

Gareth Davies  
President,  
New Brunswick Forest Technicians Association  
1350 Regent Street  
Fredericton, NB  
E3C 2G6

January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the New Brunswick Forest Technicians Association (NBFTA), I wish to bring to your attention that the Association of Registered Professional Foresters of New Brunswick (ARPFNB) has produced proposed legislation intended to define the profession of forestry, its accountability, and establish disciplinary procedures and offenses for violations. It is the NBFTA's position that this proposed legislation will have profound effects on the entire NB Forest Sector. The NBFTA asks that you join us in openly and formally opposing this proposed legislation.

The NBFTA represents professional forest technicians/technologists in the province of New Brunswick. The NBFTA is not opposed to professional certification and accountability. The NBFTA is opposed to this proposed legislation and the process in which it was drafted.

In partnership with the ARPFNB, the NBFTA had been involved in drafting proposed legislation entitled "*An Act to Incorporate the Association of New Brunswick Forestry Professionals*," and voted to oppose this proposed legislation on April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Since that time the ARPFNB introduced "*An Act to Incorporate the Association of Registered Professional Foresters of New Brunswick*". Please find a copy of the final version of this document attached.

The practice of professional forestry is defined on page two of this proposed legislation. This proposed legal definition includes both traditional forestry job descriptions as well as professionals teaching forestry in colleges and universities. This proposed legal definition includes all job tasks that both "foresters" and "forest technicians/technologists" have successfully completed for decades in the province of New Brunswick.

Under "*Right to Practice*" on page 14, it is clearly stated that no person shall practise professional forestry unless registered as a Registered Professional Forester (R.P.F.) with the ARPFNB. Under this proposed legislation, only university-graduate forestry professionals (i.e. "foresters") could be registered members of the ARPFNB. **This proposed legislation would make it illegal for college-graduate forestry professionals (i.e. "forest technicians/technologists") to practise forestry.**

The current New Brunswick Forest Sector depends upon the professional abilities of both "foresters" and "forest technicians/technologists".

**Key stakeholders have not participated in the drafting of this proposed legislation.**  
The ARPFNB has failed to get any letters of support for this proposed legislation from key stakeholders.

The NBFTA will continue to insist that any legislation that attempts to define the practice of forestry should receive the formal and open support, consultation and participation of key stakeholders. The NBFTA believes that without the initial and continuing support and participation of key stakeholders, legislation of this nature should not be developed.

Due to the social and economic importance of the forest sector to the province of New Brunswick, this proposed legislation is of general public concern. The NBFTA cannot support this proposed legislation. The NBFTA asks for your open and formal support in opposing this proposed legislation

Further information can be found on the NBFTA website: <http://www.nbfta.org/>

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gareth Davies". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gareth Davies  
President, NBFTA