Association of BC Forest Professionals 2011 Annual Report





Contents

LETTER TO MEMBERS	4			
YEAR IN REVIEW	6			
LAY COUNCILLOR REP	ORT	26		
AUDITORS' REPORT	28			
STATEMENT OF FINANI	CAL PO	OSITION	29	
STATEMENT OF REVEN	JE AND	EXPENDITUR	RES	30
ABCFP COUNCIL, VOL	.UNTEEI	rs and staf	F	31
2011 AWARD WINNER	S	35		

VISION

We lead the way to diverse, healthy and sustainable forests in British Columbia.

MISSION

Our mission is to ensure British Columbia has qualified forest professionals and to support them in providing excellence in forest stewardship.

LETTER TO MEMBERS

This past year was a busy one for the council and staff at the ABCFP. A great deal of work was done in the areas of advocacy, stewardship, professional reliance, natural resource professionals and governance.

Advocacy continues to be an issue about which members are passionate. Council listened to members at the Hot Seat session of the conference in February and we learned that many members are not aware of the advocacy work we do because we hadn't done a good job of telling you about our activities. The focus in 2011 was not only on continuing with our activities but on telling you about what we were doing.

Most of the time the ABCFP chooses to advocate by meeting with government and industry representatives rather than in a public forum like a lobby group might do. We had many meetings this year with government executives and several with industry executives to discuss matters of mutual interest. One of the largest issues we dealt with was the midterm timber supply. We researched and wrote a discussion paper on this important issue and provided it to the Chief Forester to inform his analyses into mid-term timber supply.

Two other advocacy activities got underway late in the year.

In October, we asked members whether or not they felt that they were getting the research they needed to effectively do their jobs. The plans are to advocate for more research in 2012. The second activity included updating the inventory paper that was first written in 2006. We expect to release the updated paper early in 2012.

In the area of stewardship, the ABCFP provided members with several papers to help them in their practices. In addition to the midterm timber supply paper, members were also provided with papers on professional reliance, avalanche assessments and the principles of forest stewardship.

In this era of professional reliance, members asked the ABCFP for more guidance on how to deal with concerns about the quality of other members' work so we created the professional accountability process. The professional accountability process addresses members' concern about the quality of another member's work in instances when the concern does not fit the criteria for using the complaint resolution process. It is a non-discipline option meant to bolster professional reliance by tying it with a shared responsibility for action regarding professional accountability.

New challenges facing our profession and forest ecology require that the ABCFP evaluate

and make the necessary adjustments to ensure the expectations of the Foresters Act are achieved. One such expectation is to serve and protect the public interest. Therefore, when the ABCFP was aware that the government was looking to move towards a natural resource orientation (which resulted in the creation of the new Ministry of Forest, Lands and Natural Resource Operations or MFLNRO), we felt we had an obligation to ensure that there are enough competent practitioners available throughout the scope of professional forestry. In addition, we must ensure the competency of all those practising professional forestry.

Another way to protect the public interest is for the association to evolve and seek out those who are practising within the definition of professional forestry but are not registered forest professionals. We must either enforce the Act or allow them to practise in a limited form. The public's interests will be better protected by ensuring these practitioners are competent and licensed. Work progressed on a pilot project in 2011, which will give limited practice rights to qualified conservation graduates. Work will continue on this project in 2012.

The ABCFP council worked very hard on achieving a new level of governance that places the responsibility of running the day-to-day operations with CEO Sharon L. Glover while allowing the council to focus on strategic planning and setting direction. All council

members agree that significant progress was made in this area.

Finally, we bid farewell to lay councillor Gordon Prest in 2011 as his six-year term expired. Gordon was chiefly responsible for improving the ABCFP's relationship with many Aboriginal groups around the province. Together with senior staff members and other councillors, Gordon also worked hard to attract Aboriginal youth to careers in forestry. Gordon's wise words will be missed on council but we look forward to working with his replacement, Rod Visser.

We encourage you to read through this annual report to learn more about what the ABCFP worked on in 2011 and the accomplishments we made. Nothing would be possible without our dedicated volunteers so we would like to express our most sincere thanks for the thousands of volunteer hours they donate each year. You can read the names of all volunteers at the end of this annual report.

Ian Emery, RFT President

Sharon L. Glover, MBA

CEO

YEAR IN REVIEW

The 2011 Year in Review evaluates the results achieved by the association in accordance with the ABCFP 2011 Business Plan. Results are listed by outcomes, constraints and objectives.

1. LEADING IN PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND FOREST STEWARDSHIP

Outcome

The ABCFP is recognized by the people of British Columbia including Aboriginal peoples, as taking a leadership role on matters of professional practice and the principles of forest stewardship.

1.1 Objective One

ABCFP and its members clearly understand and communicate their roles and responsibilities in managing BC's forests, forest lands, forest resources and forest ecosystems.

Results

Non-Statutory Obligations

Non-statutory obligations (duties/ responsibilities that reflect social and professional values but are not specifically contained in or directed by legislation) were an important focus for the ABCFP in 2011. The association gathered a group of experienced and retired forest professionals to aid in understanding and breaking down this issue. The goal is to provide guidance through the publication and distribution of a report to members and the government about these non-legislative duties. This report will build on the *Guidance for Managing Non-Statutory Expectations in Forest Practices* (2009) document and will be released in 2012.

Professional Practice Enquiries

The question of what constitutes the practice of professional forestry came up many times in 2011. Under council direction, the Professional Practice Committee (PPC) and ABCFP staff began to review and respond to members and employers on this important question. Most enquires dealt with the role of forest professionals; non-traditional areas of practice and increased generalization of members' job descriptions. As the regulator of the Foresters Act, the ABCFP must answer when a specific action or work contains the practice of professional forestry. Determinations were made as to whether the activities of individual ABCFP members, or specific tasks conducted by non-members, were part of the "practice of professional forestry."

In addition to responding to practice enquires, the PPC also began reviewing applications for leave of absence to determine if members were no longer practising professional forestry and therefore eligible for leave. The Board of Examiners (BOE) now sends change of status applications to the PPC and the PPC rules if the person is practising or not. This practice reflects changes to the *Registered Members Change of Status Policy*.

ABCFP senior staff visited several licensees and the members they employ to look into and discuss areas of concern in professional practice. The conversations were positive learning experiences for all parties. At the recommendation of the members involved, the ABCFP created a new communication tool called Practice Reminders to share the learning with all members.

Business Resolution on Fire Management

For the first time in many years, a business resolution was brought forth during the resolution session at the ABCFP annual forestry conference and AGM in February 2011. The business resolution proposed, among other things, that the association publish an annual report card on the status of BC fire management planning and issue a news release regarding the report card. In advance of the voting, the ABCFP created a task force - the Fire and Fuel Management Task Force – to focus on this issue. The task force published an information package for members, provided recommendations to the CEO regarding this practice area and reported back on the status of

Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs), prescriptions and fuel treatments. The business resolution went to member vote during August and September and a majority of voters rejected the resolution. The Fire and Fuel Management Task Force, led by Jackie Hipwell, RFT, will continue to investigate and identify priority fire and fuel issues relating to professional practice.

Practice Advisory Service

The ABCFP Practice Advisory Service provided professional advice in response to two confidential member enquiries on matters of professional opinion, ethical conduct and professional principles. This confidential service is provided by a select group of experienced members and is independent from the complaint resolution process.



1.2 Objective Two

ABCFP is recognized as a primary media contact on issues of forest stewardship and professional practice.

Results

The association published 16 news releases in 2011 and received local and provincial media coverage on several. Articles published in 2011 on recruitment, stewardship and forest management, received feedback from members and the public. The ABCFP also kept abreast of forest management news and responded to several articles and letters.

The social media strategy was solidified in the latter part of 2011. Facebook and Twitter were used to reach out to students (as a recruitment tool) and members of the media. Several stand-alone contests/promotions were held on social media platforms.

Throughout the year, members of the media reached out to the ABCFP for information on BC forest management.

1.3 Objective Three

Aboriginal peoples, the public and stakeholders are aware of the ABCFP and are well-informed on our mandate, the roles our members play in professional practice and our responsibilities.

Results

In 2011, ABCFP president Ian Emery, RFT; Aboriginal lay councillor Gordon Prest and Brian Robinson, RPF, director of professional development and forest stewardship, met with Aboriginal groups on the coast and in the Interior. ABCFP Board of Examiners volunteer and UBC professor Peter Marshall, PhD, RPF, also joined the group for the first part of the trip.

The group met with the Tsleil-Waututh Nation in North Vancouver and the Ch-ihl-kway-uhk Forestry Partnership in Chilliwack. In Merritt, they met with Stuwix Resources Ltd. and were pleased to hear that several Stuwix band members are pursuing careers in forestry. Visits were also made to the Okanagan Nation Alliance, Westbank First Nation, Penticton Indian Band and UBC Okanagan where they met with the director of Aboriginal Programs and Services to learn about an Aboriginal access program and discuss a forestry bridging partnership between the Okanagan and Vancouver campuses.

ABCFP members also attended the Williams Lake and Soda Creek Indian Band career fair. The ABCFP's publication, Faces of Forestry: A Celebration of our Aboriginal Members, continued to be a popular tool to showcase the careers and accomplishments of some of our Aboriginal members to students, Aboriginal groups, educators and the public.

The association continued to build relationships with stakeholders in the natural resource sector through attendance at conferences and trade shows throughout the year. The ABCFP attended the annual general meetings of Canadian Technology Accreditation Board (CTAB) and the Association of Professional Biology (APB), and conferences of the Canadian Institute of Forestry (CIF), the Society of American Foresters, and the Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC.

The ABCFP ran a small number of advertisements in provincial and local newspapers and educational publications with the goal to increase public awareness of the association, our mandate and function.



1.4 Objective Four

The ABCFP is engaged with natural resource ministries at the outset of policy development in the areas critical for good forest stewardship.

Results

Due to the ministry's move towards cruise-based timber sales, CEO Sharon L. Glover, MBA; Mike Larock, RPF, director of professional practice and forest stewardship; ABCFP's legal counsel and MFLNRO staff, spent time on changes to the Foresters Act. In November, the Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Statutes Amendment Act, 2011 (Bill 6) received Royal Assent and became law. This new legislation contains a number of changes to the Foresters Act as well as other acts. The government made four significant changes to the Foresters Act that affect the association and members. They are: allowing council to grant associate members the right to practise independently; granting the ABCFP the ability to establish and administer certification schemes; membership dues and other necessary fees are set by council resolution; and the ABCFP has the ability to set quality assurance programs around continuing competency.

In 2011, The ABCFP reviewed the report from the BC Task Force on Species at Risk and was pleased to see that it paralleled earlier guidance given to members in the 2009 document, *Managing Species at Risk in British Columbia - Guidance*

for Resource Professionals, produced by the ABCFP and the College of Applied Biology. An ABCFP response to the task force report was written and sent to the Ministry of the Environment with a number of recommendations.

The ABCFP and Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (APEGBC) Joint Practices Board (JBP) worked to revise the current Guidelines for Professional Services in the Forest Sector - Crossings. In addition, the IPB provided input and advice on the Natural Resource Roads Act and continued the work on Guidelines for Professional Services in the Forest Sector – Forest Roads.

1.5 Objective Five

Policy discussions are initiated by the association on high priority stewardship issues identified by staff and/or council.

Results

In the May/June issue of BC Forest Professional magazine, the Chief Forester discussed a current MFLNRO project to undertake a cost/benefit analysis of management constraints that limit timber supply in areas affected by the mountain pine beetle (MPB). The association saw this is a very important advocacy subject for the forestry profession and the public. ABCFP members were asked for feedback on three applicable resource management scenarios and a focus groups comprised of

experts on MPB was assembled. In addition, ABCFP staff travelled to some MPB affected communities and met with stakeholders to get their perspectives. Based on the information gathered from members, stakeholders and experts, the ABCFP made numerous recommendations to the Chief Forester for consideration in his analyses of the issue.

1.6 Objective Six

The ABCFP is a visible and timely advocate for the principles of forest stewardship.

Results

Throughout 2011, the association monitored media mentions about forestry and stewardship issues and replied to articles in the Victoria Times Colonist and Madison's Canadian Lumber Reporter. The ABCFP also advocated on the following topics: land-based management; response to the zero net deforestation implementation plan; response to the forest carbon offset protocol; practitioner competence and awareness of issues affecting stewardship (including climate change; online access to resources in carbon accounting and hydrology; coastal Douglas-fir workshop); mid-term timber supply (with input from specialists and members); species at risk; use of forest professionals; professional contribution to safety; inventory; research; and water resource importance and information.

The ABCFP Stewardship Committee and senior staff developed a draft document on principles of stewardship titled, *Principles of Stewardship of Forests, Forest Lands, Forest Resources and Forest Ecosystems*. This document is important to the mandate of the ABCFP and a major information source for practitioners. It was made available for member comment and will be updated in 2012 based on member feedback.

2. RUNNING A HIGHLY EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION

Outcome

The ABCFP is recognized by its members as a highly effective, efficient, and professionally relevant organization.

2.1 Objective One

Members are supported in areas/issues important to their professional practice.

Results

Professional Practice Areas

The Applied Research, Professional Practice and Professional Development survey was sent to members in October to assess areas where members felt supported in their practice and areas where more support was needed. Members are most concerned with timber supply challenges, professional reliance, forest stewardship challenges,

public expectations, overlapping rights on the landbase, working with Aboriginal peoples, forest roads and achieving standards of professional practice. Results show that the ABCFP gives beneficial support in the areas of technical, scientific and professional information, professional development workshops and courses, and professional reliance. The ABCFP will use these survey results to develop an action plan that will seek to close the gap between what members feel is important and what the association provides.

Professional Development

Maintaining and supporting professional development is an important objective of the ABCFP. In 2011, the association continued to offer online workshops on professional reliance, ethics and obligations, writing the best exam possible, and policy review. A two-day in-person session of the Policy Review Seminar was also held in Kamloops. In total, 82 members participated in the ABCFP's online and in-person workshops in 2011.

As in previous years, the association promoted Indigenous Corporate Training Inc.'s Working Effectively with Aboriginal Peoples workshop. Also, the ABCFP promoted workshops on dealing with the difficult co-worker/client, assertive expression and negotiation. These new offerings were delivered through webinars by West Coast Mediation.

In efforts to expand professional development opportunities to members, the ABCFP put the call out to members and workshop providers, asking them to alert the association of professional development offerings that would benefit members. As a result, additional workshops on consulting with Aboriginal peoples, avalanche training and others will be offered.

The association continues to list learning opportunities for members through the online professional development calendar.

The professional development certificate program recognizes the efforts of members who engage in professional development and continuing education activities. Members who complete 150 contact hours of professional development over five years can apply for a certificate of professional development. In 2011, seven members received certificates. Dale Likes, RPF, and Norma Stromberg-Jones, RPF, were awarded \$250 gifts from TD Meloche Monnex for their dedication to professional development.

Continuing Competency and Professional Accountability Process

The continuing competency program, which seeks to assist and evaluate members' competency in areas of professional practice, grew in 2011. A fourth element – the professional accountability process – was added to the previous

complement of self-assessment, voluntary peer review and practice review. The ABCFP professional accountability process addresses members' concerns about the quality of another member's work in instances when the concern does not fit the criteria for using the ABCFP Complaint Resolution Process. It is a non-discipline option meant to bolster professional reliance by tying it with a shared responsibility for action regarding professional accountability.

No changes were made to the self-assessment process in 2011. The voluntary peer review process was simplified and 16 members completed these voluntary reviews in 2011 as compared to 21 in 2010. Members were chosen at random to participate in practice reviews. Brian Robinson, RPF, director of professional development and member relations, administered 35 practice reviews in 2011. This is an increase from the 20 practice reviews completed in 2010.

2.2 Objective Two

Members are satisfied with their engagement on services delivered by the association.

Results

The annual ABCFP Services survey (first sent out in 2008) measures how well the association provides services to members in areas of guidance, RFT scope of practice, **The Increment** e-newsletter, enforcement of the *Foresters Act* and

Bylaws, advocacy, customer service when members call or e-mail the ABCFP, and the website. The 2011 results showed that the downward trend from 2009-2010 had been reduced.

In November, members were sent a year-end summary of the work the association has done and the goals that were accomplished.

In order to solicit professional and expert feedback on forest management issues from members, the ABCFP released discussion papers on mid-term timber supply scenarios, zero net deforestation plans, the professional accountability process, principles of stewardship of forests, forest lands, forest resources and forest ecosystems.

2.3 Objective Three

ABCFP committees have members reflecting the diversity of membership.

Results

Demographic information on ABCFP members was gathered in 2011 in order to establish a baseline measurement of membership classes and categories, gender, Aboriginal heritage, employer group, forest regions of residence and age. Committee composition was also analyzed. It was found that there is a greater proportion of women volunteering on most ABCFP committees than in the total ABCFP membership (women

make up 16% of the ABCFP members and about 20% of all committee members). Individuals of Aboriginal descent make up 2.8% of the total membership (this is a voluntary admission gathered when members renew their annual membership) but only 1% of committee members. The association encourages members in all demographic and age groups to become active committee members so that the composition of ABCFP committees matches that of the total membership.

2.4 Objective Four

ABCFP has an efficient and effective enforcement and discipline system that is timely, fair and transparent.

Results

In 2011, the registrar and director of act compliance received 11 formal complaints about the competence or conduct of ABCFP members. Of those 11 complaints, eight have been closed, one is under investigation and two are scheduled to be settled through an arbitration panel hearing (still under review). In addition, two complaints from 2010 are still open. At the time writing, both of these complaints were at the investigation review stage. One citation was issued against a member in 2011 who received a suspension as part of the penalty assessments. The table on the following page summarizes the areas of practice where the complaints took place and status of complaints.

2011 Discipline Cases

Number of Complaints		Percent of total complaints		closed		Number of citations issued
3	Unprofessional work on appraisals and cruising	27.2%	2	0	1	0
3	Lack of due diligence in daily work	27.2%	0	3	0	1*
5	Professional disagreement between members on technical matters not related to the environment	45.4%	0	5	0	0
11	TOTALS	100%	2	8	1	1*

^{*}The citation was issued for a case that was initiated in 2009.

To ensure discipline matters continue to be handled efficiently, using best practices, members of the Standing Investigation Committee and Discipline Committee participated in training to solidify skills in decision writing, investigative interview skills and administration tribunal workshops.

Randy Trerise, RPF, registrar and director of act compliance, and registration department staff reviewed Delegated Decision Maker (DDM) determinations made in regards to contraventions of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and related forest and environmental legislation. The purpose of these reviews is to look for potential contraventions of the *Foresters Act* and possible misconduct in the professional practice of the subjects

involved. ABCFP staff followed up with three licensees as a result of the review of DDM determinations. The licensees were pleased that the ABCFP was taking affirmative actions with regards to potential contraventions involving ABCFP members. Throughout the year, 29 decisions were reviewed and no *Foresters Act* contraventions were detected.

Discipline cases digests continued to be posted on the ABCFP website and published in **BC Forest Professional** (BCFP) magazine. The goal of publishing the case digests is to help members learn more about the ins and outs of discipline issues while protecting the identities of those involved.

New web-based tools were developed to help the public and association members understand the discipline process. A short video outlining the complaints resolution process was created and is now on the ABCFP website, Facebook and YouTube accounts. In addition, two question and answer documents (one directed to members and one directed to the public) were created and posted online.

2.5 Objective Five

The public holds forest professionals in high regard.

Results

The ABCFP Public Opinion poll (sent out every two to three years) was conducted in July 2011 by Public Opinions Inc. This poll gauges how BC adults view forest professionals and forestry management. Results show that over half of British Columbians are satisfied with the quality of forest resources management in BC today. This level of satisfaction (51%) represents one of the highest levels of satisfaction since the association began public opinion polling in 1999. Also, resource professionals (including foresters, forest technologists, biologists, engineers, geoscientists and agrologists) were determined to be the most trusted source of information about BC's forest resources and when this group was broken down further, it was found that Registered Professionals Foresters were perceived as the most trusted (28%)

and Registered Forest Technologists and Registered Biologists tied for second place at 22% each.

3. RECRUITING INTO THE PROFESSION

Outcome

The ABCFP will expand the use of forest professionals through recruitment into the profession and professional development.

3.1 Objective One

The ABCFP creates opportunities for members to expand their fields of practice.

Results

In conjunction with the Canadian Federation of Professional Forestry Associations (CFPFA), the Canadian Institute of Forestry (CIF) and the Canadian Forestry Accreditation Board (CFAB), ABCFP staff continued to work on the process for assessing graduates from foreign schools and other non-accredited programs. Once completed, this process will promote labour mobility for foreign-trained applicants and those with nonaccredited degrees, increasing the pool of qualified forest professionals available to work in Canada. All involved organizations agreed upon a set of certification standards for individuals and the group is now working on the process for assessing applicants against these standards. With a grant from the federal government, the group developed

a national process for applications and assessments. Funding has been granted from the provincial government for the training of the national assessors and the assessment process will begin once the assessors are trained.

The association created opportunities for members to expand their field of practice through professional development sessions. Workshops on professional reliance, ethics and obligations, writing the best exam possible, legislative policy review, working with Aboriginal Peoples, dealing with the difficult co-worker/client, assertive expression and negotiation skills were offered. An advanced professional reliance workshop is also in the development stage and will be offered in 2012.

ABCFP members were also encouraged to contribute to the Wildfire Management Branch's Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative and improve their competencies in this area of forest management.

3.2 Objective Two

Membership in the association encompasses the broad range of forestry practice.

Results

In 2011, the ABCFP Board of Examiners streamlined the existing process for the granting of limited licences to practise aspects of professional forestry. The new process is less expensive and more efficient. It allows the board to use the expertise of ABCFP members to endorse the competence of applicants while maintaining the association's option to conduct field reviews when an applicant's abilities are in question.

Based on recommendations from last year's Natural Resource Profession (NRP) Task Force report, council approved the development of a pilot project that will provide licences with limited scopes of practice to graduates of BC university conservation science programs. The work on the pilot project was undertaken through a steering committee of council members, the Board of Examiners and ABCFP staff. A pilot project report was prepared by Gretchen Prystawik, RPF. The report was accepted by council and council has endorsed going ahead with the pilot project. The scope of practice will be developed in 2012.

3.3 Objective Three

There is increased demographic diversity in membership.

Results

Member demographics were analyzed in 2011. It was found that women represent 16% of the ABCFP membership but 50% of BC residents. Also 2.8% of the membership is of Aboriginal descent, while 4% of the BC population of Aboriginal descent. In the coming years, the association

will focus efforts into attracting members from demographic groups traditionally underrepresented in the ABCFP.

3.4 Objective Four

Elementary students, high school students and educators understand and are aware of the diverse and rewarding careers forestry has to offer.

Results

ABCFP staff and member volunteers attended five career fairs in Nanaimo, Quesnel, Prince George and the Lower Mainland to foster students' awareness of the association and careers in forestry. Members were encouraged to develop relationships with local schools and inform the association of career fairs in their area.

Forest professionals reached out to hundreds of elementary and high school students during the National Forest Week Battle of the Networks of Forest Professionals (NFP) in September. The association's NFPs hold a competition to see which group can organize the best forestry-related activities and reach the most members of their communities. The battle winner, the North Island NFP, was able to reach approximately 800 elementary, middle school and high school students from 13 schools within its area by giving presentations on careers in forestry and field tours and arranging barbecues using approximately 50 volunteers.

Honourable mentions go out to the East Kootenay NFP in Cranbrook (for their newspaper supplement and community forest work project) and the Fort St. James NFP (for their student hike and lunch).

Social media platforms, Facebook and Twitter were used to reach a younger audience and expose them to forestry. Throughout the year, social media was used to disseminate forestry facts, promote contests and contest winners, and highlight useful forestry-related web resources.

The ABCFP continued to support Festival of Forestry, a non-profit organization that arranges professional development forestry tour for BC teachers. The Festival of Forestry program allows teachers to learn about forest management and see it first-hand. Teachers can then can go back to their classrooms and share their experience and knowledge with their students. Two ABCFP staff members are on the volunteer board of Festival of Forestry.

3.5 Objective Five

Post-secondary institutions produce graduates who can be members of the ABCFP.

Results

The ABCFP continued to work with the Canadian Technology Accreditation Board (CTAB) to determine which college programs will be accredited. In 2011, the

forestry program at Vancouver Island University was reviewed and the program retained its accreditation. Staff attended the annual articulation review meeting to discuss accreditation as well as professional and entrance requirements of the university and college programs in BC.

Regarding the accreditation of university forestry programs in Canada, the association continued to support and maintain close ties with the Canadian Forestry Accreditation Board (CFAB). In 2011, the CFAB reviewed and accredited the forestry program and the forest business management program at the University of Alberta and the forest ecosystem management program and the forest engineering program (RPF Option) at the University of New Brunswick.

Conrad Malilay, manager of registration, and Gretchen Prystawik, RPF, visited the University of British Columbia (UBC), and the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC), to speak with administrators about ways their graduates can become ABCFP members. ABCFP staff also gave presentations about the ABCFP to students of forestry related programs at UBC, the British Columbia Institute of Technology, Thompson Rivers University, Selkirk College and UNBC.

2011 ForesTrust Winners

ForesTrust is the ABCFP's registered charity. Through it, the association works to create endowments at post-secondary institutions across British Columbia. ForesTrust granted the following awards in 2011.

THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

Mark Haywood-Farmer: ABCFP Award (\$1,000)

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mark Balogh: Association of BC Forest Professionals Bursary (\$1,000)

Chelsea Barker: Association of BC Forest Professionals Bursary (\$1000)

Tara Salmon: Association of BC Forest Professionals Award for Excellence (\$2,000)

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Jordan Bemmels: ABCFP Graduating Prize in Forestry (\$300)

Acacia Nethercut-Wells: Association of BC Forest Professionals Scholarship in Forestry (\$1,000)

Andrew Spence: ABCFP Graduating Prize in Forestry (\$200)

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA – OKANAGAN

Ian Eddy: Association of BC Forest Professionals Award (\$675)

COLLEGE OF NEW CALEDONIA

Shane Vandewater: ABCFP Award (\$500) and ABCFP Natural Resources Studies Scholarship (\$1,000)

British Columbia Institute of Technology, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology and Selkirk College had not yet selected their award winners at the time of printing. Vancouver Island University did not award any scholarships or bursaries this year.

3.6 Objective Six

The number of ABCFP members who have graduated from allied science programs from colleges and universities will be increased.

Results

This objective is will be measured in 2013 (year three of the ABCFP 2011-2013 Strategic Plan).



4. SUPPORTING PROFESSIONAL RELIANCE

Outcome

Professional reliance is successfully applied and is understood by the public.

4.1 Objective One

Members know their role in professional reliance.

Results

The Professional Reliance Steering Committee (led by ABCFP CEO Sharon L. Glover, MBA, and Chief Forester Jim Snetsinger, RPF) continued to provide workshops throughout 2011. ABCFP director of professional practice and forest stewardship, Mike Larock, RPF, co-presented at several workshops. The committee also worked with government and industry to develop a professional reliance survey. ABCFP staff worked with government and the Federation of BC Woodlots Association (Brian McNaughton, RPF) to produce a matrix that matches legislative requirements to the appropriate level of professional service. In addition, association staff and steering committee members also worked to expand and support professional reliance in the area of cruising and appraisals.

4.2 Objective Two

Professional reliance is consistently applied by our members.

Results

In 2011, the association developed an action plan for engaging employers and members to ensure that professional reliance is consistently applied. The report, Assessing Professional Reliance in the Forest Sector: Improving Professional Reliance, was originally drafted to brief the Chief Forester and ministry executive on professional reliance in the Forest and Range Practices Act. It was posted for member and public oversight on the recommendation of the PPC. This report addresses the definition of professional reliance, how forest professionals are held accountable, the process of creating a balance between accountability and professional judgement, adversarial versus advocacy roles of professionals, and the myth of connecting professional reliance success with forest legislation and levels of compliance. It helps members to improve understanding of professional reliance and provides consistent messaging.

4.3 Objective Three

Users of professional services know the benefits of and support professional reliance.

Results

The users of professional forestry services include industry, employers, licensees, government ministries, First Nations and communities. In 2011, the ABCFP continued to promote professional reliance through meetings with several employers to discuss professional reliance and the use of professional service in their organizations.

4.4 Objective Four

Forest stewardship principles are understood and being utilized by members and stakeholders.

Results

The Principles of Stewardship of Forests, Forest Lands, Forest Resources and Forest Ecosystems discussion paper was drafted by the ABCFP's Stewardship Committee and sent to members for review and comment in 2011. The purpose of this document is to promote discussion of the interpretation and application of principles of stewardship which provide a measure of professional performance and establish a platform for advocacy of the profession. The paper will be finalized and available on the ABCFP website in 2012.

In 2011, the Chief Forester announced in BC Forest
Professional magazine that the government was looking into midterm timber supply in mountain pine beetle affected areas. As an advocacy initiative consistent with principles of forest stewardship, the association published three practice scenarios on mid-term timber supply in The Increment

e-newsletter. The scenarios prompted many comments and suggestions from members and served to encourage member discussion and feedback within their communities. Member comments and information gathered from experts were used to make recommendations to the Chief Forester. The information contained in the recommendations (available on the ABCFP website) also provides ABCFP members with facts to include in their advocacy discussions with the public.



5. FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS

5.1 Finance and Administration

The operating fund had a modest surplus of \$979 in fiscal 2011, compared to a budgeted surplus of \$112. The fee increase that was implemented this year provided the necessary revenues to achieve a surplus that had not been seen since 2006.

The association's full financial statements can be found on the website (www.abcfp.ca) and the condensed financial statements are contained in this report.

The reserve fund has a very conservative investment strategy with its portfolio invested in 24% equities and 76% fixed income. Because of this, the portfolio achieved an overall 2.19% rate of return for the fiscal 2011 year.

5.2 Operations

The association welcomed back Amanda Brittain, MA, ABC, as director of communications in July 2011. She is focused on strategic communications planning, recruitment and advocacy work. Amanda spent more than five years with the ABCFP in the past and is familiar with the opportunities and challenges of BC forestry.

Casey Macaulay, RPF, joined the ABCFP staff as a resource operations specialist. This new position helps strengthen the ABCFP's role in professional practice, forest stewardship and professional reliance in forest resource management.

The association upgraded its IT infrastructure by replacing its servers, ethernet switch and firewall, while implementing virtualization technology.

5.3 Communications and Member Relations

The association surveyed members and the public several times in 2011 to collect information and gauge opinions on a variety of topics including services provided to members by the association; members' compensation and benefits; research, professional practice and professional development; and the public's opinion on BC forest management (conducted by a third-party survey company).

In 2011, **The Increment** e-newsletter underwent a redesign. The design, layout and usability were updated to make **The Increment** easier to navigate and read. Feedback on the redesign has been positive.

BC Forest Professional (BCFP) magazine enjoyed increased member engagement through submissions to the letters section. Another popular section of the magazine in 2011 was the member-

submitted photo gallery, A Moment in Forestry. Our annual showcase of member-driven forestry projects, Forestry Team in Action, was moved from the November/December issue to the September/October issue. In response to member requests, membership statistics were once again featured in BCFP. Member statistics can also be found on the ABCFP website.

The social media platforms Facebook and Twitter continued to be important communication tools for the association. They were primarily used to support recruitment, National Forest Week activities and share forestry facts.

As in past years, National Forest Week was a great opportunity to increase awareness of forests and careers in forestry. The association ran its popular art contest for kids and received over 800 entries - a significant increase over 2010. For teens, the ABCFP offered a new essay contest. Teens were invited to write about how the forest affects them, their communities and/or the province. Free subscriptions to our student articulation program – START – were offered once again. Members were also encouraged to join in the celebrations by submitting images to our inaugural photo contest and by planning activities in their communities through their local NFPs.

ABCFP staff and council facilitated 15 member meetings throughout the province in 2011. This is more than double the number of member

meetings held in 2010. Most member meetings were scheduled to run in conjunction with other association business, thus cutting travel costs. Hundreds of members in Burns Lake, Clearwater (2), Fraser Lake, Fort St. James, Grand Forks, Nanaimo, Nelson, Prince George, Vanderhoof, Victoria, Vernon, Williams Lake, Smithers and Terrace took the opportunity to meet ABCFP staff and council, ask questions and voice any concerns.

5.4 Forestry Conference and Annual General Meeting

Over 235 delegates attended Wood is Good, the 2011 ABCFP Forestry Conference and AGM in Vancouver. The host committee delivered a conference that resonated with

delegates on many levels. Speakers addressed a wide variety of angles on the theme including wood's role in international markets, where forest products will be in 20 years; the role of intensive silviculture, carbon sequestration and carbon trading; and biomass for energy purposes. The pre-conference tour that showcased forest professionals' role in the Stanley Park rehabilitation generated front-page media coverage in The Province newspaper. Wood is Good also had the most successful silent auction in recent years. Over \$7,000 was raised for ForesTrust, the ABCFP's registered charity. ForesTrust is used to create endowments that grant scholarships and bursaries to forestry students across BC (see page 18 for a list of 2011 ForesTrust winners).



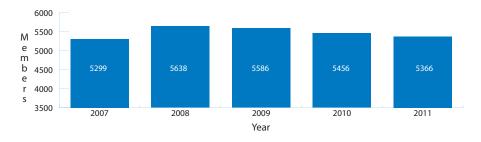
5.5 Membership Statistics and Growth

Membership Statistics

Men	nbership Totals ¹	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Registered	RPFs (active)	3185	3174	3189	3142	3034
Members	RFTs ² (active)	1262	1642	1578	1543	1494
	RPFs (retired)	183	194	193	211	277
	RFTs (retired)	24	26	27	26	43
	RPFs (life)	210	206	202	200	186
	RFTs (life)	1	1	1	1	1
Enrolled	FITs ²	305	302	259	215	211
Members	FPs ²	91	60	43	36	28
	TFTs	62	81	89	74	78
Special Permits	Visiting Professional Foresters	0	0	0	0	0
	Transferring Professional Foresters	10	9	5	4	5
	Limited Licensees	4	5	5	15	10
	Honourary Members	15	15	16	17	16
	Associate Members ²	n/a	n/a	126	127	125
	Total Membership ³	5299	5638	5586	5456	5366
	Leave of Absence ⁴	135	125	142	202	135

^{*}adjusted value

Membership Growth



¹ the numbers shown here are as of November 30th each year.

² These numbers include members who are in more than one category (e.g. RFT and FP) at the same time.

³ The totals record the actual number of persons and do not double count persons who are members of more than one category.

⁴ The leave of absence category does not affect yearly totals.

5.6 Admissions

A total of 81 people wrote the sit-down registration exams – 27 RFT candidates and 54 RPF candidates. The sit-down exams were held on Friday, October 7, 2011, in 27 locations throughout BC. A further 44 RPF candidates wrote the RPF take-home exam (which is now requirement for all RPF candidates) in January and February.

A total of 27 candidates wrote the RFT registration exams in October and 23 of those candidates passed the exam for an average pass rate of 85%. The pass rate for the 19 candidates, who wrote the RFT exam in the new format, was 100%. The pass rate for the eight people who wrote only Part B of the exam was 50%. No one wrote Part A only or Parts A and B.

The overall pass rate for both the RPF exams (take-home and sit-down) was 76%. Of the 98 sit-down and take-home exams that were marked, 74 passed and 24 failed. The pass rate for the 44 candidates who wrote the take-home exam in January-February 2011 was 66%. The pass rate for the 54 candidates who wrote the sit down exam in October 2011 was 83%.

Please see the following tables for 2010 and 2011 exam statistics.

RFT Registration Exam Results

Exam Type	# of Writers	Avg Mark	2011 Pass Rate	2010 Pass Rate
Part A Only	0	n/a	n/a	60%
Part B Only	8	54%	50%	53%
Both A and B	0	n/a	n/a	59%
New Format	19	75%	100%	n/a
Overall	27		85%	57%

RFT VALEDICTORIAN

Robin Esther Strong, TFT, of Lillooet scored the highest mark on the RFT registration exam with a score of 90%.

RPF Registration Exam Results

Exam Type	# of Writers	Avg Mark	2011 Pass Rate	2010 Pass Rate
Sit Down Exam	54	65%	83%	83%
Take Home Exam Only	44	65%	66%	75%
Overall	98		76%	78%

RPF VALEDICTORIAN

Marley Dana Chewter, RPF, of Fort St. James scored the highest mark on the RPF registration exam with a score of 90%.

LAY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Herb Langin

This is my final report as a lay councillor with the Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals as I have reached the end of my three-year term. I have enjoyed my time on council and feel that I have been able to make a positive contribution by bringing a public perspective to the council discussions.

I am a retired professional biologist and have a background in resource and land-use management. This experience has helped me to bring forward public perspectives to the council table.

I believe efforts by council over the past year to improve its effectiveness as a governing body are important and are starting to bear fruit. In comparison to when I started on council three years ago, the discussions are at a much more strategic level and deal with the important issues which affect members and the public. 'Environmental scanning' is now employed by council to identify and start to deal with key issues in a timely manner.

There have been a number of issues that have arisen during my term that have had significant impact on the forest sector. Some of the key issues have been changing markets, the mountain pine beetle epidemic and its aftermath, as well as climate change. All of these issues have an impact on forest policy and how ABCFP members manage the forest. They also presented the opportunity and need for the ABCFP, through its council and staff, to engage more closely with the provincial government as it deals with these and other issues.

The association's report on the mid-term timber supply, which was provided to the provincial government to inform their policy decisions, is an important example of how the association can effectively advance the policy development process.

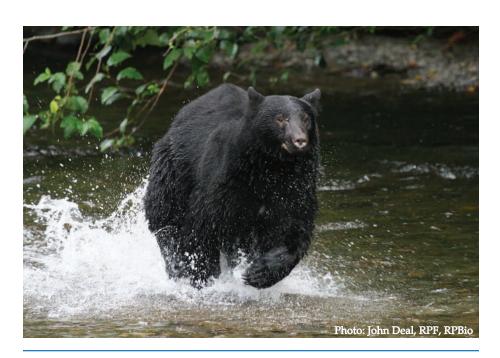
Overall the ABCFP has increased its advocacy efforts, however, I believe still more effective and timely approaches are needed. The pressing need for the province to set strategic land and resource objectives for much of the province is important to the public interest as well as a critical issue for forest professionals and has been the subject of advocacy efforts. Thus far, however, there has been limited progress in this important area. The urgency of this need was well articulated in the past year by Drs. Simard and Lewis in a Vancouver Sun op-ed piece; I hope

that more effective engagement that recognizes this urgency will be undertaken by the province and the ABCFP in the coming year.

One of the other important projects the ABCFP has been working on revolves around the need to ensure BC has qualified individuals who can properly manage the land and resources in the future. By broadening the membership to include natural resource professionals, the ABCFP will help to ensure that the province will have professionals qualified to tackle the many land and resource issues that affect British Columbia. If done properly, this will enhance the team approach to land and resource management which is an integral need in my view.

I will miss having the opportunity to meet regularly with the ABCFP council; however, I'm sure the new lay councillor will bring fresh perspectives and new ideas that will benefit the people of BC and the ABCFP.

Herb Langin is a retired professional biologist with 34 years' experience with the provincial government in land and resource management. He gained broad experience through jobs with the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management. Working with stakeholders and First Nations, he played several key roles for the province in the successful development and implementation of the Cariboo Chilcotin Land Use Plan. Herb also represented the province at the Haida Gwaii land use planning table. More recently he guided the development of economic and other strategies for the Omineca Beetle Action Coalition.



AUDITORS' REPORT



REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA FOREST PROFESSIONALS

The statement of financial position and statement of revenue and expenditures of the Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals shown above are in our opinion accurately extracted from the complete financial statements of the Association for the year ended November 30, 2011 which we reported upon under our auditors' report dated January 27, 2012.

Vancouver, BC January 27, 2012

Chartered Accountants

DEH Group LLP

D+H Group LLP Chartered Accountants

10th Floor, 1333 West Broadway Telephone: 604 731 5881 www.DHgroup.ca Vancouver, British Columbia Canada V6H 4C1

Facsimile: 604 731 9923 Email: info@dhgroup.ca A B.C. Limited Liability Partnership of Corporations

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STATEMENT OF FINANICAL POSITION

		2011				2010	
		Operating Fund			Total	Total	
	Current Assets						
	Cash	\$ 2,179,331	\$	11,535	\$ 2,190,866	\$ 702,360	
	Short Term Investments	-		202,250	202,250	212,135	
	Accounts Receivable	90,544		-	90,544	195,165	
ASSETS	Due from Reserve Fund	56,237		-	56,237	8,772	
ETS	Prepaid Expenses	98,234		-	98,234	52,844	
		\$2,424,346	\$	213,785	\$2,638,131	\$1,171,276	
	Investments						
		-		652,539	652,539	636,978	
	Property and Equipment						
		82,185		-	82,185	104,922	
		\$2,506,531	\$	866,324	\$3,372,855	\$1,913,176	

	Current Liabilities				
LIABII	Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	\$ 365,337	\$ -	\$ 365,337	\$ 299,328
LITIES	Due to Operating Fund	-	56,237	56,237	8,772
S	Deferred Revenue	1,943,780	-	1,943,780	558,497
		\$ 2,309,117	\$ 56,237	\$ 2,365,354	\$ 866,597

	Unrestricted				
NET I		115,229	810,087	925,316	941,657
\triangleright	Investment in Property and	d Equipment			
SSETS		82,185	-	82,185	104,922
SI		197,414	810,087	1,007,501	1,046,579
		\$2,506,531	\$ 866,324	\$3,372,855	\$1,913,176

Approved by Council

Ian Emery, RFT ABCFP President Sharon L. Glover ABCFP CEO

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

Year Ended November 30, 2011

		2011					
	Operatii	ng Fund	Reserve Fund	Total			
	Budget	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual		
Revenue							
Annual Registered Membership Fees	\$1,838,990	\$1,789,581	\$ -	\$ 1,789,581	\$1,498,112		
Other Membership Fees	204,242	209,808	-	209,808	203,346		
Annual Meeting Income	(7,000)	15,799	-	15,799	(17,072)		
Interest and Dividends	3,500	9,783	28,918	38,701	32,862		
Advertising and Mailings	39,000	48,264	-	48,264	40,534		
Seminars and Workshops	-	(1,114)	-	(1,114)	(736)		
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Marketable Securities	-	-	6,682	6,682	(1,255)		
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Short-term Investments	-	-	(11,577)	(11,577)	2,761		
Other	46,000	13,643	13,223	26,866	120,568		
	2,214,732	2,085,764	37,246	2,123,010	1,879,120		

Expenditures							
Committee Work	495,500	506,087	-	506,087	435,004		
Office	372,550	353,589	-	353,589	367,796		
Staff	1,256,570	1,225,109	-	1,225,109	1,083,213		
Other	-	-	77,303	77,303	17,019		
	2,124,620	2,084,785	77,303	2,162,088	1,893,032		
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenditures							
	\$ 112	\$ 979	\$ (40,057)	\$ (39,078)	\$ (13,912)		

ABCFP COUNCIL, VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF

The 64th ABCFP Council

PRESIDENT

Ian Emery, RFT

VICE-PRESIDENT

Steve Lorimer, RPF

PAST PRESIDENT

Rick Brouwer, RPF

LAY COUNCILLORS

Herb Langin, RPBio (Ret) Gordon Prest (finished term October 2011) Rod Visser (started term October 2011)

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Beverly Atkins, RFT Christine Gelowitz, RPF Dan Graham, LLB, RPF Curtis Nixon, RPF (resigned September 2011) Michael Pelchat, RPF Carolyn Stevens, RFT Carl vanderMark, RPF

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Sharon L. Glover, MBA

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Wendy Halasz Corless

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Randy Trerise, RPF

MANAGER, REGISTRATION

Conrad Malilay

SENIOR ADMINISTRATORS FOR REGISTRATION, ENROLLMENT & DISCIPLINE

Ruxandra Dobrescu Baljinder Kullar

DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE & FOREST STEWARDSHIP

Mike Larock, RPF

RESOURCE ASSOCIATE, PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE & FOREST STEWARDSHIP

Jackie Hipwell, RFT

RESOURCE OPERATIONS SPECIALIST

Casey Macaulay, RPF

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Brian Robinson, RPF

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Amanda Brittain, MA, ABC

SENIOR COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST & EDITOR

Brenda Martin

SENIOR COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST & WEBMASTER

Michelle Mentore

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Lance Nose

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT & DATABASE ASSOCIATE

Julia He

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Kylie Harrison, RPF
Pam Jorgenson, RPF
Lindley Little, RPF
Brenda Martin (staff liaison)
Sandy McKellar, ABCFP Honourary Member
Alan Vyse, RPF

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Bruce Devitt, RPF(Ret)
Harry Gairns, RPF(Ret), PEng
John Harris, PhD, RPF(Ret)
Gary Kenwood, RPF(Ret) (chair)
Roy Strang, PhD, RPF(Ret)
Randy Trerise, RPF (staff liaison)

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Jackie Hipwell, RFT (staff liaison)
Kathy Howard, RPF
Jonathan Lok, RFT
Peter Love, RPF (chair)
Brian Robinson, RPF
Richard Sommer, RPF
Diana Wood, RPF
Debbie Zandbelt, RPF

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

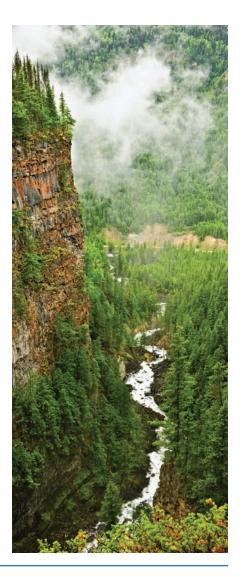
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Douglas Campbell, RFT
Terry Chow, RPF, PAg
Jacques Corstanje, RPF
Mike Dittaro, RFT
Warren Hansen, RPF
Jackie Hipwell, RFT (staff liaison)
Christine Lohr, RPF
Bruce McLean, RPF
Norm Nalleweg, RFT
Tania Pollock, RPF
Richard Sommer, RPF
Jeremy Srochenski, RPF
Carl vanderMark, RPF (council representative)

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Hank Cameron, RFT
Laura Coward, RPF, RPBio
Andrew Hall, RPF
Ken Hodges, RPF (chair)
Graham Hues, RPF
Casey Macaulay, RPF (staff liaison)
Philip MacDonald, RFT
Yurgen Menninga, RPF
Mike Pelchat, RPF (council representative)
Kenneth Zielke, RPF



2011 AWARD WINNERS

Forest Technologist of the Year

Jonathan Lok, RFT, was named the 2011 Forest Technologist of the Year for his outstanding, recent service to the forestry profession and for furthering the association's principles.

Honourary Member

Honourary membership is the highest award presented to non-members for their contributions to forestry. **Glynnis Horel, P.Eng,** and **Gordon Prest** were named ABCFP Honourary members in 2011.

BC Forest Professional Magazine Awards

Best Letter

A Deafening Silence: Building a Case for Advocacy

By **Kathy Lewis, RPF** March/April 2011

Best Article

You're Hurt and Lying on the Ground. It's Getting Dark. Now What?

By **Dwight Yochim, RPF** January/February 2011

NEW LIFE MEMEBERS

Ken Plourde, RPF(Ret)

CONDOLENCES

The association extends its condolences to the families of the following members who passed away in 2011:

Zsolt Bige, RPF(Ret)

Frederick Brahniuk, RPF(Ret)

James Clark, RPF(Ret)

M. Bruce Clark, RPF(Ret)

Richard Clifford, RPF(Ret)

J. Alfred Cuthbert, RPF(Ret)

Gary Robert Forster, RFT

W. Bert Gayle, RPF(Ret)

James Gilmour, RPF(Ret)

Sylvia Graham, RPF(Ret)

Victor Heath, RPF(Ret)

J. Ralph Johnston, RPF(Ret)

Richard Kosick, RPF (Ret)

Richard D. MacDougall, RPF(Ret)

Robert M. Malcolm, RPF

Eric Moyes, RPF(Ret)

James Francis Munro, RPF(Ret)

Stephen Ocsko, RPF

Allan Schutz, RPF(Ret)

Anthony Stanevicius, RFT

Ronald Stromberg, RPF(Ret)

Randall Sulyma, RPF

Lorne Swannell, RPF(Ret)

Sigmond Techy, RPF(Ret), P.Eng

W. Rex Thorp, RPF (Ret)

Peter Wallis, RPF

Merve Wilkinson, ABCFP Honourary

Member

Francis Williams, RPF(Ret)



Ensuring BC's Forests Are In Good Hands.