



Issue #97
October 15, 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

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1. MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL SYSTEM DOWN

We are experiencing difficulty with the membership renewal system and have been forced to take the shut down the system temporarily. We will advise all members of when the system is available again in a separate e-mail.

Thank you for your patience and we apologize for causing you any inconvenience.

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2. RESULTS OF THE BYLAW BALLOT NOW AVAILABLE

Thank you to everyone who took the time to vote in the recent bylaw ballot. We had a 17% response rate to the ballot. Bylaw changes require a two-third majority (66.7%) to pass and we are pleased to announce that all of the bylaw changes passed. The breakdown of each bylaw and the percentage of members who voted in favour are listed below.

- 1 Formation of council 85.7%
- 2 Association meetings 87.1%
- 5.18 Limited Licenses 84.9%
- 5.22; 5.23 and 5.24 Categories of membership 76.9%
- 6.3.1 Supervision of FITs and FPs 84.4%
- 6.7 and 6.8 Membership Rights and Obligations 89.6%
- 6.9 and 6.10 Associate and Honourary members 85.5%
- 7 Board of Examiners 91.8%
- 8 Indicators of registration 90.1%
- 10 Use of professional seal and signature 86.9%
- 12 Standards of professional practice 92%
- 13 Quality assurance 84.4 %
- 14 Complaint resolution procedures 96.3%

For more information visit the Bylaw Page of the website.

[Bylaws](#)

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3. SELF-ASSESSMENT PROCESS UPDATED

A revised self-assessment process has now been implemented as part of the fee renewal process. Here are some highlights of the revisions:

1. Applicable members must answer a series of questions to determine if they practise professional forestry.
2. If applicable members do not practise professional forestry **at all**, they do not need to complete a self-assessment but must make a Declaration of Non-Practise.
3. If applicable members do practise professional forestry, they must complete an improved self-assessment form, professional development plan (remains unchanged) and make a declaration, as before.
4. There are now 20 questions to answer as part of the assessment, instead of 33.

Details on the revised process are available on the Self-Assessment page of the website.

[Self-Assessment](#)

For more information, contact:

Brian Robinson, RPF
Manager Professional Development and Member Relations
Ph: 604.639.9187
E-mail: brobinson@abcfp.ca

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4. INFLATIONARY FEE INCREASE APPROVED

At their last meeting, council approved an inflationary fee increase that will take effect December 1, 2008 (for fiscal 2009 fees). The fee increase was based on the increase in BC's Consumer Price Index of 3.3% and was capped at \$10 for RPFs and RFTs as per Bylaw 9.4. The new fees are as follows:

RPF \$345.92 plus \$17.30 GST for a total of \$363.22 (increase of \$10).
RFT \$315.40 plus \$15.77 GST for a total of \$331.17 (increase of \$10)
FIT \$260.24 plus \$13.01 GST for a total of \$273.25 (increase of \$8.30)
FP \$303.64 plus \$15.18 GST for total of \$318.82 (increase of \$9.70)
TFT \$241.89 plus \$12.09 GST for a total of \$253.98 (increase of \$7.75)

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5. EXAM RESULTS WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLINE

Teams of volunteers began marking the registration exams this week. The results will be available to exam candidates beginning in late November. 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. Keep reading the **Increment** for updates.

[Getting Your Exam Results](#)

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6. DISCIPLINE AND ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE

In 2008 there have been four completed discipline cases and there are five cases currently open and in various stages of the complaint resolution process. There have been three enforcement actions (including communication with offending parties and an investigation) undertaken by the ABCFP. Please visit the website for detailed information on all discipline and enforcement cases and actions.

[Discipline](#)

[Act Enforcement](#)

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7. LOOKING FOR A JOB IN PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND FOREST STEWARDSHIP?

The ABCFP is hiring for a one-year contract position to assist the Director of Professional Practice and Forest Stewardship. Preference will be given to candidates with an RFT designation. For more information, view the posting on the Job Seekers page of the website.

[Job Seekers](#)
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8. CALL FOR COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

The association is now accepting council nominations from the membership at large. Elections will occur during December 2008 and January 2009. The 62nd council will take office in February 2009 at ExpoFor in Prince George.

There are three RPF positions and one vice-president position open for election. The following members have been nominated to run for council.

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

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

The nomination form is available on the Council Election page of the website and nominations are due at **4:30 pm on November 14, 2008.**

[Council Elections](#)
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9. VOLUNTEER NEEDED TO SPEAK WITH HIGH SCHOOL KIDS IN VICTORIA

The ABCFP has had a request for a member to speak with students in Geography and Economics 12 classes about the impact of the mountain pine beetle and the economic downturn and how it affects forestry. The ideal date for this presentation is November 5 from 1-2 pm. If you can make this presentation, please contact Amanda Brittain.

Amanda Brittain, ABC
Director of Communications
E-mail: abrittain@abcfp.ca
Ph: 604.331.2321

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10. REGISTER NOW FOR FALL WORKSHOPS

This workshop explores the broad definition of professional reliance, how it compares to professional deference and how it is related to professional accountability. Participants will have a chance to discuss local professional reliance issues and engage in dialogue about how professional reliance should work so the public and peers have confidence in the judgment and advice of resource professionals.

The Fall Professional Development Workshop will be held in the following communities:

October 16 - Vanderhoof	October 27 - Revelstoke
October 17 - Burns Lake	October 28 - Nelson
October 20 - Port McNeill	October 28 - Salmon Arm
October 20 - 100 Mile House	October 29 - Cranbrook
October 21 - Williams Lake	October 29 - Vernon
October 21 - Campbell River	October 30 - Merritt
October 22 - Nanaimo	November 4 - Powell River
October 22 - Quesnel	November 4 - Chilliwack
October 23 - Victoria	November 13 - Burnaby

For more information and to register by mail, fax or online, visit the Workshops page of the website.

[Workshops](#)

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11. FOREST TECHNOLOGIST TRANSITIONAL POLICY

The deadline for submitting a membership application under the Forest Technologist Transitional Policy is **November 30, 2008**. It is important to note that applications received by our office by November 30th 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

Ph: 250.674.1356

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12. 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 \(PDF\)](#).

The deadline for submitting an application for Conditional Forest Technologist Limited License is **November 30, 2008**. It is important to note that applications received by our office by November 30th 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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13. EXPOFOR UPDATE

ExpoFor 2009 will be held February 25 to 27, 2009 in Prince George. The conference will kick off with the Ice Breaker on the evening of February 25th and will include many of the favorite activities such as the Inductees' Recognition Luncheon, the President's Awards Banquet and the Minister's Luncheon hosted by Pat Bell, Minister of Forests and Range. There are also some exciting new additions this year. Jim Snetsinger, RPF, will be hosting the Chief Forester's Breakfast and the ABCFP is also offering two optional pre-conference workshops on February 25th. If you missed the Fall Workshop on professional reliance as well as the Ethics and Obligations workshop, now is your chance to sign up. Of course, ExpoFor will also include a great line up of technical sessions around the theme of *A Convenient Truth: Be Part of the Forestry Solution*. Speakers who have committed so far include NRCan's Werner Kurtz, forest geneticist Greg O'Neill, reporter Gordon Hoesktra and Chief Corrina Leween as well as ABCFP members Brian Barber, Frank Caffrey and Kelly McCloskey. Watch the November/December issue of **BC Forest Professional** magazine for the registration brochure. You can also check out the ExpoFor website beginning later this month for the latest information. Online registration will be available in November.

www.expofor.ca

Bagpiper Wanted

Are you a bagpiper? Will you be attending ExpoFor 2009? If so, we'd like to invite you to be a part of the Inductees' Recognition Luncheon. Please contact Amanda Brittain for more information

Amanda Brittain, ABC
Director of Communications
E-mail: abrittain@abcfp.ca
Ph: 604.331.2321

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

Make 2009 the year to recognize forests in your town 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.

Nomination Deadline: November 14, 2008. The winning community will be announced in December 2008 and carry the Forest Capital title from January 1 until December 31, 2009.

[Forest Capital](#)
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15. HELP STEER BC FOREST PROFESSIONAL MAGAZINE

The editorial board is looking for new members. If you would like to have the opportunity to provide advice and guidance on the content and production of **BC Forest Professional** magazine, please send a letter of interest to the editor.

Brenda Martin

Communications Coordinator and Editor

Ph: 604.639.8103

E-mail: bmartin@abcfp.ca

[Editorial Board Terms of Reference](#)
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16. ABCFP AWARD NOMINATIONS

Each year at ExpoFor, the ABCFP is pleased to present several awards to both members and non-members. You can nominate a worthy individual by visiting our website. **All nominations must be received by November 14, 2008.**

Members can be nominated for the following awards: Jim Rodney Memorial Volunteer of the Year, Distinguished Forest Professional, Professional Forester of the Year and Forest Technologist of the Year. Non-members can be nominated for the ABCFP Honorary Membership and the ABCFP Award of Merit in Sustainable Forestry.

The ABCFP is also pleased to present two awards jointly with fellow professional associations. The Bill Young Award for Excellence in Integrated Forest Management is sponsored jointly with the Association of Professional Biologists of BC. The Forest Engineering Award of Excellence is sponsored jointly with the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC.

For details on how to make a nomination, go to the Awards Nomination page of the website.

[Awards](#)
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17. WHAT'S NEW ON THE DISCUSSION FORUM

The winner of a free Fall Workshop registration is **Jacclyn Saugstad, TFT.**

Congratulations, Jacclyn! Remember, we are still doing monthly draws for ABCFP logoware prize packs so if you haven't signed up for the Discussion Forum yet, do so now.

Check out the Discussion Forum to read member Bill Bourgeois' latest post "Are We Practising SFM?" Read and comment on Bill's post or contribute your own post to the discussion.

[Discussion Forum](#)
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18. SAVE WHEN YOU HIT THE SLOPES THIS SKI-SEASON!

The Forest Club brings you the following winter deal on skiing.

- **Whistler Blackcomb: Save up to 25%** on ski-tickets and **save 35-50%** on rentals for Whistler Blackcomb! NEW this year at Whistler Blackcomb – the Peak 2 Peak Gondola opens in December 2008 which will link 8,171 acres of terrain into one continuous lift system allowing skiers and riders to maximize both mountains in one day!
- **SilverStar: Save 15%**
- **Big White: Save 15%**
- **Sun Peaks: Save 15%**

You must order online between October 1 – November 21. You will receive your ski tickets in the mail the last week of November.

http://www.intrd.com/ski_tickets/abcfp.php
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19. 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 15 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

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20. 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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Director of Communications

E-mail: abrittain@abcfp.ca

Ph: 604.331.2321

*Accredited Business Communicator

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21. 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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