



Issue #83
December 21, 2007

SEASON'S GREETINGS



The staff at the ABCFP wish you and yours a joyful holiday season and a healthy new year.

Dear ABCFP Member:

The Increment e-newsletter is published most months for members of the Association of BC Forest Professionals. It contains news about the association and the forestry profession. Back issues of this newsletter (and its predecessor *BC Forest Professional*) are available on the association's website.

www.abcfp.ca

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1. **Thank You to Volunteers**

Thank you to the hundreds of individuals who volunteered their time and expertise to the ABCFP in 2007. Without the efforts of our volunteers, we would not be able to provide such a wide range of programs and services. Volunteer opportunities include joining a committee or task force, submitting articles to **BC Forest Professional** magazine, invigilating the registration exams, running for council and more. If you would like to be a volunteer in 2008, go to the Volunteer With Us page of the website for details.

[Volunteer With Us](#)

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Membership Renewal

All three steps to renew your membership must be completed by **January 31, 2007** or you will be subject to administrative fees. If you haven't completed these steps by **March 31, 2007**, you will be removed from membership and not be entitled to practise forestry in BC.

How Do I Renew My Membership?

Active registered members (RPFs and RFTs) must complete three steps to renew their membership:

Step 1: Submit your 2007 Self-Assessment Declaration.

Step 2: Notify the ABCFP if there has been a change in your indictable offence status.

Step 3: Pay your fees.

Enrolled members (FITs and TFTs), forestry pupils, retired members and special permit holders only need to complete two steps to renew their membership because they are not required to submit a Self-Assessment Declaration.

Step 1: Notify the ABCFP if there has been a change in your indictable offence status.

Step 2: Pay your fees.

Visit the Steps to Renew page of the website for more information on renewing your membership:

[Steps to Renew](#)

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2. **ABCFP Council Election**

Exercise your right to vote and influence the direction of the association by casting your vote in the current council election. The ABCFP council election is on now until **January 11, 2008**.

Candidates

There are three RPF positions and one RFT position open on the 61st ABCFP council. The candidates standing for election to the 61st ABCFP council are:

RPF Candidates:

Jacques Corstanje, RPF

Kathryn Howard, RPF

Christine Lohr, RPF
Lance Ollenberger, RPF
Frank Varga, RPF

RFT Candidates:

Beverly Atkins, RFT
Donna Brochez, RFT
Ian Emery, RFT
John Wahlstrom, RFT

Jonathan Lok, RFT, has been acclaimed as the vice-president of the 61st council.

Candidate Profiles

The candidate profiles, contained in the council election package, are now available online on the Council Election page of the website. Also, you should have received a copy of the council election package with your mail or e-mail ballot.

[Council Election](#)

Voting

The easiest way to vote in this year's council election is to cast your vote online. Online voting is secure and easy.

[Online Voting](#)

Don't Cast Your Vote Twice

Don't cast your vote online if you have already mailed in a ballot. If two votes are received from the same member, both will be declared spoiled.

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3. ExpoFor 2008

ExpoFor 2008 will be held at the Penticton Trade & Convention Centre in scenic Penticton, BC, from February 20 to 22, 2008.

Register Early and Save

Register early to take advantage of early-bird discounts and save up to \$125 on your registration fee (e.g. pay \$450 instead of \$575). Registration for ExpoFor 2008 is available online, by mail or fax.

Visit the Registration Page of the ExpoFor website for more information and to register.

[Registration](#)

ForesTrust Silent Auction

ABC FP's registered charity, ForesTrust, will be conducting its 5th annual silent auction during ExpoFor 2008. Donations are needed in order to make this auction a success. We would appreciate any donations that can be auctioned to fetch some dollars such as books, golf equipment or shirts. Depending upon the item, the donor may be eligible to receive a tax receipt. If you would like to make a donation, please contact:

Lance Nose
Director of Finance and Administration
E-mail: lnose@abcfp.ca

Selling Books at ExpoFor

The ABCFP invites members who have written books about the forest sector, to sell them at ExpoFor 2008 from the ABCFP booth. All we ask in return is a copy of your book to be auctioned off during the ForesTrust silent auction. For more information contact:

Michelle Mentore
Communications Assistant & Program Coordinator
Email: mmentore@abcfp.ca

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4. Enrolled Member Annual Evaluations

Sponsors must return completed annual evaluation forms, for the period December 1, 2006 to November 30, 2007, to the association by **January 31, 2008**. These forms provide the association with vital information on an enrolled member's progress towards registration. The ability for an enrolled member to become registered may be delayed if these forms are not received by the January 31st deadline.

Enrolled member annual evaluation forms are available on the You and Your Sponsor page of the website.

[You and Your Sponsor](#)

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5. Meloche Monnex Continuing Education Award

The Meloche Monnex Continuing Education Award recognizes the importance of continuing education in the professional development of forest professionals. Meloche Monnex offers two \$250 awards each year to those who qualify for an ABCFP Certificate of Professional Development. To qualify for the 2007 award, apply for your ABCFP Certificate of Professional Development by **December 31, 2007**.

For more information about this award, visit the Professional Development Program page of the website.

[Professional Development Program](#)

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6. Mandatory Practice Review (MPR) News

MPR Exemption Period Lengthened

The period of MPR exemption has changed for members who have been reviewed in a voluntary peer review (VPR). They are now exempt for five years instead of two. This means that if a member is reviewed in a VPR every five years, he or she can remain exempt from being chosen for a MPR. If you are interested in volunteering to become a peer reviewer, please send your resume to Brian Robinson, RPF.

Brian Robinson, RPF
Manager of Professional Development and Member Relations
E-mail: brobinson@abcfp.ca

For more information, refer to the Voluntary Peer Review page on the website.

[Voluntary Peer Review](#)

MPR Pilot Program

Five practice reviews will be carried out in 2008 as a pilot of the program. Rather than choosing five members at random, the ABCFP would like to have members volunteer for the pilot.

Visit the Practice Review page of the website for more information on the MPR program.

[Practice Review](#)

If you are interested in improving your professional practice by completing an MPR, contact Brian Robinson, RPF.

Brian Robinson, RPF
Manager of Professional Development and Member Relations
E-mail: brobinson@abcfp.ca

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7. The Difference between PPC and PPAC

The professional practice committee (PPC) has been an important committee in the ABCFP for many years. This long-term committee's primary functions are to assist and advise the Executive Director in delivering the strategic plan initiatives established by council. The PPC concerns itself with initiatives relating to practice and maintenance of membership post registration. The word initiatives, used in this context, includes such things as bylaw proposals, policy analysis, development, and implementation, and such other related matters of professional practice.

The PPC may support secondary committees such as the practice advisory service (PAS) which provides advice and answers questions regarding forest practice for members.

If you have any other questions, contact:

Mike Larock, RPF
Director of Professional Practice & Forest Stewardship
Email: mlarock@abcfp.ca

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8. Help Develop Future Workshops

After the completion of our fall workshops, we received several recommendations on how to improve future workshops. Our members would like us to include real life operational scenarios related to professional reliance such as success stories or examples where certain practices were unsuccessful and how the situation could have been improved.

The ABCFP will develop future workshops and guidance on professional reliance as well as a two-day workshop on professional ethics and obligations. To make these

workshops applicable for our diverse membership, the ABCFP needs a collection of field-oriented and strategic-level scenarios related to professional reliance and obligations. If you have any real life scenarios you would like to have included in future workshops (names and identifying features removed), please send them to Brian Robinson, RPF.

Brian Robinson, RPF
Manager of Professional Development and Member Relations
E-mail: brobinson@abcfp.ca

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9. Check Out the Professional Development Calendar

Have you checked out our Pro D calendar lately? There are several new items added that you might be interested in such as the Aboriginal Forest: Issues and Impacts 2008, Forest Ed West 2008 and snowmobile safety training.

For more information on these events and several others check out our Pro D calendar on the website.

[Pro D](#)

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10. Get in on the Discussion

FRPA Requirements for Confidentiality

Dan Graham, LLB, RPF, director of compliance and enforcement at the Ministry of Forests and Range is currently hosting a discussion forum on FRPA requirements for confidentiality. Specifically, Dan discusses whether or not employees of the provincial government with authorities under the *Forest and Range Practices Act* have restrictions that prevent them from reporting information to the ABCFP as a result of an investigation.

Water Cooler Discussions

Check out the non-forestry thread on the ABCFP Discussion Forum where you can share information on topics that are not related to forestry.

Register or log on to the ABCFP Discussion Forum to view and participate in these discussions. To register, visit the ABCFP Discussion Forum page of the website. Be sure to use your **full first and last names as your username**. All registrations are subject to approval by the forum administrator. Approvals will take approximately one business day.

[ABCFP Discussion Forum](#)

If you have any questions or comments about the discussion forum, contact the forum administrator:

Michelle Mentore
Communications Assistant & Program Coordinator
Email: mmentore@abcfp.ca

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11. Truck Loggers Association 65th Annual Convention and Expo

The Truck Loggers Association (TLA) will hold its 65th convention and expo from January 15 to 18, 2008, at the Vancouver Convention Centre. The goal of the conference is to deliver insightful, useful information in a venue that creates dialogue amongst stakeholders, decision makers and benefactors of the coastal forest resource. We invite our members to visit the ABCFP booth at the TLA tradeshow on January 16 – 18th.

Registration and more information are available at www.tla.ca.

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12. Forest Club Deals

Thinking of doing some traveling this winter? Be sure to check out the Forest Club for the following travel savings.

Delta Hotels: Delta Hotels & Suites are upscale, full-service hotels located across Canada. These hotels offer a wide variety of accommodations to suit everyone's distinctive needs. Discounted rates are available through the Forest Club.

Cruise Plus: Great deals on sun filled cruises to the Southern Caribbean, San Diego and Mexican Riviera, Panama Canal, and Hawaii! Book now and save on a trip of a lifetime.

Avis and Budget: In need of a vehicle rental while visiting? Avis and Budget have locations all across Canada, offering best daily rates to Forest Club members.

Park n Fly: Save up to 25% at the Vancouver International Airport the next time you are there. Your distinct discount code is available on the Forest Club site.

SIGN UP NOW
TO ENJOY THE BENEFITS
OF CLUB MEMBERSHIP

The Forest Club is brought to you by Association of BC Forest Professionals. The Forest Club is designed to provide members with valuable discounts on a variety of products and services. Sign up today for a complete list of all offers from professional services to entertainment at <http://abcfp.intrd.com>

For purchasing instructions and for more information on affinity programs for ABCFP members, visit:

[Affinity Programs](#)

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13. Job Opportunities

There are currently six job opportunities on our website. Please check back often, as new jobs are posted on a regular basis.

[Job Seekers](#)

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14. Questions or Comments?

If you have questions or comments about the items mentioned in this e-newsletter or other communications activities, please contact:

Amanda Brittain, ABC*
Director of Communications
Direct: 604.331.2321
E-mail: abrittain@abcfp.ca
*Accredited Business Communicator

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15. Unsubscribe

If you do not wish to receive future issues of the Increment or you would like to have this e-newsletter sent to another e-mail address, change your preference on the Manage Your Mailings page in the Login section of the website.

[Manage Your Mailings](#)

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