



NBFTA
Annual General Meeting
February 16, 2007
Crown Plaza Hotel
Fredericton, NB



Opening:

President Allie DeGrace called the meeting to order at 8:51 a.m. A moment of silence was observed for any technicians who passed away during the year. Sylvicon which was hosted by the NBFTA appeared to be a success despite the weather.

Reading Of 2006 Minutes

Fred Harris, Secretary, reviewed the minutes from the meeting of the 2006 NBFTA AGM. There were no questions or issues raised with the minutes. Blair DeGrace moved the 2006 minutes be accepted, and seconded by Claude Chiasson. Motion carried.

Appoint Ballot Counters

Ballot counters were Bill Whalen and Andy Chase

Proposed By-laws Changes

Allie brought to the attention of all attending that anyone who had a by-law concern should turn it in to the NBFTA executive before new business began. Nothing was turned in.

EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

President - Allie DeGrace

Good morning,

Thank you all again for taking time out of your busy schedules this morning to be here.

In my report I will touch on many of the items that have kept us busy over the past year, as well as some of the items that you will hear about today.

In the past year, RTP, Sylvicon and Reunion 60 have held much of the focus of the NBFTA executive.

The RTP committee had a number of meetings with the ARPFNB committee and some progress was made initially, but things seemed to stall throughout the year. There has, however, been a renewed focus as of late following a canvas of the ARPFNB with a 75% majority in favour of moving ahead with RTP legislation. Chris Finnamore and I attended a joint session Wednesday night the 14th of February with the RPF's and have developed a game plan to hopefully submit proposed legislation to the legislature by the fall of 2008 (following much review and questioning of NBFTA and ARPFNB members.)

I had the opportunity to speak with the registrar of the Alberta college of Forest Technology, and we had a very interesting discussion on certification and cross provincial agreements. He stated that there are approx. 600 certified forest technicians in Alberta, and that they are currently looking at the possibility of merging offices with the foresters to save costs.

Sylvicon 2007, by all accounts, has been a success. The NBFTA hosted the conference this year, and I had the pleasure of chairing the event and MC'ing the banquet. It was an honour to represent the technicians of New Brunswick at this prestigious event. I thank Chris Finnamore for representing the NBFTA on the Sylvicon organizing committee. I have no doubt that without Chris; Sylvicon 2007 would not have been the success that it was. Chris put in many hours of hard work and having the seeming misfortune of living in Fredericton, was called upon many times to represent the NBFTA at meetings in the capitol city (always without hesitation). Thanks Chris.

I had the opportunity to meet with the new Minister of Natural Resources, Donald Arseneault, at the Graduation of the Bathurst of the MCFT, and also at Sylvicon. While we did not get the opportunity to have a formal meeting, he extended an open door invitation to meet and discuss the NBFTA in the future, which we will do in the months following the AGM.

I again had the opportunity to attend the NSFTA AGM last year in Truro, and was met with a warm reception and truly enjoyed the opportunity to represent the NBFTA at the event. Clifton Sangster, president of the NSFTA, and I have talked many times over the year, and our associations continue to have a strong bond. Clifton was in town to attend Sylvicon, but was called back home for a family emergency at the last minute. (Our thoughts and prayers are with Clifton and his family)

Chris Finnamore, your president elect, will be representing the NBFTA in Nova Scotia this coming March in New Glasgow.

I attended the MFRS / MCFT celebration 60 events held this past August in Fredericton NB. The event was well attended and all involved enjoyed their experience. I was honoured to co-present the school with two life sized carvings of a forest technician (male & female) with Clifton Sangster, on behalf of our associations. The weekend saw old friends reunite, new friendships form, and camaraderie abound.

This year also saw the first bilingual issue of the Azimuth. There was a second issue ready to be mailed out prior to Christmas, but it has disappeared and the lady hired to do the Azimuth is un-reachable. We are continuing to hunt down answers for this lost issue and details should follow shortly.

Unfortunately, this year we again had no nominees for The Hall of Fame or Technician of the Year. After 60 years of graduating forest technicians, there must be some out there worth honouring.

Finally, it has been a very difficult year to maintain the NBFTA. We have many vacancies in the association's executive and committees, as well as people holding positions and not getting their job done. This makes it very hard for the few members that actually take pride in their association, as the work all falls on their shoulders. I will not name those few, for you know who you are and you don't do it for the glory...thank you.

The association is not dying, but the end would not be far off if young members don't step up and do their part. I graduated 10 years ago and I am the latest

graduate to hold office in the association, this needs to change. We are missing 3 of 4 regional reps, a 1st VP, an Azimuth editor, a membership committee, an active advisory committee, as well as other vacancies. We see no turn out to regional initiatives like Adopt-A-Highway or CE events.

This is not meant to be a doom and gloom message, but rather a reality check for those members who don't realize that their association needs their help to survive.

In closing, it has been my pleasure and honour to be your president over the past two years, and I encourage you all to do your part and step up to do your part if you can.

Allie DeGrace, CFT #100
President, NBFTA

1st Vice President – Chris Finnamore

As First Vice president, one of the main responsibilities is to Chair the Certification Committee therefore most of my efforts this past year were focused on the Certification process as a whole. In March I held the first examination session of the year and about one hour into the exam I quickly realized that the exam was very out of date and a lot of the answers to the questions no longer existed as the acts had changed and most of the Forest Fire Act had been repealed. The exam has been updated.

During this session there were four members who wrote the exam and successfully passed. Another exam was held in April at the Carleton Victoria Marketing Board where we had one member write and pass, I would like to thank Tim Fox for allowing this to take place. The final exam session of the year took place in Bathurst in August; one member wrote and passed at that session. Louis Caissie administered the exam. There is one new member that has applied to write the Certification exam which will take place very soon in Miramichi.

In March I attended a Sylvicon wrap up meeting for Allie DeGrace as he was unavailable and came out of the meeting with another task on my plate to work on. Rick Doucette and I attended the Sylvicon meetings and helped with the ideas to come up with the topics for this year's conference. I never realized how much work goes into one of these things until I got involved with that committee.

I also attended the CFE committee meeting to review and approve the applications for Continuing Forest Education.

I spent some time trying to straighten out the CFT vs. CFE list for our certified members and quickly realized that even though the list says we have 132 CFTs that is not an indicator as to the number that we have in good standing. I now have the list up to date but like any list or set of statistics what do we do with it now?

In order to be a certified member in good standing you have to meet two requirements. The first is pay your dues each year and second is to complete 150 hours of Continuing Education in three years then apply for a CFE certificate. I personally feel that the current CFE system is fair. Could it be changed to make it easier? Perhaps.

I also carried all other tasks that were asked of me on behalf of the association through out the year.

Respectively Submitted

Chris Finnamore, CFT 109

2nd Vice President – Laurie Yeates

Laurie was in Montreal for work related duties but submitted her report as follows:

As 2nd VP my primary responsibility is disciplinary action but there have been no issues in 2006.

My next focus was trying to find regional reps for regions 2 & 4... with no luck. NBFTA is your association and we need to help make it work. Experience is not necessary as we will be there to help every step of the way. It is not too late. Your primary goals as regional rep would be to represent the association to forest technicians in your region, and look after the twice annual clean ups. Support from the NBFTA executive goes with the position of regional rep, and it is largely what you make it. There are terms of reference developed for the position of regional rep, which help in understanding the role as well. Please consider helping.

I participated in the spring and fall Adopt-A-Highway clean up (garbage picking). There has been very little support for this activity in the Fredericton. I was very disappointed in the turnout. I recommend that if we don't get support, we should not take on any more new Adopt-A-Highway projects.

If we all do a little for the association, the work load will be smaller.

Respectfully submitted

Laurie Yeates

Secretary – Fred Harris

I attended the Executive Meetings on March 25, 2006 and July 27, 2006 in Fredericton and the September 16, 2006 meeting in Miramichi, recorded the minutes and prepared them for distribution,

I attempted a fall clean up on October 21, 2006 for Adopt-A-Highway stretch that was adopted in Region 2 in the Doaktown area. Due to no response and a huge rainfall the day was a washout.

I also carried out other tasks that were asked of me by the Association.

Respectfully submitted;

Fred Harris CFT # 0086

Treasurer - Mike Boucher -

Mike informed the executive that he was stepping down as treasurer of the NBFTA. Mike Boucher suggested that the NBFTA should look at a 2 year membership fee that would cut down on costs for mail outs, receipts, etc. He also had a question regarding Atlantic Forestry Review. Should members with an expired CFE certificate still receive AFR? He presented the budget as follows:

NBFTA FINANCIAL REPORT

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2006

Opening Balance				\$12,003.55
Revenues				
Dues memberships			\$5,135.00	
Certification			\$ 200.00	
Interest			\$ 5.85	
Total Revenues			\$5,340.85	\$ 5,340.85
Expenses				
Bank Fees			\$ 56.00	
AGM Expenses			\$ 836.14	
Memberships			\$ 460.00	
brochures			\$ 478.80	
NBFTA Souvenirs			\$1,161.68	
Donations			\$1,250.00	
Travel			\$ 30.00	
CFT			\$ 11.26	
Executive meeting expenses			\$ 319.00	
Website			\$ 433.85	
Postage			\$ 280.20	
Azimuth			\$1,029.84	
Awards			\$1,200.00	
Plaques			\$ 324.48	
Ads			\$ 255.00	
			\$8,126.25	\$ 8,126.25
Book Balance				\$ 9,218.15
Bank Balance Dec 31, 2006				\$ 9,218.15
Outstanding checks at yearend				\$ -
Bank Statement				\$ 9,218.15
Difference				

Audited by France Roussel and Carl Hovey
 February 15, 2007

Rick Doucette asked whether the cheque from the dues for NBFTA members from DNR was included in Balance. Mike said it was not.

Bill Whalen noted there should be a correction in Financial report and should read as "Bank Balance Dec 31, 2006.

Nicole Vienneau asked if the treasurer has to be a CFT. Answer is yes

A motion to accept report by Andy Chase, seconded by Danny LaPointe. Motion carried.

Auditors – France Roussel/Carl Hovey

France Roussel checked over the NBFTA account and found some issues with receipts missing. Mike Boucher was able to verify the cheques that were issued that had no receipts. France suggested a form for expenses be prepared for the future. Mike will post this on the website.

France's report is as follows:

2006 NBFTA AUDITOR REPORT

The 2006 financial books were reviewed on February 15, 2007. The books are in balance and easy to follow. There were a number of receipts missing for some expenses. A list of expenses with missing receipts are listed below:

<u>Cheque #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
#360	Allie DeGrace	\$20.56 20.00
#364	Michael Boucher	\$280.20
#367	Lisa Leblanc	\$400.00
#369	Allie DeGrace	\$74.03
#373	Valley Graphics Ltd	\$1161.68

#382	Lisa Leblanc	\$400.00
#380	Allie DeGrace	\$50.00
#383	DvL Publishing Inc	\$255.00

Auditor: France Roussel, CFT

CFT #0024

Motion to accept the report by Robert Gaudet, seconded by Girvan Harrison.
Motion carried.

Past President & Advisory – Danny LaPointe

Danny's report is as follows:

Very short report this year, I attended an executive meeting held this past December. There were no advisory meetings that were held (chaired) I did receive a nomination for president, Chris Finnermore prior to the deadline. Nomination accepted and signed acceptance on file

Any other positions such as Regional reps will have to be accepted from the floor here at the AGM.

A motion was made to accept Danny's report.

Regional Representatives

Jonathan DeGrace - Region # 1 - Representative

Jonathon was absent from meeting but submitted his report via e-mail as follows:

Tried to have a garbage cleanup but nobody showed up except for Claude Chiasson. There is no interest for CFTs. I sold 3 hats. I think region 1 needs a new

rep. I can't make it to the AGM; I'm away in Fredericton 4 days this week and in Doaktown 2 days the week after.

Jonathon

Region 2 Representative- There is no rep from Region 2.

Mark Smissaert - Region 3 Representative

Mark did not submit a report he was in Alberta but will resume duties when he returns.

Region 4 Representative- There is no rep from Region 4.

Public Relations – Troy Adams

Troy was not present for the meeting as he had to be away for work purposes. No report was submitted. Allie DeGrace said Troy was doing a great job of public relations with new hats, pins and pamphlets. There would be a NBFTA pin for all people in attendance.

Azimuth

The Azimuth needs an Editor. It is a job that can be done without a whole lot of hassle.

MCFT Board of Governors (Overview) – Blair DeGrace

It was moved and accepted that Blair remain on the Board of Directors for MCFT.

- Blair informed us that the cost of the 2 year program was about \$10000
- The MCFT is in good shape as per their auditors Grant Thornton
- Blair suggested that an endowment fund be set up. Allie said the NBFTA sponsors a \$500 scholarship to a first and second year student of the MCFT.

- The Society of American Foresters recognizes the MCFT program as a 2 year equivalent. Kenny McGinn noted that UNB recognizes the MCFT program as 2 1\2 years for their program.

A motion was made by Girvan Harrison to accept Blair's report, seconded by France Roussel.

CFANB (Tree House) submitted by Walter Bidlake

There will be a presentation at the AGM from the Tree House now called The Canadian Forestry Association of New Brunswick (CFANB). So not to repeat some of the address I will not have much of a report. The Biggest news is the name change back to the CFANB

Walter Bidlake

Right to Practice – Allie DeGrace for Walter Bidlake

Over the last three to five years the RPF and the NBFTA have been exploring the idea of Right to Practice. This means that in order to “practice Forestry” you need to be certified and follow guidelines of the certifying body. (read the definition of “practice of Forestry”). The NBFTA certifying process is the CFT program that is already in place. The RPF need to put several aspects of the certification process in place to meet the criteria.

Why is it important to have The Right to Practice (RPT)?

The public wants accountability and a regulated profession that provides accountability that they have confidence in to manage the forest of NB in a sustainable fashion. The principal objective of the RPT is to regulate the practice of professional forestry and to govern its members in accordance with laws and regulations of NB in order that the public interest may be served with respect to the Sustainability of NB forest and values.

How does this affect the NBFTA?

Only those members that are with in the “practice of forestry” are required to be certified as a CFT. Example:

- A technician that is designing or administering a management plan or any part of plan, IE: road design, harvesting blocks, needs to be certified and registered. If they are following a plan under the direction of a CFT they need not be certified.
- A technician that is teaching or doing research pertaining to the management of forest ecosystems and forestlands needs to be certified.

Where are we today with RPT?

A question and answer spreadsheet has been put together answering some of the more frequently asked questions. The RPF have polled their members to see if they are in favour of RPT to see if there is a need to move on it. A spreadsheet has been put together to estimate the cost and time frame of RPT. Dues are expected to double for the NBFTA CFT to pay for the administration of the new act.

Kenny McGinn noted we need to move or our association will be done. Walter Bidlake is only NBFTA member on RTP Committee need new members. RTP will be going through in fall of 2008. All were in favour of RTP by vote taken by those present at AGM.

CFE Committee - Phil Hughes

The Committee met quarterly this year to review and approve CFE submissions of members. There were 15 certificates issued to NBFTA members since the last Annual General meeting to the following members of the NBFTA; Benoit Bouchard, Blair DeGrace, Brian Kilpatrick, Chris Spencer, Dustin Corey, Jacques Lirette, Joseph Pollock, Ken McGinn, Louis Caissie, Rick Doucette, Todd MacPherson, Bill Whalen, Alyre Godin, Girvan Harrison, Andrew Chase.

Some new business the committee has been looking into is the revamping of the CFE program to make it more user friendly system for our membership. This may mean moving away from the CIF system and implementing our own system as several other associations have done. The new program would be very similar to the CIF model, but allow more flexibility for our membership. The committee will provide more information and a progress report in the **Azimuth** as the project progresses.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Hughes CFT

Blair DeGrace had a concern over the audit and honour system where there still had to be someone look at the application.

Phil said it was still an application process but would be done yearly rather than every three years but could be audited so all claims would have to be kept on file.

Claude Chiasson had a concern that it would create more work.

Coffee Break 10:12 am- 10:28 am

Allie DeGrace Slide Presentation

Allie mentioned that this was the 12th AGM for the NBFTA. The initial meeting of what would become the New Brunswick Forest Technician Association was held February 9, 1996. On March 29, 2006 the second meeting was held. On April 29, 1996 the Association was incorporated.

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Ten reasons to join the NBFTA

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 as association which represents my 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



Code of Ethics of the NBFTA

12.1 No Code of Ethics can prescribe appropriate conduct under all circumstances. Its purpose is to provide a general guide of ethical conduct principles to allow members to carry out their duties to the environment, Association members, the profession and the public. Members are bound by the law, acts, and regulations of the Province of New Brunswick and the rules and articles of the New Brunswick Forest Technicians Association Inc.

12.2 This code shall be interpreted by the following guidelines.

12.2-1 The Golden Rule ("Do unto others as you would have them do unto you").

12.2-2 Honorable judgment errors are not unethical and must be evaluated in that context rather than by strict adherence to the written Code of Ethics.

12.3 As a further guide, members are encouraged to ask themselves four critical questions when faced with ethical decisions:

12.3-1 Is the potential action legal in the criminal or civil sense?

12.3-2 Is the action within the guidelines of the NBFTA Code of Ethics?

12.3-3 Is the action balanced or will it heavily favor one party over another?

12.3-4 Am I comfortable with the action and willing to have it known by all?

12.4 Code of Ethics Articles

12.4-1 A member shall protect and promote safety, social, economic, and environmental interests.

12.4-2 A member shall only undertake work that he/she is competent to perform by virtue of training

and experience.

12.4-3 A certified member shall maintain their technical competence through participation in Continuing Forestry Education (CFE).

12.4-4 A member shall recommend that other specialists be consulted on problems beyond his/her competence and shall cooperate with such specialists to the extent necessary.

12.4-5 A member shall regard the business of their employer as confidential unless released from this obligation.

12.4-6 A member, working simultaneously for clients whose interests in the work might be conflicting, shall notify all parties concerned.

12.4-7 A member shall be fair and honest in dealing with employer, client, subordinates, peers and members of the public.

12.4-8 A member shall be responsible to their employer or client and in the working relationship shall place their interests above everything except when those interests conflict with acceptable forestry practices.

12.4-9 A member, as a forest technician/technologist, shall not give opinions other than those based upon knowledge and experience.

12.4-10 A member shall not engage in any activity likely to result in an unfavorable reflection on the profession. This shall apply to conduct as a member of the profession and not as a citizen at large.

12.4-11 A member who engages in public discussion or controversy on forestry topics shall do so with dignity and honesty befitting his/her profession.

12.4-12 A member shall not condone untrue or misleading opinions concerning forestry.

12.4-13 A member shall not claim credit for facts or opinions, which are not his/her own.

12.4-14 A member shall not distort or withhold information for the purpose of supporting his/her opinions.

12.4-15 A member shall not make unsolicited or untrue comments to anyone about another forest technician/technologist's work or methods but shall disclose evidence of unethical actions to the Disciplinary Committee or the Appeal Board of the Disciplinary Committee of this Association.

12.4-16 A member shall not support the admission to this Association any person believed by them to be inadequately qualified or unworthy.

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Reading Of Correspondence – Fred Harris

Letter from Kenny McGinn to Susan Layton informing her that they had won the Big Tree Contest was read

Election & Installation of Officers - Danny LaPointe

Nominations were taken from the floor:

- For 1st Vice-President - Blair DeGrace by Kenny McGinn- Declined
- For 1st Vice-President - Jason Thibodeau by Kenny McGinn- Declined
- For 1st Vice-President - Andrew Chase by Claude Chiasson- Accepted
Seconded by Neill Tim
- For Treasurer - Nicole Vienneau by Gilles Gallant- Accepted
Seconded by Bill Whalen

NBFTA Executive for 2007-2008 is as follows:

- President - Chris Fynamore
- 1st Vice-President - Andrew Chase
- 2nd Vice-President - Laurie Yeates
- Secretary - Fred Harris
- Treasurer in Training (Pending Certification)-Nicole Vienneau
- Regional Reps - Region 1 – Nicole Vienneau
Region 2 – Open
Region 3- Mark Smissaert
Region 4 – Blair DeGrace
- Past President - Allie DeGrace
- Azimuth Editor - Open

Kenny McGinn suggested the Association should discuss having members on the executive that are not certified.

Allie hands off the reigns to Chris

There are no motions to change by-laws.

NEW BUSINESS

MCFT Bathurst Report (Overview) – Claude Chiasson

Claude gave a very interesting presentation on the history of the campus in Bathurst titled “Looking to the Past To Manage the Future”. The Fredericton campus was started in 1946. The Bathurst campus in 1980. The name of the 2 schools was changed from the Maritime Forest Ranger School to the Maritime College of Forest Technology in 2003.

The objective of the Bathurst was to provide forest technical training to the Francophone population of the Maritime population. The rule of Hank Blenis was Quality not Quantity.

The school year is divided into four terms: Term 1 is January to March; Term 2 is March to May, from May to September is the practicum, Term3 from September to December.

CFANB Presentation- Becky Geneau, Valerie Archibald

CFANB’s Mission is “To promote environmental stewardship by being a strong voice in presenting a balanced view of the values and issues associated with the forest and trees of New Brunswick to the people of the province through the provision of information and educational programs.”

Board of Directors: President: Bernie Daigle
Vice-President: Chris Dickie
Treasurer: Mike Boucher
Secretary: Marie-Paule McNutt
Past President: Walter Bidlake

Directors: Alma Bidlake, Wayne Guptill, Sheldon Hann, Ken Hardie, Shelley Woods, Gordon Young

Staff: Becky Geneau, Valerie Archibald- Associate Directors

CFANB Programs: Adopt-A- Highway, Envirothon NB, Autumn Colours, Naturally New Brunswick, National Forest Week

Adopt-A-Highway: 142 Active Groups in 2006. Over 760 km of Highway is adopted in New Brunswick. NBFTA cleans 4 different stretches of highway (a total of 17 km).

Envirothon NE: Envirothon's goal is "to prepare better environmental leaders for the future through education, awareness and hands on skill training."

Envirothon NB Competition: May 11 & 12, 2007 Fredericton, NB

Plant and shrub sale: May 26, 2007

CFANB Contact: 1350 Regent St
MCFT Rm 248
Fredericton, NB
E3C 2G6
(506) 452 1339
1 866 405 7000
www.cfanb.ca

Chris Fynamore thanked the CFANB for their presentation

Budget- Mike Boucher

NBFTA BUDGET 2007			
Opening Balance			\$ 9,218.15
Revenues			
Dues memberships		\$15,000.00	
Certification		\$ 200.00	
Interest		\$ 5.85	
Total Revenues		\$15,205.85	\$15,205.85
Expenses			
Bank Fees		\$ 80.00	
AGM Expenses		\$ 1,000.00	
Memberships		\$ 560.00	
Brochures/ NBFTA stuff		\$ 1,000.00	
Donations		\$ 1,000.00	
Travel		\$ 100.00	
CFT		\$ 100.00	
Executive meeting expenses		\$ 450.00	
Website		\$ 450.00	
Postage		\$ 600.00	
Azimuth		\$ 800.00	
Awards		\$ 1,200.00	
Plaques		\$ 400.00	
AFR		\$ 1,000.00	
Translation		\$ 350.00	
		\$ 9,090.00	\$ 9,090.00
			\$15,334.00

Rick Doucette inquired about the \$1000 for brochures\NBFTA. Mike said it was ongoing

Claude Chiasson asked about the \$100 for travel and \$450 for travel. Mike said it was available to offsite the price of gas and for expenses associated with having executive meetings although there were very few claims.

Motion to accept Budget by Kenny McGinn, seconded by Rick Doucette, Motion Carried.

RPF Association Presentation (overview) - Ann LeBrun-Ruff Director

The RPF is gaining momentum and moving forward with RTP. Working towards the same goal as NBFTA.

The RPF Association is trying to improve communication with its members. Their website is under construction.

Their goal is to be able to track CFE credit hours, vote and pay dues online.

Their membership consists of 311 members of whom 50% are over the age of 50, only 3% are less than 30 years of age, and only 5% of the members are women.

Chris Finnamore thanked the RPF Association for their presentation

NSFTA Report - Girvan Harrison for Clifton Sangster

Clifton had been at Sylvicon but unfortunately had a family emergency and had to return to Nova Scotia; Clifton's report is as follows:

Mr. President, Members of the NBFTA. Thank you for inviting me to your 12th AGM.

Well, you can go home from here and tell your families that you heard a speech by the president from south of the border.

The challenges facing our associations are increasing in size and complexity. Limited employment opportunities in the east, a mass exodus westward. If the grads do not stay here and work, then we are not going to have them as members. Simple. There are increased demands from the workplace, more after hours forms of entertainment and of course we all have family and friends that should be priority one. All this reduces the time we can allot to being a volunteer on behalf of The Associations.

There is apathy and ignorance when it comes to belonging to an association. Especially since it requires work and effort and will take up your time. And of course the question must be asked. What is in it for me? Why should I belong to the forest technicians association? But for those who are committed to the survival of our associations the experience is almost spiritual. It is something we feel strongly about, so strongly, that we are willing to sacrifice the time and effort to do ensure the continued existence of our Associations for years to come. And quite frankly, we often wonder why others are not as enthused about our organization as we are. Well, it is up to us and unfortunately we are not doing a very good job of selling the features and benefits of belonging to the technician associations. As the saying goes, "When you are up to your ass in alligators, sometimes you forget your objective was to drain the swamp."

On March 30th and 31st, 2006 the election (or as it was put by one, the coercion) of four new officers occurred. Myself as President, Lloyd Morgan as 1st Vice President, Robert Sarson as Treasurer and Andrew Fedora as Secretary. The 2nd VP position is up for grabs, this year.

Our finances remain healthy. For the past 5 years the balance on hand has hovered around \$10,000. Since 2001 we have been tracking the CFT monies. This fund has accumulated to over \$11,000. It is obvious we are not investing into Continuing Ed for our members. Again, this requires several volunteers to organize and facilitate forestry CE courses.

Two of the biggest obstacles in operating an efficient provincial association are: One, the collection and distribution of accurate and up to date membership information that is constantly changing, and secondly, getting timely and pertinent information to that membership. With this in mind, the NSFTA has arrived stumbling and tripping into the 21st century with a website, and now a database.

Last year we had a computer at the registration desk. As a member renewed their membership or paid AGM fees, this information was entered directly into the database. A receipt was printed off and the financial information was completed. No more taking home all the receipt books and spending days "doing the books". There are still quirks in the database, which require fixing; it is however, a starting point. I know it sounds easy for some; but there was a lot of "doing and undoing keeps fools busy" to get to this point in our history.

This year we experienced a first for the NSFTA. Over 50% of the membership was emailed the annual report and AGM mail out package. This reduced the mail out cost from \$12 to \$1500.00 to just over \$500.00. We also post our AGM information on our website.

After I assumed the office of president, I decided if I am going to chair a meeting with a bunch of technicians facing me, I better know the NSFTA

memorandum and bylaws inside and out. As I began to study it, I soon realized that changes must be made.

‘Either we do what is stated or we state what we are doing.’

A notice of motion with changes approved by the executive council to the Memorandum and By Laws has been sent out this years AGM mail out package,

The NSFTA held three executive council meetings last year, plus various committee meetings.

The NSFTA has awarded its third scholarship award of \$500.00 to a deserving student attending MCFT.

I had the pleasure of attending the Graduation Ceremonies at MCFT last spring. As I re-entered The School for the first time since Dec 18th 1998, all I could think was; ‘better them than me.’

NSFTA was represented at the 60th Celebrations at the Ranger School, and as you no doubt know, jointly funded the wooden carvings of two technicians with the NBFTA.

I realized many years ago, “If you don’t know the answer to something, ask someone who does.” I am very privileged to be surrounded by an extremely educated, experienced and wise council. This factor makes being President of a Provincial Association almost enjoyable.

Finally, In order to devote the necessary time to properly perform the duties of office, one needs an understanding employer and a very understanding spouse. I am fortunate to have both. I thank NIFM and my wife, Marilyn. Once again, thank you.

Respectfully submitted

Clifton Sangster

President, NSFTA

NBFTA Scholarships

NBFTA Scholarships awarded to a first year student in the amount of \$500.00, and a second year student in the amount of \$500.00

Log-A- Load Presentation- Allie DeGrace

There was a Cheque made Payable to the Easter Seals as Part of Log-A-Load for Kids. The presentation was done with Peter Robichaud at the Canadian Woodlands Forum.

Honorary Technician 2006 – Presented by Kenny McGinn and Girvan Harrison

A motion to honour John Torunski as an Honorary Technician of the NBFTA was made by Kenny and Girvan. Votes were cast by all present. Ballot counters counted and verified ballots. Vote was unanimous for yes. Motion carried. Motion to destroy ballots by Bill Whalen, seconded by Bill Whalen, motion carried to destroy ballots.

Big Tree Contest – Kenny McGinn

The report for this year's contest is very short and sweet. I am disappointed with the number of entries this year. We only had 1. There weren't any entrants for softwoods and only one for hardwood.

It was a smasher though. For the 2nd straight year, Kyle and Ryan Layton win for the biggest hardwood.

It was 22.9 m tall, 168 cm diameter basswood found in Sussex, The tree scored 191 points

These two boys are the children of MFRS graduate of 2003, Susan Layton.

I respectfully submit this report

Kenneth McGinn, CFT 003

Technician of the Year – Kenny McGinn

Kenny McGinn was disappointed that there was no nomination to the Hall of Fame. Kenny surprised all in attendance especially Allie DeGrace when Kenny announced his name as winner of the Technician of the Year. Technician of the year prize is provided by Mike Cunningham of Monsanto.

MCFT Report – Mike Boucher for Pat McCarthy

2006 REPORT FROM THE MARITIME COLLEGE OF FOREST TECHNOLOGY FOR THE NEW BRUNSWICK FOREST TECHNICIANS ASSOCIATION

It is a pleasure to present the Association with an overview of the 2006 activities of the Maritime College of Forest Technology.

In January, 2006 Bathurst enrolled 15 students. Bathurst Campus is still a one-year program starting in January and graduation in December. However, in 2008 Bathurst Campus will be changing to a two-year program, the same as the Fredericton Campus.

On April 22, 2006 the second graduating class of the Maritime College of Forest Technology received their diplomas. There were 27 graduates. CIF Silver rings were presented by Roxanne Comeau RPF, Executive Director Canadian Institute of Forestry, Marie McNutt, Maritime Section, Allie DeGrace, President NB Forest Technician Association and Clifton Sangster, President of the NS Forest Technicians Association.

On August 11 and 12, 2006 the Maritime College of forest Technology celebrated “60 Years of Forest Technology Training in the Maritimes”. Approximately 200 people attended.

We launched a Scholarship fund and have approximately \$ 11,000 to date. Please contribute what you can and we will provide a tax receipt for this charitable donation.

In September, 2006 the Maritime College of Forest Technology enrolled 32 second- year students and 53 first-year students at the Fredericton Campus. The geographic distribution of the 53 first-year students in Fredericton was: 30 from New Brunswick, 21 from Nova Scotia, 1 from Ontario, 1 from England.

The average age of the first-year students in the 2006 MCFT Class was 22. Ages ranged from 18 – 36. We had 32 second-year students and 38 first-year students at the end of December, 2006.

Bathurst Campus graduated 11 students on December 14, 2006. CIF Silver Rings were presented by Elizabeth Rainer, CIF Maritime Section. Other guests attending were Allie DeGrace, President NB Forest Technician Association, Blair DeGrace representing the Board of Governors of MCFT and Gilles Gallant of NB Power. The guest speaker was Donald Arsenault, the Minister of Natural Resources.

The rings are available to any MCFT graduate for \$40.00 if you are a CIF member and \$60.00 for non-members. Contact Canadian Institute of Forestry at www.cif-ifc.org if you are interested in purchasing the CIF Silver Ring.

We will enroll another 50 -55 students in September, 2007 and will have 2 classes enrolled at MCFT in every Semester, hopefully between 70 and 80 students.

The Continuing Education Department is experiencing another year. The Watercourse training that began in NB five years ago has carried to Nova Scotia and to Newfoundland in March. There is also interest in this program on a national basis.

A pilot course on the **Design, Planning and Constructing Access Roads** was held for the Canadian Military in January. The workshop received very positive feedback and will be a standard offering for the engineering branch of the army in the coming years. The content will be of great interest to the forest community as well and will be offered in our 2008 training year.

Yet another pilot workshop will be delivered to the Nova Scotia department of Environment in June. **Recognition and Delineation of Wetlands** will deal with the growing recognition of the value of wetlands and the confusion of what is a wetland. The workshop will provide the basis for future courses for our general clientele.

The past years have seen a reduction in the number of courses listed in our annual schedule of course. This is in no means a reflection of waning interesting professional development. The reduced course offerings are a reaction to the high volume of contract training conducted by the department. Organizations increasingly turn to the Maritime

In the winter of 1994 -1995, the Council of Eastern Forest Technician Schools (CEFTS) of which, the Maritime College of Forest Technology (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 role of the technician in forestry by graduates from forest technology programs. Our latest forest technologist graduate to achieve this award is Julie Singleton in 2005 the criteria that are used to judge individual applicants are:

1. The recipients must be graduates of a forest technology program.
2. 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) may be 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.
3. 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.

We solicit your support in suggesting additional names of individuals whom you feel qualify for this award.

Best of luck to all and please keep in touch

Respectfully submitted

MARITIME COLLEGE OF FOREST TECHNOLOGY

Patrick J. McCarthy
Executive Director

CFT Presentations – Chris Finnamore

The following NBFTA members became CFT in 2006: Gerald Girvan CFT 0127, Troy Adams CFT 0128, Trevis Schriver CFT 0129, Mark Smissaert CFT 0130, Bruce Jensen CFT 0131, and Gillis Gallant CFT 0132.

CFE Presentations – Phil Hughes

The following CFT's received their Continuing Forest Education certificate from Phil Hughes:

Benoit Bouchard, Blair DeGrace, Brian Kilpatrick, Chris Spencer, Dustin Corey, Jacques Lirette, Joseph Pollock, Ken McGinn, Louis Caissie, Rick Doucette, Todd MacPherson, Bill Whalen, Alyre Godin, Girvan Harrison, Andrew Chase.

Auditors for the 2007 AGM:

France Roussel and Mike Boucher are to be the Auditors for the 2007 AGM.

Nominating Committee for the 2007 AGM:

Allie DeGrace, Blair DeGrace, Nicole Vienneau and Mark Smissaert are on the Nominating Committee for the 2007 AGM.

Date and Time of 2008 AGM:

A motion was made by Bill Whalen to keep the AGM with Sylvicon, seconded by Trevis Schriver. Motion Carried. There were numerous mentions of the inconveniences with the Crowne Plaza being under construction, noise, no PA. These things will have to be considered for the 2008 AGM.

AGM Attendance:

The following people were in attendance for the 2007 AGM: Allie DeGrace, Kenny McGinn, Joe Kinney, Gareth Davies, France Roussel, Trevis Schriver, Girvan Harrison, Paul Gilmore, Bill Whalen, Valerie Archibald, Becky Geneau, Blair DeGrace, Danny LaPointe, Mike Boucher, Neil Timm, Andrew Chase, Matthew Tucker, Nicole Vienneau, Gilles Gallant, Phil Hughes, Jason Thibodeau, Rick Doucette, Claude Chiasson, Fred Harris, Robert Gaudet, Dwayne Simkins.

Motion to Adjourn AGM:

Motion to adjourn AGM meeting by Phil Hughes, seconded by Rick Doucette, motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25.