

# NEWS RELEASE



## Chilliwack Teen Wins Essay Contest -Contest winners announced-

**Vancouver, BC (November 17, 2011)** – Valerie Flokstra, age 16, of Chilliwack, was one of two runners up in the Association of BC Forest Professionals' (ABC FP's) first essay contest.

The essay contest, held during National Forest Week, invited youth between 13 and 18 to write about what the forest means to them, their communities or the province of BC. The entries demonstrated the teens' love of the forest as a place to recreate, as a home for animals and as an important contributor to the economy.

Valerie's essay was written from the perspective of a tree reacting to being felled. At first the tree was sad but soon realized that it had the opportunity to contribute to the economy of BC and the local ecosystem. Valerie received a \$150 prize and his essay has been published on the ABCFP's website.

The winners are:

First Place: Bronwyn Balaz-Munn, aged 16 of Coquitlam

Runners Up: Kelton Rohrick, aged 13 of Invermere and Valerie Flokstra, aged 16 of Chilliwack.

Visit the ABCFP website to view the winning entries: [www.abcfp.ca](http://www.abcfp.ca).

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*The **Association of BC Forest Professionals**, established in 1947, is the largest professional forestry association in Canada with over 5,400 members. The association registers and regulates professional foresters and forest technologists under authority of the provincial Foresters Act.*

### For more information:

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