

**Forest History Association of Alberta  
10<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting  
March 19, 2014  
Days Inn and Suites, Edmonton**

The quorum requirement of a minimum of 15 members was met with nearly one hundred members in attendance. The evening started with breaking news on the resignation of Alberta Premier Alison Redford.

Bruce Mayer opened the meeting with introductions and provided an overview of the documents for review which included the draft agenda, draft minutes from the March 21, 2013 meeting and a copy of the draft financial statement.

Directors in attendance were Bruce Mayer, Peter Murphy, Cliff Smith, Butch Shenfield, Bob Newstead and Norm Denney.

There were no changes or additions to the Agenda. MOVED by Craig Rose, SECONDED by Morgan Kehr; Motion carried.

### **Opening Remarks, President Peter Murphy**

Peter Murphy provided a personal welcome to all stating he was encouraged by the attendance. He gave recognition to the newsletter saying it has grown incrementally and the document is trend setting. Peter's main message was that we are a part of a broader history network where we have the ability to share ideas and learn from others. He commented on the importance of collecting old photographs and was happy to see new collections being recorded. In closing Peter encouraged people to share stories and family or company histories with the association and for the newsletter, in order that those histories get recorded.

### **Guest Speakers**

#### **John Pineau, Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Institute of Forestry**

John brought greetings on behalf of the Canadian Institute of Forestry (CIF) and provided an overview of the national forest history program initiated through the CIF with support from then Jim Farrell, Assistant Deputy Minister, Canadian Forest Service. John continues to feel that facilitating wider distribution of forest history is a good role for the CIF. Initiatives include the Old Growth section in the Forestry Chronicle and the upcoming May/June 2014 forest history focussed edition of the Forestry Chronicle. The Forest History Association of Alberta has articles published in both venues. John closed reinforcing the role that CIF will play in bringing forest history together across Canada. June 2014 was also identified as Canadian Forest History month.

**Doug Hutton, President, King Motion Picture Corporation**

Doug provided an overview of an exciting new initiative he has undertaken called Canada's Forest Treasures, Celebrating 150 years of Natural and Cultural Heritage, 1867 to 2017. This new program will celebrate 150 years of Canadian confederation showcasing the cultural heritage of Canada including its forest industry and how Canadian's promote stewardship values. Doug would like to focus as well on youth and careers in the various resource sectors.

**Brett Spady, Junior Forest Ranger Specialist, ESRD**

Brett brought to everyone's attention 2015 is the Junior Forest Ranger programs 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and that he was in the beginning stages of organizing a celebration. He will be looking for stories, photographs, and names of people over the next year.

**Terry Kristoff, Alberta Plywood**

Acknowledgement was given to Terry for preserving a copy of the *Report on Timber Conditions Around Lesser Slave Lake*, a 1912 Department of Interior Forestry Branch Bulletin.

**Past Years Activities**

Adoption of minutes from the March 21, 2013, 9<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting – no changes made. MOVED by Craig Rose, SECONDED by Anne McInerney; Motion carried.

Action items and accomplishments from the 2013 Annual General Meeting:

- Trails & Tales newsletter – one published in January 2014. Special thanks go to Sheldon Belanger for his creative flair and layout skills in the redesign of the newsletter.
- With funding received through the Canadian Institute of Forestry forest history grant over 3,400 pre-1930 Dominion Forestry Branch photographs were scanned at high resolution. Photograph meta-data and attributes were also recorded.
- Scanning work was done on Pat Guidera's slide and photo collection, and the G.A. (Alf) Longworth slide collection. Additionally a collection of photographs from Forest Ranger Clarence Sawyer were completed by ESRD staff in Rocky Mountain House. Some of the Sawyer photographs appeared in the January 2014 Trails & Tales.
- Forestry Chronicle Old Growth – Rick Arthur provided a short history of the 1910 wildfires in southern Alberta; Bruce Mayer provided an overview of the Spray Lake Sawmills 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and the Millar Western Pulp Mill 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## **Business Items**

### **2013 Financial Statement**

Assets include the appraised value of the three donated Robert Guest paintings that are currently at the Hinton Training Centre. Expenditures in 2013 were linked mainly to Annual General Meeting. Seventy memberships were received in 2013, 65 individual, 2 family and 3 corporate. Dedicated grant funding still to be used for the Lookout book project (the compilation of the Tim and Hope Klein historic calendar collection) and for projects identified through the Canadian Institute of Forestry grant. No timelines have been identified to finish.

Financial report MOVED by Bruce Mayer; SECONDED by Tim Klein; Motion carried.

### **Elections of Directors**

There are a total of 9 directors within the association, elected on a 3-year rotation; 3 from government; 3 from forest industry; and 3 from the public. Positions up for election at the 2014 AGM were the government position held by Bruce Mayer, the forest industry position held by Bob Udell and the public position held by Peter Murphy. All three people were acclaimed for another three-year term.

The Board of Directors for 2014 comprises:  
Government: Butch Shenfield, Ken Yackimec, Bruce Mayer  
Industry: Norm Denney, Clif Smith, Bob Udell  
Public: Rob Thorburn, Bob Newstead, Peter Murphy

### **Other Business**

Book Draw – John Ellison, Daniel Martin, John Pineau and Terry Jessiman won copies of fRI's Northern Rockies Ecotour and the Slave Lake community The Sky Was On Fire books.

No Other Business

Motion to adjourn business meeting MOVED by Con Dermott; SECONDED by Wayne Williams; Motion carried.

## **Evening Presentations**

### **Kat Spencer – Professional Wood Chopper and Timbersports Athlete**

Kat joined the woodsmen team while at the University of New Brunswick and developed a lifelong bug for Timbersports. Her presentation was a passionate overview of what she is calling 'history in the present'. Timbersports and their rich colorful history originated in the early logging camps by those that used the axe and cross-cut saw as a part of their daily logging work. Through her passion for the history and sport, Kat is driving to bring Timbersports back to Alberta. Part of the presentation was to also promote the June 14, 2014 STIHL Timbersports Canadian Western Qualifiers. The competition will be held at the Fort Saskatchewan Museum and Historic Site. The top four male competitors, one female and one rookie will represent Canada at the Toronto Indy July 20, 2014.

### **Jason Boucher – Partner and Acting General Manager, Boucher Brothers Lumber**

The family logging business goes back to the 1930s and 1940s in Quebec where Camile Boucher operated his first sawmill. In 1951, Camile moved the family to Marie Reine (south of Peace River) to start what is now a third generation logging and sawmilling business. From 1951 to 1953 they contracted to the Maisonette's at Spring Burn, outside of Nampa. By 1957 the mill was producing one million board feet and employed 20 people. In 1957 the operation moved to Camp Creek at Keg River logging year round for Donnelly Sawmills. While there he built a school for the community and mill workers. After close to a decade in the Keg River area, the mill moved north to High Level for a large contract with Swanson Lumber. Sons Normand and Jean Louis joined Camile in the business in High Level. Norman and Camile formed Boucher Sawmills and Jean Louis and another brother Victor formed Boucher Logging. The family joined Leo Arsenault (Real's father) in 1958 at Taylor Flats, BC, logging on an island close to Hudson Hope. Norman and Jean Louis remember 'always being wet' and 'losing many logs from the booms' on the way down to the mill.

At the High Level operation the Boucher's employed 100 people, 60 at the mill and 40 in the bush. They started producing 6 million board feet per year and after ten years were at 56 million board feet per year. Unfortunately in 1977 the mill burned down. Here Camile retired and Norman and Jean Louis joined forces and opened the Boucher Sawmill in Nampa in 1979. Over the years the mill has steadily grown with new equipment purchased to remain competitive. Always looking for opportunities, Norman remembered what he'd heard from Mike Sauze, about this 'basket of wood up north in Mackenzie'. Normand founded Manning Diversified Forest Products and with eight other partners opened the mill at Manning in 1994.

Back at home it came time for Normand and Jean Louis to consider a succession plan, and they brought in Berry Heinen as General Manager to run the Nampa operations and work on a transition plan to help bring the next generation along. Jason was joined by his brother Brian and cousins Bertin and Rick in the operation of the family business. Things were ready to go in 2005/06 and then the market collapsed in 2007. Jason commented although a huge challenge for the team with staff layoffs, they have managed to weather the storm and are back on track.

### **MJ Munn-Kristoff – Executive Director, Lesser Slave Forest Education Society**

MJ started off the evening indicating that almost every boss that she has worked for in the past was in the room!

The Lesser Slave Forest Education Society (LSFES) is a non-profit charitable organization that has been in operation since March 2000. The LSFES vision is 'committed to forest focussed environmental education'. This translates to the LSFES providing bias-balanced information or multiple perspectives to the public, particularly youth on forestry and environmental matters. The LSFES offers programs to schools and community groups, teaches curriculum through hands on activities during fieldtrips and classroom presentations, develops special event programming to the general public, hosts workshops for teachers to enhance their environmental curriculum, and provides post-secondary scholarships to students interested in pursuing careers in forestry. The board of directors is made up of representatives from the public, various schools, Northern Lakes College, Environment and Sustainable Resource Development, the Boreal Centre for Bird Conservation (BCBC) and the forest companies in the area. The LSFES has two full time educators that work for both the LSFES and the BCBC. The LSFES offers day camps, webinars, can work with 350 students over a three day period during Alberta Forest Week, and has seen sixty thousand people in the last fourteen years. Their success has been through strong partnerships, diverse offerings of educational programs, continuous professional support from partners, fantastic volunteers and supporters and excellent environmental educators.

Each year the LSFES has a spring dinner as part of their outreach program. This year they have invited the Forest History Association of Alberta to an event on May 3, 2014, titled 'Uncover the Past and Discover the Voices in the Forest'. Peter Murphy will be providing an overview history of forestry in the Lesser Slave region followed up by Con Dermott and Terry Kristoff with a history of forest industry operators and operations in the area.

## Attendees – March 19, 2014 Annual General Meeting

Paul King  
Deanna McCullough  
Bernie Schmitte  
John Hogue  
Quentin Spila  
Morgan Kehr  
Iain Johnston  
Doug Smith  
Stan Kavalinas  
Teresa Stokes  
Byron Grundberg  
Murray Anderson  
Ray Ault  
Dalibor Houdek  
Craig Rose  
Patrick Loewen  
Fred McDougall  
Bob Newstead  
Hudson Foley  
Lou Foley  
Rick Arthur  
Wayne Williams  
Cordy Tymstra  
Noel St. Jean  
Bernie Simpson  
Cliff Smith  
Matthew Kristoff  
Terry Kristoff  
Shaun Barraclough  
Terry Jessiman  
Bill Tinge  
Todd Lynch  
Mark Crowley  
Daniel Martin  
Dave Coish  
Don Gelinis  
David Blackmore  
Maria Sharpe  
Cliff Henderson  
Marty Alexander  
Kerri McTaggart  
Margriet Berkhout  
John Ellison

Kevin Gagne  
Kris Heemeryck  
Tim Klein  
Dave Finn  
John Belanger  
Dale Thomas  
John Brewer  
Michelle Shesterniak  
Anne McInerney  
Evelynne Wrangler  
Gordon Sanders  
Rob Galon  
Mark Ryans  
Jason Boucher  
Hugh Boyd  
Norm Denney  
Doug Hutton  
Bruce MacGregor  
John L. Caldwell  
Gary Davis  
Doug Krystofiak  
Derek Fisher  
John Pineau  
Kat Spencer  
Con Dermott  
Garry Ehrentraut  
M.J. Munn Kristoff  
Chris McGuinty  
Mike Tucker  
Kevin VanderHaeghe  
Wes Nimco  
Brian Lopushinsky  
J.P. Bielech  
Therese Yacyshyn  
John Collins  
Brett Spady  
Forrest Barrett  
Butch Shenfield  
Dennis Frisky  
Chris Valaire  
Rory Thompson  
Kelsy Gibos  
Wally Born

Daniel Walton  
Dave Kiil  
Herb Cerezke  
Dave Morgan  
Stephen Ferdiand  
Dave Patterson  
Peter Murphy  
Bruce Mayer  
Bob Morton  
Chad Morrison  
Derrick Downey  
Kevin Freehill  
Dean Hrycun