

Forest minister speaks

BY STEVE THOMSON, THE PROVINCE APRIL 22, 2011

Contrary to exaggerations by Anthony Britneff and Ben Parfitt in their April 19 opinion piece, B.C. continues to update and improve its forest inventories every year.

B.C. is world renowned for its sustainable forest-management practices. More than 52 million hectares are certified to one of three internationally recognized sustainable, forest-management standards.

Proper inventory data has always been considered vital for directing investments on the land base.

Taking stock of the forest inventory has changed over the years. The Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations has taken advantage of advances in technology and new innovations. This has allowed forest inventory information to be collected and maintained for reduced cost over time.

The ministry plans to spend about \$5.45 million and assign 24 full-time staff to forest inventory activities in 2011-12.

Steve Thomson, forests minister

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