



Issue #100

November 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. 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. LAST CHANCE TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BY THE DEADLINE

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:**

It's time to renew your membership. The deadline to renew is **December 1<sup>st</sup>**.

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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 instead of waiting for a receipt and membership card to come in the mail.

The system will be available next week. We apologize for the delay, which was primarily caused by the office move, in getting this service up and running. As soon as it is ready, we will e-mail all members with instructions on how to print your receipts and membership cards. 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.

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## 2. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL SUCCESSFUL EXAMINEES

Congratulations to the 79 examinees who passed the RPF exam and to the 146 examinees that passed the RFT exam. The January/February 2009 issue of **BC Forest Professional** will include an Exam Feature with results and a list of successful examinees.

### Inductees Lunch

We are inviting all successful examinees to attend the Inductees' Recognition Luncheon on February 26, 2009, in Prince George. The ABCFP will cover the cost of your luncheon in recognition of your achievement for passing your exam. Attire for the luncheon is business casual.

Register online and the cost of your luncheon will be automatically deducted from ExpoFor registration fees (when you choose the Full Conference, One Day THURSDAY or Meals ONLY Inductee Recognition Luncheon). If you want to bring along family or friends to join in your celebration, you can purchase extra guest tickets when registering.

[ExpoFor 2009 Registration](#)

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## 3. WHAT HAS THE ABCFP DONE FOR YOU LATELY?

The ABCFP's fiscal year end is November 30<sup>th</sup> and we thought we'd take this opportunity to review some of the great work we've done on your behalf in 2008.

- Guidance – The association has produced a number of important guidance documents for members this year including the RFT Scope of Practice, high-retention harvesting, applying professional reliance under FRPA, and professional quality rationales and commitments. [Guidance Papers](#)
- Communications – We are communicating more frequently with members by producing **The Increment** twice a month. We are also able to better target e-mail blasts to specific groups of members thanks to our new member management system, iMIS.
- Discipline and Enforcement – A Discipline and Enforcement Task Force worked this year to research and write a report with recommendations for council on how to make the ABCFP's discipline and enforcement activities more transparent. Council is considering the recommendations at their November meeting; however, some changes have already been made. Case digests for every closed case are now available on the website. In addition, details of any case that results in disciplinary action will be available on the website so all members can learn from errors and will be able to improve their own practices. [Discipline Case Digests](#)
- Advocacy – ABCFP staff and council have been very busy in 2008 with advocacy issues. The Forest Practices Board has asked for the ABCFP's input on many of their reports this year. Meetings took place between the ABCFP and various interests operating on forest land, including Ministry of Forests and Range, Integrated Land Management Bureau, independent power producers, forest industry licensees, BCTS, and the federal government over several subjects including national forestry, cumulative impacts on the landscape, land-based planning, retention silviculture systems, and professional reliance. A Tenure Reform Task Force has been struck and will continue its work in 2009. The ABCFP has worked intensively with other associations, and the provincial and federal governments on labour mobility issues to ensure that BC's forests continue to be managed by qualified forest professionals.

- Website – Members may have noticed much greater functionality on the website this year. The integration of the new member management system, iMIS, has allowed members to immediately update their contact information, select where they want various communication vehicles to be sent, and register for events such as workshops and ExpoFor. Improvements will continue to be made in 2009.
- Staff response time – While the ABCFP staff have always strived to respond to members' requests in a timely manner, we are now working on setting official response times that we can measure for quality control purposes. These response times are not in place yet, but we anticipate having everything up and running in early January.

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#### **4. FULL SLATE OF COUNCIL CANDIDATES ANNOUNCED**

Elections will occur during December 2008 and January 2009. The 62<sup>nd</sup> council will take office in February 2009 at ExpoFor in Prince George.

There are three RPF positions open for election. The following members have been nominated to run for council.

- Valerie LeMay, RPF – UBC Forestry
- Steve Lorimer, RPF – Timber West
- Andrea Lyall, RPF – Squamish Forest Service
- Kerry Rouck, RPF – Gorman Brothers
- Bill Wagner, RPF – Canadian Forest Service
- Matt Wealick, RPF – Ch-ihl-kway-uhk Forestry Limited Partnership

Rick Brouwer, RPF, from Northwest Timberlands has agreed to stand for vice-president.

[Council Elections](#)

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#### **5. ABCFP MOVE TRANSLATES INTO CONSIDERABLE SAVINGS**

The ABCFP's lease on its Georgia Street office expired and the landlord wanted to raise the rent significantly making it impossible for us to remain in the same location. In addition, as three staff members did not work from the Vancouver office, we had too much space so the ABCFP opted to move to an older building in Gastown. The office is still conveniently located close to public transit and the sea plane/Helijet terminals for committee members who travel to Vancouver for meetings. The new digs are significantly smaller (about 700 square feet less than Georgia Street) and that translates into a considerable savings on rent and utilities.

If you are coming to Vancouver, the ABCFP staff invite you to drop by to see the new office any time.

Our new address is:  
330 - 321 Water Street  
Vancouver, BC V6B 1B8

All e-mail, fax and phone contact information remain the same.

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## 6. PROFESSIONAL REPORTS NO LONGER REQUIRED

The Board of Examiners has approved a change in requirements for RPF candidates who have previously been required to complete a professional report. The requirement for the professional report is being replaced by a requirement to complete the take-home examination. ABCFP enrolled members who are currently in the process of completing the professional report will have the option of finishing what they have started or doing the take-home examination instead. Going forward, all enrolled members who would have had to complete a professional report will be required to complete the take-home examination. The take-home examination is a test of an RPF candidate's skills and abilities in the areas of written communications skills, research and investigation, abilities to develop a cogent argument, and abilities to provide relevant observations and conclusions from their research. RPF candidates who have met the professional report requirement retain the option of doing the take-home examination or only doing the sit-down examination.

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## 7. ENROLLED MEMBER ANNUAL EVALUATIONS

Sponsors must return completed annual evaluation forms for the period December 1, 2007 to November 30, 2008 to the association by **January 31, 2009**. These forms provide the association with vital information on an enrolled member's progress towards registration. The ability for an enrolled member to become registered may be delayed if these forms are not returned by the January 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.

Enrolled member annual evaluation forms are available on the You and Your Sponsor page of the website.

[You and Your Sponsor](#)  
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## 8. LAST CHANCE -- FOREST TECHNOLOGIST TRANSITIONAL POLICY

The deadline for submitting a membership application under the Forest Technologist Transitional Policy is **December 1, 2008**. It is important to note that applications received by our office by November 30<sup>th</sup> that are considered incomplete will not be accepted under the terms of this policy.

If you, or someone you know, is a forest technician with no diploma or a technologist with an unrecognized diploma and at least five (5) years of work experience in forest technology, this is the **final** chance to take advantage of the transitional provisions under this policy.

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*, as an easy reference guide to some common questions 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 the form and submit it to us by **November 30, 2008**. The application is available on Application Forms page of the website: [Application Forms](#)
- **General Routes of Entry** Visit the Routes of Entry page of the website, to find out general information of becoming a Registered Forest Technologist. [Routes of Entry](#)

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

Tom Volkers, RPF

E-mail: [Tom.Volkers@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tom.Volkers@gov.bc.ca)

Ph: 250.674.1356

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## 9. LAST CHANCE -- FOREST TECHNOLOGIST LIMITED LICENSE

This temporary process is available to candidates who have a great deal of experience in a specific area of forest technology practice, but who don't meet the full scope of RFT practice requirements, to join the association while a permanent process is being developed. The Conditional Forest Technologist Limited Licence process sets out the guidelines that allow these technologists to join the ABCFP. The process is described on our website and we have posted a list of frequently asked questions to address the process:

[Conditional Forest Technologist Limited Licence: Frequently Asked Questions.](#) 

The deadline for submitting an application for Conditional Forest Technologist Limited License is **December 1, 2008**. It is important to note that applications received by our office by November 30<sup>th</sup> that are considered incomplete will not be accepted under the terms of this policy. The application is available on Application Forms page of the website: [Application Forms](#).

Visit the [Temporary Practice Permits](#) page (under the heading, Conditional Forest Technologist Limited License) for more information.

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## 10. DON'T MISS THE CHIEF FORESTER'S BREAKFAST AT EXPOFOR 2009

Jim Snetsinger, RPF, will speak at one of the breakfasts at ExpoFor 2009 and he is just one of many excellent speakers! Another highlight is the two optional pre-conference workshops. If you missed the Ethics and Obligations session or fall workshop on

professional reliance, take advantage of their repeat performances at ExpoFor 2009. The ExpoFor website ([www.expofor.ca](http://www.expofor.ca)) is being continually updated with information about the program, sponsors and exhibitors.

Don't miss this more compact conference in beautiful Prince George! 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 that was included in the November/December issue of **BC Forest Professional** magazine. This form is also available on the Registration page of the ExpoFor website.

[Registration](#)  
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## 11. PRO-D OPPORTUNITY FOR PEACE MEMBERS

APEGBC invites you to a professional development session on December 9, 2008. Join Dale Morgan, RPF and District Manager of the Peace Forest District, and Walter Matosevic, RPF and Chief Forester of Canfor, for "Forestry Now and Future Outlook a Government and Industry Perspective."

Date/Time: Tuesday December 9, 2008 (North Peace Cultural Centre, Fort St. John)  
6:45 pm – Gathering and networking  
7:00 pm – Introduction  
7:10 pm – Forestry in the Peace, Dale Morgan, RPF  
7:50 pm – Some thoughts about the future of the lumber sector in the BC interior, Walter Matosevic, RPF  
8:30 pm -- Closing  
Cost: \$5 per attendee

Dale Morgan, RPF, will discuss the state of forestry in the Peace Forest District. An introduction to the Peace Forest District will outline the role of the Forest District in the world of forest operations. A brief description outlining who operates in the district, as well as the different types of tenures that are issued, will be given.

A look into the challenges faced by the forest district will be examined, addressing mill closures and the current state of the forest industry, the mountain pine beetle epidemic, potential future forest health concerns, and aspen logging in range tenures. Insight into how the forest district is managing these issues through various programs will be shared.

Walter Matosevic, RPF, will provide a brief overview of the current economic state of forest industry in the interior of BC and will discuss some of the opportunities that companies are considering in an attempt to regain their competitive position.

For more information and to register, contact:  
Mandy Nelson, RPF  
Ph: 250.261.5767  
E-mail: [mandy.nelson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:mandy.nelson@gov.bc.ca)

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## 12. ABCFP PARTICIPATES IN CAREER FAIRS

Students in Quesnel and Surrey were treated to a taste of forestry thanks to dedicated staff and volunteers. The ABCFP participation in Quesnel's Career Leap was organized

by Kim Scott, RPF, but she had lots of help. Twenty-two RPFs and RFTs volunteered for one-hour shifts to talk to the 300 kids about careers in forestry.

Two schools in Surrey held a joint career fair that saw the ABCFP booth busy from open to close with 300 students in attendance. The next appearance of the ABCFP booth will be at a school-district wide career fair in Abbotsford on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

For more information, contact:  
Amanda Brittain, ABC  
Ph: 604.331.2321  
E-mail: [abrittain@abcfp.ca](mailto:abrittain@abcfp.ca)

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### 13. PARTIAL CUTTING AND RETENTION SILVICULTURE SYSTEMS

Developing strategies for partial cutting and retention silviculture systems is the practice of professional forestry and is recognized as having application to coastal ecosystems of British Columbia. Prescriptions that employ partial cutting techniques require a specific professional competence. The ABCFP formally recognizes the Coast Region Implementation Team (CRIT) technical report titled “Silvicultural System and Partial Cut Harvesting Issues in the Coast Region – Discussion Paper” as being an important background document and source for practitioners in the area of partial cutting.

The restricted endorsement is a communication tool necessary to sufficiently direct practitioners’ diligence in the area of retention silviculture systems, by drawing attention to the technical work that is available for practitioners. The endorsement benefits the profession by demonstrating the requirement for expertise in complex areas of practice, provides guidance that applies to a broad area of practice, and by underscoring the benefits of a team approach to professional practice problems as one way of providing practitioners with practice expertise.

[Statement of Endorsement](#)

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### 14. 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 11 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](mailto:forest-ads@abcfp.ca)

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## 15. 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, ABC\*  
Director of Communications  
E-mail: [abrittain@abcfp.ca](mailto:abrittain@abcfp.ca)  
Ph: 604.331.2321  
\*Accredited Business Communicator

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## 16. 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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