

It is very important to many members to receive word of the passing of a colleague. Members have the opportunity to publish their memories by sending photos and obituaries to **BC Forest Professional**.

The association sends condolences to the family and friends of the following member:



**Merv Wilkinson**  
ABCFP Honorary Member  
1913-2011

Merv Wilkinson, an honorary member of the ABCFP, died Wednesday, August 31st at the age of 97. He was a lifelong forestry practitioner, educator and passionate advocate for reform. He will continue for many years to be a role model for those who strive to make the world a better place through forestry.

As a student of agriculture at UBC in the 1930s, Merv was introduced to the concepts and practices of sustained selection logging. He also began his career in forestry in the 1930s, working in the pulp mill in Powell River. He subsequently put these principles and experiences into practice at Wildwood, a 55-hectare woodlot near Ladysmith, BC, harvesting 1.5 million board feet of lumber between 1938 and 1998. Over the

decades, he refined his practices based on personal observations, trial and error, and discussions with experts from around the world. His practice was based on a passionate belief that a single forest stand can, and should, simultaneously support a broad range of values, including long-term economic stability, local employment, value-added manufacturing, aesthetics, wildlife, recreation and soil protection.

Merv's small operation was largely unknown to the general public until the "war in the woods" of the 1990s, when Merv's practices were embraced by the environmental movement as an alternative to the industrial forestry practices of the day. At the time, anti-logging sentiment was common in the province. For many, the words "forestry" and "logging" had negative connotations and the debate was whether to log or not to log. Merv demonstrated that things aren't so black and white. As a participant in the Clayoquot Sound protest of 1993, he famously convinced the protesters to change their banner from "No Logging" to "No Clearcut Logging." At this time, Wildwood became the focus of intense interest from the public and Merv dedicated himself to education and advocacy, giving tours of his woodlot to approximately 2000-3000 people every year. Even into his 90s, Merv received visi-

## In Memorium

tors at his home at Wildwood to discuss his practice of forestry and opened his land for weekly tours. Merv—possibly more than any other forestry practitioner during that time—was able to communicate a positive vision of forest management to the public imagination. By demonstrating an approach to forestry that environmentalists could embrace, he framed forest management as the solution, not the problem.

Merv was a strident critic of the mainstream forestry practices of the 1980s and 90s, which alienated him from many foresters of the time. Nevertheless, it is undeniable that Merv's unique approach to forest management, and the forest that it created, captured the imaginations of thousands of people. His role in expanding the public's understanding of forestry earned him some of the highest honours in the country, most notably an appointment as a Member of the Order of Canada (2002) and the Order of British Columbia (2001) and an honorary doctorate from the University of Victoria (2005). In retrospect, it is clear that Merv left a positive legacy for all forest professionals. Merv was awarded Honorary Forester status with the ABCFP in 2009 in recognition of his life's work at Wildwood and his profound influence on the way British Columbians think about forestry.

Submitted by Colin Mahony, RPF.

### CSA Certification, continued from page 12

and auditing certification. Through my audit experience with FSC, I have seen rapid changes in forest management happen that would not have happened any other way. I have renewed faith in certification in general and believe that these processes, in particular FSC, work to affect changes in forest management in a positive direction. Market pressure works, companies respond to client's needs and the global marketplace

demands certified wood products. 🌲

*Glen Dunsworth, has over 30 years' experience in forest renewal, biodiversity and forest genetics research in coastal British Columbia and Alberta. Glen has worked on two CSA and twelve FSC audit teams in BC and Alberta. He is currently a forest ecology consultant and recently co-authored Forestry and Biodiversity: Learning How to Sustain Biodiversity in Managed Forests with Dr. Fred Bunnell.*

## ABCFP Membership Statistics

Association of BC Forest Professionals – September 2011

### NEW ENROLLED MEMBERS

Maximilian Dietmar Gerth, FIT; Molly Halliday Hudson, FIT; Jayme Lynn Goldie, TFT; Samantha Christina Griffore, TFT; Marie-Lou Lefrançois, FIT; Daniel Lewis Macmaster, FIT; Rurik Wilhelm Muentner, FIT; Richard Glenn Swift, TFT; Dimitri Alban Vaisius, FIT.

### REINSTATEMENTS FROM LOA

Janie Katherine Kester, FIT.

### REINSTATEMENTS

Robert Steven Jonasson, RFT

### DECEASED

Merve Wilkinson, Honourary Member.

## The Following People Are Not Entitled to Practise Professional Forestry In British Columbia:

### Removals

Steve Robert Levitt #1819

### RESIGNATIONS

Nicole Rivette, RFT

### Chain of Custody, continued from page 13:

#### PEFC & SFI

These programs are very similar and have no significant differences in the standards. However, some recent changes to the PEFC standard now require commitment to health and safety of the workers which does differ from the SFI standard. In North America, both standards consider fibre certified under the CSA Z809, American Tree Farm Standard (USA), PEFC and SFI standards as eligible certified inputs.

#### FSC

In addition to the commitment to not source illegally harvested fibre, FSC requires additional corporate commitments to not be involved in sourcing any fibre from forest operations involved in the violation of traditional and human rights, destruction of high conservation values, significant conversion of forests to plantation or non-forestry use, the introduction of genetically modified

organisms and the violation of any of the ILO Core Conventions (as described in the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, 1998).

FSC also maintains a separate Controlled Wood Risk Assessment standard that companies can achieve in addition to the CoC certification. This standard allows the company to risk assess source areas in terms of the key FSC values and mix uncertified wood with certified wood.

FSC only allows for the inclusion of FSC certified fibre or controlled wood as 'certified' inputs. However, readers should note that 'FSC Controlled Wood' is not considered certified fibre. Ultimately, the choice for which to use is a

corporate decision based on goals and values as well as markets/customer demands. And it is quite common for organizations to obtain CoC certification to multiple standards. 🐾

*Jason Zimmermann, RPF, is the owner/President of Zimmfor Management Services. He has worked in the forest industry for over 18 years and has been involved in many aspects of forestry including, logging, road construction, contract management, forest engineering and certification. Zimmfor supports clients all over the world. [www.zimmfor.com](http://www.zimmfor.com)*

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### The Forestry Chronicle

*the national journal for forest practitioners*

Our membership includes foresters, forest technicians and technologists, educators, scientists and others with a professional interest in forestry.

Reduced membership fees for ABCFP members

[www.cif-ifc.org](http://www.cif-ifc.org)