

Learn Forestry News

January 2005

“There is more old growth in BC now than there was 100 years ago”

Source: COFI Forest Facts Page



Publishers:

Debbie Sluggett

Bell Pole Co., Tolko Industries, LP Canada, Downie Timber,
Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation

Jennifer Stewart

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Learn Forestry News Index

Introduction

- BC Southern Interior Forest Educators: *"A Brief History"*

Okanagan/Shuswap Highlights

- Professional Development Day: *"Forest Health - The Good, the Bad and the Ugly"*
- CES Conference: *"Growing Jobs in the Forest Resource"*
- Selkirk Recruiter Tour
- School Activities: *"The Clarence Fulton Wetlands Centre of Excellence" (Vernon)*
- School Activities: *"Charles Bloom Secondary Community Woodlot Day" (Lumby)*
- Sharing Forest Education Programs
- ILA Trades Convention and Mini Education Fair: *"Growing a Skilled Force for an Expanding Forest Industry" (Vernon)*

Cariboo Highlights

- Forest Capital 2004: *"Forest Education Van Visits Williams Lake"*

East Kootenay Highlights

- Professional Development Day: *"Fire Ecology and Ecosystem Restoration In the Rocky Mountain Trench"*

West Kootenay Highlights

- Newly Hired Forest Educator for the West Kootenay Zone

Thompson Highlights

- Newly Hired Forest Educator for the Thompson Zone

BC Northern Interior Highlights

- An Overview of COFI Northern Operations Forest Education Program

Expanding Our Roots

- Temperate Forest Foundation
- Canadian Women in Timber
- Forest Capital 2005 – Revelstoke BC
- Canadian Forestry Association National Forest Week 2005: *"Canada's Forests and Wetlands: Our Natural Water Filters"*
- Forests Minister Endorses UBC Wood Products Processing Degree
- Selkirk College News Release: *"Renewable Resource technology - accreditation and transfer agreements key to program flexibility"*

Upcoming Events

- Revelstoke is Forest Capital of BC
- Aboriginal Spotlight Career Fair (Armstrong)
- Professional Development Day: *"The Future of our Forest Sector – Growing the Skilled Force for an Expanding Industry"*
- Forestry Career Day (Kelowna)
- ILA Trades Convention and Mini Education Fair (Vernon)
- National Forest Week (Okanagan/Shuswap)
- Charles Bloom Secondary Community Woodlot Day (Lumby)
- TFF Forestry Tour (Western Canadian, Vancouver)
- ForestEDWest Conference 2006

Odds and Ends

- Questions
- Comments
- June Newsletter
- Submissions for Learn Forestry Website

Introduction

BC Southern Interior Forest Educators: *“A Brief*



History”

Forest education is not only sustainable, it is growing!! Thirteen years ago, Theresa White (ILMA Manager, Communications) started offering students an opportunity to attend the Interior Lumber Manufacturer’s Association’s annual meeting. Two years later, she asked Jeannie Steele, a former teacher, to assist her in planning Pro D Day activities for teachers. Teachers were soon visiting active logging operations, touring plywood plants, sawmills and nurseries or attending presentations given by some of forestry’s experts. It wasn’t long before Riverside Forest Products asked Jeannie to work for them as an educational liaison.

A few years later, Debbie Sluggett, a teacher, met with Jeannie and found that they shared a vision for forest education. Deb (with Jeannie’s support) approached a number of companies in the Okanagan/Shuswap region and soon had a contract position as Educational Liaison to Bell Pole Co., Tolko Industries, LP-Canada, Downie Timber Ltd. and Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation. Theresa, Jeannie and Deb worked together to try to unite a network of people interested in forest education.

Theresa moved on to other adventures and two years ago, Debbie Bazett was hired as Education Coordinator for the ILMA; now Council of Forest Industries - Southern Operations. Through the efforts of Jeannie, Deb and Debbie Bazett the southern interior of BC is now divided into 6 forest education zones, each with its’ own forest educator.

These educators include:

Norma Blissett	East Kootenays
Gail Wallin/Maureen LeBourdais	Cariboo
Nancie Dohan	West Kootenays
Susan Bondar	Thompson
Jennifer Stewart	Tolko - Riverside (Okanagan)
Debbie Sluggett	Bell Pole, Tolko, LP, Downie, RCFC (N.Okanagan to Golden)
Debbie Bazett	COFI – Southern Operations

To help the new educators get a running start, Debbie, Jeannie, and Debbie Bazett hosted a “Forest Educators Workshop” in Vernon last October. The event started with a tour of Riverside’s Plywood Plant, followed by a tour of the Interior Logging Forest Education Van (Canadian Women in Timber ladies, Ann Polson and Betty-Ann McDonald acted as guides) and the day ended with a dinner for all involved plus some local resource people.

The second day was all work!! Jeannie and Deb S. walked the educators through the resources they had built over the past 7-10 years and shared templates for setting up Pro D Day sessions, Presenters Training workshops, National Forest Week presentations and creating partnerships between industry and schools. It was a busy time but a great chance to get to know one another and talk about

forest education. As Jeannie retired at the end of October, it was also a chance to introduce Jennifer Stewart – Tolko - Riverside new Educational Liaison. Educators went home with bundles of resources provided by Jeannie, Deb, and Debbie. We wish them all the best and look forward to working together to share ideas and resources in the future!!

Be sure to visit Deb and Jeannie's website: www.learnforestry.com. In future the website will include material from other forest educators and be known as Learn Forestry.

Okanagan/Shuswap Highlights

Debbie Sluggett (Educational Liaison: Bell Pole, Tolko, LP Canada, Downie, RCFC)

Jennifer Stewart (Educational Liaison: Tolko - Riverside)

Debbie Bazett (Forest Education Coordinator, COFI - Southern Operations)

Professional Development Day: "*Forest Health - The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*"

October 22, 2004

We held forest health workshops in Vernon and in Revelstoke. We had a great turn out and were pleased to hear the teachers found the resources and tour both informative and applicable to the classroom.

Vernon

The morning session included:

- Field trip to the Coldstream Creek area, behind Silver Star Mountain Park
- 5 guest speakers: Paul Ross from Tolko, Gerry Wellburn from Riverside, Joel Springer from Gorman Bros., Mike Jobke from BCTS, and Glen Waneck from BCTS
- Presentations on forest health, succession, and stand measurement
- Viewed logging equipment at work
- We encountered fresh snow on the field trip, but do to our "heroine bus driver", as one teacher put it, we were able to make it through

The afternoon session included:

- Presentation on insects by Ward Strong, Seed and Cone Specialist from MOF
- Presentation on managing forest health issues in Silver Star Mountain Park by Rick Specht, Forest Health Tech from MOF

Revelstoke

The morning session included:

- Field trip to George Benwell's woodlot
- 4 guest speakers: George Benwell, George Benwell Jr., Del Williams from RCFC and Deiter Offermann from Downie Timber
- Presentations on *armillaria* root rot, white pine blister rust, mountain pine beetle, hemlock looper, and caribou habitat.
- George Jr. cut down a beetle-infested tree using a chainsaw

The afternoon session included:

- Lorraine Maclaughlan, Regional Forest Entomologist from Kamloops gave a presentation on the different epidemics that are currently taking place in BC.
- Tour of the Downie Mill



Revelstoke Pro-D Day

Vernon Pro-D Day

CES Conference: "Growing Jobs in the Forest Resource" November 18, 2004

Okanagan forest educators, Debbie Sluggett (Bell Pole, Tolko, LP, Downie, RCFC) and Jennifer Stewart (Tolko - Riverside), along with Debbie Bazett (COFI-Southern Operations), recently presented at the provincial Career Educators' Conference in Vancouver.

The presentation emphasized the diversity of jobs within in the industry, future opportunities for students who graduate from forestry-related programs (due to the aging workforce), the demand for highly- trained workers in the manufacturing sector and the continuing need for managing our forests under evolving environmental regulations.

Teachers were shown the "Right Choice" video created by the Temperate Forest Foundation and received handouts containing up-to-date information on job opportunities and programs.

The audience was positive about the wealth of information provided and the presenters felt that educating career coordinators about potential careers in forestry was a very worthwhile venture.

Selkirk Recruiter Tour December 9, 2004

Pete Schroder, School Chair of Renewable Resources at Selkirk College, visited Rutland Secondary School in Kelowna and Pleasant Valley Senior Secondary School in Armstrong. He gave a general presentation to a variety of students on what Selkirk has to offer in terms of forestry-related programs. He then involved the forestry students in an exercise that got the students thinking about appropriate harvesting methods and techniques.

School Activities: “*The Clarence Fulton Wetlands Centre of Excellence*” (Vernon)

Teachers at Clarence Fulton Secondary in Vernon are in the early stages of developing programs involving students in a local wetland project. This project is intended to get students more actively involved with an environmental stewardship project and to educate them on how to help enhance, protect, and preserve wetlands.

The wetland that is to be enhanced and developed is on land adjacent to Vernon Creek at Clarence Fulton Secondary School. Some of the activities that the students may be involved in include: planting vegetation around ponds, moving in logs for turtle basking, building nesting platforms, birdhouses, a boardwalk, and monitoring the ponds’ development over time.

The supporters of this initiative are: School District #22, Greater Vernon Parks and recreation, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Green Street, Kerr Wood Leidal, Summit Environmental Consultants and Land and Water British Columbia.

School Activities: “*Charles Bloom Secondary Community Woodlot Day*” (Lumby)”

Students from Charles Bloom Secondary School in Lumby, BC have been involved in teaching/demonstrating a variety of activities in their local woodlot to a number of guests from around the community for the past two years.

This year’s event will take place on May 3, 2005. As in previous years there will be a number of stations where students will get the opportunity to present information on forest-related topics: town hall meeting (forestry issues: social, environmental, and economic), forest measurement (measure/inventory), falling the tree, bucking and log processing, scale and volume, and silviculture (tree seedlings, site preparation, planting).

**Sharing Forest Education Programs
January 26, 2005**

The following people met to share information on the forest education programs in their area:

- Forest Educators: Debbie Sluggett Susan Bondar

Jennifer Stewart

Nancie Dohan

Debbie Bazett (COFI-South)

Chris Lear (COFI-North)

- Coast Forest Loggers Association: Les Kiss
- Truck Loggers Association: Jim Girvan
- Interior Logging Association: Wayne Lintott
- FNESS: Dan Murphy
- BCIT: Steve Finn
- UBC: Steve Baumber

The purpose of this meeting was to update everyone on some of the forest education efforts known to be occurring around the province, and to offer support and encouragement for future endeavours.

**ILA Trades Convention and Mini Education Fair: *"Growing a Skilled Force for an Expanding Forest Industry"* (Vernon)
April 15 & 16, 2005**

The Interior Logging Trades' annual convention is always a big event for southern BC's trucking and logging industry. Two years ago in Vernon, a new component was introduced... Jeannie Steele and Debbie Sluggett offered to incorporate a "mini career/education fair" into the event. Post-secondary recruiters for forest/wood related programs were invited to take part as were a number of other groups involved in forest education. Students from local school districts attended the show and were treated to a chance to see over 225+ pieces of "BIG EQUIPMENT" up close!! They also toured the inside displays and talked to the recruiters; a one-on-one experience. Everyone felt this was a big success.

This year we will offer a similar experience and hope to add a feature booth. The forest sector needs skilled people for its future. These people are needed in the woods, in the planning sector, in manufacturing (at all levels) and in the corporate offices. We want to show students and teachers that forestry is very high tech and that there are very diverse career opportunities. We hope we will see you there!

Participants include:

- BCIT
- Selkirk
- UCC (TRU)
- UBC
- UNBC
- CNC
- Emily Carr
- Malaspina
- Pacific Logging Congress
- OUC – trades
- OUC – engineering
- Pacific Logging Congress
- Silver Lake Forestry Centre – Peachland
- Vernon Secondary School
- Canadian Women In Timber
- Wood Manufacturing Council
- Temperate Forest Foundation

For more information on the "mini career/education fair", contact Debbie Sluggett at: debsluggett@shaw.ca

Cariboo Highlights

Gail Wallin/Maureen LeBourdais (Forest Educators)

Forest Capital 2004: "Forest Education Van Visits Williams Lake"

The Interior Logging Association's Forest Education Van traveled north in October to take part in Williams Lake Forest Capital of BC 2004 Community Activities. Over 225 students from 7 schools passed through the Van, which is outfitted with educational tools and murals that tell many stories about BC's forests. Topics covered include the history of logging and current logging practices, human and natural use of the forest, forest health, reforestation, wood products, tree identification, and more.

The ILA Van was also on hand for the Forest Capital Stewardship Display at Botanio Mall on October 30, along with local forest companies, conservation societies, and recreational groups.



Forester Stephanie Mooney, also a member of the Forest Capital of BC 2004 Committee, discusses reforestation with Grade 3's from Sacred Heart Elementary School in Williams Lake.

East Kootenay

Highlights

Norma Blissett (Forest Educator)

Professional Development Day: "Fire Ecology and Ecosystem Restoration in the Rocky Mountain Trench" October 22, 2004

A fire ecology and forest ecosystem restoration workshop was held in the East Kootenay. The workshop was a combined effort between the Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network and the forest company sponsored Forest

Education Program. Seventeen people participated, representing school district #5 and #6, environmental educators and various interest groups of the Rocky Mountain Trench. The day began with Don Gayton, a forest ecologist from Nelson giving a power point presentation on fire ecology and was followed by a field trip to nearby Lakit Lake. The field trip included stops at the False Hemlock Looper killed forest just outside of Cranbrook and at the forest harvesting area near Lakit Lake. Local foresters, Eric Pighin, Tembec, Scott Blissett, Interior Reforestation, and Dennis Petrysyshin, MOF spoke at the various tour stops. Mike Keefer, an ethnobotanist from the Ktunaxa Kinbasket Tribal Council as well as Don Gayton, FORREX also contributed to the discussion. Activities for educators to use when teaching fire ecology and some of the numerous resources available for forest education were also presented. The weather cooperated and with the help of a warming campfire at lunch a good time was had by all.

West Kootenay Highlights

Nancie Dohan (Forest Educator)

Newly Hired Forest Educator for the West Kootenay Zone

I have been working in the field of public education since I moved to the West Kootenays over 20 years ago. I am a certified teacher and owner and director of a successful small business, *Ecosense Interpretive Services Ltd.*, incorporated in 1989.

Over the years I have had the wonderful opportunity of creating and delivering educational school programs for hundreds of students (Grades K-12), and to local and tourist populations through my contracts with Visitor Services at Kokanee Creek Provincial Park and other parks.

I have worked closely with Columbia Basin Trust to deliver the highly successful 'Magic Basin' field trips and the 'Kokanee Salmon Stewardship Program'. I thoroughly enjoy my interaction with the students and teachers at these programs.

Hired as a facilitator through the Regional District of Central Kootenay in the spring of 2004, I delivered over 30 FireSmart presentations to West Kootenay communities, assisting homeowners with information on how to 'firesmart' their homes and properties. I presented a one-day 'fire' workshop to teachers at a professional development day in February 2004, and have developed a 'fire resource kit' for classroom use in School district #8.

I have presented at many 'pro-d' days on a range of topics, from 'Climate Change' to 'Forests in Focus', 'Wildlife Trees' and 'Project Wild'.

I have a passion for teaching. My years of experience as a park interpreter and a certified teacher have culminated in a strong commitment to public education. Working as a park interpreter and forming my own company to manage, deliver

and administrate a variety of contracts, has provided me with a strong background in organizational and communication skills, creative delivery of messages and public relations.

I look forward to this great opportunity to join the team of forest educators in the interior.

Thompson Highlights

Susan Bondar (Forest Educator)

Newly Hired Forest Educator for the Thompson Zone

I am the new Forest Educator for the Thompson Zone. I presently work part time in the Forest Industry as the Office Manager and Forest Technician for Bondar Forest Planning Inc. I have been involved with the consulting business for the past 4 years. My husband, Brian is an RPF and has worked in the Thompson Region for 28 years. Together we have a broad knowledge of the forests in the Thompson area. I am also a partner in a Woodlot Licence that is situated north of Kamloops. I have a background in Adult Education and have taught adult ed courses since 1986.

In my zone there are three School Districts in the Thompson Region; Kamloops/Thompson (SD 73), Nicola Similkameen (SD 58) and Gold Trail (SD 74). The Thompson Zone extends from Blue River in the north to Princeton in the south, Lillooet to the west and Chase to the east. The Region is large and diverse.

Some of the projects and events that I would like to coordinate for the Region are:

- o Network with existing forest education models in the Okanagan/Shuswap Region.
- o Re-energize the Adopt-a-Forester Program in SD 73, and initiate the Program in SD 58 and 74.
- o Develop National Forestry Week lessons and activities.
- o Coordinate Professional Development Days for teachers.
- o Review and inventory existing resources such as parks, interpretive trails and teaching materials.
- o Create a Legacy Forest for Arbour Day.

BC Northern Interior Highlights

Chris Lear (Manager, Forest Education)

An Overview of COFI Northern Operations Forest Education Program

COFI's Northern Operations Forest Education Program is an exciting program that offers forest education teaching resources and activities to teachers and students across northern BC. Reaching out to some 40,000+ students across eight school

districts 3 regional colleges and UNBC the program enables teachers and students to learn more about our rich renewable forest resources and our dynamic world-class forest industry.

At the elementary school level our program is centered around Grade 5 where we provide all teachers in both private and public schools with a comprehensive forest education teaching resource kit complete with a binder filled with exciting lesson plans and activity sheets, videos, CD's, wood product and tree samples as well as a host of other teaching resources. To complement the resource kit, we have developed a forest education website where students and teachers can go on virtual tours of wood manufacturing facilities, logging operations and nature walks; classify trees using a cool tree key; download lesson plans; learn about the history of forestry in northern BC; and, connect to other exciting forestry related websites. Both of these resources are introduced to teachers through teacher training workshops designed to help teachers integrate forestry into their existing curriculum.

In addition to providing teaching resources, COFI's Northern Operations Forest Education Program offers each school a variety of school presentations including "A History of Forestry in Northern BC", "Forestry Today" and "The Mountain Pine Beetle Epidemic". These interactive presentations help to develop a 'wood culture' and keep both teachers and students up to date on issues in the forest industry today.

At the secondary school level, the forest education program is focused on career awareness. Two programs: "Project Natural Resource Management" and "Project Manufacturing" offer strong academic students in grades 10 – 12 and their teachers an opportunity to learn more about careers in the forest industry. Through these two two-day programs hosted across the north, students participate in various hands-on workshops to get an in-depth view of careers in resource management and manufacturing. Careers such as foresters, entomologists, archaeologists, wildlife and fisheries biologists, chemical engineers, accountants, information technologists, sawfilers and millwrights are just a few of the careers that students and their teachers are exposed to by working with professionals drawn from government, industry and post-secondary institutions.

Participating in career fairs, facilitating school tours, giving school presentations and binging in guest speakers is also a big part of the secondary school program ensuring that students and teachers have a wide variety of resources and activities to learn about forestry.

Working with secondary school forestry and forest science teachers is also a big part of the secondary school program. In addition to providing resources to these teachers, COFI's Northern Operations Forest Education Program hosts an annual Forestry Teachers Convention which brings together high school forestry

teachers from across the north to share ideas, meet forestry faculty from post secondary institutions and gain valuable networking opportunities.

Another major component of our forest education program is our 'Forestry Tours' offered to all educators as well as community leaders right across our northern region. Scheduled on teachers' professional development days, these tours offer participants a full day tour of woodlands operations and/or mill operations to give participants a clear understanding of forestry and wood products manufacturing.

There are also special projects, such as video productions and forestry camps, and student contests offered periodically throughout the school year for schools to participate in.

The key to the success of COFI's Northern Operations Forest Education Program is that it is designed and developed by educators for educators and supported by the forest industry and school districts across the north. It is through input from educators that resources and activities are developed and delivered meeting the needs of both teachers and students living in northern BC. We strongly believe we are:

"Working with Tomorrow's Leaders Today!"



A teacher receiving a grade 5 teaching kit in Moricetown, BC



Student participation in Project Manufacturing at Canfor's Mackenzie mill in Mackenzie

Expanding Our Roots

Temperate Forest Foundation

The Temperate Forest Foundation is pleased to announce the locations and dates for their 2005 Forestry Tours for Teachers:

- June 15-18: South Central Hot Spring, Arkansas
- July 6-9: Western Canadian Vancouver, British Columbia
- July 20-23: Lake States Grand Rapids, Minnesota
- August 10-13: Northeastern Saranac Lake, New York

Sponsors are encouraged to recruit teachers from their local communities. Interested teachers will be matched with sponsors who pay their transportation and registration fee. The emphasis is on urban teachers (science/social studies) in grades 3-8, but all K-12 teachers are accepted. Learn more by clicking on "Teachers" at the TFF homepage: www.forestinfo.org.

For additional information, please contact Morgan at: morgan@forestinfo.org.

Canadian Women in Timber

Betty-Ann McDonald (CWIT)

Ann Polson and Betty-Ann McDonald of the Shuswap Branch of Canadian Women In Timber attended the Truck Loggers Association convention in Vancouver on January 19 – 21 to showcase the Interior Logging Association's Forest Education van. The Education Van was very well received with many positive comments from both the public and the delegates.

Falling enrolment in secondary Forestry Education has become a major concern to the Forest Industry. To encourage interest in Forest Industry careers, 300 Grade 8 students from a local Vancouver School toured the Trade Show Exhibits guided by Forestry students from BCIT and UBC. The students also attended a 45 minute presentation on careers in Forestry and ended their tour by going through the ILA Forest Education Van. Ann and Betty-Ann presented a brief lesson and discussed the many job opportunities in the Forest Industry as the students passed through the Van. They were very interested in the bug display and the Mountain Pine Beetle and surprised by the variety of products that can be made from our forests.

As members of Canadian Women In Timber, Ann and Betty-Ann volunteer their time to travel with the van and make presentations to schools and the public to promote Forest Awareness Through Education.

For more information please visit: www.canadianwomenintimber.com

Forest Capital 2005 – Revelstoke BC

Bob Clarke (General Manager, Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation)

After a number of unsuccessful attempts, Revelstoke was selected as the "Forest Capital of B.C. for 2005" by the Assoc. of B.C. Forest Professionals. As Rick Sommers, the president of the ABCFP, put it, "It's clear that this community is really into forestry and they have put together an excellent program of educational, sporting and cultural events that promise to involve the whole community in the celebration". The proposal was put together by a group, which included city staff, community leaders and ABCFP members and included letters of support from over 30 community groups and businesses. The committee's plan is to raise the profile of forestry and its importance to the community at scheduled events every month of the year. Getting teachers, students and their schools involved will be a big part of the program and the committee hopes to have some special events planned for National Forest Week in May. More information can be found at the City of Revelstoke's website and the soon-to-be created Forest Capital 2005 website.

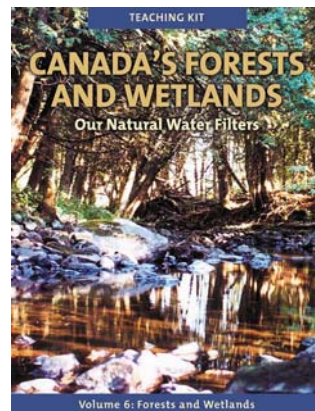
Website link: www.cityofrevelstoke.com click on the forest capital icon.

Canadian Forestry Association National Forest Week 2005: *"Canada's Forests and Wetlands: Our Natural Water Filters"*

Canada's forests play a vital role in maintaining protecting our freshwater resources so that policies and management practices for our and wetlands are key. Much of the management renewal is handled by professional foresters and people. This kit is intended to assist educators broaden young Canadians' knowledge of forest, and water issues and also increase their of how various groups and individuals inside and Canada view the related issues.

Activities included in the kit provide students opportunities to analyze the issues for themselves.

The kit can be used at all age levels in every classroom, from special needs to gifted to ESL. It is also suitable for a variety of subject areas, such as Science, World Issues, Geography and Civics to Visual Arts, English and Drama. The kit also contains an exciting poster promoting Canada's Boreal Forest, the theme of this year's National Forest Week.



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with many

To order copies of the latest kit and others in the series, visit the Canadian Forestry Association Web site www.canadianforestry.com and click on Forest Education.

Forests Minister Endorses UBC Wood Products Processing Degree

College students have unexpected guest in seminar class. November 19th, 2004 at the University College of the Fraser Valley, the Honourable Michael de Jong, BC Minister of Forests, joined Sandy McKellar of the Wood Manufacturing Council to talk to students about career opportunities in the forest products sector. Engineering Transfer students at the University College of the Fraser Valley spend a few hours each week learning about the various career opportunities open to them in the field of engineering. For the past seven years, their instructor, Dr. Peter Mulhern, has included a presentation on career opportunities in 'wood engineering' as part of the program. More than 30 students and several college administrators participated in this presentation.



The majority of students in the transfer program complete engineering degrees, but each year some are lured away from traditional engineering disciplines and transfer into the UBC Wood Products Processing (WPP) degree. Offering a suite of courses that includes industrial and mechanical engineering, this unique degree program applies these technologies to the manufacture of wood products. In combination with business, marketing, design and computer courses, the degree prepares graduates to work in Canada's rapidly expanding advanced wood manufacturing sector. With a proven track record for abundant and well-paid jobs, the program boasts some of the highest entry level salaries of any Bachelor of Science degree, and has companies competing to hire graduates.

Minister de Jong emphasized the value of this kind of educational program, and talked about the long-term benefits of working in the forest products industry. The Minister engaged students in a friendly, low-key discussion. Sitting casually on the edge of a learning students' names, and asking probing questions, he was able to draw out student concerns and fears about the sector and diffuse myths and misconceptions with balanced facts and examples. Students responded positively to his intimate approach and participated fully in the discussion.



Following the Minister's talk, Sandy McKellar delivered a PowerPoint presentation to the class on the UBC Wood Products Processing degree. The discussion focused on changes in technology and accompanying changes in social attitudes and expectations. BC's sustainable and environmentally responsible forest and

business practices were showcased as some of the best in the world. McKellar emphasized career opportunities open to graduates of the WPP degree, and demonstrated how this educational pathway and the related career options paralleled similar avenues in engineering. In the final wrap-up, it was evident that the two presenters had given the class an attractive option to add to their future possibilities. When asked how many had considered careers in the forest products sector prior to the presentation, not a single hand was raised. At the end of the session, after learning about the strength of the industry and the career potential for graduates coming out of the WPP program, more than half the class indicated that this was definitely an area they would consider pursuing.

Sandy McKellar
Director of Communications
Wood Manufacturing Council

Selkirk College News Release: *“Renewable Resource technology - accreditation and transfer agreements key to program flexibility”*

Students who want to pursue challenging and healthy outdoor careers in Renewable Resource management have many educational options that can lead to a variety of job opportunities as well as future academic and professional credentials. The Selkirk College School of Renewable Resources has added value to their core technical programs in Forest Technology, Integrated Environmental Planning Technology, Recreation Fish & Wildlife Technology and Advanced GIS (Geographical Information Systems) by pursuing recognized accreditation and by formalizing transfer partnerships with other institutions.

Recent accreditation with the Canadian Council of Technologists & Technicians (CCTT) for Forest Technology and Integrated Environmental Planning Technology means that these programs have met a rigorous national standard recognized by professional organizations such as the Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals (ABC FP). Dwight Yochim, Communications Manager ABC FP is an authority on the role of CCTT accreditation and forestry professionals, “A graduate of a CCTT accredited college has proven they have completed their formal education and are well on their way to registration as a Registered Forest Technologist,” he says. “Attaining accreditation for Forest Technology and Integrated Environmental Planning Technology has created new pathways for our graduates”, says School of Renewable Resources Chair Peter Schroder. “We are very proud to be the first college in BC to attain accreditation with CCTT for these disciplines”. Adding to this achievement, Selkirk’s Recreation, Fish and Wildlife Program is recognized with full accreditation from the North America Wildlife Technology Association (NAWTA).

Formalized transfer agreements are a second way to provide flexibility for students. By forging agreements with other academic institutions, graduates from the School of Renewable Resources technical programs have streamlined options in the pursuit of future academic credentials. Schroder notes “Today’s

students at all levels are very interested in where their education can lead in terms of employment opportunities and future personal growth." Transfer agreements can help, so students can gain hands-on technical training at the diploma level and not lose time en-route to degrees or can gain advanced credit for work they have done at other institutions in the pursuit of applied technical training. Selkirk College Renewable Resource graduates have successfully gained transfer credit at the following institutions:

Selkirk College Advanced Diploma in GIS,
Royal Roads University
University of Lethbridge
University of Alberta
University of Northern British Columbia
Thompson Rivers University
University of Montana
University of Idaho
University of British Columbia
Seneca College
BCIT
NAIT

The role of two year technical diploma programs are to provide relevant, hands on, field based training that is accredited and recognized for transfer so that graduates are immediately employable in a variety of disciplines and can transfer the skills they have learned towards future academic pursuits and professional advancement.

For more information about training in Renewable Resource technologies contact Pete Schroder at Selkirk College. Phone (250) 365-1287
E-mail: pschroder@selkirk.ca
Website: www.selkirk.ca/rr

Upcoming Events

January 1 – Dec 31, 2005
Revelstoke is Forest Capital of BC

See more details under News From Other Groups: [Link](#)

February 10, 2005
Aboriginal Spotlight Career Fair (Armstrong)

The Aboriginal Spotlight Career Fair will take place in Armstrong, at Pleasant Valley Senior Secondary School. The purpose of this initiative is to provide the senior aboriginal student population from District# 83 the opportunity to interact with numerous aboriginal organizations, educational institutions, and potential employers.

February 18, 2005

Professional Development Day: “*The Future of our Forest Sector – Growing the Skilled Force for an Expanding Industry*”

School Districts 19, 22, 23, 73, 83, Golden & Merritt are invited to attend our 1st forestry workshop held down at the coast. Focus audience: career coordinators, forest science teachers, shop teachers, any interested K-12 teachers.

The agenda is as follows:

- Feb 17th – later afternoon a chartered bus will go from Kelowna to Armstrong to Kamloops and down through Merritt to Maple Ridge. Teachers will be able to join the bus at planned stops along the way.
- Feb. 18th – a visit to BCIT (Burnaby), a visit BCIT’s woodlot (Maple Ridge) where students will guide teachers through activities, and dinner at UBC Forestry Center (Maple Ridge) with guest speakers
- Feb. 19th – possibly tour a local mill in the early morning and then head home

March 3, 2005

Forestry Career Day (Kelowna)

This Career Day is targeted at the grade 9 – 10 level. There will be 9 guest speakers, all who work in different areas of the forest industry. Students will get an opportunity to hear 3 presentations in the general areas of: woodlands, forest health, and manufacturing. The presentations will give the students an idea what schooling is needed to work in the different fields of forestry.

April 15 & 16, 2005

ILA Trades Convention and Mini Education Fair (Vernon)

See more details under Okanagan/Shuswap Highlights: [Link](#)

May 2 – 7, 2005

National Forest Week (Okanagan/Shuswap)

This year Forest Educators Debbie Sluggett and Jennifer Stewart are putting together a Forest Health package to be presented in elementary schools from Kelowna to Golden. This presentation may be used by other forest educators in the southern interior. Volunteers from the various sectors of the forest industry will be work-shopped on

the forest health lesson and will be responsible for giving the presentations to various classes.

May 3, 2005

Charles Bloom Secondary Community Woodlot Day (Lumby)

See more details under School Activities in the Okanagan/Shuswap Highlights: [Link](#)

July 6-9, 2005

Temperate Forest Foundation Forestry Tour (Western Canadian, Vancouver)

To learn more click on "Teachers" at the TFF homepage: www.forestinfo.org.

For additional information, please contact Morgan at: morgan@forestinfo.org.

January 26-29, 2006

ForestEDWest Conference 2006: "*From Discussion to Direction*"

Location: The Banff Centre – Banff, Alberta

Our website is now up and running and we will have more details soon: www.forestwest.ca

Odds and Ends

Questions

If you have any questions please contact questions@learnforestry.com

Comments

Please let us know what you think about our first newsletter, suggestions are most welcome. Please contact comments@learnforestry.com

June Newsletter

If you would like to submit one or more short articles/pictures highlighting events and programs occurring in your school or

community for our June issue, please do so by emailing the information in "word format" with pictures in jpeg to newsletter@learnforestry.com by May 27, 2005.

Submissions for Learn Forestry Website

If you are interested in submitting forest education lesson plans to the learn forestry website or would like to suggest other forest resources please email the learn forestry crew at: submissions@learnforestry.com