



The British Columbia

Forest Service

Newsletter

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A Newsletter for Ministry of Forests' employees

November 1994

Team prepares for treaty negotiations

Like their counterparts in ministries throughout the B.C. government, the Forest Service aboriginal affairs branch is forging ahead with preparations that will help define the province's position in pending treaty negotiations with First Nations.

Although two treaty negotiations — with the Nisga'a and the McLeod Lake Indian Band — are well underway, the vast majority have yet to begin. The tripartite process, which will be conducted jointly by federal, provincial and First Nations representatives, will resolve aboriginal claims to their traditional lands and reshape jurisdiction over resources in many areas of the province.

While the treaty negotiation process will likely take several years to finish, the immediate task for government ministries — particularly resource-based ministries — is to gather information defining land and resource characteristics, previous investments in resource developments and comprehensive assessments of public interest.

This information will eventually be integrated into the province's position at the negotiation table.

Ultimately, said Manager of Treaty Policy and Negotiations Grant Parnell, everyone at the table is working toward the same goal: reassigning jurisdiction over land and resources to more equitably meet the cultural, social and economic needs of both aboriginal and non-aboriginal people.

In a series of six pilot projects launched last July, the aboriginal affairs branch began collecting the land and resource information needed from the Forest Service. The branch selected six treaty negotiation areas as pilots, chosen to represent the range of variables —

size, complexity of resource issues, geographical distribution — that will eventually be encountered in all treaty negotiations.

"This undertaking will result in a multi-level inventory that will highlight all the existing forest and range interests on the land, such as timber, silviculture and recreational uses — any key parts of the land that enable us to continue to meet our mandate to provide

benefits to the public while achieving good forest stewardship," Parnell said.

The pilot projects will identify what information is available, its format and location, and the barriers to its efficient collection and analysis. They will also lead to a strategy to streamline the collection and analysis of similar information for subsequent treaty negotiation areas.

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Nelson region triathletes defeat rival foresters



They may not have won the race, but a Forest Service triathlon team did what they needed to do: they beat their Slocan Forest Products rivals.

Story on page 2.

Design and Survey Technician John Thom completes the cycling leg.

Triathletes oust rivals

For the second year in a row, the Nelson forest region iron men defeated a rival forestry team in the annual CYS-WOG'N'FUN triathlon held in Nelson last August.

John Thom, design and survey technician, Ken Braithwaite, regional protection officer, and Mike Madill, regional reforestation and site preparation forester, placed sixth in a field of 11 in the men's team event. Their combined time was 2:18:07.

The competition is a quarter Iron Man, made up of a one-kilometre swim, 46-kilometre bike ride, and 10-kilometre run.

Coming sixth is all right, but what counts is besting their perennial rivals, the Slokan Forest Products team, who finished eighth with a time of 2:24:09.

"We beat them by more than last year," says Madill, who did the swimming leg of the race. The Nelson team beat their Slokan competitors in the swim and the



Mike Madill checks his watch as he finishes the swimming leg of the quarter Iron Man triathlon.

bike race, while Braithwaite was edged by a slim margin in the run.

"It was a tough run, with a brutal hill climb," Madill says, adding that a significant age difference (which he declined to

reveal) may also have worked in the rival runner's favor.

Another Nelson forest region employee, Don Gayton, range planning coordinator, finished 10th in the individual men's event. The five-year veteran of the race clocked in with a very respectable time of 2:55:21.

Thom, Braithwaite and Madill, who train individually year-round, work out as a team during their lunch-hours in the month before the triathlon. They are anticipating continued rivalry between forestry teams.

Next year will be a little different, however. Two of the Slokan team members have joined the Forest Service: George Edney is a forest renewal plan coordinator in the Arrow forest district, and John Morrison is a woodlot licence forester (acting) in the Kootenay Lake forest district.

"Instead of a Forest Service/industry competition, it will be a region/district competition," Braithwaite says. "We're looking forward to it." And training harder than ever.

Treaty negotiations, cont'd. from page 1

"These pilot projects are designed to get us away from a reactive mode during negotiations, and to ensure that all the necessary information is available at the outset," said Parnell.

The first step is to search records at headquarters to identify legal tenures within the area. Then the survey is expanded to the district level. Information gathered at headquarters is presented to district staff. The districts

are asked to review the information and to identify further resource values that may not have surfaced at headquarters.

"District staff were initially concerned that a lot of extra work would fall on their shoulders," noted Parnell. "But as they understood more about the project, they wanted to be a part of it and they're positive about the opportunity."

Once the district information is integrated

into the database, it is again presented to district staff for final comment. The complete report is submitted to the provincial negotiators.

Parnell emphasized that each report represents a snapshot, and is expected to be revised with new developments as the treaty process proceeds.

Anyone wanting more information can contact Grant Parnell at 356-7790.

Community Services Fund donations jump 22 per cent

Forest Service headquarters staff dug deep in 1994 to increase their contributions to the Community Services Fund by 22 per cent over last year.

Contributions for 1994 total \$65,500, up \$12,000 over 1993. Fund coordinator **Auburn Cowman** of the human resources branch attributes the success to this year's goal of increasing overall participation rates rather than individual contributions.

She also credits ministry executive for their strong support, which included establishing two ministry awards for exemplary participation, and for their personal donation of prizes to recognize participants.

"And the PECSF coordinators were tremendously hard working and innovative in their fundraising efforts this year," she adds.

Although the nine per cent overall increase in participation fell just short of the goal of 10 per cent, Cowman says she is very pleased with the outcome.

At a ceremony November 14, Deputy Minister **Gerry Armstrong** presented the ministry plaques to the branch which showed the greatest increase in participation in each of two categories: those with fewer than 25 members and those with 25 or more members.

In the first category, the range branch won for an increase of 46 per cent. **Jim Kirby** and canvasser **Daphne Allenberg** accepted the award on behalf of their colleagues.

The financial management branch took top honors in the second category, registering a whopping 17 per cent increase over last year. The plaque was presented to Director **Bob Battles** and canvasser **Andrea Wood**.



Plaque winners for greatest increase in participation (from left): Auburn Cowman, Community Services Fund coordinator; Canvasser Andrea Wood and Director Bob Battles of financial management branch; and Canvasser Daphne Allenberg and Manager Range Administration Jim Kirby, of range branch.

Everyone who participated in the 1994 fund was also eligible to win one of the prizes donated by members of the executive. Winners of the draw were:

- **Shelly Prentis**, forest sector strategy group, will be deputy minister for a day, courtesy of **Gerry Armstrong**.
- **Lorraine Catney**, human resources branch, wins lunch with **Janna Kumi** at the restaurant of her choice.
- **Michael Jeffery**, human resources branch, will join **Bob Friesen** for lunch at Il Terrazo.
- **Lisa Hayton**, research branch, has her choice of a haircut or a bottle of wine, compliments of **Laura Stringer**.
- **Claire Rochefort**, financial management branch, will have high tea at the Empress with **Maureen Yelovatz**.
- **Dave Wegelin**, technical and administrative services, will tour Victoria in a horse-drawn carriage with **Bronwen Beedle**.
- **Darlene Masson**, financial management

branch, will receive professional advice on promoting her career from **Harry Powell**.

- **Earl Jenson** of range branch will join **Larry Pedersen** for a round of golf.
- **Phil Taudin-Chabot** of protection branch will test his skill in a game of billiards with **Don Wright**.

Certificates acknowledging groups who achieved 100 per cent participation were also presented to the forest sector strategy group, Forest Practices Code implementation team, audit services, economics and trade and the information and privacy section.

One of the chief beneficiaries of the Victoria Community Services Fund, the United Way of Greater Victoria, also awards plaques in recognition of outstanding participation among government offices.

This year's winners were executive committee, corporate policy and planning, economics and trade, protection (a perennial winner), public affairs (which raised their participation by 33 per cent and narrowly missed winning a ministry plaque), and the timber supply section.

The Community Services Fund is an annual government-wide fund raising initiative, adopted by government in 1965 to give provincial employees the opportunity to contribute to qualifying charities in their community through payroll deductions.

Provincial government offices in Victoria raised more than \$790,000 last year. This year's totals are not yet available.

Watch future issues of the Forest Service Newsletter for reports on the districts' contributions to the Community Services Fund.

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

A knowledge partnership that works

A unique cooperative relationship between the Ministry of Forests and a volunteer association has been providing a valuable education experience to thousands of students in the Lower Mainland over the past three years.

The arrangement between the British Columbia Forestry Association (BCFA) and the Forest Service gives urban students a forest education experience not generally accessible in a metropolitan environment. Since 1991, over 30,000 students and their teachers have participated.

Each party brings unique capabilities to this joint venture in public information. BCFA is a non-partisan association dedicated exclusively to forest education. The ministry signed an agreement with BCFA to manage public information and education activities at the Green Timbers Forestry Centre, a 58-hectare provincial forest located in Surrey, under the stewardship of MoF.

Green Timbers is an exceptional provincial asset from three perspectives: historical, environmental and technological. It is the birthplace of forest renewal in British Columbia. In March of 1930, provincial politicians participated in the first large-scale forestry regeneration project on the site. As an environmental heritage, the site incorporates a large plantation of mature exotic trees from around the world. In terms of technology, the ministry operates a tree-seedling nursery on site, which is an important component of the R&D commitment to forest renewal.

BCFA has located its provincial head office at Green Timbers. In addition to the on-site courses, which were developed in consultation with teachers, the public information activities have expanded to the adult community. Recent tour groups have included 60 representatives of the business community, a contingent of management personnel from the Ministry of Forests and two trade mission groups from Japan.

Much of the exciting and positive momentum in forest policy will only be fully successful if there is a foundation of public acceptance. That acceptance hinges, to a significant degree, on public education. In this respect, the partnership between MoF and BCFA at Green Timbers offers promising potential.

There is broad consensus among experts that an "urban communication strategy" for forestry is essential for public acceptance. The Green Timbers facility is an urban-based demonstration of forest renewal. The ministry manages an operational tree-seedling nursery and test facility on site. Each year, the facility grows and supplies the provincial reforestation program with up to five million seedlings for replanting on public land. The test nursery has a team of professionals dedicated to extending the latest research to both private and public seedling producers.

Anyone visiting the operation comes away with a sense of assurance, having viewed the latest technology being applied to ensure forest sustainability. The cooperative framework between BCFA and the ministry at Green Timbers could lead, therefore, to an important advance in the urban communication strategy.

In the meantime, the current arrangement represents the kind of sound, cost-effective partnerships between government and non-government organizations which other ministries may wish to emulate.

The financial arrangements between MoF and BCFA are not based on grants, but on fee-for-service contracts, subject to annual review and measurable results. For a fixed fee, BCFA provides site management services to maintain the facility in a safe and presentable mode for public use. A separate fee covers contractual obligations to manage the public education and information role for the ministry at Green Timbers. In addition,

BCFA has a contract with the protection branch to manage two 20-person fire-suppression crews located on the coast and in the West Kootenays.

From the ministry's perspective, these contracts represent good value for dollar, whereby the ministry purchases expertise based on a track record. From BCFA's perspective, the opportunity to be located at Green Timbers and have close working relationships with ministry staff enhances our ability to perform our mandate.

Beyond these contractual arrangements, ministry personnel are actively involved in the BCFA throughout the province as volunteer participants in the association. The non-advocacy role on BCFA provides an attractive opportunity for community-based public education in forestry.

— submitted by Victor Godin, president, BCFA

New chair at Festival of Forestry Society

Bill Dumont, chief forester of Western Forest Products, has been appointed chairman of the Festival of Forestry Society.

Dumont has been an integral member of the society for five years. While working with WFP in Port McNeill, he organized several teacher tours of the north Island. He has also been active in organizing young foresters' technical tours to China, the United Kingdom and Norway.

Dumont is also a member of the Association of BC Professional Foresters.

The Festival of Forestry Society was formed in the mid-1960s to promote forestry education.

Exchange students visit Kalum district



Pictured from left to right, Joe Katasonoff, resource officer, protection; Brian Downie, district manager; Y. Sonia, exchange student from India; Sharma Varinder, project leader; Jennifer Langman, exchange student from Ontario; John Fredrickson, project coordinator for Terrace.

After spending two months in the Kalum forest district, **Jennifer Langman** and **Y. Sonia** have moved on to new terrain — in India.

The two Canada World Youth participants, one from Ottawa and the other from India, worked closely with district staff as part of their Canadian work placement.

Canada World Youth is a seven-month international educational exchange for youth from Canada and developing countries. Half of the project is spent in Canada, and the other half in one of about 15 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Langman and Sonia observed and took part in a wide range of Forest Service activities, from inspecting logging operations for contractual compliance, to refurbishing fire protection equipment after a fire.

Completing their work placement on October 6, they were each presented with a Kalum forest district t-shirt, a tree identification book, and a framed, enlarged photograph of themselves on the job. They were scheduled to leave for the second half of their exchange, in India, shortly afterwards.

"The students seemed to enjoy the experience immensely," says **Joe Katasonoff**, resource officer protection, Kalum forest district, who coordinated the Forest Service work placement.

It wasn't only the scenery that impressed them, but the broad scope of Forest Service activities. "They learned that forestry is not just fighting forest fires and planting trees," Katasonoff says.

Sonia was so impressed, in fact, that she plans to pursue a forestry career in India. A letter of reference from District Manager Brian Downie, outlining her work experience in the Kalum forest district, should help to put her on the fast track.

This was the second time that the Kalum forest district has provided a work placement for Canada World Youth. Katasonoff believes that everyone benefits, not just the students.

The opportunity to spark an interest in forestry — in B.C. and abroad — in young people is good for the Forest Service, he says. With the Canada World Youth project based in Terrace now finished, Katasonoff urges other district offices to get involved if there is a project in their area.

Ministry establishes UBC fellowship

A \$95,000 grant from the Ministry of Forests will help establish a graduate fellowship in forest conservation biology at the University of British Columbia.

Presented to the university by Forests Minister Andrew Petter in October, the grant will be added to a \$110,000 donation from UBC's Dr. Gene Namkoong and funding from other sources.

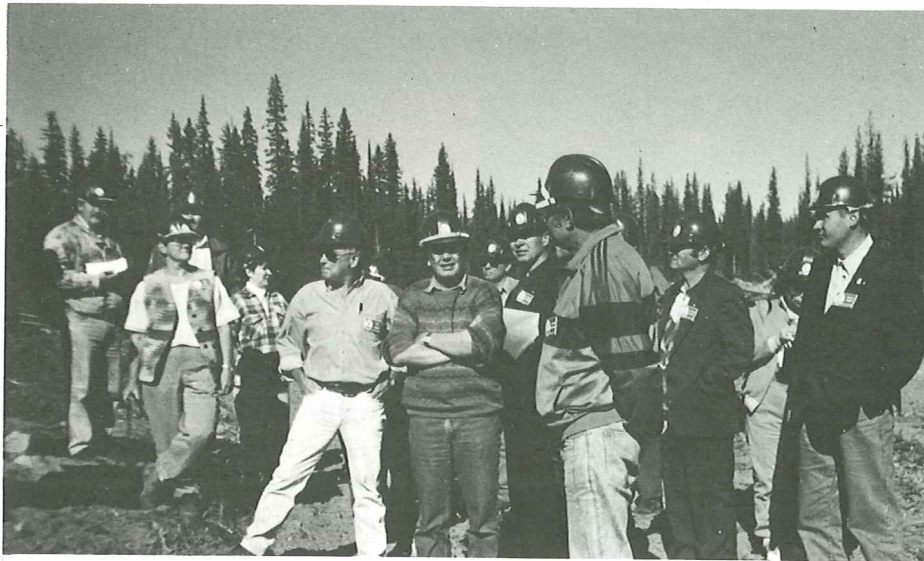
Dr. Namkoong's donation to the fellowship came from the \$180,000 Marcus Wallenberg Prize for scientific research in forestry or forest industries, awarded in September in Stockholm.

The head of UBC's department of forest sciences was awarded the prize for his groundbreaking contributions to "quantitative population genetics, tree breeding and management of genetic resources, which form a scientific basis for the maintenance of biological diversity in forests all over the world."

The fellowship will help UBC to compete with the world's best universities in attracting the very best graduate students, says Dean of Forestry Clark Binkley.

"The biggest challenge that forestry faces in B.C. is to become part of the new economy by becoming more knowledge-based," he says. "By bringing these graduate students here to work on forest conservation problems, the fellowship will play a role in helping B.C. to meet that challenge."

Russian delegation visits Nelson region



Russian foresters and their British Columbia hosts.

A 12-member Russian delegation, lead by the chief forester of the Chitinskaya Oblast region in eastern Siberia, recently spent two weeks touring forestry operations in southern B.C. and the northwest U.S.

The tour began with visits to the UBC Faculty of Forestry, the Forest Engineering

Research Institute of Canada and the Forest Research Institute of Canada. The group later toured several sawmills and logging sites, a pulp mill, a nursery, and two machinery manufacturers and distributors.

Although individual interests varied, the organization of the Forest Service, timber

tenure licensing arrangements and land ownership systems attracted widespread attention. B.C. was chosen as a destination largely for its land ownership patterns, which are similar to state ownership of land in the Chita region.

But the applied technology and the efficiency derived from it made the biggest impact on the group. Though impressed with the designs and applications of forestry machinery, many delegates noted that cost put it out of reach for Russian markets.

Prior to returning to Russia in mid-October, the group found time to take in other points of interest: a shopping mall, the Kootenay trout hatchery, the Creston wildlife centre and Fort Steele.

As well, one of the delegates' wives, who teaches primary school in Russia, visited a Canadian classroom. While impressed by the facilities, she noted that school children seem to be the same everywhere.

— Submitted by Doris Chernoff, human resources assistant, Nelson forest region

Life-long dedication earns awards

Dedication that spans virtually an entire career deserves recognition, and 71 Forest Service employees attended a ceremony at Government House in October to receive thanks as part of the government's long service awards program.

On behalf of the B.C. government, Lieutenant Governor David Lam presented certificates to 25-year ministry employees, gold watches to those with 35 years' service, and a crystal decanter to one person who has worked for the Forest Service for 40 years. Forests Minister Andrew Petter and Deputy Minister Gerry Armstrong thanked all long-service award winners for their work and dedication. Staff from four other ministries also attended the event to receive similar

accolades from their respective executive.

Earlier that day, the Forest Service hosted a less formal afternoon reception, where executive turned out in full force to express their gratitude.

A larger than usual number of government employees received the awards this year, reflecting new guidelines that changed the criteria from continuous to cumulative service.

RECIPIENTS OF 25-YEAR SERVICE AWARDS:

Gary Anderson, Burnaby; Maurice Ashe, Willow River; Glen Baber, Prince George; Paul Bishop, Victoria; Jock Boucher, Williams Lake; Bill Bridgman, Creston; Mike Carlson, Williams Lake; Terry Carter, Prince George; Pat

Charpentier, Victoria; Mike Cleaver, Vanderhoof; Bill Clifford, Sidney; Brian Cullum, Cranbrook; Peter Downs, Sidney; William Dunbar, Prince George; Mel Dunleavy, Quesnel; Colin Effa, Victoria; Franklin Elliott, Midway; Neil Endacott, Smithers; Dan Epp, Hagenborg; Robin Fennell, Clinton; Paul Gambling, Maple Ridge; Peter Guise, Kamloops; Ken Halsey, Nelson; Barry Hendrickson, Surrey; Ted Jones, Nelson; Sylvia Jongejan, Nelson; Ron Jordens, Surrey; Lorraine Karlsen, Prince Rupert; Ken Kavaliunas, Brackendale; Doug Kelly, Pitt Meadows; Jim King, Lumby; Donald Kinnear, Garibaldi Highlands; Al Kohlen, Quesnel; Tom Lane, 108 Mile

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Long service awards

— continued

Ranch; Gordon Larsen, Golden; Andre Letain, Surrey; Laird Lynch, Prince George; Harold McEachern, Fort St. John; David McIntosh, Vernon; Rueben Medeiros, Agassiz; David Miller, Clearbrook; Al Moi, Quesnel; Ron Newman, Kamloops; Ken Paterson, North Vancouver; Glen Ralloff, Crescent Valley; Ed Riddoch, Queen Charlotte City; Clark Roadhouse, Kamloops; Ron Smith, Richmond; Bill Sprangers, Surrey; Glenn Ussel, Surrey; Von Vickers, Williams Lake; David Wallden, Vernon; and Darrel Williams, Prince George.

RECIPIENTS OF 35-YEAR SERVICE AWARDS:

Bruno Falk, Delta; Joan Haldane, Victoria; Gordon Hawkey, Kelowna; Adolph Hildebrandt, Prince George; Dennis Jensen, Kaslo; Bob Keep, Grand Forks; Larry Larsen, Grand Forks; Sherman Long, Victoria; John Menning, Horsefly; Walter Neros, Sorrento; John Pearce, Duncan; Tore Pettersen, Prince George; Graham Towell, Coquitlam; Bob Vanden-Driessch, Victoria; and Charles Willson, New Hazelton.

RECIPIENT OF 40-YEAR SERVICE AWARD:

Nita Moody, Victoria.

In addition, several people who earned the awards in 1993 attended the 1994 ceremonies: Tom Lacey, Merritt; Rick Miller, Victoria; and Jack Vandenbergh, Cranbrook for 25 years of service; and Harry Coates of Prince George for 35 years.

Councillors tour Port McNeill sites



On tour of the Port McNeill district (from left to right): Ralph Winter, silviculture branch; Gord Lester, Weldwood; Jon Vivian, resources inventory branch; Rene de Jong, Queen Charlotte Islands forest district; Dave Gilbert, resources inventory branch; Steve Northway, MacMillan Bloedel; and Jerry Miehme, Pacific Forest Products

The Coastal and Interior Forest Productivity Councils of B.C. toured Port McNeill research and trial plots during their annual field trip.

Hosted by Western Forest Products, the September field trip gives councillors a valuable opportunity to see first-hand what is being done in the field, says councils coordinator **Colleen McKendry**.

"It was a full day in Port McNeill," she says. "What we saw showed the value of long-term research and what's being done to evaluate productivity and improve growth."

Accompanied by technical advisory committee members, the group examined industry/government cooperative research trials and plots in Port McNeill, including western red cedar pruning trials, a cypress cloning trial, Salal-Cedar-Hemlock Integrated Research Program trials, and a demonstration of the Criterion 400 Survey Laser Instrument for the measurement of tree heights.

The visitors also saw some of the many research plots in experimental project 703, which began in 1970 to evaluate the effects of thinning and fertilization on mixes of Douglas-fir and western hemlock.

The Forest Productivity Councils were established in 1986 to advise the chief forester on policy and standards, program objectives and allocation of funds for growth and yield activities.

The councils are a cooperative effort, with representatives from government, industry and academia. Forest Service representatives are **Dave Gilbert**, director, resources inventory branch and leader, provincial growth and yield program, who chairs the coastal council; **Ted Baker**, director, research branch; **Henry Benskin**, director, silviculture branch; **Jim Sutherland**, forestry manager, Cariboo forest region; **Jim Snetsinger**, regional staff manager, forestry, Prince Rupert forest region; and **Gerry Kennah**, regional staff manager, Vancouver forest region.

SWEEP! It's curling season

It's the time of year when the balls and bats are relegated to the locker and people's minds turn to rocks and brooms.

It's curling time and Forest Service bonspiels are where it's at. With the season just under-way, one bonspiel has already concluded in Victoria and at least two others are well into the planning stages.

NEW DATES FOR KAMLOOPS BONSPIEL

This year's big attraction will again be the Forest Service Provincial Bonspiel, to be held in Kamloops on February 17, 18 and 19. Curlers should take note that the dates have changed from previous years.

The weekend of sport and fun costs \$140 per rink, which includes a guaranteed three games, the banquet and two nights of music. Entries are limited to 72 rinks. For more information, contact **Sharon Berkey** at 828-4182 or **Bruce Noble** at 376-6261.

PRINCE GEORGE HOSTS 30TH ANNUAL

The Prince George region is also gearing up for their 30th annual bonspiel, to be held January 20 to 22 at the newly renovated Mackenzie Curling Club. Organizers **Dean Chartier**, **Rod Deboice**, **Dave Hargreaves**, **Darla Dickson**, **Darren Halloran**, **John Cruickshank**, **Shelly Bojarski**, **Andy Pakrastins** and **Jill Nesbitt** are working hard to make it the best regional bonspiel ever.

All current and former Forest Service employees are invited to attend. For more information, contact an organizer at 997-2200.



Victoria Funspiel winners (from left to right) Jim Lucas, Rai Thomas, Diana Lucas and Paul Bishop.

VICTORIA FUNSPIEL LIVES UP TO ITS NAME

Although still perhaps a little rusty after a summer's layoff, 20 rinks signed up for the headquarters Funspiel on November 5. The winners will have something to boast about at subsequent bonspiels and the losers can try to improve their records.

Winning first prize with a total of 29 points — a trophy featuring a hand carving of the Forest Service oval — was **Rai Thomas**, skip, retired (formerly of Bella Coola); and **Paul Bishop** and **Diana Lucas**, both of technical and administration services; and **Jim Lucas**.

Second prize was won by protection branch's **Kerry Brewer**, **Gail Brewer** and **Jim Langridge**, both of timber harvesting; and **Leslie Langridge**, who scored 25 points.

Two rinks tied for third place with 24 points each. **Nita Moody**, **George Silvestrini**, **Nancy Miller** and **Lynn Smith**, all of valuation, shared the honors with **Wayne McIntyre**, **Adam Erickson**, **Cathy Praud** and **Jayne Wynrib**, all of timber harvesting. Taking a strangle hold on last place was Forest Service Newsletter editor **Paul Lackhoff** and his colleagues from the public affairs branch. Their score of two points will — what can you say — be easy to improve on.

New production schedule at Forest Service Newsletter

A new production schedule at Forest Service Newsletter is being implemented to ensure its timely delivery to all staff.

The new deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month preceding the month of publication. Since this notice has not reached our readers until after the deadline for the December issue, the deadline will not

be applied until Dec. 15 (deadline for the January issue).

We would like to thank the many people who keep us informed of the activities in their office, region or district, by submitting articles, photos or ideas. Your help is essential to the continued success of the Forest Service Newsletter.

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