

Lumber Prices: SPF R/L 2X4

Week of May 21	264
Previous Week	252
Previous Month	231
Year Ago	300

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

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President's Memo

The Victoria Day long weekend heralded the start of the summer camping and outdoor recreation season in British Columbia. We're fortunate in BC to have abundant and diverse forests that support a thriving forest industry as well as recreation opportunities for tourists from all over the world and locals alike. While the original forest legacy was a gift to us, it is only through hard work and intensive planning and management that we have maintained and enhanced the value of our forests for the benefit of all British Columbians. Land use planning processes along with ongoing consultations keep our forest management sustainable and accountable. Since 2001, the provincial government has established

46 new parks, 65 conservancies, one ecological reserve and eight protected areas, and expanded more than 50 parks, three conservancies and six ecological reserves, protecting more than 800,000 hectares. Today, 13.8 per cent (or more than 13 million hectares) of British Columbia land is protected – more than any other province in Canada.

Unfortunately summer camping still leads to the majority of human caused forest fires. Help protect our valuable forests by taking care to put out campfires. For the latest information on fire bans, fire danger ratings and weather information visit: www.for.gov.bc.ca/protect.



Please report all grass and forest fires to 1-800-663-5555, or *5555 on the cellular network.

John Allan

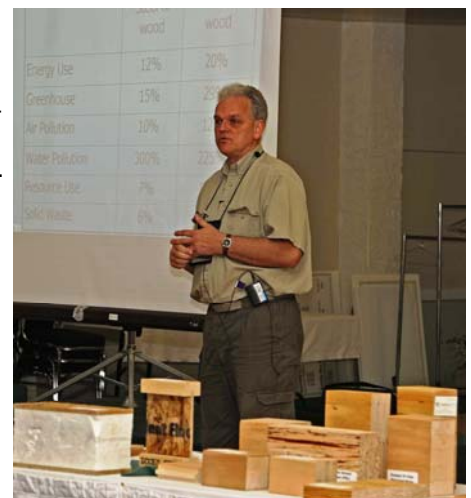
New Frontiers for Local Governments in Northern BC

The North Central Municipal Association Annual General Meeting was held May 2 – 5th, with a theme of "Exploring New Frontiers". Mayors, councilors, and regional district representatives from the area bounded by 100 Mile House, Queen Charlotte Islands, Fort Nelson, and Valemount were focused on meeting the challenges of today so as to create a vibrant future for the people in the north.

COFI sponsored the Saturday breakfast and the Canadian Wood Council, brought Peter Moonen to speak at the breakfast, about the virtues of choosing wood for commercial and institutional buildings. Peter presented data showing that wood buildings designed for energy efficiency and

worker productivity gains can have their cost premiums paid back in as little as a year. Peter highlighted some recent examples such as the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology and the Olympic speed skating oval in Richmond to illustrate his messages. Local government leaders will be sure to remember Peter's message to "choose wood".

For more information contact Steve Kozuki, General Manager Forestry, by phone at: (250) 564-5136 or by e-mail at: kozuki@cofi.org.



Peter Moonen, Canadian Wood Council

Council of Forest Industries

Thank you...
 ... to our Sponsors!
 Annual Convention—
 2007

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Davis & Company LLP	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Deloitte & Touche LLP	Prince Rupert Port Authority
Desticon Transportation Services Inc.	Scotia Bank
Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd.	SEC Sawmill Equipment Company Inc.
Forestweb, Inc.	Terasen Gas
FORTIS BC	Vancouver Port Authority
InterWrap Inc.	Western Stevedoring
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See you next year in Kelowna!

2007 BC Export Awards Now Accepting Nominations

The BC Export Awards has initiated the nomination phase (ending May 31st) of the 2007 BC Export Awards Program last week. The program is entering its 25th year and they hope to have the best and broadest selection of candidates possible.

The BC Export Awards annually seeks out BC's Top 25 Exporters and honours them for their ex-

cellence and achievement in nine categories, including seven directed at firms and two at individuals. Nominations will be solicited for the following awards:

- Exporter of the Year
- New Exporter
- Leadership Awards
- Sustainability Awards
- Sector Awards

- Professional & Services
 - Manufactured Products
 - Primary Products & Resources
 - Advancing Technologies
 - Consumer Products
 - New Media & Entertainment
 - International Business Students Award
- The 2007 BC Export Awards recognize the innovative ap-

proaches and unique contributions of British Columbia export companies across all sectors and in all regions of the province, as well as the individuals who contribute to their success.

To learn more about the BC Export Awards or to fill out a nomination form, please visit www.bcxportawards.com/index.asp.

Day of Mourning

COFI representative Anne Mauch joined representatives of the BC Forest Safety Council, the Coast Forest Products Association, the Truck Loggers Association, and

BC Timber Sales at the Day of Mourning observation in The Sanctuary at Hastings Park in Vancouver. Doug Routledge represented COFI at the Prince

George ceremony where a new monument to lost workers was unveiled. Additional ceremonies, all co-hosted by Work-SafeBC, employer and union

organizations, were held throughout the province.

The Day of Mourning is a time for the families of fatally injured

Day of Mourning (cont'd.)

workers, unions, government representatives, employers, workers, and associations to join together in honour and remembrance of those workers who lost their lives on the job and to reaffirm our collective commitment to workplace safety.

At the Vancouver ceremony, Paul Jackson, a young sawmill worker who lost part of his right leg in a sawmill incident last November, spoke eloquently about the impact of the injury on his life and the importance to everyone at the workplace of working safely every day.

In 2006 160 workers in BC lost their lives as a result of work-

related injury, illness or disease, 12 were in the forestry sector. In 2004 COFI joined with other BC forest sector organizations to create the BC Forest Safety Council, an organization dedicated to reducing and then eliminating workplace fatalities and serious injuries in the forestry sector. The Safety Council has developed programs, training and other services to ensure the BC forest sector is equipped and ready to work safe every day. The Council's SAFE Companies program provides third party certification for companies - large and small - to demonstrate their safety fitness on an ongoing basis.



For more information contact Anne Mauch by phone: 604-891-1213 or by e-mail: mauch@cofi.org or check out the Safety Council website: www.bcforestsafe.org/

Families of fatally injured workers follow the piper to lay red roses on the memorial to fatally injured workers on the Day of Mourning.

Photo courtesy of Work-SafeBC.

Southern Interior Forest Education Update

In the Okanagan/Columbia region, the **ILA Trades Convention** took place last month in Vernon, with many BC and Alberta post-secondary forestry and trades facilities participating in the **career fair** component. Several hundred valley high school students toured the impressive display of high-tech harvesting equipment as well as the post-secondary booths, where they learned more about career options in the forest industry.

Also on display at the Convention was a new **Mountain Pine Beetle graphic display** developed by forest educators in the Okanagan/Columbia. It will be used with the ILA's forest education van, as it tours around the Southern Interior, visiting many schools and community events.

Okanagan/Columbia forest educators produced their **Forestry Week 2007** lesson plan and resources for elementary school presentations, with this year's theme based on the story of a tree, from forest to mill. School presentations are being delivered by forest industry volunteers and local forest educators to students in the Southern Interior in April and May.

Cariboo forest educator, Al Menduk, spoke recently to a group of BC educators on a **Festival of Forestry teachers' tour**, presenting new MPB education materials, along with other teacher resources. Some stops for teachers on the FoF tour included visits to active forest management areas and areas affected by MPB, covering various topics, including the impact of MPB on sustainable forest management. Teachers also toured local processing facilities to see the manufacturing of harvested wood and visited several local historical sites.

West Kootenay forest education has seen a change with the hiring of Darcee O'Hearn as the new forest educator for that region. Darcee has been introducing herself to school district contacts and familiarizing herself with the forest education program. She has taken part in a local science fair, attended the ILA career fair in Vernon and booked Forestry Week school presentations and will be assisting with the ILA's forest education van when it visits Kaslo in May. Darcee plans to continue pro-

moting forest education through events, tours and presentations in communities around the West Kootenay.

East Kootenay forest educator, Norma Blissett, is working with Tembec's planning committee to prepare for the inaugural Forest Industry Career Expo in Cranbrook June 1 and 2. This event will provide information about the exciting forest industry career choices and employment opportunities available. Many post-secondary institutions will be in attendance, along with COFI South Forest Education.

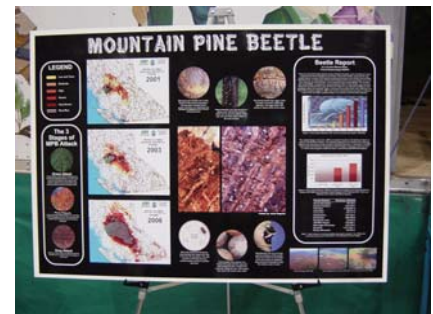
In the **Thompson zone**, forest educator, Susan Bondar recently toured recruiters from Selkirk and Thompson Rivers University to a number of area high schools, introducing students to lessons on forest management along with information about forestry career opportunities and post-secondary options. Susan is presently involved with elementary school Forestry Week presentations across the region and will soon

have the ILA forest education van touring schools in her zone.

ForestEDWest 2008, Western Canada's forest education conference, is coming to BC, with Kelowna the site for the January 2008 event. The call for presentations has recently been posted, with the theme, "Embracing Our Landscape". Conference details can be viewed at: www.forestedwest.ca.

To read more about forest ed events and news taking place in BC's Interior and beyond, see the June 2007 edition of the **Learn Forestry News** at www.learnforestry.com.

For further information, contact Deb Bazett by phone at (250) 860-9663 or by email at: bazett@cofi.org.





Owen Bidder (right)—Tembec (Senior Div. Winner), Barry Bahsler (left) - COFI QC



Travis White—Tembec (left) (Double AA Challenge Winner), Barry Bahsler (right) - COFI QC



Dave Laboucane COFI Sr. Supervisor (left), Mike Wilson (middle)—Dunkley Lumber - AA Winner, Pat Merz (right)—QC Manager—Dunkley Lumber

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2007 Lumber Grading Awards—Travis White— Tembec, Canal Flats back on top again!

Tembec Enterprises Inc., Canal Flats Division once again has bragging rights to hosting COFI's top lumber grader. Travis White finished first in the elite Champions - AA Challenge Division with a mark of 99.6%. Mario Masini of Pope & Talbot - Castlegar Division finished a very close second with a mark of 99.2%.

During the winter months 800 students completed the lumber grading course in 16 interior communities: Burns Lake, Canal Flats, Castlegar, Cranbrook, Chetwynd, Creston, Grand Forks, Fort St. James, Houston, Mackenzie, Prince George, Quesnel, Smithers, Thrums, Williams Lake & 100 Mile House.

COFI quality control manager Gary Desrosier said the intent of the annual course is to introduce novice lumber graders to the Standard Grading Rules for Canadian Lumber and improve the skills of previously qualified lumber graders. He explained, "Friendly competition is the driving force at the Annual BC Lumber Grading Championship to be held in Kamloops May 26th for all "Western Canadian Lumber Graders" but the goal for our COFI grading education classes is different. We are endeavouring to increase the knowledge and hone the skill set of individuals. The only competition is personal, one on one, inside each person."

Desrosier said more than 340 new entrants registered for this year's courses. More than half (54%) of the "rookies" demonstrated competence in theory and practical tests, reaching the minimum 70 per cent mark to earn a 'B' lumber grading diploma. 'A' and 'AA' diplomas, together with plaques

and monetary awards, are given to students who achieve the highest marks.

- The top mark for a first-year division student, a remarkable 94%, was earned by Calvin Crawford - West Fraser Mills - Head Office in Quesnel.
- In the Senior Division - Owen Bidder of Tembec - Canal Flats, 99.3% just beat our second place finisher Chris Cadogan, Tembec - Elko who had 99%
- Flawless 100 per cent skill was demonstrated in the Double AA Division, by Gurpreet Lalli of Jackpine Forest Products and Mike Wilson, Dunkley Lumber, in second place with a 99.9 % was Dave Munro of West Fraser - Northstar Division.

The complete list of the 2007 Award winners:

Double AA Challenge

1. Travis White Tembec Enterprises - Canal Flats \$600 + Plaque
2. Mario Masini Pope & Talbot - Castlegar \$300

Double AA Division

1. Gurpreet Lalli Jackpine Forest Products \$600 + Plaque
1. Mike Wilson Dunkley Lumber \$600 + Plaque
2. Dave Munro West Fraser - Northstar \$300
3. Kuldip Gosal Tolko Industries - Creekside \$150

Senior Division

1. Owen Bidder Tembec Enterprises - Canal Flats \$500 + Plaque

2. Chris Cadogan Tembec Enterprises - Elko \$300
3. Jason Cleland Tembec Enterprises - Elko \$150

First Year Division

1. Calvin Crawford West Fraser - Quesnel \$300 + Plaque
2. Kevin Dinwodie Apollo Forest Products \$200
3. Tony Mogus Dunkley Lumber \$100

Said Desrosier. "Our lumber grading students are either well on the way to mastering the difficult art and science of grading lumber or they are already masters. Their dedication makes them valuable to their companies, and their achievement should make them extremely proud.

For more information contact: Gary Desrosier, Manager, Quality Control, by phone at: (250) 860-9663 or by e-mail at desrosier@cofi.org.



Gurpreet Lalli (left) - Jackpine Forest Products - Williams Lake, BC Double AA - division winner, Gary Desrosier (Right) - COFI