



Issue #84  
February 1, 2008

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](http://www.abcfp.ca)

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## 1. Membership Renewal

Members who did not complete all steps to renew their memberships by January 31, 2007 were assessed an administrative fee. All three steps to renew your membership must be completed by **February 29, 2008** or you will be subject to additional administrative fees. If you haven't completed these steps by **March 31, 2008**, you will be removed from your 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 only 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 you are not required to submit a Self-Assessment Declaration.

**Step 1:** Notify the ABCFP only 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. GST Rates on 2008 Membership Fees

With the reduction in the rate of GST from 6% to 5% effective January 1, 2008, the government introduced transitional rules for determining the GST rates applicable to transactions that straddle the January 1 implementation date. With respect to membership renewals for our 2008 fiscal year, ABCFP annual membership fees were invoiced in October 2007 and were due on December 1, 2007. Therefore, the rate of GST that applies to those annual fees is 6%, regardless of when those fees are paid. Any fees that are invoiced or payable subsequent to January 1, 2008, will be subject to GST at the rate of 5%.

Updated membership fees are available on the Fees page of the website.

[Fees](#)

If you have any questions, contact:

Lance Nose  
Director of Finance and Administration  
E-mail: [lnose@abcfp.ca](mailto:lnose@abcfp.ca)

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### 3. ABCFP Council Election Results

The ABCFP would like to thank all of the members who were on the ballot for the 61<sup>th</sup> ABCFP council election and to the more than 1,500 members who voted. The new council will take office at ExpoFor 2008 in Penticton which will be held from February 20-22.

The following people were elected to the 61<sup>st</sup> ABCFP council:

- Jacques Corstanje, RPF, of Terrace
- Frank Varga, RPF, of Burns Lake
- Kathy Howard, RPF, of Slokan
- Ian Emery, RFT, of Campbell River

[Council Election](#)

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### 4. Forest Technologist Transitional Policy

The ABCFP is reopening the *Forest Technologist Transitional Policy* **one last time** in order to help forest technologists who were unable to take advantage of the earlier transitional period. If you are doing a job that falls into the RFT scope of practice, **you must apply** for ABCFP membership at this time or be supervised by a registered member.

If you are a forest technician with no diploma or a technologist with an unrecognized diploma and at least five (5) years of experience, you may be able to apply to the ABCFP before **November 30, 2008** to write the RFT registration exam.

To determine if you are eligible to apply for membership as a conditional RFT under the revised *Forest Technologist Transitional Policy*, please visit the following links:

#### **Forest Technologist Transitional Policy Document:**

To read the entire forest technologist transitional policy please visit the Policies and Guidelines page of the website:

[Policies and Guidelines](#)

#### **RFT Transitional Policy FAQs**

We have included frequently asked questions about the *Forest Technologist Transitional Policy*, so are members will have an easy reference guide to some common questions we have received about the policy. To view the frequently asked questions document, visit the Policies and Guidelines page of the website.

[Policies and Guidelines](#)

#### **Do You Qualify?**

If you are not clear whether your work experience qualifies you to apply under any category, please check the guidelines on scope of practice for registered forest technologists. To view this document visit the Policies and Guidelines page of the website.

[Policies and Guidelines](#)

## **RFT Membership Application**

If after reviewing these documents you are still uncertain whether you qualify, please submit a complete application and the ABCFP will review your credentials. To submit an application for membership as a conditional RFT, please complete and submit the following application to us by **November 30, 2008**. The application is available on Application Forms page of the website

[Applications Forms](#)

## **General Routes of Entry**

Visit the Routes of Entry page of the website, to find out general information of becoming a registered forest technician.

[Routes of Entry](#)

If you are a **Ministry of Forests & Range or BC Timber Sales** employee, you should contact:

Matthew Houck  
E-mail: [matt.houck@gov.bc.ca](mailto:matt.houck@gov.bc.ca)  
Ph: 250.956.5107

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## **5. ExpoFor 2008**

The Standing Host Committee invites you to celebrate the ABCFP's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Penticton. ExpoFor will take place February 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Penticton Trade and Convention Centre.

### **Registration Update**

Please note that early-bird registration ended January 18, 2008. The cut-off date for pre-registration online or by mail or fax is February 15, 2008. After this date, please register on-site. Complete the ExpoFor 2008 registration form to speed up the registration process when you arrive at the Penticton Trade & Convention Centre.

Visit the Registration page of the ExpoFor website for more information.

[Registration](#)

### **Partners' Program**

While you're busy at ExpoFor, your significant other can be enjoying a winery tour, a south Okanagan desert tour or skiing at Apex. For more details and to register, visit the Partners Program page of the ExpoFor website.

[Partners Program](#)

### **Trade Show**

The trade show booths are over 50% sold! If your organization would like to have access to over 500 ExpoFor participants, book your booth now by visiting the Become an Exhibitor page of the ExpoFor website.

[Become an Exhibitor](#)

### **Sponsorship Opportunities**

Make your mark on ExpoFor 2008! There are several sponsorship opportunities

available. Sponsors who sign up before February 4<sup>th</sup> will be included in the conference program. Visit the Become a Sponsor page for more information.

[Become a Sponsor](#)

### **Featured ForesTrust Silent Auction Item**

Bid on two tickets to watch internationally renowned musicians Murray McLauchlan, Cindy Church, Marc Jordon and Ian Thomas perform as a band on Saturday, February 23rd at the Dream Café (67 Front Street, Penticton). This musical lunch will feature an intimate and humorous performance by some of Canada's finest individual performers. These tickets are worth \$80 and bidding starts at \$25. Visit the ForesTrust Silent Auction area at ExpoFor 2008 to make your bid.

For more information on this item and ways to get involved with the ForesTrust Silent Auction, visit the Silent Auction page of the ExpoFor website.

[Silent Auction](#)

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## **6. Committee Members Needed**

The Joint Practice Board (JPB) is a committee that functions in the professional practice overlap between professional engineers and geoscientists (PEng, PGeo), and professional foresters and registered forest technologists (RPF, RFT). The committee meets regularly by teleconference and periodically (quarterly) face to face. The committee utilizes member expertise in specific areas of practice to work on task forces that address specific problems and operate for a specific term.

The JPB is soliciting the interest of forest professionals with strong engineering backgrounds to serve either on the JPB itself or one of its task force groups. The experience of the JPB and task force groups advances the professional practice of forestry and engineering and is an effective 'leading edge' means of professional development.

If you be interested in joining the JPB, please submit your resume to Mike Larock, RPF. Your resume can state your interest area related to the JPB and should emphasize your particular engineering strengths (e.g. bridges, terrain, roads, deactivation, etc.) to engage your participation more directly.

If you have questions about the JPB, please contact Mike Larock, RPF, or the JPB chair, Justin Kumagai, RPF.

Mike Larock, RPF  
Director of Professional Practice and Forest Stewardship  
E-mail: [mlarock@abcfp.ca](mailto:mlarock@abcfp.ca)

Justin Kumagai, RPF  
E-mail: [JKumagai@westernforest.com](mailto:JKumagai@westernforest.com)

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## **7. Mandatory Practice Review Details**

The association has created a detailed procedures discussion paper that provides all proposed details for the practice review program that will be instituted this year.

In 2008, the association will conduct five pilot Mandatory Practice Reviews and then fully launch the program in 2009. The detailed procedures discussion paper is available on the Practice Review page of the website.

[Practice Review](#)

Please read this document and provide comments to Brian Robinson, RPF, by February 29, 2008.

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

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## **8. Registration Exam Study Group**

The 2008 registration exam is just around the corner. Some individuals have expressed interest in starting a RPF registration exam study group for the North Vancouver area. If you are interested in joining this study group, contact:

Jason Northcott, FIT  
E-mail: [jnorthcott@naturetrust.bc.ca](mailto:jnorthcott@naturetrust.bc.ca)

For more information about joining or starting a registration exam study group, visit the Study Groups page of the website.

[Study Groups](#)

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## **9. Member Meetings for 2008**

ABCFP staff has tentatively scheduled member meetings for the following dates and locations:

**March 12 to 14, 2008:** Quesnel, Williams Lake and 100 Mile House

**May 26 to 29, 2008:** Locations between Vanderhoof and Smithers

**July 8 to 11, 2008:** Queen Charlotte Islands/Haida Gwaii

In 2009, the association plans to hold member meetings in the Peace area (Chetwynd to Fort Nelson) and other locations that we have not recently visited. Our goal is to visit member clusters every few years through member meetings or workshops.

Stay tuned for more detailed information. If you have any questions about these meetings please contact:

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

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## 10. 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.

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

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## 11. Reception at ExpoFor for CIF and NFP members

There will a joint reception for members of the Canadian Institute of Forestry (CIF) and the ABCFP's Network of Forest Professionals (NFP) at ExpoFor 2008 before the President's Award Banquet on Thursday night. We invite all current members and those interested in joining the NFP or the CIF to attend. If you would like to attend this reception, just drop by as there is no need to register.

Over the next few months we will be exploring ways to combine NFP and CIF activities in BC. ABCFP members are encouraged to become CIF members which will allow you to be nationally connected with forestry. There will be opportunities at ExpoFor 2008 to learn more about the CIF.

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## 12. Transfer of Forest Measurements Registration Board

The ABCFP is working with Applied Science Technologists and Technologists of BC (ASTTBC) to transfer the forest measurements registration board for timber cruisers, which administers accreditation processes through policies set by ASTTBC, from ASTTBC to the ABCFP. This decision is based on Section 4 (2)(f) of the *Foresters Act* where an object of the association is "to create and administer voluntary certification schemes for technical occupations related to the practice of professional forestry."

This transfer must be approved by the councils of both ASTTBC and ABCFP. This transfer allows timber cruisers to voluntarily join the associate member class and certified forest measurements specialist category of the ABCFP. Bringing cruisers voluntarily under the ABCFP authority means that more of the forestry team will be regulated together. This transfer will contribute to our goal of providing better stewardship for all British Columbians. In 2008, council will be providing Bylaws for member ratification in order to establish this process. If members ratify these Bylaws, the ABCFP will investigate the possibility of bringing in other types of certified forest measurements specialists such as silviculture surveyors, waste assessors, scalers and vegetation resource inventory surveyors.

Stay tuned for further information. If you have any questions about this process, contact:

Brian Robinson, RPF  
Manager of Professional Development and Member Relations  
Email: [brobinson@abcfp.ca](mailto:brobinson@abcfp.ca)

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### 13. Call for Sponsors

Some enrolled members, including Foresters in Training and Trainee Forest Technologists, are having difficulty finding sponsors to guide them through the Articling Program (formerly called the Sponsoring Forester Program).

Consider sponsoring enrolled members to help them reach their goal of becoming forest professionals. You can be a sponsor if you are an RFT or an RPF who has passed the registration exam. Visit the Sponsor a New Member page of the website for more information.

[Sponsor a New Member](#)

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### 14. Job Opportunities

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

[Job Seekers](#)

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### 15. Forest Club Deals

Now is the time to surprise someone special with a gift or treat yourself with February specials from Forest Club.

**Whistler Blackcomb** - Time is running out to get discounted Whistler Lift Passes. Save 23% - only \$64 per adult. Offer expires February 7th, 2008!

**PowerWithin** – Martha Stewart, Quincy Jones, Andre Agassi & more! Live in Vancouver March 5, 2008. Save \$140 and over 55%.

**Ice.com** – Valentine's jewelry specials. Receive a 20% discount plus free shipping.

**Avis & Budget** - Avis & Budget have locations all across Canada offering best daily rates to our members.

**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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## 16. 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](mailto:abrittain@abcfp.ca)  
\*Accredited Business Communicator

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## 17. Unsubscribe

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