

NEWS RELEASE



330-321 Water Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 1B8
Tel: 604.687.8027 Fax: 604.687.3264
E-mail: info@abcfp.ca
Website: www.abcfp.ca

Forest Professionals Celebrate National Forest Week with Activities for Youth

Vancouver, BC (September 14, 2011) – The Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP) wants young people to celebrate National Forest Week and the International Year of the Forest so it is hosting an essay contest and giving away free START subscriptions from September 18 to 24, 2011.

The essay contest is open to students aged 13 to 18 and carries a top prize of \$300 (as well as two runner-up prizes of \$150 each). Students are invited to write a short essay about what the forest means to them or to the province of BC. They might choose to write about recreational opportunities, the environment, the economic benefits or the cultural aspects of the forests or a combination of these factors.

ABCFP's START program is designed to give high school and post-secondary students a head START on their way to becoming forest professionals. Subscribers receive the ABCFP's magazine, **BC Forest Professional**, and the e-newsletter, **The Increment**, in addition to getting a discount on some association training events such as the annual conference.

"2011 is an incredibly special year as the UN has recognized it as the International Year of the Forest," says Ian Emery, RFT, president of the ABCFP. "The ABCFP wants to recognize both the international designation as well as our own National Forest Week by giving the province's future forest professionals the opportunity to learn more about their local forests."

Visit the ABCFP website to find the essay contest rules or to sign up for a free START subscription, www.abcfp.ca.

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

For more information:

Amanda Brittain, MA, ABC
Director of Communications
Cell: 778.233.1169
Direct: 604.331.2321
Twitter: @abcfp
E-mail: abrittain@abcfp.ca

Ensuring BC's Forests Are In Good Hands.