



Association of BC Forest Professionals 2013 Annual Report

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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.



Photo: Steve Stearns-Smith, RPF



President's Message

By Christine Gelowitz, RPF

When I first started my term as president in February of 2013, I knew that one of my major projects would be to lead the ABCFP through another strategic planning process – and I was thrilled to be able to take on this role.

As I mentioned in my first **BC Forest Professional** magazine column, I believe that planning is vitally important. If we don't know where we want to be in the future it is really hard to make decisions on a day-to-day basis about where to invest our time and energy – and we are at risk of floundering when the first bump in the road appears. Similarly, if we don't think about things in our operating world that may cause our business to change, it is nearly impossible to evolve our business to meet future needs.

We started work on the strategic plan by assessing the operating environment that our

association works within from the perspective of a number of people involved with us. We surveyed all our council members, senior staff and ABCFP committee chairs about what they believed the top issues the association would face in the next few years and how they felt we should respond. We also asked what strengths the ABCFP had and how we could use those strengths to move forward. We conducted interviews with senior officials involved in the forest sector. We asked them what role the ABCFP should be playing and where the ABCFP should go in the future given the challenges and opportunities they were experiencing or foreseeing in the course of their business. We received lots of great feedback, all of which was used to inform our thinking as council sat down together with senior staff to put pen to paper and craft the new strategic plan.

Because 2013 was a year of complete revision of the strategic plan as opposed to an update, we pulled apart each priority area in our last plan to discuss whether it was still needed and to confirm the outcome and objectives we were striving towards. We also discussed whether we needed to add any new priority areas.

The end result was a significant change from the last version, including the addition of a new priority area focused on enhancing public

trust. The outcomes of each priority area were refreshed as follows:

- The ABCFP is recognized as taking a leadership role in the stewardship of forest lands and ecosystems.
- The ABCFP and our members demonstrate leadership and passion in matters of professional practice.
- Our profession is evolving and expanding to meet the future workforce needs of natural resource management in BC.
- The public looks to forest professionals as the trusted stewards of forest lands and ecosystems in BC.
- The ABCFP is recognized as a highly effective, efficient and professionally relevant organization.

This plan will be used to guide the staff activities for the next three years (2014-2016), and senior staff has already used the new direction to guide the development of the business plan for 2014. I know that the time and effort spent on the strategic plan in 2013 was worthwhile. With this plan our association has positioned itself to look forward for opportunity, for new and different approaches while continuing to deliver on the core aspects of business.

Strategic Plan Progress in 2013

The ABCFP strategic plan outlines outcomes and objectives of the association in three-year increments. In order to guide the association in 2013 and accomplish the outcomes of the current strategic plan, the 2013 business plan was produced. It outlined the details plans and tasks required to fulfil the strategic plan outcomes. Some highlights of the strategic plan progress made during 2013 in four identified priority areas are outlined below.

Priority Area One: Leading in Professional Practice and Forest Stewardship

We did a great deal of work in this area both internally and externally in 2013. We worked with our various partners on improving policies on several issues affecting the forests. This work often resulted in media attention so we responded to media enquiries and participated in several interviews to help both journalists and the public understand what ABCFP members do as well as what our position is on various issues. We supported our media work with targeted advertising in newspapers and on the

radio. Finally, we worked with our members to understand and apply the principles of forest stewardship. Work in this priority area is ongoing and we look forward to continuing our work in 2014.

Priority Area Two: Running a Highly Effective Organization

It is important to council and staff members at the ABCFP that we run an effective and efficient organization so we can deliver excellent support to both our members and the public. This past year we spent a lot of time with members on issues related to their practice. We surveyed members to find out where we could improve our service and acted on areas that could be improved. We also reviewed our discipline process to make it work well for both members and the public. In 2013 we conducted a public opinion poll and were pleased to learn that the public values forest professionals and the work they do. Although our member and public survey results were positive, we will not stop trying to find ways to make the ABCFP more effective in the future.

Priority Area Three: Recruiting into the Profession

Recruitment is always a high priority for the association and 2013 was no different. Whether it's raising awareness amongst students or providing professional development opportunities to the members we already have, 2013 was once again a busy year for us. This year we expanded the student section of the website to include additional downloadable resources for teachers, parents and members who are visiting classrooms. Our participation in BC's National Forest Week working group helped ensure that the message about choosing a career in forestry was spread across the province.

Priority Area Four: Supporting Professional Reliance

Professional reliance is a work in progress and an area where we see constant improvement. Also well received by members was our focus on respectful regard in professional behaviour. The same was true of the video on professional reliance that was created for members of the public. Professional reliance and the role of our members are important topics and ones that the association will continue to work on in 2014.



CEO's Message

By Sharon L. Glover, MBA

This past year the ABCFP staff was busy on a number of fronts. First and foremost we worked to ensure that there were qualified forest professionals managing the forests through our registering and regulatory work. In addition to this important work, staff also tackled a number of projects around professional reliance, cumulative impacts on the landbase and other advocacy work. Operationally in 2013, the ABCFP moved offices and one of our staff members retired.

Leadership in professional reliance has been a top priority of the ABCFP, FLNRO and industry for the past several years. The collective effort has resulted in significant progress in the application of professional judgement and the corresponding accountability. In 2013, the ABCFP focused our efforts on defining a member's role

in professional reliance and demonstrating respectful regard in their professional behaviour and work. Our efforts have resulted in a majority of ABCFP members understanding and supporting professional reliance and engaging in respectful regard.

The ABCFP also worked towards leading in policy areas related to competing uses on the land. The CEO Report in the July/August edition of **BC Forest Professional** magazine described what has been a journey of concern regarding the lack of coordinated management among competing users on the land. The journey began with the ABCFP Council releasing a statement on our concern about what we called land-based management. We recognized — as did others — the decision-making that was taking place in different government silos as well as the lack of good planning by the government was creating much of the cumulative impacts problem.

We also focused our advocacy efforts on forest vegetation inventory, improving forest management with volume to area-based tenure, discussions and the burning of merchantable fibre in BC's northeast.

2013 was also a year spent working with our government partners and educating members on climate change adaptation strategies as well as working with our task force on an association position on climate change.

The ABCFP offices moved across Vancouver in order to secure larger premises that will allow us to hold most of our meetings in the office thus saving on room rental charges.

Also in 2013, we said goodbye to Jackie Hipwell, RFT, who retired. Anna Shcherbinina, FIT, has been hired to work with the forest stewardship and professional practice team.

Many of the issues we work on evolve and require continuous effort. We look forward to continuing to work with council, our members, and our many other partners on issues affecting the forest landbase and forested ecosystems in 2014.

Operations at the ABCFP

ABCFP Bylaw Changes

In 2012, council approved a plan to update the association's bylaws in several phases. Phase One (Bylaws Comply to *Foresters Act*) was completed in 2012 and Phases Two and Three (Modernization and Housekeeping) were completed in 2013. Because of the large number of changes required to do the modernization and housekeeping, the balloting was broken up into four batches and members voted on four separate bylaw ballots from January to June 2013. Balloting for the Phases Four (Signing and Sealing, and Standards of Practice Bylaws) and Five (Miscellaneous Amendments), will begin in February 2014.

Registration and Admissions

REGISTRATION EXAM

The sit-down exams were held on Friday, October 4, 2013, in 28 locations throughout BC. A total of 29 candidates wrote the RFT registration exams; 27 wrote in October and a further two candidates wrote the RFT special exam. The special exam

is available in November for those candidates who cannot make the October exam date due to circumstances beyond their control. All of the RFT exam writers passed the entrance exam.

We had 68 members write the RPF sit-down exam. The pass rate for the sit-down exam was 88% (60 candidates passed and eight failed). This year no one applied for the RPF special exam for those candidates who cannot make the October exam date due to circumstances beyond their control.

The take-home exam is a mandatory requirement for all candidates pursuing the RPF designation. Applicants must achieve a mark of at least 60% on both the take-home exam and the sit-down exam in order to pass. The pass rate for the 68 candidates who wrote the take-home exam in January-February 2013 was 75% (51 candidates passed and 17 failed).

We had seven RPFs transfer to the ABCFP from other provinces in 2013. Of the seven RPF transferees, six passed the exam for transferring RPFs (86% pass rate). We also had one RFT transfer from another province and successfully complete the RFT transfer exam.

RFT Registration Exam Results

RFT	# of Writers	Avg Mark	2012 Pass Rate	2013 Pass Rate
Part A Only	0	n/a	100%	n/a
Part B Only	0	n/a	100%	n/a
New Format	29	70%	100%	100%
Overall	29	70%	100%	100%

RFT Valedictorian

Ana Maria Gonzalez, TFT, of Chilliwack scored the highest mark on the RFT registration exam with a score of 86%.

RPF Registration Exam Results

RPF	# of Writers	Avg Mark	2012 Pass Rate	2013 Pass Rate
Sit-Down Exam	68	67%	76%	88%
Take-Home Exam	68	69%	81%	75%
Overall	136		79%	82%

RPF Valedictorian

Neil Alexander MacEachern, RPF, of Gibsons scored the highest overall marks on the RPF exams with an average score of 88% for the take-home and sit-down exams.

Membership Statistics

Membership Totals ¹		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Registered Members	RPFs	3189	3142	3034	2993	2939
	RFTs ²	1578	1543	1494	1457	1416
	RPFs (retired)	193	211	277	314	344
	RFTs (retired)	27	26	43	50	63
	RPFs (life)	202	200	186	172	170
	RFTs (life)	1	1	1	1	2
	Total Registered	5586	5456	5366	5352	5326
Enrolled Members	FITs ²	259	215	211	233	235
	FPs ²	43	36	28	25	15
	TFTs	89	74	78	96	120
Special Permits	Visiting Professional Foresters	0	0	0	0	0
	Transferring Professional Foresters	5	4	5	2	0
	Limited Licensees	5	15	10	9	8
	Honourary Members	16	17	16	18	17
	Associate Members ²	126	127	125	122	128
	Total Special Permits	142	202	276	244	217

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 Members on leave of absence are reflected in the totals above.

New Life Members

Henry J. Benskin, RPF(Ret)
 Randall L. Chan, RPF(Ret)
 Wesley Charles Cheston, RPF(Ret)
 Lowell A. Johnson, RPF(Ret)
 Brian W. McCloy, RPF(Ret)
 Norman Ralph Pelton, RPF(Ret)
 David J. Raven, RPF(Ret)
 George Rupert Richards, RPF(Ret)
 Norman Richard Shaw, RFT(Ret), ATE
 Evelynne M. Wrangler, RPF(Ret)



Discipline Case Summary

In 2013, Randy Trerise, RPE, registrar and director of act compliance, received formal complaints about the competence or conduct of 15 ABCFP members. Of the 15 new complaints, one is under investigation, three have been closed, and 11 are still open and under review by the registrar. A total of nine complaints were settled in 2013, three from 2013 and six from previous years. We issued one citation against a member for unprofessional conduct. This complaint was settled through a settlement agreement approved by a discipline panel. Four complaints were settled through settlements agreed to by the complainants and the members subject to the complaint. In a further three cases, after review of the complaints and the responses from the subject members, we did not find grounds to investigate. One complaint was settled through a practice review of the member's practice, which resulted in recommendations for improvements and a commitment by the member to follow these recommendations. If these commitments are not met then further disciplinary action may result.

The following table summarizes the areas of practice where complaints took place in 2013 and status of the complaints.

2013 Discipline Cases Table

Area of practice	2013	Percent of total complaints	Complaints still under review	Complaints closed without investigation	Complaints investigated	No. of citations issued
Protection of riparian areas and water	0	0%	0	0	0	0
Failure to protect endangered ecosystems/species	0	0%	0	0	0	0
Not having the required expertise regarding roads on unstable terrain	0	0%	0	0	0	0
Trespass due to unprofessional work	0	0%	0	0	0	0
Theft	1	7%	1	0	0	0
Unprofessional work on appraisals or cruising	2	13%	1	0	1	0
Safety related non-performance	0	0%	0	0	0	0
Lack of due diligence in daily work	5	33%	3	2	0	1*
Making unprofessional remarks	1	7%	1	0	0	0
Professional disagreement between two members on technical matters not related to the environment	6	40%	5	1	0	0
TOTALS	15	100%	11	3	1	1

*The citation was issued for a complaint from 2010

Discipline cases digests for all complaints that have been completed 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 specifics of discipline cases and the issues involved. We protect the identities of members involved in complaints where we find no professional misconduct, and publish the names of those who have breached our Act and/or the ABCFP Bylaws.

To ensure discipline matters continue to be handled efficiently, using best practices, members of the Standing Investigation Committee and the Complaints Resolution Committee participated in a task force to review the complaint investigation process. The task force has made recommendations to council for improvements to the complaints process. These recommendations have been accepted by council and will be implemented in 2014.

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. There were no instances of professional misconduct attributed to ABCFP members within the 46 determinations that were reviewed in 2013.

Finance and Administration

The operating fund achieved a surplus of \$51,171 compared to a break even budget. Membership attrition that rose significantly in the previous two years, declined in 2013. This was unexpected and accounted for much of the surplus.

Due to space limitations, the condensed financial statements are contained in this report. The association's full audited financial statements can be found on the website (www.abcfp.ca).

The reserve fund achieved an 8.86% overall rate of return for the year. The reserve fund is conservatively invested and is comprised of 72% fixed income, 26% equity and 2% cash.

Members were surveyed about the membership renewal process and most (81%) indicated they were satisfied with the process. A full 97% of members felt the information provided in the renewal notices and website is helpful and easy to understand, and 86% agreed that they are given a sufficient amount of time to renew their membership.

The ABCFP office was relocated in 2013 and this resulted in a reduced rental rate. The association's rental rate is 31% lower than the rate that would have been charged upon renewal at the former location.

Enhancement of the association's IT infrastructure is an ongoing process to make online systems easier for members to use and improve staff and committee efficiency.



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

The statement of financial position and statement of revenue and expenses of the Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals shown below are in our opinion accurately extracted from the complete financial statements of the Association for the year ended November 30, 2013 which we reported upon under our Independent Auditor's Report dated January 23, 2014.

Vancouver, BC
January 23, 2014



Chartered Accountants

D+H Group LLP Chartered Accountants

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Canada V6H 4C1

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

November 30, 2013

		2013			2012
		Operating Fund	Reserve Fund	Total	Total
ASSETS	Current Assets				
	Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 2,339,251	\$ 15,390	\$ 2,354,641	\$ 2,344,231
	Accounts Receivable	19,497	-	19,497	69,017
	Contributions Receivable	24,500	-	24,500	10,000
	Marketable Securities	-	263,117	263,117	214,963
	Due from Operating Fund	-	8,388	8,388	-
	Due from Reserve Fund	-	-	-	14,341
	Prepaid expenses	40,985	-	40,985	55,989
		\$ 2,424,233	\$ 286,895	\$ 2,711,128	\$ 2,708,541
	Investments				
		-	628,606	628,606	620,244
Property and Equipment					
		69,802	-	69,802	61,541
		\$ 2,494,035	\$ 915,501	\$ 3,409,536	\$ 3,390,326
LIABILITIES	Current Liabilities				
	Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	233,948	-	233,948	424,932
	Due to Operating Fund	-	-	-	14,341
	Due to Reserve Fund	8,388	-	8,388	-
	Deferred Revenue	1,970,987	-	1,970,987	1,888,379
		\$ 2,213,323	-	\$ 2,213,323	\$ 2,327,652
NET ASSETS	Unrestricted				
		210,910	915,501	1,126,411	1,001,133
	Investment in Property and Equipment				
		69,802	-	69,802	61,541
		280,712	915,501	1,196,213	1,062,674
		\$ 2,494,035	\$ 915,501	\$ 3,409,536	\$ 3,390,326

Approved by Members



Christine Gelowitz, RPF
ABCFP President



Sharon L. Glover, MBA
ABCFP CEO

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES

Year ended November 30, 2013

	2013			2012	
	Operating Fund		Reserve Fund	Total	Total
	Budget	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
Revenue					
Annual Registered Membership Fees	\$ 2,010,978	\$ 2,040,905	-	\$ 2,040,905	\$ 2,073,678
Other Membership Fees	264,199	278,960	-	278,960	253,076
Annual Meeting	(20,000)	(13,576)	-	(13,576)	(27,654)
Advertising and Mailings	45,000	59,652	-	59,652	48,233
Seminars and Workshops	8,000	11,739	-	11,739	11,298
Interest	14,500	17,388	22,694	40,082	39,365
Other Investment Income	-	-	56,406	56,406	18,759
Other	3,000	46,402	8,069	54,471	172,208
	\$ 2,325,677	\$ 2,441,470	\$ 87,169	\$ 2,528,639	\$ 2,588,963
Expenses					
Committee Work	530,800	577,512	-	577,512	737,604
Office	315,500	326,226	-	326,226	306,179
Staff	1,478,050	1,486,561	-	1,486,561	1,450,367
Other	-	-	4,801	4,801	39,640
	\$ 2,324,350	\$ 2,390,299	\$ 4,801	\$ 2,395,100	\$ 2,533,790
Excess of Revenue Over Expenditures for the Year					
	\$ 1,327	\$ 51,171	\$ 82,368	\$ 133,539	\$ 55,173



Professional Practice

The Professional Practice Committee (PPC) completed 82 practice determinations in 2013. Practice determinations decide whether the job duties of a member constitute the practice of professional forestry. The PPC and staff also answered over 100 written and telephone queries regarding member's professional practice.

Two discussion papers – one on professional trust and respectful regard and another on the framework for professional reliance – were released for member comment and feedback. Also, the supervision guideline was updated in 2013 in response to concerns expressed by practitioners. The guideline assists in the interpretation and correct application of supervision (of the practice of professional forestry) as it is used in the *Foresters Act* and in the ABCFP Bylaws.

Interim guidance on fire and fuels management was introduced in 2013. The *Interim Guidelines – Fire and Fuel Management* document was created, in part, from recommendations contained within the *Fire & Fuels Management* report released in 2012 and created by the PPC and the fire and fuels management task force. The goal of this guidance document is to provide support for forest professionals practising in the area of fire

and fuels management. Member comments and suggestions on an update to this document are welcome and the *Interim Guidelines – Fire and Fuel Management* document is available on the ABCFP website.

Forest Stewardship and Advocacy

PRINCIPLES OF FOREST STEWARDSHIP

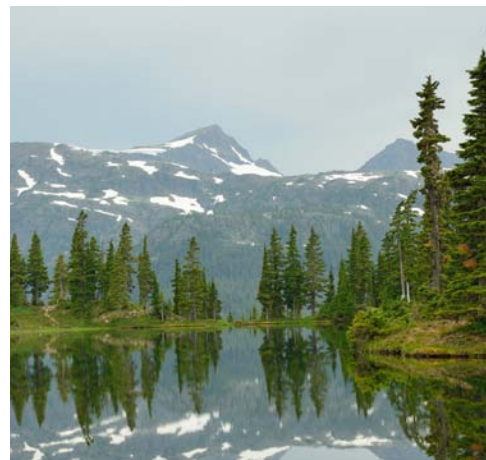
In 2013 each issue of BCFP magazine featured a principle of forest stewardship related to that issue's theme. As in 2012, members were surveyed regarding their awareness and use of the principles. Results show that more than half of forest practitioners are aware of the principles and that 61% considered them in their practice. The principles of forest stewardship are a cornerstone of the *Foresters Act* and the ABCFP focused on this subject throughout the year.

CLIMATE CHANGE

The Climate Change Task Force (CCTF) continued its work in identifying and prioritizing issues of concern regarding climatic effects on forests and the resulting effects of forest management options. In 2013, a climate change awareness survey was conducted. The survey found that 85% of members think it is important to include climate change considerations in management. Over half (53%) of forest professionals know

where to find climate change information and 54% are incorporating some aspect of climate change adaptation in their practice. Sixty percent of members feel they need more training in this area.

In July, council approved a new ABCFP award called the Climate Change Innovator Award. This award will allow us to profile and congratulate innovators and practitioners who are leading the way in climate change adaptation and awareness. The inaugural Climate Change Innovator Award will be presented at the annual forestry conference and AGM in February 2014.



Member Competency

MEMBER MEETINGS

ABCFP staff and council held member meetings in several BC communities (Clearwater, Kamloops, Nanaimo, Revelstoke, Golden, Radium, Cranbrook, Smithers and Prince George). The meetings were scheduled in conjunction with other association business. Members were given a chance to meet staff and executive and engage in discussion. Hot topics included professional reliance, supervision, due diligence, Natural Resource Professionals, climate change and inventory (using LiDAR).

WORKSHOPS

The trend of fewer in-person and more online workshops (webcasts and/or self-paced study) continued in 2013. Members were able to learn about professional reliance, professional ethics and obligations, exam writing, and policy review from their desks and often-times at their own pace. Online workshops will be revised in 2014 to feature more video content and increase usability. The new advanced professional reliance in-person workshop will be converted into an online format in 2014.

Workshops on working effectively with Aboriginal peoples, tablets and smart phones

for field use, and root cause analysis were also offered in partnership with other professional development providers. The association also sponsored an electronic lecture (in collaboration with the CIF-IFC) on the fire and fuels management.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES

The ABCFP voluntary professional development program helps members track their continuing professional development endeavours. Members who complete 150 contact hours of professional development and continuing education over a five-year period can apply for an ABCFP Professional Development Certificate. Nine members received certificates in 2013 and were eligible to win one of three \$250 gifts from TD Insurance Meloche Monnex. Congratulations to Susan Woermke, RPF; Brian LaPointe, RPF; and Dean McGeough, RPF.

PRACTICE & PEER REVIEWS

In 2013, the ABCFP switched to a different model for delivering peer and practice reviews. The practice reviews focused on a smaller number of individuals, randomly selected from previously determined specialized fields of practice. The association hired consultants with

expertise in silviculture, cruising, appraisals, forest stewardship planning, and watershed management to facilitate the reviews of members practising in these areas. Eighteen practice reviews were conducted in 2013.

A mandatory component was added to the peer review process. Members were randomly selected for these reviews. The combination of mandatory and voluntary peer reviews produced 78 reviews in 2013. The total number of 96 reviews (peer and practice) is a significant increase from the 2012 total of 69. Approximately two-thirds of the members reviewed were RPFs and one-third were RFTs.

It was found that most reviewed members were competent in their areas of practice and were staying current with developments in their practice areas. In addition, all members reviewed were completing their annual mandatory self-assessments and all members were tracking their continuing education activities and maintaining professional development plans.

Communications and Media

Throughout 2013, the association was mentioned in over 20 articles on subjects such as inventory, foreign markets for BC wood, National Forest Week, ABCFP award winners, Aboriginals in forestry, and more. All mentions were accurate and most featured ABCFP quotes and key messages.

RECRUITMENT AND PROMOTION

Recruitment was a priority for the association and the communications department supported this priority through the development of recruitment plans (one general and one related to NRP) and used our communications vehicles – website, e-newsletter, magazine, Facebook and Twitter – to get the word out about career opportunities in forestry. Staff attended 12 career fairs and coordinated 12 classroom visits. Throughout the year, staff also sent resources, including our new career brochure, to a number of members who participated in career fairs independently.

NATIONAL FOREST WEEK

National Forest Week (NFW) provided a great opportunity to spread the word about forestry. For the first time, a provincial National Forest Week task force was created in order to

coordinate activities and garner more attention/publicity to NFW. The team included the ABCFP, Canadian Institute of Forestry, the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, as well as other forestry associations and companies. Activities and promotions took place around the province and included newspaper supplements; print and radio ads; classroom visits; walks in the woods for kids and adults; hands-on workshops for high school students; the creation and distribution of NFW posters and stickers; and more. In addition to the group's efforts, the association still held their annual art contest for kids, essay contest for teens and photo contest for members.

The Battle of the Networks of Forest Professionals (NFPs) took place during National Forest Week. These groups of members and non-members formed to raise awareness and promote good forest stewardship, competed against each other to give the best NFW experience for their communities. The winner of the 2013 battle was the Campbell River NFP. Among other activities, they coordinated classroom visits in Gold River and Campbell River, forests walks for students and the public, an employer forum, and the publication of a 15-page National Forest Week supplement that was printed in the Campbell River Mirror and reached over 40,000 people.



Photo: Kelly Kitsch, RFT

BC FOREST PROFESSIONAL MAGAZINE

In 2013, the magazine featured a number of articles on LiDAR, which continues to be a buzz-worthy emerging technology in forestry. There was also an entire issue (January/February) dedicated to new technologies in the sector. The May/June issue looked at the forestry and fish connection, one of the few times we incorporated forestry with complementary disciplines like hydrology.

The editor and editorial board made a concerted effort to feature career-related volunteerism stories. One feature in the September/October issue highlighted a member's experience volunteering to take a high school class out on a forest walk.

Member engagement was increased by repeatedly inviting members to submit photos to the "A Moment in Forestry" feature as well as by inviting members to send letters.

WEBSITE

Offerings on the student section of the website were expanded in 2013. Downloadable materials and links for teachers, members and students were added to the section. The discussion forum was replaced with a forum that is easier to use and the Job Opportunities page remained very

popular with a record-number of jobs being posted.

The current ABCFP website was launched in 2006 and now needs to be replaced in order to make it consistent with new technology, improve navigation and increase usability. The process will begin 2014.

SURVEYS

Surveying was used to gauge opinions from members, stakeholders and the public in 2013. In addition to a BC-wide public opinion poll conducted by a third-party organization, the ABCFP conducted a survey on the ABCFP exam writing process, the peer review process, climate change (2), RFT competency (2), stewardship, membership renewal process, membership demographics and services, principles of stewardship, and the ABCFP conference.

FORESTRY CONFERENCE AND AGM

The 65th annual ABCFP forestry conference and AGM was held in Prince George, February 20-22, 2013 and over 300 delegates attended.

Presentations from keynote speakers, Michelle Dagnino and Warren McDonald, were two of the highlights of this event. The Honourable Steve Thomson, Minister, Forests, Lands and Natural

Resource Operations, and Norm Macdonald, MLA, were also in attendance.

The association received a lot of media coverage related to the conference and AGM. This included the Bill Good Show on CKNW radio which broadcast live from the conference on February 20th. Most of his show was dedicated for forestry issues and many members and staff were featured guests.

The silent auction raised over \$4,000 for ForesTrust (the ABCFP's registered charity that provides bursaries and scholarships for post-secondary students) and the host committee was able to donate an additional \$8,000 (surplus from the conference) to ForesTrust.



ForestTrust Winners

ForesTrust is the associations' registered charity that grants scholarships and bursaries to post-secondary students studying forestry. In 2013, ForesTrust granted the following awards.

University of British Columbia

Nyla Burnside (\$250)
Viviana Flores (\$1,000)
Duncan Walters (\$450)

Vancouver Island University

Joshua Macy (\$600)

University of Northern British Columbia

Britney Grunerud (\$500)
Kathleen Janz (\$1,000)
Jesse Seniunas (\$1,000)

Thompson Rivers University

Richard Cane (\$1,000)

Selkirk College

Mandy Joy Flanagan (\$880)

Staff

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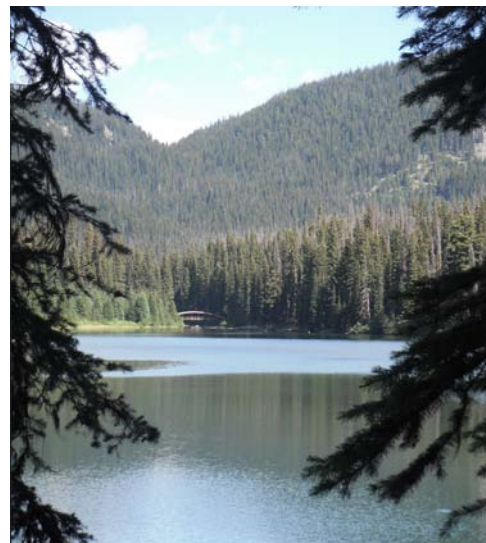
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2013 Award Winners

Climate Change Innovator

Alex Woods, RPF, was named the 2013 Climate Change Innovator for outstanding contributions to innovations in practice and/or policy in response to current or anticipated impacts of climate change in the field of forestry.

Jim Rodney Memorial Volunteer of the Year

Jacques Corstanje, RPF, and Annette van Niejenhuis, RPF, were awarded the Jim Rodney Memorial Volunteer of the Year award for their exceptional volunteer service to the association and the profession.

BC Forest Professional Magazine

BEST ARTICLE

The Insects That Tried to Steal Christmas

Jennifer Burleigh, RPF
May/June 2013

BEST LETTER

Acknowledgement is the First Step

Kyle Anderson
May/June 2013

National Forest Week Contest Winners

Member Photo Contest

Kelly Kitsch, RFT, and Steve Stearns-Smith, RPF

Essay Contest for Teens

Emmanuel Tse, Simrin Purhar and Celestina Tanase

Art Contest for Kids

Maese Shea, Kiana Danielson and Maxine Creery



Artwork: Maese Shea



Artwork: Kiana Danielson



Artwork: Maxine Creery



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