

NEW BRUNSWICK FOREST TECHNICIAN'S ASSOCIATION

AZIMUTH NEWSLETTER WINTER 2018

NBFTA NEWS

2018 NBFTA AGM

The 2018 AGM will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Moncton on April 5th at 1pm. As in years past, our AGM will be held in conjunction with the Canadian Woodlands Forum spring meeting, which takes place on April 4th and 5th, at the same location. Please make an effort to get out to the AGM, and take in the CWF sessions if you are able – they are always informative, and the CWF spring meeting provides a great venue to network and meet others involved in your industry. Registration and program details will be available at www.cwfcf.org.

NBFTA October Executive Meeting

A conference call was held on October 24, 2017. One of the most important items discussed at the meeting was getting set up to accept e-transfer as a method of payment for dues.

Complete minutes of the meeting are available and can be viewed on the NBFTA website, www.nbfta.org.

2017 CWF Fall Meeting

The Canadian Woodlands Forum 2017 fall meeting was held in Woodstock NB on October 4th and 5th at the Best Western Hotel and Conference Center. Participants were treated to some of the best fall scenery the Saint John River valley has to offer, and attended technical sessions on the morning of October 4th, followed by some field trips. Stops included the HJ Crabbe Lumber and pellet mill, BWS Manufacturing LTD, and stops to view silviculture and harvesting operations, Skedaddle Maple sugar bush, and some examples of private woodlot management. Details about upcoming events can be viewed at www.cwfcf.org.



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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hi Folks,

It's hard to believe that another year has passed and here we are preparing for Christmas and the New Year once again. In the past year members of your Executive have been working diligently to keep the association running and to also make improvements. Some of these improvements will most likely be appreciated in 2018.

This year in particular, more than past years I have felt it is somewhat frustrating working in the forest industry here in New Brunswick (though I think most jurisdictions are the same in the light). In the Province as a whole, there seems to be pressure from all sides to do things differently, whether it is calls for less intensive management on one side, to calls for increased resource management from the other. Also, within the forest community we are somewhat divided on where wood should be sourced, by whom and at what price. Then moreover we have the external pressures. We are competing in a global market where fiber and labor can be sourced cheaper and we have a changing relationship with our neighbors to the south. In all of this we are technicians and professionals trying to do the best job we can regardless of who our employer is. Some days I find this all very challenging to say the least.

That being said, we have all worked through challenging times before and it is not the first time we have seen challenges in our industry. Much like our forests, our professional community is very resilient, we can meet these challenges and come out on the other side, but some things may change through the process....

In mid-November, I was able to travel to the 2017 Society of American Foresters Convention as part of my job. This year the convention was being held in Albuquerque New Mexico. The convention was good and I was able to meet lots of people, mostly from the US and take in the latest news and research being done within that community. After the convention, I traveled to Alabama to tour some loblolly pine plantations and see some operations, this was interesting, even in Alabama they are seeing some significant changes to their industry. While I was in Alabama the day time temperatures were 16-20 degrees Centigrade and -12 back here in NB, I was having thoughts of staying....

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. I hope that everyone gets a good rest from work and has the time to catch up with friends and family and that everyone has many good meals to enjoy. It will be interesting to see what 2018 brings!

Best Regards,

Riley Côté-DeMerchant

CFT 139

President, NBFTA

A WORD FROM 1st VP

Happy 2018 to all NBFTA members and prospective members.

As we begin another trip around the sun, it is my wish that all have a safe and productive year.

The executive of the NBFTA continue to work on your behalf to enhance the image of and encourage cooperation among Forest Technicians / Technologists in New Brunswick and to cooperate as much as possible with all associations with similar interests.

While you are reading this edition of the Azimuth, bear in mind that your association is run on a 100% voluntary basis. Every member of the executive has work obligations and family obligations just as you do, but take time out of their busy lives to help ensure a strong future for forest technicians / technologists in New Brunswick.

The NBFTA has had a great run since being incorporated just over 20 years ago, there have been triumphs and challenges, but we have persevered!

Unfortunately, as with many volunteer organizations in this day and age, the benefit for the many is a result of the work of a few. Please consider ensuring that the association's future is strong by volunteering for a position on the executive. **"If not me, who? If not now, when?"** There are many positions that could benefit from your energy and experiences and it is past time to have some new blood around the table to generate new ideas and help steer the ship into the future. **"Folks who never do any more than they are paid for, never get paid for any more than they do" – Elbert Hubbard**

To wrap up, the NBFTA will be hosting the annual Moose Rack Curling Bonspiel (formerly the Ballantine) in Bathurst on March 23rd. This forestry fun spiel has been going for many decades and continues to be an excellent opportunity to meet up with old forestry friends and have a pop or two and a great meal. Anyone interested in enrolling a team can contact me at alliedegrace@gmail.com.

See ya in the woods,

Allie DeGrace, CFT
1st Vice President, NBFTA

APRIL 4th & 5th, 2018

at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Moncton, NB

**Don't miss the BIGGEST meeting of
forestry professionals in Atlantic Canada!**

**It's show year so BOOK YOUR ROOM NOW!
For reservations call: 506 854-6340**

Don't forget to mention you are attending the Canadian Woodlands Forum
Spring Meeting to get the negotiated room rate of \$132.00/night,
single or double occupancy (plus tax).

**Watch for registration and program details
coming in the new year!**

**Plan to also attend the Atlantic Heavy Equipment Show
on April 5th and 6th at the Moncton Coliseum!**

A "Woodlot" Christmas Story

Jimmy was flooded with memories every time he got in his old pickup and drove out onto his wood lot. He slowly made his way out over the old bulldozer trail that snaked its way up over the hardwood ridge, the same way his grandfather and father had done many times before him. The old road could certainly have used some attention, but the carefully manicured stands that flanked it were always awe inspiring to him. His grandfather had first acquired the wood lot in the late 1940's, and over time it became a labor of love for him. Through the years, the woodlot had provided lumber for many construction projects, firewood for many family members and a few extra dollars from time to time when it was needed. When the old man passed away in 1998, the torch was passed to Jimmy's father, and under his careful management the woodlot continued to provide. As a matter of fact, a few loads of wood were cut and sold in 1997 to help pay for Jimmy's tuition at the Maritime Forest Ranger School. Jimmy had many fond memories of coming out here to work as a child with his grandfather, and then as a young man with his father.

He cherished those memories now more than ever. The past year had been a tough year for Jimmy and his family. His father had passed away in the spring after a courageous battle with cancer, and the responsibility of managing the family woodlot had fallen onto him. He had a young family of his own, and no matter how much he worked there just never seemed to be enough money to go around. This thought was first and foremost on his mind as his old truck rolled to a stop in the old yard at the back end of the lot. Neatly stacked in the back corner of the yard was three cords of sugar maple firewood (or rock maple as his grandfather preferred to call it). He had piled it up there earlier in the year, when he was doing his own fire wood. He had put the extra wood up as a bank for a time when he may need some extra cash, and now, with Christmas just around the corner, the time had arrived. The sun and breeze had done their job well, and the wood was seasoned to perfection. This much seasoned maple would be sure to bring him six or seven hundred dollars he thought as he brushed the snow off the tarp, and had a look at the checked ends sticking out. He also knew that as soon as he put up a notice on the bulletin board at the local store, it would sell quickly.

The next morning as he pulled into Smith's general store, he took note of all the regulars parked in the yard. As usual, when he entered the store, the smell of fresh brewed coffee filled his nostrils, and playful banter filled the air. This morning the main entertainment seemed to be the latest version of a long standing argument between Norm, who was a Montreal Canadiens fan, and Bob, who was a long suffering Maple Leaf fan. "Ya wouldn't win a single game if it wasn't for Price!" Bob chirped, much to the delight of the assembled Leaf faithful. "Well at least we're not depending on a teen age kid to save us!" replied Norm. This comment also got either a laugh or a head shake out the crowd, their reaction of course depending on their allegiance. Jimmy chuckled to himself as he hung up his wood advertisement on the community bulletin board. They were arguing about this very topic the last time he stopped in. Satisfied that his sign would be seen, and his wood would sell quickly, Jimmy walked over to the front counter to help himself to a coffee. Just as he started to pour, the front door opened, and a young woman walked in, with a small boy in tow. Poorly dressed for the cold weather, but proud, she nodded curtly to the men assembled around the coffee pot as she walked by. Careful not to stare, Jimmy followed the young woman out of the corner of his eye as she walked over to the cooler and grabbed a jug of milk. He couldn't help but notice as the boy grabbed a box of chocolate chip cookies and handed them to his mother. She looked at the price, and then shook her

head glumly and told the youngster to put them back on the shelf. As she made her way to the counter, she stopped at the sign Jimmy had put on the bulletin board, and ran her finger down the paper as she read. When she got to the price, she abruptly stopped reading, grabbed her sons hand and made her way to the cash. She quickly paid for her milk, nodded politely to the men, and left the store. Once she went out the door, the assembled peanut gallery picked up where they had left off. As Norm and Bob continued their argument, Jimmy watched the pair walk across the yard, and climb into an old rusty station wagon. The rest of the day, he couldn't get that vision out of his head.

That night at supper, he described the incident in detail to his wife. She was a teacher at the local elementary school, and he knew that if there was a new child in the area, she would likely know a bit of their story. "That would be the Robertsons. What a sweetheart that little Tommy is", his wife said quietly, as she shook her head. "They just moved here a few weeks ago. Apparently they've had a tough go of it. Poor dear doesn't have two red cents to rub together. They are staying out at the old Johnson place." Jimmy pondered the thought of a young woman and child in that old house – a good old fashioned winter was in the forecast, it would cost her a fortune to try and heat that ramshackle old farm house. "She's trying. I guess she took a job as a waitress at the diner the other day, but it's going to take them awhile to get their feet under them. I heard that she was into the mill office last week asking about some scrap lumber to burn," she continued." Apparently she had no idea what she was up against when she moved to the country. What a shame. It looks like they are in for a hard winter. Too bad there wasn't something we could do to help. "

Jimmy got up from the table, and walked into the living room where his children were playing as he pondered the situation. You know, he thought to himself, we don't have it nearly as bad as we think sometimes. Sights like he saw today certainly confirmed that. He and his family wanted for nothing, and their house was warm and cozy. They had plenty of food to eat, and both he and his wife had jobs, and pay checks coming in. Sure who couldn't use a bit of extra cash now and then? But generally it was for something material, not a necessity. There truly were people in need, and he wasn't one of them. Maybe there was something he could do....

His thought process was interrupted by the ringing telephone. "Jimmy, it's for you!" his wife hollered from the kitchen. He went to the kitchen and picked up the phone. It was a potential customer. "Hello", the man said, "I'm just wondering if you're the guy advertising the stove wood for sale. Price sounds good – I'm interested. Do you still have it?" Jimmy thought for a second. "I'm sorry" he replied, "but my wood is already spoken for. I met someone today who really needs it."

He chuckled to himself. He was pretty sure that both his father and his grandfather would have considered this to be pretty good woodlot management.

Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!



2017 Atlantic Teacher's Tour



**Forests Worth Knowing!
Educating the Educators!**

This past August celebrated the 17th year of the Forests Worth Knowing-Atlantic Teachers' Tour. The two tours offered in both Truro, NS (English) and Kedgwick, NB (French), provided the opportunity for the forest industry to 'tell its story' to the 39 participating teachers from across the region. The 'hands-on' program provided educators with a better understanding of sustainable forest management, the application of science and research, resource and management planning, technology, how products that they use every day are manufactured, and insight to the many career opportunities that the industry provides.

The program provides a great benefit and value to the forest sector!

The tours are designed for teachers who teach or write curriculum for environmental studies, science, biology, global geography or related topics for all grade levels, and guidance counselors.

Based on the positive feedback that has been received over the last 17 years from both teachers and supporters alike, it continues to be described as one of the 'best hands-on professional development programs of their career'.

Watch for a special newsletter issue featuring highlights of the 2017 Forests Worth Knowing-Atlantic Teachers' Tour.

For more information visit www.teacherstour.com

 Look us up on Facebook...
"Forests Worth Knowing"



**Forests Worth Knowing
Atlantic Teachers' Tour**



Stay Informed
Stay Connected

Article excerpted from the CWF Fall 2017 newsletter.



Did You know?

The forest sector (in NB) employs 22,000 New Brunswickers directly and indirectly. The manufacturing of wood and paper products accounts for more than 30% of total manufacturing output of the province, making forestry the largest manufacturing and exporting sector with the exception of oil and refineries. (Info taken from the Forest NB website).



MCFT Continuing Education Update



New Website Address

In advance of a new website that will be released in the spring of 2018, MCFT CE has changed the url for its website to ce.mcft.ca. Please share this address with your colleagues for maximum exposure.

New Courses

The forestry professional has never had more selection available for training opportunities than it does today. For MCFT CE to continue to be successful in a competitive marketplace it is important for us to stand out from the crowd and offer training that is unique, has value, and helps with professional development.

In 2018 we have added new short courses to our lineup that are affordable, unique, and valuable to the forestry community.

- 1) **Know Your Trees – Introductory Dendrology Course** – June 12th & 13th. This two-day course is for anyone with an interest in learning about the trees that grow around us. You will learn to identify trees using various characteristics.
- 2) **Understanding and Mitigating Invasive Insect Species** – May 28th & 29th. This two-day course will discuss various invasive insect species that are or will soon be in our region. Learn techniques to identify these pests and how to formulate plans to control their spread.
- 3) **Introduction to Tree Grafting** – June 26th. This one-day course is for those of you wanting to master the science / art of tree grafting.
- 4) **Wetland Specialist Training** – Basic – June 18th – 20th Advanced – June 20th – 22nd. This course will be for professionals who would like to know and understand wetlands. The course is broken down into 2.5 days of basic training and 2.5 days of advanced training. For the basic training, you will be introduced to wetland classifications, regulations, plant id, hydric soils, and basic delineation. For the advanced training, you will do complex/challenging delineation, functional assessments, field inspections, indicators, and restoration techniques.

Upon completion of this training, you will be ready to advance to the Wetland Ecosystem Services Protocol for Atlantic Canada (WESP-AC).



Department of Continuing Education

Schedule valid until June 30th, 2018

	Dates	CFE Credits
Canada Safety Council Certified Snowmobile Training	Jan 10	7
Canada Safety Council Certified Snowmobile Training	Feb 1	7
Introduction to LiDAR Based Enhanced Forest Inventory (EFT), Terrain and Surface Products for Forest Professionals	Feb 20 & 21	14
Nova Scotia Watercourse Alteration Certification for Sizers (Truro)	Feb 26, 27, & 28	14
Nova Scotia Watercourse Alteration Certification for Installers (Truro)	Feb 28, Mar 1, & 2	14
Certified Basic Chainsaw Safety, Operation, & Maintenance	Mar 5, 6, & 7	21
Certified Advanced Chainsaw Safety, Operation, & Maintenance & Refresher	Mar 8 & 9	14
New Brunswick Watercourse Alteration Certification	Mar 12 - 16	28
Challenge to New Brunswick Watercourse Alteration Certification	Mar 15 & 16	8
Nova Scotia Watercourse Alteration Certification for Sizers (Truro)	Mar 19, 20, & 21	14
Nova Scotia Watercourse Alteration Certification for Installers (Truro)	Mar 21, 22, & 23	14
Nova Scotia Watercourse Alteration Certification for Sizers (Truro)	Apr 16, 17, & 18	14
Nova Scotia Watercourse Alteration Certification for Installers (Truro)	Apr 18, 19, & 20	14
NATIONAL Communications Training for Front Line Forestry Workers	Apr 17 & 18	12
Certified Basic Chainsaw Safety, Operation, & Maintenance	Apr 16, 17, & 18	21
Certified Advanced Chainsaw Safety, Operation, & Maintenance & Refresher	Apr 19 & 20	14
Canada Safety Council Certified ATV Training	Apr 25	7
Black Bear Safety & Wildlife Awareness Workshop	Apr 26	5
Nova Scotia Watercourse Alteration Certification for Sizers (Truro)	May 7, 8, & 9	14
Nova Scotia Watercourse Alteration Certification for Installers (Truro)	May 9, 10, & 11	14
Unmanned Aerial Systems (Drones) Ground School	May 15, 16 & 17	16
Supervisory Development	May 23 & 24	14
Understanding and Mitigating Invasive Insect Species	May 28 & 29	14
Nova Scotia Watercourse Alteration Certification for Sizers (Truro)	Jun 4, 5, & 6	14
Nova Scotia Watercourse Alteration Certification for Installers (Truro)	Jun 6, 7, & 18	14
Know Your Trees – Introductory Dendrology Course	June 12 & 13	14
Wetland Specialist Training	June 18-22 (tentative)	32
Tree Grafting	June 26	7
Certified Basic Chainsaw Safety, Operation, & Maintenance	Jun 25, 26, & 27	21
Certified Advanced Chainsaw Safety, Operation, & Maintenance & Refresher	Jun 28 & 29	14

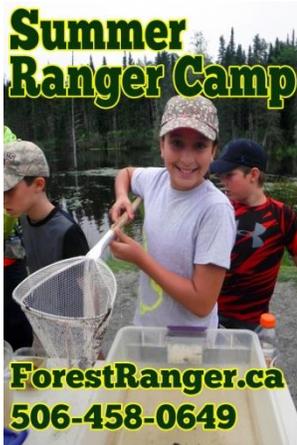
We can do private offerings of any course. Please email ce@mcft.ca or call 506-458-0649.

OUR NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS IS: ce.mcft.ca



MCFT CE Newsletter

MCFT CE began publishing a newsletter in the fall of 2017. The newsletter contains articles and course information from instructors. The intent of the newsletter is to offer in-depth background on specific courses. You can download our newsletter at ce.mcft.ca.



Summer Ranger Camp

One of our most successful outreach programs is our Summer Ranger Camp. It is marketed to parents looking for a meaningful summer activity for their child. We offer programs for preteen and teens. Our 2017 program was very successful and we are looking to grow it this year.

Summer Ranger Camp has proven to be a long-term recruitment program for MCFT. We have past graduates and current students who are enrolled with us because of their childhood experience at the camp.

If your company would be interested in sponsoring a field trip/activity or sponsoring a child in need please consider becoming a corporate sponsor. For more information please contact Michelle Evans at 506-458-0665 or mevans@mcft.ca.

The new website for our Ranger Camp will be forestranger.ca. It is expected to be online by February 1st, 2018.

Camp schedule is as follows:

1. June 25-29
2. July 3-6
3. July 9-13
4. July 23-27
5. July 30-August 3
6. August 7-10

Contact Info

Phone: 506-458-0649 | Email: ce@mcft.ca | Website: ce.mcft.ca

NBFTA Objectives/Benefits

Why join the NBFTA and become certified you ask? Just a few of the reasons are listed below. For those who haven't joined yet, but are interested, or for those who are current members, but are not yet certified, check us out at www.nbfta.org, or contact somebody from our contact listing.

Association Objectives

- To enhance the image of & encourage cooperation among forest technicians in New Brunswick
- To provide one voice on forestry issues as they relate to forest technicians
- To evaluate the qualifications (academic & experience) of graduate technicians who apply for membership and issue accreditation with respect thereto
- To promote and assist in the continuing education of forest technicians & foster high standards
- To promote the protection & enhancement of the New Brunswick Biosphere
- To cooperate with all associations with similar interests

Certification Benefits

- Technician certification is voluntary. Certification exists for NBFTA members who see a benefit and wish to pursue it
- Technician certification demonstrates to concerned parties that specific professional standards are being met, as is the case in other professional accountability to the general public whose expectations of forestry practices & practitioners continue to increase
- Technician certification serves as a valuable marketing tool for technicians seeking employment
- Technician Certification provides Technicians professional designation (CFT) as we pursue common goals alongside our friends within the ARPFNB (RPF)
- Technician Certification requires participation in the nationally recognized Continuing Forestry Education (CFE) Program administered by the NBFTA. Maintaining a CFE certificate provides a system & demands accountability to stay in tune with rapidly changing technological and forestry practices
- Technician certification "raises the bar" for all technicians who have committed to the high standards expected of forestry practitioners

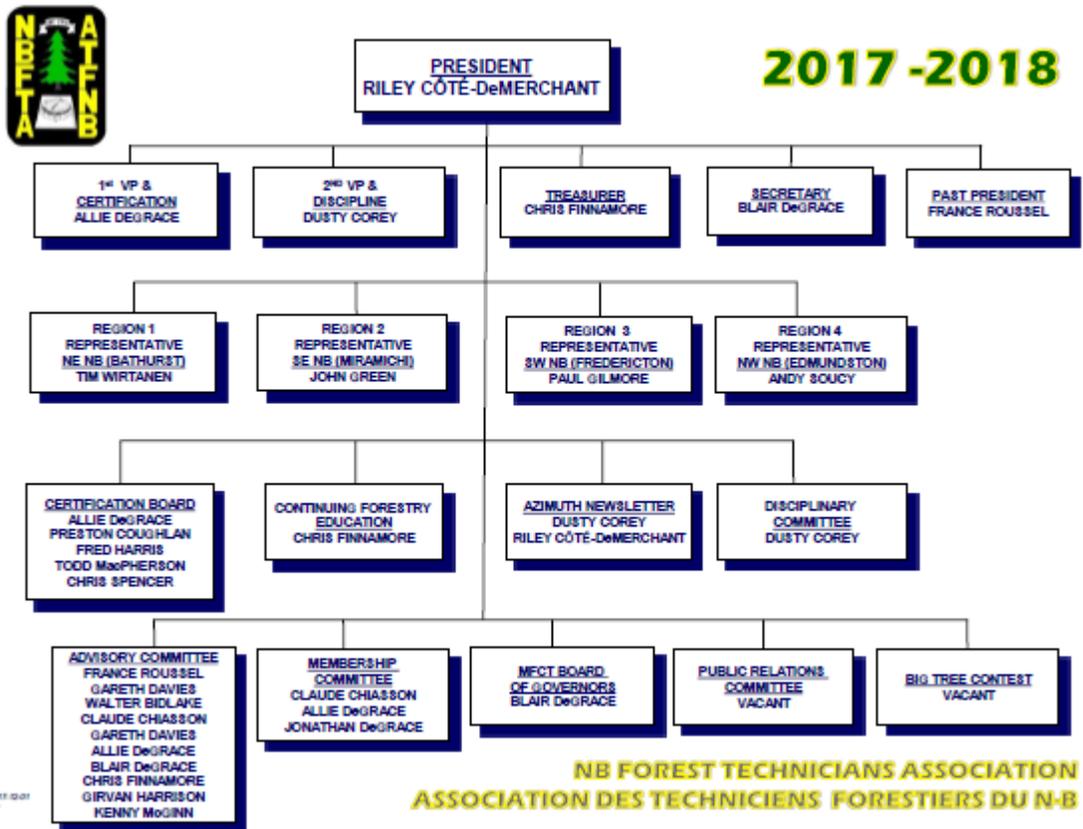
Since it is the season to "throw another log on the fire", a little poem below that some may find interesting. You may remember seeing this in past issues of the Azimuth.

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

NBFTA ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



“Without ambition one starts nothing. Without work one finishes nothing. The prize will not be sent to you. You have to win it.”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

NBFTA CONTACT LISTING - 2017/18						
POSITION	RESPONSIBLE	WORK	HOME	CELL	FAX	E-MAIL
EXECUTIVE BOARD						
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Member	Vacant					

Revised 2017/12/01

PARTING WORDS

As fall gives way and winter cloaks us in its icy grasp, it is time to sit back and reflect on all we accomplished in 2017, and look forward to the challenges that 2018 has in store for us.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped out with the Azimuth over the past year.

Without your help, it would not be possible to put this newsletter together.

I look forward to everyone's continued support in the upcoming year, and wish you all the best the New Year has to offer.

Cheers

Dustin Corey, CFT #106

2ndVP NBFTA



Young bull moose on a frosty early winter morning in NW NB (photo D Corey).