



Ministry of  
Forests and Range

# Forest Service News

A proud tradition of service since 1912



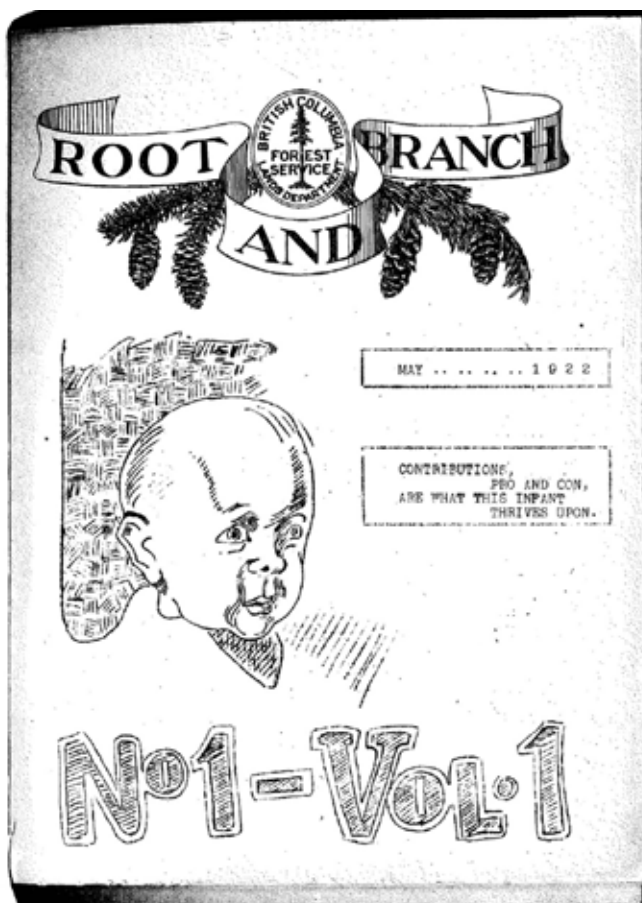
## The First Forest Service Oval - Searching for the Oldest Version

Submitted by: Rick Wells, Centenary Planning Committee

The BCFS Planning Committee is working on a theme paper to document the history of the Forest Service Oval. The FS Oval has been the proud symbol of our organization and has gone through several iterations over the past century. The committee is seeking your help in finding the earliest version and asks you to scan your personal collections for information and forward any versions to the planning committee.

We are searching for the earliest version of the FS Oval. Please dig deep into your memories and memorabilia collections and send a good quality digital image or photo of any significant or unusual FS Oval versions to [Rick.Wells@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Rick.Wells@gov.bc.ca).

The earliest dated Oval located so far (without pouring through the BC Archives) is the following version from 1922. Note this is a cover graphic and appears to be the very first edition of what will eventually become the Forest Service News.



The cover gives credit to our entire organization (noting the importance of the whole tree) including the roots and branches.

The cover quote states: "Contributions - Pro and Con, are what this infant thrives upon," which is similar to BCFS100's need for input, stories and new active members to help guide our way into the future.

**Forest Service News Advisory Group Vision:**

***"True to our proud history, informing the Forest Service family through balanced and timely communication"***



## 1922 Oval

Next is what appears to be the oldest Oval found so far, which is undated and likely from the World War 1 era. This version has a single outside Oval and has a different layout for the branches and cones.



The owner of this flag pamphlet is Skip Crawford who worked for the BCFS, Engineering Division in the 50's and 60's. This was approved for submission by Bruce Young, and forwarded by John Flanagan. We still need to locate the very first version of the Forest Service Oval, plus



other important versions—including copies of the 25th, 50th 60th and 75th anniversary Ovals. Thanks to Judy Laton for doctoring these images and thanks again for sending all image and story contributions to the Forest Service centenary website found at <http://www.bcfs100.ca>.

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## Recognition and Celebration!

Submitted by: Krista Dunleavy, First Nations Coordinator, Quesnel

The Quesnel Forest District held a ceremony on June 22, 2010, to recognize and celebrate the culture and language of the First Nations who have traditional territory in the district.

Local First Nations attended the unveiling of a sign that now hangs in the reception area that welcomes clients and staff with “Welcome – Hello” in the Carrier, Chilcotin and Shushwap First Nation languages. Representatives from the Lhtako Dene, Nazko, Lhoosk’uz Dene and ?Esdilagh First Nations said they were pleased to see the recognition and acknowledgement of their culture.

The words on the sign, representing ‘Welcome-Hello’ are:

Dahooja – Carrier First Nation language

Nendaneyash – Chilcotin First Nation language

Weytkp – Shushwap First Nation language



Phil Hunter of the Quesnel Forest District, Stefan Schwarzmann, Compliance and Enforcement, and Kelvin Alphonse, Cariboo-Chilcotin Field Team, BCTS had the idea and perseverance to make the sign a reality. Phil had the idea, and got the sign built, Stefan did the carving, and his wife Claudia designed and painted the raven, bear and coyote pictures on the sign. Kelvin, who is a member of the ?Esdilagh First Nation, spoke to elders to get the correct words and spelling on the sign. Phil, Kelvin, Stefan and Claudia were presented with a framed picture of the sign in appreciation of the great job they did in making this happen.



# I am a third generation Forest Service staff—98 Years in the Forest Service!

Submitted by John Coles, Tenures Appraisal Specialist, Chilliwack

**M**y grandfather, Jack Coles, was a forest ranger. I don't remember much about him, but I do remember his head of white hair. Grandpa worked in Fernie in '32, Kaslo in '38, and in Golden from '43 to '52. My sister remembers visiting him in Golden and him taking the family up to the lookout tower to scan the horizon for smoke.

Two winters ago I was visiting my son in Golden. While going up the gondola with a "retiree" Ski Host I mentioned that my grandfather had been a ranger here many years ago. The host asked for his name then stated that he had worked for and curled with him. I got a bit more of an insight into the character of my grandfather while reading a copy of the [May 1951 FS Newsletter](#). It seems that after the Nelson district ranger meeting Jack Coles led a Sing-Song and conducted the "Forestry Fil-ha-ha-monic featuring fiddle, banjo, sax and piano players." Grandpa received his 25 Year pin from F. S. McKinnon at the meeting.

My father, Larry Coles, joined the Forest Service as a scaler in '45. He spent a lot of time working up the coast often gone for a week at a time. Nine years later, in '54, he was appointed superintendant of Scaling for the Vancouver Forest Region stationed out of the Marine Building. I remember sitting on the window sill in his office with other scalers' kids watching the PNE parade go by beneath us. I also remember those late night telephone calls. They always came during a storm. Dad would jump into action and slap a "beachcombing closure" on some part of the coast—a boom had busted up!

Doing a bit of research for this article, I came upon a

menu card in a box belonging to grandpa that dad had given me. It's titled "Annual Ranger Dinner – Thurston Bay - January 26th 1924" and is signed by most of the dinner attendees. The name A.L. Bryant caught my eye because on October 3, 1950, dad was on a Forest Service boat full of scalers called the "A. L. Bryant" that was cut in half by the "Lady Cynthia." It was a terrible disaster as three scalers lost their lives that day. Dad retired in 1980.

I officially started with the Forest Service in 1973 in Kitwanga under Ranger, Walter Neros. However, I actually started some time in my youth when dad would take the family to a distant point in BC to spend two weeks camping under an old FS walled tent. Getting there was half the fun as we stopped at nearly every Ranger Station enroute to say hello to one of dad's friends and to ask how the fishing was.

My journey with the Forest Service has taken me from Kitwanga to Hazelton to Williams Lake to Port Moody, to Squamish to Rosedale Forestry Crew (later to become the Chilliwack Forest District). It's hard to believe that licensees are harvesting the stands that I spaced and had fertilized back in the early '80s! Like my father and grandfather I've been proud to be a part of the Forest Service family. It's been a privilege to be entrusted with the stewardship of forests for the BC public.

(Note: I don't know when Jack Coles retired. Was he in for more than 26 years? If so the sum total of years would go beyond 100.)

Jack Coles-Grandfather



Larry Coles-Father



John Coles



## Another Lifer-2nd Generation!

Submitted by: Sydney Monteith, RFT, PCMP cert., Acting Woodlands Supervisor, Cariboo Chilcotin Business Area

**M**el Monteith (aka Dad) started with the Forest Service in 1947 at the age of 16. He worked for 5 summers on the Suppression Crew out of Kamloops. Dad got his first full time Assistant Ranger job in June 1952 in Wells Grey Park. He started Ranger school in the fall of 1956 (6 months) and completed Ranger school in December of 1957 after another 3 month stint at Green Timbers. His first Deputy Ranger job was in Williams Lake in 1958 and he became a Ranger in Blue River in 1959. Through his long career with the Forest Service the family was moved about 20 times. The last move made was to Birch Island in 1969 where in 1979 Dad was successful in his application for the District Manager position, which was then considered the Clearwater Forest District. Dad was quoted at one time as saying that the re-org in 1979 was the biggest change he had seen in the Forest Service. I think about the stories I have heard over the years and can't help but think, as a Technician, how about the change from using a double bedded axe to blaze boundaries to using flagging tape? Now that is a big change!!



I started my career in Forestry and with the Forest Service in 1980 at the age of 17. I worked seasonally on the recreation crew, silviculture crew and also did

one winter stint on a cruising crew. I moved to McBride in 1984 and worked there seasonally until I gained full time employment in the Horsefly Forest District in 1989. This was an interesting move for me as my parents had lived in Likely and Horsefly in 1953 as newlyweds. The Forest Service still held that position in the community where the staff of the Forest Service could be relied

on to do any number of things for the community. Dad retired in 1994 as the District Manager in the Clearwater Forest District with 42 years of service. Dad was well known for his many years spent broadcast burning in the North Thompson and I'm sure any number of other things!! In 2003 when the Horsefly District Office was closed, I was offered a Forest Technician position in BCTS – Williams Lake Field Team. I am presently in Williams Lake working for BCTS as an Operations Technician in Silviculture and contract specialist. One thing that I know for sure is that that will probably change.

## 2nd Generation Forest Service Member?

Are you a 2nd generation Forest Service member, or maybe a 3rd?

If you are, or know of someone who is, we would like to feature your story in the Forest Service News.

Please submit your suggested story to [ForestServiceNews@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ForestServiceNews@gov.bc.ca).



## Glen Evely Memorial Award of Excellence Compliance and Enforcement Program

Submitted by: David S. Hall, C&E Branch, Victoria

Each year the Compliance and Enforcement Program accepts nominations and awards the Glen Evely Memorial Award of Excellence to a staff member within the Compliance and Enforcement program. Staff are nominated by their peers for outstanding performance within the program and the nominations are reviewed by past recipients.

Glen Evely was tragically killed in a motor vehicle accident in November of 2004 while on duty as an Auxiliary Constable with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Vernon. At the time of his death, Glen was a Compliance and Enforcement Technician working in the Okanagan-Shuswap Forest District. The Evely family was approached by C&E Headquarters staff in 2005 for approval to dedicate an award of excellence in Glen's name.

In October of 2009, the award was presented to James Shook, Northern Interior Forest Region C&E

Forester. James has worked for the Forest Service for 13 years in the Fort St. James and Vanderhoof Forest



James Brady, James Shook, Dave Hall

Districts before moving on to his current position as a member of the provincial Special Investigations Unit. James has been instrumental in the development

of industry road check procedures, quality assurance initiatives and is a leader on interagency cooperation with other enforcement agencies including the RCMP, Conservation Officer Service, Department of Transport, Federal Fisheries and Worksafe BC. James also provides legislative insight to C&E field staff and the Special Investigations Unit. It is particularly appropriate that James is also an RCMP auxiliary constable working out of the Vanderhoof detachment.

Past recipients of this award are: Kevin Melanson, Bill Myers, Jerry Hunter, Jeff Mortimer and Ted Nash.

Please join me in congratulating James on his outstanding contribution to the C&E program!

## Premier's Award

The Premier's Awards have come and gone for another year! The ministry enjoyed great success with many regional nominees in various categories with one of those winners moving on as a provincial finalist. Congratulations to all of the regional nominees and winners for work that was well done.

The Cone and Seed Services, Tree Seed Centre was recognized in the Service Excellence category and was successful in becoming one of 16 finalists for the Premier's Award, which was held on May 28, 2010, in Victoria. The work they were recognized for is work that has been continuous for over 50 years. Ultimately, they did not win the award, but must be congratulated for the great work they have done over the years.

For more information, check out the Deputy Minister's blog at [https://sharepoint.forests.gov.bc.ca/exec\\_forum/Lists/Posts/Post.aspx?ID=127](https://sharepoint.forests.gov.bc.ca/exec_forum/Lists/Posts/Post.aspx?ID=127).

The next recognition event will be the Long Service Awards (25, 30 and 35 years of service) in Victoria. The exact dates for that event are being determined.

## Chris Lind – BCTS Safety Award Recipient 2009

Submitted by: Marion Boulstridge – Divisional Initiatives Branch

**C**hris Lind, Tenures Field Operations Supervisor, Kalum Forest District (formerly the Certification Standards Officer, Skeena Business Area) was presented the 2009 BCTS Safety Award by Mike Falkiner – Executive Director on March 25, 2010.

This award recognizes the excellent work Chris has done to advance safety competency and awareness not only in the Skeena Business Area, but throughout the province.

### **Driver Training:**

Chris organized driver training for both Kalum and Skeena staff. While there was no such course readily available, Chris developed a curriculum and worked with a contractor to deliver driver training that would meet the unique needs of staff for both on-road and off-road purposes. The driver training was developed to cover collision avoidance and potential off road issues with 88 percent of staff members taking the training. Staff also had the opportunity to pay for their own young drivers to attend an evening course. The course was practical so that participants could drive the vehicles through a course and practice emergency stops, braking in corners and general vehicle handling and getting advice in the setting of side mirrors to minimize blind spots. Some words used by staff to describe the course were “amazing” and “fantastic.” It was also extremely useful for building young drivers’ confidence since they managed to get a real feel for handling a vehicle, and learned techniques to reduce where blind spots exist, avoiding collisions and emergency situations.

### **Non-Urban First Aid:**

The existing first aid was focussed on urban settings and conducted in a class room setting. Chris researched

options to make the training more relevant to field staff. In collaboration with a consultant, a course was developed that was directly related to potential first aid situations and solutions in the field. Non-urban First Aid is unique in that it provides field

staff with an understanding of how to protect themselves and others from the environmental elements. The practical component of the course was conducted in a field setting versus the traditional classroom venue.

Chris ensured that other Certification Standards Officers in the province were aware of his First Aid and Driver Safety programs and offered himself to be available for any help they might require.



Chris’ examples of innovation and creativity just kept coming. In order to prepare staff for the BCTS safe company certification audit, Chris developed a game of Safety Jeopardy during a BCTS staff meeting. Teams were formed and the safety game began. Talk about a fun way to learn!

On top of all this, Chris also helped to coordinate presentations and ideas for the annual “Safety Day” where the staff learned about various safety protocols such as boat safety, radio operation, pre-trip vehicle inspections and the use of bear spray. As part of his Succession Planning Knowledge Transfer (SPKT) training program, Chris volunteered to co-chair the Joint Occupational Health and Safety committee to help advance a culture of safety.

Kudos to you Chris for helping more people stay safe!

Have a Story idea?  
Send The FS News  
Advisory Group your  
ideas!

## A New Season—A New Office

Submitted by Alyson Couch, Fire Information Officer

A new state-of-the-art Provincial Wildfire Coordination Centre was officially opened last month in Kamloops by Minister Pat Bell, Kamloops-North Thompson MLA Terry Lake and Kamloops-South Thompson MLA Kevin Krueger.

The \$4.5-million facility consolidates all provincial wildfire management operations, including aviation services, fire weather forecasting, fire information and the existing airtanker dispatch. The decision to move the centre to Kamloops from Victoria was based on the region's high fire activity, and close proximity to the Provincial Airtanker Centre and Kamloops fire centre. The site was proven ideal for wildfire operations and allows for expansion during busy times. This move will help the program move ahead with better coordination of wildfire response, allow for collaboration with all provincial services, reduce travel costs and improve workplace succession.

The facility coordinates the six fire centres around the province by monitoring potential fire conditions and prioritizing and allocating the province's resource needs. It is also responsible for monitoring national and international wildfire activity in the event of resource exchange.

Built with the goal of achieving LEED Gold facility standards, the centre has adopted many 'green' initiatives including geothermal technology, an automatic lighting system and a new irrigation system, which enables the centre to use treated effluent water for landscaping irrigation and fire retardant mixing. The coordination centre also reflects the province's Wood First policy to increase the amount of wood used in commercial and institutional construction.

In addition to all the new construction, the latest piece of wildfire technology now resides within the building. To help reduce costs and improve training, a flight simulator has been designed and built at the centre by a B.C. Wildfire Management Branch air attack officer and pilot. This technology simulates aerial firefighting from launch to arrival, including actual fire targets and retardant drops. Now, air attack officers can train locally rather than travelling to California to complete their certification.

Wildfire Management staff are now settled into their new digs and are looking forward to a successful 2010 season.

[See the new office \(video link\)](#)

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## Ex-FS Vessel Squadron

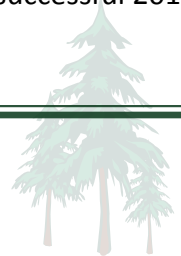
Submitted by: John Parminter, Research Ecologist, Research Branch

The Ex-Forest Service Vessel Squadron's annual rendezvous will be held at the Vancouver Maritime Museum over the BC Day long weekend. Some boats will arrive on Friday, July 30 but the official rendezvous days are Saturday, July 31; Sunday, August 1 and Monday, August 2 when the boats will depart before noon. The vessels will be open to visitors on Saturday and Sunday afternoons and the squadron's AGM will be held inside the museum on Sunday at 10am.

Current and former BC Forest Service employees are welcome to attend the rendezvous and view this important part of our heritage.

A list of the known historic boats are located at:  
<http://members.shaw.ca/forestryboats/boatlist1.html>

The museum's website is:  
<http://www.vancouvermaritimemuseum.com>



# Prince George District's strikes success with a Career Learning Team

Submitted by: Greg Jonuk, Tenures Technician, Prince George Forest District



Larry (left front) with members of the DPG Career Learning Team

Larry Badowski looked back on his 37 year Forest Service career and thought how much more he could have accomplished if he had a plan to guide him. That led him to initiate a Career Learning Team to motivate his mid-career colleagues to get an earlier start on deliberate career planning.

A life-long learner, Larry recently completed a Provincial Instructor's Diploma from Vancouver Community College and saw the opportunity to use his newfound skills and existing knowledge in a very practical way with multiple benefits.

*"Over the years, the ministry has generously supported many training and development programs and credentials for me. As retirement looms, this is my big opportunity to give something back to the organization. It's win/win all around."*

Larry pitched his idea to the District Leadership Team and the value of getting staff engaged about their career management. He was able to negotiate work time for preparation, the learning sessions themselves, and for acquisition of key resources.

District Manager, Greg Rawling, was the first guest speaker at the inaugural session and shared his belief that focused career planning will be critical with the BC Public Service's steadily increasing multi-agency focus and with growing recruitment and retention challenges.

Larry organizes the team meetings, prepares lesson plans, presents the information in a variety of formats (audio, video, slide presentations, handouts, books, guests, etc.) and leads discussions on to accentuate participant learning. He follows-up each session with an email summary linked to relevant documents and media. Some of the topics explored

have been: Goal Setting, Team Dynamics, Emotional Intelligence, Strengths Assessments, Operating Styles, Conflict Styles, Communication, and Interview Techniques.

This initiative came at a fortunate time as member Deborah Daszko explains:

*"Through the Career Team I learned what my passions are. "Know thyself" was a big take away for me and it got us all thinking and dreaming. It especially prepared me for recent equivalency interviews. I am thankful to Larry for being organized, prepared, and passionate and an inspiration to me and others."*

Positive response from team members encouraged Larry to start a second team at the office. Larry also instructs continuing education sessions at the College of New Caledonia on the related topic of supervision and leadership.

For more information on the DPG Career Learning Team, contact Larry Badowski at 250 614-7400.



## Partnering for Rangeland Education: The BC Rangeland Management School

Submitted by: Wendy Gardner, Russ Horton, Darryl Kroeker, and Lavona Liggins, Rangeland Management School Team Members ([British Columbia Grasslands Magazine Winter 2009/2010](#))

**H**ow is knowledge on rangeland management shared? This is a challenge that is faced around the world; here is the story about one way we are responding in British Columbia. In 2006, a number of agencies came together to form the BC Rangeland Management School Team, starting an inter-agency collaboration for rangeland education through a series of BC Rangeland Management Schools.

Today, the school is approaching its fourth year of operation with seven collaborating agencies: the BC Cattlemen's Association (Bob France and Brooke Madley), BC Ministry of Forests and Range (Russ Horton), BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands (Greg Tegart), Agri-Environment Services Branch of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Lavona Liggins), Ducks Unlimited Canada (Darryl Kroeker), Thompson Rivers University (Wendy Gardner) and the Grassland Conservation Council of BC (GCC) (Bruno Delesalle). While the team members represent diverse groups, everyone leaves their hats at the door and works collaboratively to share the principles of rangeland management.

**H**ow did we come up with such a novel idea? We didn't! Several years ago a few people from BC were introduced to an innovative multi-agency rangeland school operating in Colorado. The long-term success of the Colorado school has been based, in large measure, on its commitment to extension education through a multi-agency team. We borrowed heavily from our friends in Colorado and Oregon to develop one-day classroom and one-day field sessions adapted for BC. We exchanged materials, phone calls,

mentoring and presentation support.

**H**as the school been working? Yes. In three years of winter and summer schools, we've had about 700 participants, including ranchers, First Nations, consultants and staff from various government and non-government agencies. For one of the sessions, we present a one-day "Principles of Rangeland

Management" classroom session, which covers plant growth, time and timing of grazing, animal nutrition, and animal behaviour. In the summer, the team presents a one-day "Grazing Response Index (GRI)" field session, which applies the classroom principles of range management to an easy-to-use grazing

management decision aid, the GRI. Since 2007 we've conducted twenty sessions in fifteen communities between Fort St. John in the north, Cranbrook in the east, Osoyoos in the south and Burns Lake in the west.

The schools' indicators of success are based on written evaluations and other feedback received from participants. Some participants come back again and again and report learning new things each time.

**S**o, why has this school worked so well? The answer to this question has two parts. The first part is because of the terrific participation by those who attend. They bring different backgrounds to the same place and have the time to discuss and learn about rangeland management. The attendees, independent of their background, hear the same



## Cont. Rangelands...

message at the same time in an open forum where non-judgmental discussion is cultivated.

The second part of the answer is due to the team members themselves and their supporting agencies. From diverse backgrounds, we share a passion for BC's rangelands, their management and the people responsible for their stewardship. We're dedicated to working collaboratively and committed to continually improving the school. Most recently, we created a linkage with the GCC to support the extension of the Grassland Monitoring Manual for BC: A Tool for Ranchers.

Our vision is for "a dynamic, well-received extension program supporting sustainable rangeland resources" and our mission is for "a provincial rangeland extension program based on scientific principles and practices."

**Where does the school go from here?** Maybe to a location near you! Our goal is to keep spreading the message of applying scientific principles and practices to sustainable rangeland management. If you are interested in learning more about the Rangeland Management School or having it presented in your area, please contact the BC Cattlemen's Association at 1-877-688-2333 or Russ Horton, Range Extension Specialist, Ministry of Forests and Range at 1-250-371-3826.

## Ministry Participates in BC's Largest Aboriginal Youth Conference

Submitted by Sophia Marten, Aboriginal Youth Intern



Over 1,000 people attended the Gathering Our Voices Aboriginal Youth Conference held in March in Vancouver. This year's conference theme was health and the environment. The Ministry of Forests and Range put on a workshop focused on reforestation, animal conservation, carbon management and sustainability.

I am pleased to report that the Gathering our Voices Aboriginal Youth conference went very well and we received lots of positive feedback in regards to our workshop. I would like to thank all for

your contributions, advice and support. My co-facilitator Carrie Carty and I were both part of this year's Aboriginal Youth Internship program (year three).

It was a wonderful experience and a great opportunity to interact with the youth and a very proud moment as I was able to see all my hard work come together.

It was a great learning experience and I am very pleased with the outcome.

Have a Story idea?  
Send The *FS News*  
Advisory Group your  
ideas!



## Welcome New Advisory Group Member!

**H**i, my name is Kathy Leeman. I would like to introduce myself to all of the readers as a new FS Newsletter Advisory Group member.

I have worked in the Forest Service since July 1988, when I started as an auxiliary receptionist/records management clerk in the old Prince George West District. The ministry was in the process of amalgamating Prince George West and East, shortly after I started. Career wise, I was the Office Services Supervisor in the Prince George District for 10 years until 2003, and then moved to the Northern Interior Forest regional office. During the last 7 years, I have been a Training Administrator and then a Corporate Services Manager in the regional office. As part of the March 1, 2010, restructure, I was moved to the Organizational Development and Corporate Planning Branch, but still live in Prince George. I have really enjoyed my work and the opportunities I have been given over the last 22 years.

I got married early in 2009, so for those who don't know my married name, you may know me by my maiden name, Kathy Westlake. I have an 11 year old daughter, Rebecca who keeps me busy. I enjoy scrapbooking, baking, cooking and going for walks with my husband, Daryl and Rebecca. We have a 2 year old dog, Baylee and will be getting a border collie puppy in August.

I am also a former Forest Service "brat." My dad, Ray, was in the Forest Service from 1963 to 1981. I lived in Forest Service housing from the time I was born until I was three. We lived in Chetwynd, Fort St. James and Summit Lake, before we moved to Prince George in 1970. The days of being transferred geographically were over for my dad and our family.

I look forward to working with the rest of the Forest Service newsletter staff.

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## Thank you!

The Forest Service *News* Advisory Group would like to thank Dave Hails, Russ Horton and Joy Berlando for their invaluable contributions to the newsletter. Their input, dedication and team spirit will be missed.

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## Chilcotin Forest District 39th Annual Trap Shoot

Submitted by: Dan Hicks, Stewardship Technician, Chilcotin.



Held at the Chilcotin Rod & Gun Club Range in Alexis Creek, BC, held Saturday May 29, 2010.

See photos & news coverage of the event by clicking the [PDF](#).

View photos in Full Screen Mode (click escape key to exit).

Read newspaper description (#23) by magnifying to 125%.

I retain all rights to these photos, but authorize their publication in the Forest Service *News*, newsletter of BC Ministry of Forests and Range. Dan Hicks, Stewardship Technician, Chilcotin.

## Snow to Surf!

Submitted by: Paul Knowles, RPF, Chair, West Coast Managers' Committee, Resource Management Coordination

A bunch of Forest Service folks had a lot of fun on April 25, 2010, in the Campbell River Forest District at the 28th Annual Snow to Surf race! This is a relay race with 8 legs (downhill ski, X-C, run, run, mountain bike, kayak, road bike, canoe). Along with a number of Forest Service staff from Campbell River and Victoria on various teams, there were two All Forest Service teams—one from Nanaimo and one from Port Alberni. The Nanaimo team was in the Masters Men category and was called “**Nanaimo Old Growth.**” The Port Alberni team was in the Mixed Masters category and called “**The Hump.**”



(although the NOGs currently hold the all time record in that category with their outstanding performance last year!).

The Hump is throwing down the gauntlet! We challenge any other All Forest Service team to get more exercise than us at the event next year!! With extensive times in each leg of the race and having topped that off with

our first capsizing in the canoe leg this year we are smug in our ability to pull off yet another major victory next year!!!!

The Hump rules!!! For this year anyway....

<http://www.snowtosurf.com/>

The Hump was the All Forest Service team getting “the most” exercise out of the event this year. We beat the Nanaimo Old Growth by spending 36 more minutes on the course!

(Photo's of the event will be posted on photobucket as they come in. Photobucket.com and username SouthIsland and password port Alberni)

## SPCA Challenge- Southern Interior Region

Submitted by Lynda Jones, Regional Executive Assistant, RSI

For the sixth year in a row, the Southern Interior Forest Regional office, joined in and developed our own fund raising activities for the Kamloops SPCA City Challenge. As this office has formed such a formidable team, we were unsuccessful in finding an opponent and raised just over \$3,100.00 for our local SPCA.

We again hosted a very successful Beef on a Bun luncheon, expertly cooked to perfection by Chef Andrea Inwards. Andrea also prepared the baked beans to accompany the beef—they were tasty!! Our Pastry Chef, Jenny Lawrence brought in two extremely delicious and skilfully decorated cakes for dessert, which everyone raved over. The cakes had the SPCA emblem inscribed in icing complete with puppy and paw prints. We raised \$570.00 from the luncheon alone.

Bunny Covey and her mom worked tirelessly one weekend and made boxes of Rice Krispie Squares, which involved 16 bags of marshmallows. Sure paid off as staff donated close to \$145.00 for those little morsels. The 50/50 draw brought in around \$76.00. Fay Hill donated a special edition Robert Bateman poster for which Ken Chantler created an amazing old barn wood frame. Once the matt and glass were applied by a local art store it raised \$125.00.

### BOOK SALE

We hosted a three day giant book sale, which is always a popular event and raised close to \$300.00.

### OUR FAMOUS SILENT AUCTION/GARAGE SALE/ CRAFT SALE/BAKE SALE

After hosting this event for 6 years it never ceases to

## Cont. SPCA Challenge...

amaze us at the talent, ingenuity and generosity of our staff. We were totally taken by surprised when we saw the total of \$1,381.00.

- Staff donated their crafts, talents.
- Their skills/hobbies.
- Lots of baking, candy and various jams, jellies and salsa.
- Numerous new and second-hand items from ornaments to furniture.
- Some local merchants even donated items from their inventory. Of special interest again this year was the lovely Robert Bateman print, donated to us by Fay Hill and meticulously framed by Ken Chantler with local picture framing company donating the matt and glass.
- Again, as he does each year, Michael Blackstock donated one of his famous prints, plus a copy of his book on Salmon.
- Also—as always, Glenn Allen (even though he is now at the Coast Regional office) sent us a beautiful hand crafted maple bowl and two

beautiful wooden bracelets.

Last but not least was our band singing our interpretation of Disney's song "Bare Necessities" of course totally reworded to reflect the wants, challenges and needs of the local SPCA. It was a foot stompin time with Peter Rennie on keyboard and Vicky Groves on fiddle. Luckily, the band was able to drown out the SPCA Committee Choir, (who, by the way, are keeping their day jobs!).

Thank you to all the RSI staff, for their dedication, participation and generosity toward this great cause. It certainly appeared that staff fully enjoyed the activities.

The 2010 SPCA Challenge again generated a whole lot of fun and laughter and was a great morale/team building exercise. Take a bow Ministry of Forests and Range staff, the SPCA does indeed applaud your extreme generosity.

## National Forest Week

Submitted by Melanie Boyce, A/Deputy Chief Forester and Vivian Thomas, Communications Manager, PAB

Started in the 1920s, National Forest Week is a great opportunity to celebrate the many benefits we enjoy from our forests. This year, National Forest Week runs September 19 to 25th. We expect that Minister Bell will be doing his utmost to promote forestry that week by doing an event each day of the week, as he has in the past two years. How is your office going to celebrate National Forest Week? Taking a local school class on a walk in the woods? Giving an informal talk to high school students? Hosting an open house or local colouring contest? If you have a great idea to share, or are looking for ideas, contact Melanie Boyce via email [Melanie.Boyce@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Melanie.Boyce@gov.bc.ca) or at 250-356-5375.

## Are you an FS Retiree?

If you would like to continue to receive the Forest Service News please provide your current email address to [Richard.Dominy@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Richard.Dominy@gov.bc.ca).

## FOREST SERVICE NEWS WORD SEARCH

Thank you to Dave Hails!



# FOREST SERVICE STAFF WELCOME THE OLYMPIC EXPERIENCE!

## **BERG'S EYE VIEW**

by Shane Berg

### **News Item: Forest Service torch bearers were easy to spot...**

Note: this waste pile  
has been  
COMPLETELY salvaged  
and is certified to  
contain NO  
merchantable materials  
suitable for grinding or  
other bio-energy processes!

HANG ON GANG!  
I'LL JUST  
BE A  
SECOND!...



## Going for Gold/MFR's Olympic Moments

Submitted by Vivian Thomas, Communications Manager, PAB



I don't think any of us will soon forget the 2010 Olympic Games. They were a once in a lifetime event and an opportunity to showcase Vancouver and British Columbia to the world.

The Games generated forestry stories for visiting media. The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC-TV) profiled Burns Lake and the Cheslatta Community Forest thanks to the efforts of Nadina forest district staff and BCTS Babine. The Dutch, being avid speed skating fans, wanted to learn more about the mountain pine beetle that provided the blue streaks in the Richmond Oval's roofs, so arranged a field trip for a TV crew to Merritt.

The most forestry stories were generated by the 23 Olympic and Paralympic podiums, built from 18 different wood types. 150 news stories about the podiums were printed or broadcast in B.C., Canada and 10 countries around the world. Recent retirees Peter Fuglem and Greg Bach answered the call from Vanoc and starting in late September 2009, they called upon all forest districts to help source wood from local licensees—for the most part community forests and woodlots. Wood was then shipped to Vancouver, where Len Leroux played a key role in overseeing the manufacture of the podiums—each with more than 200 distinct pieces. Now that the Games are over the podiums were put up for auction,

where corporate sponsors and Olympic partners had an opportunity to bid on them. One podium is currently on display in the Vancouver Pavilion at the Shanghai Expo 2010; and another, returned to the province, is being refurbished in Nanaimo. Now that the Olympics are over, podium donors are being recognized for their donation with a shadow box that contains a medal tray manufactured from Douglas fir; a photo of medal-winning athletes and a coffee-table book with photos of the entire podium graced by medal winners, even including Men's Gold!

<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/mof/Olympics/podiums/>

Andrew Ashford  
Brian Hawrys  
Brian Kukulies  
Allan Johnsrude  
Mark Hamm  
Harold Stolar  
Jim Guido  
Larry Peitzsche  
Gerry Grant  
Garth Wiggill  
Paul Knowles  
Emma Neil

Dave Raven  
Chuck van Hemmen  
Lynda Currie  
Gerry MacDougall  
Josh Pressey  
Greg Rawling  
Dave Hails  
Richard Toperczer  
Lindsay Vandesteeg  
Tony Wideski  
Brian Morrison



## Olympic Experience and Recent Retiree!

Submitted by: Bob Wilson, former Compliance and Enforcement Officer

I was one of about 20,000 volunteers. I volunteered mostly because I thought it would be an interesting experience. I was not disappointed!

My first adventure was finding my way to the PNE to get outfitted with an Olympic volunteer uniform. With all the traffic closures it made it very tricky, but I made it thanks to my GPS. The uniform included a jacket, vest, pants, two shirts and a toque.

Most of my shifts were at the King Edward Sky Train Station, which served the curling venue. With the curling venue seating 5600 people, there were usually about 10 volunteers on each shift at the station. When the games ended, there was a tidal wave of people coming out of the venue who needed to be directed to the sky train station—my job involved “telling people where to go” (with a smile). I was very heartened by how pleasant the visitors were and got lots and lots of thank you’s.



Early on, after completing our shift another volunteer and I walked to the curling venue and were able to purchase tickets. We saw a preliminary game where Kevin Martin’s team beat the German’s. It was absolutely fantastic to see that calibre of curling. When the curling venue was quiet, we were redeployed to other areas.

One evening we moved to the harbour to help manage the crowds at the cauldron—it was an amazing sight. There were thousands and thousands of people. I walked around the crowd and found people in wheel chairs and escorted them to the elevator to the viewing platform. Everyone else had to wait in a very long line and use the stairs.

The experience was wonderful, it was a once in a lifetime opportunity and I am so glad I was able to participate!

Bob retired on May 31, 2010—Enjoy your retirement Bob!!

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## The Heart of 2010 - Submitted by Ailsa Siemens, Records Management Clerk/Receptionist, Squamish

In January 2010, Squamish Forest District staff prepared to welcome the world to our backyard and cheer on Team Canada.

The call went out and five countries accepted the invitation to compete.

Medals were awarded in four events, Coffee Cup Race, Ping Pong, Biathlon and Chair Rowing:

Jamaica won 1 bronze

Canada won 1 silver and 1 bronze

The Czech Republic won 1 gold and 1 silver

Norway won 1 gold and 2 silver

Russia won 2 gold and 2 bronze

The real work began in earnest in February and March. Many staff volunteered at both the Olympic and Paralympic Torch Relay events in Squamish, as well as the Olympic and Paralympic winter games in

Vancouver, Whistler Olympic/Paralympic Park and Whistler Creekside.

I worked as a radio operator at the Creekside Alpine events. Highlights for me included seeing all of Lauren Woolstencroft’s gold-medal winning runs, having my photo taken with bronze medal winner Cameron Rahles Rahbula from Australia, and receiving a special pin from Premier Gordon Campbell.

All the staff had an amazingly incredible experience. In fact, I have already signed up to volunteer for London 2012!

I kept track of our medal winners for all to see and enjoy, and celebrated with staff prior to the start of the Paralympics. [Check out the photo’s](#)

## Olympic Experience

Submitted by Scott Hicks, Stewardship Officer, Kalum

As an active member of the Canadian Avalanche Rescue Dog Association (CARDA) and the only volunteer organization that provided services to the 2010 Integrated Security Unit (ISU), my four legged partner Josey Wales and I were on active duty from February 7-14, 2010.

Specialized rescue and ski gear, as well as providing Josey with his luxurious overnight accommodations in the back of my truck, required we make the journey by vehicle from Terrace. Thanks goes to old BCFS buddies who put us up at their places on both legs of our journey Rick Manwaring in Kamloops and Steve Legge in Vanderhoof, much appreciated!

CARDA provided avalanche rescue dog capabilities to the ISU for several weeks prior to the Olympic games until the completion of the Paralympic games. During most of this time, teams were deployed full-time at the Whistler Mountain, Callaghan Valley and Cypress Mountain venues. As Cypress was not a venue during the Paralympic games, teams were not utilized there post Olympic games. Josey and I were deployed at the Callaghan Valley venue (site of Nordic Events) for 7 days, and then spent our last day at the Whistler venue.

CARDA's invitation to be part of the ISU was born through a long-standing relationship between our organization and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Certified CARDA teams provide professional K-9 avalanche rescue and the associated avalanche terrain travel skills to respond to avalanche incidents anywhere in Canada. For many teams, including Josey and I, this also includes advanced first aid, standard PEP rope rescue, level II mountain rescue (rock, alpine, glacier) and helicopter rescue flight systems also known as 'dope on a rope.'



The deployment days were long, but not overly demanding. My deployment highlights included:

- Watching both training and events in Biathlon and Long-Jump skiing.
- Meeting tourists from around the world. As expected, hundreds of pictures were taken of us and those with children were always fun, although Josey may have been getting a little tired of the public spot-light by the end of our stay. After all, he was trained for, and extremely focussed on rescue work.
- Completing an interview and pictures with a Japanese newspaper.
- Completing a venue interview and demonstration for the

Jumbo-Tron.

- Providing first responder medical aid on a tourist in serious distress.
- Meeting law enforcement personnel from all over Canada.
- During the opening ceremonies in Vancouver, the Norwegian Nordic athletes held their own parade due to event scheduling. Their parade even included lit candles along their short route. This happened to be located on the Whistler street we were being lodged. Four dog teams stood and cheered for Norway as they walked by.
- On arrival to Whistler we completed our annual RCMP re-certification exam, which involves tests in obedience and snow search. We also completed our annual re-certification for HFRS or long-line rescue where we are slung on a 150 foot line underneath an A-Star helicopter and taken for a flight.
- Re-connecting with fellow CARDA handlers and spending time with handlers from Squaw Valley, California who were in Whistler as part of their 50th anniversary celebrations of their 1960 winter games. Writing this article also provides me with an ideal opportunity to thank countless BCFS folks I have

## Cont. Olympic Experience...

worked with both in Terrace and the former Golden/Columbia Forest Districts. Many folks have sat on sweaters over the years to help me with dog training. Scented sweaters are buried up to a metre deep and for as long as 24 hours in the development and training of CARDA dogs. The odd employee has even volunteered to be a live training search quarry and to all of you I say thanks!

Unfortunately, I now end this article on a sad yet determined note. On March 27, 2010, I lost my K-9 partner of 6 years in a tragic accident. I cannot put in words the bond held between a handler and his working dog whose sole purposes are to voluntarily expose themselves to physically and psychologically extreme environments in the hopes of saving an avalanche victim. The connection Josey had to me, my wife Shelly (CARDA handler of 'Kelsey' and who works for MOTI – Skeena), and our 3 year old son was very special and will never be forgotten. The life lessons and personal development I have been exposed to in the training of avalanche working dogs both as a handler and instructor is overwhelming. With Josey Wales' legacy in mind, and the generosity of Jim Girvan, RPF of Cedarbrae Labradors, my next pup should be arriving in Terrace sometime at the end of 2010. My new dog comes to us at a time when my 3 year and two month old sons will develop relationships with him that we can all share for all our lifetimes!

## Paralympic Torch Relay

Submitted by: Jen Erlandson, Interior Timber Pricing Forester, Pricing Branch

First a big thank you to everyone who voted on the @Work site to allow me the opportunity to be a torch bearer in the Paralympic Relay. It was an honour to be involved and represent the BC Public Service and Ministry of Forests and Range. There was a very inspirational group of people participating and the volunteers did a tremendous job of organizing.



The relay leg I was selected for was part of the 24 hour Relay around Robson Square in downtown Vancouver leading up to the Paralympics' Opening Ceremonies. The time slot ended up being in the wee hours of the morning on March 12, 2010. My plan was to ride a tandem bicycle with Carly Grigg, a visually impaired para-alpine skier and Act Now BC athlete ambassador. Fortunately, Carly was also selected for a relay leg through a different process and we were able to participate together.

It was a typical drizzly spring night in Vancouver, but that didn't dampen any spirits. The first thing to do was to collect our uniforms and torches prior to the

briefing. Then after introductions and instructions, everyone jumped on a bus to be taken to their starting points. There was some spontaneous singing of "O Canada" along the way. Carly and I were greeted by two supporters when getting off the bus. There were many more thinking of us, as they were tucked into bed for the evening. I received the torch from Joe, who spent numerous hours

volunteering with Ronald McDonald house, helping children with serious illnesses and disabilities and their families—he by far had the most fanfare! Once I received the flame from Joe, I carefully got on the front of the tandem, and tried to pedal as slowly as possible to make the 300 metres last as long as possible. A bit tricky with one hand on the handlebars and the other holding a hot flaming torch, but it was a success. Carly and I stopped after my leg, and exchanged flames. The next 300 metres seemed to disappear just as quickly as the first and we finished at Carly's exchange point, grinning ear to ear.

It was hard to settle down and go to bed after all the excitement. Definitely an opportunity I'll remember and treasure for the rest of my life.

## There Were Two Old Ladies!

Submitted by Dot Manulak and Nancy Premischook, Quesnel



Dot on the Left, Nancy on the Right

Once upon a time, in the Ministry of Forests and Range, Quesnel Forest District, there were two old ladies. Two old ladies that liked to volunteer; they volunteered at work, they volunteered at home, they volunteered in the community! So when the BC Public Service called for volunteers to work with the Olympic Games Secretariat, these two old ladies put up their hands! A three day orientation session, followed by a frantic and circuitous search for suitable accommodation, led to the experience of a lifetime!

These two old ladies were seconded to Robson Square (RSQ) – the 2010 Olympic Premier Celebration Site, one as a Host at various RSQ locations and the other as an Event Coordinator at the BC Business Showcase. Two people working in the same location, two opposite shifts, two distinct and separate experiences. One working completely out of doors extending hospitality to visitors from all over the world, the other to work behind a computer with the hand of hospitality extended to the International Business Community at events scheduled at the BC Business Showcase.

In our own words:

“February 28 in Robson Square from 2:00 to 10:00

pm - the place was packed and I was lucky to be stationed at a spot to watch the final hockey game between Canada and the US on the big screen! WOW—the emotions on the faces of thousands of people! The party on the street after was unbelievable! Every single person was happy to be there; lots of pictures, flag waving, high fiving and singing of “Oh Canada”! The time flew by, the crowds grew, the light show at Robson Square was amazing for the 8th time! The entertainers had people dancing; it was so good to finish off by being there for the party.

I have made some new friends, learned new skills, been flexible (our motto), went outside my comfort zone (riding the zipline) and broke in my new black shoes! I have started a pin collection and know just how fanatic people can be about their own collection. I discovered again just how much people like FREE stuff right down to the plastic yellow rain ponchos! I could even give you directions from Robson Square, in downtown Vancouver to many popular places, from the nearest pub to the skytrain, the other venues, the cauldron and the washrooms!

This was an experience of a lifetime and I shall always be grateful to have been a part of it! In the middle of the action and loving every minute!”

Nancy Premischook

“On the day of an event, our team meets prior to go over logistics. All the required accoutrement are carried, moved, lifted, dragged, pushed, etc, etc by the team. These folks, my “C” team hosts, were the unsung heroes, because if it was done on time and everything was in the right place, the Client would never know the effort it took to make it so.

After everything was set, positions were rotated, from the Registration table, to the Canopy, to the South Door, to the North Door, to the stairs. There were breaks to be covered, I covered breaks, and I filled in on any or all of these positions during any given event, as I was an Event Coordinator. My “C” Team rocked! We had a great time,

Cont. There were two old ladies...

everyone worked together doing things from small (badges & lanyards) to great, greeting ministers and foreign dignitaries, with style and grace! I may have rubbed shoulders with those in high places, but if I did not see their name or recognize who they were, I greeted, smiled and chit chatted my way through. The only difference was that I had to wear business attire, no jeans, vests & Merrell's for this gig.

My time in Vancouver was wonderful; we stayed in a great location, walked everywhere, worked with the most amazing teams, met folks from all parts of the country, let alone the World and have memories that will last a lifetime." **Dot Manulak**

## Volunteering at the Games a Real Treat!

Submitted by John McClary, Team Leader Stewardship, RNI (credit to Prince George Free Press for use of article as per Bill Phillips, Editor)



At the Winter Olympics: Brian Cornelis, (left) Louis Gagné, Yvonne Parkinson and John McClary enjoy the sights on Granville Island.

Over 25,000 volunteers with the 2010 Winter Olympic Games, chosen from all over North America and overseas, took home souvenirs and their own special memories.

Among them are three co-workers from the local Ministry of Forests and Range northern regional office who spent three weeks as volunteers, or "Smurfs" – so named for their distinctive blue outfits. A fourth employee worked for the Province of BC on a temporary assignment.

The four returned to Prince George, proud to be part of Olympic history and happy to have their moment to shine during opening and closing ceremonies. Although they shared a once in a lifetime experience,

each one has a unique perspective.

Tenures specialist Louis Gagné, a local coach and sports enthusiast fluent in French, was host at the largest Olympic Family hotel, the Westin Bayshore, where most of the IOC (International Olympic Committee) members were located and had their meetings and offices.

"The job was mainly access and accreditation control, welcoming members and directing them in the security process," said Gagné. "I spent a day doing access control at the viewing points developed for the Olympic Cauldron and, because of the visibility of our uniforms, helped a lot of tourists with their questions."

Gagné was able to take in some curling games and watch the down-to-the-wire hockey game between Canada and the U.S. but for him a personal highlight was attending the rehearsal for opening ceremonies. "I enjoyed welcoming people like Juan-Antonio Samaranch (past president IOC,) Marcel Aubut, former Olympic skier Jean-Claude Killy, Frank Frederichs, Dick Pound, and, of course, John Furlong (CEO of VANOC), who was very supportive and encouraging of our volunteer work."

The atmosphere in downtown Vancouver during the games was very upbeat and friendly, Gagné says. "Seeing the continuous friendly, electric and patriotic atmosphere in the streets and restaurants, among

## Cont. Volunteering a Real Treat

thousands of people from all over the world, was very special. And the athletic performances of Alexandre Bilodeau (moguls) Joannie Rochette, Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir (figure skating) and naturally our men's hockey gold were my favourites."

Everything ran smoothly, he said, and even the return flight home went easier than expected.

"I was impressed by the organization of the games and the public transit options in the city. My impression is that Vancouver is a world class city."

John McClary volunteered with the course crew on Cypress Mountain for Snowboard/ski cross and parallel giant slalom. He was responsible for course maintenance and fencing set-up and removal and has a few items on his list of Olympic highlights.

"For me it was watching gold medal runs live on the hill, having my whole family volunteering at the Olympics, enjoying excellent accommodations and attending dress rehearsal for the opening ceremonies... and standing in pouring rain on Cypress Mountain – and being able to laugh about it."

Yvonne Parkinson was a host at the Robson Square Celebration Site.

"My job was to greet the public, hand out pins, manage line-ups, keep stairways clear in crowds, provide information and answer questions, primarily about what was going on at Robson Square but, in reality, we were asked the whole spectrum of questions. Anything from how do I get to the Richmond Ice Oval to where can I buy those red mittens – to where's a good place to watch the hockey game. Most asked 'How can I get a ride on the zipline?'"

The highlights of her experience?

"Watching the crowd go crazy when Sidney Crosby scored the winning goal. Seeing people's reactions when we told them the zipline line-up was six hours long and the thrill in kids' eyes when Quatchi and the mascots skated onto the ice for their daily show. Being part of the national euphoria and hearing crowds of people spontaneously singing O Canada in the middle of Robson Street. And of course, riding the zipline."

For Brian Cornelis, who volunteered for the Mobile Operational Support Team (MOST), the highlights included going to Cypress Mountain and watching snowboarding and freestyle skiing events and hockey games at Canada Hockey Place – while working.

"MOST consisted of 100 people who phoned in each evening to find out their assignment the following day. (Venues and tasks changed every day.) Meeting other volunteers from all over the world was awesome," he said.

Cornelis was on the scene for some exciting Olympic victories.

"I fondly remember watching Alexandre Bilodeau win Canada's first gold medal on Canadian soil while having dinner with friends on Granville Island and seeing the whole restaurant go wild. I watched Joannie Rochette win her medal in figure skating and saw hundreds of people weeping for joy at her display of courage and dedication."

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## Opportunity Arises!

Submitted by: Cody Crocker, Regional Geomatics Coordinator, RSI

**O**n January 27, 2010, the Olympic torch came through Kamloops. I was amazed at the spirit of the celebration and the encouragement of the people around me. It wasn't until then that I realized how fortunate I was to be able to carry the Olympic torch.

I had my own reasons for carrying the torch. It was something that I had wanted to do since the Calgary Olympics in 1988 after I had heard a radio announcer speak about his experience and how great it was for him. As a kid from a small town in Newfoundland, the Olympics and even the torch run were like another world to me.



Step forward 20 something years, and the opportunity arises. The Olympics are coming to Vancouver and RBC is having a contest where you can sign up for an opportunity to run with the Olympic torch. I go online immediately and sign up not knowing whether I have a chance or not. A few months later I get an email saying that I have been selected.

Not one to make a big deal of things I didn't get too excited. After all, I was just picked through a contest. It wasn't like I was chosen for this, nor was I doing it for cancer victims, family members who had gone through terrible events or any of the other noble reasons that so many other people had. Some of their stories are amazing and very inspiring—I was doing it because I wanted to.

Closer to the date and especially on the day, I realized that it does not matter who you are and why you are doing it.

The fact of the matter is that it is an opportunity to be a part of something great and to represent your country. I felt privileged to support the athletes that have worked so hard all their lives to be the best at what they do. I felt proud to help the people around me get excited. Most of all I was so proud to bring it closer to home and to show my children that, the Olympics, or any other great things that they might want to do, are not in another far away world. They are here, they are live, and they are achievable!



# Forest Service *News* Readers!

**T**ime to get out and snap some photos! The Forest Service *News* Advisory Group increasingly requires good quality digital photos for the quarterly newsletter. We acknowledge that there are skilled photographers among Forest Service staff and would like to showcase your photos in each quarterly edition.

## Categories

Photo's can consist of:

- Workplace images – individuals or groups / teams in office and field settings; health, wellness and social activities;
- Community involvement;
- Wildlife; or
- Scenic.

## Submission Details

- Deadline for submissions is changed with each edition and will be noted on the previous edition.
- Images can be submitted to:  
[ForestServiceNews@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ForestServiceNews@gov.bc.ca);
- The contest is open to all Forest Service employees and retirees;
- Interested staff can make submissions to as many editions (season/category) as they want, but there is a limit of five images per category.
- We are looking for recent photos, please limit your entries to shots taken within the past 2 years.



## Prizes and Judging

- There will be an overall 'Best' image in each category.
- Judging will be done by the Advisory Group;
- Images will be judged on composition, clarity, exposure, creativity, relevance to FS *News* and category fit;
- The winner of the 'Best' image in each category will be sent a prize for their photo;
- Individuals can win only one prize; and
- All winners will be announced with their photo in the edition of the newsletter.

## Technical Specifications/Requirements

The following specifications and requirements have been established to ensure that images can be used in a variety of applications.

1. All images must have relevance to the Forest Service *News* and be submitted in digital format.
2. All images must be in full colour or black and white.
3. Photo dimensions (image size) should be at 300 dots per inch (DPI) and preferably in a jpg format and sent to [ForestServiceNews@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ForestServiceNews@gov.bc.ca).
4. Images can be digitally enhanced (i.e., colour / exposure adjusted composite photos are okay), but not digitally altered (i.e. NO "Photo-Shop" images must portray subjects and / or material in photo as they were captured).
5. When submitting images, some descriptive information should also be included – category of image and location.
6. All images submitted, whether or not selected as a winning image, may be published in future issues of Forest Service *News*.

For further information, contact:

Sonia Donison: (250) 953-3859 or  
[ForestServiceNews@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ForestServiceNews@gov.bc.ca)

DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 17

# June Edition Photo Contest Winners!



**Wildlife Category:** Great Blue Heron scanning the waters around Newcastle Island. Lloyd Davies - Coast Region

**Scenic Category:** Hemlock regeneration near Nahminit Lake, Vancouver Island. Lloyd Davies - Coast Region





**Category Workplace:** John Coles standing on a 156 year old Sitka Spruce tree in Deroche, Fraser Valley, Chilliwack FD. Photo taken by Ray Kabool

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*Remember to submit your photos*  
**SEPTEMBER 17 DEADLINE FOR PHOTO CONTEST**

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Have a Story idea?  
Send The *FS News*  
Advisory Group your  
ideas!





**F**orest Service News is a quarterly newsletter for all Forest Service employees and former FS employees.

Sonia Donison is providing administrative and coordination support for the newsletter. Questions or comments about Forest Service News should be directed to Sonia at 250-953-3859 or via [email](#).

#### **Call for Stories/Ideas**

The success of Forest Service News depends upon the active engagement of staff throughout the organization. One way for people to support the newsletter is to share your ideas, news, stories, successes, experiences with revitalization and learning, celebrations and photos for use in future editions of the newsletter. People are asked to check with Sonia at 250-953-3859 or via [email](#) about their idea or ideas before writing a story. Stories are to be submitted no later than 2 weeks prior to each quarterly edition—deadline for September articles is September 17.



#### **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**