



Issue #102
January 16, 2009

Dear ABCFP Member:

The Increment e-newsletter is published up to twice a month 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. ABCFP WEBSITE ACCESS DISRUPTIONS

The association is still experiencing Internet issues which cause our web pages to load slowly or time-out before loading. Our IT personnel and Shaw have been working on it and hope to have it resolved by next week. We apologize for the inconvenience.

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2. REGISTER NOW FOR EXPOFOR 2009

Registration numbers for ExpoFor are critically low and the conference is in danger of being cancelled. If you are planning on attending but have not yet registered, please do so by Thursday January 22nd. As an added bonus, you'll save \$125 by registering now.

This year's conference is more compact and includes optional workshops so more members can get exactly what they want from ExpoFor. Check out the ExpoFor website (www.expofor.ca) for the latest information about the program, sponsors and exhibitors.

Online registration is now available. Please note that if you are GST exempt, you are not able to register online. Please use the registration form on the Registration page of the ExpoFor website.

[Registration](#)
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3. LAST CHANCE TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

If you haven't received your renewal notice please contact Julia He (jhe@abcfp.ca) and update your [contact information](#) on our website.

At any time during the renewal period, members can logon to the website to see the status of their membership renewal and determine what, if anything, is outstanding.

Membership Renewal:

Memberships must be renewed by **January 31, 2009** or you will be subject to administrative fees. **For members applying for a change in membership status, we must receive the completed applications by January 31st or administrative fees will apply.**

Aboriginal Members Have Opportunity to Self-Identify

Because of the growing importance of Aboriginal issues in BC and due to the increase in the ABCFP's commitment to work closely with Aboriginal communities, we would like to discover how many of our members are of Aboriginal heritage. Members who are of Aboriginal heritage will have the opportunity to self-identify as such on this year's membership renewal form. The self-identification opportunity is entirely optional.

How Do I Renew My Membership?

Active registered members (RPFs and RFTs), transferring professional foresters, special permit holders and limited licence holders must complete three steps to renew their membership:

Step 1: Submit your 2008 Self-Assessment Declaration or a Declaration of Non-Practise.

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 visiting professional foresters only need to complete two steps to renew their memberships 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.

All steps to renew your membership must be completed by **January 31, 2009** or you will be subject to administrative fees. If you haven't completed these steps by **March 31, 2009**, you will be removed from membership and not be entitled to practise forestry in BC.

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

[Steps to Renew](#)

Download and Print Your Receipt and Membership Card

Because many members require the receipt quickly so they can be reimbursed by their employers, we have made changes to our database to make it possible for you to get your receipt and membership card sooner by printing them directly. Please note that the ABCFP has discontinued the use of the annual decals. If necessary, your membership card can be used to prove current membership in the ABCFP.

Logon to the members only section of the website and click on the Receipts Listing option on the right side menu to download and print your receipt and membership card. Please note that your membership card will not be available until you complete all steps of the membership renewal process.

[Logon](#)

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4. REGISTRATION EXAM REWRITE REQUEST DEADLINE COMING SOON

A reminder for those examinees who did not pass the 2008 registration exam, please submit your request for another opportunity to write the exam by no later than **January 31, 2009**. Please contact the registration department if you have any questions.

Ph: 604.687.8027

E-mail: admissions@abcfp.ca

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5. UPCOMING FORESTRY EVENTS

2009 COFI Annual Convention

COFI's annual convention will be held in Prince George on April 2-3, 2009. The convention will examine the topic of climate change and how forestry can mitigate it. For more information visit their website: www.cofi.org.

2009 CSC Winter Workshop

The Evolution of Coastal Silviculture: What's New in 2009?

February 12th, 2009 – Vancouver Island University, Nanaimo, BC

In keeping up to the ever changing face of coastal silviculture in BC, the workshop will focus on:

- The latest developments in resource stewardship monitoring

- Consensus based strategies from the Coastal Regional Implementation Team (CRIT)
- Carbon Accounting – how does it fit within the future management of coastal forests?
- Where are we going in this time of uncertain economic conditions?

For more workshop details and registration, visit:

<http://www.coastalsilviculturecommittee.com>

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6. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS PLANNED FOR 2009

The half-day Professional Reliance workshop offered in the fall of 2008 has been revised and will be offered in a few more locations in 2009. The Professional Ethics and Obligations workshop has been revised, shortened to a day and a half, and will be offered in various locations in 2009. The half-day Writing the Best Exam Possible workshop will be offered again this year alone and in conjunction with both Professional Reliance and Professional Ethics and Obligations. All three workshops will be offered this spring and will also be made available online.

Tentative dates for the Policy Review Seminars are as follows:

- Prince George: September 10th and 11th
- Kamloops: September 14th and 15th
- Nanaimo: September 17th and 18th

Other workshops which will be developed in 2009 include Aboriginal Relations and Ethical Obligations for Members Submitting and Reviewing Appraisals. Stay tuned for more information on these workshops.

In March and April, APEGBC will be partnering with the ABCFP to offer the following workshops in Nanaimo, Prince George and Kamloops:

- Guideline for Management of Terrain Stability
- Guideline for Professional Services in the Forest Sector – Crossings

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7. COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

The stewardship advisory committee (SAC) is looking for two volunteers for the committee. The SAC chair tries to maintain a roster of members from varying geographic locations and membership categories with diverse business background, practice experience and knowledge. Volunteering for committee work is a good way of adding to your professional development.

To apply or for more information, please contact:

Mike Larock, RPF

Director of Professional Practice and Forest Stewardship

Ph: 250.338.8653

E-mail: mlarock@abcfp.ca

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8. ABCFP OBJECTS TO WORKSAFEBC DECISION

In 2008, the Joint Practice Board (ABCFP and APEGBC) consulted with WorkSafeBC on changes to the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation (OHSR). On January 1, 2009 WorkSafe initiated amendments to OHSR to properly recognize the right under the *Foresters Act* for forest professionals to practise professional forestry. The OHSR now uses the broader term “qualified registered professional” (QRP) in the section 20.78 Work Standards for Excavations and 20.81 Sloping and Shoring Requirements. The definition of a QRP has been placed in Part 1 of the OHSR and includes a Registered Professional Forester or a person holding a special permit to practice under the *Foresters Act*. The JPB had previously stated that it was necessary to have the Registered Forest Technologist included in the definition of the QRP and has submitted a letter of objection to WorkSafe in this regard. The ABCFP is considering a specific Special Permit application track for appropriately qualified and experienced RFTs to practise in this area of professional forestry.

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9. FIRE HAZARD ASSESSMENTS

The Forest Practices Board (FPB) released a Special Investigation Report in December 2008 called, *Fire Hazard Assessment and Abatement*. The ABCFP will be establishing a Task Force to coordinate the efforts of licensees and government in addressing the recommendations of the FPB. The Task Force will report on its progress.

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10. REGISTRATION EXAM STUDY GROUPS

Visit our website to register your study group. Brian Robinson, manager of professional development and member relations, is willing to visit study groups during his travels to help them prepare for the exam. Please contact him for information.

Registering your study group is a great way to communicate with other study groups and share information. Use the ABCFP Discussion Forum to post questions and share information. There is a special section set aside for study groups. We encourage RFT and RPF study groups to work together to help each other out in studying. Watch future issues of the **Increment** and our website for information regarding workshops designed to help you with the registration exam.

Brian Robinson, RPF
Manager of Professional Development and Member Relations
Ph: 604.639.9187
E-mail: brobinson@abcfp.ca

[Study Groups](#)
[Discussion Forum](#)
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11. ASSOCIATE MEMBER UPDATE

The ABCFP and ASTTBC have reached an agreement on the transfer of Accredited Timber Cruisers and Accredited Timber Evaluators to the ABCFP. We hope to have this transfer completed by the end of April. These members will be Associate Members who can voluntarily join the ABCFP and will be under the membership category as Certified Forest Measurements Specialists (CFMS). They will have similar rights and obligations as registered members. The ABCFP plans to expand CFMS category membership into additional sub-categories other than cruising. The transfer also includes bringing the

Forest Measurements Registration Board (their name will probably be changed to reflect the ABCFP Bylaws) to the ABCFP as well. This Board will set standards for associate members and adjudicate membership applications. We are currently working on how their scope of practice will fit with registered members.

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12. MEMBER SERVICE: ASK THE PAS

The PAS (practice advisory service) receives concerns, problems or questions from the membership. The PAS does not respond to issues currently within the discipline process or the same subject under investigation. The PAS is composed of more than 10 members with extensive practice experience. The PAS provides a meaningful response to a member request for advice in a timely manner and with confidentiality.

[Practice Advisory Service](#)

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13. ABCFP PARTICIPATES IN PFIT

The ABCFP continues to contribute to the overall implementation of FRPA and professional reliance in a number of key areas. One such coordinating body is the Provincial FRPA Implementation Team (PFIT) which has provided leadership in resource management by providing the forum and facilitation for a variety of agencies and associations the opportunity to collaborate on aspects of FRPA. The team also brings issues related to FRPA implementation to managers who are best positioned to provide solutions. A recent workshop explored the types of innovation and considered the foundation that is necessary to identify and build on creative ideas.

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14. ABCFP GETS CONTRACT TO CONTINUE WORK ON INCLUSIVITY PROJECT

The ABCFP has continued to work with other national forestry regulating bodies to ensure that proper entrance requirements are maintained while providing for flexibility in educational and experiential development. An additional contract with the federal government enables the Canadian Forestry Accreditation Board to complete the policy and field manual for accrediting forest resource programs at accredited Canadian universities. The ABCFP has received \$150,000 to date to complete the work on the national project by March 31, 2009. The primary benefit of the work occurs in the management of forests and forest ecosystems as well as the undergraduates of the now more diverse forest resource education programs in Canada. UBC and UNBC have provided leadership in this developing area of professional registration and learning.

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15. 2009 MEMBER MEETINGS

Council and staff plan to have member meetings in Haida Gwaii and northeast BC during the spring/summer. Stay tuned for more information.

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16. ABCFP PARTICIPATES IN THE TLA CONVENTION

Sharon Glover, CEO, joined Ric Slaco, RPF, from Interfor and Walter Matosevic, RPF, from Canfor on a panel moderated by MLA Bob Simpson. The panel tackled the topic of

the future of forestry. The discussion ranged from the need for more education to the pros and cons of consolidation to the desire for tenure reform.

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17. ABCFP PRESENTS HONOURARY MEMBERSHIP AWARD

The ABCFP awarded Merve Wilkinson with Honourary Membership – the most prestigious award the association bestows upon non-members. Merve has owned and operated a woodlot, known as Wildwood, since 1938. He practises sustainable forestry and has ensured that the woodlot retains its ecological and economic values for future generations. Because of Merve's health, representatives from the ABCFP presented the award in Ladysmith. The remaining awards will be presented at ExpoFor 2009.

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18. ONLINE JOB BOARD – A GREAT PLACE TO ADVERTISE

If your firm is looking for qualified and experienced professional foresters or forest technologists, be sure to post your position on the ABCFP Online Job Board or in **BC Forest Professional** magazine. Two-month online listings are only \$300 and are posted by the next business day. Visit the Post a Job Opportunity page on our website to post your listing online.

[Post a Job Opportunity](#)

There are currently seven career listings on the Job Seekers page of the ABCFP website. Please check back often as new openings are posted on a regular basis.

[Job Seekers](#)

For more information, contact:

Brenda Martin

Ph: 604.639.8103

E-mail: forest-ads@abcfp.ca

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19. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS?

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

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Director of Communications

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Ph: 604.331.2321

*Accredited Business Communicator

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20. 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.

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