



# THE **increment**

Forest Professionals British Columbia Newsletter

*March 15, 2024*

## **NEWS**

### **New FPBC Designation Now Available for Academics, Researchers, and Instructors**

**Forest Professionals British Columbia** (FPBC) now offers two options for affiliate registration.

The new **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.

The **AFP-Academic/Research** (AFP-AR) category is for qualified individuals who have a background in academia or research. **AFP-Limited Licence** (AFP-LL) is focused on professionals who require a limited license for a narrow aspect of reserved practice in professional forestry.

For more information, [visit our website](#) or inquire at [admissions@fpbc.ca](mailto:admissions@fpbc.ca).

# FPBC Welcomes New Practice Coordinator

FPBC is pleased to welcome **Caitlin Edwards** to our team as the new **practice coordinator**.

Caitlin is based out of our **Vancouver** office and recently moved to BC from **Wales, UK**. She has worked as an outdoor education facilitator and is passionate about education, sustainability, and Indigenous relations. When not at work, you'll find Caitlin snowboarding or surfing.

## Access FPBC 2024 Forestry Conference Sessions Online

If you participated in the **2024 FPBC forestry conference**, either in-person in Kelowna or virtually, you can access recordings of all sessions until **May 10**.

Log in on the **EventMobi** platform with the same credentials used to participate in the conference. If you didn't participate in the conference, you can [purchase access to all recordings](#) for **\$175**.

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](#) (CPD) for 2024.

**Click** the link to log in to the [conference platform](#).

Past FPBC conference sessions from 2021 and 2022 are available for free [on our website](#).

## Watch Recording of FPBC Annual General Meeting

The **76<sup>th</sup> FPBC AGM**, held in **Kelowna** on **February 8, 2024**, is now posted on our [website](#) and free to watch.

The AGM features:

- **Christine Gelowitz**, RPF, FPBC CEO, reviewing FPBC business activities in 2023;
- **Aga Jendo**, CPA, CMA, FPBC finance director, presenting the 2023 FPBC financial statements;
- **Casey Macaulay**, RPF, FPBC registrar and director of act compliance; and
- **Garnet Mierau**, RPF, FPBC director of practice, providing a summary of professional learnings from the complaint and discipline process and practice programs.

## FPBC Annual Report and Financial Statements Available

Download and read the [2023 FPBC annual report and financial statements](#).

## Tax Time: Your FPBC Annual Dues May be Deductible

If you require your professional designation to do your job and you pay your annual dues out of your income, you can claim that amount on your income tax return.

For information about claiming registration dues as an income tax deduction, visit the **CRA** [website](#), or contact an income tax professional.

To **download** or **print** your 2024 registration dues invoice, visit the [FPBC registrant portal](#). Click '**Invoice**' from the left-hand navigation. Then click the '**Transaction History**' button. On the invoices page, click the **eyeball icon** under the total paid. Then click '**Print Invoice**' in the top left corner. Select '**PDF**' to download.

If you need assistance accessing invoices, contact [finance@fpbc.ca](mailto:finance@fpbc.ca). If you need assistance to access the system, contact [TechHelp@fpbc.ca](mailto:TechHelp@fpbc.ca). Registrants can choose their login username for the new registration portal.

Instructions for using the new registrant portal are also available on the [FPBC website](#).

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

# Register for Community of Practice Webinars related to Wildfire

FPBC presents two upcoming webinars from the **Wildland Fire and Fuel Community of Practice**.

The first is titled *Building a Prescribed Burn Culture in the Modern Era*.

Large-scale mitigation efforts are needed to address the escalation of severe wildfires across BC's landscape. The use of controlled burning at the landscape level is one way to protect communities, cultural values, and resource values. This webinar will discuss the operational considerations of applying and expanding the use of controlled fire, and address current barriers to implementation.

**When:** March 21, 2024.

**Time:** 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

**Presenters:** Andre Chalabi, BE, planning officer, cultural and prescribed fire; Fons Raedschelders, senior wildfire officer–prevention, Southeast Fire Centre; and (tentative) Colleen Ross, RPF, wildland fire ecologist.

Click the [link to register](#).

The second webinar is titled *Fire Hazard Assessment and Abatement – Roadmap for the Future*.

The **Forest Practices Board** (FPB) has completed investigations, audits, and other works related to fire hazard assessment and abatement (FHAA), with mixed findings related to results, understanding of obligations, and legislative intent/interpretation.

This webinar will focus on providing clarity, describing the government's strategic roadmap moving forward, and how FHAA links into wildfire resiliency and forest landscape planning.

**When:** April 17, 2024.

**Time:** 1:00 to 3:30 PM.

**Presenter:** Pete Laing, RFT, superintendent, fuel management, BC Wildfire Service (BCWS).

Click the [link to register](#).

## Webinar Added to FPBC Recordings Library

The latest **FPBC** webinar, *Wildfire-mediated Forest Type Conversion in Northwestern North America*, is now available in the recordings library on our website.

The webinars are among more than **40** free recordings in the library, dating back to **2020**. 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 link to access the [webinar recordings library](#).

## Cities and Climate Change E-course

Take a free e-course about cities and climate change from the **One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership**.

The *Cities and Climate Change* e-course focuses on climate change in urban areas, covering how cities are affected by climate change, how they contribute to it, as well as how they plan for it.

It also looks at how climate change adaptation and mitigation can be considered in urban planning and identify concrete measures.

**Click** the link to [register or for more information](#).

## See Tree Canada's Urban Forest Management Resources

Check out a range of urban forest management resources on the **Tree Canada** website. Topics include strategies, best practices, and urban forest professional networks.

**Click** the link to [access the resources](#).

## Download Free Climate Adaptation Guide

Download a [free guide on climate adaptation](#).

The guide, *Innovation in Climate Adaptation: Harnessing Innovation for Effective Biodiversity and Ecosystem Adaptation*, aims to combat climate change through creative and innovative approaches to climate adaptation for biodiversity and ecosystem conservation. It emphasizes using innovation as a tool for policymakers, researchers, and resource managers to enhance the effectiveness of adaptation efforts.

The guide's working group included representatives from the **National Wildlife Federation**, **U.S. Geological Survey Climate Adaptation Science Centre Network**, **IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Climate Change Specialist Group**, and **UBC Faculty of Forestry**.

## Sign Up for Wildfire Resiliency and Training Summit

Attend the *Wildfire Resiliency and Training Summit*, **April 20–24, 2024** in **Prince George**.

The **FireSmart BC** summit, *Recover, Rebuild, Prepare*, includes two days of firefighting training and a three-day conference at the **Prince George Conference and Civic Centre**. The event focuses on lessons learned in **2023**, sharing the latest research, technologies, and best practices for preparing communities for the upcoming wildfire season.

Click the link for [more information and to register](#).

## See Urban Forestry Infographic from Adaptterra Program Czech Environmental Partnership Foundation

See an infographic **Adaptterra Program Czech Environmental Partnership Foundation** outlining the positive benefits of maintaining urban forest cover, as well as some best practices for their management.

Click the link to see [Strengthening the Protection of Trees in Cities](#).

## Listen to *The Good Fire Podcast*

Listen to the latest episode in the *YourForest* podcast series, outlining stories of Indigenous fire stewardship, social and cultural empowerment, and environmental integrity.

Click the link to hear [The Good Fire Podcast](#).

## E-course: Urban Forests and Climate Change

Take the *Urban Forests and Climate Change* e-course from the **Michigan State University Department of Forestry**.

The fee-based course explores the ways in which urban forestry can improve climate change resilience while providing myriad benefits to both ecological and social communities.

Click the link to [register](#).

## Article: *Where does the Carbon go?*

Read and download a research article about the effects of forest management on carbon storage, published in the *Journal of Environmental Management*.

While forest management commonly seeks to increase carbon capture and sequestration, in some settings, a high density of carbon storage may be detrimental to other land uses and ecosystem services, according to the article, *Where does the carbon go? Long-term effects of forest management on the carbon budget of a temperate-forest water-supply watershed*.

Click the link to [read more](#).

## Save the Dates: Upcoming Forestry Events

- Register for the **College of Applied Biologists [conference and annual general meeting](#), April 4-5, 2024** at the **Vancouver Island Conference Centre** in **Nanaimo**. You can also sign up to watch online.
- Sign up now for the **[BC Council of Forest Industries](#) (BCCFI) 2024** convention, **April 10-12** in **Vancouver**.
- Attend the **[BC Wildlife Federation's 68<sup>th</sup> convention and annual general meeting](#)** in **Kelowna, April 11–13, 2024**.
- Mark your calendars for the **[2024 Wildfire and Resiliency Training Summit](#), April 20-24** in **Prince George**.
- The **8<sup>th</sup> [Indigenous Resource Opportunities Conference](#)** returns to the **Vancouver Island Conference Centre** in **Nanaimo, April 24-26, 2024**.
- Join the **[BC First Nations Forestry Council \(BCFNFC\)](#)** for its **2024** conference in **Penticton, May 29-30, 2024**.
- The **[BC Community Forest Association \(BCCFA\)](#) 2024** conference and AGM is set for **June 11-13** in **Mackenzie**.
- Take part in the **UBC Wild and Immersive** program's first **[Rainforest Retreat](#)** at the **Malcolm Knapp Research Forest** in **Maple Ridge, June 14-16, 2024**.

## FORESTRY CULTURE

# Submit Comments on New Great Bear Rainforest SFMA

Share feedback with the **BC government** on a proposal to add a new **special forest management area** (SFMA) supporting regenerative forestry and conservation in the **Great Bear Rainforest**.

The proposed area consists of **7,865 hectares** of forested land, currently used for commercial harvesting. It would be prioritized for conservation and regenerative forestry.

The SFMA designation is specific to the Great Bear Rainforest and restricts commercial forestry operations. If approved, this area will be the ninth SFMA within the Great Bear Rainforest.

**Click** the link to [submit your comments](#) by **April 5, 2024**.



# SFI Offering Scholarships to Young Professionals and Students

Young **Canadian** professionals and students studying environmental science, natural resources, sustainability, or related fields can apply for scholarships to attend the annual **Sustainable Forestry Initiative** (SFI) conference.

The scholarships will cover registration costs, travel, food, and accommodation during the **2024** conference in **Atlanta, Georgia, June 4-6**.

Click the link for [more information on how to apply](#).

# Fire Prevention Training in Silviculture Available through Federal-provincial Agreement

New training in fire prevention and climate change awareness with forestry tools is now available through the **2022-23 Canada-BC Workforce Development Agreement**. The agreement provides **\$900,000** for employment opportunities in the silviculture sector, including forestry workers and tree planters, to better prepare them to prevent and mitigate wildfires.

The deal is part of a two-year pilot project with the **Western Forestry Contractors' Association** and includes a new training course for silviculture workers and managers that will increase Indigenous cultural knowledge, as well as new career-path materials.

"The training opportunities that come from this new partnership will give forestry workers the skills they need to stay safe while protecting the vitality of our forests in the face of wildfires," says **Bruce Ralston**, BC minister of forests.

Click the link to learn more about the [Sector Labour Market Partnerships Program](#), including grants.

# NFW Bus Rental Assistance Program Available to K-12 Teachers in BC

The **National Forest Week-BC Coalition** (NFW-BC) now offers grant funding to support bus rentals for forestry-related school field trips throughout the province.

The [coalition](#) program supports field trips to local forests so **K-12** students can learn about forestry and nature. Now thanks the **Canadian Institute of Forestry Vancouver-South Coast Section**, NFW-BC provides grants to assist with the cost of bus rentals for such trips.

Requests are considered on a first-come, first-serve basis. Interested teachers should contact coalition executive director [Bill Bourgeois](#), RPF(Ret), at regarding available funds and steps to apply for a grant.

## Share Your Expertise: Become a NFW-BC Volunteer

The **NFW-BC Coalition** co-ordinates related educational opportunities across the province year-round, and is looking for foresters to volunteer to lead or participate in field trips or classroom lessons.

A forester wanting to volunteer should complete the volunteer [application form](#) to help match teacher requests. Find program content on the NFW-BC website, including free educational materials for teachers and students.

**Click** the link for [more information](#).

## Featured Career Opportunities

A sampling of postings on the [FPBC Career Opportunity Centre](#) this month:

- Assistant Filed Technician, **Osoyoos Indian Band** (*Southern Okanagan*)
- Civil Engineer or Forest Technologist, **StoneCroft Engineering** (*Campbell River*)
- Forest Tenure Manager, **Consus Management Ltd.** (*Williams Lake*).



*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.*



No. 602 - 1281 West Georgia Street  
Vancouver, BC V6E 3J7  
604-687-8027  
[www.fpbc.ca](http://www.fpbc.ca)  
<mailto:web@fpbc.ca>