

Tenure Reform

TENURE REFORM IS BACK IN THE CENTRE OF MANY FORESTRY DISCUSSIONS these days. With this in mind, we decided to dedicate an issue to the tumultuous topic. You can't be sure of much in this life, but you can be sure that every forest professional in BC has an opinion on tenure reform.

Bill Bourgeois, PhD, RPF, starts us off with a fiery article about how he thinks tenure reform should be instituted and what he thinks is holding BC back. David Haley, PhD, RPF (Ret), follows this up with an article on how tenure reform could be restructured to accommodate sustainable forest management.

Breaking away from what could happen, Jennifer Gunter, MSc, talks about what is happening in her article, "Community Forests: The Farmers' Market of the Forest Sector." Community forests are a relatively new tenure that create local jobs and manage local resources to meet community needs, values and priorities. Brain McNaughton, RPF, follows with his article on how woodlot licenses are putting the

forest back in local hands and what more can be done to support woodlots through tenure reform. At the very end of the Viewpoint section, Minister Pat Bell outlines the recent changes in tenure reform to accommodate bioenergy.

Moving back again to what future changes should be made, Kerry McGourlick, RPF, outlines how forest tenures can be made more attractive to tenure holders and investors. Then Harry Nelson, PhD, provides details on two existing options—corporatization and privatization—and explains how they could both affect tenure reform.

We hope this breadth of perspectives allows our readers to learn something new and examine their own opinions on tenure reform.

As a final note, we worked hard to secure an article specifically addressing tenure reform as it affects BC's Aboriginal Peoples but we were unsuccessful. We will continue working on this and will print an article on this topic in a future issue. 🌲