



Forest Service News — No.10

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Campaign fun

Imagine **Philip Halkett** shining your shoes; **Ray Addison** washing and waxing your car; or getting three hours of insight from **Bob Battles** into collectibles and antiques.

These are just a few of the 21 unusual prizes that were won in a draw for headquarters staff who contributed to the 1991 Provincial Employees Community Services Fund.

About 52 per cent of the Victoria staff managed to pull together a total contribution of \$42,584, said **Marilyn Siefert**, coordinator, legal and policy services, technical and administrative services branch.

Diana Lucas, coordinator, contract administration analyst, technical and administrative services branch, was pleased when she actually won the prize she had her eye on.

"It's kind of a strange story," she said. "I was quite sure of myself, so I put down on my ticket that I wanted to be **ADM** (assistant deputy minister) for a day. This was the prize contributed by **Kathy Mayoh**, assistant deputy minister, management services.

"I kind of envisioned a long lunch, a little golf. . ." Lucas said. But she couldn't play up the part as much as she would have liked — **ADMing** was more work and

pressure than she had first thought.

"I wasn't shocked or intimidated, because I used to work in executive," Lucas said. "But it was interesting to see the big issues Kathy has to deal with — I was impressed by the way she does her work."

Many branch representatives gave their time to help staff contribute to their community through the fund, including: **Joyce Sambrooke**, **Darlene Shave**, **Jim Murdock**, **Cheng Ying**, **Mae Chow**, **Keith MacDonald**, **Lesley Fraser**, **Anita Rebner**, **Earleen Covey**, **Veronica Barlee**, **Wendy Stewart**, **Liz Wolford**, **Benita Miller**, **Holly Caine**, **Anita Baril**, and **Lynn Smith**.

Thanks also go to those who contributed prizes and money.

Olympics ultimate goal

Most of us could only participate in the armchair event during the 1992 Winter Olympics in Albertville, France in February.

But **Tom Hansen**, a rapattack crew member from Salmon Arm, was right in the thick of it competing as one of Canada's Olympic biathlon team members.

"It was really exciting," Hansen said. "It's something I have worked at for awhile now, and I plan to be in the next one."

Biathlon is a gruelling event, which combines cross-country

skiing, and target shooting with a small-bore rifle.

"As a team, we did well," Hansen said. "**Myriam Bedard** won a bronze medal."

Hansen competed in the men's 10-kilometre sprint and finished 83rd out of 94 entrants.

"It's not what I'd planned," he said. But with so many entrants, the conditions varied from cool, hard, and fast, first thing in the morning, to warm, soft, and mushy less than a few hours later when Hansen started 84th on the course.

Because he trains 800-plus hours a year, Hansen feels pretty lucky to have the kind of job he does with the Forest Service — it helps him maintain his physical fitness during the summer and frees him to compete during the winter.

Hansen is in his fifth season on the World Cup circuit.

Local scoops

As always, the local insights and knowledge of Forest Service staff help make the newsletter more interesting and representative.

Anyone who would like to provide the *Forest Service News* with information about what is happening in their branch, district or region, should get in touch with the editor, **Ben Pires**, manager, publications and writing services, public affairs branch, at 387-4592.

Staff moves

Land-use policy branch

On March 9, **Denis O'Gorman** joined the Commission on Resources and Environment, with new boss **Stephen Owen**. O'Gorman, the former land-use policy branch director, says this is au revoir and not goodbye. He expects to still be involved with Forest Service staff while he works on CORE projects, to benefit from their knowledge and insights.

He will miss the friendship, assistance and support that he enjoyed in the Forest Service and wishes us well in our diverse, important and challenging work.

Forestry division

Tom Hall and **Tom Lester** have been appointed as directors of recreation branch and range branch respectively. They were previously appointed on an "acting" capacity.

Silviculture branch

John Muir is now, officially the manager of forest health after acting in that position for 16 months.

Muir, who is also the provincial pathologist, has extensive knowledge and experience in forest health. One of his main challenges will be the smooth integration of the forest health program into the silviculture program. It was previously part of the protection program.

Diane Gertzen has joined the Forest Service in the new position of culturist, special projects, at the Surrey Extension Center. Diane can be reached at 576-9161.

She will mainly be involved in assisting the B.C. Christmas tree industry by developing

information, extension and technology transfer, and program support.

Her background is in extension, applied research and education, in the field of horticulture.

Don Summers is the new manager, nursery and seed culture extension, with the branch. His office will be at Green Timbers Nursery starting April 1.

For the past 10 years Don was the branch's pest management officer, seed production, in seed orchards.

He will now be responsible for supervising a team of specialists who provide extension services to the forest nursery industry and seed orchard program.

Timber harvesting branch

Ken Baker took the position of manager, timber tenures on January 15.

Ken moved over from the economics and trade branch. He joined the Forest Service's valuation branch six and a half years ago.

Prince George region

Jeff Elder started in the new position of public information officer for the Prince George forest region in early February.

He was previously a consultant to the Alberta Ministry of Energy, and a freelance writer for several Alberta newspapers and magazines.

Foresters recognized

Five B.C. foresters received awards for their outstanding contributions to the forestry profession in B.C. during the Association of Professional Foresters' annual general meeting held in February.

Michael Geisler, operations manager, Kispiox forest district, received the W. Young Award

(1991). It recognizes excellence in integrated resource management. Geisler's innovation and leadership in developing a Resource Management Plan for the district's 1.2-million-hectare provincial forest, won consensus from 60 forest resource users.

The 1991 Distinguished Forester Awards went to **Harry Gairns**, Prince George, and posthumously to **O.J.(Whitey) Anderson** of Williams Lake.

Cindy Pearce, UBC Forestry Continuing Studies Network director, was presented with the 1991 Forester of the Year Award in recognition of her achievements in the field of continuing studies in forestry.

The association also awarded **Hamish Kimmins**, Professor of Ecology, Faculty of Forestry, UBC, with an honorary membership in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the profession of forestry in the field of forest ecology.

Pet peave

The recent article in the *Forest Service News* (No.9) regarding the capitalization of "ministry," strikes a pet peave of mine.

Over the past 10 years we have flipflopped back and forth from the Forest Service to the Ministry of Forests. We have FS logos on letterhead, vehicles, newsletters, etc. — yet the official correspondence manual insists on using the term Ministry of Forests in letters and memos.

The public identifies with the Forest Service (for better or for worse). Can we not refer to ourselves as such as the "rule" and use Ministry of Forests on the rare occasion? I believe that most Forest Service staff agree with me.

Darcy Yule, P.A.G., RPF
*Operations Manager, Harvesting
Campbell River forest district*

After all — it's the '90s

What is employment equity? Why do we need it? How will it happen? How will it affect me?

These questions will be answered during the employment equity information sessions being held in all district, region, and branch offices during March and April.

One third of the presentation is dedicated to addressing the staff's concerns and questions.

"It's an opportunity for all staff to say what they believe should be done to ensure that employment equity is successfully introduced in the Forest Service," said **Claire Handley**, employment equity research officer, human resources branch.

Thirty-five staff were trained to conduct the sessions throughout the province.

Orest Wakaruk, manager, finance and administration, Kalum forest district, delivered the information session in his district.

"There was a positive reaction from people and they came away with a better understanding of what employment equity is," he said.

The discussion was emotional at points, which is a good thing because it clears the air, Wakaruk says.

"We know that these things are talked about during coffee breaks, but it's good to get it officially on the table and talk about it," he said.

Terry Whitney, documentation analyst, information systems branch, gave four sessions recently in Victoria.

She found that most people were relatively new to the topic, but once they began discussing

specifics about implementation they became quite animated.

"A number of people expressed the need for raising awareness and training right across the board — not just for the four target groups," she said. "Some were worried about quotas and targeting positions, but these aren't part of the Forest Service strategy."

It was suggested that employment equity issues be raised at the high school level, because by the time you are an adult you already have many preconceived ideas, Whitney said.

Employment equity is a B.C. public service initiative and is supported by the Forest Service executive.

For the latest information on employment equity developments, contact **Charlene Levis** at 387-8764, PROFS clevis, or **Claire Handley** at 387-8767, PROFS chandley. You can also consult the employment equity electronic bulletin board BBEQUITY, which is updated monthly.

Lifestyles of the Sunshine Coast

Good health and good fun are being enjoyed in the Sunshine Coast forest district, where more than half of the staff take part in a Lifestyle Program that is similar to the one started by B.C. Hydro about four years ago.

The purpose of the program is to inspire, support and encourage a balanced, healthy lifestyle for district staff and their families.

"The idea is to get people out and doing things," said **Blake Fougere**, a member of the district's Lifestyle Program committee.

"You get points for changing your lifestyle. You don't get points

for being in the field laying out a cut block," he said.

Employees gain points for measured improvements in their lifestyle and small awards like hats and t-shirts, are given out in the spirit of endeavour.

Points are gained by taking part in mild-to-vigorous physical activities, such as skiing, tennis, canoeing, swimming, skating, aerobics, or soccer.

You can also get points for losing weight, quitting smoking, acting as a designated driver, participating in family activities, taking a CPR course or other health-related seminars, or leaving your car at home to walk or cycle.

Staff on the Sunshine Coast would like to challenge other districts to join in the fun.

If you want more information on how to get a program started, call **Denise Greatbatch**, **Dagmar Stephens**, **Allan Shaw** or **Blake Fougere** at 485-9831.

Ahh . . . technology

"You don't have to be afraid to read your E-mail from the library," says **Susan Barker**, library manager, even though there have been a few problems for staff who are getting the "new books" list electronically.

The list used to be mailed out, but it was too expensive and too time consuming, Barker says.

However, sending the list electronically has been nightmarish for Barker, because it just isn't suited to the PROFs — and has actually crashed the system.

"We are trying to figure out how *not* to crash the system," Barker said. "We're not doing this to be malicious."

The next two lists will be sent by forest region in order to reduce its size.

New publications

The silviculture branch has released several videos recently: *Forest Fertilization in British Columbia*; *Pruning Second-growth Stands*; and *Wildlife Trees: More than Dead Wood*. Copies have been sent to every forest district and region.

A full-color brochure, *Reforestation: It's the law in British Columbia and our commitment to the future*, is also a new publication. It details B.C.'s reforestation history and commitment. For more information on these videos and publications, please call silviculture branch at 387-1191.

The B.C. Provincial Museum has published **Jim Pojar's** *Subalpine and Alpine Vegetation of the Gladys Lake Ecological Reserve*, in its

Contributions to Natural Science series, Northern British Columbia No. 12.

Pojar is the Prince Rupert region's forest science officer.

Copies are available for \$2 from the Museum Gift Shop, 675 Belleville Street, Victoria, B.C., V8V 1X4, 356-0505.

A new calendar published by the B.C. Forestry Continuing Studies Network will be available by the end of March. It contains information about planned forestry education activities.

If you would like a copy, please send your name and address to:

B.C. Forestry Continuing Studies Network,
Faculty of Forestry,
Room 270, 2357 Main Mall,
University of British Columbia,
Vancouver, B.C., V6K 1Z4.

Or, you can call **Shirley Sato** at 822-5874 (FAX 822-3106).

Coming events

"The Consensus Approach — Decision-making for the '90s," a conference being held April 22-24 at the University of Victoria, will explore the emerging trend toward consultative decision-making. This approach is considered as an antidote to the public's mistrust of traditional ways of doing government business.

The conference is being sponsored by the Victoria Institute of Public Administration of Canada and the School of Public Administration and Division of University Extension, University of Victoria.

For more information FAX: **Heather Dickson** at 721-8774.

"Forestry: the Corner Stone of Canadian Society" is the topic of the Canadian Institute of Forestry's annual general meeting being held September 21-24, 1992. The meeting is part of Summit '92, which will include several other forest-sector events this fall in Vancouver.

The CIF has about 2,400 members who are foresters, forestry technicians, and professionals from allied sciences. Workshops will be used to build technical consensus across Canada on forestry issues.

A poster session is being introduced this year, where professionals working in Canada's forests can showcase their work.

For more information, contact **Frank Pendl**, research silviculturist, Vancouver forest region, at 660-7538.

Wildland-urban interface

An inter-agency steering committee has been established to coordinate the implementation of recommendations made at the International Multi-Agency Wildland-Urban Interface Symposium held in Kelowna.

It was the first symposium held in B.C. to address the province's response to the kind of fires that have destroyed homes and taken lives in Washington and California.

More than 225 participants met to discuss ways to reduce the catastrophic losses of wildfires in rural-urban interface zones, through a cooperative inter-agency response.

"In B.C. it's more of a question of when these types of fires will occur," said **John Wenger**, district manager, Penticton forest district, who chaired the symposium. He says it is clear that the potential exists in parts of B.C. for disasters similar to those south of the border.

"We can't stop the fires from occurring, but our objective is to reduce losses by being prepared," Wenger said.

During the symposium, information packages consisting of workshop reports and some speakers' notes were put together.

For more information, contact **Jeff Berry**, at 376-6261.

Missing piece

The Forest Service provincial bonspiel trophy has gone astray. It was last seen en route to Kamloops from Campbell River in February, 1991.

The trophy represents 23 years of history. If you have any clues about its present location, contact **Sharon Berkey** at 828-4182 or **Bruce Noble** at 376-6261.