



THE increment

Forest Professionals British Columbia Newsletter

January 15, 2024

NEWS

FPBC Launches New Designation for Affiliate Registrations

New **Forest Professionals British Columbia** (FPBC) affiliate registration options are now available for qualified individuals who have a background in academia or research, as well as for highly qualified professionals seeking a limited licence to practise professional forestry.

The **Affiliated Forest Professional** (AFP) designation is an associate registrant subcategory designed to make our profession more inclusive of different backgrounds and build a stronger community of practitioners.

There are two options for AFP applicants: the first is for instructors and researchers; the second is for established professionals who require a license for a narrow scope of reserved practice.

For more information, please visit our website or inquire at admissions@fpbc.ca.

Click the button to visit the AFP pages.

[Click here](#)

Juliet Goveia, RPF, Elected to 77th FPBC Board

Juliet Goveia, RPF, was elected to serve on the **77th Forest Professionals British Columbia** (FPBC) Board.

The **77th FPBC Board** is chaired by **Kelly Kitsch**, RFT. Kitsch takes over from **Jamie Jeffreys**, RPF, now past-chair. **Kerri Simmons**, RPF, is the new vice-chair.

Click the button to see the elections web page.

[Click here](#)

CPD Reporting Tool Available to Record 2024 Hours

The **Continuing Professional Development** (CPD) **Reporting Tool** for **2024** is now available.

Click the button to start recording your hours.

[Click here](#)

Still time to Register for 2024 FPBC Conference Contributions

There's still time to register for the **FPBC forestry conference and AGM, February 7-9, 2024**. The 2024 conference will again be a hybrid event with both virtual participation and in-person attendance at the [Delta Hotels Grand Okanagan Resort](#) in Kelowna.

This year's conference will focus on the inter-connectivity of all aspects of the forested land base. Remember, participating in the FPBC conference is an easy way to gain up to **50 per cent** or more of the required **30 hours** of [Continuing Professional Development](#) for 2024.

Regular registration now in effect:

- virtual event, \$200.
- in-person event, \$775;

Employers can save 10 per cent if they register more than 20 people for the virtual conference or 20 per cent if they register more than 40 people for the virtual conference.

Click the button below to go to the FPBC conference website to register and for more details and program information.

[Click here](#)

Finish Your FPBC Registration by January 31, 2024

January 31, 2024 is the last day to complete your registration with **Forest Professionals British Columbia (FPBC)** to avoid having it cancelled.

The *Professional Governance Act* (PGA) and FPBC **Bylaw 5** require all registrants to renew their registration by midnight on **November 30, 2023**. Those who missed that deadline had their registration suspended and are ineligible to practice professional forestry until completing all registration requirements and paying a late fee.

After **January 31**, anyone who has not renewed their registration will have it cancelled. This means you are not legally allowed to practise professional forestry and must apply for reinstatement in order to resume practice.

Renew your registration on the [FPBC registrant portal](#). Find full instructions and videos about the new registrant renewal system on the [Renew Your Registration](#) page of our website.

If you experience difficulty accessing or navigating the new site, email TechHelp@fpbc.ca.

If you need immediate assistance, you can reach our registration co-ordinator at 604-913-4691. If you have questions related to your registration category or changing categories, email renewal@fpbc.ca.

Volunteer on Audit and Practice Review Committee

FPBC is looking for a practising registrant to join the **Audit and Practice Review Committee** (APRC).

The APRC is a statutory committee under the *Professional Governance Act* (PGA) and responsible for guiding the competency audits and professional practice program.

Committee work involves input into policy and adjudication of non-compliance to the audits and practice reviews. Recommendations are also provided to improve the profession based on findings found through the audits and practice reviews.

There are **four** to **six** meetings a year, primarily done virtually, and at least one in-person meeting.

For further details, see the APRC [Terms of Reference](#).

If you are interested in joining the APRC, please contact [Garnet Mierau](#), RPF, FPBC director of practice.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FRPA improvement Initiative Added to FPBC Webinar Recordings Library

FRPA Improvement Initiative: 2023 Updates on Regulatory Changes to Bill 21 is now available in the **FPBC** webinar recordings library.

The webinar, presented on **January 11, 2024**, provides an overview of regulatory changes brought in last year and how they affect activities governed by the [Forest and Range Practices Act](#) (FRPA).

The Evolution of WUI and Urban Forest Management: and Where We Go From Here, the latest instalment in the Community of Practice Wildland Fire and Fuel presentation series, is also now on the recordings pages.

The webinars are among more than **40** free recordings in the library, dating back to **2019**. These webinar recordings are easy ways to get caught up on forestry practice topics you may have missed. As well, each recording qualifies for CPD hours.

Click the button to access the webinar recordings library.

[Click here](#)

Earn UBC Forest Health Management Micro-certificate

Take the **UBC Faculty of Forestry's Forest Health Micro-Certificate**, a flexible **eight-week** online program that provides professionals with basic knowledge on how to detect, diagnose, and mitigate forest health issues.

The course covers forest health issues caused by biotic agents, such as insects and pathogens. By the end of the program, participants should be able to recognize the most important biotic agents causing outbreaks in **BC** and to be able to prescribe mitigation solutions.

Click the button to register.

[Click here](#)

See Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute Webinars

The **University of Northern BC's Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute** (NRESi) offers a range of archived webinars from visiting researchers and school faculty.

NRESi builds connections among university researchers and communities or external experts to advance understanding of natural resources and the environment. NRESi also facilitates collaborative projects that address complex issues involving ecological processes, social values, and earth science systems.

Click to button to learn more.

[Click here](#)

'Plants Likely to Absorb More CO2 in a Changing Climate'

Read an article in *The Conversation Canada* that explores predictive modeling of CO2 uptake by plants in a changing climate.

The article author is **Jürgen Knauer**, a postdoctoral research fellow at the **Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment, Western Sydney University**.

Click the button to read more.

[Click here](#)

See *Pileated Woodpecker Cavity Identification Guide*

Learn more about identifying pileated woodpecker nesting, roosting, and feeding cavities in an online guide from **Natural Resources Canada**.

Click the button to find the *Pileated Woodpecker Cavity Identification Guide*.

[Click here](#)

Access Free Learning Resources on Soil Science

Enhance your soil science education through co-operation and innovative approaches to teaching and learning from the **Virtual Soil Science Learning Resources** group (**UNBC, UBC**, and other universities).

Free online course and resource topics include basic soil science principles, soil classification, land-use impacts on soil quality, and raising awareness about soil as an important natural resource.

Click the button to access the free resources.

[Click here](#)

Sign up for Tree Mortality Webinar

Learn more about an upcoming webinar on forest mortality, as well as archived ones on topics such as remote sensing, drought, forest ecology, and climate change from the **International Tree Mortality Network**.

The website is an initiative of the **International Union of Forest Research Organizations** (IUFRO).

Click the button to access the online resources.

[Click here](#)

Podcast: *Climate Change and the Boreal Forest*

Listen to the latest *YourForest* podcast, with Matthew Kristoff, RPF.

Episode No. 143, *Climate Change and The Boreal Forest*, features **Miguel Montoro Girona, Sylvie Gauthier, and Guillaume Grobois.**

Click the button to hear it.

Click here

Save the Dates; Upcoming Forestry Conferences

- Attend or watch the [2024 Western Forestry Contractors Association](#) (WFCA) annual conference and AGM, **January 31-February 2, 2024** in **Victoria, BC.**
- Register for the [Northern Silviculture Committee 2024 Winter Conference](#), **February 21-22** in **Prince George.**
- The agenda for the **2024 Southern Interior Silviculture Committee** (SISCO) **Winter Workshop, February 26-28** in **Kamloops**, is starting to take shape.
- Sign up now for the [BC Council of Forest Industries](#) (BCCFI) **2024** convention, **April 10-12** in **Vancouver.**
- Mark your calendars for the [2024 Wildfire and Resiliency Training Summit](#), **April 20-24** in **Prince George.**
- The [8th Indigenous Resource Opportunities Conference](#) returns to the **Vancouver Island Conference Centre** in **Nanaimo, April 24-26, 2024.**
- The [BC Community Forest Association](#) (BCCFA) **2024** conference and AGM is set for **June 11-13** in **Mackenzie.**

FORESTRY CULTURE

Opinion: ‘We All Want to Protect Those Forests’

Every **British Columbian** loves our magnificent forests and is saddened by the losses caused by wildfires and the health risks posed by thick smoke. We all want to protect those forests. We want to protect the residents of places such as **West Kelowna, Monte Creek, and Port Alberni** from losing their homes and businesses.

At the same time, we want those dozens of small towns economically dependent on the forest industry, including pulp and paper mills, to thrive.

We can have both, **Joe Nemeth**, general manager of the **BC Pulp and Paper Coalition**, writes in an opinion piece published in *The Province*.

Click the button to read more.

[Click here](#)

Forest Practices Board Annual Report Now Available

Read the **2022-23 Forest Practices Board** annual report. Introduced by board chair **Keith Atkinson**, RPF, the report summarizes Board accomplishments over the past year and previews of work in progress.

[Click here](#)

Forest Practices Board Report Offers Options to Improve BC Rangelands

The **Forest Practices Board** released a report last month on the measurement and allocation of forage on **BC** rangelands.

The report identifies several opportunities to improve the management of public rangelands, including specific targets for conserving forage for wildlife and using a more robust system to measure and inventory the amount of available forage on rangelands.

“The board found that government has developed good guidelines for measuring forage, but they aren’t consistently used,” **Gerry Grant**, RPF, board member, says in a [release](#).

‘BC Reducing the Export of Raw Logs’

BC is moving to reduce the export of raw logs harvested in the province by requiring that certain types of lumber from the Interior undergo manufacturing first, according to a [recent article](#) in *The Vancouver Sun*.

A statement from the **Ministry of Forests** says changes to BC lumber regulations will require mills to “fully manufacture” lumber from cedar and cypress trees, producing items such as wood veneer, mouldings, shingles, siding, flooring and fencing.

In his mandate letter to **Forests Minister Bruce Ralston**, **Premier David Eby** says the “unchecked export of raw logs” was among issues requiring change to ensure BC’s forest industry is sustainable.

BCFSC: Use Your Senses to Stay Safe at Work

Listen to what your senses are saying about worksite safety, says the **BC Forest Safety Council** (BCFSC).

Read some tips in the council's monthly newsletter.

[Click here](#)

Featured Career Opportunities

A sampling of postings on the FPBC Career Opportunity Centre this month:

- Intermediate and Senior Field Engineer, **Strategic Natural Resource Consultants** (*Campbell River*)
- Silviculture Coordinator, **West Fraser** (*100 Mile House*)
- Wildfire Technician, **Ministry of Forests** (*Pemberton*)

Click the button to visit our career centre.

[Click here](#)



Forest Professionals British Columbia recognizes that our business and the work of our registrants occurs on lands that Indigenous People have occupied and been responsible for since time immemorial. We are committed to supporting reconciliation through inclusion, awareness, and providing ongoing education and training opportunities to our registrants on the culture, history, and rights of Indigenous People.



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