NBFTA

New Brunswick Forest Technicians Association

ATFNB

L'Association des techniciens.(innes) forestiers du Nouveau Brunswick

NBFTA AGM
Moncton, NB
Ramada Inn at Crystal Place
Thursday, March 29th, 2012

Open Meeting:

- 1:00 PM - Gareth Davies, President
- Acknowledged that we had a quorum.
- Moment of silence for members who have passed away.
- Recognition of new members.

Reading and Confirmation of 2011 Minutes:

- Todd MacPherson volunteered to be Secretary for AGM due to absence of Trevis Schriver, due to work commitments.
- Minutes distributed to members and a few moments allowed for reading.
- Motion to accept minutes by Paul Gilmore, seconded by Fred Harris. Motion carried.

Appointed Ballot Counters for Elections:

- Robert Gaudet and Paul Gilmore

Executive and Committee Reports:

1) President's Report: Motion to accept President's Report - Gareth Davies. Seconded by Chris Finnamore. Motion carried. (Appendix i)
2) First Vice President's Report: submitted in writing by David Brown (absent). Motion to accept First Vice President's Report – Todd MacPherson. Seconded by Andrew Chase. Motion carried. (Appendix ii)
3) Second Vice President's Report: Motion to accept Second Vice President's Report – Allie DeGrace. Seconded by France Roussel. Motion carried. (Appendix iii)

4) Secretary's Report: submitted in writing by Trevis Schriver (absent). Motion to accept Secretary's report – Todd MacPherson. Seconded by Walter Bidlake. Motion carried. (Appendix iv)
5) Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept Treasurer's Report – France Roussel. Seconded by Chris Finnamore. Motion carried. (Appendix v)
6) Past President's Report: Motion to accept Past President's Report – Todd MacPherson. Seconded by Lisa Barkley. Motion carried. (Appendix vi)
7) Regional Representative 1 Report: nothing submitted
8) Regional Representative 2 Report: nothing submitted
9) Regional Representative 3 Report: nothing submitted
10) Regional Representative 4 Report: submitted in writing by Blair DeGrace (absent). Motion to accept Regional Representative's Report – Todd MacPherson. Seconded by Fred Harris. Motion carried. (Appendix vii)
11) MCFT Board of Governors Report : submitted in writing by Blair Degrace (absent). Motion to accept MCFT Board of Governors Report – Gareth Davies. Seconded by Paul Gilmore. Motion carried. (Appendix viii)
12) CFE Committee Report: nothing submitted

Award Winners:

- $500 scholarship #1 – Megan Doyle
- $500 scholarship #2 – no suitable candidate
- 2011 New Brunswick Forest Technician of the Year – Trevis Schriver
- Honorary NBFT Members – Michael Cunningham. Duke Hughes was suggested too but due to NBFTA bylaws, his name was not submitted in time.

Special Reports:

1) C.F.A Envriothon: Walter Bidlake informed NBFTA of changes at the CFANB, that the Canadian Environthon was a huge success, that Adopt-A-Highway was almost canceled last year due to lack of funding.
Motion to adopt the CFA Report - Walter Bidlake. Seconded my Randy McQuade. Motion carried. (Appendix ix)
Motion made by France Roussel to offer $500 in support of Environthon. Seconded by Rick Doucett. Motion carried.

2) ARPFNB Right to Practice (RTP): Report President Gareth Davies informed the Members that all official correspondence between the NBFTA and the ARPFNB was or would soon be all on the NBFTA website. He had contacted a lawyer to get a legal opinion of the RTP and was informed that the cost to get a written legal opinion would

cost the NBFTA approximately $30,000. He informed the Members that this was outright rejected at an Executive Meeting as cost prohibitive.

Gareth informed the membership of a promise from the ARPFNB Executive Director that an exemption would be forthcoming in the final release of the draft RTP document prior to submission to the New Brunswick Legislature. At the time of the AGM, no exemption for technicians and technologists had been presented.

Gareth, representing the NBFTA Executive, recommended that the NBFTA continue to oppose RTP in its current form as it fails to address NBFTA Members concerns as outlined in an NBFTA Emergency meeting from November, 2009.

Motion by Gareth Davies to continue to oppose RTP. Seconded by Walter Bidlake. Questions arose about the necessity of the motion, as the NBFTA Members were already opposed to RTP in its current form. There was no change in the mandate. Motion withdrawn.

Election of Officers:

Riley Demerchant – Second Vice President
Rebecca Jones – Treasurer
Allie DeGrace – Secretary

New Business:

1) CIF proposal – President Gareth Davies informed the Members that John Pinneau of CIF wants us to collaborate with them. We can have access to all lectures, presentations, newsletters, etc. It is aimed at CFTs but all members could have access to their site. It would allow electronic tracking of CFE Credits. Alberta, Ontario, and British Columbia are doing it now. It would mean an extra cost of about $60 per year per NBFTA Member in dues.

Allie DeGrace noted that the cost could be reduced a bit because $35 extra was already collected from CFTs. $12 of that is for the Atlantic Forestry magazine, leaving $23 to apply to the new fee. Approximate cost of membership:

CFT: $70 - $23 + $60 = $107
General Member: $35 + $60 = $95

No motion was made at this time. It was for information purposes only and would be discussed at future Executive Meetings with consultation from CFTs.

2) Location of 2013 AGM: President Gareth Davies noted that we need to attract new members to the NBFTA. He proposed that if we held the AGM in conjunction with an event at MCFT that the NBFTA would stand a better chance at attracting new members. Chris Finnamore made a motion to move 2012 AGM to Fredericton to hold in conjunction with MCFT Student Auction. Seconded by Allie DeGrace. Motion carried.

As a follow-up motion Allie moved that the Executive send a letter to the CWF thanking them for participating and helping with prior NBFTA AGMs. Seconded by Chris Finnamore. Motion carried.

3) CIF Program – Gareth informed the members that the NSFTA uses electronic monitoring of CFE credits and makes all CFT certificate expire on the same date. They did this because, as a volunteer organization, doing CFT reviews once per year versus many times throughout the year makes more sense.

No motion on this was made. This would be reviewed by the Executive with a follow-up at the 2013 AGM.

4) 2013 AGM Committee. Allie DeGrace made a motion to form an AGM Committee for the 2013 AGM. Rick Doucett volunteered to chair the meeting and would seek others to help him. Seconded by Rebecca Jones. Motion carried.

Motion to Adjourn.

Appendix (i)

Gareth Davies
President
NBFTA

March 28, 2012

2011-2012 President's Report

It has been an honour and a pleasure serving as President. It has been quite a year, especially dealing with the ARPFNB's propose Right to Practice (RTP) Legislation.

Due to the extreme consequences of this proposed RTP legislation, the Executive has spent most of its time opposing it.

I wish to apologize to the entire membership for the amount of time the Executive has spent dealing with this RTP legislation. I am sure that most of us are tired of hearing about it. I am sure many of us are tired of dealing with it. I am sure many of us wish that we would move on and start working on other issues.

At this point I am assuming that you have read the NBFTA's official letter of opposition to the RTP legislation. Hopefully you have all read the proposed legislation. If anyone has a different interpretation of the legislation please let the Executive know.

Yours truly,

Gareth Davies

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AGM

david.brown1@bell.blackberry.net

Sent: March 28, 2012 8:42 PM
To: Davies, Gareth; david@ibew37.com

Hello Gareth

I will not be able to attend this years agm due to medical reasons. I was informed late today to meet with a Doctor Thursday afternoon and he will operate Tuesaday morning.

My report is as follow's. I have had three different individuals wanting to become certified. I have forward all the information\ requirements needed. France has been in contact with a group of DNR employee's wanting to write very soon. They are from the northwest part of the province. I would love to see 5 more CFT's by the end of June. Please accept this as my report.

Again I am truely sorry for the short notice. I would have loved to see all the boy's again. As far as RTP, let's put this to bed once and for all.

A special thanks goes out for all the hard work and effort put forth towards the RTP.

David Brown.
Sent wirelessly from my BlackBerry device on the Bell network.
Envoyé sans fil par mon terminal mobile BlackBerry sur le réseau de Bell.

Appendix (iii)

Interim 2nd VP Report
Allie DeGrace, CFT

While filling the vacant 2nd VP position for 2011, I participated in all conference calls and provided feedback when requested on association matters and Right to Practice issues.

I helped bring the CFT exam up to date with current legislation.

The disciplinary committee received no complaints or inquiries and conducted no other business.

Allie DeGrace
CFT #100

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Secretary's Report – AGM 2012

As my term is completed, I would like to thank all of the Executive, Advisory and Members for their support. Times have changed and it is now necessary to have a secretary that is able to manage e-mails, conference calls and whatever other new technologies come our way. Get out to the woods as much as possible ……. Trevis

Appendix (v)

New Brunswick Forest Technician Association

2011 Financial Report

Opening balance		$14,319.30
Revenues:		
Membership dues	$7,340.00	
CFT Exam	30.00	
Bank Interest	1.56	
Total Revenues:		**$7,371.56**
Expenses:		
Advertising	$435.05	
Conventions/meetings	544.26	
Postage/supplies	577.56	
Bank Charges	82.03	
Awards	1200.00	
Envirothon	500.00	
Subscription Atlantic Forestry	546.00	
Donations	150.00	
CWF	452.00	
Computer	338.65	
Trophies/plaques	209.06	
Total Expenses		**$5,034.61**
Surplus:		**$2,336.95**
Balance December 31,2011		**$16,656.25**

France Roussel, CFT
NBFTA, Treasurer
February 10,2012 – Audited February 15,2012 by Michael Boucher

Appendix (vi)

Thursday, March-29-12

Past President's Report for 2011 – 2012

I completed the following activities since the 2011 AGM:

1) With the approval of the Executive, I wrote a statement announcing the NBFTA's decision to not support Right to Practice Legislation. (Letter Attached)
2) We received a comment on our website site from a representative of the ARPFNB questioning the legitimacy of our vote with respect to our constitution. The Executive aided me in preparing a public response (documentation attached)
3) On behalf of the NBFTA I bought a piece of wood art from a New Brunswick artist to be presented to Mike Cunningham in recognition of him becoming an honorary forest technician. This was approved at last year's AGM.

Respectfully submitted;

Todd MacPherson

Past President,

NBFTA

From Part 1 above:

The New Brunswick Forest Technicians Association votes to reject Draft Document and Process for Right to Practice Legislation

To Whom It May Concern;

At the Annual General Meeting of the New Brunswick Forest Technicians Association (NBFTA) on April 7th, 2011 the Membership voted on Right to Practice Legislation.

The Members were asked to cast their vote as either "Yes" or "No" on the following statement:

"I support the Act to Incorporate the Association of New Brunswick Forestry Professionals".

The vote results were as follows:

25 Votes Cast

Yes Votes: 2 (8%)

No Votes: 23 (92%)

The vote was cast after a presentation from Dr. Roger Roy, President of the Association of Registered Professional Foresters of New Brunswick (ARPFNB) on Right to Practice (RTP), followed by a question and answer session. After Dr. Roy left the meeting the Membership discussed the issue and then a motion was made to conduct the vote.

Following this vote, and much focused discussion, the NBFTA has concluded that it cannot support and must now oppose the ARPFNB's proposed RTP legislation. The NBFTA believes that the process by which the RTP document has been produced is fundamentally flawed thus yielding a flawed document. Further, this process has failed to gain the necessary participation of a broad base of the New Brunswick forest sector.

Based on Membership feedback, the NBFTA's reasons for rejecting the current RTP document are as follows:

- The NBFTA required written letters of support from stakeholders when we became partners in the RTP process with the ARPFNB. This requirement had been previously agreed to by the ARPFNB, yet, as of the writing of this letter, none have been received. Generally speaking, the NBFTA Membership was not satisfied with the explanation given by the ARPFNB regarding why there are no letters of support.
- The RTP document has been changed significantly, from the early stages, when all forestry practitioners would be required to work within their competencies and continue their education. This is no longer the case in the current RTP document.
- Changes to the RTP document were made without any consultation with the NBFTA before voting for the changes. Rather than standing up for the original proposal, which

was agreed upon by our two Associations, the ARPFNB chose to make significant changes to bring some of their members on board.

- Because of changes to the definition of forestry, the RTP document no longer requires that all practitioners become registered and, in fact, contains an 'out' clause which, in effect, would allow one person to assume the entire responsibility for an organization, no matter its size. If public accountability is the goal of the RTP document then this 'out' clause does a disservice to the public. In the opinion of the NBFTA the RTP document does not have anything to do with the best interest of the general public.
- The RTP Document has been changed and approved by a small number of members of the ARPFNB, yet non-members, who are practicing Foresters in New Brunswick, have had little or no input. The NBFTA finds this most troubling; that an organization would attempt to force something on professionals without allowing them to participate in the process.
- From the Government of New Brunswick website (underlined sections are important because the proposed Act would affect the rights and interests of many others not included, such as Technologists, and other forestry practitioners not represented by either association): Private Bills are those relating to private or local matters or for the particular interest or benefit of any person, corporation or municipality. Private Bills are not usually promoted by members of the Legislature, but by outside persons or bodies. They confer special powers upon companies, municipalities and private persons and **are not of general public concern**. Therefore, before any special favour of this nature is granted, the Legislative Assembly requires to be satisfied that no other rights or interests would be prejudiced by granting the special legislation sought to be obtained.

In conclusion the NBFTA feels that the approach to RTP has been a flawed process due to lack of written stakeholder support, changing the RTP Document without NBFTA consultation, resulting in sacrificing any apparent public good or accountability to the public by forestry professionals.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the New Brunswick Forest Technicians Association;

Todd MacPherson, Past President

From Part 2 above: (sic)

- ed czerwinski November 15th, 2011 at 4:04 pm

I am concerned that your vote at the AGM in opposition of the Act to incorporate NB Forest Professionals was invalide according to your own constitution in which it states…
11.1 A quorum, for the purpose of Constitutional and By-Law amendments, shall consist of at least thirty-five (35) members.
You advertise that you only had 25 members vote. As advertised on your website:

The vote results were as follows:
25 Votes Cast
Yes Votes: 2 (8%)
No Votes: 23 (92%)

As this was such an important vote on an Act that would incoporate the technicians and professional foresters into one organization, why would your organization mislead the public that you had a quorum and could actually hold this vote.

- Todd November 30th, 2011 at 4:04 pm

@ ed

Good point, and easily explained; A quorum was obtained as this was not a vote on our existing constitution, but rather a vote on whether or not to support the proposed act.

11.2 A quorum, for the purpose of regular business at a general meeting or emergency meeting of the Association, shall consist of at least twelve (12) members.

Please rest assured that the NBFTA is open and transparent and is in no way attempting to mislead.

Thanks for your input.

Todd MacPherson
Past President NBFTA

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NBFTA Annual General Meeting

Region 4 Representative 2012 Annual Report

The writer accepted the position of NBFTA Region 4 Representative at the NBFTA AGM on February 16, 2007.

Limited activities during the past twelve months are easily summarized as follows:

- Participation at NBFTA Executive Committee meetings.
- Assisted Certified Region 4 members maintain their Continuing Forest Education Certificate current.
- Supported the NBFTA Executive with ongoing measures to protect the interests of Technicians/Technologists relative to the ARPFNB's Right to Practice Legislation.

Objectives for 2012 include:

- Update NBFTA General Information Presentation for communication with targeted groups and individuals.
- Work with the Treasurer to ensure the membership listing is updated and accurate.
- Establish an e-mail distribution listing for Regional Members to communicate information as it becomes available.
- Continue to provide support to, and participate in, the work of the Executive Committee.
- Conduct an "Adopt-A-Highway" cleanup on Renous Hwy Route 108 during the spring of 2012.

This report is respectfully submitted by:

Blair DeGrace

Blair DeGrace
April 26, 2012

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MARITIME COLLEGE OF FOREST TECHNOLOGY

NBFTA ATFNB

2012 NBFTA AGM
Annual Report of NBFTA Membership in MCFT Board of Governors

This report summarizes the Maritime College of Forest Technology (MCFT) Board of Governors activities spanning the period from April 2010 to April 2012.

BACKGROUND

The NBFTA'S initial involvement in the MCFT Board of Governors was by invitation to it's Annual Meeting on April 23, 1999. A vacancy had been created by the departure of representation from Newfoundland due to a forestry technical program being developed at the College of the North Atlantic. Andrew Clarke represented the NBFTA for the period of 1999 - 2000. The writer has represented the NBFTA from April 2001 to present.

The NBFTA and NSFTA do not have active voting rights under Legislation governing the College. There is consensus among Board Members, however, that voting privilege is a technicality and that non-voting observers are considered as active participants.

Current MCFT Board of Governors include:

Mr. Peter Adams *	Barrister & Solicitor
To Be Determined *	NB Industrial Forest Sector Representative
Dr. Eddy Campbell	UNB President
Mr. Blair DeGrace	NBFTA
Mr. Andrew Fedora	NSFTA
Dr. Donald W. Floyd *	UNB Faculty of Forestry & Environmental Management
Mr. Gerald Holmes	Stora Enso Port Hawkesbury
Ms. Tracey Oliver	MCFT Treasurer
Mr. Phil Lepage	N.B.D.N.R.
Ms. Kate MacQuarrie	P.E.I. Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
Mr. Derek Prest	Eacan Lumber Ltd.
Dr. Bruce Pendrell	C.F.S.
Mr. Peter Robichaud	Canadian Woodlands Forum, MCFT Board 2nd Vice President
Gerry Redmond*	MCFT Board Secretary
Mr. Duff Montgomerie	N.S. Dept of Natural Resources
Mr. Robert Whitney *	MCFT Executive Director

** Executive Committee Members*

MCFT BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Executive Committee of MCFT met on May 9 and September 28, 2011. The full MCFT Board of Governors met on September 16, 2010 and the September 29, 2011.

Principle issues arising from these four meetings were as follows:

- The MCFT Executive Committee meets regularly to review financial and action items. Minutes of these meetings are to be distributed promptly to Board Members.
- Improved contractual documents are being developed for the positions of MCFT Director and new faculty and staff.
- Recruitment underway to replace Instructor Jeff Patch who retired at 2011 calendar year end.
- Board approved re-establishment of College Administrator to assist the MCFT Director.

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- The Director is to seek a replacement from the NB Forest Products Association for Blake Brunsdon who stepped down after many years devoted service to the MCFT Board.
- MCFT Associate Director Gerry Redmond was appointed as Board Secretary replacing Ms, Sarah DaVarenne of UNB.
- MCFT is in good standing financially with excess revenues over expenditures. The Auditor provided a clean audit report up to April 30, 2011 with no concerns regarding operations management or cash flow.
- Ongoing submissions by MCFT Administration to the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission to maintain secure and adequate funding for the College.
- The Continuing Education Department was successful in reducing course expenditures resulting in an increased net profit. Principal revenue generators were a Road Construction course for DND, and the Watercourse Alteration Certification Programs.
- MCFT Board and Administration is continually looking for revenue generating ideas to overcome the $50,000 annual deficit associated with operating Torunski Hall.
- Applicants exceeded one hundred for the fifty-five first year positions available in 2011 at the Fredericton Campus. Second year numbers are also strong, with approximately thirty-five students accepted back in September 2011 after the summer practicum.
- Recruiting adequate students for the Bathurst Campus continues to be a chllenge. 13 first year and 4 second year students were enrolled at September 2011.
- UNB is considering an articulation agreement with the MCFT Bathurst Campus
- The telephone system was upgraded as a cost savings and technology upgrade measure.
- The facility switched to Google as Email provider.
- The Eastern Forest Technology Schools annual meeting was hosted at the College.
- MCFT hosted the fall 2011 meeting of the Canadian Woodlands Forum.
- A five week "Junior Ranger" summer camp was held at the Fredericton Campus.
- Helicopter Training was added to the Fish & Wildlife curriculum.
- There were no increases in room, meal or tuition rates for the 2011-2012 terms. Student fees increased 3.75% to supplement regular operating costs.
- MCFT was pleased with the UNB Forest Land Procedure Agreement between UNB and MCFT signed in the Fall of 2010.
- Work is ongoing toward the development of a partnership agreement between MCFT and the Kingsclear Woodlot.

Closing

MCFT Administration and Board members are committed to continually improving academic quality and operations.

This report is intended to serve as a brief summary of activities. Additional information is available by contacting the writer at (506) 356-4199.

Thank you for the honour of representing our Association at the MCFT Board.

This report is respectfully submitted by:

Blair DeGrace

Blair DeGrace
April 25, 2012

Appendix (ix)

Walter

From: CFANB Info [info@cfanb.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 9:13 PM
To: 'Walter'
Subject: RE: NBFTA AGM

Hi,

As you might know, Valerie has resigned from CFANB to move to Alberta (her husband got a job there). I do not have much knowledge of the activity report you are looking for except that thing are going great!! I will also be present at the NBFTA AGM so I can pitch in for the specific info they want. But here are a few bullet point update:

1st Manitoba
2nd ontario
5th Prince Ed.

- Becky and Valeria have both moved on.
- Canon Envirothon was a huge success both financially and in its realisation
- Adopt-a-Highway was almost cancelled last year due to lack of funding therefore the pick up was low
- This year the program is on hold until we know if ETF will come through.
- Envirothon is May 10-12 this year and still looking for volunteers....
- Office is now staff with only one part-time (20 hrs/week) person
- CFANB is involved in the teachers tour (French and English)
- CFANB will be merging its board with the CIF board in May 2012.

See you Thursday!

Anne LeBrun Ruff, R.P.F.

Executive Director/Directrice générale
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