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PFLA members in front of Grant Lake, property managed by this year's recipient of the Private Forest Stewardship Award, Dave Barker, and the final stop on the 2012 forest field tour.

PFLA Contact Information

Private Forest Landowners Association (BC)

P.O. Box 48092
Victoria, BC V8Z 7H5

Tel: 250 381 7565
Fax: 250 381 7409

www.pfla.bc.ca

Rod Bealing

Executive Director
Private Forest Landowners Association
rod.bealing@pfla.bc.ca

Ina Shah

Office Manager
Private Forest Landowners Association
ina@pfla.bc.ca

Highlights From the 2012 Private Forestry Forum

PFLA hosted another informative and lively forestry forum packed (perhaps a bit too tightly) full of interesting topics relevant to managed forest owners across the province. Held June 21st, in Langford BC, the forum covered a range of subjects presented by a host of impressively smart and engaging experts, if we do say so ourselves. For those of you who couldn't make it, we missed you! We'll do our best to recap, summarize and hit the high points, but nothing beats the real thing.

B.C. Forest Carbon Projects—Rainer Muentner, Monticola Forest

Highlights: Rainer presented a case study using the Texada Island Forest Reserve data to illustrate what forest carbon trading can mean to individual owners. Five different management scenarios were explored—a mix of aggressive carbon reserves, partial carbon reserves and no carbon reserves—with a description, rationale and overview for each scenario.

Update from the Private Managed Forest Land Council—Rod Davis, PMFLC Chair.

Highlights: After introducing himself as the new chair of the Private Managed Forest Land Council, Rod Davis provided an overview of the Council's activities over the past year, along with some interesting statistics on the Managed Forest Program.

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Rod concluded by saying the Managed Forest Program is an exceptional model and the degree of compliance in protecting public values on private land is exemplary. Owners should be congratulated for their efforts. (Find the presentation at: www.pfla.bc.ca/pfla-blog/)

Meet the Coastal Invasive Plant Committee—Ernie Sellentin, CIPC

Highlights: Ernie provided an engaging presentation chock-full of information about managing invasive plant species in Coastal B.C. The presentation featured detailed examples of biological, chemical and mechanical treatment measures used to control specific species. Ernie stressed the need to respond early and respond appropriately. Weed free gravel is coming to B.C.! Gravel pits are a major contributor to the spread of invasive plants. CIPC does gravel pit inspections and certification. Contact Ernie for more information. (Find the presentation at: www.pfla.bc.ca/pfla-blog/)

Firefighting Cost Sharing Agreements—Laurence Bowdige, Wildfire Management Branch

Highlights: An update on firefighting cost sharing agreements included: a summary of the provincial wildfire response for the years 2007-2011, a description of major wildfire response issues, and an outline of the provincial strategic plan for the coming five years (revising and communicating the cost-sharing agreement is part of this plan). The length of the fire season is increasing and wildfires are becoming more severe. Expansion of public space into forested areas; human resources; smoke management; forest fuel loading; vegetative health and impacts of climate change are the biggest challenges facing the Wildfire Management Branch.

Adapting Your Forest to a Changing Climate—Cindy Pearce, Natural Resource Consultant

Highlights: Cindy's thought provoking presentation included a number of graphs, charts and other visual aids to illustrate normal climate variability within long-term



Rod Bealing presents Dave Barker with the Private Forest Stewardship Award.

climate change trends, along with practical suggestions for how to find and consider the information necessary to integrate climate change into your forest management strategy. Flexibility is the key point. Climate change is based on a complex set of interactions. Find information specific to your region, and use it to imagine a range of possible futures for your forest.

Canadian Association of Forest Owners (CAFO)—Domenico Iannidinardo, Chair

Highlights: Domenico provided a lively account of the inception, objectives and purpose of the newly established Canadian Association of Forest Owners—a national organization representing associations, farmers, families and companies that own and manage forest land across Canada. CAFO members strive to provide a positive and consistent voice on federal legislation that ensures government policy is fair, environmentally sound and consistent with stewardship and investment on private forest lands.

Out and About with the PFLA

UBCM Reception

PFLA invited delegates from the Union of B.C. Municipalities' annual convention to our reception in celebration of National Forestry Week. The event was a positive, friendly and relaxed opportunity to connect with a host of ministers, elected officials, ministry staff, mayors and councillors from across the province, and spread the word about private forestry.

Zucchini Racing!

An excellent opportunity to engage the community just for the fun of it, PFLA was proud to co-sponsor the 2nd annual zucchini racing competition at the Cowichan Exhibition. We spent an action packed weekend connecting with families, elected officials, forest owners (large and small), community members and busloads of enthusiastic school kids. The Noble fir seedlings were a big hit!

Deer Hunting Season

From time to time, responsible and experienced deer hunters contact the PFLA looking for deer hunting opportunities. If you're a forest owner looking for expert assistance managing your deer problems, please contact us directly (info@pfla.bc.ca) to be added to our exclusive list: "Private Land Hunting Opportunities for Responsible and Experienced Deer Hunters."

Recognizing B.C.'s Managed Forest Champions

Since its inception in 1988, the Private Managed Forest Program has stood out as an efficient and innovative model for responsible forest management. Every now and again, PFLA enjoys the privilege of recognizing some of the folks who spend their days making the decisions, implementing the practices, managing the land and growing the trees that make this program a success.

At our recent AGM, PFLA was delighted to present two outstanding individuals, Dave Barker and Domenico Iannidinardo, with a small token of our appreciation for the contributions they make to private forestry in BC.

Dave Barker was presented with the PFLA Private Forest Stewardship Award for his creative and dedicated stewardship, over the past three decades, of a managed forest near Shawnigan Lake on southern Vancouver Island. The final stop on this year's field tour,

participants saw firsthand how Dave integrates the owners' esthetic values and environmental sensibilities to manage the property for a combination of recreational and timber production objectives.

With extensive knowledge and keen instincts, Dave crafts a silvicultural plan—thinning, single-tree selection harvesting, planting—that captures timber value, minimizes soil disturbance and encourages the naturally occurring ecosystems to thrive with a long-term view of forest health and sustainability.

Dave's work is an inspiring example of the innovative forest management practices that emerge when motivated forest owners have the flexibility to make important management decisions about their forests. One last burst of applause for Dave Barker!

PFLA was also grateful for the chance to recognize a young Jedi of managed forestry, Domenico Iannidinardo, for outstanding leadership, and relentless dedication, championing the interests of private forest owners. Over the past year, Domenico was instrumental in establishing the Canadian Association of Forest Owners (CAFO), a national coalition of associations, farmers, families and companies that own and manage forest land across Canada.

Anyone who cares about B.C.'s forests can find inspiration and reassurance in Domenico's dogged determination and passionate enthusiasm for the Managed Forest Program as an innovative model of responsible forest stewardship to be admired and emulated. Fist-waving hoots and hollers to Domenico for all his hard work.

Bioenergy, wood residue and forest owners—PFLA visits Dockside Green

First stop on the 2012 PFLA field tour: Dockside Green Bioenergy Facility, slightly west of downtown Victoria, B.C.

A creative and innovative bunch with an exceptional knack for growing trees, private forest owners are always on the lookout for new and viable markets to sell our forest products. Interested to explore alternative, local, green opportunities, and excited to learn firsthand about the production of bioenergy, PFLA was fortunate to find one of the few bioenergy facilities in B.C. just a short bus ride away.

Greeted by Dockside Green's Operations Coordinator, Madonna Blunt, we were graciously treated to a grand tour of the cutting edge facility. Utility Operator, Terry Balak, explained in detail how the Nexterra gasification system works. Designed to turn wood waste into heat and hot water for a mix of residential, commercial and industrial tenants, facility operators have experimented with a number of locally sourced wood residue alternatives since they started using the technology in 2009—construction material, municipal tree trimmings, landscape chippings.

Bioenergy is not without its obstacles.

It's true. The Dockside Green Bioenergy Facility is stunning in its design, construction, concept and intention; however, in practice, producing biofuel on southern Vancouver Island

has its challenges. The first obstacle is finding a reliable, consistent, predictable source of fuel. Inconsistencies in the materials they've used in the past proves the system needs a wood residue source that is uniform in size, moisture and species mix to run efficiently.

The next obstacle is finding a reliable, consistent, predictable fuel source at competitive prices. Presently, Dockside Green uses liquid natural gas to provide tenants with heat and hot water rather than the bioenergy facility because, at this point in time, B.C.'s natural gas prices are still the more affordable option.

As forest owners, we have oodles of harvest residue; the key is finding a competitive way to process it. Once we do, the benefits are bountiful—improved reforestation, minimized wildfire hazards, increased economic opportunities for harvesting contractors, and a displaced reliance on fossil fuels.

We're optimistic that over time solutions will emerge and technologies will develop that enable facilities like Dockside Green to tap into the potential of timber processing residue. In the meantime, we look forward to being part of the solution and we're grateful for the opportunity to see up close some of the challenges, struggles and possibilities of an emerging bioenergy market.



"Managing Your Woodland: A Non-forester's Guide To Small-scale Forestry in British Columbia" is available online at: cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/pubwarehouse/pdfs/20291.pdf

An Excellent Resource For Forest Owners Rediscovered

Changes in season often inspire transformation—unexplained fits of cleanliness, bursts of organizational effort and the unrelenting urge to rid one's self of unnecessary artifacts while reclaiming, with vigour, any lost treasures. Overwhelmed by one such episode here at the PFLA headquarters, we came across a remarkable resource we'd almost forgotten about. We blew away the cobwebs, dusted off the surface and discovered, with relief, the contents are just as useful as the last time we checked.

The resource we're referring to is, *Managing Your Woodland: A Non-forester's Guide To Small-scale Forestry in British Columbia*. The guide is written for non-foresters with the intent to make the practice of forestry understandable, awarding, profitable and fun. Originally published in 1988, reprinted in 1992 and then revised in 2002, under the Small Woodlands Program of BC initiative, the book is bursting with over 300 pages of information about the management of small woodlands in

British Columbia for a range of social, economic and environmental values.

The guide deals with the who, what, why and how of sustainably managing a small private forest property primarily for timber production, but consideration is given to safeguarding or enhancing other resource values as well. Each chapter deals with a management phase, and together they provide the information you need to develop a Forest Management Plan for your woodland.

Of course, 300 pages of written material is a lot to digest all at once. We plan to breathe fresh life into this resource by posting regular snippets of seasonally relevant, timely and appropriate information on the PFLA blog. If you don't have access to the online materials, we'll also include excerpts in our hardcopy newsletters.

Watch this space for more information, coming soon, inspired by *Managing Your Woodland: A Non-forester's Guide To Small-scale Forestry in British Columbia*.



Ernie Sellentin, from the Coastal Invasive Plant Committee, talks invasive species with PFLA members.

PFLA's Survey Says!

A heartfelt thanks to everyone who took the time to fill out our online survey. Your responses are an important contribution that will help guide our future efforts and ensure you get the most out of your participation with the organization. The overall feedback about recent changes to our communications program was positive, but like most things in life there's always room for improvement. We look forward to adjusting our content to include more information about:

- log marketing
- growing trees
- case studies from other jurisdictions
- policy updates
- technical materials

As promised, all participant names were entered into a random draw for the coveted prize of a \$30 amazon.ca gift certificate, and while you're all winners in our eyes, congratulations (and the gift certificate) goes to Steve Lackey. Thanks again to everyone for your feedback!

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