

NEW BRUNSWICK FOREST TECHNICIAN'S ASSOCIATION

AZIMUTH NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2015

NBFTA NEWS

2015 Annual General Meeting

The 2015 NBFTA AGM was held at the Delta Beausejour in Moncton on April 2, 2015. Although attendance was relatively low, it was a productive meeting, with many items discussed. Various committee reports were read, and the election and installation of officers was completed. All 2014 officers and region reps stayed on for 2015, with the exception of John Green, who took on the position of Region 2 representative. MCFT director Gerry Redmond gave an informative update on MCFT operations and activities. There was a discussion about the NBFTA's involvement with Sylvicon, and CFT and CFE certificates were awarded to several members (pictures on page 4). The 2016 AGM will be held next spring – time, date and location to be determined.

A copy of the complete minutes of the meeting can be viewed on the NBFTA website at <http://www.nbfta.org/>.

NBFTA Executive Meeting

An NBFTA executive meeting was held on June 13 2015, at MCFT in Fredericton. Many items were discussed; certification and continuing forestry education were a couple of the main topics.

A copy of the complete minutes of the meeting can be viewed on the NBFTA website at <http://www.nbfta.org/>.



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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

An executive meeting was held on June 13, 2015 in Fredericton to discuss the continuing forestry education (CFE), Certified Forest Technician (CFT) and the membership database. Changes were made to the CFE requirements to meet the needs of our Technician Certification Program and still maintain high standards. It will ensure that we continue to be recognized as the professional that we truly are. The changes will be posted on the association website at www.nbfta.org.

I take this opportunity to wish everyone a productive summer. Do not forget to enjoy precious time with family and friends.

Please share the Azimuth with as many technicians as possible.

If you have any improvement ideas or concerns that you want to share with us, please do not hesitate to contact us either by telephone or at contact@nbfta.org.

France Roussel, CFT

NBFTA President

A WORD FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

It has been a wet and cold spring (some would like to tell us it was warmer in May than average, but maybe I missed those days). With that it seems like everyone is busier than ever, especially in the Forest Industry. Likewise the members of the NBFTA Executive are busy keeping up and improving the Association. Generally, the Association has some uphill roads ahead and many of these things were discussed at the last Executive Meeting held in Fredericton on June 13. The Executive has identified several initiatives that we plan to undertake to enhance the Association. To easily sum up a couple of these:

1. We need to expand our membership, especially the number the CFT's. To do this will require engagement with technicians and current members in a way that may be new to the Association (or at least new to the time that I have been involved).
2. We need to make it easier for CFT's to maintain their designation, especially in today's world of fiscal restraint. That in mind at the most recent Executive meeting it was decided that the credits required for Category 1 (Structured Learning, the category that most would agree is most difficult to get credits for) would be dropped from 60hrs in 3 years, down to 30hrs in 3 years. Categories 2 and 3 will continue as before. The new structure will look be composed of:
 - Category 1: Structured learning (Minimum 30 contact hours)
 - Category 2: Self –Improvement (Maximum 90 contact hours)
 - Category 3: Professional contributions (Maximum 60 contact hours)
 - Total: 120 contact hours over 3 years

I hope everyone has a good summer and hopefully the weekends dry out a bit. I also encourage anyone interested in becoming certified to contact me or if you require assistance with your CFE application or have any questions or suggestions at all please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best Regards,

Riley Côté-DeMerchant

CFT 109

CFT AND CFE PRESENTATIONS

Several certificates were handed out to NBFTA members in attendance at the AGM in Moncton on April 2 2015.



(Above) Riley Cote DeMerchant (l) receives his CFT certificate from NBFTA president France Roussel (r).



(Above) CFE certificate recipients for 2015



(Above) NBFTA members in attendance at the 2015 AGM.

NBFTA AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Each year at the MCFT graduation, the NBFTA award is presented to the New Brunswick student with the highest academic standing. This year's recipient was Cody Grant, and Riley Côté-DeMerchant was on hand to present Cody with the award. Congratulations Cody!



(Above) Riley Cote Demerchant (l) presents the 2015 NBFTA award to Cody Grant (r).

MCFT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Attention Maritime Forest Ranger School and Maritime College of Forest Technology Alumni.

Last October the MCFT decided to look into an Alumni Association to represent graduates of the MFRS and the MCFT. Since then the MFRS-MCFT Alumni Association has been put in place and our initial sign up drive has put us in contact with almost 400 Alumni.

In addition, our first newsletter was distributed in May and plans for a 2016 reunion are now in the works.

If you would like to join our distribution list, get involved with the Alumni Association Board or participate in the 2016 Reunion, please contact me at the address or telephone number below.

I look forward to meeting many of you and welcome your ideas and input in the development of your new Alumni Association.

André Arseneault

Alumni Association Coordinator

alumniassociation@mcft.ca

1(506)471-5188

Although it's summer, we know what is just around the corner – now is the time to get your fuel wood ready and seasoned for winter. Below is an old poem reminding us of the heat values of various species of wood.

Wood Lore

Hickory makes the hottest coals in stoves when winter's bleak,
Apple wood like incense burning through the hall both fragrance seek,
Elm wood fires have little smoke and warm both serf and lord,
Oak logs split and dried this year make good next winters hoard,
Beech burns bright and fills a the room with warmth and dancing light,
Maple sweet, not white or red will burn throughout the night,
Birch logs cut, need ne'er be stored - they blaze, then heat the pot,
Ash, straight grain and easy split - the kettle sings, and stove is hot,
Poplar logs must need be dried lest smoke both then ensue,
Pine and fir midst showers of sparks burn fast and line the blackened flue

Anonymous, Old English Song

"Individual commitment to a group effort-that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work."

Vince Lombardi

NBFTA CONTACT LISTING - 2015/16						
POSITION	RESPONSIBLE	WORK	HOME	CELL	FAX	E-MAIL
EXECUTIVE BOARD						
President	France Roussel	356-4100 (4238)	473-4229	356-5448	356-4105	froussel@acadiantimber.com
1st VP & Certification	Riley Côté-DeMerchant	446-4403		471-5342	446-4402	riley.demerchant@gmail.com
2nd VP & Discipline	Allie DeGrace	547-7300	546-9544	544-5883	547-7311	alliedegrace@gmail.com
Secretary	Blair DeGrace	356-4100 (4199)	356-8323	356-5025	356-4105	bdegrace@AcadianTimber.com
Treasurer	Chris Finnamore	450-1309	450-3716	476-8486	458-2200	ckfinnamore@rogers.com
Past President	Gareth Davies	458-5121	454-5446	442-0231	458-0652	gdavies@mcft.ca
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES						
# 1 Bathurst	Jonathan DeGrace	547-2080	548-8096	226-2752	547-2068	Jonathan.Degrace@gnb.ca
# 2 Miramichi	John Green		622-7978			jmoreen@xolomet.ca
# 3 Island View (Fred.)	Paul Gilmore	451-9696	457-9696	476-7286	453-9927	gwfs@nb.aibn.com
# 4 Edmundston	Pamela Hurley-Poitras		423-6617	423-8289		pamelashurley@xplomet.ca
CERTIFICATION BOARD						
Chair	Riley Côté-DeMerchant	446-4403		471-5342	446-4402	riley.demerchant@gmail.com
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Member						
Member						
BIG TREE CONTEST						
Chair	Vacant					
Member	Vacant					
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE						
Chair	Vacant					
Member	Vacant					
ADVISORY COMMITTEE						
Member	Walter Bidlake		366-3351			bidlake@nb.sympatico.ca
Member	Claude Chiasson	546-4176			546-2829	cchiasson@mcft.ca
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PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE						
Chair	Vacant					
Member	Vacant					
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MCFT BOARD OF GOVERNORS						
Representative	Blair DeGrace	356-4100 (4199)	356-8323	356-5025	356-4105	bdegrace@AcadianTimber.com
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Chair	Allie DeGrace	547-7300	546-9544	544-5883	547-7311	Allie.degrace@ws-ts.nb.ca
Member	Vacant					

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PARTING WORDS

Wow- summer is finally here and it was worth the wait! As summer is generally a busy time in our industry, with silviculture , harvesting and road maintenance activities running a full capacity, I wish everyone a safe and productive summer. I would also like to thank all those who contributed to this issue, and would encourage anyone with future Azimuth ideas, or pictures to contribute, please contact me.

Dustin Corey, CFT



Balsam Fir Commercial Thinning in Northern NB