

# NEW BRUNSWICK FOREST TECHNICIAN'S ASSOCIATION

AZIMUTH NEWSLETTER *SPRING/SUMMER 2014*

## NBFTA NEWS

### 2014 Annual General Meeting

The New Brunswick Forest Technician's Association Annual General Meeting was held in Moncton at the Delta Beauséjour on April 3rd, in conjunction with the Canadian Woodlands Forum spring meetings. The meeting was well attended, with 22 technicians on hand to take part in the proceedings. The meeting was opened at 13:30 by President Gareth Davies, who gave his 2013 report.

New Maritime College of Forest Technology Director, Gerry Redmond was on hand to give an update on the state of affairs at the school. He reported that enrollment was excellent, with 100 applicants for 60 available spots in 2014. He also spoke on the advanced diploma programs at the school, and of a new land acquisition in the Kingsclear area. This new land will provide an excellent 400 hectare training area for our future forest technicians.

Blair DeGrace gave a report as the NBFTA representative on the MCFT board of governors. Other available executive/committee members also gave their 2013 reports.

There was much discussion about initiatives to renew members' interest in the Association, and improve communication within our ranks. There was also some discussion on the new Crown Forest Plan announced in March 2014.

Outgoing executive members were thanked for their efforts, and some new members were brought on board for 2014 (see executive list, attached). France Roussel was voted in as the new president, replacing outgoing president Gareth Davies. All executive positions for 2014 were filled, but there are still many committee openings available for interested members. It was agreed that the 2015 meeting would again take place in conjunction with the Canadian Woodlands Forum spring meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 15:35. Full minutes of the meeting and submitted reports can be viewed on the NBFTA website (<http://www.nbfta.org/>)

Let's make an effort to support incoming president, France Roussel and the executive in 2014. If you are interested in taking an active role within the Association, or have any questions, contact your regional representative, or a member of the executive.



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## **NBFTA Executive Meeting**

Founded in 1996, the NBFTA is a mature organization with a new leadership team. Your current Executive Committee is focused on improving communications, growing the membership base, and developing accountabilities to support a sound structure and seamless operation of our Association.

France Roussel convened his first meeting as NBFTA President on May 10 in Fredericton. In attendance were; 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Riley Côté-DeMerchant; 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Allie DeGrace; Treasurer, Chris Finnamore; Secretary, Blair DeGrace; Region 3 Rep, Paul Gilmore, and Region 4 Rep, Pamela Hurley-Poitras.

An aggressive agenda focused primarily on reengaging with the membership through effective communications and local events. Participants reviewed individual plans of action including, but not limited to, items such as revival of the Azimuth Newsletter, Regional Meetings, Technician Certification, Continuing Education, Membership & Invoicing, Roles & Responsibilities, and Affiliations.

Detailed meeting minutes are posted on the NBFTA Website at <http://www.nbfta.org/>.



## A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fellow Technicians,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you during the upcoming year. It is with honor and enthusiasm that I accept the role of the President of the NBFTA. The Association will certainly benefit from the immense experience of the Executive Council members that will be serving.

With the Right to practice behind us, we can resume our efforts on other very important issues such as communication, membership and certification. We will deal with issues we will face in the upcoming year in a timely and professional manner.

You are encouraged to share with us your opinions, suggestions or information concerning activities in your area. This can be done via your regional representative or any Executive Council member.

In conclusion, I want to wish everyone a safe and productive summer.

France Roussel, CFT  
NBFTA President

## Ten Reasons to Join the NBFTA (Intro. by Riley Côté-DeMerchant)

"I became a member of the NBFTA for one primary reason (NBFTA Objective 2.2 in the Constitution: To provide one voice on forestry issues as they relate to Forest Technicians/ Technologists). In 2012 the NBFTA accomplished that, and I was grateful for the Association and the great technicians that are a part of it. In the event you are wondering why you should be a member or why you still are a member of the NBFTA, below are 10 good reasons Claude Chiasson first published in 1999."

1. To become certified within the Association.
2. To be ready to meet the challenges of the future without having it forced on me.
3. To participate with others in my profession by pooling our ideas together to achieve our objectives.
4. To express my ideas towards an association which represent my own thoughts.
5. To cooperate with my fellow technicians in expressing my views, and accepting other views, however different they may be.
6. To ensure that we continue to recognize the forest technician as the professional he/she truly is.
7. To give back to forestry a little of what it has given me and my family, maybe for generations of giving.
8. To become accountable to myself as well as to others.
9. To promote camaraderie within our profession.
10. To be able to participate in Continuing Forestry Education which will be offered to members of the Association.

Author: Claude Chiasson, CFT ©1999

"Work hard, stay positive, and get up early! It's the best part of the day!"

George Allen Sr.

## NBFTA CONTACT LISTING - 2014/2015

POSITION	RESPONSIBLE	WORK	HOME	CELL	FAX	E-MAIL
<b>EXECUTIVE BOARD</b>						
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
<b>REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES</b>						
# 1 Bathurst	Jonathan DeGrace	547-2080	548-8096	226-2752	547-2068	Jonathan.Degrace@gnb.ca
# 2 Miramichi	Lance Crane	486-6000			486-6001	lance.crain@gnb.ca
# 3 Island View (Fred.)	Paul Gilmore	451-9696	457-9696	476-7286	453-9927	gwfs@nb.aibn.com
# 4 Edmunston	Pamela-Hurley-Poitras		423-6617	423-8289		pamelashurley@xplornet.ca
<b>CERTIFICATION BOARD</b>						
Chair	Riley Côté-DeMerchant	446-4403		471-5342	446-4402	riley.demerchant@gmail.com
Member						
<b>CONTINUING FORESTRY EDUCATION COMMITTEE</b>						
Chair	Chris Finnamore	450-1309	450-3716	476-8486	458-2200	ckfinnamore@rogers.com
Member						
Member						
<b>BIG TREE CONTEST</b>						
Chair	Vacant					
Member	Vacant					
<b>MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE</b>						
Chair	Vacant					
Member	Vacant					
<b>ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b>						
Member	Walter Bidlake		366-3351			bidlake@nb.sympatico.ca
Member	Claude Chiasson	546-4176			546-2829	cchiasson@mcft.ca
Member	Gareth Davies	458-5121	454-5446	442-0231	458-0652	gdavies@mcft.ca
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Member	Chris Finnamore	452-6920	450-3716	471-7877	472-7403	ckfinnamore@rogers.com
Member	Girvan Harrison		488-1901			earthwd@nb.sympatico.ca
<b>PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE</b>						
Chair	Vacant					
Member	Vacant					
<b>AZIMUTH NEWSLETTER</b>						
Editor	Riley Côté-DeMerchant	446-4403		471-5342	446-4402	riley.demerchant@gmail.com
Member	Dusty Corey	356-4100 (4231)	356-9674	356-5113	356-4105	dcorey@acadiantimber.com
<b>MCFT BOARD OF GOVERNORS</b>						
Representative	Blair DeGrace	356-4100 (4199)	356-8323	356-5025	356-4105	bdegrace@AcadianTimber.com
<b>DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE</b>						
Chair	Allie DeGrace	547-7300	546-9544	544-5883	547-7311	Allie.degrace@ws-ts.nb.ca
Member	Vacant					

## PARTING WORDS

It has been a pleasure working with the executive and putting together this Azimuth edition. We look forward to getting another edition out to the membership this fall. If anyone has information regarding the Association, or general forestry information that they would like included in the next edition of the Azimuth, please drop a line to Riley Cote-DeMerchant or the writer. Pictures will also be considered for publication.

Feel free to distribute this edition to other technicians, and if you know of anyone who should be receiving the Azimuth, but isn't, please forward us an address or email address and we'll add them to the distribution list. If you receive this via the regular mail, but would prefer to get it by email, please notify us as well.

Dustin Corey, CFT