

Terms of Reference

Network of Forest Professionals

1.0 Purpose

To provide a broad base of forest professional groups which work at local and regional levels to provide effective communication, education and liaison on forestry issues to a wide variety of audiences including public, schools, government, politicians, media, other organizations and ABCFP members throughout BC.

2.0 Membership

- 2.1 Networks of Forest Professionals will be formed based on local interest, need and circumstances. The number in each group may range from one to many and networking among members is encouraged;
- 2.2 Membership and participation in activities is not limited to members of the ABCFP although it is recognized that, regardless of the makeup of the group, the chief executive officer retains the right and responsibility to ensure the direction of each network is consistent with the overall role of the ABCFP;
- 2.3 Each network will determine its own structure and appoint a chair;
- 2.4 There is no time limit for membership in particular positions unless set locally by each group;
- 2.5 Each group will notify the ABCFP manager of professional development and member relations of its chair, general purpose and planned and implemented events and activities.

3.0 Duties, Functions & Responsibilities

- 3.1 ABCFP staff:
 - 3.1.1 Liaison with each group through various media including mail, fax, e-mail and telephone.
 - 3.1.2 Act as a "clearing house" to pass information from one group's successes to other groups.
 - 3.1.3 Use each group as a "sounding board" for ideas prior to going to the general membership.
 - 3.1.4 Arrange for and attend a reception and recognition event for NFPs at each year's ExpoFor.

- 3.1.5 Encourage National Forestry Week activities and members' involvement in other special forest education events including school career fairs and communication with communities, media and leaders.
- 3.1.6 Provide some financial support for certain items discussed above as detailed in the association's annual budget.
- 3.2 Networks of Forest Professionals:
 - 3.2.1 To work at local or regional levels to provide effective communication, education and liaison on forestry issues to a wide variety of audiences including public, schools, government, politicians, media, other organizations and ABCFP members.
 - 3.2.2 To be proactive rather than reactive on forestry issues where possible.
 - 3.2.3 The ABCFP in general wishes to foster a wide range of public discussion and opinion on forestry issues. Where NFPs or members believes they may be publicly stating an opinion that could be considered more narrow than the overall ABCFP view, they should do so under their own name or title, or discuss it first with the manager of professional development and member relations if they wish to use the name ABCFP.
 - 3.2.4 Each group is encouraged to frequently network with other NFPs as well as communicating successful activities to each other and the manager of professional development and member relations through the use of the nfp@abcfp.ca e-mail address.
 - 3.2.5 Each network is encouraged to combine its events and activities with the nearest Canadian Institute of Forestry (CIF) Section.

4.0 Conduct of Meetings

Due to the large diversity, each group will determine its own conduct of meetings and activities.

5.0 Budget

The ABCFP's budget will consider limited funding for NFP activities, although each NFP is expected to operate on its own budget.

6.0 Meetings & Time Commitment

The NFP chair will use his or her discretion to set meeting agendas, dates and take minutes and NFP members will get involved with meetings, events and activities as time permits.

7.0 Staff Support

Staff support shall be provided primarily by the manager of professional development and member relations with secondary support by the communications coordinator and editor.