

# 57<sup>TH</sup> ILA ANNUAL CONVENTION & TRADE SHOW – PUTTING THE MEMBERSHIP FIRST

By Steve Thomson,  
Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

I'm honoured to be writing in back-to-back issues of *Truck LoggerBC* and pleased to help promote the ILA's 57th annual convention.

At the time of writing, I'm celebrating my fourth anniversary of being the Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations. It has been great to see the forest sector continue its recovery each year since the 2007-2009 downturn. In 2014, forestry was again on the upswing. Total forest product exports reached \$12.4 billion – up seven per cent from 2013; and total forest sector employment increased 11 per cent to provide 60,700 direct jobs. Early indications are that 2015 will continue the trend.

At the time of writing, Forests for Tomorrow, is also celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This program is now the longest running government-funded silviculture program. The program was created in 2005 specifically to reforest areas impacted by wildfires and the mountain pine beetle infestation that would otherwise not be harvested, thus reforested by licensees. To date, government has invested \$348 million in reforestation activities, which includes surveying over 1.5 million hectares, planting more than 157 million seedlings on over 124,000 hectares and fertilizing 110,000 hectares.

We're also beginning year three of our 10-year Forest Inventory Strategic Plan. Last year we completed 5 million hectares of new inventory, and this coming year the ministry's goal is to complete 3 million hectares of new inventory and 3.5 million hectares of new aerial photography in the Prince George and Merritt timber supply areas. The high-resolution aerial images are shared with forest professionals and resource managers. The

ministry is also exploring innovative technological approaches to inventory. Advances in satellite technology allow the ministry to assess forests across the entire province each year; and as remote sensing technology advances, new approaches to forest inventory are being developed. LiDAR is another valuable tool that the ministry is using in remote areas on a pilot project basis with the University of British Columbia and BC Timber Sales. It is also expected that the next generation of the ministry's Tree and Stand Simulator will greatly improve estimates for complex stands such as those that remain in the aftermath of the mountain pine beetle.

The Chief Forester has been revisiting allowable annual cuts in the mountain pine beetle impacted areas to reflect that they need to come down after previous uplifts to encourage salvaging beetle-attacked areas to recover maximum economic value and speed reforestation of these areas. In the last year, allowable annual cut determinations have been released for Mackenzie, 100 Mile House, Williams Lake and Morice timber supply areas. Timber supply reviews are underway for Quesnel, Prince George, Kamloops and Merritt timber supply areas.

These ongoing actions help provide certainty for all operators on the timber harvesting land base.

Through the Forestry and Fibre Working Group, we're looking at ways to increase fibre security for users of low quality and residual fibre and to increase overall fibre utilization. Maximizing what we can use also helps maximize jobs.

We remain focused on the future, but at the end of the day, it is the men and



women who make up the membership of any organization that make it great.

Loggers are often referred to as the backbone of the forest sector. It is loggers who harvest the trees and bring logs to the mills. In April 2010, my predecessor introduced the *Forestry Service Providers Protection Act*. The new legislation replaced the antiquated *Woodworkers Lien Act*. The Act enabled the creation of a fund to protect logging contractors and other forestry service providers in the event of a licensee insolvency. In March 2012, government seeded the fund with \$5 million. Since its creation, four claims have needed to be paid out. Regardless, there has always been the recognition that the fund would need to be replenished and need to grow; and I expect to have more news to share with you on this in the near future. Given the current good markets for BC wood products, I hope that the fund is not needed for a long time.

Best wishes for a successful convention!▲

# Interior Logging Association 57th Annual Conference and Trade Show

## Putting the Membership First

### May 7th, 8th & 9th, 2015 Vernon, BC

#### 2015 CO-SPONSORS

Axis Insurance Managers  
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Western Financial Group  
Weyerhaeuser  
Woodland Equipment Inc.  
WorkSafeBC

#### HOST HOTEL:

Best Western Vernon Lodge  
3914 - 32nd Street  
Vernon, BC, V1T 1P1  
Tel: 250-545-3385  
[vernonlodge@rpbhotels.com](mailto:vernonlodge@rpbhotels.com)

#### EVENTS:

Inside & Outside Displays (May 8th & 9th)

Location: KAL Tire Place

- Thursday Evening, Meet & Greet (May 7th)
- Friday Lunch, Guest Speaker TBA (May 8th)
- Friday Evening, Dinner & Dance (May 8th)
- Seminars



For registration and further information,  
contact the ILA office.

Tel: 1-250-503-2199 or

E-mail: [info@interiorlogging.org](mailto:info@interiorlogging.org)

# AGENDA & EVENTS PRICING

## THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2015

### TRUCK LOGGERS ASSOCIATION DIRECTOR'S MEETING

9:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Best Western Vernon Lodge (Okanagan Room)

### ILA DIRECTOR'S MEETING

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm  
Best Western Vernon Lodge (Room #130)

### MEET & GREET \$45.00

6:00 pm to 10:00 pm  
Best Western Vernon Lodge

## FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2015

### BREAKFAST \$25.00

7:30 am – 9:30 am  
Best Western Vernon Lodge

### INSIDE & OUTSIDE DISPLAYS N/C

9:30 am – 4:30 pm  
Kal Tire Place

### ILA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING N/C

8:30 am – 10:00 am  
Best Western Vernon Lodge

### SEMINAR N/C

10:00 am - 11:30 am  
Best Western Vernon Lodge  
**1) "Steep Slope Logging Updates"**  
**Presenters:** Gerard Messier, Training & Program Development Manager; BC Forest Safety Council.  
Bjarne Nielsen, Senior Regional Officer; WorkSafeBC

### FRIDAY LUNCHEON \$45.00

11:30 am - 1:30 pm  
Best Western Vernon Lodge  
**Guest Speaker: TBA**

### SEMINARS N/C

**2) "How to fit a Heart Attack into your Busy Schedule"**  
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm  
Best Western Vernon Lodge  
**Presenter:** Philip Jones, Motivational Speaker (Calgary, AB)  
**3) "Safe Companies Update"**  
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm  
Best Western Vernon Lodge  
**Presenter:** Rob Moonen, Director Safe Companies;  
BC Forest Safety Council.

### WESTERN NIGHT DINNER & DANCE \$50.00

**WITH LEE DINWOODIE & BAND**  
6:00 pm to 12:00 am  
Best Western Vernon Lodge

## SATURDAY MAY 9, 2015

### INSIDE & OUTSIDE DISPLAYS N/C

9:30 am – 4:30 pm  
Kal Tire Place

### SEMINAR N/C

**4) "Work Place Safety Law Reform from New Zealand"**  
9:00 am – 10:30 am  
Best Western Vernon Lodge  
**Presenter:** John Stulen, Executive Director; Forest Industry Contractor's Association – Rotorua, New Zealand

# TICKET REGISTRATION FORM

Description	Qty.	Price	Subtotal
MEET & GREET	X	\$45.00	
BREAKFAST	X	\$25.00	
ILA AGM		N/C	N/C
FRIDAY LUNCHEON	X	\$45.00	
WESTERN NIGHT DINNER & DANCE (With Lee Dinwoodie & Band)	X	\$50.00	

Order Subtotal: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Tax #107510125) 5% GST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

#### Method of Payment

Cheque  MasterCard  Visa

Credit Card No: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address for  
Credit Card receipt: \_\_\_\_\_

# EXHIBITOR APPLICATION

### 10' X 10' INSIDE DISPLAY BOOTH

\$800.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### 15' X 30' OUTSIDE DISPLAY

\$500.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Includes 2 Complimentary "Western Night Dinner & Dance" Event tickets per spot.*

(GST #107510125) 5% GST: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### NAME TAGS: (please print neatly)

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