



Issue #96

September 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. ABSOLUTE LAST CHANCE TO VOTE IN THE BYLAW BALLOT!

The ballot closes on **Thursday October 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Have your voice heard – vote now! Council has approved in principle a number of changes to the ABCFP bylaws. These changes range from minor housekeeping revisions to more significant amendments. Members have been 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 is available on the Bylaw Package page of the website. Please note that the wording in this document is not perfect. You are being asked to vote on the intent of the bylaw rather than on each word.

[Bylaw Package](#)  
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## 2. REGISTRATION EXAM NEWS

The countdown is on and there are only a few days left before the 2008 registration exams are held on Friday October 3, 2008, around the province. Good luck to this year's exam candidates!

All examinees were sent an e-mail notifying them of their assigned exam writing locations. If you did not receive this notice, please contact the registration department immediately.

The list of locations for the 2008 registration exams is available on our website. We recommend that examinees check this link for any changes or updates the day before the exam.

[Registration Exam Locations](#)

**Exam Rules** Before writing the exam carefully read the Registration Exam Rules available on our website.

[Registration Exam Rules \(pdf\)](#)

### **Arrive Early**

Registration exams will start promptly at 9 am in all locations. Make sure you arrive 20 to 30 minutes early for check in and bring at least one piece of photo ID.

If you have any questions or concerns about the 2008 registration exams please contact the registration department.

Registration Department

Ph: 604.687.8027

E-mail: [admissions@abcfp.ca](mailto:admissions@abcfp.ca)

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## 3. YOU GAVE US YOUR INPUT ON THE SELF-ASSESSMENT PROCESS AND WE LISTENED

A revised self-assessment process has been reviewed by the Continuing Competency Committee and by early October the ABCFP will have a simplified self-assessment process. Here are some highlights of the proposed changes:

1. Applicable members will 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 a self-assessment form, professional development plan and make a declaration, as before.
4. There are now 20 questions to answer instead of 33.

Watch the website for more details in early October 2008. For more information, contact:

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

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#### **4. WHAT'S NEW WITH MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2008**

The notices for membership renewal will be sent to members in early October. The notices will be sent electronically unless you have asked to receive it by regular mail.

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.**

Once the renewal process commences, members can log in to the website to see the status of their membership renewal and determine what, if anything, is outstanding.

##### **First Nations Members Have Opportunity to Self-Identify**

Because of the growing importance of First Nations issues in BC and due to the increase in the ABCFP's commitment to work closely with First Nations, we would like to discover how many of our members are of First Nations heritage. Members who are of First Nations 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 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 beginning in early October 2008.

[Steps to Renew](#)

### **Download and Print Your Receipt and Membership Card**

You will soon be able to download and print your own receipt and membership card. Because many members require the receipt 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 not be available until mid-October. 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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## **5. 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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## **6. 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 62<sup>nd</sup> council will take office in February 2009 at ExpoFor in Prince George.

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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## **7. FALL WORKSHOP REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE – TERRACE DATE ADDED**

This workshop explores the broad definition of professional reliance, professional reliance relative to forest legislation, 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:

September 30 - Kamloops	October 21 - Campbell River
October 6 - Prince Rupert	October 22 - Nanaimo
October 7 - Terrace	October 22 - Quesnel
October 7 - Fort Nelson	October 23 - Victoria
October 8 - Dawson Creek	October 27 - Castlegar
October 8 - Smithers	October 27 - Revelstoke
October 9 - Chetwynd	October 28 - Nelson
October 9 - Houston	October 28 - Salmon Arm
October 10 - Fort St. John	October 29 - Cranbrook
October 14 - Prince George	October 29 - Vernon
October 15 - Fort St. James	October 30 - Merritt
October 16 - Vanderhoof	November 4 - Powell River
October 17 - Burns Lake	November 4 - Chilliwack
October 20 - Port McNeill	November 13 - Burnaby
October 20 - 100 Mile House	November 14 - Squamish
October 21 - Williams Lake	

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

[Workshops](#)

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## 8. 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 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. 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 ([FAQ](#)) to address the process.

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 30<sup>th</sup> that are considered incomplete will not be accepted under the terms of this policy.

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

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## 10. BREAK OUT THE CRAYONS

The ABCFP is holding the second annual Forestry Art Contest in partnership with the Truck Loggers Association and the BC Forest Safety Council. Children between 4 and 12 have until October 10<sup>th</sup> to send in a picture depicting what the forest means to them. Three winners (one in each age group) will receive a \$50 Chapters gift certificate and will have their pictures published in the ABCFP and TLA magazines as well as on the websites of each of the organizations. Children of members are welcome to enter the contest. Download a copy of the entry form by clicking on the link below.

[Children's Art Contest](#) (pdf)

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## 11. 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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## 12. 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](mailto:bmartin@abcfp.ca)

[Editorial Board Terms of Reference](#)  
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## 13. ABCFP PROMPTS SCHOOLS AND GOVERNMENT TO TALK

In June the ABCFP met with Murray Coell, Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development, to discuss the closing of the College of New Caledonia's (CNC's) forestry program. As a result of that meeting, the ministry met with CNC, the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology and BCIT. The parties have agreed to work collaboratively with other schools offering forestry programs in BC to develop a plan to keep the forestry programs viable.

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## 14. 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.

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## 15. WHAT'S NEW ON THE DISCUSSION FORUM

During National Forest Week, the ABCFP launched a public area of the Discussion Forum. There are now two distinct areas of the Forum. Members will have access to both the public and member-only discussion boards while the public will only have access to the public areas to ensure that discussions between members can take place without the involving the public. The availability of the public area of the Discussion Forum was announced via a news release last week.

Join the ABCFP Discussion Forum before **October 2<sup>nd</sup>** and you could win a free registration to the Fall Workshop of your choice. Also, each month between September and December one lucky Discussion Forum member will win an ABCFP logo wear prize pack. The winner for September is: Wade Watson, RPF

[Discussion Forum](#)  
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## 16. 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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## 17. 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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## 18. 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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Association of BC Forest Professionals  
1030 - 1188 West Georgia Street  
Vancouver, BC V6E 4A2

Tel: 604.687.8027  
Fax: 604.687.3264

E-mail: [info@abcfp.ca](mailto:info@abcfp.ca)  
Website: [www.abcfp.ca](http://www.abcfp.ca)