

**Forest History Association of Alberta**  
**14<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**  
**March 21, 2018**  
**Days Inn and Suites, Edmonton**

The quorum requirement of a minimum of 15 members was met with close to one-hundred and twenty members in attendance.

Bruce Mayer opened the meeting with introductions of those in attendance and provided an overview of the documents for review, which included the draft agenda, draft minutes from the March 15, 2017 meeting and a copy of the draft financial statement. Also included on the tables was the latest edition of the Trails & Tales, hot off the press.

Directors in attendance were Bruce Mayer, Cliff Smith, Norm Denney, Ken Yackimec, Gordon Sanders and Bob Newstead.

Guest speakers introduced were Ken Vanderwell with Vanderwell Contractors and Paul Lane with Air Spray.

Special thanks were given to Travis Fairweather for the projector and sound system set-up; Jane Price, Charlene Guerin and Rick Harrison, who managed the front registration table; and Travis Fairweather again for taking still photographs throughout the night.

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

**Opening Remarks, Secretary Treasurer Bruce Mayer**

President Peter Murphy was unable to attend due to an ongoing flu, but provided some quick thoughts. Peter commented that the organization was growing, and there was more going on than he had ever envisioned. He was thankful for all those who made the effort to attend and thanked attendees for doing their best to capture, display and educate with Alberta's forest history.

Bruce Mayer went on to thank the attendees, many who had travelled a long distance, and recognized road conditions were not the best on Highway's 43 and 63. Bruce also thanked Bob Newstead for his support in reviewing and editing draft newsletter content.

## Guest Speakers

### Matthew Kristoff

Second-generation forester, Matthew provided an overview of the Your Forest podcast he created. Calling it essentially a radio show online, Matthew created the podcast after finding a gap online for current resource management information that would help educate and influence himself and other professionals. For those interested in talking to Matthew or guesting on his podcast, the easiest contact is at [YourForestpodcast@gmail.com](mailto:YourForestpodcast@gmail.com).

### Dan Wilkinson (Bruce Mayer)

Dan Wilkinson was unable to make it at the last minute, so Bruce Mayer provided an overview of the 2018 Canadian Institute of Forestry national conference to be held in Grande Prairie, September 18 to 20, 2018, hosted by the Rocky Mountain Section. Dan is the program chair, Jeff Renton is organizing the agenda. The theme for the conference is *Sustaining Resources and Enhancing Communities, Looking Back and Going Forward*. The intent is to recognize and incorporate learnings from the past as we move forward in forest and land management. Bruce Mayer indicated that he would be chairing the forest history session, and had Pat Wearmouth and Peter Murphy lined up as two of the three speakers.

### Keith McClain

Keith notified attendees of an upcoming workshop planned for April 24 and 25, 2018; co-chaired by fRI Research and the Canadian Institute of Forestry Rocky Mountain Section. The theme for the 2018 Forest Forum was *Alberta's Forests are Under Threat: A Call to Action*. The workshop will focus on the threats to forests, risks and outline the research that the TRIAA Network and fRI Research have completed or have underway; and how forests contribute to the vitality of the community.

Keith also took a minute to talk about the United Nations Forests and Sustainable Cities video played at the start of the meeting. His comments recognized the value of urban forests, but the development of roads and buildings tend to damage and destroy those same urban forests. In leaving the podium, he mentioned "Bruce needs to do something about that, and wanted to see that reflected in the minutes". [Editor's note – will see if Keith reads the minutes.]

### Bob Bott

The 25-year history of the Foothills Model Forest and subsequent fRI Research organizations has taken on a life of its own, and taken more time and effort than Bob Udell and Bob Bott envisioned at the start. Bob mentioned that each chapter will have a historical context, and the entire book will be a good read and reference document to all FHAA AGM attendees. Bob did start by talking about the 'bomb simulation' research done in the 1960s in the Hinton area; where governments and military wanted to understand the effects of a nuclear explosion in a European forest. Background history is within the 2003 book, *Learning from the Forests*.

## **Pieter Van Der Shoot**

Pieter provided a quick summary of the Breton and District Historical Society and the work they have done at their museum. In the 1920s and 1930s the Breton and Winfield area had a large forest industry presence, with 3,000 to 4,000 people living and working in the area. The museum has a wealth of photographic and factual material, and is recognized for its material celebrating Black settlement history in Alberta.

Pieter also talked about private land forests, and said we should not lose sight of their importance. In Canada, there are 450,000 to 500,000 landowners with forests, providing 21 per cent of Canada's fibre supply. In the United States, there are five million landowners with forests, providing nearly 80 per cent of the United States fibre supply. In Europe, over ten million landowners have forested land.

## **Past Years Activities**

Adoption of minutes from the March 15, 2017, 13<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting – no changes made. MOVED by Dave Wall, SECONDED by Wayne Williams; Motion carried.

Activities and accomplishments from 2017:

- Trails & Tales newsletter – published in March 2018. Special thanks to Michelle McBride her creative flair and layout skills in the newsletter.
- Additional photo collections were provided by:
  - Don Crawford collection, through Don and Carol Crawford
  - Don Tannas and Peter Murphy 1950s cruising collection, through Don Tannas and Peter Murphy
  - Ray Hill collection, through Ray Hill and son Cal Hill
  - Hank Ryhanen collection, through widow Hazel Ryhanen and niece-in-law Cindy Bishop
  - Pat Hendrigan collection, through son Cole Hendrigan
  - Ted Blefgen collection, through son Ralph Blefgen
  - Bill Balmer collection, through son George Balmer, who also included his own slides, photographs and stories
- The CIF is still looking for articles for the Forestry Chronicle Old Growth section, the FHAA hasn't submitted recently, need to look and see what might be done.

## **Business Items**

### **2017 Financial Statement**

Assets include the appraised value of the four donated Robert Guest paintings that are currently at the Hinton Training Centre. Expenditures in 2017 were linked to the Annual General Meeting, photo scanning, website renewal, travel for the history meetings in Quebec and Ontario, and publication of the newsletter. In 2017, 139 memberships were received; 125 individual, 5 family and 9 corporate. Dedicated grant funding is still to be

used for the Lookout book project (the compilation of the Tim and Hope Klein historic calendar collection), no timelines have been identified to finish. A thank-you was provided to forest industry support to the design and publication of the March 2018 newsletter.

The 2017 Financial report was submitted and MOVED by Bruce Mayer; SECONDED by Terry Jessiman; Motion carried.

### **Elections of Directors**

There are nine directors within the association, elected on a three-year rotation; three representing government; three representing forest industry; and three representing the public. The directors provide oversight, guidance and focus on the yearly work of the Forest History Association of Alberta. Positions up for election at the 2018 AGM were the government position held by Ken Yackimec, the forest industry position held by Cliff Smith and the public position held by Bob Newstead. Butch Shenfield resigned prior to the meeting, and a one-year replacement for the government position was also open for election. Ken Yackimec (government), Katie McNaughton (public) and David Wall (industry) were acclaimed, with Graham Legaarden being elected to fill the one-year government position.

The Board of Directors for 2018 comprises:

Government: Ken Yackimec, Bruce Mayer, Graham Legaarden

Industry: Norman Denney, David Wall, Gordon Sanders

Public: Rob Thorburn, Peter Murphy, Katie McNaughton

### **Other Business**

Ken Yackimec advised attendees the NAIT Forestry 1983 Class 35<sup>th</sup> Reunion was taking place in Devon during September 14 – 16, 2018.

Ed Pichota advised attendees the NAIT Forestry 1968 Class 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion was taking place outside of Rocky Mountain House in July 2018.

Motion to adjourn business meeting MOVED by Ken Yackimec; SECONDED by Amy Wotton; Motion carried.

### **Class Picture**

Travis Fairweather coordinated taking a picture with all the attendees at the March 21, 2018, Forest History Association of Alberta Annual General Meeting.

## **Evening Presentations**

### **Ken Vanderwell – Vanderwell Contractors 1971 Ltd.**

A third-generation owner/operator, Ken Vanderwell gave a great presentation on the 75 years of Vanderwell logging and sawmilling history. Starting from their emigration to Canada to Keephills, Alberta in 1910; the Vanderwell logging history began in 1943 when Barney Vanderwell and his partners brother-in-law Harry Dumouchel and father-in-law Mike Paul Sr., started the sawmill company in the Keephills area, south of Wabamun Lake. “We gotta do something to support the farm ...” was the reality of the day, and winter logging and sawmilling fit the bill. The Vanderwell’s operated north of Red Earth, near Chisholm and finally at their current location in Slave Lake. The full story will be included in the 2019 Trails and Tales newsletter.

### **Paul Lane – Air Spray (1967) Ltd.**

Paul Lane, Vice President and COO, provided a 50-year overview of the company’s past, and prospects for the future. During their research Paul and his wife Lynn Hamilton, President and CEO, found the original Air Spray history began in 1954 with Dave Harrington as company founder, spraying farmers fields with his Stearman bi-plane aircraft. The initial firefighting contract was signed with the Alberta government in 1958, leading to further contracts over the years with Air Spray’s Thrush Commanders, TBM Avengers, Douglas B26’s, Canadair CL-215s and finally the Lockheed L188 Electra. Don Hamilton partnered with Dave Harrington in 1969, eventually becoming the sole owner in 1972. Don’s vision and ambition built Air Spray into an international aerial wildfire suppression company. Don passed away at the age of 86, two months after being inducted into the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame. Air Spray has expanded operations to the United States with its Air Tractor 802 wheeled and amphibious aircraft and the next generation airtanker jet engine BAE 146.

## Attendees – March 21, 2018 Annual General Meeting

Murray Anderson	Doug Krystofiak	Gary Davis
Bob Morton	Quentin Spila	Stan Kavalinas
Rob Stronach	Jeff Berry	Katie McNaughton
Kim Bauer	Revie Lieskovsky	Mark Freedman
Tracey Parkinson	Marty O'Byrne	Gord Glover
Jorge Camacho	Dave Morgan	Kevin Freehill
Amy Wotton	Keith McClain	Jean Lussier
Justin Amyot	Bob Bott	Tom Patreau
Ed Trenchard	Ken Glover	Sean MacNeil
Kelsey Gibos	David Wall	Cory Davis
Jason Pankratow	Dave Coish	Paul Lane
Mike Tucker	Chris Jolly	Kevin Vander Haeghe
Dale Thomas	Wayne Williams	Terry Jessiman
Ryan Good	Darcy Evanochko	Herb Walker
Jeff Henricks	Pieter Van Der Shoot	Andy Gesner
Mathew Christie	Ken Vanderwell	Morgan Kehr
James MacKinnon	Dave Kiil	Pat Rehn
Kevin Gagne	Bernie Simpson	Bill Bereska
Wayne Johnson	Byron Grundberg	Al Benson
Norm Denney (D)	Herb Cerezke	Pat McIlwaine
Dave Patterson	Con Dermott	Trevor Lamabe
Bob Winship	Norm Dupuis	Bernie Schmitte
Darren Tapp	Rick Arthur	Brian Lopushinsky
Rory Thompson	Michelle Shesterniak	John Belanger
Graham Legaarden	Therese Yacyshyn	Wally Born
Roberta Willis	Jerry Sunderland	Hugh Boyd
Les Zeller	Bill Tinge	Patrick Loewen
Arnie Mostowich	Gordon Sanders (D)	Dalibor Houdek
Andrew Mostowich	Garry Ehrentraut	Trevor McTavish
Bob Young	Wally Peters	Derek Bakker
Brian Hohner	Cliff Smith (D)	Brant Broome
Ken Yackimec (D)	Bob Newstead (D)	Roy Campbell
Matthew Kristoff	Fred McDougall	Bruce MacGregor
Lowell Lyseng	Ed Pichota	Cliff Henderson
Gerald Carlson	Wayne Thorp	Tom Archibald
Ryan Archibald	Dana Archibald	Wayne Werstiuk
Kevin Parkinson	Melissa Crawford	Kris Heemeryck
Mike Kingsbury	Tim Heemskerck	Collin Williams
Forrest Barrett	Jason Cottingham	Bruce Mayer (D)    Todd Lynch

Assisted – Rick Harrison, Charlene Guerin, Jane Price, Travis Fairweather  
(D) – Director, Forest History Association of Alberta