.
- Each year, more professionals subscribe to receive print copies of the *BC Journal of*

*Ecosystems and Management (JEM).*

- Online downloads of JEM exceeded 49,000 in 2009-2010, with 7,393 unique visitors.
- Over 4,200 subscribers received regular updates from the FORREX and following extension program lists: Conservation Biology, Forest Resource Dynamics, Watershed Management, Socio-economics, and Aboriginal Forestry and Indigenous Science.

While these examples of self-directed learning fills some of the professional development and continuous learning needs, to move into a new area of practices requires a more significant investment in formal education. But where are the more structured and accredited learning opportunities?

A voluntary collaboration of natural resource sector employers, regulators, associations and education providers is trying to tackle this problem. They have agreed to try and address this gap by participating in the Natural Resource Sector Continuous Learning Forum ([nrceforum.forrex.org](http://nrceforum.forrex.org)). Thompson Rivers University Open Learning ([www.truopen.ca](http://www.truopen.ca)) will accredit and document courses developed by partners as they become available. With a strategy in place and gaps identified, the ball is in the educator's court to develop and offer priority courses.

Demonstrating competency and the active pursuit of new science and knowledge is pivotal to achieving the goal of professional reliance and a self-regulating profession. A commitment by all professionals to continuous learning about science and new approaches to sustainable resource management inspires confidence in our employers, regulators and the public. It shows that we aspire to excellence in our



knowledge, skills and abilities and take our role as stewards of British Columbia's forest resources seriously. A functioning and well-resourced system for continuous learning is critical to our profession and our future forests, economies and communities. 🌱

*Chris Hollstedt, RPF, is founding president and chief executive officer of FORREX, the charitable organization dedicated to the development and application of knowledge to support sustainable ecosystems, economies, and communities.*

### **FORREX's Top Five Information Requests\***

- Watershed Management
- Socio Economics
- Aboriginal Forestry
- Forest Resource Dynamics
- Ecosystem Management and Conservation Biology

*\* To read the top ten information requests under each of these topics, please visit the **BC Forest Professional** section of the ABCFP website.*

### **Vision for the Natural Resources Continuing Education Forum:**

Natural resource practitioners throughout British Columbia will have access to a highly effective system of continuing education, providing timely, relevant and affordable learning opportunities.



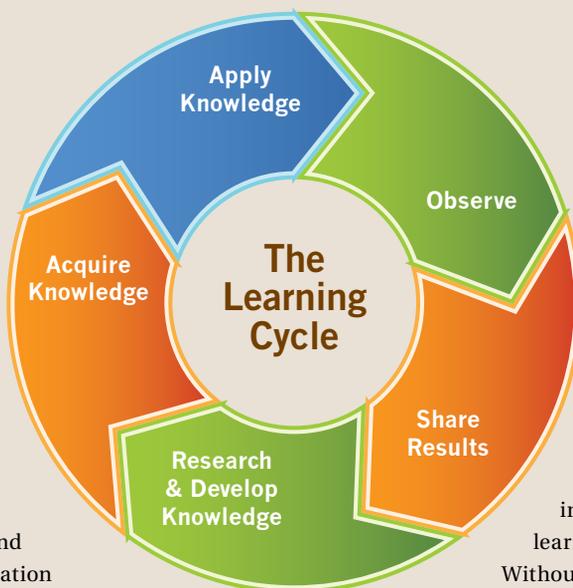
## The Learning Cycle: What is it? And Keep Pedalling!

### TRAVELLING THROUGH THE BC

INTERIOR THESE LAST FEW YEARS, IT HAS been increasingly easy to observe the scale of the mountain pine beetle infestation. The landscape of pine tree death is overwhelming. On this last trip, I decided to become acquainted with Hec Richmond's autobiography, *Forever Green*. Hec was a founding member of the ABCFP and forest entomologist working in BC and Alberta on a mountain pine beetle infestation in the 1920s. He spent a career sampling forests, reporting on infestations and planning control treatments. It was not surprising for me to read the emphasis that he placed on experiential learning supported by a sound education platform.

The practice of professional forestry is a science-based education and the core knowledge tends to compound over time through a learning cycle. Professional practitioners learn the practice of professional forestry, apply theory to their own individual practice, observe the outcomes, share the results with other practitioners and in turn inform the development of new concepts. In other words, you don't have to be Hec Richmond to apply his thinking to your professional practice in today's forests.

This method of continuous learning is not unique to professional forestry. However, the community of forest professionals began using this method to a greater extent in the late 1980s through programs such as FRDA (Forest Resource Development Agreement) and FRBC (Forest Renewal BC). It became part of the culture of forest professionals' development. Research, forest management trials or simply operational observations were discussed at workshops in office and field. While the practitioners themselves have benefited from this learning culture, the real beneficiaries are the users of the professional service (including the public, employers and other professionals). As a result of the learning cycle, the forestry community initiated management programs such as variable retention or actions such as managing wind throw on forest edges and genetic gain in tree seed. The learning cycle helped to transfer, test and improve this knowledge to the benefit of the forest and achieving society's values. The ABCFP is concerned that the recent economic downturn and



reduction in expenditures among forest resource employers has led to an erosion of the learning cycle as fewer practitioners are able to have the time or resources to attend information sharing workshops or participate broadly with other practitioners from other business interests. The absence of the learning cycle reduces the likelihood for innovation at just the time when the forces of learning and innovation are needed the most.

Without the learning cycle, professional practitioners who work in relative isolation will find their professional role increasingly more difficult. Isolation can be a physical context where only one resource professional is working for the employer. However, it can also occur in a group context, where professional exchange occurs only between like-minded practitioners. There are many reasons to try to strengthen our learning cycle. Forest management in areas such as combining or overlapping uses on the landscape, alternative energy activities, managing secondary structure in mountain pine beetle affected forests and building resilient forests to withstand the effects of climate change, are all current subjects that require the transfer and exchange of the learning cycle. In his summation, Hec Richmond, RPF, reflected on the challenges forest professionals face in keeping abreast with current knowledge and the increasing pace and complexity of managing forest resources for a multiple of values. His words were written almost 30 years ago and they remain true today, perhaps more so. In particular, there are two challenges that we, as independent forest professionals, can address now in order to improve the learning cycle. First, find other ways to acquire knowledge information and transfer it among our peers. For example, build on your knowledge through FREP (Forest and Range Evaluation Program) reporting or develop an informal peer group for information sharing across business sectors in your area. Secondly, encourage employers to participate in the learning cycle through supporting specific research, traditional face-to-face workshops, online learning, webinars or other forms of exchange. Professional reliance in FRPA (*Forest and Range Practices Act*) can return an extraordinary number of benefits to the users of profes-

sional service. It is the freedom to rely on the practice of professionals who are accountable for their decisions and advice. Professionals' decisions and advice are reliable because they are founded on education, practice experience, observation and information sharing in a discipline of continuous learning called the learning cycle. As the profession's duty in the *Foresters Act* is to serve and protect the

public interest in the practice of professional forestry, it is therefore a social imperative that we re-establish the learning cycle in forestry with greater earnest in order to support and amplify the benefits of initiatives such as professional reliance and forest stewardship. 🐻

*Michael Larock, RPF, is director of professional practice and forest stewardship at the ABCFP.*

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## Doing Professional Development From Your Desk

### Association of BC Forest Professionals – Online Workshops

The ABCFP is working hard to find new ways to serve our members as the forest sector continues to fluctuate. Putting our workshops online makes them cheaper on a few fronts: the cost of the workshop is less, people miss less work because no travel is involved and there are no hotel, meal or travel costs.

[www.abcfp.ca/practice\\_development/continuing\\_education/workshops.asp](http://www.abcfp.ca/practice_development/continuing_education/workshops.asp)

### Canadian Institute of Forestry – Electronic Lecture Series

The CIF/IFC offers an interactive electronic lecture series. The lectures are easy to access and efforts have been made to keep them user-friendly. Once registered, an e-mail will be sent out to you providing the speakers' presentation and the step by step instructions for participation. At the time of the lecture, you simply call into the teleconference and follow along with the presenter on your computer. All that is required is a computer and a phone.

[www.cif-ifc.org/site/electure](http://www.cif-ifc.org/site/electure)

### FORREX – Forest Science Online Research Chat Series: Management Questions – Science Answers

A research chat is a short, virtual dialogue, facilitated by FORREX and the Provincial Forest Extension Program, to help you showcase how your research has made a difference. These virtual dialogues will allow research proponents to briefly describe—in 15–20 minutes—the management problems their project is addressing and any information or lessons learned from their work.

[www.forrex.org/events/scienceforum/past\\_chats.asp](http://www.forrex.org/events/scienceforum/past_chats.asp)

### FORREX – Webinars

FORREX provides webinar series about different natural resource management issues. Below are links to two past webinar series: *What's New in Forest Productivity Research?* and *Managing Human-Wildlife Conflicts in Increasingly Human-Dominated Landscapes*.

New series will be announced on Forrex's website, under News & Events.

[www.forrex.org/program/forest/Forest\\_Productivity\\_Research.asp](http://www.forrex.org/program/forest/Forest_Productivity_Research.asp)

[www.forrex.org/program/con\\_bio/managing\\_human\\_wildlife\\_conflicts.asp](http://www.forrex.org/program/con_bio/managing_human_wildlife_conflicts.asp)

### FORREX - BC Journal of Ecosystems and Management (JEM)

FORREX has a 'test your knowledge' section at the end of each JEM article. This allows professionals to read the article, answer the three or four questions and then see if they have understood the article's key messages. While this isn't a virtual lecture, it is still self-directed study.

### Ministry of Forest and Range – Research and Knowledge Management Branch Seminar Series

These seminars give forest professionals a chance to keep up-to-date to on the research coming out of BC forestry. They are held in-person in Victoria; however, you can also call in and listen on a conference call. [www.for.gov.bc.ca/hre/research\\_seminars](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hre/research_seminars)

### University of Alberta – Forest Industry Lecture Series

These lecture series deal with a wide range of topics such as: forest ecology, forest science, silviculture, wildlife management, forest management, ecosystem management, lumber and paper sales, labor, international trade, forest economics and forestry-related social issues. Speakers are scientists, industry and business leaders, senior government officials, academics and forestry alumni.

[www.ales.ualberta.ca/en/rr/SeminarsandLectures/ForestIndustryLecture.aspx](http://www.ales.ualberta.ca/en/rr/SeminarsandLectures/ForestIndustryLecture.aspx)



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**IN THE 1980s, POLICY AND REGULATORY CHANGES** in BC created a need for advanced education in silviculture for RPFs working on BC's Crown forest estate. The annual cutover was escalating, reaching 170,000 hectares in the 1990s. The cancellation of ranger districts and their positions with the professionalization of the BC Forest Service led to RPFs being held accountable.

The province switched from a cumbersome prior approval 'credit to stumpage' mechanism to pay for silviculture to handing over full fiscal responsibility for basic silviculture to the forest industry who feared countervailing duty escalation. The province brought in a free growing requirement and green-up and adjacency constraints on cut block layout. The industry RPFs were pushed to regenerate and green-up cutblocks as fast as possible. The operational issues of site preparation, vegetation management and accelerated

Alberta requested that some provincial government foresters be allowed to attend the BC government funded SIBC program. Their enthusiastic appreciation of their experience resulted in the creation of the Alberta Advanced Forest Management Institute (AAFMI), based in Hinton, Alberta. Ontario created a similar institute at Thunder Bay. A proposal for a Quebec institute was never funded.

Problems and issues over road construction and endangered fish habitat led to the need for advanced education in forest engineering. SIBC was expanded to include forest engineering modules and was therefore renamed to the Forest Management Institute of BC (FMIBC).

The Clayquot crisis and the international embarrassment endured by the BC government over the 'War in the Woods' resulted in the *Forest Practice Code* being set up by Andrew Petter, then Minister of Forests. The numerous code manuals enforced by regulation led to

## Forest Management Institute of BC – What it Accomplished and the Gap it Left

planting became important. Public objections to ugly and large clearcuts necessitated new landscape planning and visual quality objectives. As a result, cut block layout became more complex.

To meet the new challenges, the silviculture contracting industry and the silviculture branch of the BC Ministry of Forests rapidly expanded. Mandatory silviculture prescriptions – signed by RPFs – were required for all cutblocks. McMillan Bloedel set up 'high yield' silviculture programs in BC with rigorous audits and controls and use of pre-commercial thinning (PCT), commercial thinning (CT), genetics and fertilization.

In the early 1980s, the head of the Silviculture Branch of the BC Ministry of Forests (Charlie Johnson, RPF) visited the Silviculture Institutes in Washington and Oregon and recommended following the USFS model. BC set up the Silviculture Institute of BC (SIBC) with the first five years of funding (1985-1990) being provided by FRDA I (the first provincial-federal government Forest Resources Development Agreement).

SIBC was proposed as a non-profit educational institution. Eventually, approval was obtained for the University of British Columbia to award a Diploma in Advanced Silviculture to program graduates.

Initially, SIBC offered four, two-week modules of advanced education for RPFs with a minimum of five years practical work experience. The last module was a field prescription preparation. Later, two additional modules were added.

Module 1: Basic Principles

Module 2: Regeneration

Module 3: Forest and Stand Development

Module 4: Silviculture Planning and Practices

Module 5: Forest Analysis

Module 6: Silviculture Prescription

'default to code' attitude by RPFs. Creativity was stifled. In addition, the 20% loss of corporate allowable cut imposed by the Ministry of Forests and the creation of BC Timber Sales hugely reduced industry interest and leadership in silviculture. The ACE (allowable cut effect) incentive was gone. Fast, efficient and cost-effective 'basic silviculture' to minimums tended to dominate silviculture prescriptions.

The Silviculture Branch was reorganized and funding for FMIBC was terminated. Then US President Clinton's decision to massively reduce US National Forest allowable cuts resulted in huge stumpage revenues in BC in the early 1990s. Forest Renewal BC (FRBC) was created with huge funding. Silviculture projects were funded all over BC, weakly linked to AAC or forest level sustainable forest management (SFM) objectives. A lot of silviculture money was focused on job creation work. The Auditor General investigated FRBC and it was disbanded in 2002. Silviculture lost some credibility.

Proposals by the FMIBC Board of Directors to restructure the educational modules around sustainable forest management for RPFs were never approved nor funded. The last graduating class from FMIBC was in 2003. From 1985-2003, over 350 RPFs, PEngs and technologists graduated from SIBC/FMIBC. The Alberta and Ontario Institutes were also closed.

None operate today.

The current economic crisis in the BC forest industry has led to a loss of industry silviculture expertise and leadership. The BC Ministry of Forests and Range is weakened and concerned with economic problems, climate change and other issues. The private nursery industry has been greatly reduced. The mountain pine beetle (MPB) has killed most of the high quality old dense lodgepole pine in BC

## Setting the Standard: Certification, Governance and the Forest Stewardship Council

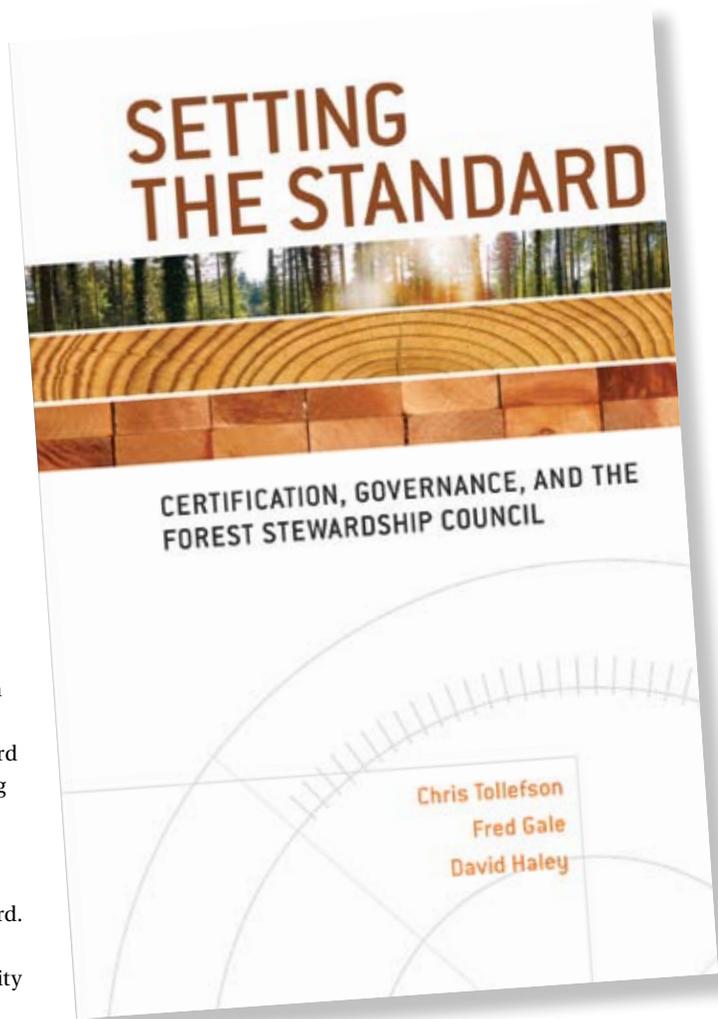
Tollefson, C., F. Gale & D. Haley  
 UBC Press, 2008, 424pp.  
 ISBN No 978- 0 -7748- 1438- 6 (paper)  
 978- 0 -7748- 1437- 9 (cloth)

**IN THE WORDS OF THE PREFACE, THIS IS “AN IN-DEPTH COMPARATIVE** study of an organizational icon of new governance and regulatory theory, the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).” It is detailed and scholarly—apparently written for fellow academics and students of political economy.

Arranged in four parts with copious endnotes, an extensive bibliography, a necessary list of acronyms, and appended details of the ‘FSC International Standards: principles and criteria for forest stewardship,’ the book gives a comprehensive account of development of the specific BC standard. Part One, in four chapters, details the fraught negotiations leading up to the standard finally accepted, compares it to those agreed in other jurisdictions and contrasts it with other certification schemes. The next four chapters, Part Two, examine application of FSC’s principles in light of forest tenure in BC, rights of communities and forest employees, indigenous peoples’ rights and, finally, environmental values. Again BC’s standard is compared to those for the Maritimes, US Rocky Mountains, US Pacific Coast and Boreal forest jurisdictions. The third part, in three chapters, has perhaps the least relevance for practising foresters being largely an academic discussion of the politics of standards development, government and governance. The two chapters of the concluding fourth part continue this analysis of FSC governance and re-examine the struggle to complete the BC standard. The authors conclude that the FSC has successfully developed a governance system but is weak in areas of regulation and applicability in developing countries. They hint at but do not elaborate on the possibility of conflict between government rule and FSC governance.

This is not easy reading. It speaks principally to students of government and political economy and only implicitly addresses the impact of FSC standards on day-to-day forestry practice in the province. The writing is sometimes opaque—what exactly is meant by, “What might be termed the ‘ecological’ conception of social reality emerging from Freeman’s and Wood’s work suggests that a botanical approach to instances of governance and regulation, which identifies several dimensions of difference, will prove more instructive than one premised on a single dichotomous continuum ?” It is sometimes ponderous and bombastic with occasional lapses into the colloquial and a too frequent use of the conditional—“we would argue,” or “we would contend”—when the present tense is appropriate.

There are some other flaws: silviculture is misspelled; “plantations or other non-forestry uses” suggests either carelessness or lack of understanding; there is frequent repetition—“as is detailed in Chapter 4,” “we revisit these details in Chapter 11;” and it is debatably asserted that



“Constitution change is somewhat easier in Canada [than in Australia].” The bibliography cites such publications as *Hammond’s Seeing the Forest amongst the Trees* but questionably omits Kimmins’ *Balancing Act* and Moore’s *Green Spirit*. These may seem picayune criticisms but one looks for a higher standard in a university publication.

**RANKING: 3.5 OUT OF 5 CONES**



Reviewed by Roy Strang, RPF (Ret)



Photo by Sandy McKellar

## The Road to China, Log Exports and Tenure Form: Forest Professionals Tackled the Big Issues at ExpoFor 2010

**EXPOFOR 2010 IN KELOWNA SAW OVER 220 DELEGATES ATTEND THREE** plenary panels, seven breakout sessions, the ABCFP's AGM, the Inductees' Recognition lunch, an awards BBQ and a networking reception featuring two local breweries showing off their wares.

With many members under strict travel restrictions and the reduction of travel budgets across the sector, the ABCFP thanks its members for supporting ExpoFor 2010. The standing host committee worked very hard to build a program that would appeal to as many members as possible and provide them with top-notch training opportunities. The result was three plenary sessions that looked at sector-wide issues and a selection of breakout sessions with strategic and applied topics for members at all stages of their careers. Many of the presentations are available on the ExpoFor website, [www.expofor.ca](http://www.expofor.ca), Past Events, ExpoFor 2010.

In addition to the professional development portion of the program, ExpoFor 2010 delegates were treated to the annual Inductees' Recognition Luncheon where over 50 inductees received their RPF or RFT pins. John Rustad, Parliamentary Secretary for Silviculture, gave the keynote address and answered many questions during the Ministry Lunch. The trade show had 13 exhibitors and was a busy spot especially during the coffee breaks and pre-dinner reception.

Recognizing the budget constraints many members were facing, the standing host committee designed the program so that it was possible for many members to attend the two-day conference with only one night in a hotel. The shorter, more compact program got top marks from delegates in a post-conference survey so a similar program will be used for the 2011 conference.

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### The ABCFP would like to thank the standing host committee for their hard work:

Todd Cashin, RFT  
John Davies, RPF  
Kim DeRose, RPF  
David Gill, RPF  
Tom Hedekar, RPF, RFT  
Chris Hollstedt, RPF  
Sandy McKellar, Honourary Member  
Heather Rice, RFT  
Kerry Rouck, RPF  
Colene Wood, RPF  
Blair Stewart, RPF

## ABCFP Awards at ExpoFor 2010

Photos by Sandy McKellar



Past President, Jonathan Lok, RFT, with David Wilford, RPF

### **DISTINGUISHED FOREST PROFESSIONAL**

David Wilford, RPF

...the highest honour the ABCFP gives to its members

Dave Wilford earned the Distinguished Forest Professional award for his prolific contributions to our understanding of forest hydrology. He has enjoyed a productive career as a forest hydrologist with the BC Ministry of Forests and Range. To this day, Dave is excited about doing the research that helps forest professionals manage BC's forests.



Past President, Jonathan Lok, RFT, with Tim Toman

### **ABCFP HONOURARY MEMBERS**

Tim Toman and Bruce Fraser, PhD

...the highest honour the ABCFP gives non-members

Individuals presented with this award are made members of the association to honour them for what is usually a lifetime of work for the betterment of forestry in BC. The Honourary Membership award is not presented annually but only when qualified individuals are nominated.

Tim Toman is a dentist and woodlot owner by trade. He is also the longest serving non-member committee volunteer in the history of the ABCFP. Tim has served on a variety of committees – including council – since 1996. He is a strong believer in giving the community a voice when it comes to forestry issues and, as a result, has worked on creating the land use resource plan for the Bulkley Valley. He has earned the respect of forest professionals and community members alike.

Dr. Bruce Fraser was recognized by the ABCFP for his dedication to forestry through his work as the (now retired) chair of the Forest Practices Board in addition to his career as an instructor to post-secondary forestry students. Bruce is noted for his ability to bring everyone involved in a project together into a team that benefits the forests of BC.

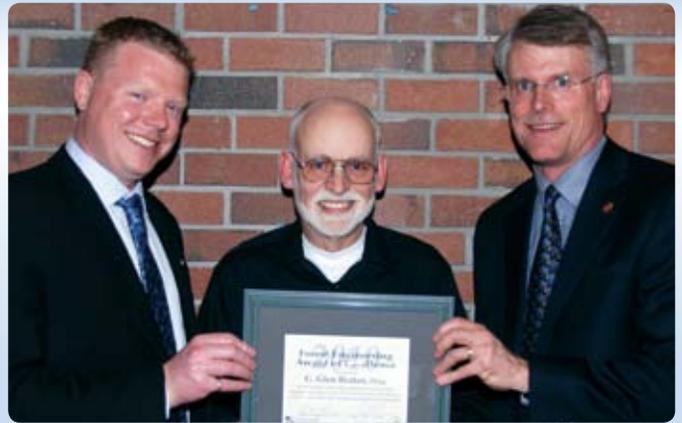


Past President, Jonathan Lok, RFT, with Dr. Bruce Fraser

## FOREST ENGINEERING AWARD OF EXCELLENCE Glen Beaton, PEng

The ABCFP is proud to present this award jointly with the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC.

Glen Beaton is a professional engineer and has spent his entire career working with coastal forest professionals. His contributions include innovative and environmentally friendly bridges, culverts, log dumps and more. Glen has earned a stellar reputation among all coastal forest workers due to his desire to find economical solutions to problems that benefit both the environment and the safety of workers.



Past President, Jonathan Lok, RFT, with Glen Beaton, PEng and APEGBC President, Russ Kinghorn, PEng.

## PROFESSIONAL FORESTER OF THE YEAR Chris Hollstedt, RPF

It is Chris Hollstedt's passion for taking research and expert knowledge and applying them to on-the-ground forest policy and practices that earned her this award. Chris is the founding CEO of FORREX (Forum of Research and Extension in Natural Resources), a charitable non-share corporation founded in 1998 to help people develop science and knowledge-based solutions to complex natural resource challenges.



Past President, Jonathan Lok, RFT, with Chris Hollstedt, RPF

## Save the Date! ExpoFor 2011 Comes to Vancouver

### MARK FEBRUARY 24 -25, 2011 IN YOUR CALENDAR

and plan to join us at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver. The ABCFP has decided – thanks to member feedback – to move back to a local host committee, so a dedicated group from the Lower Mainland is already hard at work organizing this conference. The committee is led by Sandy McKellar, Honourary Member, (members might be familiar with Sandy's Tree Frog News Service) who sat on the host committee for the 2010 conference and was involved in previous Vancouver-based conferences.

Here's a sneak peak at what to expect for the 2011 conference...

- Wood is Good is the theme – this theme incorporates all the ways that forestry is good for the province of BC
- Plan for a field trip option on February 23!
- Expect a similar format to the 2010 conference – two exciting days of breakout sessions and plenaries.
- Favorite events such as the Inductees' Recognition Lunch and the Awards Dinner will be back.

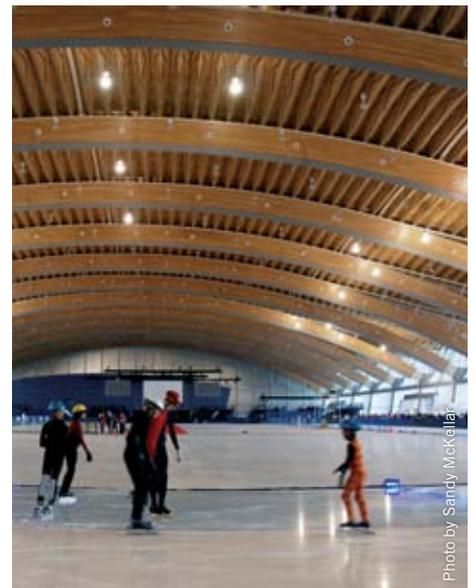


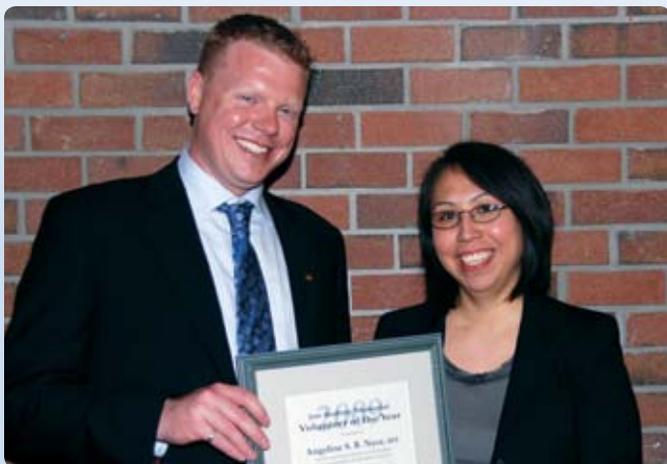
Photo by Sandy McKellar



Past President, Jonathan Lok, RFT, with Phil Blanchard

## **JIM RODNEY MEMORIAL VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR** Phil Blanchard, RPF, and Angeline Nyce, RPF

Phil Blanchard has played an integral role in developing policy for the ABCFP. He was instrumental in the ABCFP's inclusion of Registered Forest Technologists (RFTs), the development of the professional competency program and in the creation of the Joint Practice Board, a committee where engineers, geoscientists and forest professionals work together in forest resource management. This excellent volunteer service over the last fifteen years has earned Phil the Jim Rodney Memorial Volunteer of the Year award.



Past President, Jonathan Lok, RFT, RFT with Angeline Nyce

Angeline Nyce is an extremely busy person who is both a professional forester and a lawyer. In spite of her tough schedule, she dedicated herself to starting a study group to help Aboriginal enrolled members pass the ABCFP's tough registration exam. Angeline contacted Aboriginal enrollees, secured mentors and spent many hours developing and posting pertinent information online. She also organized exam preparation conference calls and provided advice to study group members. Not content with just helping Aboriginal enrolled members, Angeline made her study materials available to all enrollees through the ABCFP's website.

# Nyce work, Angeline!

Congratulations on receiving the ABCFP Jim Rodney Memorial Volunteer of the Year award for your outstanding volunteer service in creating and facilitating an Aboriginal study group for the ABCFP 2009 registration exam.

Davis LLP is a full-service national law firm with a range of expertise including aboriginal, forestry, climate change, insolvency and tax law, and we are proud to have Angeline as a member of our team.

For more information,  
Garry Mancell, RPF  
604.643.2977  
garry\_mancell@davis.ca

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Angeline S.B. Nyce, RPF  
Associate, Davis LLP

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## Saving Money: Breaking Down the Software Options Available to Forest Professionals

**THE AMOUNT OF SOFTWARE AND NUMBER OF** devices used to plan and manage forestry operations has risen steadily as business has become more transparent and complex. While such tools are viewed as a cost of doing business, the entrance of alternatives to industry-standard platforms is catching the attention of many users. Cotex Consulting Inc., like many others, is examining open source, pay-per-use and non-industry standard software for current and cost-effective solutions tailored to our specific needs.

Our goal was to better understand current software use, costs (including purchase price, yearly maintenance fees and training), and possible alternatives. We polled 38 individuals employed by forest companies, government agencies and consulting firms on the software, systems and devices they are using and 34% responded.

### Forest Land Management Software

Forest land management software allows users to control, track and report on land records, harvesting, contracting, scaling and inventories. Most survey respondents use industry standard forest land management software and find that it performs as expected,

with acceptable costs. A few respondents are using in-house technologies. Other respondents indicated interest in open-source and non-industry standard alternative products.

Forest land management software is used daily and considered a necessity by forest companies. As long as user needs are met and performance is reliable, software purchase and maintenance costs do not appear to be an issue. However, the respondents we polled are interested in exploring the potential benefits of alternative solutions that are designed to meet specific needs related to the size and ownership of the land bases they manage. At this time, the best alternative product might be an in-house solution that would meet objectives and requirements at the least cost.

### Forest Planning Software

Forest planning software is used in developing strategic and tactical plans for the sustainable management of wood supply, habitat, biodiversity and other forest values.

Respondents to our survey indicated that performance and costs of industry standard software were acceptable. Several respondents indicated that they currently use alternative products and will continue

to seek new alternatives that better meet their project requirements and budgets.

Since project objectives and requirements can differ significantly, planners need flexibility to select the software that best suits each project. Having a choice of readily available tools that meet government and/or industry standards would enable planners to choose the most cost-effective solution to meet their needs.

### GIS and Database Software

GIS software and database systems capture, store, analyze, manage and present data that has a spatial location. Respondents indicated awareness of alternatives to industry standard software and the desire to expand product choices.

Industry standard software packages perform well on complicated processing and cartography tasks. However, there are cost-saving alternatives for organizations managing small land bases (<25,000 ha) and for use with other tasks such as internet mapping, cartography and visualization. The open-source GRASS application provides a full system comparable to industry standard software plus additional functionality not

Application	Industry Standard Examples	Alternative Solution Examples
Forest Land Management	TheForestManager, ForestOps, Genus and Phoenix	In-house developments
Forest Planning	RSPS and Patchworks	SELES, FFSIM, FSSAM, Woodlot for Windows <sup>1</sup>
GIS and Database	GIS: ArcGIS, Database: Oracle and Microsoft SQL Server	GIS: GRASS and Manifold Database: MySQL, and PostgreSQL
Hand-held Systems	Devices: Trimble and TomTom, Software: Microsoft Mobile, and ArcPad	Devices: iPhone and smartphones featuring the Android OS <sup>2</sup> Software: In-house developments using the iPhone or Android SDK
Operating Systems (OS) and Office Software	OS: Windows XP and Windows 7 Office Software: Microsoft Office	OS: Linux and Mac OS <sup>3</sup> Office Software: OpenOffice, Google Gmail and Documents

1 SELES, FFSIM, FSSAM, and Woodlot for Windows meet the BC Ministry of Forest and Range government standards.

2 iPhone devices are produced by Apple and use the iPhone OS while devices using the Android operating are produced by numerous smartphone manufacturers.

3 The Mac OS could be considered alternative due to lack of market share in the business market.

**Industry Standard:**

Software that is used extensively and considered the norm by forest professionals. Often considered a requirement in projects involving government agencies, asset management and valuation, and due diligence issues. These products meet industry standards.

**Non-Industry Standard:**

Software that is not used extensively by forest professionals and is not considered the norm. This may be software that is new to the market, in-house, freely available and not yet adopted by other forest professionals.

**Open Source:**

Software that is available as source code under a software license that permits users to study, change and improve the software.

**Pay-Per-Use:**

Software that is priced according to the amount it is used. Applications can be served over the internet (cloud computing).

Photo: iStock Photo

offered in the basic industry standard package. The non-industry Manifold software also provides a full cost-effective system and includes internet mapping capabilities not offered in the basic industry standard package. Database system cost savings can be realized (without a loss of performance) by using alternative database management systems such as MySQL and PostgreSQL with industry standard and alternative GIS packages.

**Hand-Held Systems**

Hand-held devices and supporting software enable georeferenced data entry and sharing for applications such as forest inventory, surveying and asset management.

While respondents indicated satisfaction with the performance and costs of industry standard hand-held systems, they also noted system costs as a contentious item in yearly budget discussions. Respondents indicated a strong desire for alternative products.

The best cost-saving solution would be a device that could handle both personal communications and tasks such as data entry and inventory and asset management, is easily administered, and could be updated according to user needs and requests. The hand-held devices and development kits offered by Apple and Google appear to of-

fer a cost-effective alternative to industry standard systems and are worth exploring.

**Operating Systems and Office Software**

Operating systems provide an interface between hardware and software while office software enables email communication, data entry and analysis, report production and presentations.

Respondents were satisfied with the performance and costs of industry standard office operating systems and software, and expressed the need to use industry standard applications. They did not indicate interest in alternatives.

Despite the lack of interest, alternatives offer cost savings and collaborative approaches not currently available through industry standard office systems and software and merit further consideration for their potential application by government agencies, forest companies and consulting firms. For instance, it is possible to use less expensive PC systems coupled with freely available office software (e.g. Google Gmail and Documents) hosted on external servers that do not have to be administered and maintained.

Of the five categories of software and hand-held devices examined, respondents to our survey were most satisfied with industry

standard GIS and database software performance and costs. They indicated that industry-standard systems were required for office systems and software. Finally, respondents indicated interest in alternative forest land management, forest planning, and hand-held systems and interest in exploring GIS and database software alternatives.

Recent developments in software and device technologies present opportunities for companies to reduce software costs and increase productivity. There are a range of solutions to pursue, including non-standard, open source and pay-per-use systems. Which is best for a particular company depends on the application features, level of use and use patterns (e.g., collaborative). By exploring the alternative solutions we describe in this article, organizations may be able to both improve their ability to customize solutions to their land base and users and realize significant cost savings. 🐾

*Mike Buell, RPF, is a programmer/analyst at Cortex Consultants Inc. based in Victoria. Mike is involved in developing and utilizing industry standard technologies to assist in forest-estate modeling projects to support acquisitions and divestitures, asset valuations and forest management planning. He enjoys spending time with his wife and three young daughters while fitting in pre-dawn rides with his cycling club.*

By Jeff Waatainen, LLB, MA, BA (Hons)

## Requests for Proposals: Know What You're Getting Into

Photo: iStock Photo

**REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS (RFPs) HAVE BECOME A COMMON FEATURE** of the BC forest industry. The essential idea of an RFP is for a party who requires particular services performed on its behalf (sometimes called the 'owner') to solicit bids, tenders or proposals for the work on a competitive basis from numerous other parties (sometimes called 'bidders'). The owner then evaluates the bids and, typically, awards the work to the bidder who submitted the lowest price and who is otherwise qualified to perform the work.

Sometimes owners and bidders do not fully appreciate the legal consequences of an RFP. Indeed, many seem to proceed as though legal obligations are only created once a contract for the work is awarded after completion of the RFP process. However, as the Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) has recently reminded us in the case of *Tercon Contractors Ltd. v. British Columbia* (Tercon), the RFP process itself imposes legal obligations upon owners and bidders.

The legal theory behind the RFP process is that an RFP actually produces two contracts. It creates the contract that the owner awards at the end of the process and a contract that is created between the owner and each bidder who submits a bid in conformance with the RFP. The courts have referred to the latter as Contract A and to the former as Contract B.

So, when a bidder submits a bid in conformance with an RFP, the bidder and the owner actually enter into a legally enforceable contract. The obligation of the owner under this Contract A is to award Contract B in accordance with the terms and conditions of the RFP. The obligation of the bidder is to enter into Contract B with the owner if it's the successful bidder.

The legal consequence of a breach of Contract A on the part of the owner is that the owner may become liable for damages to a bidder who, under the terms of the RFP, should have received the Contract B but did not. The legal consequence of a breach of Contract A on the part of a bidder is that it may become liable to the owner for any damages that the owner may suffer if the bidder is successful but fails to enter into Contract B. (For example, any additional expense that the owner incurs to have another party perform the work.)

The Tercon case illustrates that potential liability under a Contract A is more than theoretical. In its RFP, the province stated that it would only award a highway construction project to one of six selected bidders. One of the eligible bidders formed a joint venture with another

party who was not an eligible bidder. The top two bids were from the plaintiff and the joint venture, and the province awarded the contract (Contract B in other words) to the joint venture. The SCC found that the joint venture was not eligible to bid under the terms of the RFP and, as a consequence, the province had breached the terms of its Contract A with the plaintiff when it did not award the work in accordance with the terms of the RFP. As the plaintiff had the next best bid, the SCC held that the province was liable for damages to the plaintiff.

RFPs will often include 'privilege' or 'exclusion of liability' clauses that provide owners with more flexibility to choose a successful bidder and that insulate owners from liability to unsuccessful bidders. Contract A liability under an RFP is based upon the language used in the RFP itself and owners are free to draft RFPs however they may choose.

In the Tercon case, the province did, in fact, have an exclusion of liability clause. However, the SCC held that the clause was not specific enough to exclude liability to the plaintiff for the province's particular breach of Contract A. While the SCC did not rule that exclusion of liability clauses are unenforceable, it did send a clear signal that the courts will meticulously scrutinize an owner's efforts to avoid Contract A liability. 🐾

*Jeff Waatainen is a past adjunct professor of law at UBC, has practiced law in the forest sector for over a dozen years, and currently works as a sole practitioner out of his own firm of Westhaven Forestry Law in Nanaimo.*



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GAP continued from Page 18

which gave the lumber industry a huge competitive advantage in the US market. The age class structures of the TSAs tend to be dominated by younger stands. Accelerated operability of mid-rotation stands is needed to cover the age class gap in wood supply. Future yields of the 10 million hectares of MPB-killed stands are now very uncertain.

The silviculture challenges are huge.

The 1980s and 1990s SIBC/FMIBC grads have mainly retired or moved onto other career paths and there is a need for new educational opportunities for RPFs, PEngs and RFTs. Recent budget cuts to the BC Ministry of Forests and Range will further reduce operational silviculture staffing.

Currently, the three regional silviculture committees (coastal, interior and southern) hold winter workshops and summer field meetings which are well attended today, mainly by government and consulting forest professionals. The talks and discussions tend to cover a very broad range of issues of Crown forest management and problems, not just silviculture topics. The Washington Silviculture Institute still operates with most of the attending foresters working on privately owned lands.

In the near future, the UBC Faculty of Forestry will start a course-based Masters program for RPFs who wish to upgrade and for ASFITS (Allied Science FITs) who wish to become RPFs. 🐾

We would like to recognize and acknowledge the early founders of SIBC – Charlie Johnson, RPF, Bill Dumont, RPF, Steve Tolnai, RPF, David Handley, RPF, and Gordon Weetman, RPF.



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*Gordon F. Weetman PhD, RPF (Ret), was professor of silviculture at the University of British Columbia's Faculty of Forestry from 1978 to 1999. In 1997 he occupied the Forest Renewal BC Chair in Silviculture at UBC. He retired in 1999 and is now professor emeritus.*

*Candace Parsons, RPF, has been the director of student services for the UBC Faculty of Forestry since December 2003. She loves assisting forestry students to succeed in their academic programs. She is also the current Chair of the Canadian Institute of Forestry - Vancouver Section and, from 1991-2003, she was the executive director of the Forest Management Institute of BC.*

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**Annual Forestry Team in Action Feature**

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**Submission Deadline: September 6, 2010**

ASSOCIATION OF  
BC FOREST PROFESSIONALS  




## Selkirk College Plants its One Millionth Tree

Selkirk College in Castlegar, BC, celebrated the planting of its one millionth tree seedling on May 14, 2010.

With the Forest Technology program entering its 45<sup>th</sup> year this September, past and present students, faculty of the college, representatives from the Ministry of Forests and Range, local forest industry representatives, as well as other supporters gathered and took a walk through the forested grounds to the site where the tree would be planted.

John Adams, RPF (Ret) founder of the Forest Technology program at Selkirk and first chair of the department, received the honour of planting the one millionth tree. "There's nothing like going through a plantation that you helped plant 40 years ago. There is a legacy that has been left on these grounds and in our province," said John.

Students and staff of the Forest Technology Program have been planting trees on contract since 1966. The first few planting projects were completed on the college grounds that surround the Castlegar campus where you can now find Douglas-fir trees that are 18 metres tall.

In the 1970s and 1980s planting projects took students and staff from Macmillan Bloedel and Crown Zellerbach operations in Courtney, Campbell River and Duncan on Vancouver Island, to Coleman, Alberta, with Revelstoke Companies Ltd. and many other places in between.

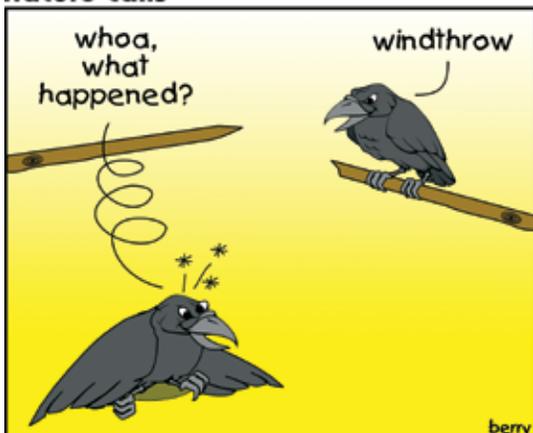
From the 1990s to the present, Forest Technology students have planted trees closer to home on Selkirk College's own woodlot and private lands, in the Blueberry Paulson and Fruitvale areas with Atco Wood Products, near Nelson and Castlegar with Kalesnikoff Lumber Company, with Springer Creek Forest Products in the Slocan Valley, with Woodlot Licensees (Greg and Bob Sahlstrom and Brent Petrick) and with the Ministry of Forests and Range in the Arrow Boundary Forest District.

Dean of the School of Renewable Resources and former instructor of the Forest Technology program, Rhys Andrews, is thankful for the opportunities offered by organizations and companies throughout the years. "We want to thank the organizations that have supported the planting projects and the incredible learning that occurs," he said. "Our program and the land are better because of them."

The college's next goal is to have its two millionth tree planted by 2050. 🌲

John Adams, RPF, (Ret), founder of the Forest Technology program and first chair of the department, received the honour of planting Selkirk College's one millionth tree.

## nature calls



## For Sale: A Forester's Dream

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250-267-3657 or [bobbylloyd@explornet.com](mailto:bobbylloyd@explornet.com)

## In Memoriam

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 **BC Forest Professional**. The association sends condolences to the family and friends of the following member:

### Victor H. D. Vaughan

RPF (RET) #326, LIFE MEMBER  
1924 - 2010

Vic Vaughan, BA, ApSc (forestry), was one of the seven forest engineers who graduated from UBC in 1948. Vic was raised in West Vancouver and lived there with his mother until 1955 when he married Pat who died in the 1980s. They had no children.

Vic worked for MacMillan Bloedel and the Tahsis Company. He was also a consultant in Sri Lanka. He retired to Gibsons in 1979 and led a quiet life.

Vic was a master engineer in the location of roads and preparing plans for undeveloped forest areas. He liked to walk over an area then walk it again—"just to get the feel of it." He had little faith in maps made from photographs and he kept formal surveying to the required minimum. Vic was a wonderful teacher and many of his young associates benefited from his experience.

### Harvey M. Anderson

RPF (RET) #326, LIFE MEMBER  
1922 - 2009

Harvey was born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan on July 17, 1922 and came to Vancouver at the age of six months. He died on May 13, 2009 in Prince George, BC after a lengthy battle with Alzheimer's disease.

Harvey was a flying officer and navigator in the RCAF during WW II. After the war, Harvey went to UBC where he graduated as a forest engineer in 1951. He became a Professional Engineer in 1955 and a Registered Professional Forester in the 1960s. In 1954, Harvey and his wife Pauline moved to Prince George and lived there until the time of his death.

Harvey was a true pioneer in the forest industry in the Prince George area and worked at a variety of jobs in the industry. Whether he was a woods manager or general manager, it was evident that Harvey loved his chosen career path.

Harvey loved the outdoors – whether he was in the forest, spending time at the cabin at the lake, fishing, or boating.

Harvey's legacy to his family was his enthusiasm for life and the significant appreciation of the beauty of nature surrounding him.

## Professional Forester and Professional Artist



Marek Waszkiewicz showed his work at the Terrace Art Gallery earlier this year. Here he is with two of his forestry pieces, a lumberjack hoping for future work and an angel.

Photo: Margaret Speirs

Love for the beauty of nature and the outdoor lifestyle attracted me to forestry. That same love inspires my art, although a significant portion tells the stories of people, their lives and their struggles. My recent exhibition at the Terrace Art Gallery contained works about the Northwest's unsolved troubles – both social and economic, specifically the troubles in forestry.

Despite what is presented in the news, many people whose lives depend on forestry are not working and are leaving the profession. I just could not ignore that fact. Pieces like "Northwest Co-existence 1 and 2," "Waiting for Change," "Adding Values – Changing Values" and "Forestry Phoenix" speak to the situation with a healthy dose of irony. The exhibit generated great reviews and comments on the originality of the 3D effects created by combining paintings with driftwood and other materials.

I believe that we all have to stick our necks out and tell the truth as it is. An artist must communicate the message and always strive to inspire people to think, this also keeps the art fresh, dynamic and alive.

*Marek (Markus) Waszkiewicz, RPF, and his wife Marysia, who is also a forestry engineer, escaped what was then communist Poland and came to Canada in 1987. Marek is a practicing forester and owner of Markus Resource Consulting in Terrace, BC. He graduated with a degree in forestry from the University of Krakow, after spending five years at the prestigious forest management school in Brynek, Poland.*

*Marek's works were awarded and exhibited at the BC Festival of Art and presented at various galleries. His paintings have been sold to private collectors in Canada and abroad, and through charity auctions to support under-privileged children. Marek's recent art can be viewed at: <http://markus.gemlog.ca/>*

## A Moment in Forestry

Submit your moment in forestry to Brenda Martin at: [editor@abcfp.ca](mailto:editor@abcfp.ca)



**Ecosystem in a Bottle**

Submitted by Corin Manders, a grade 12 student living in West Kelowna, BC, care of Kerry Rouck, RPF, West Kelowna.

Celebrate your forest pride and nominate your community to be the

# 2011 Forest Capital of BC

## The Forest Capital Program

Each year, the ABCFP selects one community to be the Forest Capital of BC. This program, established in 1988, is an important opportunity to celebrate the central role forests play in shaping our unique BC experience.

## Make 2011 the year to celebrate forests in your community

The Forest Capital designation is an excellent way to get your whole community involved in a celebration of the important contributions forests have made to your community's heritage. Communities named the Forest Capital host a full year of forest-themed events such as art competitions, interpretive forest walks and logger sports shows.

## Nominate your community today

Every community in BC is eligible to be nominated. The nomination process is outlined in the Forest Capital Nomination Package available on the ABCFP website: [www.abcfp.ca](http://www.abcfp.ca).

## Nomination Deadline: November 12, 2010

The ABCFP will evaluate nominations based on the community's relationship to its surrounding forests and the strength of the bid proposal. The winning community will be announced in December 2010 and will carry the Forest Capital of BC title from January 1 to December 31, 2011.

Visit [www.abcfp.ca](http://www.abcfp.ca) for more information



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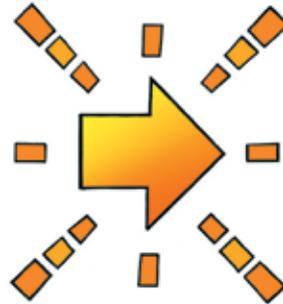
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