

IN-DEPTH, HARD-HITTING AND LOTS OF FUN: JOIN US FOR THE TLA CONVENTION & TRADE SHOW IN VANCOUVER!

TLA Editorial

At the TLA Convention & Trade Show this year we're asking some tough questions. But that's what steep change brings—tough questions and complex answers. But we know the BC forest industry has to adapt to some steep change soon or risk no longer being competitive in a global marketplace.

The first three skill development sessions on Wednesday take us through the literal steep change—the move afoot to harvest on steeper slopes and the technical innovation this change is inciting. We talk to on-the-ground innovators who are designing machinery first thing in the morning and then to the people who do the planning for a steep slope harvest and are responsible for the safety of the job. After lunch, we hear from operators who actually do mechanical harvesting on steep slopes.

The Keynote Luncheon on Wednesday is a topic close to the heart of Don Banasky, TLA President. Don saw Wiremu Edmonds give his powerful presentation when he travelled to New Zealand last year to promote BC's forest safety. He was so moved, he asked Wiremu to come and give his presentation at the TLA Convention & Trade Show.

Our fourth and final session on Wednesday is co-hosted with the BC First Nation Forestry Council. The first of its kind at our convention, this co-hosted event "Embracing Change in First Nations Relationships" combines a skill development session with a networking event. We have an excellent speaker line-up too! Be sure to attend this event before the Welcome Reception on Wednesday evening.

On Thursday our focus is building our competitiveness in BC. In the morning, industry and government leaders look at progress, opportunity and issues to be addressed. Industry and government leaders have been working together on a Forest Sector Competitiveness Strategy and this will be our chance to hear what changes it will bring as it is implemented. In the

afternoon, we look to other solutions as our speakers identify particular hurdles and how we can best overcome them. This day will be heavy-hitting and full of good information for anyone working in BC's forest industry.

and our most popular event—Suppliers' Night—on Friday night! Is there a woman in your life—wife, daughter, mother—who will be joining you in Vancouver for the convention? Buy her a ticket to the Ladies Luncheon. This

Aaron Sinclair of PNL Consulting will explain the work he has been doing with coastal contractors to define their costs.

We zero in on Friday and focus on contractor sustainability. As we all know, this isn't a contractor issue, it's an industry issue. First thing, we take an in-depth look at two contractor sustainability issues undertaken over the last year. Peter Lister of FPInnovations will discuss the Innovation Initiative—a day-long meeting between TLA and CFPA representatives that was facilitated by FPInnovations and the top 10 items that came out of the meeting. Then Aaron Sinclair of PNL Consulting will explain the work he has been doing with coastal contractors to define their costs. In the afternoon, a panel of licensee staff and contractors will provide insight and perspectives with the aid of interactive audience polling. These panel sessions are always popular and provide some real insight into the issues at hand.

As always, we welcome our two honoured guests—Premier Christy Clark and Minister Steve Thomson. Their respective luncheon and breakfast are two of our brightest highlights over the three days. Minister Thomson always gives us insight into how he sees the industry unfolding. Premier Christy Clark shares her inspiring leadership and faith in our industry. We look forward to hearing them both speak again this year.

And even with all this business, we manage to jam in lots of fun and networking too. From the Welcome Reception on Wednesday night to the It's a Wrap! After Party on Friday night, it's all go! Be sure to attend the Loggers' Banquet & Ball on Thursday night

year, Nicole Oliver, maker of voices and characters roles in cartoons, TV movies and video games, shares her abilities and how her versatility has brought her success.

There is something for everyone at the TLA's 73rd Convention & Trade Show! Come join us in Vancouver, January 13-15, 2016! 🌲

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