

2009 Award Winner



Forest Engineering Award of Excellence – Glen Beaton, PEng

If you mention Glen Beaton's name to anyone involved in coastal forestry in BC, you are likely to get a big smile and a list of his accomplishments. Glen is a professional engineer and has spent his entire career working with coastal forest professionals. His contributions include innovative and environmentally friendly bridges, culverts, log dumps and more.

In the late 1980s, Glen was working for a large forestry company as well as running a farm with his wife. He attempted to retire so he could spend his time on the farm but he was so inundated with requests for help, that his "retirement" lasted only a matter of months. In response to the requests for his engineering services, he started StoneCroft Project Engineering which is still going strong.

One of Glen's strengths is his ability to work with teams of professionals and operators to ensure a project is successfully completed. He is just as happy discussing bridge design with a fellow civil engineer in downtown Victoria as he is talking about load limits with the logging truck driver who will be using the bridge. He once told a colleague that he has worked in forestry so long because he enjoys the "hard working, down to earth people" in this sector.

Many of those down to earth forest professionals have never met Glen but are still familiar with his work in the form of the "Beaton Tables". These tables list log sizes and load ratings for log stringer bridges – a very common type of bridge used in the backcountry to safely cross small streams.

Glen's lifetime of achievement in the forest sector was recently recognized jointly by the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP) and the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC. The two organizations presented Glen with the Forest Engineering Award of Excellence at the ABCFP's annual conference. Although few of the audience members were engineers, they all knew his name and recognized the great contributions he has made to coastal forestry in BC.