



Issue #89  
June 16, 2008

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

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**1. REGISTRATION EXAM INVIGILATORS NEEDED**

We are looking for volunteers to invigilate the 2008 ABCFP Registration Exams. Exams will be held in various BC locations on Friday October 3, 2008. If you want to help out this year's examinees and have some time to spare, please contact the registration department.

Go to the Invigilate the Registration Exams page of the website for more information.

[Invigilate the Registration Exams](#)

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**2. ABCFP MAKES A SUBMISSION TO THE FORESTRY ROUNDTABLE**

The ABCFP has made a submission to the Forestry Roundtable. Chaired by Minister Rich Coleman, the Roundtable is travelling the province getting input on the forestry sector.

The submission contains five areas of focus which we believe are essential to sustainable forest development and good forest stewardship. The five areas are as follows:

- i) Planning – a new system of land based planning is essential in order to correct the current system where competing uses of the land (e.g. Mining, Oil and Gas etc) are all planned for separately.
- ii) Tenure Reform – the tenure system is a complicated web which – given the current challenges in forestry – has started to show its weaknesses. We suggest a number of ideas that should be followed up on by the roundtable.
- iii) Diversification – the current system should be diversified so that other opportunities – besides commodity based lumber and chips should be recognized
- iv) Community Foundation – we are concerned about the dependence of rural communities on the forest sector and have some ideas about how the relationship of community and sector should be changed
- v) Expertise Succession – efforts need to be intensified to bring new people and ideas to the management of the forests.

The complete submission can be found on the Advocacy page of the website under the heading Forestry Roundtable.

[Advocacy](#)

For more information, contact:

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Director of Professional Practice & Forest Stewardship

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### 3. BYLAW BALLOT COMING IN SEPTEMBER

Council has approved in principle a number of changes to the ABCFP bylaws. These changes range from minor housekeeping revisions to more significant amendments. For example, at their meeting in Smithers, council discussed the Auditor General's report on safety. Council recommends the addition of Bylaw 12.7-Safety as a leadership action that is within the scope of a forest practitioner's role.

Members must ratify these changes in a bylaw ballot which will take place in September. Members will be given the opportunity to vote on each bylaw separately. In order to ratify the changes, each bylaw must earn two-thirds (66%) of the votes. Information on the changes to each bylaw will be available on the website in July.

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### 4. ELECTRONIC BALLOTING TO BE USED FOR FUTURE ELECTIONS

For all future elections, all members will receive an e-ballot and will vote online unless they contact the ABCFP and request a paper ballot.

For more information, contact:

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### 5. GROUP I FEE INCREASE

Group I fees are all association fees with the exception of annual membership fees for registered members. At their May meeting, council agreed to raise these fees approximately 10% in order to keep pace with inflation (cost of living). These fees have not been raised for five years. There are a number of exceptions to the 10% increase.

- **Annual membership fees for enrolled, retired and life members have not changed.**
- The transcript assessment fee has increased to \$100 from \$50 due to the labour intensive nature of this service.
- The 2008 registration exam fees will remain unchanged. Exam fee increases will come into effect with the 2009 exam.

A complete list of the Group I fees can be found on the Fees page of the website.

[Fees](#)

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## **6. RFT SCOPE OF PRACTICE NOW AVAILABLE**

The RFT scope of practice is now available. It was developed by a sub-committee of the board of examiners which included both RPFs and RFTs. The RFT scope of practice was released for member comment in April 2008 and more than 40 pages of comments were received from over 50 members.

It is important to note that these updated guidelines are intended to be a 'living document' that will change over time as council gains a better understanding of the role of RFTs, as the relationship between RFTs and RPFs evolves, and as the practice of professional forestry itself evolves. To this end, the association will review the guidelines periodically.

Comments on the guidelines are welcomed at any time.

You can find the scope of practice on the Policies and Guidelines page of the website.

[Policies and Guidelines](#)

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## **7. ABCFP PRESENTS PLANNING UTOPIA RESULTS TO AGRICULTURE AND LANDS**

The ABCFP wrote Pat Bell, Minister of Agriculture and Lands, to present him with the results of the ABCFP's study on planning. The association recommended that the Minister consider a land-based management regime to be used in BC's forests. Land-based management would take into account all forest users including, oil and gas exploration, mining, independent power producers and forestry operations.

The letter and report are available on the Paper & Reports page of website.

[Papers & Reports](#)

For more information, contact:

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## **8. POSITION STATEMENTS NOW AVAILABLE**

In the past, the ABCFP has produced a number of short position statements on a range of forestry-related topics. The purpose of these position statements is that they are used as general guidance – for staff and members – when asked about key issues. These statements are not meant to encompass everything forest professionals deal with or

address any topic in great detail. These statements are meant to be dynamic and reviewed on a regular basis.

Statements on the following topics are now available on the Policies & Guidelines page of the website.

- Fuel Management
- Recreation and Tourism
- Timber Management
- Non-Timber Forest Products
- Research
- Climate Change and Carbon Management
- Forest Tenures
- Public Consultation
- Private Land Forest Management
- Parks and Protected Areas
- Visual Resource Management
- Cultural Heritage Resources
- Inventory

### [Policies & Guidelines](#)

For more information contact:  
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## **9. PROFESSIONAL ETHICS AND OBLIGATIONS WORKSHOP COMING TO BURNABY**

This two-day workshop will be delivered on August 27-28, 2008 at BCIT in Burnaby. Online registration will be available from June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

This workshop will provide an opportunity for peers to discuss and resolve professional issues at both a local and provincial level. The workshop will be of benefit to all members, especially those preparing for the registration examination. An ethics study guide, which outlines the workshop, has been posted on the ABCFP Discussion Forum.

### [ABCFP Discussion Forum](#)

The workshop can be delivered in other locations if enough participants are interested. Contact Brian Robinson, RPF, if you would like to arrange an ethics workshop in your area.

For more information, contact:  
Brian Robinson, RPF  
Manager of Professional Development & Member Relations  
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Visit the Workshops page of the website for more information.

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## 10. WIN A 2008 POLICY REVIEW SEMINAR PACKAGE

Join the online ABCFP Discussion Forum by August 18th and you could win free registration to the 2008 ABCFP Policy Review Seminar of your choice complete with the *2008 Forest Legislation and Policy Reference Guide*. Other great prizes include packs of ABCFP logo wear.

The Discussion Forum is a great place to meet fellow forest professionals to talk about issues related to the practice of professional forestry. In addition to the forestry items, there are separate boards for non-forestry items and study groups as well as a classified section (got any old gear taking up space in your garage?). Membership in the discussion forum is limited to ABCFP members and staff. There are over 500 people already signed up. You can even participate anonymously if you want.

All discussion forum members signed up by August 18<sup>th</sup> will be entered into a random draw for the policy review seminar package. Each month between June and August one lucky Discussion Forum member will win an ABCFP logo wear prize pack.

[ABCFP Discussion Forum](#)

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## 11. MARK YOUR CALENDAR TO ATTEND THE 2008 POLICY REVIEW SEMINAR

Policy review seminars are ideal for anyone needing a refresher on the legislation and policies governing BC forest practices or preparing to write one of the registration exams this fall. At each seminar, participants will have a chance to ask questions and discuss topical issues with policy experts.

Locations and dates are as follows:

- **Kamloops and Greater Vancouver:** September 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>
- **Prince George and Nanaimo:** September 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>

Look for the 2008 Policy Review Seminar registration form in the July/August issue of **BC Forest Professional** magazine. More information on this seminar and the *2008 Forest Legislation and Policy Reference Guide* will be available on the ABCFP website in July.

[Policy Seminars](#)

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## 12. NOMINATE YOUR COMMUNITY TO BE THE 2009 FOREST CAPITAL OF BC

Make 2009 the year to recognize forests in your community and nominate your community to be the 2009 Forest Capital of BC. This designation is an excellent way to get everyone involved in a year-long celebration of the important contributions forests make to your community.

Every community in BC is eligible to be nominated. Visit the Forest Capital of BC page of the website for a nomination package and tips for making your bid a success.

[Forest Capital](#)

## **Nomination Deadline: November 14, 2008**

The winning community will be announced in December 2008 and carry the Forest Capital title from January 1st until December 31st, 2009.

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### **13. MAKE A SUBMISSION TO THE ANNUAL FORESTRY TEAM IN ACTION FEATURE**

What have you been up to for the past year? Are you working on interesting projects, conducting research or finding innovative ways to get the job done? If so, share your story with your fellow forest professionals by making a submission to the annual Forestry Team in Action Feature in the November/December issue of **BC Forest Professional** (BCFP).

Visit the Contributor Guidelines page of the website find out how to make a submission to this feature.

[Contributor Guidelines](#)

You can also check out last year's feature in the November/December 2007 issue of BCFP

[BCFP - November/December 2007](#) 

The submission deadline is **September 2, 2008**.

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### **14. DONATE TO FORESTRUST**

ForesTrust is the ABCFP's registered charity that provides scholarships and bursaries at eight institutions offering forestry programs around BC. ForesTrust scholarships are awarded to students for their academic achievement and dedication to, and passion for, the study of forestry.

Make a donation to ForesTrust and ensure the ABCFP tradition of supporting the next generation of forest professionals continues. Contributions are tax-deductible and can be made as a one-time or monthly donation.

Visit the ForesTrust page of the website to learn how you can support BC's future forest professionals.

[ABC FP ForesTrust](#)

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## 15. 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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## 16. 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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## 17. 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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