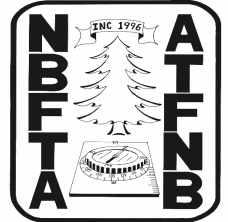




The Azimuth



Summer 2005

Volume 10 Issue 1

SYLVICON – NBFTA AGM 2005

In his opening remarks, the outgoing NBFTA President Danny Lapointe said that the past year has been filled with many challenges in regards to finding a balance with family life, work commitments and being president of the NBFTA. He said that at first some of these challenges may not appear related to the ideals & objectives of the association, but as time goes by, they usually do. The theme for Silvicon 2005 is Forestry: Perception. Communication. Education. A review of the activities of the NBFTA over the past year will prove that we fit well inside this theme. Participating in programs such as Adopt-a-hwy, Arbour-Day, Envirothon and the Easter Seals donation have provided opportunities to communicate with the public and improve the perception of forest management. A new program currently being organized by the PR committee will be the "Mt. Carleton Clean-up and beautification Initiative". These programs are meaningful, well organized, and guaranteed to operation among our membership. We have maintained good communication with the RPF when investigating Right-to-Practice legislation in other provinces, preparing for the Hall of Fame awards and the Re-Certification program. A level of education and experience and the voluntary participation in CFE has always been a requirement to join our association. The updating of skills and ongoing education are the (cont on p 4 SYLVICON)

RIGHT TO PRACTICE

RPF association representative Jeff Patch spoke at the AGM in favour of Right to Practice legislation. He said that he does not feel comfortable using the title "Professional" unless it is spelled out with the RTP just what the name means.



Ron Blaney 2005 Technician of the Year

According to Jeff, under RTP one cannot separate or define the roles of the Professional Forester versus the Forest Technician / Technologist because in the Province of New Brunswick there is too much overlap of duties now being performed. The RPF association is actively pursuing Right to Practice. They have met with the Minister of Natural Resources and Cabinet Ministers, re-

leased statements on current forestry issues and put

on CFE courses to help members obtain their CFE certificates. The RPF have a goal to increase membership. To do this they may have to devise an entry level membership. If the RTP comes about then all practicing Foresters would have to be members. Another goal is to work with other organizations to share administrative duties for CWF and Silvicon for example.

-The 4th goal is to obtain the Right to Practice Status. They would like to have this in place by 2008. There are many obstacles to overcome before this will can place. They need to get sister organizations on board to agree that the RTP is a good thing and not a negative thing.

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Letters to the Editor

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T 10 Years! That's right, the New Brunswick Forest Technicians Association is in tenth year. A short ten years has seen vast changes to the forestry sector, since our inception in 1996 there has been many issues face our industry, the protected area strategy, softwood lumber border issues, increased environmental pressures, increased mechanization in logging, increased expectations around forestry practices and on practitioners from the general public, the Jakko Pöyry Report, and mill closures to name but a few. With all these changes, it's becoming ever more important to sell the forest technician / technologist as the professionals that they are. This is what the NBFTA was born for, and the support of all forest technicians and technologists in the province is needed to solidify our association and make it prosper into the future. We have to show that we are highly trained professionals that spend our careers caring for the forests of New Brunswick while always having the future of our forests and lands in mind.

The NBFTA is working very hard at advertising the professionalism of forest technicians. Our certification process is something to be very proud of, through certification, we volunteer to adhere to a very strict code of ethics which includes being accountable for our actions and always acting in a professional manner. Perhaps the most impressive aspect of our certification is our commitment to maintain our technical competence through participation in continuing forestry education. What a way to sell yourself as a professional, volunteering to accumulate 150 hrs of continuing education every three years or giving up your professional designation if this is not accomplished – what a great way to show our commitment to do the right thing for the forests and lands of New Brunswick.

This years Annual General Meeting was a great success. Although it would have been great to have over 200 members in attendance, we were still very happy to have over 50 attend the meeting which was held on a Thursday morning as part of Silvicon. There was an upbeat mood to the meeting and a lot of important business was conducted. As with every AGM, there were a few changes to your executive. I have accepted the role of president and I look forward to helping guide this association into it's 2nd decade and serving the members to the best of my ability. I congratulate Kenny McGinn who accepted a nomination to serve as 2nd VP, it's great to have Kenny back on the executive and the association will undoubtedly benefit from the experience of this founding member. Jonathan DeGrace and Alyre Godin have stepped up to become regional reps in regions 1 and 4 respectively, they have both pledged to work hard in their regions to increase awareness of the NBFTA and increase membership. Anthony Howland has accepted an offer to chair the membership committee and he will be working closely with the executive to contact members who have let their membership slip to see if they are interested in re-joining and how the association could serve them better. Jonathan DeGrace replaces Pat Lagerlöf as editor of the Azimuth as Pat has announced that he will be stepping down. Congratulations go out to Ron Blaney who was awarded the 2004 Forest Technician of the Year Award. Ron has had a distinguished career in forestry and was nominated by out going region 4 rep, Randy Crealock. A hearty thanks to Mike Cunningham and Monsanto for once again sponsoring the tech. of the year prize. Also worth noting is that every past president of the NBFTA was in attendance, a great testament to their ongoing commitment to this association.

2005 is on track to be a very busy and beneficial year for the NBFTA. Your executive and committee chairs have already had their first post AGM meeting to discuss initiatives and action plans for the coming year. Some of the plans for the coming year include expanding



the Adopt-A-Highway to all 5 provincial regions and holding regional meetings as well, this has not been happening in the past few years and we have to reach all members in the province in order to grow as an association. We are still looking for regional reps in region 5 (North West), Region 2 (Miramichi), and Region 3 (Sussex – Moncton). If you are interested, please contact me A.S.A.P. for a description of duties and explanation of expectations – this can be a very rewarding experience and you would be serving your association and profession very well.

A very important public relations initiative underway this year is the “Adoption” of Mt. Carleton. It’s amazing what can happen when a few technicians get together and start to talk. On a beautiful fall day, Stefan Schwarzmann, Jason Thibodeau, and myself along with a few friends climbed Mt. Carleton. We got to talking about the garbage that was on the trail and that the cabins appeared to be in need of repair, one thing led to another and we have been in contact with the province to see if the NBFTA could adopt the mountain and pledge to hold an annual clean-up and repair day. We are in talks with the province now, so watch for news of this initiative to be coming your way by spring. This is a great PR campaign for the association, and it will also serve as a great “fun” get together for NBFTA members and their families.

Another initiative that I have made this year on behalf of the association is to solidify old ties with our sister organizations. I will be attending the NSFTA annual general meeting in late March, and I will be inviting their association to place articles in the Azimuth and to attend the Mt. Carleton day if they so wish. I have also been in contact with Blair DeGrace to reestablish ties with the Alberta Forest Technicians Association as they have been working under a right to practice model that seems to serve their association quite well, and it would be nice to have their input if we ever have to actually go down the right to practice road.

I have also asked our past president to put life back into the advisory committee, so that our founding members and past presidents can be consulted on important issues such as right to practice – their combined experience and knowledge is an invaluable asset to this associations success.

Although I have only been president for a short time, a major highlight of my term has already taken place. I had the honor of co-nominating Girvan Harrison to the New Brunswick Forestry Hall of Fame, and the added honor of presenting Girvan with his introduction at the induction ceremony at the Silvicon banquet this past February. Girvan is a shining example of what a forest technician can become through dedication, professionalism, accountability, and hard work. The NBFTA, and the profession of the forest technologist, are definitely lucky to have Girvan as one of their own.

I will take this opportunity to prematurely congratulate the 2005 graduating class of the Maritime College of Forest Technology. These students have put in a very challenging 2 years. They were the first to attempt a brand new curriculum, and they have worked every bit as hard as graduates of the past (the only thing I can think of as being harder than a year at Ranger school would be two years at Ranger school). Please join me in welcoming these graduates into a profession that we are all very lucky to be employed in and please offer them all the support and encouragement that graduates of the Maritime Forest Ranger School have always received. I met with Steven King, the president of the graduating class, and I think their class motto sums it up best, “New School Knowledge, Old School Heart”. The NBFTA has decided to pay the students fee’s for their CIF silver rings as a token of our appreciation for their efforts and to welcome them into the world of forest technologists. Congratulations also go out to the world class staff at the Maritime College of Forest Technology who have worked a miracle by changing on the fly from a one year program to a two year program to having 2 classes going on at the same time – great job!

In closing, I personally thank every body who puts time into the executive or various committees of the NBFTA, your work is invaluable. Please volunteer to help your association if you feel that you could commit some time to a very worthy cause. When a forest technologist is asked how they are doing, a common answer is “busy, very busy”, but isn’t that what we accepted when we choose this challenging career? Would we really want it any other way? We all have very busy jobs and personal commitments that keep us going all hours of the day and night, but after all, “It’s only hard work if you’d rather be somewhere else” – unknown.

Allie DeGrace, CFT#100
President, NBFTA

SYLVICON (CONT. FROM PAGE 1)

ways to maintain and improve levels of competency. We have again been successful this year in holding executive meetings in four different locations around the province making it easier for the executive members to participate in meetings. If anyone would like to be more involved with the association, there are currently positions available for regional representatives. Promoting the benefits of trees and Forest management has always been an easier aspect of being involved with the NBFTA. He said that one thing he has learned over the past year is that tying our activities in with our objectives is the way to overcome the challenges.

First Vice president Hermel Duke said that many times in the last year the forest industry were in the news, especially pertaining to the Jaakko Pöyry report. The R.T.P. committee has done much in their attempt to harmonize groups of professional in forestry sector. During year 2004, five new members got certified and added to the list of C.F.T. Two more days is scheduled February 25th and end of March 2005. Date to be determined with 12 to 15 who plan to write. Hermel welcomed Jonathan Kenneth DeGrace to the executive.



2nd Vice President Allie DeGrace reported that there has not been a disciplinary committee in place for a few years. A new one has been formed, consisting of himself and Tara Jenkins, Peter Ritchie and Andrew Chase. Terms of reference for the executive has been re-worked as well as succession planning to make it easier to taking new roles. The NBFTA scholarship has been finalized. This years recipient was Justin Chase. The executive has decided to continue the Adopt a Highway campaign for one more year. 1 common day throughout the province had been suggested.

Treasurer Mike Boucher reported that Revenues for the year were \$9,522.85 and expenses were \$8,731.51 A surplus of \$960 is anticipated for 2005

Regional reps: Region 1: Sam Hachey is stepping down, replaced by Jonathan Kenneth DeGrace. Region 2 rep Marcel Manuel stated that Things have been quite in the region. He would like to improve the communication from members and executive. Region 3, no report. Region 4 rep Randy Crealock is stepping down, new rep is Alyre Godin. Region 5 no report.

MCFT Executive Director Pat McCarthy

Maritime College of Forest Technology en-first-year students at the Fredericton Campus. year students in Fredericton was: 28 from 2 from Prince Edward Island. The average MCFT Class was 19. Ages range from 17-31.

We had 29 second-year students and 44 first-2004. Four students who had previously total of 48 first-year students. Due to the was the first time the Fredericton Campus has Our Graduation for 2005 will be April 22, dents on December 16, 2004. Guest Speaker ester, with J.D. Irving Ltd. In St. Leonard, Bathurst for College de Technologie Forestiere des Maritimes graduates. Nine rings were presented by Mr. Rod O'Connor on Behalf of CIF.



Reported that In September, 2004 the rolled 33 second-year students and 49 The geographic distribution of the 49 first-New Brunswick, 19 from Nova Scotia and age of the first-year students in the 2004

year students at the end of December, failed returned in January, 2005 to make a change from a one-year program, 2004 not had a graduating class in December. 2005. Bathurst Campus graduated 9 stu-was Gaetan Pelltier, Management For-NB. The CIF ring ceremony took place in

The rings are available to any MCFT graduate for \$40.00 if you are a CIF member \$60.00 for non-members. Contact us if you are interested. Gene Mattinson retired in June, 2004 and Gaeton Bolduc retired in September, 2004. Mike Boucher, former MCFT Recruitment Co-coordinator, has replaced Gaeton Bolduc. Jason Thibodeau was hired to replace Mike Boucher as Recruitment Co-coordinator. MCFT is a member of the Atlantic Association of Registrars and Admissions Officers and we agree, as a member, to follow a pre-determined schedule of school visits to recruit students. In August of 2004 the College hired two seasonal field instructors: Alyre Godin and Phil Hughes. Alyre provided technical support and assistance to researchers at Forest Engineering Research Institute of Canada, Pointe-Clair, Quebec. Alyre worked on many technical publications while at FERIC, and was a supervisor with Softouch Forestry in Fredericton, NB. Phil worked for York Sunbury Charlotte Forest Products Marketing Board developing and coordinating forest management training programs. Both are graduates of the Maritime Forest Ranger School.

We will enroll another 50 students in September, 2005 and will have 2 classes enrolled at MCFT in every Semester, hopefully between 70 and 80 students. The continuing Education Department is very active with many established courses such as Supervisory Development and Hardwood Management and numerous new course directions. A current focus on water quality issues has resulted in multiple offerings of Watercourse Alteration Certification both in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. This Course continues to draw interest from outside the Maritimes as well. Water quality will also be the goal of a course on Grading Roads to be offered in June of this year. This is the second module of a slate of forest road maintenance and design courses offered in the next year through CE.

A new and exciting direction for Continuing Education involves the development of Urban Forestry courses to be offered on a national level. These courses will be aimed at practicing urban foresters and will deal with current issues surrounding the design and maintenance of healthy urban ecosystems. Although there have been major changes to the Training Sawmill, Both core training such as Saw Maintenance and training on current technology continues. Partnerships with client mills will allow training on equipment currently used by the majority of the industry. The past two years have been record setting for the Department of Continuing Education. The future holds great promise of continuing success. In the winter of 1994-1995, the Council of Eastern Forest Technician Schools (CEFTS) of which, the Maritime Forest Ranger School is a founding member, created the "Graduate Forest Technician Achievement Award". This award is being presented by CEFTS annually to five graduates in Eastern North America as a way to recognize the accomplishments and contributions made to the field of forestry and/or the technician in Forestry by graduates from technology programs. The criteria that are used to judge individual applicants are:

The recipients must be graduates of a forest technology program.

The nominee may demonstrate that he/she has made significant contributions to the field of forestry as a technician or to technical forestry employment. An individual who had received additional degree(s) maybe considered under this criterion, but his/her contribution to forestry should be linked somehow to that person's technician education, job as forest technician, or to the advancement of the role of forest technicians in general.

The nominee may demonstrate that he/she made significant contributions to technician education. An individual who has received additional degree(s) maybe considered but again, that person's contribution to forestry education must be to technical education.

Pat said that the school solicits NBFTA's support in suggesting additional names of individuals whom we feel qualify for this award.

Public Relations chairperson Jason Thibodeau reported that the Mt. Carleton clean up campaign is planned for somewhere between mid July to late August. Mark Boucher DNR Region 4 had been contacted. Jason has proposed that the NBFTA would clean up and repair the cabin at Mt. Carleton. St. Quentin DNR Office will provide any equipment or materials that maybe needed in the project. The hardest part will be to get enough members to take part. Will need about 40-50 people to get it done in one weekend. We need to assess how much repair is needed on the cabin.



MCFT Board of Governors – Blair DeGrace reported on the activities of the Maritime College of Forest Technology (MCFT) Board of Governors in 2004.

The NBFTA'S initial involvement in the MCFT Board of Governors was by invitation to their Annual Meeting on April 23, 1999. A vacancy had been created by the departure of Newfoundland representation as a result of a forestry technical program being developed at the College of the North Atlantic. The NBFTA and it's sister Association, the Nova Scotia Forest Technicians Association (NSFTA) represented by Ian Moss, share active voting membership status within the Board on a two year rotation. The NSFTA held the privilege of full voting membership in 2001 and 2002 with the NBFTA participating in an advisory capacity. At their annual meeting

on April 24, 2003, The MCFT Board designated voting privilege to the NBFTA for 2003 & 2004. There was discussion at the April 24, 2003 MCFT Board Meeting that the NBFTA / NSFTA rotating voting privileges was viewed as a technical formality. There was consensus that the existing voting process would continue with active membership sought from both Associations on an ongoing basis.

MCFT, which operates on a not for profit basis, forecasted a deficit of \$25,569.00 for 2004 attributable to reduced tuition revenue. As a result of the phase in of the two year program, only one class was enrolled for the January to April term. Unrestricted net assets are sufficient to cover this one time deficit. The fiscal year was changed from a

AGM 2005 (continued)

calendar year basis to a May 1- April 30 basis. Funding from the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission remains frozen for the second consecutive year.

MCFT enrollment in September 2003 was 45 students in Fredericton (average age of 20).Target enrollment is 45 students every September with anticipated higher retention rates due to a higher entrance standard.

No major changes anticipated in the two year curriculum, other than addition of courses in the fourth semester, which will be designed to meet Society of American Foresters recognition requirements. Eleven New Brunswickers enrolled at the MCFT Bathurst Campus on January 6, 2004.

MCFT Bathurst Campus and the University of Moncton Forestry Program are working on an agreement which would recognize MCFT Graduates with entrance credits in the University Baccalaureate Forestry Program.

Students expenses for the period of September 2003 to April 2005 total \$ 9,750.00 broken down as follows: Tuition \$3,750; Room & Board \$4,950; Books & Supplies \$ 750.00; Student Fees \$ 300.00 Continuing Forestry Education (CFE): Maintain commitment to break even in overall CFE operating budget. There was consensus that measures would be taken to position the Training Sawmill as a positive revenue generator for the College. The UNB/MCFT Woodlot Agreement is in effect until November 29, 2005. All issues surrounding administration of the agreement have been resolved. No major problems are anticipated moving forward.

The MCFT Staff and Administration have responded positively to many challenges in recent years including identity change, implementation of the two year program, staff turn-over, funding shortfalls and competition from similar two year programs across the country. With continued support from the Board and organizations such as the NBFTA, the College is well placed to continue supplying world class forestry technologists to forest sector employers looking for candidates with “ the edge”.

Walter Bidlake reported that the Tree House moved to its new location in the Forestry Complex in the last year. Director is Geniveve McCrea. The Tree house administers two programs: Adopt-a-Highway and the Envirothon High School program which teaches students about the environment and gets them out in the forest. They hope to deliver this program to French language schools as well. The Fall Colours tour was not held this past fall due to organizational changes and the moving of the office. Walter said that they would like to see all regions of NBFTA participate. Walter encouraged everyone to become members of the Tree house.

Motions:

Phil Hughes, Blair DeGrace: \$500 NBFTA entrance scholarship to a technical forestry school in the Province of New Brunswick.

Rick Doucette, Robert Gaudette: Dues increase to \$35.00 for members and \$70.00 for certified members, effective April 2006.

Gene Mattinson, Hermel Duke: Maintaining the AGM for the Thursday morning of Silvicon 2006. Seconded by Hermel Duke. All motions carried.

CFT Presentations:

Allie DeGrace presented the Certificates to new certified members:

Lisa Cole, Jonathan DeGrace, Matt Tucker, Neill Timm and David B. Brown

CFE Certificates:

Phil Hughes presented the CFE certificates to Bill Whalen, Alyre Godin, Danny McDougall, Hermel Duke, Fred Harris, Mike Boucher and Walter Bidlake.

Special Recognition Awards:

Allie De Grace presented plaques to members leaving the executive: Dusty Corey- Region 5 Rep, Randy Crealock- Region 4 Rep, Danny LaPointe- President, Allie DeGrace- Secretary, Pat Lagerlöf- Azimuth Editor, Marcel Manuel- Region 2 Rep, Sam Hachey- Region 1 Rep.



Alyre Godin & Phil Hughes

Right to Practice—My Opinion By Claude Chiasson, CFT

1. If we decide that RTP is needed, we should go after all the Forests of New Brunswick not just Crown Land. Fifty-one percent of New Brunswick Forests are Freehold (21%) or Private Woodlots (30%). If RTP Legislation is only meant to cover Crown Land, half of the Province's Forests will continue to be managed without any control by whoever wants to. There is sufficient Legislation existing now that makes sure Crown Land is properly managed including who can sign Management Plans. If Crown Land is our only worry, we don't need RTP!!! We looked at two models of Right to Practice Legislation; British Columbia and Alberta. B.C. Forests are 97% Crown Land. Alberta Forests comprise of 89% Provincial and 8% Federal land. **Private Woodlots only account for 3% of the entire Forested Areas of these Provinces.** I can relate to why **they** needed RTP!
2. There seems to be an attempt to define roles that each group of Forest Practitioners (Technologist or Foresters) can accomplish. This, in my opinion, is a road we need not drive. It is not in anybody's best interest to start a **war of roles**. Besides, I would doubt that the Forest Industry **wants or needs** either of our groups to tell them who they can hire for what Position and who they can't. We certainly would not get their support for RTP Legislation!! It always comes back to **Competency**.
3. How would the Federation of Woodlot Owners react to RTP Legislation in New Brunswick Forests? I remember at Silvicon some years back the Minister of Natural Resources mentioned that there needed to be Policing on our Private Woodlots and there would be restrictions placed on the **area** a Woodlot Owner could cut in any one year. What happened to this?
4. Before we can decide to embark on this journey, we need and estimate of cost. We cannot ask our **Members** for a blank cheque to pay for this. It's a foregone conclusion that if we go down the path of RTP, our dues will greatly increase making it a hard situation for many of our Tech's. Many are struggling to pay their dues now!! Will the RTP improve the lives of our **Members**? Let's not forget why we have an Association.
5. Another of my concerns is who will enforce this Legislation? Will this be another one of the self-policing Legislation...everyone on his or her **Honor**? To have Legislation and not have any means of control is a waste of time and money. Our respectable Associations will certainly not have the money to hire **The Forest Police**!! We have a means of controlling **our own members** by our By-Laws. We react to a complaint. Will this be the same?
6. There is talk of making **Standards of Practice Manuals** for Forestry work. Is this something we really need.....more red tape??? We work constantly with Acts and Regulations pertaining to any activity that goes on in our Forests. Most of these are made for the protection of our Environment and all agree they are an integral part of Forest Management. But to have **Manuals** describing the step-by-step procedure of a specific activity would be counterproductive to the work we do on a daily basis. If we choose to carry out a specific type of work contrary to these manuals, we would therefore be breaking the rules!!! Those that work in the **field** know that it isn't always black andwhite!
7. The Rational used to drive this Right to Practice Legislation is **"The protection of public interest"**. Let's not loose sight of **whose** interest we are protecting!!

I agree that if the ARPFNB goes the route of RTP, we will have no choice but to participate, more to protect ourselves than anything else. But before either Association decides anything, which will no doubt change much of the way we presently carry out our work, we need to answer some very serious questions. And if any of these concerns have already been addressed, we need to inform our Membership.

Canadian Forest Practitioners receive Silver Rings

Ottawa - Mr. Michael McLaughlan, President of the Canadian Institute of Forestry announced that the Institute is pleased to welcome students graduating from Institute recognized forest baccalaureate and forest technical programs to the profession of forestry. Mr. McLaughlan stated "As the 'Voice of Forest Practitioners', it is one of the Institute's objectives to welcome individuals to the profession of forestry. This year, 592 Silver Rings were presented to students from across Canada."

President McLaughlan noted "The Silver Ring is visible evidence of the national bond among Canadian forestry graduates - a bond that overrides differences in levels of responsibility, differences in employment status, differences in province of residence, and differences in language." The forestry baccalaureate program Silver Rings are marked with a small raised tree and the forestry technical program Silver Rings are engraved with a leaf; each are symbolic of our forest ecosystems and their inherent values.

The Canadian Institute of Forestry tradition of welcoming individuals to the profession of forestry began in 1967 with the presentation of a Silver Ring

with a raised tree to graduating students from Institute recognized forestry baccalaureate programs. In 2002, this tradition was expanded to include graduates from forestry technical programs. The mission of the Canadian Institute of Forestry is to 'advance the stewardship of Canada's forest resources, to provide national leadership in forestry, to promote competence among forestry professionals, and to foster public awareness of Canadian and international forestry issues.' This mission is being accomplished through a national office in Ottawa, and by the activities of sections across the country. Membership of the Institute includes foresters, forest technologists, and technicians, educators, scientists and others with a professional interest in forestry.

For more information on the Canadian Institute of Forestry Silver Ring program – visit <http://www.cif-ifc.org/english/e-awards-silverring.shtml>
Roxanne Comeau, R.P.F., Executive Director, Canadian Institute of Forestry



NBFTA Past President, Danny Lapointe CFT

The upcoming spring season will be quite interesting for those involved with NBFTA. It was great to have an executive meeting early in March in order to begin to get organized for all the activities that are planned for in May. I look forward to working with the Regional representatives in any way I can to keep our members involved and informed about our association.

A result of our last executive meeting was the decision to reduce the number of representatives from five down to four regions. This will make it easier to stay in contact with the members who work with the department of natural resources, where they changed the framework of their regions some time ago.

Positions that are currently available are in region #2 Miramichi and in region #3 Moncton. One reason for taking on such a role would be the opportunity to gain continuing forestry education credits. This may appeal to a CFT who has difficulty gaining credits in other ways and would aid in maintaining their certification. Credits in category #2 (Self-improvement) are available for attending NBFTA business meetings (one per half day attendance) and up to 7 credit hours per year are available in category #3 (Professional Contributions) for holding an elected office or committee assignment.

Participation in the four executive meetings held each year in various locations will also get you more familiar with the association as well as the upcoming activities such as of adopt-a hwy and the Mt. Carleton initiative. The highway clean-up and BBQ is also a timely event during each spring and fall and are a great time to hold a regional meeting for members in that area.

Anyone from any of these two areas who would be interested and have enough time to take on the role of a regional rep can contact me anytime for more information.

Danny Lapointe CFT

Non-Timber Forest Products course at the Maritime College of Forest Technology

The Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) course is a new addition to the curriculum offered to the second year class in their last semester. It is designed to assist participants identify sources of supplement income other than wood fibre originating from the forest.

Students become familiar with NTFP's through class lectures, field trips and guest speakers. Of each of the plant species covered included are species recognition; methods of natural or artificial reproduction; inventorying; sustainability practices; product marketability; and economic and social benefits.

This year a variety of topics were covered such as Christmas trees and wreaths; mushroom both wild and cultivated; ground hemlock; various berries; beaked hazelnuts; Maple syrup; fiddleheads; wild ginseng; and recreational values.

The students had the opportunity to visit a Christmas tree farm where they were explained the process of growing Balsam Fir trees from seedling; maintenance by pruning and shearing as well as the harvesting and bundling for transport. They were also involved in establishing a potential sugar bush and see if an existing one could be ameliorated. At the beginning of the course they were involved in inoculating four foot hardwood logs with Shiitake spawn (Figure 1) in order to grow mushrooms. Although the course is in its infancy stage there is always room for improvement. It is planned that for the next course offering it will be split into two semesters both fall and spring where students will have the opportunity to better grasp the objective behind Non-Timber Forest Products

Alyre Godin, C.F.T.
Field Instructor
Maritime College of Forest Technology



M.C.F.T. students inoculating hardwood logs with Shiitake

NBFTA SUPPORT FOR ENVIROTHON CONTINUES

Envirothon NB is part of North America's largest and fastest-growing environmental education program for high school students. Envirothon NB is the only bilingual Envirothon competition in North America. Envirothon is supported by many companies and organizations, including the the Canadian Council for Human Resources in the Environment Industry, Canadian Forest Service, Canadian Forestry Association, Canon Inc., Fundy Model Forest, J. D. Irving, Limited, Brunswick Department of Natural Resources, New Brunswick Environmental Trust Fund, Brunswick Forest Products Association, New Brunswick Forest Technicians Association, and the University of New Brunswick's Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management.

NBFTA Membership Application/Demande d'adhésion à L'ATFNB

New member Renewal Other
Membre nouveau Renouvellement Autre

First Name *Prénom* :: _____

Last Name: *Nom*: _____

Address: _____

Adresse:

Tel : _____ H(d) _____ W(t) _____

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Regular Member
Membre régulier \$30.00

Certified Member
Membre agréé \$60.00

Technical Institution Attended

Nom de l'institution fréquentée

Year of Graduation *Diplômé (année)*

Mail your cheque or money order along with your application to:
Poster votre chèque ou votre mandat de poste et votre demande à :
NBFTA/ATFNB

NBFTA TREASURER
C/O MCFT
1350 REGENT STREET
FREDERICTON, NB
E3C 2G6

ATFNB/NBFTA**Application For Certification**

Name:

Nom: _____

Last/Famille First/premier Middle/ autres

Address: Adresse: _____
- **Street/rue Town/ville Postal Code Postal**

Tel. Home/maison _____ **Work/travail** _____

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e-mail/courrier électronique _____

Forest Technical Education / Éducation Forestière

Please attach copy of diploma / Veuillez inclure une copie de votre diplôme

Post Graduate Forestry Experience / Expérience de travail après graduation

Note: Please send 2 letters of recommendations from Certified Forest Technicians

Institution / institution	Completion date Date Terminée	Circle / encercler
		Degree, Diploma, Certificate Bach, Diplôme, Certificat
		Degree, Diploma, Certificate Bach, Diplôme, Certificat

Noter: S.V.P. inclure deux lettres de recommandation de Techniciens (ne) Forestiers(ère) Agréés.

Employer / employeur	Dates	Supervisor / superviseur Clients	Telephone numbers numéros de téléphone

N.B. FOREST TECHNICIANS ASSOCIATION CONTACT

POSITION	RESPONSIBILITY	WORK	HOME	CELL	FAX
EXECUTIVE BOARD					
President	Allie DeGrace	339-7968	470-4171	470-4171	339-5114
1st VP & Certification	Hermel Duke	547-2075	546-5120	544-0855	547-2068
2nd VP & Discipline	Kenny McGinn	458-0655	357-2507		458-0652
Secretary	Chris Finnamore	452-6920	450-3716	471-7877	472-7403
Treasurer	Mike Boucher	458-0646	459-3994	461-9530	458-0652
Past President	Danny Lapointe	458-4380	474-1127	558-2047 / 470-9490	458-3572
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES					
# 1 Bathurst	Jonathan DeGrace	547-2075	548-8096		547-2068
# 2 Miramichi	Vacant				
# 3 Moncton	Vacant				
# 4 Fredericton	Alyre Godin	458-0199			458-0652
#5 Plaster Rock	Vacant				
CERTIFICATION BOARD					
Chair	Hermel Duke	547-2075	546-5120	544-0855	547-2068
Member	Shawn Farrell	452-3500	458-5897		452-3525
Member	Danny McDougall	356-4282	356-2497	356-5358	356-4105
Member	Laurie Yeates		458-8965		
Member	Anthony Howland		460-1089		
Member	Chris Spencer	433-9860	362-1221		433-3623
Member	Louis Caissie	546-4176			
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE					
Chair	Anthony Howland		460-1089		
	Open				
	Open				
ADVISORY COMMITTEE					
Chair	Danny Lapointe	458-4380	474-1127	558-2047 / 470-9490	458-3572
Member	Eugene Mattinson		459-7343		
Member	Blair DeGrace	356-4199	356-8323	356-5025	356-4105
Member	Walter Bidlake	458-3464	366-3351	447-1735	458-3572
Member	Rick Doucett	458-6842	450-0308	470-8748	458-3572
Member	Girvan Harrison		488-1901		
Member	Kim Mann		363-2483		
Member	Bill Whalen	356-4109	553-6286	356-5012	356-4105
Member	Kenny McGinn	458-0655	357-2507		458-0652
Member	Claude Chiasson	546-4176			546-2829
Member	David Lewis	475-9001	273-9688		
Member	John Jenkins		356-8329	356-4105	
PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE					
Chair	Jason Thibodeau		455-6673		
Member	Mike Boucher	458-0646	459-3994		458-0652
Member	Mark Smiseart		455-9141		
CONTINUING FORESTRY EDUCATION COMMITTEE					
Chair	Phil Hughes	458-0648	472-7897	447-1496	458-0652
Member	Chris Finnamore	452-6920	450-3716	471-7877	472-7403
CANADIAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION - TREE HOUSE					
Representative	Walter Bidlake	458-3464	366-3351	447-1735	458-3572

25 ans d'excellence en éducation forestière au Collège de Technologie Forestière des Maritimes

Les neuf finissants de la classe 2004, est le 25^{ième} groupe d'étudiants à recevoir leur diplôme en Technologie Forestière du *Collège de technologie forestière des Maritimes* à Bathurst, N.B. depuis sa fondation. L'école ouvra ses portes en janvier 1980 afin de répondre au besoin des francophones des Maritimes désirant une formation en technologie forestière. Antérieurement, ceux désirant cette formation, fallaient se déplacer au Québec ou en Ontario afin de suivre une telle formation ou s'inscrire aux collèges anglophones.

De 1980 à 2003, le collège employait le nom *École des gardes forestiers des Maritimes*, qui fut adopté du nom employé par le campus de Fredericton, N.B., qui depuis 1946, donnait une formation en technologie forestière sous le nom du *Maritime Forest Ranger School*. Les deux collèges de foresterie sont reconnus pour leur qualité d'enseignement rigoureux,

pour ceux et celles qui désirent une formation en technologie forestière ou qui veulent poursuivre une carrière comme garde forestier-ère. Le curriculum du cours au campus de Bathurst inclus un an de formation rigoureux avec 44 heures semaines de cours, incluant le samedi. Le cours débute en janvier pour se terminer en décembre de la même année, avec un stage pratique de 12 semaine durant l'été. La formation au campus de Fredericton est maintenant répandue sur deux ans. Les deux collèges sont parmi plusieurs à travers le Canada à être endossés par L'Institut Forestier du Canada. Le taux de placement des étudiants terminant le programme à Bathurst de 1980 à 2003 est de 95%. **Neuf finissants ont reçu leurs diplômes en technologie forestière du Collège de technologie forestière des Maritimes à Bathurst, jeudi le 16 décembre 2004. La cérémonie a eu lieu chez Danny's Inn Best Western and Conference Centre, lors d'un souper qui regroupait la famille et les amis des finissants, les**

instructeurs du cours ainsi que les invités de la soirée.

Le conférencier de la soirée était M. Gaëtan Pelletier, Directeur Forestier, de la Compagnie J. D. Irving Ltée de St-Léonard, N.B. Les autres invités furent, Mad. Sam Hachey, représentante de l'Association des techniciens(nes) forestiers(ères) du NB, M. Rod O'Connell, représentant l'Institut Forestier du Canada, Section des Maritimes, et M. Michel Papineau, représentant de STIHL Canada Limitée.

Les gagnants des prix étaient les suivants:

Brian Parker de North Tetagouche, N.-B., fut le



grand gagnant des prix de mérites. Il fut le récipiendaire du prix de l'Association des Techniciens(nes) Forestiers (ères) du NB pour la plus haute moyenne académique de l'année, du prix de la Ferme Forestière O'Connell pour la plus haute moyenne en Aménagement Forestier, du prix B.A.P. Forestry Equipment Ltd, pour la plus haute moyenne en Dendrométrie, du prix de UPM-Kymmene Miramichi Inc. pour la plus

haute moyenne en Sylviculture, du prix de RCL Arbres Illimités Inc. pour un effort consistant en théorie et en pratique durant toute l'année. Steve Connolly, de Inkerman Ferry N.-B. et Brian Parker de North Tetagouche, N.-B., furent récipiendaires des prix de STIHL Canada Limitée, pour leur habileté en maniement et sécurité dans l'utilisation d'une scie à chaîne. Achille Roy de Petit-Rocher, N.-B., reçu le prix d'aménagement d'un Lot Boisé, pour le meilleur Plan d'Aménagement 2004.

De gauche à droite 1^{ière} rangée : Shawn Lizotte, Saint-Basile, NB; Karl Branch, instructeur; Claude Chiasson, Directeur adjoint; Achille Roy, Président de la Classe 2004, Petit-Rocher, NB; Louis Caissie, instructeur. De gauche à droite 2^{ième} rangée: Steve Connolly, Inkerman-Ferry, NB; Roger Mercure, Inkerman-Ferry, NB; Marc Denis Losier, Ste-Rose, NB; Rémy Reyjal, Dieppe, NB; Brian Parker, North Tetagouche, NB; Pierre Dubé, Saint-Hilaire, NB & Marc Losier, Saint-Isidore, NB.

25 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN FORESTRY EDUCATION AT THE *BATHURST CAMPUS* OF THE MARITIME COLLEGE OF FOREST TECHNOLOGY

The nine graduates from the class of 2004 are the 25th group of students to receive their diploma in Forest Technology from the Maritime College of Forest Technology in Bathurst, N.B. The school opened its doors in January 1980 in order to meet the needs for the francophone population of the Maritimes wanting training in Forest Technology. Prior, those wishing this training had to attend an English language institution or had to go to Quebec or Ontario, as they were the only two provinces offering this type of training in French.

From 1980 to 2003, the college went under the name of *École des Gardes Forestiers des Maritimes*, which was adopted from the name used by the Fredericton Campus, the Maritime Forest Ranger School. The two Forestry colleges are recognized for the quality of their graduates, which undergo a rigorous program aimed at those who wish to become Forest Technologists/Technicians or wish to pursue a career as a Forest Ranger. The course curriculum at the Bathurst Campus includes one-year of rigorous forestry training with 44 hours per week of courses, including Saturdays. The course begins in January and ends in December of the same year, with a summer practicum of 12 weeks, during the summer. The course at the Fredericton campus is now divided over two years. The two colleges are amongst several throughout Canada with are accredited by the Canadian Institute of Forestry. The rate of job placement for students finishing the program in Bathurst, is of the order 95%.

On December 16th, 2004, nine students received their diplomas in Forest Technology from the Bathurst Campus of the Maritime College of Forest Technology. The ceremony took place at **Danny's Inn Best Western and Conference Centre**, where family and friends of the graduates gathered, along with the instructors of the course as well as the invited guests of the evening. The guest speaker for the evening was Mr. Gaëtan Pelletier, Management Forester, for J. D. Irving Ltd of St-Léonard, N.B. Others included, Ms. Sam Hachey, representing the New Bruns-

wick Forest Technicians Association, Mr. Rod O'Connell, representing the Canadian Institute of Forestry, Maritime Section, and Mr. Michel Papineau, a representative of STIHL Canada Limited.

Awards were presented to the following;

Brian Parker of North Tetagouche N.B. was the big winner of the evening taking home prizes in the following categories; the NB Forest Technicians Association prize for the highest academic average, the O'Connell Forest Farm prize for the highest average in Forest Management, the B.A.P. Forestry Equipment Ltd. prize for the highest average in Forest Measurements, the RCL Trees Unlimited Inc. prize for his continuous effort during the whole year, and the UPM-Kymmene Miramichi Inc. prize for the highest average in Silviculture. Achille Roy of Petit Rocher was the winner of the Woodlot Owner's prize for the best Woodlot Management Plan. Steve Connolly of Inkerman-Ferry N.B. and Brian Parker of North Tetagouche, N.B., were winners of the STIHL Canada Limited prizes, for the best and safest work techniques using a chain saw.

1st row from left to right Shawn Lizotte, Saint-Basile NB; Karl Branch, Instructor; Claude Chiasson, Associate Director; Achille Roy of Petit Rocher NB, Class President for 2004; Louis Caisie, Instructor.

2nd row from left to right: Steve Connolly, Inkerman-Ferry NB; Roger Mercure, Inkerman-Ferry NB; Marc Denis Losier, Ste-Rose NB; Rémy Reyjal, Dieppe NB; Brian Parker, North Tetagouche NB; Pierre Dubé, Saint-Hilaire NB; Marc Losier, Saint-Isidore NB.

What Are You Doin' To Our School...

While I was in my office the other day, two grads came in from the Class of '92 and '95; (in fact the '95 grad, Mike Brown, drew the logo for the New Brunswick Forest Technician Association). Anyway, they asked that "how's she goin' kind of thing; then it came down to the "How's it goin' here"? I've been asked that a lot lately, so I thought I'd tell you all what's goin' on.

I was 29 when I went through the front door of Dracula's Castle. Then, on into the main lecture theatre, with its high, intimidating ceiling. Must be for hangin' the dead I thought. I was going to my first class at the Maritime Forest Ranger School!

We were introduced to instructors. Hey, this guy has 2 arms and 2 legs, not the 4-armed monster the grads talked about! Another seemed normal, the one eye in the center of the forehead was really a bald spot. The guy they said had horns really had bad hair days. Sorry to go on, but the guys who went here understand. I just blended into those dark walls of the school. A mistake? Hindsight tells me yes.

The year went on. Someone, somehow, someway helped somebody out whenever they needed help. If you tried and worked hard someone was always there to help you. We didn't expect anything handed to us.

Our colleagues were always there.

It's funny, I now teach Dendrology at the College, and if it wasn't for Sterling McAskill, and Matt Reid, I would have failed Dendro. These guys, and others, would set up tests. They helped everyone.

The Maritime Forest Ranger School did a lot for me. After graduation, I joined the faculty as a Field Instructor. Six years later I became an Instructor and have been so for the last 13 years.

During the last 19 years, I met some of the best people you could ever imagine. Hard working, honest, caring people! The type who would give you the blood out of their veins. Gotta enough? Want the rest? I'm getting' dizzy... thunk. But change happens.

When we first started talking about "the change", I didn't think much of it. But the curriculum kept getting harder and harder. 1990 was harder than '86. '97 harder than '94 and probably 2002, 2003 was getting just too much. Gotta go to a 2 year program! Change the name? The School's enrolment was getting to the point that serious thought was being given that this great school could close its doors. Many of the schools that don't know anything about us said the "School" seemed to have a lower stigma about it. We weren't preaching to the converted. To young people MFRS may as well be XYZ. The choice of calling it a "College" and calling forest technicians, "forest technologist" was to:

- a) increase enrolment
 - b) enhance the perception of Forest Technicians (doesn't Technologist sound better than technicians?)
- Some people think so, though I'm not sure).

I'm a traditionalist but when you're discussing the possibility of no more "School", you start thinking differently. I wasn't just losing a job, we would have lost a great school and perhaps the beginning of the "sunset" of the Forest Technician in the Maritimes. A sad day indeed!

We changed our name. We all know if it looks like a duck and quacks like a duck it's...

The new two-year program, in my "personal opinion", is fantastic! I said to a lad the other day, "If it wasn't for the exams and the assignments I'd go back to School".

I bet a few grads have also wished that. Just talk to the MCFT 2005 class, about what they think of the curriculum. There are still long periods of "glassy eye" very much like that "million-mile stare of war veterans". Well, MCFT shares with MFRS those times when you have that same stare. Nothing like exam week to remind you of Stalingrad.

There aren't any more Saturday classes and there are free periods between some classes. There are times when some lectures start at 9:00 a.m. but they're not common. Punctuality and accountability are still high standards at the College. We have a significant change in staff and we are all adapting. We have some great new courses and have expanded on other courses which offers more opportunities for graduates.

Gerry Redmond is doing some neat stuff in wildlife courses that have old grads drooling! They're learning

how to immobilize animals, mounting wildlife samples, chasing radio collared humans, and much more. Then there is Advanced Silviculture, taught by David McDonald. A forester and a technician, David received his Forest Technician diploma from Sir Sanford Flemming. We still tease him about that. He brings a lot with him ranging from driving a skidder, to a degree in Forestry, and a Masters in Business Administration. He's done a lot with the Entomology/Pathology, Botany and Entrepreneurship courses he's taken over.

Urban Forestry has been added to the curriculum. I sat in on the first lecture and of course a little birdie told me a few things and it's looking good. Proper individual tree care, multiple uses of trees etc.

Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) is a new course providing students with knowledge of non-fibre uses of trees. Ground Vegetation, Ecology, Hardwood Management, Public Speaking, and dealing with the media and controversial issues.

Ethics and Environmental Issues are making students more versatile in a changing environment.

The graduating class of 2005 has me a believer in the Maritime College of Forest Technology 2-year program. The present 2006 class shows a lot of promise also. They are a class worthy of standing with the past classes of the Maritime Forest Ranger School. They worked hard and helped each other. Please welcome them to our proud profession.

P.S. They have a hockey team called the "Swamp Donkey's".

Kenneth McGinn, Instructor
MFRS '86

addendum

I guess it's not all roses at the College. A representative of the Class came to me the other day and asked if they would be given the chance to critique the course. I thought it was a great idea, and who better to evaluate the program than those who went through the "meat grinder".

I got a past Instructor to meet with them, and lead them through the critique. The session was recorded by two scribes and forwarded to the College's Executive Director. There were many concerns and criticisms voiced by the students. Yes, it turned at times into a gripe session, but the bottom line was they cared about "their College" and wanted it more than anything to succeed like the old program.

To the "old grads" and the new ones, we will make positive changes. We will improve. We have many new Instructors and new courses. Give us a chance. We will make you proud!



The Azimuth

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Technician of the Year Award

The award was once again sponsored by Monsanto. Mike Cunningham was in attendance to present the award.

Randy Crealock introduced this year's recipient, Ron Blainey. The following is an excerpt of Randy's introduction.

In 1968 Ron helped with the construction of the St. Anne Nackawic Pulp Mill. On December 18th, 1969 he graduated from the Maritime Forest Ranger School and 3 days later joined the woodlands staff. Everything from scaling, harvesting, land acquisitions and silviculture – progressing to the supervisory role in all of these departments. All the while continuing his education with various courses and seminars. While I worked as a contractor with St. Anne I found Ron always one to promote the role of the Forest Technician, saying they are the only ones who get out of bed on time. To me, he is the truest meaning of a Forest Technician. Hard-working, dedicated, honest and professional.

NBFTA's Mount Carleton Day 2005

Carved out of the northern New Brunswick wilderness, Mount Carleton is one of the province's largest Natural Areas. Each year it welcomes more than 30,000 New Brunswickers and other visitors who seek out its 'wild' experience, its solitude and its close contact with nature. A challenging mix of Acadian woods and mountain peaks, Mount Carleton has more than 17,000 hectares of wildlands waiting for today's explorer. The NBFTA will be meeting at Mount Carleton Provincial Park on the weekend of Aug 13th for the first annual Mount Carleton Beautification Day. We, as an association, have adopted the mountain and endeavor to annually clean up the mountain's trails and repair its cabins and signs as necessary. This is a great PR campaign for the NBFTA, and should prove to be a really fun and fulfilling experience. (A great sing along at night too no doubt – bring your guitars) Many members will be camping at the park for the weekend, and a great time is sure to be had by all who attend. Remember, many hands make light work.

Watch for further information to be circulated in early July, and feel free to contact NBFTA President Allie DeGrace @470-4171 (degrace.allie@jdirving.com), or PR Chair Jason Thibodeau @455-6673