



Issue 119

October 15, 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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Council Slate Announced, Nominations Now Being Accepted

There are 2 RFT and 3 RPF positions open on the 63rd ABCFP council. The nominating committee worked all summer to find members to run for these positions. Members who have agreed to run for council are:

- Bev Atkins, RFT, of Williams Lake
- Hugh Carter, RFT, of Vancouver
- Phil MacDonald, RFT, of Nelson
- Christine Gelowitz, RPF, of Victoria
- Curt Nixon, RPF, of Nelson
- Mike Pelchat, RPF, of Quesnel
- Frank Varga, RPF, of Burns Lake
- Dave Watt, RPF, of Chetwynd

For the first time in many years, members will be asked to vote for a vice-president of the ABCFP. The vice-president serves one year and then automatically becomes the president for a year and finally serves as immediate past-president for a year before leaving council. The two individuals running for vice-president of the 63rd council are:

- Jacques Corstanje, RPF, of Terrace
- Ian Emery, RFT, of Campbell River

The association is still accepting nominations from members for the positions of councillors and vice-president. For more information on making a nomination, look on the [council election](#) page of the website. The deadline for nominations is November 16, 2009. The election will take place January 4 to February 2, 2010, and the new council will take office at ExpoFor in April 2010.

Mark Your Calendars for ExpoFor 2010

ExpoFor 2010 will take place in Kelowna on April 8-9. The conference will be held at the Coast Capri and the ABCFP has secured a special room rate for our members. The committee is busy planning an excellent and dynamic program. More details will be released as soon as they become available; however, we are pleased to announce that ExpoFor 2010 will include two streams of breakout sessions. One stream will consist of applied or practical forestry topics while the other will focus on strategic topics. The streams will run concurrently but delegates can move between the streams to ensure they get the most value out of the conference.

New Harvest Supervision Guidance Released

At its September meeting, the ABCFP council approved new guidance for members on the topic of harvest supervision. This new [guidance document](#) is now available on the ABCFP website.

Two New Case Digests Available

The registrar is dealing with a large number of cases right now. When the membership at large can benefit from the findings of a discipline case, the registrar will write a case digest and post it on the website. Recently, two case digests were posted in the complaints section. Case 2009-07 was resolved by alternative complaint resolution by way of an admission and negotiated settlement. Case 2008-06 was dismissed by the registrar. You can read about both complaints in the [Complaints Records](#) section of the website.

You can find more information on the complaints process and learn how to lodge a complaint [here](#).

On LOA? It's Time to Extend Your Leave

If you are currently on a leave of absence (LOA) and wish to extend it, you must apply to the ABCFP by October 30, 2009. If you do not apply by that date, you will be automatically reinstated and billed for full membership fees. For more information, see the [LOA section](#) of the website.

Exam News

As the people who wrote the registration exams on October 2nd are breathing a big sigh of relief, the work is just getting started for the volunteers who mark the exams. All exams will be marked October 14 to 23 by the board of examiners. Next, administration work including data entry and quality control will take place October 26 to November 10. Finally, council will approve the marks between November 11 and 17. Marks will be available online beginning on November 18. Each exam candidate will receive an e-mail with a URL to the exam results. You need to click on the URL and login with your ABCFP logon name and password to see the webpage that contains only your mark. You will not have access to anyone else's results.

For more information on the marking process, please visit the [exam section](#) of the website.

Earn Professional Development Hours at the Upcoming IPP Conference

The Independent Power Producers of BC are holding their annual conference in Vancouver on November 1-3. As part of the conference, they are offering a number of workshops on Sunday November 1st that are open to ABCFP members.

IPP101: An Introduction to Small Hydro and Wind Projects (Full Day)

All day course – 9:00 - 5:00

Member \$199.00

Non-member \$249.00

Fixed-Price Contracts for IPPs: Discussion Forum (Half-Day)

Half-day course - 12:30 – 5:00

Member \$99.00

Non-member \$149.00

Project Communications for IPP Projects: Tools and Techniques (Half-Day)

Half-day course - 12:30 – 5:00

Member \$99.00

Non-member \$149.00

If you are interested in any of the courses, please look at the [IPPBC website](#).

Changes Made to the Self-Assessment Form and Guide

Aboriginal competency, if required for professional work, has been added to the self-assessment in order to ensure Aboriginal values, interests and rights are part of a forest professional's competency requirements -- an ABCFP strategic plan objective.

Statement 7 in the self-assessment form and guide has been revised to help assess your competency with respect to Aboriginal relations, culture and issues if it is applicable to your job. Members are now asked to assess the following statement: "In order to carry out my job responsibilities I have adequate knowledge about Aboriginal culture, issues or traditional use; or how to work effectively with Aboriginal peoples."

The self-assessment guide provides more detailed direction to help you assess the above statement including supplied web links for further information. If you believe your Aboriginal competency needs to be improved, an [online workshop](#) entitled: "Working Effectively with Aboriginal Peoples" is available on our website.

If there are any questions, contact:

[Brian Robinson](#), RPF

Manager Professional Development and Member Relations

CIF Forestry Trip to China

The Canadian Institute of Forestry (CIF) is organizing a tour of Canadian forest professionals to China to promote forest awareness and sound stewardship of forests. China's massive reforestation program, its long use of forest products and its iconic biodiversity all provide an opportunity for Canadian forest practitioners to learn from their Chinese counterparts. The excellence of Canadian forest practitioners is known around the world, providing us the opportunity to share our knowledge directly with our Chinese counterparts.

The Canadian delegation will depart for China on April 19, 2010 and will arrive back in Canada on May 1, 2010. As People to People Citizen Ambassador Programs is a private-citizen effort, delegates are responsible for their own program costs. The estimated cost per delegate or guest is \$5,995 USD (departing from and returning to the domestic gateway city). This includes round-trip airfare from the departure city, group transportation, meetings and cultural activities, accommodations, most meals, and essentially all other costs associated with participation.

You may enroll now for the delegation [online](#).

If you have questions regarding the delegation or would like to apply by phone, please contact info@peopletopeople.com or 877.787.2000.

Member Renewal Notices Coming Soon

It's that time of year again – membership renewal! Watch for a notice in your e-mail inbox in October and for the special renewal feature in the November/December issue of **BC Forest Professional**. As always, there are three steps to renew your membership:

- Pay your fees
- Submit your self-assessment declaration
- Update your indictable offense status (if necessary)

New Credit Card Fee Effective Immediately

Credit card processing companies are charging the ABCFP large fees for each payment we accept by credit card including, but not limited to, annual member fees, workshop registrations and purchases from the ABCFP online store. These fees, which cost the ABCFP \$65,000 last year, can be up to 4% of the total purchase – the actual amount varies based on the type of card used. Council recently approved a 3% credit card interchange fee that is now applied to all purchases made with credit cards. This fee is applied to the total purchase (the purchased item, such as annual membership fees or workshop registration, plus the applicable taxes). The interchange fee itself is not subject to GST. You can avoid this fee by paying by cheque or cash.

Conduct a Voluntary Peer Review

There is a lack of voluntary peer reviews being completed by members. While this practice is voluntary, it does help members improve their professional practices and can be completed by a chosen peer. We recommend that two peers do peer reviews on each other's practice. The voluntary peer review is available for all types of members and the review enables discussion about ethical responsibilities for all aspects of professional work. Please refer to the [Peer Review](#) page of the website for more information.

If you have any questions, contact:

[Brian Robinson](#), RPF

Manager of Professional Development and Member Relations

Volunteers Needed to Revise the RFT Scope of Practice Guidelines

The ABCFP will be reviewing and revising the Guideline on the Scope of Practice for RFTs starting in December. We are looking for a few good members who are interested in working on a committee to review and update this guideline. The committee will include one RFT and one RPF from the board of examiners and potentially two RFTs and two RPFs from the general membership. We are planning to put the existing scope of practice out for review and comment by the membership in December with the goal of getting a first draft of a revised scope of practice completed by the end of January. The revised guideline will subsequently be approved by council and posted on our website in 2010. Most of the work of the committee will be done on conference calls. If you are interested in participating in this work, please e-mail your resume with a cover letter briefly outlining why you would be a good candidate for this committee to registrar [Randy Terise](#). The board of examiners will make the final selection of candidates for the committee. Applications must be received by November 6, 2009.

Congratulations to the North Island NFP!

It's a three-peat! The North Island Network of Forest Professionals (NFP) has won the Battle of the NFPs for the third year in a row. They organized a number of forest tours for 200 school kids, made 35 classroom presentations to 15 schools with Smokey Bear, and participated in the Mt. Waddington Fall Fair with an amazing forestry booth.

The ABCFP would like to establish more Networks of Forest Professionals (NFPs) around the province to provide effective communication, education and to liaise on forestry issues with a wide variety of audiences including the public, schools, government, politicians, media, other organizations, and ABCFP members throughout BC. Currently we have openings for NFP chairs in the following locations:

Prince George, Victoria, Campbell River, Squamish, Okanagan area, Revelstoke, 100 Mile House, Smithers, Prince Rupert and Fort Nelson.

If you would like to join an existing NFP or start one up in your community, refer to the list of existing [NFPs](#) or to obtain more information about NFPs, refer to the [terms of reference](#).

If you have any questions, contact:

[Brian Robinson](#), RPF

Manager of Professional Development and Member Relations

Register Now for the Online Working with Aboriginal Peoples Workshop

Because of the growing importance of the role of Aboriginal Peoples in forestry, the ABCFP is pleased to be working with Indigenous Corporate Training to offer members an online course called Working Effectively with Aboriginal Peoples. The ABCFP will soon require that members can prove their competency for working with Aboriginal Peoples if their jobs entail it and this workshop is one way of gaining competency.

This online course takes approximately 10-15 hours to complete and members will have three months from the date they register to finish it.

Registration Fee

\$85.00 + \$4.25 GST (if applicable) = \$89.25

START Student Rate

\$42.50 + \$2.13 GST (if applicable) = \$44.63*

*Must be enrolled in the START program to qualify.

Visit the [Workshops](#) page for more information on this course.

[Online Registration](#)

[Printable Registration Form](#) for Mail or Fax


Forest Capital Nominations Now Being Accepted

This is your chance to promote forestry in your town. Whether you live in a large, urban centre or a small community, BC's forests influence almost every aspect of life in this province. However, many people don't know this fact and it's up to the ABCFP and our members to try and change the situation. With this in mind, we are pleased to announce

the search for the 2010 Forest Capital of BC.

Every community in BC is eligible to be nominated. The ABCFP will evaluate nominations based on a community's relationship to its surrounding forests and the strength of the bid proposal. The winning community will be announced in December and will carry the Forest Capital of BC title from January 1 to December 31, 2010.

If you think your community has the stuff to be the 2010 Forest Capital of BC, visit the [Forest Capital of BC](#) webpage or view the nomination package below. The nomination deadline is November 13, 2009, so start gathering support for your community's bid today.

[Forest Capital of BC 2010 Nomination Package](#) 

Nominate Your Colleagues -- Awards Deadline Extended to January 11, 2010

Know someone who has done outstanding volunteer work this year? Or someone who has gone above and beyond his/her job requirements? How about a senior member who deserves to have his/her life's work recognized? Consider making a nomination for an ABCFP award. The awards criteria were updated this summer and some changes have been made to several of the awards criteria. For example, the Honourary Member award has been changed so that both council members and past presidents must vote in favour of the nominee. Please note that late or incomplete nomination packages will no longer be accepted. The deadline for all awards has been extended to January 11, 2010 because ExpoFor has been moved to April.

The [new awards criteria](#) are available on the website. Please read them carefully before submitting your nomination. Please submit your nomination by e-mail to Brian Robinson.

For more information on our awards, please contact:

[Brian Robinson](#), RPF

Manager of Professional Development and Member Relations

Forest Club Deals -- Save on Pre-Season Lift Tickets for the 2009/2010 Season

Whistler Blackcomb - Save 25% on Lift Tickets and up to 50% on rentals

Sun Peaks Resort - Save 15% on Lift Tickets

Silver Star Resort - Save 15% on Lift Tickets

Big White Ski Resort - Save 15% on Lift Tickets

Vancouver Island members: Our supplier has attempted to get Mt. Washington lift tickets at a discount but has not been successful this year.

*Order By November 15, 2009

More Offers from the Forest Club

Enterprise Car Rental - Take an Additional 5% off the Lowest Rate

Clarion - Up to 20% discount

Comfort Inn - Up to 20% discount

Comfort Suites - Up to 20% discount
Econo Lodge - Up to 20% discount
Quality - Up to 20% discount
Rodeway Inn - Up to 20% discount
Sleep Inn - Up to 20% discount
Travelodge Hotels - 15% of Rate of the Day

Check out the [Forest Club](#) for more information.

Five Positions Are on the Job Centre

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. All ads are posted by the next business day. Visit the [Post a Job Opportunity](#) page on our website to post your listing online.

There are currently six career listings and one volunteer position on the [Job Seekers](#) page of the ABCFP website. Please check back often as new openings are posted on a regular basis.

For more information, contact:

[Brenda Martin](#)

Ph: 604.639.8103

Questions and Comments?

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

[Amanda Brittain](#), MA, ABC*

Director of Communications

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*Accredited Business Communicator