

# Learn Forestry News

June 2005



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## 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: *“Forestry- A Coastal Experience”* February 17-19, 2005

This was the first pro-d day where teachers from Vernon, Revelstoke and Kamloops were taken down to the coast to learn about the career opportunities related to the forestry industry. Some coastal teachers joined the group in touring BCIT’s trades facility and learning about the forestry programs offered at this institution. The whole group then spent the afternoon in BCIT’s woodlot observing and talking to forestry students who were working in the bush. The day concluded at UBC’s research forest in Maple Ridge, where the group observed an “open air mill”, followed by short presentations from Steve Finn (BCIT), Steve Baumber (UBC) and Sandy McKellar (WMC/CFB) on the vast career opportunities in the forest industry.



BCIT’s Trades Facility



BCIT’s Woodlot

### Career Events in the Okanagan:

#### **Pleasant Valley Secondary School: *Aboriginal Spotlight Career Fair*** February 10, 2005

The Aboriginal Spotlight Career Fair was a great success. This career fair provided the senior aboriginal student population from District# 83 the opportunity to interact with numerous aboriginal organizations, educational institutions, and potential employers. This was a great opportunity to educate and encourage students to consider a career in the forest industry.

**Forestry Career Day: Science and Technology Careers in Forestry**  
**March 3, 2005**

One hundred and fifty grade 9/10 students from the Central Okanagan school district participated in this event. All of the students had an opportunity to hear three presentations in the general areas of: woodlands, forest health, and manufacturing. Nine presenters, all of whom work in different areas of the forest industry, did an excellent job of informing the students about their personal jobs and other possible careers in the forest industry. Students left having a better awareness of the career options that are available to them.



Joel Springer of Gorman Brothers speaks to Grade 9's about tree measurement.

**Springvalley Middle School: Career Day**  
**March 11, 2005**

Over two hundred grade 7/8/9 students from Springvalley Middle School in Kelowna participated in a large-scale career day. There were numerous presentations on a wide range of careers. Two foresters presented to six different groups on exciting opportunities in the forestry industry. Students received information on a variety of careers in the forest sector and the education requirements for those career choices.

**A Forest Educator's Legacy**



Jeannie Steele with Wayne Lintott from the Interior Logging Association and Educational Liaison, Deb Sluggett.

A number of past and present associates of Okanagan forest educator, Jeannie Steele, gathered at the home of Deb Sluggett in March to honour Jeannie's significant contributions to forest education over more than a decade. As the educational liaison for Riverside Forest Products, Jeannie built the forest education program from its fledgling beginnings, working with Theresa White at the Interior Lumber Manufacturers' Association to its expansion as Deb Sluggett and her group of company supporters came on board.

With these two women leading the way, forest education quickly started to build into a thriving program, with thousand of students and teachers benefiting each year from their efforts. National Forest Week projects, Teachers' Professional Day events, videos, a forest education website, career fairs, conferences, teaching resources, a new forest educator network across the southern interior- there was no project too big for this pair!! As a result, their reputation for success began to be well-known in the southern interior.

It was with this history of accomplishment that an enthusiastic group of Jeannie’s supporters and associates, past and present, from forest science and WoodLINKS teachers to forest educators, Canadian Women in Timber, Council of Forest Industries and the Interior Logging Association came together, to regale the group with stories about their days of working with Jeannie and to present her with tokens of their appreciation of her dedication to forest education.

Even though Riverside Forest Products has now become Tolko Industries, Jeannie’s hard work and dedication and her vision of bringing knowledge and understanding to educators and students will continue on with succeeding forest educators. As for Jeannie, she will be on the golf links, the ski hill or the tennis court or in her garden enjoying her favourite hobbies and sports. However, we will endeavour to bring her back to the forest education scene. We like to think of her as our special projects coordinator and expert consultant with an abundance of valuable experience to share!!

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

Every second year, the Interior Logging Association Trades convention is held in Vernon. Two years ago, and again this year, we arranged for a “mini-career fair” to be a part of the event. This year, forestry and resource science recruiters from 10 post secondary schools as well as representatives from 6 forest education groups agreed to take part. This was an opportunity for students, parents and the general public to discuss career opportunities in the forest industry. Approximately 585 high school students and 200+ elementary students attended the event.



Indoor exhibits included 16 education booths, with the forest education van being a major draw.



Younger students toured the outdoor exhibits to learn about machines and technology.



Secondary students talked to post secondary school forestry program recruiters about costs, registration, accommodation, programs, etc....



Outdoor exhibits were a major draw for all students as well as the general public.



Education starts at a young age. Our students need to know that the industry is very diverse, with opportunities that require technological skills as well as an understanding of the science used in managing our forests.



The ILA ladies' event featured a guided tour of Tolko's Lavington, BC sawmill.



The technology used by the forest industry is very high tech. The career opportunities both in the trades and at the professional level are increasing as baby boomers begin to retire.



ILA Ladies' Tour members pose at the Lavington mill before the tour.

## UBC and BCIT Recruiters Visit Okanagan High Schools

Recruiters from UBC and BCIT's forestry and renewable resource faculties visited a number of Central Okanagan and North Okanagan/Shuswap high schools in early April in conjunction with their career fair booths at the ILA tradeshow in Vernon. Students from classes such as Planning 10, Geography 12, and senior sciences heard presentations about programs and opportunities in choosing to study forestry, from forest ecosystems and forest resource technology to wood products processing, forest resource management, forest operations, forest science and natural resource conservation. As well, students were given some insight and understanding into the management of our forests and the diversity of jobs available to graduates within the industry

## National Forest Week: Forest Health Presentations

Once again, this event was a big success. Jennifer and Deb Sluggett wrote a "general forest health" lesson plan for elementary students that was presented throughout much of the southern interior of BC. The lesson topics included diseases, defoliators, bark beetles and fire. The examples included: Armillaria Root Rot, White Pine Blister Rust, Western Spruce Budworm, Douglas fir Tussock Moth, Western Hemlock Looper, Douglas fir Beetle, Spruce Beetle and Mountain Pine Beetle.

Last year's National Forest Week theme was "The Force of Fire". We felt it was important to remind the students and teachers of the resource that was put into the libraries and/or resources centers in their district. With the epidemic outbreak of the Mountain Pine Beetle and the dry hot summer seasons we have been having, our dying pine forests are a serious fire hazard.

In addition to the lesson plan, Deb and Jen commissioned a local Kamloops children's song writer to compose a song to help reinforce some of the health issues covered in the lesson. "Pheromone Frenzy" is a wonderful rap that the students thoroughly enjoyed.

In Debbie and Jen's area, which covers from Kelowna to Golden, over 6000 students received the presentation. Trained by Deb and Jen, these presentations were made by fifty forestry personnel who volunteered their time. Forest educators in the Thompson, Cariboo and West Kootenays shared the presentation with approximately 6000 students bringing the total to just over 12,000 students learned about forest health. Most importantly, a good time was had by all!



Jen Stewart presents her NFW presentation to a primary class in Kelowna.

## School District #23 Students Attempt Tree Planting Record for Kelowna Centennial Project

As part of the Kelowna's Centennial celebrations, Central Okanagan students ranging from elementary to secondary set out with their classes on May 5 in an attempt to break a Guinness World Record for the most trees planted by the most people in one day. This event took part on Kelowna's 100th birthday and was organized by the school district, the Regional District and the City of Kelowna Parks department. With the last record set by a group of 10,000 people in Malaysia planting 100,000 trees, Kelowna's record-setting feat saw 25,000 students, staff and volunteers plant 145,000 trees in 63 areas around Kelowna, restocking forested areas damaged by fire, disease or insects,

Each student planted six seedlings, which ranged from ponderosa pine to willow, spruce, dogwood and snowberry, depending on the designated planting area. They followed directions on how to plant the trees learned from the school district's student-made

instructional video and from presentations made by regional parks staff at some schools. Discussions had taken place on how to carefully handle new seedlings and on the importance of trees in our communities and forests as a lead-up to the project, so students were enthusiastic about planting trees to help the environment while trying to break a world record at the same time. For those students who lost their homes in the fires that ravaged Kelowna in the summer of 2003, this project was especially meaningful.

A massive undertaking, this event was a great way for students to celebrate the centennial by making a difference in their environment. School district superintendent, Ron Rubadeau challenged the record to be beaten soon, making the comment that breaking it would mean that more trees were being planted in a big way somewhere else in the world. Congratulations to all those who helped to make this venture a resounding success in SD#23!!



Bankhead Elementary students plant their seedlings on Knox Mountain in Kelowna.



## **“British Columbia Mountain Pine Beetle Teacher Resource Package” May 2005**

The BC Market Outreach Network in conjunction with the Council of Forest Industries Northern Operations Forest Education Manager, Chris Lear, developed a new intermediate teaching resource on the Mountain Pine Beetle. This resource package was sent to every school in British Columbia with intermediate grades (Gr. 4 – 7). With the spreading outbreaks of this bark beetle and the increasing awareness of its destruction on



BC’s pine forests, the Market Outreach Network thought that it would be important to educate our students about this provincial epidemic. This teacher resource package includes lesson plans keyed to the learning outcomes of grades four through seven, student activity sheets, overheads, a video, posters, CD’s as well as samples of the mountain pine beetle and bark.

In addition, forest educators Debbie Sluggett and Jennifer Stewart, have included a general forest health lesson that can be used in conjunction with this beetle package. This additional resource was distributed to all schools in the interior of British Columbia with intermediate grades. This extra lesson package includes a full lesson plan with curricular connections to kindergarten through grade seven, a song CD, a forest health poster, a tree cookie and a sample of blue-stained wood. See [www.learnforestry.com](http://www.learnforestry.com) for the general health lesson plan added to Interior Binders.

### **Forest Education Van News**

The theme inside the Forest Education van has been changed to “forest health”. There are new pictures and information on the bark beetles, defoliators, disease, and fire. With the devastation that BC is facing from the Mountain Pine Beetle, it was a great opportunity to provide information to help educate students and the general public who visit the van.

This is the first year that the Interior Logging Association has been able to hire a driver/educator for the Forest Education Van for the months of May through August. With the hiring of Geoff Smart, UBC forestry student, the van is being utilized by more schools and communities than in the past.



Geoff Smart, summer student driver and presenter for the Interior Logging Association’s forest education van.

## **New Video Project- “High-Tech Machines of Today’s Forest Operations”**

A new video project is under way!! The videos depicting machines used in forestry have been wonderful but they are now out of date. Debbie Sluggett is collaborating with her “retired” colleague, Jeannie Steele, to produce a video about machines used in BC’s forest industry. This video will be current, BC produced and available to teachers in October. The key messages will relate to forest management, safety, and the fact that forestry is a “high tech” industry. Jennifer Stewart (Tolko), Debbie Bazett (COFI), and Wayne Lintott (ILA) are also involved in this project. There are *many* sponsors, and the list continues to grow, so we will wait until the project is complete to recognize everyone. However, it must be noted that many members of the ILA have been very kind in offering tremendous support, both in funds and access to equipment, which has allowed us to get this project underway. Those of us involved in the project are overwhelmed by the “giving nature” of the ILA members. Thank-you!!

## **Clarence Fulton Wetlands Centre of Excellence**

When this school was built, it was situated beside Vernon Creek with the idea that the wetlands would become an important part of the school grounds. The cafeteria is situated with one of the most beautiful views that anyone could imagine for a school.

With this in mind, we started to plan for some ponds with walkways into the wetlands. Just before Christmas 2004, Ray Klinger donated his time and dug two ponds. In February of 2005, Tolko Industries Ltd. donated a load of cedar logs to build the boardwalks. Mr. Irving’s and Mr. Silver’s shop class students started milling the logs into lumber using the school district sawmill. Mr. Cummings and Ryan Hennebry went to a conference in Winnipeg, hosted by Ducks Unlimited, where they learned about other Wetlands projects by other schools across Canada. It turns out that our project is one of only six in Canada, and Green Street, through Ducks Unlimited, donated \$4000 towards the project. Later on, we also had donations of \$2000 from TD Friends of the Environment and \$200 from CUPE. The money is going towards supplies such as hip waders, gloves, wheelbarrows, tools and seeds.

This spring, we had a visit from Dr. Rick Wishart of Ducks Unlimited. He worked with two Science 10 classes on wetlands education, made a presentation to the teachers, and worked with Mr. Iwanowskyj’s Forestry class to build nesting boxes for the wetlands. The Forestry students also did some seeding and tree planting in the wetlands. Ms. DeLangen’s Art students made toad houses, which will be placed in the wetlands. Ms. DeLangen is also designing a logo for the project. The Wetlands display by the Library is being designed, constructed and maintained by Mrs. Wallberg, Rachel Hoey and Courtney Berry. Mr. Ladner



Fulton students plant grass around one of the ponds.

Mr. Downton's and Mr. Anderson's classes have been collecting pictures and are constructing a web site for the wetlands.

This spring we have 14 students who are donating their time after school on Wednesdays to do some restoration work, construct a pathway that will be wheelchair accessible, seed the disturbed ground, do garbage cleanup and so on. Some spin-offs from working on the project are happening already. There have been other opportunities for some of the volunteers: Jerin Hobbs went to Creston Wetlands with the support of Tri-Lakes Rotary and Mr. Gardner to learn about some of the wildlife programs there; a part-time job in the summer for one of our students will be offered by Summit Environmental Consulting Ltd. and Green Street, and a composting program for the cafeteria is being planned for next year with the help of Mr. Smith and Ms. Schroeder.

In the next school year, we should be constructing the boardwalks and we will also start running wetland studies for elementary schools with our students as tour guides and resource persons. Students can expect some of their teachers to take them out to the wetlands as part of their courses. If enough people sign up, we would like to have an Environmental Studies course as well.

The Wetlands are being developed as a place for wildlife to have a safe place to live and as a place for students and other people from our community to enjoy. It is our hope that this will be a place to visit for many years to come.

### **Provincial Intermediate Teachers' Association Conference Friday, October 21 & Saturday, October 22**

*Did you know that the technology used in the forest industry is second only to aerospace in BC?*

***“Forestry: a high-tech, science-based industry made easy”*** is the title of a workshop that will be featured at the Intermediate Teachers' Association Conference in October. With forestry being BC's #1 resource industry, this workshop is an easy way to learn about the science and technology of today's diverse forest industry!

Presenter Debbie Sluggett, past teacher now liaising between school districts and the forest industry, is inviting teachers to attend a workshop based around teaching resources she helped to create- resources that have direct links to the curriculum at the intermediate level.

The workshop will introduce a new resource package, containing a DVD and lesson plans, about machines and technology used in the forest industry both on the coast and in the interior today. This DVD includes information and footage on reforestation, harvesting, safety and careers. It is truly a “made in B.C.” resource. (Teachers will receive the DVD and may download the lesson plans ...available October 2005.)

Also included will be a number of other resources, and where possible, the accompanying audio/visual material will be handed out. (Visit our site to view these resources at: [www.learnforestry.com](http://www.learnforestry.com) .) Examples of resources that may be showcased include:

- “Our Living Resource – The Forest”- a grade 5 teaching kit that looks at the sustainability of forestry as a renewable resource. (Curricular connections to Sc.6/7/8)
- “The Force of Fire” - a set of teaching binders at the primary, intermediate and secondary levels that looks at wildfire in urban areas and focuses on being “fire smart”.
- National Forest Week lesson plans.
- As many hands-on activities as time will allow.

Curricular Connections: Life Science at many grade levels –forest health  
Applied Science: technology used in forestry  
Grade 5 Science, Socials & CAPP

#### Workshop Sessions:

**Friday Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>**  
9:00-10:30am  
11:00-12:30am

**Saturday Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
9:00-11:00am

**Field Trip Option: Friday 12:45- 4:15 p.m.** See forest management, forest technology and forest machinery up close in a field tour afternoon event!!

### Cariboo Forest Education Highlights

Gail Wallin/Maureen LeBourdais (Forest Educators)

#### Teacher’s Professional Day- “Skogdag”

The May 6<sup>th</sup> Professional Development Day was a *Skogdag* for 13 teachers from School District 27 in the Cariboo/Chilcotin. What’s a Skogdag? That’s Swedish for “day in the woods.”

The day-long event was coordinated by Gail Wallin and Maureen LeBourdais, forest educators in the Cariboo-Chilcotin who work with teachers and forest specialists to facilitate the integration of forest awareness into a variety of subjects. Elementary teachers from the Williams Lake and 100 Mile House area, and as far west as Anahim Lake, got out in the forest for a site tour with local forest experts, and learned first hand how mule deer ecology, First Nations culture, and natural history are key factors in forest planning.

The Alex Fraser Research Forest (AFRF) Knife Creek Block is located about 20 km south of Williams Lake, off Hwy 97 and is part of the Faculty of Forestry at the University of British Columbia (UBC). Predominantly in the Interior Douglas-fir

biogeoclimatic zone, the AFRF was established in April 1987 and is held under Forest Act Tenure by the UBC Faculty of Forestry. It is managed according to provincial regulations and the Cariboo-Chilcotin Land Use Plan to provide an optimal environment for research, education and the demonstration of integrated resource management.



Cathy Koot, Research Coordinator, talks to SD #27 teachers on the Knife Creek Block of the UBC Alex Fraser Research Forest.

Cathy Koot, Research Coordinator, and Ken Day, AFRF Manager, were the field tour guides for the day. Other participants included Jeff Alexander, Planning Forester for Tolko Industries, Karen Longwell, Williams Lake Tribune, and Neil Davis, Associate Recruiter from the UBC Faculty of Forestry.

Teachers were delighted to get out of the classroom and even a few showers didn't dampen their enthusiasm for seeing first hand how forest health, cattle grazing, tourism and recreation, maintenance and enhancement of wildlife habitat, etc. can impact forest management decisions.

A picnic lunch was provided, and teachers also received take-home resources for use in their classroom. The most commonly asked question at the end of the day? "When's Skogdag Two?"

## East Kootenay Forest Education Highlights

Norma Blissett (Forest Educator)



Russ Hawkins, RPF, Tembec, shows a group of SD#5 and SD#6 teachers a beetle-infested lodgepole pine.

It has been a busy spring for forestry education in the East Kootenay. On April 29, a group of teachers from school districts #5 and #6 attended a forest field tour, where they looked at the impact of mountain pine beetle and the proposed forest harvesting in the Mark Creek Watershed and toured the Kimberley Nature Park, discussing the importance of fire in the grassland and forest ecosystems. Tembec's forest harvesting plans were discussed as well as the impact of noxious weeds and forest encroachment on the grassland ecosystems of the Rocky Mountain Trench.

The Ministry of Forests conducted forestry week tours in the Cranbrook Community Forest and Wild Sight, a local environmental education group, has been providing forest ecology tours throughout the area.

Norma Blissett, industry-sponsored forest educator, has been taking students in to local forest areas and making classroom presentations on request. Topics for the classroom

presentations have included: The Importance of Trees (grade 1&2), Forest Machinery (grade 3), Planning for Forest Harvesting (grade 5 and 6), Forest Ecology (grade 7), Riparian areas and Wildlife Trees (grades 6, 8 and 9), and Current Issues in Forest Management (grade 10).

## West Kootenay Forest Education Highlights

Nancie Dohan (Forest Educator)

As the forest educator for the West Kootenay zone, Nancie delivered 45 presentations to over **2,400 students** during April and May for National Forest Week. The presentations were well-received and the teachers and children gained valuable information – kids are very interested in bugs, and the mountain pine beetle samples thrilled them.

High school presentations on ‘Careers in Forestry’ were delivered at some of the high schools in the area. Students appreciated the informative video, talk and discussion.

Look for the **Forest Education Van** in the West Kootenay at the Slocan City Loggers Sports Show on July 9<sup>th</sup>, and the Pass Creek Fall Fair September 22 -24. The van will be touring schools in September as well. A professional development date has been set for the end of September to introduce teachers to forestry issues, combined with a field trip.

Nancie has found her new position as forest educator to be exciting and challenging over the past six months and she has enjoyed meeting many of the company representatives. She looks forward to contacting everyone in September for the start of a new school year!!

## Thompson Forest Education Highlights

Susan Bondar (Forest Educator)

The past five months have seen many Forest Education projects take place in the Thompson Zone. The Steering Committee for the Thompson Zone has committed to continuing next year with the Forest Education Position with Susan in her role as the Forest Educator. Following is a summary of some of the projects that were accomplished from mid January until the end of May.

### **Adopt-a-Forester**

The Adopt-a-Forester Program has existed in the Kamloops/Thompson School District #73 for about twelve years, providing information to teachers on forestry through a network of forest professionals, forest technicians and forestry workers. This is accomplished through field studies, classroom visits, or locating appropriate resource materials. Teachers are invited to request the services from the volunteers assigned to their school.

The goal for the Adopt-a-Forester Program is to re-energize it with new materials and approaches. Over the past few months, the list of volunteers has been updated and compiled. Information was also provided to the volunteers through a newsletter.

### **National Forest Week**

National Forest Week was a huge success with thirty-seven Forest Professionals and Forest Technicians making forest health presentations to 2,986 students and teachers in Kamloops/Thompson and Nicola/Similkameen School Districts. These presentations were well- received by presenters, teachers and students.

### **McQueen Lake Environmental Education Centre**

McQueen Lake is an Environmental Education Centre owned and operated by School District #73 thirty minutes from Kamloops. A recent student planting project there was to plant two areas that had been logged due to root rot and mountain pine beetle. Eight teachers signed their students up to participate, resulting in approximately 200 students planting on the site. Two thousand seedlings were donated by Tolko for the project.

### **Riparian Enhancement Projects**

Partnership with the City of Kamloops, Ducks Unlimited, Department of Fisheries and Oceans and School District 73 for two riparian enhancement projects.

- One project is on the South Thompson River and 59 students will assist with planting indigenous plants.
- The other project was at the pond next to Albert McGowan Elementary School. A kindergarten class of 22 students and 22 grade 5 students assisted with planting trembling aspen around the pond.



Kindergarten and Gr.5 students take part in planting as part of the Riparian Enhancement Project with the City of Kamloops.

### **Interior Logging Association Forest Education Van**

Thirteen schools from School District #73 (897 students) and School District #74 (430 students) had their students tour the ILA van and benefited from the information they learned about forests and the industry.

### **BC Northern Interior Forest Education Program- Council of Forest Industries**

Chris Lear (Forest Education Manager)

During the spring, COFI's Northern Operations' Forest Education Manager, Chris Lear, has been very busy giving presentations on the Mountain Pine Beetle Epidemic in schools throughout the Peace region in Chetwynd, Dawson Creek, Fort St. John and Nelson. These presentations clearly open the eyes of students and teachers as they learn about the magnitude of the epidemic, its causes and its effect on the environment. They are always amazed that a beetle the size of



New Mountain Pine Beetle teaching resource

a grain of rice could cause such damage.

***The Mountain Pine Beetle Epidemic***, a new teaching resource developed in a partnership with Market Outreach Network and the COFI North office, will be distributed free of charge in May to all elementary schools in BC. Targeted at the intermediate (grade 4-7) level, it includes lesson plans, activity sheets, a new video and CD, posters and take-home materials so that parents too can learn about the MPB epidemic. In all, some 2000 resource kits have been produced. The COFI South office will distribute the kits to all schools in the southern interior.

Two new Natural Resource Management programs took place at the end of May in the Nechako School District involving students from Fort St. James, Vanderhoof and Fraser Lake high schools and the first ever Natural Resource Management program for schools in School District No. 28 – Quesnel at the beginning of June.

For more information contact Chris Lear, Forest Education Manager by phone at: (250) 614-4352 or by email: [lear@cofi.org](mailto:lear@cofi.org).

## Expanding Our Roots

### UBC Hosts Teacher Professional Development Day Workshops

UBC Forestry conducted two free professional development day workshops for teachers last month. The first of the workshops, titled “Forestry: Science Made Practical”, was delivered to thirteen high school teachers on UBC Campus. Morning workshops focused on offering teachers examples from forests and forestry of concepts taught in senior high school sciences such as biology, physics and math. The workshops were delivered by professors Sally Aitken and Dennis Bendickson. Following an interactive lunch with the teachers and workshop leaders, the group left for a guided tour of the forest in Pacific Spirit Park (PSP), south of campus. Professors Steve Mitchell and Sally Aitken shared the forest’s interesting history of fire, logging and regeneration, and what these events have meant to the ecology of the forest and its future as a park. Feedback from teachers at the end of the day was predominantly positive: several of them felt they would be able to incorporate the examples from the morning workshops into portions of their curriculum, while others thought that they could use the workshop content as a resource from which to create something more suitable for their grade level and course content. The concept of combining focused class time and a forest tour was also well-received.

In early May, Forest Educators Gail Wallin and Maureen Lebourdais also organized “Skogdag”, Swedish for “forest day”, for 15 Kindergarten to Grade 7 teachers in the Cariboo-Chilcotin. The event was delivered by the staff of the Alex Fraser UBC Research Forest at Knife Creek, south of 150 Mile House. Manager Ken Day and Research Coordinator Cathy Koot wove the group up and down a series of trails through the forest, making stops to illustrate the ecology of the Interior Douglas fir zone and explaining how

forest management is adapting to meet the needs of wildlife like Mule deer, while mitigating the risk of fire and extracting timber value. Similar events are planned for the future with Gail and Maureen, and the UBC Research Forest is interested in hosting groups again in the future.

For those interested in being kept informed of upcoming events in the Lower Mainland or if anyone is interested in help with creating and /or running forest-related events, you can contact Neil Davis or Steve Baumber at [forest.info@ubc.ca](mailto:forest.info@ubc.ca), or toll free at 1-888 933-9663, and we will keep their contact info on hand. For the Cariboo region, contact manager Ken Day at the Alex Fraser Research Forest : Tel: (250)392-2207.

#### **New from UBC's Forestry Faculty:**

This fall, the Forest Operations degree program will be offering students the option to do a minor in commerce. This is an exciting opportunity for students, giving them more flexibility in their degree to meet some of the changing demands in the workplace.

#### **BCIT Offers High School Grads Credit Initiative**

The BCIT Forestry Department and Rutland Senior Secondary school (RSS) in Kelowna have worked together on a dual credit initiative that will enable high school graduates to obtain advanced standing toward the Forestry Certificate program at BCIT. Over the past three years, the faculty at BCIT have assisted Forest Science teachers at RSS in redesigning the Forest Science 11 and 12 curricula to better prepare graduates for the workplace. Graduates of the new "Forest Resource Field Studies" program at RSS will be granted credit for the first term of the Forestry Certificate program at BCIT, if desired, and may then go on to complete the One-year Certificate program as well as enter the Two-year Diploma program with advanced standing.

The first RSS "laddering" student is currently attending the second term of the Forestry Certificate program at BCIT and is scheduled to graduate on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005. The second delivery of the RSS Forestry program is currently being delivered to a (capacity) group of 18, of which approximately 10 have indicated that they do plan on pursuing further Forestry education at BCIT.

For more information on this initiative, contact Wayne Horvath at BCIT:  
[w\\_horvath@bcit.ca](mailto:w_horvath@bcit.ca)

#### **Emily Carr Institute of Art & Design Partners with BCIT-New Wood Diploma Program Developed Focusing on Manufacture and Design**

Emily Carr Institute and the BC Institute of Technology (BCIT) will soon be co-offering a full-time diploma program in the design and manufacture of value-added wood products. The combined resources of the two post-secondary institutions will ensure a new program that produces graduates who are creative, innovative, and highly skilled in

the design, manufacture, and management of wood products and their associated manufacturing facilities.

This unique program will integrate the essential skills of design, manufacturing techniques and processes, with business and manufacturing management. The holistic, hands-on approach throughout the program allows students to gain an understanding of critical design skills to address client needs and current and new technical processes.

Graduates will have the knowledge and skills to combine function with form in innovative and high-quality, wood-based products. Industry areas of special interest include high-quality furniture and interior design products for a broad range of clients from residential, commercial and industrial.

For further information, please contact Emily Carr Institute at 604 844 3810 or [csinfo@eciad.ca](mailto:csinfo@eciad.ca).

### **WOODWORKS! Gala a Resounding Success!!**

Over 250 people dressed in their finest in order to celebrate ‘Excellence in Wood’ at the inaugural Canadian Wood Council – Wood *WORKS!* awards Gala in early March.

The Gala, held at the Four Seasons Hotel in Vancouver was a hallmark event, celebrating a growing ‘wood culture’ in British Columbia. Sixty nominations were received for the 11 prestigious awards up for grabs.



Interior Beauty Award-  
Townhouse Renovation at False  
Creek in Vancouver.

Mary Tracey, Executive Director for Wood *WORKS!* BC, said the goal of the Gala was to “raise the bar” in terms of wood design, wood use and technology in British Columbia.

“By recognizing and honouring excellence in wood design, we are raising the level of awareness,” Tracey noted. “We are essentially challenging all designers and builders in British Columbia to work towards developing excellence in wood and meeting the high level of expertise and creativity set at this event.”

Tracey said the Gala far exceeded their expectations and the quality and level of nominations have already set a high standard for ensuing years. She credits the forest industry and companies and associations involved with the industry for the success of the event, noting that the entire event was funded by sponsoring companies and associations.

“This event was designed to applaud and recognize the use of wood design and construction in BC, could not have been held without the support of these sponsors.”

Tracey noted that the Gala was unique in bringing together the many companies and organizations dependent on British Columbia’s forest industry.

”As far as I know, this is the first event ever held in British Columbia that brought such a diverse group together – all to celebrate wood,” she said. “We had architects, engineers, builders, designers, forest product companies and associations, mill equipment manufacturers, designers and suppliers, municipal and provincial government representatives, all there to celebrate the growing use of growing use of wood in BC! It was a unique event in the fact that we usually hear the wood products industry promoting the benefits of building with wood, but at this event the end users were promoting wood. It was exciting to see this shift in attitude.”

Gold sponsors were: Canfor, Coast Forest Products, Council of Forest Industries, Forintek, Gorman Bros. Lumber, Structurlam, Tembec, Tolko, Western Archrib, Weyerhaeuser and the Canadian Wood Council. Silver sponsors were: Anthony Seaman Engineering, COE Newnes/McGehee, Wellons and Western Economic Diversification.

The event Gala began with a reception and viewing of the storyboards and pictures of all the nominations, followed by dinner. Minister of Provincial Revenue, Rick Thorpe, was the keynote speaker and gave an inspiring and challenging address regarding the economical and environmental benefits of building with wood and both encouraged and challenged the audience to continue to move forward in wood design and technology. The awards ceremony was then held, with each award recipient receiving a hand-carved trophy, made from the wood specified and supplied by the award sponsor.



Winners were presented with a hand-carved trophy, using wood supplied by the sponsor.

The awards were open to nominations from across the province and judged by an independent jury. Jury members included representatives from both Canadian and American architecture associations, representatives from UBC’s engineering and architect departments and from the forest industry.

The jury was very impressed with the quality of nominations received and stated that in many cases it was very difficult to make a decision. “Each decision involved lengthy consideration, with attention given to a variety of elements, including value added materials, visual aspects of the project, solutions that pushed the envelope, budgets and detailing of wood,” the jury noted.

### **Temperate Forest Foundation Teacher Tours**

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

While the Western Canadian tour for this summer is full, the TFF has proposed a possible tour for the Southern Interior of BC next summer, so stay tuned for more information on that event.

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](http://www.forestinfo.org).

For additional information, please contact Kelly: [kelly@forestinfo.org](mailto:kelly@forestinfo.org).

### **Canadian Women in Timber Launch New Teacher Resource & Updated Website**

Canadian Women in Timber has completed and printed a new 16 page colouring & activity book "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 ones. 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 by contacting Betty-Ann McDonald of Canadian Women in Timber- [bettyann@telus.net](mailto:bettyann@telus.net)



Canadian Women in Timber will launch its new and improved website during the first week of June. The site will have up to date news and information. Visit us at: [canadianwomenintimber.com](http://canadianwomenintimber.com)

### **Forest Capital 2005- Revelstoke, BC**

Revelstoke is very proud to be the Forest Capital of BC for 2005. The City is supporting many different events in the coming year. Two recent events involved the local schools. During National Forest Week, foresters went to all five Revelstoke schools and talked to students about Forest Health. The presentations were very well-received and were developed by educational liaisons, Deb Sluggett ( RCFC, LP Canada, Bell Pole, Downie Lumber and Tolko) and Jennifer Stewart (Tolko). Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation donated tree seedlings for every class attending the talk. Each seedling was wrapped in burlap and had a Forest Capital sticker attached to it. Several high school

classes wrapped the trees and in the process, learned the importance of handling seedlings with care. All the kids were thrilled with their trees!

Another recent event occurring in the schools was a poster contest. Each grade had a different forest theme to illustrate, such as summer users of the Forest – human, or winter users of the Forest – animal with the title of the posters to be *Our Forests*. The judging occurred during National Forest Week. The prize for the winner of each grade level was a certificate and helicopter ride. The mayor of Revelstoke presented the winners their certificate during a City Council Meeting. Selkirk Mountain Helicopters generously donated the prize. All participants received a certificate with their name on it, a Forest Capital Sticker and a Revelstoke pen.



### **Upcoming Events:**

Forest Capital Golf Tournament: June 25th  
Timber Days: July 8 – 10<sup>th</sup>  
Forestry Tours – ongoing in July and August  
Fine Woodworking Show - Sept

**Website link:** [www.cityofrevelstoke.com](http://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 and protecting our freshwater resources so that effective policies and management practices for our forests and wetlands are key. Much of the management and renewal is handled by professional foresters and everyday people. This kit is intended to assist educators as they broaden young Canadians' knowledge of forest, wetland and water issues and also increase their awareness of how various groups and individuals inside and outside Canada view the related issues.

Activities included in the kit provide students with many 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.

To order copies of the latest kit and others in the series, visit the Canadian Forestry Association Web site [www.canadianforestry.com](http://www.canadianforestry.com) and click on Forest Education.

## **Forest Educators' Western Canadian Conference January 26-29, 2006 Banff, Alberta**

### ***“ForestEDWest II - From Discussion to Direction”***

***Discuss, learn, network and strategize at this one-of-a-kind conference dedicated to forest education in Western Canada.***

In 2004, a dedicated group of 137 western Canadian forest education practitioners and school teachers, along with numerous representatives from industry and government met in the first-ever conference on forest education in Western Canada. During the three days of ForestEDWest held at the internationally acclaimed Banff Centre, the initial stages of a strategy and process designed to foster forest education across the West began. The experience was so positive that participants overwhelmingly endorsed a follow-up conference to be held in 2006. Inside Education and its partners committed to organizing ForestEDWest II.

From January 26-29, 2006 again at The Banff Centre in Banff, Alberta - we plan on doing just that.

### **Who Should Participate?**

If you are:

- a forest education practitioner
- a supporter of forest education – financially, providing expertise, or other support
- an industry or education communication/outreach specialist
- a government representative responsible for public and/or formal education or outreach, or their managers
- working with a not-for-profit society
- an representative from a post-secondary institution
- a school teacher

This is the conference where you learn how you can help grow and sustain forest education.



### **Call for Presentations**

Want to share your expertise, experience or your best practices? Your current research related to the forest and its application to formal or public education and outreach? This is YOUR conference – why not share with others that are interested in expanding and enhancing education and outreach programming and opportunities?

### **How to Register**

Thanks to the generous support of our Partners and supporters, the Conference Registration fee remains the same as in 2004 - \$350. This includes all meals except breakfast (which will be included in your nightly accommodation rate at The Banff Centre).

For more information on this conference, check out the website at [www.forestedwest.ca](http://www.forestedwest.ca)

### **Forest Education Resources:**

- **Force of Fire binders-** designed by Deb Sluggett, Jeanie Steele and Jennifer Stewart, these teacher resources were distributed to BC Interior schools and/or resource centers in May 2004 and are available at the Primary, Intermediate and Secondary levels to teach students about fire behaviour and home protection against interface fires. For more information and lesson plans see [www.learnforestry.org](http://www.learnforestry.org)
- **Mountain Pine Beetle Teacher Resource-** a collaborative effort by BC Market Outreach and COFI North's Forest Education Manager, Chris Lear, these binders went to all elementary schools in BC. Interior schools also received a forest health lesson plan, a song CD and blue stain wood samples, thanks to the efforts of Deb Sluggett and Jennifer Stewart with wood donations from Tolko. See "Okanagan/Shuswap Highlights" for more details.
- **"Canada's Forests and Wetlands"** Canadian Forestry Association's NFW 2005 booklet, available online at [www.canadianforestry.com](http://www.canadianforestry.com) and sent to some schools with lessons for all levels. See "Expanding Our Roots" section for more details.
- **New Book for 2005: "I Wonder Why Pine Trees Have Needles... and Other Questions About Forests"** by Jackie Gaff from Kingfisher Books. This book is new for 2005 in the "I Wonder Why" series and answers all sort of questions about forests, from "Where is the biggest forest?" to "Which forests have the largest leaves?" Beautifully illustrated and filled with lots of forest facts and quirky details. Available from Chapters Books. Upper primary/intermediate. For a complete forest education bibliography list, see [www.learnforestry.com](http://www.learnforestry.com)
- **New Teacher Resource Booklet** from Canadian Women in Timber- "Fun in the Forest" with Splinter the Woodpecker. Great for elementary teachers. Available from CWIT at [bettyann@telus.net](mailto:bettyann@telus.net) See "Expanding Our Roots" section for more details.

- **Websites:**
  - For more info on the **Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic**, check out [www.beetleinfo.com](http://www.beetleinfo.com), the new website developed in conjunction with the BC Market Outreach teacher resource binder on Mountain Pine Beetle.
  - For students wanting **career information**, the Ministry of Forests, [www.for.gov.bc.ca](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca) has a section called “Forestry Careers”, accessed from the right side of the homepage, which goes to “Forests Forward”. As well, [www.jobsTVnews.com](http://www.jobsTVnews.com) is a new site with career videos, including forestry.

## Upcoming Events

- **Temperate Forest Foundation Forestry Tour (Western Canadian, Vancouver) July 6-9, 2005- Fully Booked**  
 To learn more about upcoming tours proposed for BC in 2006, click on "Teachers" at the TFF homepage: [www.forestinfo.org](http://www.forestinfo.org).  
 For additional information, please contact Kelly: [kelly@forestinfo.org](mailto:kelly@forestinfo.org)
- **Westland TV Schedule for 2005 June/ July 2005**  
 Half hour programs on the Knowledge Network:
  - **Bears and Man-** profiles the Conservation Officers Service  
 Friday, June 24 at 12:30 p.m.
  - **FireSmart British Columbia-** Community protection in interface areas  
 Friday, July 1 at 12:30 p.m.
  - **Ecosystem Restoration in the Rocky Mountain Trench-** profiles Tembec’s chipping project and other innovative practices  
 Friday, July 15 at 12:30 p.m.
  - **Future Forests- Reforestation in BC**  
 Friday, June 17 at 12:30 p.m.  
 Friday, July 29 at 12:30 p.m.
- **Revelstoke Forest Capital Upcoming Events:**
  - **Forest Capital Golf Tournament** June 25th
  - **Timber Days** July 8 – 10<sup>th</sup>
  - **Forestry Tours** – ongoing in July and August
  - **Fine Woodworking Show** - Sept
- **ILA Forest Education Van Summer/Fall Tour Schedule**
  - June 10 - 12      Lumby Days
  - July 1              Kelowna Canada Day Celebrations
  - July 9              Slocan Logger Sports

- July 10                      Revelstoke Timber Days
  - July 24                      Kamloops Rotary Club
  - September 22-24      Pass Creek Fall Fair
- 
- **ForestEDWest Conference- January 26-29, 2006 in Banff, Alberta**  
See “Expanding Our Roots” section for details
  
  - **Provincial Intermediate Teachers’ Association Conference  
Friday, October 21- Saturday, October 22, 2005 in Vernon  
Forestry Workshop and/or field trip option**  
See Okanagan/Shuswap Highlights for more details

## 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.  
Please contact us: [comments@learnforestry.com](mailto:comments@learnforestry.com)

### January ‘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 next January’s issue, please do so by emailing the information in "word format" with pictures in jpeg to [info@learnforestry.com](mailto:info@learnforestry.com) by January 13, 2006.

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