

# Canadian Women In Timber

## Leaflet

Canadian Women  
in Timber

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## Canadian Women in Timber 19<sup>th</sup> AGM

### Featuring the Honourable Pat Bell, Minister of Forests & Range



Working in resource communities across British Columbia, the Canadian Women in Timber (CWIT) have a mandate to promote forest awareness through education. Volunteers have shared the message of sound forest management and wise use of BC's forest resources for nineteen years. To celebrate nineteen years of forest education, the CWIT hosted a public luncheon in conjunction with their annual general meeting in Richmond, BC. Minister of Forests and Range, Pat Bell gave the keynote luncheon address. "We were thrilled to have the minister speak to our members and guests", said Sandy McKellar, who chairs the non-profit society. "He took the opportunity to

launch a new education tool for BC high schools that teaches students about wood products and markets."

The new teacher resource kit was designed to help educate secondary school students about the economic importance and international reach of British Columbia's forest sector. "More than anything, the kits highlight the international opportunities and global reach of B.C.'s forest sector," said Bell. "Whether it's developing new markets in China or promoting the use of wood to fight climate change, the issues that students will explore in the classroom today are the real world opportunities that promise to transform the

industry in the years ahead."

Since their inception in 1989, the Canadian Women in Timber have provided the public with a balanced view of forest land-use issues. They work with allies and partners, such as industry associations and forest and wood companies to create learning tools and promotional materials. Some regional branches have created programs for classroom presentations and provide bursaries to students furthering their education in forest related programs or forest industry training.

"Through community events, classroom education programs and development of teaching materials, we have worked



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at the grassroots level to ensure that British Columbians understand the economic, social and environmental value that our forest sector brings to communities across the province", said McKellar. What is clear to volunteers in the field is that BC teachers do not always have the background or training in forestry related areas to understand how to integrate these concepts into their curriculum. Any classroom materials that can help teachers deliver the forestry message are greatly appreciated. "The minister's announcement today about a new education package is testament to the fact that our government and industry are aware of the importance of forest education, and now we have one more tool to add to our collection."

The annual luncheon was well attended with representation from industry, associations, education and the general public. Next year the Canadian Women in Timber will celebrate their 20th anniversary. The annual general meeting and public luncheon will be held at Predator Ridge Resort in Vernon, BC on October 16th, 2009. Watch the website for more information. [www.canadianwomenintimber.ca](http://www.canadianwomenintimber.ca)

