



CEO's Report

By Sharon Glover, MBA

Planning 2011: Budget, Strategic Plan and Advancing Professional Reliance

As we begin a new year, it is important to reflect on key decision points from 2010 that bring us together as an association so that we can continue to make an effective difference in serving and protecting the public interest in the practice of professional forestry.

Three items that will have an impact on members include the 2011 budget and strategic plan, and advancing professional reliance.

Budget

The ABCFP council approved the 2011 operating budget of \$2.1 million. Through your support with the fee increase, we are able to focus on more professional practice, act compliance and governance. Specifically, we will be adding funding to work in the areas of professional practice (professional reliance, practice issues) and stewardship. We will also allocate funding to training for discipline committees. With this budget, members will realize a larger budget provided for investigations costs and face-to-face meetings for committees.

A 2011 capital budget was approved in the amount of \$30,000. This money is designated to ensure database enhancements for membership management and to replace aging

hardware infrastructure (servers, computers, firewalls) and to provide software upgrades. These upgrades will help ensure effective, efficient and reliable support for ABCFP members.

Strategic Plan

Staff is moving forward with the job of creating strategic initiatives that will move the association closer to achieving the goals set by council and supported by the approved 2011 budget. Based upon the outcomes of council's strategic planning sessions, the initiatives will be in support of the following general areas:

- Ensure that the public and other stakeholders recognize and respect the roles that the ABCFP and its members play in managing BC's forests, forest lands, forest resources and forest ecosystems.
- Ensure that the ABCFP is recognized by its members as a highly effective and personally relevant organization.
- Ensure that BC's forest stewardship policies are informed by the association.
- Ensure that recruitment into the profession and development of existing members meets current and future demands.
- Ensure that professional reliance is successfully applied by forest professionals.

In mid-January a small team of council members will be reviewing member input into the specific goals set by council to see what adjustments need to be made. We hope to have the final plan, inclusive of member comments, finished by the end of January.

Advancing Professional Reliance

One of the key areas that we told members we needed to spend more money on was professional reliance. Here is a flavour of some of the activities that the ABCFP has recently been involved in.

The ABCFP, The Ministry of Forests, Mines and Lands, and industry are sharing the lead in the *Advancing Professional Reliance Initiative*. The group has collaborated on several activities in the past few months and many of our members would have been either participants, or have been aware of the activities around professional reliance.

Following is a description of the variety of activities that we have been involved with recently.

- Professional Reliance Steering Committee:** The association chairs the professional reliance steering committee which has senior level involvement from the association, government and industry. Association staff participated in the development of the professional reliance workshop that has been held in various locations around the province, as well as the development of the professional reliance survey. Thank you to all members who took the time to fill out the survey. Survey results are available on the professional reliance web site.
- Regional Workshops:** Association staff made presentations and answered questions at all the regional workshops.
- District Workshops:** Some districts have taken the professional reliance discussion to their offices and other working groups, and association staff participated in these workshops when invited.
- Online Workshops:** The association has had its own professional reliance workshop online for the past six months and is encouraging any members who have not had a chance to participate in any of the recent workshops in person to sign up and take the course.

Stay tuned for further work in this area. 🐾