

# Learn Forestry News

## January 2006



*"We have not inherited the earth  
from our ancestors- we are  
borrowing it from our children."  
**Native proverb***

### Publishers:

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Bell Pole Co., Canwood Furniture, Downie Timber, Gorman Bros., Greenwood  
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## Learn Forestry News Index

### Okanagan-Columbia Forest Education Highlights

- New Video Resource: "CLEM" – A Journey into BC's Logging Industry"
- Professional Development Day: "Beyond Boards- Wood Design & Technology"
- National Forest Week 2006
- Work-Study Event Offered for Secondary Students- a BCIT/ UBC Partnership
- Expansion of the Okanagan-Columbia Zone
- Introducing a New Forest Educator for the Okanagan-Columbia Zone
- Career Events
- Post-Secondary Recruiters Tour Okanagan-Columbia Secondary Schools
- Forest Education Van News
- Tree Cookies and Timelines
- Presenters Training Workshop
- Environmental Mind Grind Challenge- Schools Compete in BC's Southern Interior
- Visually-Challenged Student Receives WoodLINKS Certificate

### Cariboo Forest Education Highlights

- Bull Mountain's "Minton Creek" Forestry Trail
- Tolko's Cariboo Woodlands Group Creates Watershed Model for Salmon Festival

### East Kootenay Forest Education Highlights

- New Resource and Presentations Developed for East Kootenay Zone

### West Kootenay Forest Education Highlights

- Forest Education Van Tours West Kootenays
- Career Presentations

### Thompson Highlights

#### Expanding Our Roots

- UBC/BCIT Forestry Students Teach Kids About Forestry
- UBC Forestry Faculty News & Pro Day Event
- BCIT – Career and Training Options in Forestry
- Selkirk College- Opportunities in Forest Technology Training
- Malaspina University College- An Aboriginal Student's Perspective
- Hoo Hoo International- Evans Lake Projects
- Silver Lake Forestry Center Builds New Lodge
- Blue Lake Forest Ed Society- New Interpretive Trail "Raises the Bar"
- Event Highlights from Forest Capital 2005 - Revelstoke, BC
- "ForestEDWest II" Conference
- "Women of Resource Communities" Conference

- CFA's Latest Teaching Resource: "The Boreal Forest- A Global Legacy"
- Canadian Women in Timber – Teaching Resource & Website

### Forest Education Resources

- Learn Forestry Website- New Additions
- Climate Change Website Provides Teacher Resources
- MPB Teaching Resource
- CFA Teaching Kit for NFW 2006- "The Boreal Forest- A Global Legacy"
- Feature Book for Forest Education
- CWIT Teaching Resource & Website
- Forest Websites for Elementary Research
- New Land Management Online Program Teaching Resource

### Upcoming Events

- "Women of BC Resource Communities" Conference
- UBC Hosts Free "Forestry 101" Pro Day Event
- BCIT/ UBC Interior Work-Study Program
- Temperate Forest Foundation Teacher Tours

### Odds and Ends

- Questions
- Comments
- June 2006 Newsletter
- Submissions for Learn Forestry Website

## Okanagan-Columbia Highlights

Debbie Sluggett, Kalon Nahachewsky (Educational Liaisons)

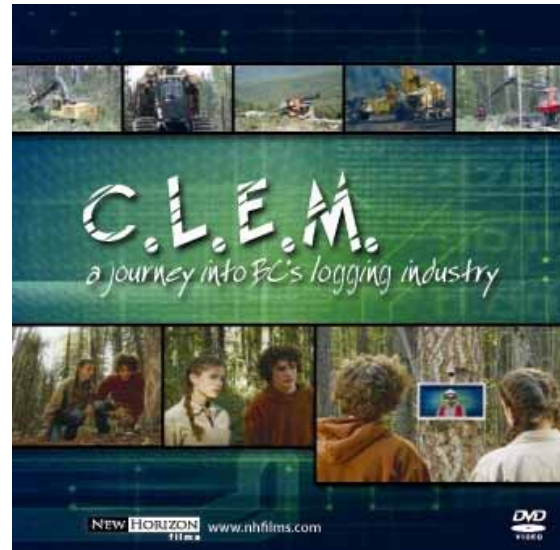
Debbie Bazett (Forest Education Coordinator, COFI - Southern Operations)

### C.L.E.M. (Computer Logging Education Module)

#### A Journey into BC's Logging Industry

As this newsletter is being assembled, a resource developed by Debbie Sluggett and Jeannie Steele is almost ready for distribution. The new teaching resource, “**C.L.E.M. – A Journey into BC’s Logging Industry**” will allow students to view high-tech machines that are used by today’s forest industry.

This DVD and lesson package will introduce students and teachers to technology that has helped to make logging more efficient, more environmentally-friendly and much safer than in the past. It will also demonstrate that, while some manual jobs have disappeared, other jobs have evolved to meet the goals of creating a sustainable resource.



**All elementary schools in BC will receive this package**, however, the delivery method and schedule will vary. The schools in the southern interior will be receiving the package as part of an updated and reprinted version of the grade 5 teaching kit, “**Our Living Resource – The Forest**”, developed by Debbie and Jeannie a number of years ago. For schools in the BC's northern interior, Chris Lear from the Council of Forest Industries will ensure that each school receives a copy of the "CLEM" resource. Coastal schools will be receiving their packages from their district offices.

Like all large projects, many hands are needed to produce a successful product. The actual production of the DVD was handled by “New Horizons” in Kelowna. The actors were from the Okanagan, where a large portion of the filming took place, but the DVD also includes footage from other parts of BC.

Many thanks to the following supporters who provided funding for this resource:

Worker's Compensation Board of B.C.  
"WorkSafe B.C."

B.C. Forest Safety Council  
"Unsafe is Unacceptable"

Council of Forest Industries

Forest Expo

Interior Logging Association

Truck Loggers Association

ILA Trades Convention, Vernon

ILA Trades Convention, Kamloops

Balcaen Consolidated Cont. Ltd.

Brandt Tractor Ltd.

D&M Trucking 1976 Ltd.

Ed Smith Trucking Ltd.

Finning (Canada)

Great West Equipment

Kineshanko Logging Ltd.

Lindwest Holdings Ltd.

Inland Kenworth/Parker Pacific

Madill Equipment Canada

M.L. Brown Lumber Ltd.

Nadina Logging Ltd.

R.J. Schunter Contracting Ltd.

Sunshine Logging Ltd

Terratech Equipment

Wajax Industries Ltd.

Woodland Equipment Ltd.

The updated version of the grade 5 kit will include the DVD and lesson plan for "CLEM", as well as a new Forest Health lesson plan. In the Okanagan-Columbia Zone, Debbie and Kalon will be offering workshops and handing out kits to schools via teachers who attend their workshops.

**For more information on the Grade 5 teaching kit "Our Living Resource – The Forest" or to see the trailer for the DVD "C.L.E.M.", go to: [www.learnforestry.com](http://www.learnforestry.com). (NOTE: The updated version of the grade 5 kit will be added to the website in the very near future. Look for it under "Lesson Plans".)**

### February 2006 Pro D Day

District #53, 22, 23, and 83 are teaming up for their February 17 teachers' Pro D Day. Kalon and Debbie will be offering a presentation called "**Beyond Boards - The Exciting World of Wood Design and Technology**". This presentation will comprise four short presentations by representatives of local companies operating in forestry's value-added sector. The speakers include:



<b>Mary Tracy</b>	Wood WORKS!	(Director of BC Wood WORKS!)
<b>Michael Kascak</b>	Structurlam Products Ltd.	(Sales Department Head)
<b>Bob Bird</b>	Canwood Furniture Inc.	(Vice-president, Manufacturing)
<b>Terry Bigsby</b>	Aspenware	(Director)

The above companies work in and promote wood products:

**Canadian Wood Council- Wood WORKS!** - Promotes the use of wood in community buildings

**Structurlam Products**- Specialists in the design, detailing and supply of complete glulam packages

**Canwood Furniture** - Canadian manufacturer of high quality, precision-engineered, solid pine furniture

**Aspenware** - Producer of wooden, biodegradable, ecologically-friendly, disposable cutlery

This will be the first time that we have made “Value-Added” the theme for our Pro D presentations. We hope to entice teachers from K-12 who teach about our forest resource or who are interested in and appreciate working with wood.

### National Forest Week 2006

You may have heard that National Forest Week is being moved to the end of September. For those of us in the Southern Interior, we will continue to celebrate in the spring when we can offer presentations that will promote exploration of our forests. The Canadian Forestry Association theme is "**The Boreal Forest**", which we will incorporate into our theme of "**The Biogeoclimatic Zones of BC**". This is a presentation that we are just beginning to put together with some assistance from other forest educators in BC's southern interior. We will share more in the June newsletter, but you will be able to download the lesson plan later in May by visiting [www.learnforestry.com](http://www.learnforestry.com) and clicking on "Lesson Plans".

### Work-Study Program- A BCIT/UBC Partnership

Silver Lake Forestry Center: May 22-24



We are trying something new this spring!! We are teaming up with BCIT and UBC to build onto a program that BCIT offers at the coast. Local grade 11 and 12 students will have an opportunity to get some “hands-on” experience in forestry by participating in a two day seminar at Silver Lake Forestry Centre in later May. Students from Districts #53, 67, 23, 22, 83, 19 and Golden will be invited to participate. At the camp, instructors from BCIT and UBC will introduce them to many aspects of forestry both in a classroom setting and in the field. This pilot project will hopefully lead to two camps taking place next year... one in the south and one in the northern part of our zone. We will have more information in the June newsletter along with pictures and captions recording the event. A summary of this event will appear on our website in June and will be available at [www.learnforestry.com](http://www.learnforestry.com) by clicking on "Resources".

### Expansion of the Okanagan-Columbia Zone

The Okanagan-Columbia forest education zone has recently expanded to include School Districts #67 and #53 in the South Okanagan, made possible with the addition of new forestry and value-added companies supporting the program. This has resulted in Kalon Nahachewsky being hired to work with Deb Sluggett in the Okanagan-Columbia zone.

Deb will continue to look after the North Okanagan and Columbia region, while Kalon will be covering the Central and South Okanagan. Their aim is to maintain the core program that already exists in the zone and expand the program into the two new school districts (#67 and #53). A big part of their role is to provide K-12 teachers with forest education resources and to develop lesson plans that connect to the BC curriculum.

## Introducing a New Forest Educator...



A resident of the Okanagan area for over 25 years, Kalon Nahachewsky is the newly-hired forest educational liaison for the Okanagan-Columbia zone. He is a certified teacher with a degree in natural resource science from UCC, along with experience in forestry and other related areas. Kalon welcomes the opportunity to be able to use his knowledge and experience to benefit student learning, while helping to maintain positive lasting relations between the forest sector and education system. He has enjoyed being a part of the forest education team over the past few months and looks forward to all the activities and events planned for 2006.

## Career Events in the Okanagan-Columbia Zone

In November, Kalon provided a display at the annual Okanagan College Career Fair in Kelowna, outlining the diversity of forestry-related career opportunities and post-secondary programs within BC. With the help of Mike Doiron (Tolko) and Randy Hardy (Gorman Brothers), they met one-on-one with over 100 high school and post-secondary students.



February 24<sup>th</sup> will find Kalon presenting and providing forestry related career and post-secondary information at the annual Okanagan Education and Career Fair in Kelowna with support from Debbie Bazett (COFI). This event attracts over 1000 students from throughout the Southern Interior.

Kalon will also be setting up a "careers in forestry" display at the Penticton Rotary Career Expo in early April, where close to 1000 students from areas such as Penticton, Oliver, Osoyoos, Keremeos and Princeton are expected to attend.

## Post-Secondary Recruiter Tours for 2005/2006



In November, Debbie and Kalon hosted recruiters from the forestry programs at UBC and BCIT, visiting eight high schools within the Okanagan-Columbia zone. Presentations by Kelly Hatfull (BCIT) and Neil Davis (UBC) were well-received, reaching approximately 500 students. The following schools participated: South Okanagan Secondary, Osoyoos Secondary, Charles Bloom Secondary, Pleasant Valley Secondary, AL Fortune Secondary, Kings Christian School and Salmon Arm Secondary's Jackson and Sullivan Campuses. Another recruiter tour is being planned for early April.

## ILA Forest Education Van News

In October, Ann Polson and Betty-Ann McDonald (Canadian Women in Timber), Debbie Bazett (Council of Forest Industries), Debbie Sluggett and Kalon Nahachewsky hosted the forest education van for six classes at St. Joseph's Elementary in Kelowna.



Ann Polson from the Canadian Women in Timber presents to students at St. Joseph's Elementary

Two days later, Kalon and Deb S. headed off to Golden for a three day tour, with help from Bob Taylor, Tim Arnett and Scott King (Louisiana Pacific Canada), where they presented to students at Nicholson Elementary, Lady Grey Elementary, and Alexander Park Elementary.

This spring, the ILA Forest Education van will visit schools throughout the Okanagan-Columbia. Debbie Bazett (COFI) will also be hosting the van at Family Environment Day (April 9) in Kelowna.

UBC Forestry student, Geoff Smart, has been re-hired by the ILA from May until August to tour the van around the Southern Interior. Geoff did a great job last summer and hopes to bring the van to many communities, provincial parks, special events and schools again this year.

## Tree Cookies and Timelines...

Many of the requests during the past few months have been from teachers needing tree samples to use with the Grade 5 forest education kit. However, a few months ago Marc Sabourin, a Grade 10 Social Studies French Immersion teacher from Summerland Secondary, had the idea of using old-growth tree cross-sections for a timeline project. Students matched important historical events (from Confederation - Present) to the annual growth rings of the tree. The picture below shows two students presenting their timeline project to their class. The caption was provided by the French Immersion students in the picture. The English translation follows. Thanks to Bob Clarke of Revelstoke Community Forestry Corporation for providing these excellent Douglas-fir samples.



Voici Natasha Perry-Fagant et Zach Pelletier. Ils sont des héros. Pourquoi? Parce qu'ils ont fait quelque chose de bon avec leur transection d'arbre. Ils ont fait une ligne de temps pour leur classe de Science Humaine à l'école Summerland Secondary. Oops, Zach l'a brisé!!

Presenting Natasha Perry-Fagant and Zach Pelletier. They're heroes. Why? Because they've used a tree's cross section to draw similar pattern comparisons, all to create an historical time line to teach the students of Summerland Secondary. Oops, Zach just broke it!!

## Presenters' Training Workshop

A Presenters' Training workshop was held in January at Gorman Bros. for companies from Vernon south to the border that support the Okanagan-Columbia forest education program. Forestry personnel from BCTS, Tolko and Gorman Bros. took part in this 3 hour workshop. A second workshop will be offered later in the spring for companies in the Vernon-Golden area.



Participants at the Presenters' Training line up for a photo in Gormans' meeting room.

Presenters' Training workshops are designed to help industry personnel to plan and provide successful presentations for students. One of our main goals is to ensure that presenters make their presentations interesting, interactive and exciting for the students.

## The BC Interior "Environmental Mind Grind" Challenge

Are students in your community up for the EMG challenge? Come out and cheer them on as they compete to showcase their knowledge about the environment!!

The popular school competition, "Environmental Mind Grind" is back once again for 2006, hosted in honour of Earth Day by environmental educators in the North, Central and South Okanagan- Similkameen, Thompson- Nicola and Kootenay regions.

Since its beginnings in 2000, more than 500 teams and thousands of elementary, middle and high school students have participated in this entertaining academic challenge, both at the local regional level championships and at the BC Interior playoffs, usually held in Kelowna.



Invitations and advertising flyers are sent out to each school and distributed to principals and teachers. Teachers who apply for registration are supplied with study packages for each of the environmental areas of study early in the New Year, so that students may prepare for the contest, which takes place in April. The areas of study include: air quality, watershed health, waste reduction, water conservation, endangered species, transportation, energy, conservation and forestry.

Any public or private school may enter one team for each school category, with a team consisting of three student contestants, one back-up student (optional) and a support teacher. There are three school categories: grades 4-6, grades 7-9 and grades 10-12.

Teams participate against one another in single round knockout, with the team having the most points at the end of the game advancing to the next round.



Each team receives participation t-shirts and a bag filled with promotional items provided by the sponsors as well as treat coupons. Other prizes for winning teams include fleece vests, pizza parties for the school or class, ice cream and caps. For the final interior play-off winners, a prize of \$1000 cash is available to be won for their school.

If you live in one of the regions mentioned above and would like to find out more about the Environmental Mind Grind competition, contact the Waste Reduction Office at your local Regional District Office or email Tracy Guidi at the City of Kelowna-[tguidi@kelowna.ca](mailto:tguidi@kelowna.ca)

### Blind Student Receives WoodLINKS Certificate

Dan Thoreson is an ambitious young man who has had to overcome many challenges because of his blindness. One of his most recent accomplishments saw Dan receive his WoodLINKS certificate, commemorating his completion of one of the most dynamic and successful trade programs in the secondary school system. The WoodLINKS program is an introduction to the forest industry and wood products manufacturing, covering the whole spectrum from logging to processing to value-added products.



Having a visually-challenged student in a shop class might seem to be an unsafe and impossible scenario, but Dan's teachers, ever creative and adaptable, were able to rise to the challenge. While certain machines in the shop needed hand-on-hand assistance, others could be used with help from Dan's Certified Education Assistant. When it came to tests, Dan was able to complete this requirement with some revisions or removal of visual-type questions and received 100% on his written test.

Dan's positive attitude, hard work, and commitment along with his teachers' willingness to adapt to this special situation have earned him his WoodLINKS certificate. Regarding his accomplishment, Dan commented, "I fought hard, that's what I did. I've lived a full life and to this day, I'm still at it."

*Congratulations, Dan, on achieving your goal and good luck in the future!!*

## Cariboo Forest Education Highlights

Gail Wallin & Maureen LeBourdais (Cariboo Forest Educators)

### Bull Mountain's "Minton Creek" Forestry Trail

For the last two years, Forest Education Coordinators Maureen LeBourdais and Gail Wallin have partnered with the Cariboo Educational Woodlot Society (CEWS), facilitating interpreted hikes on the Minton Creek Forestry Trail to elementary students in the Cariboo-Chilcotin.



Everyone say 'biodiversity'!

The Cariboo Educational Woodlot Society was formed in 1985. Their woodlot is located on Bull Mountain, 19 km north of Williams Lake, off Highway 97. A woodlot is an area of Crown Land that is granted to the public - individuals or groups such as the Woodlot Society - in return for an agreement to manage and harvest timber according to forest legislation and regulations. Many woodlots such as this one include an education and recreation component in their management plan.

In addition to managing the working woodlot, CEWS has developed educational trails and activities that promote knowledge, understanding and use of forest resources. These trails, along with their signage, were designed to educate the general public about the variety of forest resources in the area, including plants, animals, soil, and water, their uses, requirements, and protection, with emphasis on the balance between environmental, social and economic benefits.



Students from Kwaleen Traditional School at Tree

Along the 1.5 km Minton Creek Walk is a series of five activity stations, where students take part in a variety of hands-on activities and discussion, learning about tree identification, evidence of wildlife, riparian areas, biodiversity, and multiple uses of the forest, both past and present.

Maureen and Gail are two local education specialists who facilitate forest education in the classroom for K to 12 students in Williams Lake, 100 Mile House, and the outlying areas. "The hikes are always planned early in the school year – September or October –while the weather is still suitable," says Maureen. "We are then able to follow up with in-class activities and speakers. Teachers are also provided with print and web-based resources for follow-up classroom activities."

"The students greatly enjoyed their field trip experience," commented one local teacher. "They still talk about how much they learned and what an 'awesome' time they had."

## Tolko's Cariboo Woodland Group Creates Watershed Model for Salmon Festival

Reprinted with permission from the Tolko Circular

The Horsefly River Salmon Festival occurs every four years to celebrate the sockeye salmon run. As part of the festival's educational component, Tolko's Cariboo Woodlands group, along with members of the Public Advisory Committee, manned a small-scale watershed model between September 12 and 16.

Woodlands employees created their display by digging a small trench along the ground to replicate the Horsefly River watershed. Alongside the trench in the upper section of the watershed, they assembled mountains, streams, logging operations, road and bridge construction, riparian protection, slope stability issues and wildlife concerns. The lower section of the watershed model dealt with recreational usage and farming concerns and had a swamp area at the end to address wetland issues. A small pump was used to fill the "Horsefly River" with water.

Throughout the festival, students arrived in groups of 20 or more and spent time in each section of the river. Over the course of the week, over 1200 area students from grades one through twelve were exposed to a range of land use decisions, including Forestry, that impact the entire watershed.

Student and teacher response to the watershed model was positive and, although Tolko couldn't compete with the Salmon Dissection display, the Cariboo Woodlands group came in a strong second in the eyes of the students!!



Students view the watershed model



Working hard in the construction stages

## East Kootenay Forest Education Highlights

Norma Blissett (East Kootenay Forest Educator)

A new teaching kit with lessons has been created in the East Kootenay by forest educator, Norma Blissett, to support the newly-developed grade 5 science curriculum. This kit focuses on wood as a renewable, sustainable resource and has been tailored for schools in

the East Kootenay with references to local industries and the management of forest resources in Ktunaxa traditional territory. The lesson package was reviewed by local grade 5 teachers and representatives from the Ktunaxa nation and kits have been provided to the resource centres of the three East Kootenay school districts.

Norma has also been visiting classrooms to make presentations on topics such as "The Importance of Trees" (grade 1), "Forest Harvesting, Then and Now" (grade 3), "The Mountain Pine Beetle Epidemic" (grades 4-7) and "Careers in the Forest Industry" (grade 10).

Goals for the coming year include preparing additional forestry lessons for class use to support the science requirements for each grade level, continuing with the existing presentations and organizing a Professional Development field tour for local teachers for the spring.

### West Kootenay Forest Education Highlights

Nancie Dohan (West Kootenay Forest Educator)



Nancie talks to students about the forest education van.

It has been a busy season in the West Kootenay zone - the ILA Forest Education Van made its inaugural visit to the West Kootenay area Sept. 17- 30, 2005, touring two fall fairs, eight elementary schools, and a School District # 8 Professional Development Day. In total, approximately 1,700 youth and general public toured the van. It was well- received by teachers, students, administrators and the public.

Forestry career presentations were delivered to Planning 10 classes in seven of the West Kootenay zone's high schools. The students appreciated the information and resources available from the discussion and the video shown on careers in the forest industry. The Planning 10 teachers were very pleased that a professional, outside of the student's regular teaching domain, was able to present information about possible career paths to their students.

Currently, a forestry calendar for 2007 is being assembled for distribution and radio ads on 'How We Manage Our Forests' are being aired in the region. Nancie will also be assisting with developing the National Forest Week presentation that will be offered to elementary schools in the West Kootenay zone during April and May, and she hopes to be involved in Arbour Day and Earth Day presentations.



Teachers tour Kalesnikoff Lumber on Pro Day.

## Thompson Forest Education Highlights

Susan Bondar (Forest Educator)

COMING SOON.....

### Expanding Our Roots



### UBC/BCIT Forestry Students Teach Kids About Forestry!

Lesley Fettes- Forestry Admissions Advisor, UBC Faculty of Forestry

On Wednesday, January 18, a group of eight UBC Forestry students were joined by ten BCIT Forestry Tech students to lead over 100 grade six students around the Truck Logger's Association's 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Coastal Forestry Convention and Trade Show.



In class, the Lower Mainland students had been learning about forests, ecology and the uses of wood. Attending the show gave them a chance to experience some of what they had learned.



Each post-secondary leader toured small groups around the trade show. Students had a chance to learn about some of the emerging technology in the forest sector and had the opportunity to ask questions of their guides about forestry, the mountain pine beetle epidemic and about education and careers in forestry. They had a fantastic time! The highlights of the trade show were the large machines, such as the skidder, feller buncher and processor outside the convention, the Interior Logging Association's Forest Education Van run by the Canadian Women in Timber, and of course the logger sports show!

## News from UBC's Faculty of Forestry



The UBC Faculty of Forestry is pleased to welcome three new recruiters! They are: Joanna Mackie, a recruiter in the Centre for Advanced Wood Processing, and Samantha Berdej and Lesley Fettes, forestry admission advisors in the Student Services Centre of the Faculty of Forestry.

**Joanna Mackie** has a background in business and policy and has a Masters in Forest Conservation from the University of Toronto. She is working specifically with the Wood Products Processing program and began her position last August.

**Samantha Berdej** has just finished her Bachelor's degree in the Faculty's award-winning Natural Resources Conservation program. She has worked for Parks Canada in the past and will be specializing in advising prospective students in the Natural Resources Conservation and Forest Science degree programs.

**Lesley Fettes** joined the student services team with Samantha in December. Having finished her degree at UBC in Forest Resources Management three years ago, Lesley has been working in silviculture up until this fall. She will be specializing in advising prospective students interested in the Forest Resources Management and Forest Operations degree programs.

**For general information on the degree programs UBC Faculty of Forestry has to offer, or for information on our recruiting program, contact Samantha Berdej or Lesley Fettes at [forest.info@ubc.ca](mailto:forest.info@ubc.ca), or toll free at 1-888-933-9663.**

**For information on the Wood Products Processing Program, you can contact Joanna at [i.wood@ubc.ca](mailto:i.wood@ubc.ca) or toll free at 1-877-466-9663.**

## UBC Forestry Faculty Hosts "Forestry 101" for Teacher Pro D

The UBC Faculty of Forestry is hosting a Professional Development Day for secondary science teachers on Friday, April 28, 2006. The workshop will run from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm and is free of charge, with refreshments and lunch provided.

Entitled "Forestry – Science Made Practical", the day will include 'Forestry 101', a general presentation on forests, ecology, current events in BC forestry (forest fires, mountain pine beetle), use of wood products and a discussion on careers and the educational opportunities available in the Faculty of Forestry at UBC. There will be two workshops led by faculty members linking secondary school learning outcomes with forestry examples. The day will end in nearby Pacific Spirit Park, with a faculty member leading the group on a walk through the coastal rainforest. If you are interested, or would like more information, contact Lesley Fettes at 604-827-5195 or by email at [lesley.fettes@ubc.ca](mailto:lesley.fettes@ubc.ca).

## BCIT- Careers in Forestry

Peter Barss- Program Head, Forest Resources



### Thinking about Forestry?

Forestry is a vital part of BC's economy. Forest technologists are part of a team practicing sustainable forest management so that our forests will remain a vital part of our environment, culture and economy now and for the future. With more jobs available than there are graduates, now is an excellent time to start a career in Forest Technology.



If you love the outdoors, care about the environment, and enjoy science and nature, you should consider a forestry career. This career choice offers variety and challenge, travel opportunities, hands-on work, uses computers and field instruments, and applies your knowledge and skills to solve problems and make decisions. It is a career that pays well and offers opportunities to grow professionally.

### What Do Forest Technologists and Technicians Do?

Graduates work in offices, but primarily in the outdoors, collecting and processing natural resource information used for planning and managing forest ecosystems. Here are some examples of what you might do:

- Work with maps, aerial photos, GPS, and computer mapping software (GIS)
- Use field survey techniques and resource sampling methods to record and analyse information on plants, animals, soils, streams, and forest health.
- Plan timber harvesting, determine road locations, prescribe road maintenance and de-activation activities, supervise forestry operations...
- Work in wildland fire fighting and fire management
- Work in silviculture to plant, tend and manage our new forests

Students and graduates find work throughout B.C. and beyond, primarily with forest companies, consulting firms, and government.

### What Kind of Forestry Training Opportunities Does BCIT Offer?

There are a number of schools in BC where you can take forestry diploma and degree programs. Here is a brief summary of the programs offered at the Lower Mainland campus of BCIT (Burnaby):

The **Forest Ecosystems Technology Diploma (FET)** started in 1964 as the Forestry Technology Diploma, and has trained thousands of technologists now at work throughout the province and beyond. In this program you will gain practical, employable skills that provide the foundation for a rewarding career. This full-time **two year program** is nationally accredited and if



you want, it can open the door to further education, such as a forestry degree. Upon graduation, you will qualify for registration as a Registered Forest Technologist with the Association of BC Forest Professionals. Some students stay an extra year to take the Fish, Wildlife and Recreation Program and gain a second diploma.

The Forest Resources Technician Certificate (FRT) is a **one-year program** that will provide you with the necessary skills needed to conduct fieldwork in the forest industry, including safe operation of 4x4s and ATV's, fire-line certification, first aid, data collection, field survey, and reporting skills. Successful graduates of this program may be granted credits toward the two-year FET Diploma at BCIT.

The Cooperative Education option at BCIT involves enhancing academic studies with relevant work experience to develop skills in the real world and improves employment opportunities upon graduation. Both FRT students and FET students may be eligible for the Co-op option.

**For more information, you can: attend a class or an information session, speak with a past graduate, visit our website ( [www.forestry.bcit.ca](http://www.forestry.bcit.ca) ) or speak with an instructor (604.432.8539) .**

**Selkirk College- Forest Technology Training**  
Pete Schroder- School Chair, School of  
Renewable Resources



Since 1967, Selkirk College has delivered relevant technical training in forest technology to serve the human resource needs of the forest industry and government departments involved in natural resource management. This educational foundation has provided many graduates with the first step towards a career focused on working outside and managing BC's vast forest resource.



In order to deliver a modern forest technology program, Selkirk College has looked for innovative ways to deliver integrated hands-on training that incorporates the latest technology, such as geographic information systems, global positioning systems, digital measuring devices and data capture methods, while still providing traditional training in the fundamental forest management disciplines. Students have expressed appreciation for this integrated approach, which has led to a skill set that employers recognize, credentials that can be transferred to university programs, and a nationally-accredited program.

Situated in Castlegar B.C., the campus at Selkirk College is close to the faculty's forest resource, with typically over 50% of a student's week spent outside in field-based activities, either on the college woodlot license or surrounding crown land.

For those interested in working outdoors in forest technology, the prospects for employment are good. A combination of industry and government demographics, global demand for wood products and the incidence of pests in our forests are creating new opportunities for technology graduates.

**If you think we can help you or your students start an environmental science career, check us out at [www.selkirk.ca/rr](http://www.selkirk.ca/rr) or feel free to contact me at [pschroder@selkirk.ca](mailto:pschroder@selkirk.ca)**

## Malaspina University College- An Aboriginal Student's Perspective Johnson Ginger- Forest Resources Technology



I am of first people's descent, and for the past twenty years my goal in life has always been to work for my tribe one day as a forest practitioner. My tribe is located around the Bamfield area, on Vancouver Island, BC, and we are part of the Nuu-Chah-Nulth Tribal Council. Formally called Ohiaht First Nation, today we have adopted our non-colonialized name, Huu-ay-aht (sounds like, "who ate it").



My first start in forestry was as a tree planter in northern BC, planting ~279,000 seedlings into BC soil between 1986 and 1990. This experience gave me the ability to gain further work opportunities in silviculture and I was able to carry out planting quality checks, regeneration surveys, free-to grow surveys, plantability surveys and survival surveys. After ten years in silviculture, I was introduced to a forester who mentored me in other areas of forestry, specifically engineering. I take my hat off to Mr. Fred Phillipot, R.P.F., as he believed that I would make an excellent forest practitioner and so I chose to acquire some formal training and become a forest resources technologist.

I chose Malaspina University College's forestry program, but first, I had to upgrade some of my grade 11 and 12 courses. I started that process in Terrace, BC, at Northwest Community College and later I took distance education courses from the UBC's Forestry Faculty, finally ending up at Malaspina.

Located in Nanaimo, BC, Malaspina is built on the sunny southwest slopes of Mount Benson, offering students a great view of the city as well as the Strait of Georgia. One can even see the outline of the Sunshine Coast or Vancouver on clear sunny days.

The forest resources program is very well put-together, with state-of-the-art equipment and experienced instructors who are either Registered Professional Foresters (R.P.F.) or Registered Forest Technologists (R.F.T.), or both. Since it is a very condensed program, those wishing to attend should come well-prepared to go through a battery of exams, quizzes and demanding professional report writing. This prepares the student for the responsibilities of practicing forestry in BC, elsewhere in Canada or abroad.

With the experience I have gained over the years in forestry at various institutions in BC, and with hands-on training as a field worker in forestry-related jobs, the Forest Resources Technology program has taught me more than I had ever imagined forestry to be. I would recommend Malaspina to any person that seeks a career as a forest resources technologist.

I encourage young people to stay in high school, as upgrading later in life as I did may not be an option. Education has given me more choices in life, and it will give those that complete high school more choices as well. High school graduates may not want to pursue post-secondary training right away, but completing graduation requirements will allow them to consider college or university down the road rather than having to upgrade first.

Forestry will always be a major industry in BC, so for those who choose this career, there will always be bread and butter on your tables. To those who become part of the forest industry, “May the forest be with you”<sup>①</sup> and to all the forest practitioners working today, “The forest **is** with you”.<sup>②</sup>

*Many thanks to Johnson for providing a student's perspective on post-secondary training!!*

### **Hoo Hoo International- Evans Lake Education Camp Projects & Beyond** **Mike Hodder- Vancouver Hoo Hoo Club #48**

The Vancouver Hoo-Hoo club # 48 has been around since the early 1920's. It has the largest membership in North America and is very active in promoting forest education to the younger generations. Over the years, the Hoo-Hoo club has raised close to a million dollars to help promote this great industry.

Our main focus is working with Evans Lake Forest Educational Camp in Squamish B.C. This camp has about 5000 children attend each year, where they are shown the



importance of the forests. We assist the camp in maintaining the buildings, and buying equipment such as vans and canoes. We also have built swimming floats and docks for the water sports equipment and have been involved in both the Temperate Forest Foundation and the Festival of Forestry teacher tours.



Our club's goal is to look for ways to educate those with negative views about the forest industry and to show them that we are working hard to keep this valuable resource that we use everyday sustainable for future generations. The Vancouver Club takes pride in this great industry and will do whatever we can to keep our goals a reality.

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<sup>1</sup> Coined phrase by J. Ginger, 2000

<sup>2</sup> Coined phrase by J. Ginger, 2004

## Silver Lake Forestry Center's New Lodge Nears Completion

Just over two years after the lodge at Silver Lake Forestry Centre burned down, a new lodge is almost completed and is expected to open next month. Almost 2500 sq. ft. larger than its predecessor, there is a much greater seating capacity and an opportunity to house a wider variety of activities and functions. Much of the construction was done using donated materials from supporting forest companies, so it truly was a community effort in replacing this building after such a significant loss to the facility.



Silver Lake's new lodge

Located about 45 minutes south of Kelowna, near Peachland, BC, Silver Lake Forestry Center has been in operation for the past 38 years and offers quality forest education programs and outdoor experiences to young people between the ages of 7 and 16 years. In addition to providing educational camp experiences, Silver Lake is also used by many school and community groups throughout the year for field trips and events. From canoeing, swimming and hiking to archery, orienteering, forest resource study and winter Olympics, students are exposed to a wide variety of seasonal activities in a beautiful lake setting surrounded by forest.

This year, for the first time, a Spring Break camp will be offered from March 12-17 for \$267.50, the same cost as the week long camps offered throughout the summer from early July to mid August.

**For more information about any of the programs offered at Silver Lake, please visit:**

**Silver Lake Forestry Centre website at: [www.silverlakekidscamp.com](http://www.silverlakekidscamp.com)**

**Phone: 250-717-0033**

**Fax: 250-717-3231**

**Email: [monika@silverlakekidscamp.com](mailto:monika@silverlakekidscamp.com)**

## Interpretive Trail "Raises-the-Bar" at Blue Lake

Jody McInnes- General Manager, Blue Lake Forest Education Society

Blue Lake Forest Education Society is a non-profit, charitable organization that focuses on providing experiential education programs to children and youth. The Society operates the Blue Lake Centre, a camp facility located 26 km west of Canal Flats, providing programs to the public since 1977. These education and recreation-based programs are designed to promote a balanced ecological awareness and to foster social responsibility.



Recently, the Kootenay Woodlot Education Society, in conjunction with the Blue Lake Forest Education Society, completed the development of a new Interpretive Trail in the woodlot demonstration forest at the Blue Lake Centre. The trail was developed in an ideal location to provide information on a wide variety of forest-related topics. The 1½ to 5 hour tour can be custom-tailored to meet the needs of any group interested in learning about the environment. A knowledgeable interpreter facilitates the entire tour and provides hands-on, experiential education to students and teachers visiting the Blue Lake Centre. While investigating various ecosystems throughout the tour, participants can expect to learn about any or all of the following: wildlife, habitat, forest health, tree identification, forestry management practices, forest fire ecology, wildlife trees, and biodiversity. All of the topics encourage active involvement and critical thinking, as students are encouraged to ask questions, examine relevant issues, and become involved in forest investigations.

The newly-developed Interpretive Trail brings a whole new level of educational opportunities to the Blue Lake Centre, significantly raising-the-bar on the level of programming offered there. I look forward to its unveiling in the spring of 2006.

**If you have any questions regarding the Blue Lake Centre, the Society, or the Interpretive Trail please contact the Blue Lake Office at 1-888-328-9998 or visit us online at [www.bluelakecentre.com](http://www.bluelakecentre.com)**

### Highlights from the Forest Capital 2005- Revelstoke, BC

Deb Wozniak



A **Fine Woodworking Show** was held at the Visual Arts Centre, September 10 – 30, 2005. Fourteen exhibitors entered 24 pieces in the show. Many visitors attended the Wood Transformed exhibition. Awards for given for Best Student/Novice work, Most Innovative piece, Best Furniture, Best Small Wood piece and Best Crafted piece.

In conjunction with the **National & BC Woodlot Federation Conference**, held in Vernon, BC, a tour of a local woodlot and the Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation's log sort yard was organized for over forty conference participants on October 15, 2005.

The grand opening of the **District Energy System & Biomass Energy Plant** was held October 29, 2005. The official Opening Ceremony took place at 1:00 pm, with short tours taking place between 1:30 – 4:30 pm for the general public.

The Columbia Mountains Institute of Applied Ecology hosted the **Creating Bear Aware Communities 2005 Conference** held in Revelstoke on November 2 & 3. Over fifty participants attended the two day conference. The conference summary will be available at [www.cmiae.org](http://www.cmiae.org).



A **Legacy Project** is being considered by the City of Revelstoke that will see the construction of a timberframe footbridge across the Illecillewaet River. The bridge will connect the community's River Trail System to another network of trails that has been informally established providing access the Arrow Heights subdivision and the wetlands south of Revelstoke. A major benefactor is interested in providing seed capital to initiate the project.

## ForestEDWest II Conference- Banff, Alberta



The recent ForestEDWest II conference held in Banff in January brought nearly 175 forest education practitioners, classroom educators and supporters from industry, government and the not-for-profit sector together to highlight forest education across Western Canada. Workshops, resource displays and discussion groups promoted the sharing of ideas, strategies and goals in the delivery of forest education programs and discussed ways to help grow and sustain these programs for the future.



Deb Bazett, Kalon Nahachewsky and Debbie Sluggett at the Conference's Saturday night BBQ.

The conference was organized by the Inside Education Society of Alberta, a non-profit organization providing education programming to Alberta teachers and students, community groups and the public on issues related to environmental sustainability and the development and use of our natural resources.

One of the workshop speakers at Banff was Deb Sluggett (Okanagan-Columbia Educational Liaison), assisted by Kalon Nahachewsky (Okanagan-Columbia), Deb Bazett (COFI South Forest Education) and Susan Bondar (Forest Educator, Thompson zone). Deb S. spoke on the types of forest education resources she has been involved with developing for teachers, in particular, the newest resource, "CLEM- A Journey into BC's Logging Industry". This is a DVD and lesson package that looks at the high-tech machines of the forest industry and career opportunities for students within the industry. It will be distributed to elementary schools throughout BC this spring.



Deb Sluggett presents at the Banff Conference.

All those who attended ForestEDWest II left with a network of contacts and ideas for the future and a new concept of the scope and breadth of forest education across Western Canada. Congratulations and many thanks to all of the volunteers and organizers who made this year's ForestEDWest II a resounding success!!

*The next ForestEDWest conference will next be held in British Columbia in 2008, as it moves for the first time to the West Coast.*

## 2006 Women of Resource Communities Conference April 5-7, 2006

Building on the success of the 2005 *Women of Resource Communities Conference*, when 85 women from resource communities around British Columbia came together to share ideas



and to hear from a panel of prominent women in oil and gas, mining, forestry, agriculture, aquaculture, communications and government, the *2006 Conference* is destined to become an even bigger event.

The *2006 Women of Resource Communities Conference* is an opportunity to:

- Rethink how both the recreational and industrial stakeholders of British Columbia can work together for a sustainable future;
- Rediscover the pride of working in BC's resource sectors and reclaim a greater leadership role for women who live and work in resource communities;
- Recreate how we can have balanced resource communities where all stakeholders can live, work and play.

Delegates can expect to hear from leaders in both industry and government, as well as community leaders from several First Nations. The two day conference will be held at the beautiful Hill's Health Ranch in 100 Mile House and will provide delegates with an opportunity to experience the hospitality of the Cariboo region.

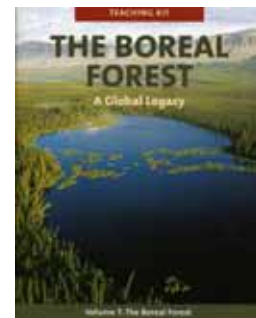
Organized by *First Dollar Alliance*, the *2006 Women of Resource Communities Conference* will be of interest to women working directly in the resource industries, women working in the many services that depend on our primary industries, as well as women living and / or working in resource-based communities, First Nation communities, coastal BC, the Interior, rural communities and urban centres.

**For more information or to register: call 250-334-1086 or 250-923-2865**

email [cegan10@telus.net](mailto:cegan10@telus.net) or [barbarawalker@telus.net](mailto:barbarawalker@telus.net) or see the Women of Resource Communities website: <http://www.womenofbcresourcecommunities.org/events.cfm>

## NFW 2006- "The Boreal Forest- A Global Legacy" Teaching Resource Canadian Forestry Association

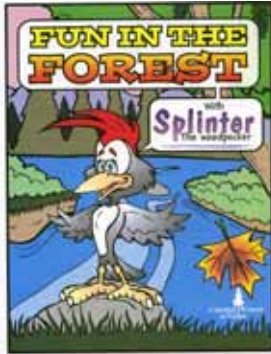
As with all volumes in the Canadian Forestry Association's 'Canada's Forests Teaching Kit Series', "*The Boreal Forest-A Global Legacy*"(Volume #7) contains balanced background information and activities which address the crucial issues facing this region today. These lessons are designed to provide students with a wide variety of learning experiences to help them explore the biodiversity, economic value and social and cultural importance of the boreal forest. The activities are suitable for use from primary to senior grades and for all abilities, from special needs to gifted to ESL. Video, book and web resources, as well as a glossary of terms are included, along with several maps of



the global and Canadian boreal region and a list of appropriate boreal research projects.

Material from all seven volumes of the CFA's teaching kit series can be downloaded, and print copies are available in English or French through the Canadian Forestry Association web site: [www.canadianforestry.com](http://www.canadianforestry.com)

### Canadian Women in Timber Feature New Website & Teacher Resource



Last spring, the Canadian Women in Timber completed their latest project, a new 16 page colouring & activity book called, "FUN IN THE FOREST" with Splinter the Woodpecker. It is suitable for students from K to Gr. 5 and is filled with information about trees and forests and the products we get from them. It also covers some info on forest health and users of the forest. Each page has a different activity with some pages suitable for younger kids and some pages more suitable for older students. CWIT has the copyright to the character "Splinter the Woodpecker", but teachers and educators may make copies of any of the pages in the book for their own use. The books are available for \$1.50 each plus postage or shipping and can be purchased or downloaded by going to their **new and improved website** at: [www.canadianwomenintimber.com](http://www.canadianwomenintimber.com)

### Forest Education Resources

- ◆ **New Additions to Learn Forestry website ([www.learnforestry.com](http://www.learnforestry.com)):**
  - "CLEM - A Journey into BC's Logging Industry" will be up on the website soon, but the trailer is available for viewing. For more info on CLEM, see the "Okanagan-Columbia" section of this newsletter.
  - Forest Research Student Website List- New under "Links" on website.
  - Forest Health Lessons on Home Page under "Additions" or under "Lesson Plans" on website.
  
- ◆ **Climate Change Teaching Resources:** The Government of Canada has a great site for teachers: [http://www.climatechange.gc.ca/english/teachers\\_resources/](http://www.climatechange.gc.ca/english/teachers_resources/) that provides free posters to order, teaching lessons for varied ages and other resources on topics related to the environment and climate change.
  
- ◆ **New April 2005: Mountain Pine Beetle Teacher Resource:** These MPB binders went to all schools with intermediate grades in BC's Interior. Schools also received a forest health lesson plan, a song CD and blue stain wood samples.

- ◆ **Teaching Resource Booklet: "The Boreal Forest- A Global Legacy" – Volume #7** in the Canadian Forestry Association series: 'Canada's Forests Teaching Kits'. Available online at [www.canadianforestry.com](http://www.canadianforestry.com) with lessons, activities and resources for all student levels. See "Expanding Our Roots" section in the newsletter for more details.



- **Feature Book: "Forest" by Deborah Lock and Lorrie Mack**  
Dorling Kindersley Ltd. Upper primary/ Intermediate  
ISBN: 0-7894-9759-X  
Introduces facts about forests around the world and some of the changes through the seasons. Full of full-colour photographs and facts about trees and forests and the plants and animals that populate them.
- **New in 2005: Teacher Resource Booklet** from Canadian Women in Timber- "Fun in the Forest" with Splinter the Woodpecker. Great for elementary teachers. For more information, see "Expanding Our Roots" in this newsletter or go to [www.canadianwomenintimber.com](http://www.canadianwomenintimber.com)
- **Forest Education Research for Elementary Grades:**
  - For a comprehensive list of websites for use by students researching forest topics, see [www.learnforestry.com](http://www.learnforestry.com) under "Links".
- **Teaching Students About Ecosystem Management Online:** This new online interactive website from Alberta Tomorrow ([www.albertatomorrow.ca](http://www.albertatomorrow.ca)) shows students how their land management decisions affect wildlife habitat, natural resource production and ecosystems for the future. Appropriate for Gr. 7 and above and free of charge. Teacher guides are available from [matthew.carlson@sympatico.ca](mailto:matthew.carlson@sympatico.ca) with a request sent via your school email.

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ **April 5-7: 2006 Women of Resource Communities Conference**  
\$250 Early Bird Registration. See info in "Expanding Our Roots" for details.
- ◆ **April 28: UBC Hosts "Forestry 101" Pro D workshop.** See "Expanding Our Roots" section for more info. UBC contact: Lesley Fettes at 604-827-5195 or by email: [lesley.fettes@ubc.ca](mailto:lesley.fettes@ubc.ca)
- ◆ **May 22-24: New BCIT/UBC Work-Study Program:** Okanagan-Columbia zone secondary students will spend two days having some hands-on forestry experiences at Silver Lake Forestry Center in a new program partnership between forest educators in the Okanagan-Columbia zone and BCIT/UBC. For more info, see the "Okanagan-Columbia Zone" section of the newsletter.

◆ **June 21-24: Pacific Northwest Teacher Tour- Portland, Oregon**  
(Sponsored by the Temperate Forest Foundation)

Portland is the location of the newly-renovated Discovery Museum at the World Forestry Center. Educators on the TFF Teacher Tour will take part in tours, events and presentations and will gain a global perspective on forest resource challenges and responsible resource management. Some teacher sponsorship is available.

- To learn more about this opportunity, click on "Teachers" at the TFF homepage: [www.forestinfo.org](http://www.forestinfo.org).
- For more info on the World Forestry Center, see [www.worldforestry.org](http://www.worldforestry.org)

## Odds and Ends

### Questions

If you have any questions, please contact [questions@learnforestry.com](mailto:questions@learnforestry.com)

### Comments

Please let us know what you think about our newsletter. Suggestions are most welcome and you can contact us at: [comments@learnforestry.com](mailto:comments@learnforestry.com)

### June '06 Newsletter

If you would like to submit one or more short articles/pictures highlighting events and programs occurring in your school or community for the next issue, please email the information in Word format with pictures in jpeg to: [info@learnforestry.com](mailto:info@learnforestry.com)

Deadline for submissions: **Friday, May 12.**

### 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 us at:

[submissions@learnforestry.com](mailto:submissions@learnforestry.com)