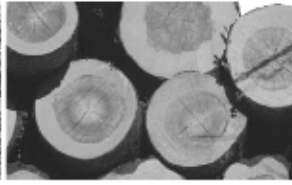




# THE WOODLAND ALMANAC



www.woodlot.bc.ca

Summer 2012

## 25 Rings of the FBCWA: The FBCWA is a quarter century old 1988-2012

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By Sara Grady

The seedling of BC's Crown Woodlot License Program took root in 1948 when the *Forest Act* was amended to allow farmers to obtain small areas of Crown forest to manage as farm woodlots. This new concept of forest tenure didn't enjoy much of a growth spurt though, until 1979; the small size and the onerous administrative requirements resulted in a very low level of interest. The *Forest Act* was amended in 1979 following the Pearce Commission, resulting in the creation of a new type of woodlot license that was larger in area and unlike farm woodlots, which were only available to farmers, was available to any Canadian resident at least 19 years old, First Nations Bands and small corporations controlled by Canadian residents. This unique forest tenure of having individuals manage Crown forest land, often combined with their own private forest land, in Pearce's words: "[was] not intended to serve the needs of typical industrial operations, licenses should



The Dawson family is fortunate to have the fifth generation of the Dawson clan involved in what was originally awarded to Harry Dawson in about 1948 as Farm Woodlot #4 and is now known as WL #0013

*be structured specifically for small scale enterprises... employing one man or a family, or part-time or seasonal help. Today, there appears to be a significant and growing number of people seeking opportunities for small-scale forestry throughout the province. This new interest has been generated by several factors, including the recent growth of concern for the natural environment and resource conservation. (1976)"*

This Forest Act amendment resulted in considerable growth in WLs, with 450 new small forest tenures located in various forest regions around the province through the mid to late 80s. These small forestry businesses had similar challenges and concerns and started organizing themselves by forest district into local associations. This gave them the opportunity to network and represent common issues within their local Forest District. By 1988 there were nine associations – Fraser Valley, Boundary,

con't on page 13 ...



[www.woodlot.bc.ca](http://www.woodlot.bc.ca)

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[www.facebook.com/woodlotsbc](http://www.facebook.com/woodlotsbc)



# BC: Our Big, Beautiful, Diverse Province

by Brian McNaughton

BC is one big, diverse, beautiful province! This spring, during April and May, I travelled around the province and attended 11 Woodlot Association meetings – Shuswap-Okanagan, Boundary, West Kootenay, Stuart Nechako, Nadina, North Island, South Island, Columbia, Kamloops & district, Quesnel and Cariboo. It's always great to meet licensees and discuss issues that are important to them! It's even better when you have some good news to report. In this case, it was the new legislation allowing woodlot licensees to remove some or all of their private land but still hold onto the rest of the Woodlot Licence. I want to say thank you to the Presidents of the Associations and those who helped organize the meetings. I'm hoping to visit the other Associations later this year or perhaps next Spring.

With regards to private land withdrawal, the policy can be found at <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/manuals/policy/resmngmt/rm8-8.htm> and there's a link to the guidelines at the bottom of the policy. The guidelines provide step-by-step instructions to facilitate the process and improve the likelihood of getting approval to withdraw Schedule A land.

Development of a Natural Resource Road Act (NRRRA) continues to be a top priority for the Federation for the reasons described in the Spring Almanac (page 21). However, all licensees should be aware that



Brian McNaughton,  
General Manager

WorkSafeBC recently decreed that all natural resource roads are considered work places and released a natural resource road safety management system. This action was quite a surprise since road safety was being addressed in the NRRRA. So here is the latest, directly from the WorkSafeBC website:

*WorkSafeBC and the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations ("MFLNRO") are working together toward a safe outcome on resource roads. The MFLNRO has advised that a new Natural Resource Road Act ("NRRRA") is scheduled for implementation in 2013. This legislation will clarify government's expectations regarding resource roads.*

*In the interim until the NRRRA comes into force, WorkSafeBC continues to have responsibility for the health and safety of workers on resource roads. The proposed new policy will provide direction to WorkSafeBC's prevention staff and stakeholders, and also to WorkSafeBC's Review Division and the Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal. Upon implementation of the NRRRA, the policy can be revisited, as necessary.*

Professional reliance is still on the radar. As you know, the Federation in conjunction with the Ministry and Association of BC Forest Professionals released a guidance document on professional reliance and how it relates to the practice of forestry on woodlot licences. Since then, government has decided to undertake a new initiative aimed at expanding the use of professional reliance to involve other disciplines. The Ministry is motivated to pursue this course of administration because they see it as way to reduce their workload and costs; i.e. less of a need for review and oversight. Of course, most organizations representing resource professionals see this as a way of expanding their scope of practice and role in resource operations. On the other hand, this approach is worrisome for many woodlot licensees since it has the potential to require them to hire professionals to plan, supervise and report on much of the work that they have historically been doing themselves. The net result will be more administration and higher costs to a licensee with little or no gain in the quality of management being practiced.

Lastly, this year's AGM is in Fort St. John on Sept. 14 & 15<sup>th</sup>. It promises to be a stellar event – one that you won't want to miss. Please make plans to attend.

Have a good summer everyone! ♦



Telephone Support for using the Woodlot for Windows AAC program is available to all woodlot licensees or their representatives.

Contact Mike Bandstra

ph: 250-847-4822 fax: 888-273-0209 email: [mbandstra@forsite.ca](mailto:mbandstra@forsite.ca) ♦

# Timber Supply and Tab Rates

by Blain Arnett

Thankfully summer has finally arrived on the woodlot and it's time to get surveys done. We have tent caterpillars in our area and I am trying to lead them to the aspen patches in the plantations to save on brushing costs... but they don't seem to be following(!). At long last we started our second re-inventory of the woodlot, this one is post beetle.

It will be interesting to see how low the new AAC will be. What should the rotation age be on 30 to 40 year old beetle damaged stands that are not growing at full stocking?

The beetle-killed timber on the woodlot is in poor condition and there does not appear to be much shelf life left in it. The trees are rotting at the stump and quickly falling to the ground with each wind storm. How much beetle-killed inventory can we count on for future sawmill wood supplies? Regional mills and the Ministry of Forests have been actively discussing this topic and a new committee has been appointed by government to report on the wood supply issue.

On May 1, 2012 the Interior Appraisal Manual was amended with a new stumpage rates in Table 6-2. For a complete listing of the rates see the appraisal manual, and if there is no rate for a species in your zone the rate to be used is 'other'.

Effective May 1, 2012 the Tab Rates in Table 6-2 by forest zone are (\$/m<sup>3</sup>):

North Central: 0.79 Balsam, 2.24 Fir, 0.64 Pine, 1.05 Spruce

North East: 0.25 Balsam, 0.29 Pine, 0.35 Spruce

North West: 0.25 Balsam, 0.33 Cedar, 0.27 Hw, 0.77 Pine, 0.37 Spruce

South East: 0.86 Bal, 1.73 Cw, 1.24 Fd, 1.13 Hw, 1.29 Lw, 0.94 Pl, 0.91 Sw

South West: 0.97 Bal, 1.17 Cw, 1.40 Fd, 0.77 Hw, 1.30 Pl, 0.89 Sw

If you have an existing Tab Rate cutting permit your stumpage is fixed until July 31, 2012, and will be



Blain Arnett,  
Interior Timber Pricing  
Coordinator

redetermined on August 1, 2012 with the above rates. If you are applying for a new permit your rates are those noted in the manual at the time of approval.

Statistics about the BC Forest Economy can be found on a Ministry of Forests website [www.for.gov.bc.ca/net/economics.htm](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/net/economics.htm). Some points of interest are:

- 59% of the Interior harvest in 2011 was pine. (With all the beetle killed wood should this be higher, or have we caught up and are now logging more green wood?)
- 694,000 was the adjusted US housing starts in Feb 2011, up 34% from Feb 2010. (Sounds like a big increase, but this was well over 1,000,000 a few years ago. Housing starts need to go higher to show a healthy US economy.)
- 58% of softwood lumber in Canada comes from BC. (Will this go down when our provincial AAC has to be adjusted downwards?)
- 41% of BC lumber currently goes to China and Japan, 51% goes to the US. (Thankfully we have entered into the Asian markets)

These statistics are worth noting as they indicate current lumber markets and demand which should influence future stumpage rates.

If you have any questions or comments, I can be reached at 250-964-4105 or at [greggcreek@shaw.ca](mailto:greggcreek@shaw.ca). ♦



## Links of Interest

- 1 & 3 Month Coast & Interior Log Market Reports: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca.hva/logreports.htm>
- BC Forest Exports by market and product (Ref #4725): <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/het/analysis-forest-exports.htm> ♦

# Communication & Committees

by Ed Hughes

The Coastal Stumpage issues that might impact the rates that Woodlot Licensee's pay now and in the future, are being monitored through a variety of committees and contacts. Since the last report the main activities have been our involvement within the Coastal Timber Pricing Advisory Committee and the MPS Technical Subcommittee. Both seats provide an opportunity for Coast Woodlots to monitor the issues that might impact our stumpage rates.

Some of the Coastal stumpage highlights are noted as follows:

## Market Pricing Equation – Anticipate a change in the formula

The Market Pricing System (MPS) Technical Subcommittee meetings have been ongoing this past few months. The FBCWA continues to hold a seat on the committee. All members have been required to sign confidentiality agreements, limiting our ability to communicate with our members. No decisions regarding amendments to the Coastal Appraisal manual as a result of subcommittee recommendations have been made by



Ed Hughes,  
Coastal Timber Pricing  
Coordinator

the date and time for submitting my report to the Almanac.

## Coastal Timber Pricing Advisory Committee

The CTPAC had a meeting on May 28, 2012 where 20 different items were discussed. The main item that could have impacts on Woodlots who can still submit MPS permits is the formation of a working group to deal with Extended Road Amortisation issues. The FBCWA has a seat on this working group and the committee is scheduled to have their first meeting on June 18, 2012. The working group will be comprised of MoFLNRO Timber pricing staff from Victoria, Region, three industry representatives and FBCWA. I will work closely with Brian and Blain on any potential impacts to Woodlots.

## Communications Regarding Coastal/Interior Timber Pricing Issues

Blain Arnett and I continue to communicate on a regular basis.

Contacts with Timber Pricing Branch continues to maintain a working relationship with Government staff. Industry representatives have been very cooperative, maintaining an open and productive relationship with our woodlot group.

## New Appraisal Issues – Continuous communication

The Coastal Timber Pricing portfolio provides assistance to Woodlot Licensees upon request. If you have any concerns or issues I can be reached at 778-424-6129 or by email at [ehughes2@shaw.ca](mailto:ehughes2@shaw.ca). ♦

## Purpose of the WPDC

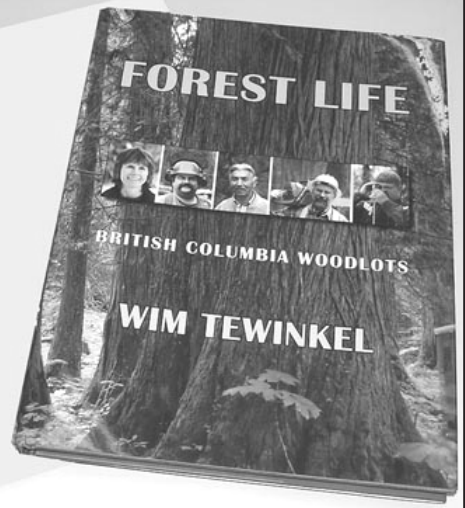
The primary purpose of the WPDC is to ensure that levy fees are spent on woodlot licensee priorities to benefit and promote the woodlot industry throughout BC. Funds are collected through powers granted to Council under the Farming and Fishing Industries Development Act. ♦

## “Forest Life” makes a great gift

Are you looking for a great gift idea? Look no further! Forest Life: British Columbia Woodlots by Wim Tewinkel showcases and celebrates BC's woodlots, woodlot licensees, and their families.

Through beautiful photos and a few words, this book captures the seasonal beauty of coastal and interior woodlots and portrays the landscapes and diversity of our forests as well as the stewardship of those who manage them.

You can order it from [www.woodlot.bc.ca](http://www.woodlot.bc.ca) for only \$39.95, or woodlot licensees can buy it from their woodlot associations for only \$20.00 ♦







# PEACE COUNTRY: BACK TO OUR FUTURE (EST. 1988)

In 1988, the inaugural meeting of the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations took place in Fort St. John.

Ten years later the Peace River Woodlot Association hosted the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting which was also the 1<sup>st</sup> inaugural meeting of the Woodlot Product Development Council.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN IN THE CELEBRATIONS OF THE  
25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE FBCWA  
AND THE 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE WPDC  
ON SEPTEMBER 13-15<sup>TH</sup>, 2012 BACK WHERE IT ALL BEGAN,  
FORT ST. JOHN**

Come take part in a trap shooting competition, learn how to do elk bugling, climb on board for a River Boat tour to the Site C dam, search for dinosaur bones, and join the locals in a country hoedown complete with a buffalo BBQ.

Fort St. John is known as the Energetic City, which reflects not only a large resource base of oil, natural gas, forestry and agriculture, but also the vitality of the residents who are keen to live and work in a community that gives back so much. Fort St. John attracts travelers with wilderness and eco-adventures, as well as hunting and fishing.

Since its beginning in 1794 as a trading post, Fort St. John has grown with opportunities like the completion of the Alaska Highway in 1942 that sparked a population boom and the discovery of high-grade oil in 1951 that set the City's course as British Columbia's Oil and Gas Capital.

They say that once you drink the waters of the Peace you'll never leave! So mark your calendars and come on up. (If you are nervous about staying forever, we'll make sure we have plenty of suds that include more than water to drink!)

Complete the registration package included with this issue of the Almanac by July 31 to win a complimentary registration and/or a handmade 25th anniversary coffee mug.

For more information visit [www.woodlot.bc.ca](http://www.woodlot.bc.ca)

News release:  
**Vanderhoof  
woodlot licensee  
recognized for  
achievements**

May 22, 2012 - Ministry of Forests, Lands  
and Natural Resource Operations

VANDERHOOF – Woodlot licensee  
Mark Churchill is the Northern  
Interior’s award winner of this year’s  
Award of Excellence for Woodlot  
Management, Nechako Lakes MLA  
John Rustad announced today, on  
behalf of Minister of Forests, Lands  
and Natural Resource Operations  
Steve Thomson.

Mark Churchill has managed a  
woodlot in Vanderhoof since 1998. He  
is known for his focus on reforestation  
and dedication to ensure wood waste  
is utilized by stock-piling fibre to  
supply new bio-energy operations. He  
also contributes to the success of other  
woodlots by working with licensees  
throughout the province and providing  
direction on forest stewardship  
activities.

Licensees that show exemplary  
leadership and contribution to woodlot  
management are recognized annually  
through the Minister’s Award of  
Excellence for Woodlot Management.

Three regional awards are given:  
one for the Northern Interior, one  
for the Southern Interior and one for  
the Coast. Each award is for \$2,500.  
Finalists are evaluated by a team with  
representation from the Federation  
of BC Woodlot Associations and the  
ministry.

Nominations for the 2012 awards  
are due by Dec. 31, 2012.



Quotes:

Steve Thomson, Minister of  
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource  
Operations – *“Mark Churchill’s  
perseverance and leadership in  
woodlot management goes beyond  
the regular call of duty. His high level  
of expertise sets a great example for  
other woodlot licensees to strive to  
achieve.”*

John Rustad, MLA for Nechako  
Lakes – *“Mr. Churchill’s openness  
to educate and share his knowledge  
with others is greatly appreciated. I  
congratulate him for his dedication  
and success.”*

Mark Clark, president, Federation  
of BC Woodlot Associations – *“Mark  
is recognized for his exemplary  
efforts in woodlot management. His  
focus on long-term sustainability  
and reforestation are two major*

*components of achieving a successful,  
viable woodlot operation. This award  
is well deserved!”*

Quick Facts:

- Woodlot licences are small, area-based tenures that combine private land with up to 800 hectares of Crown land on the Coast and 1,200 hectares in the Interior, and are managed by individuals, groups or First Nations.
- Woodlots are replaceable tenures, usually awarded for an initial term of 20 years.
- British Columbia has 866 active woodlots. Each woodlot generates jobs in planning, harvesting, road construction and maintenance, reforestation, silviculture and small-scale timber processing.

Connect with the Province of B.C. at:  
[www.gov.bc.ca/connect](http://www.gov.bc.ca/connect). ♦

Please help us out! If you are transferring or selling your woodlot make sure the new licensees get their own copy of the Almanac by asking them to send their contact information to the WPDC Coordinator. Also if you wish to remain on the Almanac’s mailing list let Cathy know.



## Mark Churchill and Sid Dawson Minister's Award Winners

Woodlot Licensees are invited to apply for the Minister's Awards of Excellence for Woodlot Management associated with site productivity gains, improved utilization and administrative streamlining. A woodlot licensee may be nominated by a woodlot association, another licensee, an individual, Ministry staff or the Federation. Annually one woodlot licensee from the Coast, Southern and Northern Interior Regions will be recognized and awarded \$2500.00.

The application deadline is December 31. For more information: [www.woodlot.bc.ca](http://www.woodlot.bc.ca) (Min Award). ♦



*The FBCWA and the WPDC are pleased to congratulate the Interior and coastal winners of the Ministers Award for Excellence: Mark Churchill and Sid Dawson. Shown in the photo is the Dawson clan accepting the award.*

# FBCWA Award Winner for 2012

*By Nancy Pezel*

We are very pleased to announce that Joshua Macy of Nanaimo, BC is the winner of the FBCWA Scholarship Award. This annual award is given to a student who is related to a woodlot licensee &/or a Private Forest Land Owner and is attending or planning to attend post secondary education, preferably in a forestry-related area of study.

Joshua is the son of Harold Macy and Judy Racher. Their Woodlot Licence #1677 is located in Courtenay on Vancouver Island. Joshua has just completed his first year of the Forest Technology Program at Vancouver Island University.

Joshua has been involved in the family woodlot since childhood. In his application, he states "Growing up in our forestry-fed-family allowed constant learning and work in the woods, from learning my trees and plants as a child (with credit given to a most excellent Junior Forest Warden program) to planting cutblocks and brushing roads to save up for a mountain bike (and later, car). I have been strongly influenced by the experiences and lessons I have had in our family woodlot as well as beyond." More recently, Joshua has been gaining considerable forestry experience in wildfire management, working his way up to an Initial Attack Crew Leader.

Read Joshua's essay titled "Diversifying Woodlot Economies" in response to our question "Apart from selling logs, what other economic/business opportunities do you see coming from a woodlot?" in this issue of the Almanac.

The committee that judged the applications was impressed with the quality of all the applications. Thank you to all who applied.

The funding for this \$1000 award was generated through the "Silent Auctions" at the FBCWA AGMs. Please continue to support this worthwhile cause at this year's AGM in Fort St. John. ♦



# Scholarship Award Winning Essay: Diversifying Woodlot Economies

By Joshua Macy

Woodlots in British Columbia today face an increasingly difficult reality. While dealing with the same issues as their larger industry counterparts, such as an increase in fuel prices, low log prices and increased labour and production costs; they do not share the same economies of scale and international money that the major players have. In order for woodlot licensees to have success in their business ventures, they must examine all sources of revenue in order to remain in the black. In the following response, I will outline two (of a plethora) ways woodlot managers might find financial gain outside of selling logs.



Joshua Macy

## Non-Timber Forest Products

The idea that there is more to a forest than timber is not a new one. The First Nations peoples throughout BC had an encyclopedic knowledge of the uses for the fauna found within the forests. Flash-forward to today and there is an active NTFP market with a vigorous domestic market and exports throughout the world. Accents for floral arrangements, such as Salal, Ferns and Mosses are wildly popular as well as winter-seasonal items, like conifer bows for Christmas decoration. Berry collection is another seasonal crop (summer) with multiple species of Vaccinium, Salmon berry, Oregon grape and blackberry (including the invasive Himalayan) being highly prized by buyers. As forest cash-crops go there is not much more lucrative than mushrooms. Pine, Chanterelle, Morels and Boletes are delicious and sustainable understory crops that are valued worldwide for their unique flavours and texture. Bigleaf maple and Birch syrup, tuber crops, medicinals, dyes, custom wood-pieces, bird toys, knick-knacks and collectables; the list goes on and on.

For the woodlot manager there is opportunity to produce these products in their raw forms or to pursue them higher up the value-added chain, sourcing markets and developing clientele. There are numerous organisations in place to support NTFP ventures, such as BuyBCWild

and the Ministry of Forests. For every opportunity currently being utilised there are others that have yet to be developed.

## Land-Use

When asking woodlot managers about the keys for success in small scale operations, many will reply with the ability to form relationships with other entrepreneurs and to create a sense of ownership amongst community stakeholders. With the goal of increasing economic diversity and establishing woodlots as a part of the fabric of rural areas, managers can introduce 3rd party to achieve management objectives.

An example of this: a garden mulch supplier using old, non-functioning gravel pits or landings as production or storage sites with a portion of the product going into site rehabilitation. Same goes for mushroom growers looking for under-canopy locations for spore-logs, or firewood services using the aforementioned landings for tops and waste delivery (woodlot owners could also utilise this service for mitigating slash debris and fire risk). While woodlot licensees would have more hoops to jump through than their private land counterparts, these tactics would increase commercial relationships, have a mitigating effect on losses and damages incurred by vandals, as well as providing monetary capital or improving the conditions of their tenure.

Small scale forestry operations are built on the sweat and determination of their stakeholders. These people are not in the business for a fast buck nor the short term. This is a good thing as breaking from the timber-only market is not an easy path to follow. These alternative operations are incredible labour intensive, time consuming and at times fickle. The result of utilising them, however, is getting the entire value for your tenure and the opportunity to diversify. In an increasingly global marketplace, traditional views on forest value may not be appropriate- woodlot managers must look to the understory for the bottom line. ♦

**The FBCWA has a number of items that would make great gifts for Friends, Family, Contractors and others. Items in stock include screen-printed logo on T-shirts and coffee mugs, embroidered FBCWA logo on golf shirts, oilskin ball caps and knitted toques. Order through the WPDC coordinator, Cathy McClary. ♦**

# My two cents worth: When the Queen waves, does she speak our mind?

By Fred Newhouse

The image of the Queen on the barge on the river Thames, during the royal jubilee stirred up a host of emotions. I'm not a royal watcher but somewhere deep inside I was drawn to the scene. Maybe it's a lifetime of seeing her image on coins or the reference to crown land on the tenure documents. Perhaps the deeper meaning involves a lifetime of having her "reign over us." Somehow my relationship to the crown woodlot I manage and the world at large is all caught up with being her subject, with a commitment to living life in a world based on an empires traditions.



to emulate nature, reconstructing a sustainable forest in the image of best forest science, or eco-forestry principals. Our belief structures an offshoot of an empires tradition. In the end we create an artifact, the form an expression of our deepest held meanings.

One thing the Pine beetle taught us is that when we look at a natural area such as a park or wilderness, the pre empire forest was not without man, but an expression of the ideas they held in mind. Perhaps the lesson is that our own experience and interaction with the forest reveal a deeper meaning. Our dreams and imagination become part of the forest forming process and even though we missed the vision quest, a close relationship with the land has passed on some of the taste and flavour of the landscape.

Just as a Dunne-za shaped their landscape based on deeper meanings, so too the woodlot licensee shapes the forest based on the belief system they've grown up in, tempered by the land.

When the Queen waves, does she speak to our mind,  
Or does the land speak louder. ♦

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Before the British Empire found the B.C. coast the images with the greatest meaning were those created in wood and stone. Duff Wilson, a B.C. anthropologist, wrote about these Images of Stone "Images seem to speak to the eye, but they are really addressed to the mind. Images are meaning, which come out in the thinking." (Duff, 1975:12-16)

Robin Riddington, another prominent B.C. anthropologist found that what held meaning on the coast as expressed in carved wood and stone was expressed in the Peace river on the landscape. "The true art of these people was their relationship to the world itself. The relationship the

northern nomads held in mind were made physical through the tracks they left in their movements across the land."(Riddington, Trails of Meaning, p239)

Robin Riddington conducted field work from 1964 to 1971 with the Dunne-za. Their "...world was a physical representation of the ideas with which they held in their minds. Their world was itself an artifact of their traditional construction of it."(Riddington) Their vision quest in youth a communion with the land.

Our constructed meaning, in the modern era, can be seen in our current forest practices. We attempt

## FBCWA Vision

Woodlot holders/owners will participate in a healthy and diverse forest industry with woodlot licenses and private forest lands, making significant contributions to local communities and providing a sustainable supply of forest products.

The FBCWA will have a voice in forest and economic policy.

BC's woodlots will be models of forest management excellence, and world-renowned for their social, economic, recreational, cultural, and educational contributions to rural communities. ♦

# Assisting Woodlots to diversify & enhance revenues

## An update on the WPDC Business Planning Project

By Mike Larock,  
Chair, WPDC Business Planning Project Working Group

For the past year, the Woodlot Product Development Council has been working on behalf of all woodlot licensees to develop a plan that will guide decision making over the next five to ten years on how to conserve the Council's reserve funds and leverage supplemental capital to improve the economic situation of woodlot licensees.

Through the Almanac and at Director meetings, I have kept you updated on the progress of this project. I am pleased to say that it is nearing completion. A review team consisting of 6 woodlot licensees representing the FBCWA and the WPDC have worked over the past couple of months to make sure the report is accurate and contains useful recommendations for moving forward.

The successful implementation of the plan will increase opportunities for woodlot licensees to save on costs and/or generate more revenue. In turn these licensees will strengthen the woodlot organizations by increasing capacity to support important new initiatives.

The success of the plan can include increased capacity to:

- raise funds from other sources
- critically analyze and prioritize proposals for project expenditures from woodlot licensees
- generate actions by individual woodlot licensees
- provide specialized business expertise for woodlot licensees
- collaborate on initiatives amongst licensees and/or woodlot organizations
- develop advocacy and policy work by woodlot organizations, and
- explore research and development opportunities.

In the next month, a summary of the plan will be made available to all woodlot licensees, the FBCWA executive and local woodlot associations. For those wanting more detail, the plan in its entirety can also be distributed. Leading up to the AGM, the Council will look at refining the plan through the collection of further feedback from licensees and woodlot organizations. The plan will be reviewed at the AGM in September. You are invited to take part in the discussions. Remember to register for the AGM by July 31, 2012 to have a chance to win a complimentary registration. After the AGM, the Council and the Federation will make final decisions on the plan, integrate it with each organization's strategic planning work and move forward to our next level of success.

I want to thank every woodlot licensee for their support regarding this project. To those who have offered constructive feedback and ideas, your comments are appreciated and were considered in all the data of the report. To those who may wish to contribute once you read the final plan, the review team is ready to listen. And finally to our review team consisting of Denise English, David Zirnelt, Mark Clark, Shawn Flynn and John Massier, your dedication to the success of the project is outstanding! Thank you. ♦

## NOTICES:

- [www.WoodSourceBC.com](http://www.WoodSourceBC.com): Where wood buyers find sellers – online. BC's free online wood marketplace, offers you the opportunity to buy and sell more wood products and services than ever before, [www.WoodSourceBC.com](http://www.WoodSourceBC.com) provides buyers and sellers the opportunity to market themselves to a wider network of BC's wood users. It's easy to use, simply create your profile and start listing items for sale and items you want to buy. Sign up today at [www.WoodSourceBC.com](http://www.WoodSourceBC.com)
- Make 2013 the year to celebrate forests in your community. Nominate your Community for the 2013 Forest Capital of BC. For further information: [www.abcfp.ca](http://www.abcfp.ca)
- We are finally entering the world of Social Media - we have a FaceBook page!!! It is a great way to get people interested in small scale forest management and BC's woodlot program as well as keep licensees up-to date on what is happening in the news and activities around the province. An example would be the recent Award of Excellence which went out to Barb and Sid Dawson. We need as many people as possible to help launch our FaceBook page [www.facebook.com/woodlotsbc](http://www.facebook.com/woodlotsbc). There is a link from our website as well. There are a couple things you can do to help: If you have a FaceBook account, go to the FBCWA page and "Like" it (click on the Like icon). If not, maybe sign up for FaceBook. Ask your friends and family who have FaceBook to check out our new page and "Like" it. Post photos on the page and add comments of interest relating to small-scale forest management or pass them onto Lisa Marak for posting. ♦



Janice Burns:

# Small Fish, Big Pond, Bigger Success

by Sara Grady

When Janice Burns walked into a lecture hall to attend Forestry 300, she had no idea it would change the course of her studies, and her life. But four years after taking that elective to fill her timetable at the University of British Columbia in the Arts Department, Janice had completed the Forest Resources Management program, and was the recipient of two prestigious awards at her graduation this spring. Had her professor, Gary Bull, not seen her potential and marched her up to the office of Forestry Program Director John Nelson before letting her leave her exam, her path may very well have been a different one.

A native of Slokan, a tiny community in the Kootenays, Janice grew up in a forestry family: her great-grandfather was awarded the first tree farm license in BC's interior, TFL #3, in the mid-1800s; her father, Gary, holds WL 498 on the back doorstep of the Valhallas.

One of four children, she was encouraged to pursue any career that interested her, though it's apparent she "absorbed a great deal [about forestry] by osmosis", according to her father. While the kids weren't expected to follow in their father's footsteps, their mother encouraged them to be "net contributors to society ... with a compassionate heart."

Clearly, Janice took this sentiment to heart: she was awarded the Canadian Institute of Forestry Gold Medal, which recognizes outstanding scholarship, sportsmanship and citizenship. "I am honoured and humbled to be the recipient of [this award]," said Janice, "I hold the Gold Medal with pride, and with my colleagues in mind." In addition to the medal, she was presented with the Gordon Baskerville Award, recognizing outstanding achievement in academics and citizenship.

In a wonderful mix of entrepreneurial drive and a



*Proud papa Woodlot Licensee Gary Burns with daughter Janice at UBC Awards Ceremony*

*"Janice was selected as Valedictorian for UBC's overall 2012 Grad class, and we go to hear her address at the Chan Centre at UBC tomorrow!*

*Two days ago, she was just finishing her last shift on a fire that escaped at 6000' near Invermere, where she had been camped in the bush for 10 days (5 without a shower), and needing to prepare her speech. She and my son Angus bantered back and forth to write and practice it as we drove down to Vancouver today! It was such fun to hear them cooperate to help her come to a good "last minute" result. Her hands are still rough, cracked and pretty black. Should go well with her dress. What a contrast!"*

*- Gary Burns*

strong sense of humanity, Janice represents a promising generation of forestry professionals who have the skills and desire to excel in their field, while respecting the needs of society as a whole. No doubt, her upbringing on a working farm instilled in her the sense of responsibility and the strong work ethic she displayed during her studies. The two years her family spent in South America while Gary managed a forestry operation in Guyana gave Janice "a pretty down-to-earth understanding of priorities, knowing that food and shelter are ultimately at the top of the list and should not be taken for granted."

Janice's current passion is fire, specifically within the Wildfire Management Branch: after serving as an Aviation Assistant for the BC Forest Service Protection Branch she went through the grueling application process to become a wildland firefighter and joined the 20-person Valhalla Unit Crew. She's dedicated considerable time and energy

to researching fuel management plans, specifically in wildland-urban interface areas, as well as technologies such as LIDAR, which are aiding in fuel assessments and wildfire management. For now, Janice will continue with the BC Forest Service, while also working alongside her father; she muses about the possibility of someday taking over the family's woodlot operation.

No doubt, she will enjoy tremendous success, regardless of the path she takes in the future, thanks to her tenacious personality and obvious intellect. "Give her a complex problem and she'll wrestle it to the ground and won't give up until she's figured it out" said her professor. As we look to the future of our forests, both locally and globally, it's heartening to see the exceptional talent of youth like Janice on the horizon. ♦

# So Long Lester!



Woodlot Forester Lester Vermiere retired in April, 2012 after serving the Boundary and later the Arrow/Boundary Forest Districts for 17 years. Lester worked under four District Managers and gained a great deal of respect within the woodlot community.

Lester was involved in the award of 32 Woodlots during his tenure. He also helped with and adjudicated the development, calculation and determination of new AACs for most of those woodlots involved in the expansion program. He was a strong supporter of the further expansion of the Boundary woodlot program and shared with us our recent disappointment in seeing the proposed woodlot expansion area included in and replaced by a proposed Community Forest. He was also instrumental in setting up the Inventory standards now in place for Woodlots.

We wish Lester a very pleasant retirement which will likely include many days on his motorbike with Nadine hanging on tightly behind him and many hours in the bush enjoying a stealthy pursuit of the Boundary area's wily Whitetail bucks! Thanks Lester for a job well done and much appreciated by the Boundary area woodlot licensees. ♦

*The Boundary Woodlot Association presented a wood carving to retiring woodlot forester, Lester Vermiere. The carving was crafted by Don Sims from a piece of Juniper off George Dore's woodlot. The plaque reads: "The end of one trail is the start of another" Lester Vermiere Woodlot Forester 1995-2012 In appreciation from the Boundary Woodlot Association.*

## ■ from page 1

North Island, Peace River, Prince George, Kamloops & District, Gulf Islands, Stuart/Nechako and South Island, with new associations forming each year as the woodlot program continued to grow.

Over time, the local associations came to realize they needed provincial representation with the Ministry of Forests, since BC's legislation and policies were designed for large tenures, and ill-suited to the small-tenure model. In 1988 the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations (FBCWA) was formed in Fort St. John to represent the interests of woodlot licensees, via their local associations, on provincial matters such as forest legislation, regulations and policy, and work with government to improve opportunities available to woodlot licensees and ensure continued growth of the program.

The FBCWA's main purpose was to promote the economic and social benefits of small-scale forest management throughout British Columbia. What started out as a small,

grassroots, volunteer based non-profit organization is now made up of 23 Woodlot Associations representing the interests of 875 woodlot licensees with many accomplishments to its credit. Small-scale forestry is well represented today on countless committees; its advocates and practitioners are invited to participate in many forestry-related functions on a local, national and international stage. Additionally, its members have an excellent working relationship with government and other industry organizations such as the Central Interior Loggers Association, Truck Loggers Association, BC Cattlemen's Association, and the BC Community Forests Association.

The Federation's contributions are numerous, and are highlighted by such accomplishments as: making administration of woodlot licenses more efficient and effective, expanding the woodlot program (soon to be ~900 Woodlot Licenses), providing extension services to licensees and landowners in forest

management; developing agroforestry as an emerging industry; and funding a scholarship for a young person pursuing an education in a forestry-related discipline. In addition, each year the Minister's Awards of Excellence are awarded to three (3) licensees - one each from the coast, southern interior and northern interior – to recognize their successes and the high standard of forest management they have practiced on their woodlot license. The woodlot license program has been an integral part of BC's forest sector for over five decades, continuing to provide socio-economic benefits and environmentally sound management of BC's forest resources. Clearly, Commissioner Pearce was a visionary when he rejuvenated the growth of the woodlot program with his recommendations back in 1976; no doubt he'd be pleased with the hearty growth of the small-scale forestry seedling and how it has allowed families to stay connected to the forests. ♦

# Youth shine in hands-on education

## Project-based forestry class takes students out of the classroom to learn real world skills application

By Alyson McAndrews, *Alberni Valley Times*  
Published: Tuesday, June 12, 2012

Three young teens led Cam Pinkerton, Alberni District superintendent, Larry Ransom, school board chairperson, and Rosemary Buchanan, board trustee, through the woods.

Every few feet Dean Leyland, 15, Johannes Kulich, 15, and Jarred Beckett, 14, stop and point out some interesting fact about the forest, like what type of ferns make for the best protection from the rain when building a shelter, and which tree is what species. Then, they take the group off-roading and show them a series of shelters they used to demonstrate to Grade 5 students how to build using ferns, bark, branches and stumps.

They speak with authority while discussing complex math problems they used to figure out the mass of trees. It's important information if you plan to cut them down, which they also did earlier in the year.

It's their Grade 9 graduation, and it's their time to show members of the school board what they have been up for the past 10 months. They are members of Alberni District Secondary School's much-lauded projectbased learning sustainable resources class.

Their entire school year was focused on learning about the forestry industry, while meeting curriculum requirements. Two mornings a week it was held at the Port Alberni Woodlot by the airport. The class of 14 did things like built a storage shed and learned how to calculate the mass of a tree for math class, for social studies, they learned about the history of the industry. They developed strong leadership skills by taking other students, ages five to 10, into the woods for activities. They learned what it takes to work with other people to run a business as an integral part of the Christmas tree woodlot's workforce. Providing not only labour, they also figured out the economics of running a profitable enterprise.

The students who teacher Ryan Dvorak is saying goodbye to today are not the group he met in the fall. These students have more confidence, are better behaved than most youth during classroom free time, are articulate and engaged.

"When a person learns how to learn, it's a skill that

stays with them for life," Dvorak said. "They've now experienced the practical application of what they would have traditionally learned in a classroom. I think it makes it easier to engage."

Shawn Flynn, registered professional forester and part-owner of the woodlot, said he

saw evidence of that when he watched the students apply skills they learned in construction to other areas.

That is the essence of the course - taking real-world application of classroom-based material and teaching them to students who have an interest in learning outside of the traditional classroom-and-chalk-board model.

"We also have a chance to work on being good citizens," he said.

"They are removed from the peer pressure of high school when they are here. We expect the best from them while they are here."

Flynn includes the students in all aspects of

his business, and that includes learning to be professional and give back.

"We re-sided a building and the students explained it as something to give to future classes," Dvorak said. "They've learned that it's about giving as much as taking."

Since it's the last day of the class, Flynn took some time to talk about life, rather than school.

"I told them a happy life is a combination of good choices, hard work and a little bit of luck," he said. "And the luck is usually a product of good choices."

ADSS principal Mike Ruttan couldn't be more proud of Dvorak and the students.

"We got a really special group of students in the program this year," Ruttan said. "They ran with everything and have grown up a lot. I'm really proud of what Ryan has done with the program. The progress over the years has been great to watch."

As for whether the program will breed any future foresters, Jarred Beckett has decided he wants to be a conservation officer, and Dean Leyland sees forestry as a possible option now.

The future of this program is uncertain due to funding cuts at the district. ♦



Grade 12's in the classroom at W1479



Twin Excavator Trainees on W1479



Student bird-house building competition at W 1479



## MEMBER *Reflections*



John Bruce Hill, or 'Tex' to his many friends was born on June 24<sup>th</sup> 1945 in Dundas Ontario. He graduated from the University of Guelph with a Degree in Agriculture, and like many made his way west in 1972 to pursue his dreams. He settled in the Vanderhoof area and made his mark as a cattle rancher, tie mill operator, faller and in the 1980's a woodlot operator. 'Tex' passed away peacefully on April 14<sup>th</sup> 2012 and will undoubtedly be remembered

for the unique individual his friends knew him as. He is survived by his son, John Paul, and daughter, Shonna. Tex is best described by Shonna, "Dad was the quintessential nature lover. He cherished every part of the forest, from the greatest tree to the smallest flower. His spirit will live on through the forests he was so dedicated to." Family and friends are gathering in Vanderhoof on June 23<sup>rd</sup> to celebrate his life. ♦

*The Woodland Almanac is always looking for creative submissions for "Member Reflections" related to small-scale forestry. We'd like to hear from you on stories from the woodlot or see your photos from the block. "Member Reflections" can also be used to share obituaries on licensees who are no longer with us. If you'd like to submit an article or photo, contact Cathy McClary at [cjmccclary401@gmail.com](mailto:cjmccclary401@gmail.com).*



New feature!

## Woodlotter's tricks of the trade

*Submit your ideas on what makes woodlot life easier. Examples could include anything from a handy tool, how you have made something work, or 'How to' tips that you have discovered that you want to share with other woodlot licensees. Specific examples might be suggestions like how you keep that old 30 year chainsaw going, how you extend the life of a power saw chain, how you have adapted that 40 year old piece of equipment to keep on running, etc. Send your ideas to Cathy McClary at [cjmccclary401@gmail.com](mailto:cjmccclary401@gmail.com) or call her at 250-961-0271. The licensee whose idea gets published each issue will receive a FBCWA hat or Shirt.) ♦*

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## Council directorship vacancies

Three director vacancies need filling! Mike Larock, Steven Wright and David Zirnheld will be leaving Council at the AGM in Fort St. John this fall. The Woodlot Product Development Council is comprised of seven woodlot licensee directors representing the Northern Interior, Southern Interior, Coastal Forest Region and the Peace. The positions are staggered so that vacancies come up every year. Directors are required to participate in the planning and carrying out of the Council mandate and to lead in the delivery of key projects. Council hosts ~10 teleconferences and two meetings per year. Meetings are held in Feb/March and at the AGM in the fall.

Directors are compensated for travel expenses and the AGM registration fee. If you are interested in joining Council please contact any of the Directors or the WPDC Coordinator, Cathy McClary 250-961-0271 [cjmccclary401@gmail.com](mailto:cjmccclary401@gmail.com). ♦

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Brian McNaughton  
Fred Newhouse  
Nancy Pezel

*"Summer afternoon—summer  
afternoon; to me those have always  
been the two most beautiful words  
in the English language."*

~ Henry James

## Advertising Rates

As a service to FBCWA members, the Woodland Almanac will make space available for non-commercial ads, free of charge. Commercial advertising space is also offered to enterprises at the following rates:

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### *Please note:*

*The opinions expressed  
in the Almanac do not  
necessarily reflect those of  
the Federation, the Council,  
or their members.*



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