



NEWS RELEASE

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Twenty-five forest professionals honoured for outstanding work in forestry and climate change research

(Vancouver)—The Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP) presented awards to 25 forest professionals who made significant contributions to the profession and the study of forestry and climate change, ensuring BC's forests are managed to the highest environmental standards. The awards were presented February 6 in Nanaimo during a ceremony at the ABCFP's annual forestry conference.

"The ABCFP forestry awards are based on nominations submitted by other forest professionals. Peer recognition of a job well done or extended excellence over the course of a career is both humbling and extremely meaningful to the forest professionals responsible for caring for one of BC's most treasured resources," said ABCFP president Trevor Swan, RPF.

Five professional foresters received the Distinguished Forest Professional award, which recognizes outstanding contribution to the profession and furthering the association's principles. The winners are: Dave Bedford, RPF, founder of DWB Consulting Services; John Drew, RPF, founder of Forsite Consultants; Diane Nicholls, RPF, BC's chief forester; Cheryl Power, RPF, assistant manager and resident forester of the Malcolm Knapp research forest in Maple Ridge; and Kathryn Willis, RPF, consulting forester in Campbell River.

Barb Drennan, RFT, of Port McNeill, was named forest technologist of the year.

A group of 24 people, including 15 forest professionals, working on the provincial Forest Carbon Initiative within the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, won the ABCFP Climate Change Innovator Award for their research into carbon and forestry practices.

Other award winners are: John Russell, PhD, RPF, Forest Innovation Award (posthumously); Del Ferguson, P.Geo., Eng.L, Forest Engineer Award of Excellence; Bill Bourgeois, PhD, RPF, the Jim Rodney Memorial Volunteer of the Year Award; and Tracy Andrews, RPF, and Sally Sellars, RPF, for best article in BC Forest Professional magazine, "Stewardship Plan Strategies and the Cultural Heritage Value." John Betts, of the Western Forestry Contractors Association, was made an Honorary Member of the ABCFP.

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The Association of BC Forest Professionals is responsible for registering and regulating BC's 5,500 professional foresters and forest technologists.

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