

Lumber Prices: SPF R/L 2X4

Week of March 17	204
Previous Week	190
Previous Month	212
Year Ago	242

Source: Madison's Canadian Lumber Reporter
(www.madisonsreport.com)

Join us!

COFI Annual Convention 2008
Kelowna, April 17 & 18



**Climate For Change:
A Future
of Opportunity**
Kelowna 2008

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President's Memo

At the risk of being repetitive, I am going to ring another alarm bell on behalf of the forest sector. As if the experience of the last two years was not as damaging as possible (record low lumber prices, higher valued dollar, 15% lumber export tax, the Mountain Pine Beetle) along comes a new and incremental cost to an industry in a financial crisis—the carbon tax.

Let me be clear—the forest industry acknowledges the necessity of addressing climate change and is fully committed. We are promoting the greater use of wood as a response to battling climate change. Growing trees sequester carbon and in turn this carbon is stored in manufactured forest products. The industry has a good story to tell having reduced its GHG

emissions by 50% since 1990.

But when is a carbon tax that is to be revenue neutral not revenue neutral? The answer—when it is part of the BC budget of 2008. Preliminary analysis shows that the impact of the tax offset measures will fall far short of the impact of the carbon tax and that the industrial sector will pay far in excess of its fair share of revenue from the carbon tax.

This is not a situation that is fair or desirable, particularly at this time in the forest products commodity cycle.

We will be submitting proposals and ideas to government but I also ask of government



to implement a true revenue neutral carbon tax and one that does not duplicate climate change measures such as the cap and trade system.

John Allan

Last Chance to Register—COFI Annual Convention 2008—April 17-18, 2008 Kelowna

Join us in **Kelowna**, on **April 17th and 18th, 2008**, at the Grand Okanagan Lakefront Resort, for an opportunity to explore **Climate for Change: A Future of Opportunity** with the BC forest industry.

Speakers and topics include: a forest certification panel on "Selling the Brand" featuring Antony Marcil, President and CEO of FSC Canada, Kathy Abusow, President and CEO of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative and Ahmad Hussein, Development Director, SERTA Group, Sweden and Chair of CEI Bois, the European Confederation of Forest Industries, speaking on

"Fight Climate Change: Use Wood".

We'll also feature a "Customer Wants & Needs" panel with Tom Dillon, VP of Merchandising for Lowe's Companies Inc., Paul Dodge, Senior VP Supply Chain for Probulant Holdings Inc. and Jim Bradshaw, President and COO of Taiga Building Products; Avrim Lazar, President and CEO of the Forest Products Association of Canada and Lorne Johnson, Sustainability Consultant / former Ottawa Bureau Director for the World Wildlife Fund will discuss "Canada's Carbon Neutral Forest Industry"; and, Don Roberts, Managing Director for CIBC World Markets will present "The Convergence of the Fuel, Food and Fibre Markets: A Forest Sector Perspective".

Premier Gordon Campbell and Forests and Range Minister Rich Coleman will provide us with their customary addresses highlighting important government initiatives related to forestry.

See our website at www.cofi.org for latest information as well as a listing of the convention exhibitors and our valued sponsors. Don't miss the Thursday Evening Networking Reception. Join us for an evening of fine food and spirits as we indulge in "A Western Roundup".

For registration information, see www.cofi.org/whats_new or contact Diana Gillrie by phone at (250) 860-9663 or by e-mail: ac2008@cofi.org.

Trades & Technologies in the Forest Industry – Catching Students' Interest

It shouldn't come as a surprise to learn that more and more high school students are setting their sights on the 'trades' for their career choice. The trend is certainly there, and the excitement generated by numerous media reports highlighting the shortage of tradespersons across the province is helping to fuel that trend.

With student interest in the trades at this all time high and the trades training "supply line" virtually empty it is important to ensure that these students favorably consider a trade in the forest sector. Fortunately COFI North's forest education program **Trades and Technologies in the Forest Industry**, a career awareness program for high school students, enjoys an excellent reputation among trades educators and is well sought after by school districts across north-central BC. Partnering with school districts and many COFI member operations, the two-day program creates the opportunity for trades focused students to spend time with tradespersons in various

mill operations to get a first-hand look and appreciation of the many trades available with the forest industry. Learning about a trade in terms of training, working conditions, required skills, challenges and opportunities directly from tradespersons on the job, is what makes the program so successful. "These are very keen, focused students", notes Chris Lear, Forest Education Manager, COFI North, "many have already chosen their trade of choice and some have even started their apprenticeship in high school. We have created an opportunity for these students to learn about trades in the forest industry and hopefully some will consider working there in the future."

Trades and Technologies in the Forest Industry career awareness programs are currently being offered in School Districts No. 57 Prince George, No. 60 North Peace, No. 54 Bulkley Valley, and No. 91 Nechako Lakes. For more information on this program or any of the

other programs offered by COFI North's Forest Education Program, contact Chris Lear, COFI Northern Operations, by phone at: (250) 614-4352 or by e-mail at: lear@cofi.org or visit our new forest education website: www.forest-education.info.



Trades students from North Peace Secondary School learn about saw filing at Canfor's saw mill in Fort St John, March 12, 2008.

Southern Interior Forest Education

In January, the resource education conference, **ForestEDWest III**, took place in Kelowna under the theme, "Embracing Our Landscape". This highly successful, Western Canadian event was held for the first time in BC and was co-chaired by Deb Sluggett and Sandy McKellar, with COFI Forest Ed Coordinator, Debbie Bazett co-chairing the Venue Committee. More than one hundred delegates from industry, government, NGO'S, education, parks and camps gathered to hear an impressive panel of speakers and a diverse range of workshop presenters. Positive feedback received from delegates assured conference organizers that participants had found the event very rewarding,

worthwhile and well-organized. Fourteen teachers attending the conference were the recipients of sponsorship funding contributed by COFI's Northern & Southern Operations' Forest Education departments, as well as the Festival of Forestry, Inside Education and the Canadian Institute of Forestry. Many thanks to all of the funding contributors of ForestEDWest 2008, whose generosity enabled this event to be hosted by BC!!

Okanagan/Columbia and Thompson educators, along with COFI South Forest Education have been developing the **2008 Forestry Week lesson** to be presented by volunteer for-

est professionals in April and May in elementary schools throughout the Southern Interior. With the potential impact in BC's Interior of the aftermath of the MPB epidemic and the ongoing potential for drought, it was decided that this year's focus would be "**Fire**", including what makes fire, what kinds of fire we have and how they affect the forest, what professionals can do and what students can do to minimize fire risk. Kits are being developed for presenters, containing visual materials and resources that accompany the lesson. An activity board with the fire triangle and illustrations of fuel, oxygen and heat sources will also be included.

With the arrival of spring comes the beginning of a very busy time for forest educators in the Southern Interior, as many events are scheduled and as teachers make requests for classroom presenters, field trips and planting projects. Forest educators are also planning tours for schools and community events with the **Interior Logging Association's forest education van** and scheduling teacher workshops on the newly-updated and reprinted **Gr. 3 kits, "Community Development, the History of Logging"**. Science and career fairs are being held, with forest educators organizing display booths to engage students in discover-

Forestry Working Roundtable Membership Announced

Forests and Range Minister Rich Coleman announced the membership of the Forestry Working Roundtable on March 7.

"We've asked the Working Roundtable to develop recommendations and ideas that government, the forestry industry and others can act on to strengthen British Columbia's forest sector over the next five to 10 years," said Coleman. "Their ideas will put government in a position to adopt practical solutions that will lead to a stronger, more vibrant and sustainable forest industry in British Columbia for the future."

The Working Roundtable was announced by Premier Gordon Campbell in January at the Truck Loggers Association (TLA) Convention. The roundtable's primary focus will be on identifying conditions for the long-term success of British Columbia's forest sector within the global marketplace.

Key considerations will include:

- climate change and the challenges and opportunities it presents for B.C. forests;

- remaining competitive in evolving world economies;
- the impact of innovation and technology on forestry;
- changing demographics within an aging workforce;
- issues affecting B.C.'s forests, such as the mountain pine beetle;
- changing social expectations of forests and the forest industry;
- upholding First Nations' rights; and
- sustaining B.C.'s world-renowned environmental standards.

The Roundtable will also hold meetings in communities around the province and provide Roundtable members with an opportunity to hear from local experts and community leaders, and to visit local mills and woodlands.

Members are composed of a broad cross section of individuals with expertise and interest in areas such as business operations, investment, marketing, technology, and the environment. The members are:

- Rich Coleman, Minister of Forests and Range, Chair
- Dana Hayden, Vice-Chair
- John Cowan, Principal, Osborne Group
- Frank Everitt, President, United Steel Workers Local 1-424
- Mike Frazier, Mayor, Village of McBride
- Mike Harkies, Vice-president and General Manager, Solid Wood and Kraft Papers, Tolko Industries Ltd.
- Jack Heavenor, Managing Partner, Downie Timber Ltd.
- David Gandossi, Executive Vice-president, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary, Mercer International (pulp and paper)
- Donald Hayes, President, Hayes Forest Services Limited
- Jake Kerr, Managing Partner, Lignum Forest Products and Chairman, Lignum Investments Ltd.
- Bill Korbyban, President, Carrier Lumber Ltd.
- Thomas Olsen, President, Triumph Timber
- Beverlee Park, Executive Vice-president and Chief Financial Officer, TimberWest
- Conrad Pinette, Director, TimberWest
- Dave Porter, First Nations Summit – Kaska Nation
- Chief Lynda Price, Ulkatcho First Nation
- Jonathan Rhone, President and CEO, Nexterra Energy Corp.
- Daryl Swetlishoff, Forest Investment Advisor, Raymond James Ltd.
- Derek Thompson, Associate Professor, Royal Roads University
- Pat Bell, Minister of Agriculture and Lands
- Ron Cantelon, MLA, Nanaimo-Parksville
- Blair Lekstrom, MLA, Peace River South

For more information go to the Working Roundtable website: www.for.gov.bc.ca/mof/Forestry_roundtable.

Southern Interior Forest Education (cont'd.)

ing more about our forests and the forest industry. In the Thompson zone, a new **forest science course**- "Natural Resource and Environmental Studies"- has been developed and is being offered to NorKam Secondary students beginning in the fall of 2008.

COFI's Southern Interior Forest Education will be hosting a display booth of educational resources at COFI's annual conference in April in Kelowna, exhibiting materials used in the delivery of forest education in the Southern Interior. As well, COFI South forest education is once again providing sponsorship funds to the upcoming Southern

Interior **Environmental Mind Grind** school competition, and is also creating forestry study package materials and questions for the event, which will feature school teams competing in various communities for Regional Playoffs in April and Interior Finals in May at the elementary, middle and secondary school levels.

For more information on COFI-South Forest Education, please contact Debbie Bazett by phone at: (250) 860-9663 or by e-mail at: bazett@cofi.org.



PricewaterhouseCoopers 21st Annual Global Forest and Paper Industry Conference

Challenging times, winning strategies.

Learn how leading CEO's senior executives, analysts, customers and suppliers are addressing emerging trends and seizing new opportunities in this dynamic industry.

8 May 2008

Westin Bayshore Resort and Marina
Vancouver, BC, Canada

For further information visit:
www.pwc.com/forestconf08

Email: forestandpaper@ca.pwc.com

Softwood Lumber Agreement 2006

For information about SLA 2006 please see the following websites:

Government of Canada:
www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/eicb/softwood/menu-en.asp

Government of BC:
www.for.gov.bc.ca/HET/softwood

A Publication of the Council of Forest Industries.

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Mountain Pine Beetle: From lessons learned to community-based solutions

June 10 — June 11, 2008
University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, British Columbia

Are you someone who develops policy, community or land use plans, or conducts management activities in forested areas affected by Mountain Pine Beetle? FORREX Forest Research Extension Partnership, in collaboration with a number of partners, invites you invites you to Prince George, June 10-11, 2008 to attend a conference to **listen, contribute, explore, and discuss** what we have learned as a result of the past four years of research and other initiatives aimed at addressing the **biological, environmental, and socio-economic** questions and challenges associated with current mountain pine beetle epidemic, and how we can use this information to help us better plan and manage our natural resources now and in the future.

Key questions to be addressed at the conference include:

- **How** do natural disturbances such as the mountain pine beetle

influence the dynamics of the ecosystems in which they occur, and by how much?

- **What** are the future forests in the areas affected by the mountain pine beetle going to look like?
- **Will** the forests and ecosystems continue to provide the economic benefits, traditional non-timber products, ecological, and cultural services that we are accustomed to and expect from our forests?

The registration fee to attend the Mountain Pine Beetle Conference is \$150.

Don't forget to RSVP for the wrap up banquet on the evening of June 11th.

Registration Fee Refund Policy

Participants are entitled to a full refund if notification in writing is received 10 days prior to the start of the event (please note that all cancellations are subject to a minimum \$25 processing fee); participants are entitled to a 50% refund if notification in writing is received 7-10 days prior to the start of the event; participants are not entitled to a refund if notification is received less than 7 days prior to the start of the event.

For more information, go to the FORREX website: www.forrex.org

or contact:

Al Wiensczyk (Conference Chair)
Extension Specialist, Ecosystems and Stand Management
FORREX Forest Research Extension Partnership by phone at: (250) 614-4354 or by e-mail at: Alan.Wiensczyk@forrex.org.

North American Occupational Safety and Health Week 2008

The North American Occupational Safety and Health Week (NAOSHWeek), from May 4 to 10, 2008, is a time for employers, workers, and all partners in occupational health and safety to focus on preventing injury and illness in the workplace.

Your workplace can take part by:

- Setting new goals for workplace health and safety;
- Creating awareness of these goals within and outside your organization;
- Making a plan to accomplish these goals.

Check out the WorkSafeBC NAOSH page (www.worksafebc.com/news_room/campaigns/naosh_week/default.asp) for materials, provided in Adobe Acrobat format, to help you plan your involvement using this year's NAOSHWeek theme: **Safety & Health: a Commitment for Life. Start today! Live it every day!**

BC Forest Safety Council Training Calendar

If you are looking for training courses offered by the BC Forest Safety Council, check out the new training calendar on the Council's website: www.bcforestsafecouncil.org/content-program-safeco-program-safeco-12-calendar.htm.

Courses offered include:

- IOO SAFETy Course
- SEBASE OHS Course
- Internal Auditor Training Course
- External Auditor Training Course
- Basic Forest Supervisor Course

Falling Supervisor Course
New Faller Training Course