

# 2006 Annual Report Making Professional Reliance Work

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## Our Mandate

Our mandate flows from the *Foresters Act*. It is our duty to serve and protect the public interest in the practice of professional forestry by administering and enforcing the *Foresters Act*. We make sure the province's forest professionals are competent, ethical and accountable to the association. We set and enforce codes of conduct and standards of practice for our members. And we advocate for and uphold principles of forest stewardship.

## Our Vision

We are committed to protecting the public interest in the practice of professional forestry and to advancing the stewardship of BC's forests. We and our members are recognized locally, nationally and internationally as knowledgeable, trusted and accountable sources of information and expertise on the sustainable management of forest resources and for whom the public interest is paramount.

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# Letter to Members



## Dear Members and Other Stakeholders:

Everyone in the forest sector had a busy year dealing with the effects of the mountain pine beetle infestation and the signing of a softwood lumber deal between Canada and the US; however, issues closer to our mandate took precedence at the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP). Issues around professional reliance, an influx of new members and some significant staff changes made 2006 both an interesting and challenging year.

The number-one priority for the association continues to be professional reliance. It is essential that professional reliance is accepted by the membership and made to work.

While our work on professional reliance is not finished, tremendous progress was made this year. The ABCFP commissioned a series of papers on professional reliance that are now available to the membership on the website. The fall workshops were dedicated to professional reliance and the *Forest and Range Practices Act*. More details can be found in this annual report.

Another area of focus for association staff has been the large number of forest technologists who moved through the system to write their registration exams. As 2006 marked the end of most transition policies, there was a record number of RFT candidates writing the registration exam in 2006. With more than 1,000 people writing either the RFT or the RPF exam, staff and volunteers were kept busy working on the logistics of hosting exams in communities around the province as well as marking all the exams. On behalf of the whole association, we would like to thank the dozens of volunteers who helped make this year's registration exam process a success.

There were also some significant staff changes at the ABCFP in 2006. In June, executive director Van Scoffield, RPF, announced his retirement that was effective December 31, 2006. Council launched an extensive search which resulted in the hiring of Sharon Glover to take over the top position at the ABCFP. Follow-up to the 2006 capacity report resulted in a number of other staff changes as well. These changes were designed to better address key priorities in our mandate and deliver better value for members.

In the rest of this annual report, we present to you highlights of the year's achievements and challenges. We hope you find it both useful and interesting.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Van Scoffield". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Van Scoffield, RPF  
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob Craven". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Bob Craven, RPF  
President

# Year in Review



The implementation of the capacity report recommendations and the continuing focus on professional reliance and forest stewardship issues were the priorities for 2006 at the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP). Another highlight was the record number of registration exam writers due to the fact that most of the technologist transition policies expired in 2006. As usual, the year was filled with interesting challenges and unique opportunities. Selected highlights of 2006 are captured on the following pages.

## Membership Statistics

	Membership Totals <sup>1</sup>	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Registered Members	RPFs (active)	3053	3109	3127	3190	3192	3168
	RFTs <sup>2</sup> (active)	0	0	0	344	1306	1364
	RPFs (retired)	138	141	132	128	147	171
	RFTs (retired)	0	0	0	16	18	22
	RPFs (life)	177	168	198	200	205	211
	RFTs (life)	0	0	0	1	1	1
Enrolled Members	FITs <sup>2</sup>	500	473	410	338	317	295
	FPs <sup>2</sup>	186	171	166	144	142	119
	TFTs	0	0	0	15	29	34
Special Permits	Visiting Professional Foresters	0	0	0	1	1	0
	Transferring Professional Foresters	0	0	0	3	4	5
	Limited Licensees	0	0	2	4	3	3
	Honorary Members	12	12	12	13	14	15
	<b>Total Membership<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>4066</b>	<b>4074</b>	<b>4047</b>	<b>4358</b>	<b>5323</b>	<b>5352</b>
Leave of Absence <sup>4</sup>	113	140	149	137	136	111	

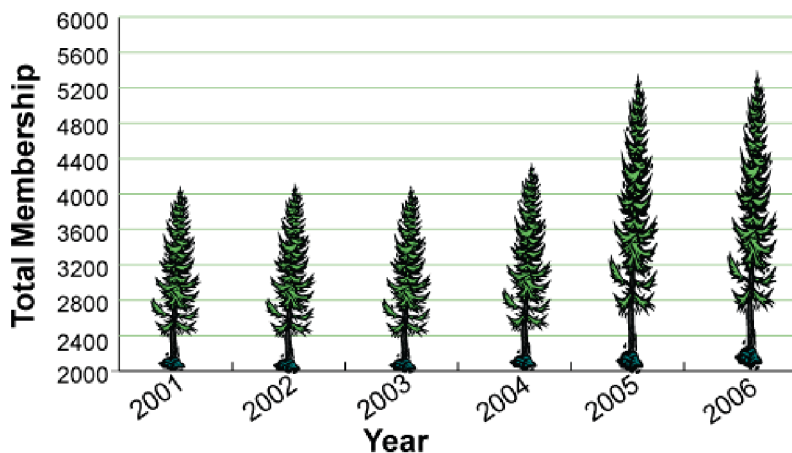
<sup>1</sup> The numbers shown here are as of November 30th each year.

<sup>2</sup> These numbers include members who are in more than one category (e.g. RFT & FP) at the same time.

<sup>3</sup> The totals record the actual number of persons and do not double count persons who are members of more than one category.

<sup>4</sup> The leave of absence category does not affect yearly totals.

## ABCFP Membership 2001-2006





## Admissions

A total of 816 conditional RFTs wrote the registration exam. The only two remaining routes of entry for technologists are the Trainee Forest Technologist program or one last remaining provision of the transition policy (which ends in 2008) that applies to technologists with a recognized diploma and years of work experience who are currently working under supervision of an RPF or RFT.

The overall pass rate for the RFT exam was 75%. Most of the exam candidates were eligible for an exemption from Part B of the exam. The pass rate for the 695 people who only wrote Part A was 79%. The pass rate for the 121 people who wrote both Part A and Part B of the exam was 55%. The highest mark on the RFT registration exam was earned by George Buis, RFT, who scored 93%.

The overall pass rate for the 109 candidates who wrote the RPF exam was 73.4%. Candidates had the option of writing a take-home exam which was worth 30% of their final grade. If they chose this option, candidates were only required to answer seven of the 14 questions on the main exam. The pass rate for candidates who chose to write the take-home portion of the exam was 83%. The pass rate for the 11 people who did not write the take-home portion, and were required to write ten of the 14 questions, was 55%. The top mark on the RPF registration exam was 90.5% and was scored by Debra MacKillop, RPF.

Members of the board of examiners and invigilators are to be acknowledged for the time and effort they put into administering and marking the exams.

Enrollment in post-secondary forestry programs and the subsequent admission to the profession of forestry remains low. This problem is not unique to BC, or to the forest sector. Labour shortages, in a wide range of economic sectors, seem to be an issue across the industrialized world. One of the ways the ABCFP is trying to improve enrolment rates is through participation in a national initiative, dubbed the inclusivity project, which is changing the face of entrance requirements to the profession. One of the primary goals of the inclusivity project is to modernize the existing national standards for entry into the profession of forestry and ensure that we are capturing the full range of professional forestry skills and expertise as defined by the *Foresters Act*. The inclusivity project will also allow for improved labour mobility for forest professionals.

### 2006 RFT Registration Exam

RFT Exam (Part A)	2005	2006
Pass Rate (%)	80.5	79.0
Average Mark (%)	66.3	63.0
RFT Exam (Part B)	2005	2006
Pass Rate (%)	61.5	55.0
Average Mark (%)	59.2	59.0

### 2006 RPF Registration Exam

RPF Exam	2001	2002	2003
Pass Rate (%)	70.6	72.5	67.8
Average Mark (%)	63.8	64.3	62.1
RPF Exam	2004	2005	2006
Pass Rate (%)	81.0	68.3	73.4
Average Mark (%)	65.0	64.1	67.7



## Professional Practice

Professional reliance continues to be the top priority for the association. A great deal of work was done in 2006, including publication of the professional reliance task force's report called *Professional Reliance in Forest and Range Management in BC: From Concept to Practice*. With a grant from the Ministry of Forests and Range, the ABCFP commissioned a series of guidance papers on various aspects of professional reliance. The draft papers, which were published on the ABCFP website, formed the basis of the fall workshop series.

The Forest Appeals Commission's decision on cases 2004-FOR-020(a) and 2004-FOR-025(a) regarding free growing declarations made under the now replaced Silviculture Regulation (BC Reg 147/88) and the ABCFP's response to it (issued in October 2005) inspired much discussion and debate amongst members. The ABCFP worked with industry and government on the issues arising from the debate and will be releasing an updated statement addressing many of these issues early in the new fiscal year.

The ABCFP had the opportunity to work with WorkSafeBC this year after the agency conducted an inspection of an accident that occurred on a forest road. The WorkSafe inspector applied a section of WorkSafe regulations that had never before been applied to forestry. The section of the WorkSafe regulation required the licensee to use an engineer where the *Foresters Act* allowed forest professionals to carry out the work. If the ABCFP had not stepped in, the regulations would have prevented qualified RPFs and RFTs from laying out much of BC's forest roads. ABCFP staff continue to work with WorkSafeBC to amend the regulations.

The Practice Advisory Service dealt with six requests for guidance. This number is virtually unchanged from 2005. The requests dealt with topics such as advising clients, resolving conflicts between professional obligations and employer's desires, and signing off on another person's work.

## Professional Development

As the size of the ABCFP has grown, organizing the annual conference and AGM has become more and more complex. As a result, council decided to change the way the annual conference, now called ExpoFor, is organized. A new standing host committee will assist staff with setting the theme and tone of ExpoFor and will set up the educational components of the program. Staff will be left to deal with booking facilities and hotel rooms and other logistical tasks. Instead of asking volunteers to take on some of the more complex and financially risky tasks, these duties have been passed onto staff. A new ExpoFor limitations policy is now in effect and a terms of reference for the standing host committee is being developed as recruitment for the committee got underway at the end of 2006.



Good progress was made on the Continuing Competency Program in 2006. Voluntary Peer Review, the second element in the Continuing Competency Program, was made available to members in late 2006. While this element is not mandatory like the first element, Self-Assessment, members are encouraged and offered incentives to participate. Members who undergo a voluntary peer review will be less likely to be selected for the third and final element of the program – Practice Review. The practice review paper was released for member discussion and comment at the end of 2006.

This year marked the return to regional workshops held in 24 locations around the province. The topic of the workshops was applying the principles of professional reliance in a FRPA (*Forest and Range Practices Act*) world. The workshops were attended by over 650 people. Due to demand, a webcast of the workshop was made available to members who were unable to attend a workshop in person.

Due to the record number of people writing the registration exams this year, there were a record number of attendees (542) at the policy review seminars in the fall. The ABCFP appreciates and recognizes the efforts of the 45 volunteers who worked on the manual and the 40 volunteers who delivered the seminars in four locations – Vancouver, Victoria, Prince George and Kamloops.

Four professional liability insurance seminars were jointly promoted by the ABCFP, the BC Institute of Agrologists and the Association of Professional Biologists of BC. The workshops were organized by service providers Morris & Mackenzie Inc. and ENCON Group Inc. These seminars, on the topics of risk management, professional liability and contracts, were very well attended by members of all three organizations.

Fourteen people applied for the Certificate of Professional Development and were also entered into a draw for the Meloche Monnex Continuing Education Award in 2006. Other educational organizations which deliver forestry courses have recognized the ABCFP's voluntary continuing education program and have started to list the number of ABCFP education credits their courses are worth.

A professional development calendar, which replaced the one that was in **BC Forest Professional** magazine, was added to the website in 2006. The new calendar has unrestricted space and gives an opportunity to all providers of resource-related workshops and courses to advertise their continuing education activities, free of charge.

*The association extends its condolences to the families of the following members who passed away in 2006:*

*Peter N. Affleck, RPF*

*G. Smedley Andrews, RPF(Ret), Life Member*

*Clifford S. Kowalsky, RPF*

*W. L. McMullan, RPF*

*Frank G. Rainsford, RPF (Ret), Life Member*

*Daryl Ross Selkirk, RPF(Ret), Life Member*

*C. Roy Sworder, RPF(Ret), Life Member*

*Jordan S. Tanz, RPF*



## Foresters Act Compliance

The registrar continues to deal with eight to ten calls per month that could mature into formal complaints. The vast majority of calls were settled through alternative resolution and informal resolution methods. Only a handful of complaints passed the registrar's screening process. Of those, one case (2006-04) went to the complaint resolution committee and resulted in a negotiated settlement; one case (2006-01) is undergoing investigation; and one case (2006-02) was dismissed by the complaint resolution committee. The Sunshine Coast Conservation Association made a second appeal attempt disputing the ABCFP's decision to not accept their complaint. The matter is currently with the courts and a decision is expected early in 2007.

The ABCFP continues to monitor job postings to ensure that they comply with the *Foresters Act*. If non-compliance is suspected, the ABCFP writes to the employer and explains the reasons for complying with the Act. An example of monitoring that took place in 2006 was the ABCFP's communication with the Union of BC Municipalities about the need to include forest professionals on interface fire planning teams.

In addition to monitoring job postings, the ABCFP is able to proactively assist any employer with applying the *Foresters Act* and determining if an RPF or RFT designation is appropriate for particular positions. For example, in 2006 the ABCFP continued to work with staff at the Ministry of Forests and Range to analyze ministry positions.

There are a significant number of technologists who are practising and who would benefit from membership in the ABCFP. The ABCFP continued to reach out to prospective RFT members through information sessions held in conjunction with workshops and members meetings, letters written to employers, and trips undertaken by the registrar to talk to RFT exam candidates and prospective members.

## Forest Stewardship

Due to staffing changes as a result of the capacity report, the association was able to dedicate more resources to stewardship issues in 2006.

The stewardship activities addressed by the ABCFP in 2006 included:

- After learning that 50 of the province's hydrometric stations were to be closed, the ABCFP was in contact with the federal and provincial governments to explain why members needed the information supplied by hydrometric stations and why we felt every effort should be made to keep them operational.
- The ABCFP publicly supported the Forest Practices Board's paper on forest fires with a news release.



- The ABCFP continued to participate in the Ministry of Forests and Range's development of the *Resource Roads Act*.
- The ABCFP provided comment on two Forest Practices Board items: terms of reference for the investigation into single-stem harvesting and a report on due diligence and species at risk.
- The provincial government put out guidelines on mining in BC and the ABCFP was able to review and respond to the corresponding handbook.

The ABCFP contracted two consultants to work on two separate forest stewardship issues in 2006. ForesTree Dynamics Ltd. was contracted to write a discussion paper on forest inventories. Triangle Resources was hired to draft a discussion paper on oil and gas issues and how they affect BC's forests. While the majority of the work on these two papers was completed in 2006, the results will not be made public until early in 2007.

## Finance and Administration

The association's strong financial health continued to improve in fiscal 2006. An operating surplus of \$105,869 was achieved on revenues of \$1,882,701 and expenditures of \$1,776,832. The association's full financial statements can be found on the website ([www.abcfp.ca](http://www.abcfp.ca)).

While a significant deficit for the year was budgeted, a number of factors contributed to the surplus. The association's annual events, budgeted to break even, all attained significant surpluses—ExpoFor 2006 in Victoria (\$20,135), policy seminars (\$25,878), and the professional development workshops (\$13,076). In addition, a number of projects and expenditures that were planned for the year did not occur and will carry over to fiscal 2007.

Actual discipline expenses were below budget for the fourth year in a row and, pursuant to policy, that amount (\$10,657) was transferred to the reserve fund.

The reserve fund is also healthy and continued to grow in 2006. It grew by \$48,224 from interest and dividend income, gain on the sale of investments and the favourable variance in discipline costs. The value of reserve fund investments is shown on the financial statements at cost (\$760,538); however, the market value is higher at \$816,753. The reserve fund's investments earned a 7.35% rate of return in fiscal 2006.

As the ABCFP looked to the future and strived to improve services to members, it became necessary to purchase a new data management tool. A taskforce of staff members spent seven months putting together a request for proposal, reviewing potential suppliers and ensuring that the selected product would meet the needs of the association for many years to come. The selected product will provide the association with enhanced functionality as well as greater efficiency and productivity over the old system.



A new membership renewal policy was created to consolidate the existing fee payment policy with the requirements of the Continuing Competency Program – specifically the need to collect Self-Assessment Declarations from members. Another change included in the membership renewal policy was the doubling of administrative fees to encourage members to complete the membership renewal process in a timely fashion. Members who do so, will not be affected by the increased fees.

### The winners of 2006 ForesTrust awards are:

Nicola Dorans - British Columbia Institute of Technology – Wayne Cochrane Memorial Award (Awarded \$817)

Andrea Mullen - Malaspina University-College – ABCFP Scholarship (Awarded \$1,000)

Catherine Yasinski - Selkirk College – ABCFP Scholarship (Awarded \$1,000)

Terri France - Thompson Rivers University – ABCFP Scholarship (Awarded \$1,000)

Peter Strickland - University of British Columbia - ABCFP Scholarship (Awarded \$1,250)

Amanda Schoonmaker - University of British Columbia - ABCFP Grad Prize for Best Thesis (\$250)

Graeme Dick - University of British Columbia - ABCFP Grad Prize for Best Essay (\$180)

Peter Kerckhoff - University of Northern BC - ABCFP Bursary (\$900)

Henry Yang - University of Northern BC - ABCFP Bursary (\$500)

Blake Forde - University of Northern BC - ABCFP Award for Excellence (\$1,300)

A new supplier for the affinity partner program, now called The Forest Club, was chosen in 2006. The new supplier, InsiderTrading, offers a better selection of affinity benefits for members, including seasonal offerings such as ski tickets, a new web-based interface and less work for staff in administering the program.

## Governance

As a result of the capacity report that was approved by council in January 2006, the ABCFP is committed to a new way of operating. Two models, policy governance and leadership, now guide the way council and staff work together to run the association on behalf of members. Under the policy governance model, council sets the end goals it wants the association to achieve, gives some basic direction and sets limitations. Staff then takes over to do what is necessary, within the policy, to achieve the established goals.

The leadership model is an approach to issues in which the ABCFP establishes itself a leader in forestry matters. It requires that the association take a proactive approach to problems and requires the association to anticipate issues to lead and inform the discussion and to be willing to raise concerns with government and other stakeholders.

### New Life Members

Irving K. Barber, RPF(Ret), Life Member

Graham E. Boothroyd, RPF(Ret), Life Member

Robert Gordon Brown, RPF(Ret), Life Member

Robert G. Christie, RPF(Ret), Life Member

Allen D. Coombes, RPF(Ret), Life Member

Evert Van Eerden, RPF(Ret), Life Member

Charles Harry Gairns, RPF(Ret), Life Member

Leslie John Herring, RPF(Ret), Life Member

Donald Hill MacLaurin, RPF (Ret), Life Member

Everett B. Peterson, PhD,RPF(Ret), Life Member



The adoption of these two models, in addition to the other recommendations of the capacity report, makes the association more proactive. While the work to fully integrate the two models is still being done, good progress was made this year.

The hiring of two new staff members in 2006 was also the result of capacity report recommendations. Brian Robinson, RPF, was hired in October to take on the role of manager member relations and professional development. Brian's role is to reach out to specific groups of members including: women, First Nations and RFTs. He is also responsible for ExpoFor and other professional development activities. Brian's arrival at the ABCFP allowed Dwight Yochim, RPF, director professional practice and forest stewardship, to focus on more practice and stewardship issues. Michelle Mentore was hired in June to take on the role of communications assistant and project coordinator. Michelle splits her time assisting the communications, member relations and professional development, and professional practice and forest stewardship groups.

Two other new employees joined the association in 2006, replacing staff members who left to pursue other positions. Ruxandra Dobrescu joined the registration department as a registration coordinator. Dana Nicolae is the new receptionist and executive assistant.

Executive director Van Scoffield announced his retirement from the ABCFP after almost 12 years of service effective on December 31, 2006. Council engaged Western Management Consultants to assist with the search for a new executive director.

## External Relations

Early in 2006, President Bob Craven, RPF, and executive director Van Scoffield, RPF, met with Minister Rich Coleman of the Ministry of Forests and Range to introduce the ABCFP to him and to discuss the association's 2005 Fire Paper. ABCFP staff and council also had several opportunities to meet with executives at the Ministry.

The ABCFP and the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (APEGBC) continue to enjoy an excellent relationship. The Joint Practice Board (JPB) of the ABCFP and APEGBC formed a task force to deal with issues around terrain stability assessments (TSAs). The task force looked at what guidance to provide to members of both organizations on TSAs. They also discussed which type of member could do a TSA. In addition, APEGBC and the ABCFP renewed their Memorandum of Agreement after ten years of good relations and reviewed the Terms of Reference for the JPB.

The College of Applied Biology and the ABCFP met several times and worked together to define our roles and responsibilities in the implementation of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*. The two organizations also drafted a Memorandum of Agreement that will be approved early in 2007.



The ABCFP also continues to enjoy a productive relationship with other professional associations such as the Association of Professional Biologists of BC and the BC Institute of Agrologists.

The ABCFP was proactive in examining the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) between BC and Alberta. The purpose of TILMA is to allow for free movement of workers between the two provinces. The ABCFP is considered to be in full compliance with the agreement.

In an effort to attract more students to careers in forestry, a number of new initiatives were started or revamped in 2006. The START program was expanded to include high school students in addition to post-secondary forestry students. The ABCFP was represented at several career fairs around the province. ABCFP members and staff also gave many presentations to students on choosing a career in forestry. In the fall, all first-year forestry students received a welcome letter that included a START application. In the spring, all final-year forestry students received a letter of congratulations and an ABCFP application package.

## Communications and Member Relations

Extra resources were dedicated to public relations activities in 2006 with the goal of increasing the association's level of public recognition.

Publicity events around National Forest Week included newspaper ads and editorial, a special supplement in the Vancouver Sun, radio ads and a television interview. Other public relations activities included the publication of several articles by the ABCFP staff and members in papers around the province; the issuance of 17 news releases and a television interview with president Bob Craven, RPF.

The 2006 Forest Capital of BC was Fort Nelson. The town pulled out all the stops and held a year's worth of exciting events. They received a great deal of coverage in the local media and managed to engage almost the whole community. Darrell Regimbald, RPF, was selected as the recipient of the newly created Friend of the Forest Award. This award is given to a Fort Nelson resident who demonstrated leadership and commitment to forestry, forest stewardship and increasing the public understanding of the forests.

In 2006, the ABCFP conducted two surveys. The biannual membership survey took place in the summer as did the public opinion poll. Results of both the membership survey and public opinion poll were made available on the website.



A number of improvements were made to the ABCFP website to enhance its usability for members and the public. The homepage was redesigned to make it more visually appealing and easier to navigate. A new Student section provides information for post-secondary students interested in learning more about careers in forestry. A Study Groups page was added to the Enrolment to Registration section of the site. This page provides resources for enrolled members preparing to write the registration exam which helps them connect with or start their own study group.

Formal member meetings were held in Prince George and Vernon in 2006. At these meetings, council members and senior staff were on hand to talk to members and answer questions. A number of informal member meetings were held around the province as senior staff traveled to deliver workshops and attend other meetings.

# Lay Councillors' Reports



## Pamela Wright, PhD

As one of two lay councillors, I represent the public on the ABCFP council and I have been given an excellent opportunity to participate in the intricate workings of the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP). I have certainly been impressed with the debates and discussions that take place at our council meetings. Council members represent a broad range of perspectives and backgrounds – which I feel is good for the public of BC.

While I try to represent all the people of BC, I have a special affinity for those in the north because I live in Prince George. I live, conduct research and recreate in a rural environment. Every day I see the effects of the mountain pine beetle and worry about forest fires. I understand what the forests mean to the people living in areas affected by these challenges. While public safety and the economic values of the forest are important, the ecological, cultural and recreational values of our forests can't be overlooked.

Both my personal experience with the forest as well as my work as a professor in the outdoor recreation and tourism management program at the University of Northern BC have shown me it is essential that forest professionals and the ABCFP need to be able to respond individually and organizationally to forest health and management issues.

Forest professionals need to be able to stimulate public debate, generate ideas outside of the ordinary and provide options to the government and public in a timely fashion. They can't be tied down by bureaucratic rules and regulations. Forest professionals have the education and the experience necessary to make good decisions in the forest on behalf of the public. This is called professional reliance and is at the heart of everything the ABCFP has done for the past few years.

With the internal changes at the ABCFP that were brought about by the capacity report of 2006, I look forward to an increasing ability to respond to forest stewardship issues such as the beetle, forest fires, climate change, salvage harvesting and species shift. The changes meant that the ABCFP will be able to look forward and not accept things at face value. They will have the ability to be nimble and react quickly to challenges before they become larger issues.

As part of those internal changes at ABCFP the council spent a fair bit of time this year switching to a new style of management – policy governance. This style allows us to govern more effectively so we can focus on issues that affect the public instead of spending time on small daily issues with which a professional staff can easily deal.

Because I believe we have laid a good foundation, I am looking forward to the year ahead with an increased focus on professional reliance and forest stewardship.

*Dr. Pamela Wright of Prince George was appointed as lay councillor in 2006. She serves as associate professor in the Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Management program at UNBC and as the chair of the BC Protected Areas Research Forum. She lives outside of town and is beginning a small Christmas tree farm and operating a micro denim-wood operation in her barn*



## Gordon Prest

“Leaders lead people... Managers manage things.”

I think one of the most important initiatives undertaken by the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP) recently was the adoption and implementation of new policy governance and leadership models to improve the overall organizational capacity and effectiveness of its staff and council.

In today’s world, the only constant is change. It was time for the ABCFP to not only maintain its current track record for high standards as a professional and regulatory organization, but also start to take more of a leadership and advocacy role on current issues in the forest sector on behalf of its membership and the general public.

The ABCFP’s External Communication Task Force report, called, *Recognition, Respect and Influence*, stated: “at various times over the association’s history, concerns were raised by members and echoed by the general public that not enough was being done in areas like promoting the profession, advocacy and public education.” It was further stated that “now is the time for the profession to speak up and take more of a leadership role in these important areas.”

In my first year as a lay councillor, I was initially overwhelmed by the amount of detailed day-to-day business items that council was presented with by the association staff in the council meetings.

As was common practice, association staff would routinely prepare a three-ring binder brimming with very detailed material to be addressed in the meeting. The staff would proceed to use the council meeting as a speaking platform to describe in minute detail how each item was being addressed by individual staff members.

It simply wasn’t an efficient or effective way for council, as the governing body for the association, to do business. To look at every detail and ‘micro-manage’ the executive director and staff on their day-to-day running of the organization was a waste of time

Finally, at our January 2006 meeting, council held an *in camera* session, excluding the association staff, to discuss how to take more of a leadership role and ownership of our agenda. It was decided that it was time to move away from the current micro-management model of administration towards a policy governance model.

In other words, by applying this new governance approach, council would become a governing body to deal more with the ‘what’ was to be done and leave the ‘how’ it was done to the executive director and association staff. Council could focus more on what the ‘end results’ should be and think more strategically to set clear, overall direction for the

*Gordon Prest of Merritt was appointed as a lay councillor in 2004. He recently retired from the position of First Nations coordinator for the Faculty of Forestry at UBC. Gordon has spent all of his working life in forestry and has held positions ranging from timber cruiser to forest ranger to forestry teacher.*



association to follow. In turn, the executive director and staff would focus more on the means to carry out the end results desired by the council.

By assuming this new policy governance model, the ABCFP will be able to play more of an advocacy role to increase its public profile on cutting-edge issues such as global warming and its effect on forest health and sustainability or perhaps start addressing emerging land-use issues related to Aboriginal rights and title and how it will play out on the forest landscape.

It will also allow the association to focus more on the three key areas that were identified in the report prepared by the External Communications Task Force:

- To promote the forest profession;
- To advocate for principles of stewardship of forests, forest lands, forest resources and forest ecosystems; and,
- To increase and improve public knowledge of forest management.

I am pleased to say that council and staff have moved a long way over the past year to adopt and implement the new policy governance model. It has been a difficult paradigm shift for council to adjust as we are such a hard-working and task-oriented group who like nothing better than to roll up our sleeves and take on work that should be delegated to staff.

In closing, and speaking as an advocate for the public interest, I wish to take this opportunity to commend the ABCFP for taking this bold and forward-thinking step to adopt the new policy governance model. By doing so, we have increased the ABCFP's leadership capabilities and ability to advocate for new and innovative ways to deal with issues that must be addressed to meet the needs of both members and the general public (including First Nations) in today's evolving and multi-stakeholder forest community environment.

# Auditors' Report



## REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA FOREST PROFESSIONALS

The statement of financial position and statement of revenue and expenditures of Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals shown above are in our opinion accurately extracted from the complete financial statements of the association for the year ended November 30, 2006, which we reported upon under our auditors' report dated December 21, 2006.

Vancouver, BC  
December 21, 2006

*D, H Group LLP*  
Chartered Accountants

#### **D+H Group LLP Chartered Accountants**

10th Floor, 1333 West Broadway Telephone: 604 731 5881 www.DHgroup.ca  
Vancouver, British Columbia Facsimile: 604 731 9923 A.B.C. Limited Liability  
Canada V6H 4C1 Email: info@dhgroup.ca of Corporations

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# Financial Position

(November 30, 2006)



	2006			2005
	Operating Fund	Reserve Fund	Total	Total
<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>Assets</b>			<b>Assets</b>
Cash	\$ 1,183,808	\$ 73	\$ 1,183,881	860,554
Receipts in Progress	–	–	–	123,964
Marketable Securities	–	701,993	701,993	624,726
Accounts Receivable	28,155	–	28,155	47,593
Due from Operating Fund	–	10,657	10,657	34,545
Interest Receivable	–	47,815	47,815	53,043
Prepaid Expenses	38,782	–	38,782	39,328
	1,250,745	760,538	2,011,283	1,783,753
<b>Capital Assets</b>	114,163	–	114,163	123,033
	<b>1,364,908</b>	<b>760,538</b>	<b>2,125,446</b>	<b>1,906,786</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>			<b>Liabilities</b>
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	\$ 222,088	\$ –	222,088	192,443
Due to Reserve Fund	10,657	–	10,657	34,545
Deferred Revenue	482,538	–	482,538	412,213
	715,283	–	715,283	639,201
<b>Deferred Lease Inducement</b>	23,030	–	23,030	34,545
	<b>738,313</b>		<b>738,313</b>	<b>673,746</b>
	<b>Net Assets</b>			<b>Net Assets</b>
<b>Unrestricted</b>	555,129	760,538	1,315,667	1,136,466
<b>Restricted</b>	–	–	–	19,107
<b>Investment in Capital Assets</b>	71,466	–	71,466	77,467
	626,595	760,538	1,387,133	1,233,040
	<b>1,364,908</b>	<b>760,538</b>	<b>2,125,446</b>	<b>1,906,786</b>

Approved by council:

Robert B. Craven, RPF  
President

E.V. (Van) Scofield, RPF  
Executive Director

# Revenue and Expenditures

(November 30, 2006)



	2006			2005	
	Operating Fund		Reserve Fund	Total	
	Budget	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
<b>Revenue</b>					
Annual Membership Fees (Group II)	\$ 1,383,439	\$ 1,378,148	–	\$ 1,378,148	\$ 1,243,098
Registration & Enrolment Fees (Group I)	271,475	353,794	–	353,794	301,100
Annual Meeting Income	14,000	20,135	–	20,135	31,842
Interest & Dividends	36,000	38,533	33,506	72,039	37,606
Advertising & Mailings	54,000	66,735	–	66,735	45,085
Gain (loss) on Sale of Marketable Securities	–	–	4,061	4,061	566
Gain (loss) on Disposal of Capital Assets	–	(2,869)	–	(2,869)	–
Other	28,100	28,225	10,657	38,882	71,183
	<b>1,787,014</b>	<b>1,882,701</b>	<b>48,224</b>	<b>1,930,925</b>	<b>1,730,480</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Committee Work	680,000	599,330	–	599,330	432,049
Office	279,650	290,810	–	290,810	236,898
Staff	912,700	886,692	–	886,692	755,837
	<b>1,872,350</b>	<b>1,776,832</b>	–	<b>1,776,832</b>	<b>1,424,784</b>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenditures	<b>\$ (85,336)</b>	<b>\$ 105,869</b>	<b>\$ 48,224</b>	<b>\$ 154,093</b>	<b>\$ 305,696</b>

# Council Volunteers and Staff

(November 30, 2006)



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# 2006 Award Recipients



## Distinguished Forest Professionals

This award is the highest honour we bestow upon members. Van Scoffield, RPF, and Peter Affleck, RPF, were both presented with the Distinguished Forest Professional award for outstanding service to the profession and for furthering the principles of the association. Mr. Affleck's award was presented posthumously.

## Honourary Member

Honourary Membership is the highest award presented to a non-member. Dr. Bruce Larson, was recognized for his outstanding contribution to forestry.

## Professional Forester of the Year

Dr. David Coates, RPF, was recognized for his work on improving silvicultural practices in BC and across Canada.

## Forest Technologist of the Year

Geoff Tindale, RFT, was recognized for his pioneering work with RFTs and the ABCFP.

## Jim Rodney Memorial Volunteer of the Year

Jeff Leahy, RPF, was presented with this award in recognition of the many hours of volunteer work he did in 2006.

## BC Forest Professional Awards

Best Letter: Rodney Krimmer, RFT. *What's Your Choice?* November/December 2006

Best Article: Dave Gilbert, RPF. *Canada's Greenhouse Gas Inventory, Kyoto Forest Accounting Rules and Implications for BC Forest Professionals.* September/October 2006

## Meloche Monnex Continuing Education Award

John Ingram, RPF, and Craig Farnden, RPF, each received a \$250 continuing education awards sponsored by Meloche Monnex Inc.

## Forest Capital of BC

The town of Fort Nelson was named the 2006 Forest Capital of BC.



1030–1188 West Georgia Street  
Vancouver, BC V6E 4A2

Tel: 604.687.8027 Fax: 604.687.3264

E-mail: [info@abcfp.ca](mailto:info@abcfp.ca)

Web Site: [www.abcfp.ca](http://www.abcfp.ca)

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