



Issue #88
May 30, 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 as well as information on advocacy issues the ABCFP has undertaken. Back issues of this newsletter are available on the association's website.

www.abcfp.ca

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1. APPLYING PROFESSIONAL RELIANCE UNDER FRPA

The Professional Reliance Steering Committee chaired by ABCFP's executive director, Sharon Glover, has produced a document called "Applying Professional Reliance under FRPA" with the help of a working group.

The committee is composed of representatives from the ABCFP, Ministry of Forest and Range, Coast Forest Products Association, Council of Forest Industries and Tolko. They evaluated and agreed on how to guide the application of professional reliance under the *Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA)*. The document identifies professional reliance principles that have direct application to the practice of professional forestry in FRPA and provides further recommendations for implementation of professional reliance in FRPA.

[Applying Professional Reliance Under FRPA](#) 

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2. REPORT ON THE INTERIOR CEDAR HEMLOCK OLD FOREST AREAS

At a conference at UNBC last week, the protection of old forests within the Interior Cedar Hemlock zone (ICH) area near Dome Creek was discussed. The primary issue is the conflict that arises when the economic importance of an area is high and good faith measures are not strong enough to protect the other values of an area. Professional reliance has a role to play in the planning and implementation. The ABCFP has several options to pursue on this issue.

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3. PROFESSION'S ROLE IN FOREST WORKER SAFETY

The BC Auditor General submitted a report on safety and a specific recommendation that safety of forest workers be added as an object of the ABCFP. Staff have discussed the content of the reports, met with officials of MFR, discussed options with industry, WorkSafeBC and others. Council will consider the issue at its meeting in Smithers.

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4. UPDATE ON AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON PRIVATE FOREST LAND MANAGEMENT

The 2007 Council requested that the executive director craft a position and supporting rationale on private land management. Brief articles were posted in **The Increment** and in **BC Forest Professional** magazine. An article regarding the harvesting practices on Vancouver Island by Raincoast Conservation was printed in the *Victoria Times Colonist*. The ABCFP's response was printed a week later. The ABCFP continues to receive concerns from members regarding private forest land management.

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5. CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR CONTINUING COMPETENCY COMMITTEE

The ABCFP is looking for volunteers to form a continuing competency committee (CCC) with the following mandate:

- a) Receive direction from and/or propose recommendations to the executive director commensurate with the continuing competency program objectives.
- b) Revise the Self-Assessment, Voluntary Peer Review and Practice Review elements of the continuing competency program periodically based on council, CCC, member, executive director and staff input.
- c) Adjudicate and follow up with Practice Reviews requiring corrective measures.

If any member is interested in volunteering for this committee, please review the draft terms of reference and send a letter of interest and a resume to Brian Robinson, RPF.

[Draft Terms of Reference](#) 

For more information or to apply, contact:

Brian Robinson, RPF

Manager of Professional Development and Member Relations

Email: brobinson@abcfp.ca

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6. THE SEARCH IS ON FOR THE FOREST CAPITAL OF BC FOR 2009

Each year, the ABCFP selects a community to be the Forest Capital of BC. This program, established in 1988, is an important opportunity to recognize the central role forests play in shaping our unique BC experience.

Every community in BC is eligible to be nominated; a community is a single city, town, village, etc. However, the ABCFP encourages two small communities or a larger community and a First Nations community to join together to submit a shared nomination. The winner will be announced in December and will carry the Forest Capital of BC title from January 1st until December 31st.

All completed Forest Capital nominations must be received by: **November 14, 2008.**

[Forest Capital Program](#)

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7. NEED HELP STUDYING FOR THE EXAM?

The registration exam discussion board on the ABCFP Discussion Forum is a great study group tool available to all enrollees. Topics and questions can be posted and discussed online so everyone can benefit.

[ABCFP Discussion Forum](#)

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8. LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER FOR THE ETHICS WORKSHOP

This two-day workshop will be delivered for the first time at the following locations:

- June 10th and 11th at the Best Western in Kamloops
- June 18th and 19th at the Days Inn in Prince George
- June 24th and 25th at the Coast Bastion Inn in Nanaimo

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 will also be delivered in other locations in the future 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 and Member Relations

Email: brobinson@abcfp.ca

Visit the Workshops page of the website for more information.

[Workshops](#)

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9. DO YOU SPEAK MANDARIN OR CANTONESE? REPRESENT THE ABCFP ON JUNE 29TH

The ABCFP is participating in the Celebrate Canada Fair in Richmond on June 29th. We will have our booth set up and will be teaching kids and adults what forestry means to BC. If you have Mandarin or Cantonese language skills please consider volunteering for this four-hour event.

Please contact Amanda Brittain if you would like to volunteer.

Amanda Brittain, ABC

Director of Communications

Direct: 604.331.2321

E-mail: abrittain@abcfp.ca

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10. GOVERNMENT TO REVIEW OPEN BURNING SMOKE CONTROL REGULATIONS

The Ministry of Environment intends to review and revise the *Environmental Management Act's* Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation and requests the ABCFP

forward the consultation paper *Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation Policy* Intentions Paper for Consultation to our membership.

The outcome-based regulation governs burning of vegetative material including land clearing and forestry-related resource management. Air quality concerns include the exposure to particulate matter at concentrations that could lead to detrimental human health and ecosystem effects; ground level ozone; impairment of visibility; and odorous emissions.

The ministry intends to revise the regulation to establish three 'smoke sensitivity zones' (high, moderate and low). Each zone will have specified and consistent standards for open burning of vegetative debris.

Members are encouraged to read the intentions paper and provide any comments to the ministry via their response form by June 30, 2008. Both the intentions paper and the response form are available through the link below.

[Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation Policy Intentions Paper for Consultation](#)

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11. CHECK OUT THE PRO-D CALENDAR

If you haven't checked out the Professional Development Calendar on the ABCFP website, you don't know what you're missing! There are dozens of courses, workshops and conferences listed on the calendar that forest professionals will find interesting.

Recent additions to the calendar include the Coastal Silviculture Committee's annual conference to be held in June and online exam preparation courses. All events are listed chronologically.

[Pro D Calendar](#)

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12. WHY REOPEN THE FOREST TECHNOLOGIST TRANSITIONAL POLICY?

The re-opening of the *Forest Technologist Transitional Policy* was done because there are a significant number of RFT applicants who missed the original deadlines. A good case was made to us that these potential applicants were either not aware or did not clearly understand the implications for them of not applying. Some employer groups are struggling to meet the requirements of the *Foresters Act* and have made a commitment to work with us to ensure that they will support applicants to ensure they meet the requirements for RFT status. We want to be clear that there is no lowering of our standards in this process. All applicants will have to pass an entrance exam. The deadline for application is November 30, 2008.

If you know someone who would qualify under this re-opened *Forest Technologist Transitional Policy*, please let them know that November 30th is the last opportunity they will have to join the ABCFP under these provisions.

[Forest Technologist Transitional Policy](#) 

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13. ELECTRONIC BALLOTING TO BE USED FOR FUTURE ELECTIONS

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

To request a paper ballot, contact:
Michelle Mentore
Communications Coordinator and Webmaster
Email: mmentore@abcfp.ca

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14. FUTURE EXPOFOR DATES – MARK YOUR CALENDAR

ExpoFor 2009 will be held in Prince George on February 25th and 26th with optional pre-conference workshop(s). The standing host committee has decided to change the format of ExpoFor to a two-day event ending on the Thursday evening. It is hoped that more people will be able to attend a shorter, more compact conference.

You can also mark the following dates in your calendars:

- ExpoFor 2010 in Kelowna – April 7-8 (to avoid conflicts with the Olympics and Paralympics)
- ExpoFor 2011 in Vancouver – February 23-24
- ExpoFor 2012 in Nanaimo – February 22-23

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15. 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 eight career listings on the Job Seeks page of the ABCFP website. Please check back often as new openings are posted on a regular basis.

[Job Seekers](#)

For more information, contact:
Wayne Gibson
Email: forest-ads@abcfp.ca
Tel: 604.241.1297

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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

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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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