



Rumblings



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Safety in Forestry Transportation

TruckSafe Rumblings is published biweekly to keep you informed on what is happening in forest hauling safety in BC. Call MaryAnne Arcand to provide input or get the news out on best practices and concerns in the industry.

Reminding us all about what's really important



Hats off to Canfor road marshal Ray Brandner for coming up with this sign, which is a reminder to all of us about what's really important and why we want to drive safely.

There's more to our lives than making a living. It's the quality of our lives that counts- our loved ones, our hobbies, our passions, our communities. Let's take a leaf out of Ray's book and make safety first for the right reasons.

Joint Road Safety Forum with the Oil & Gas industry happens today

Today in Fort St John more than 100 representatives of the forest industry, oil & gas, and the enforcement and regulatory agencies are getting together for the first time at a forum jointly hosted by the BC Forest Safety Council-Forestry TruckSafe program and Enform, the safety and training arm of the oil & gas industry.

The goals of the meeting are pretty straightforward:

- to develop a mutual understanding of each others' industries
- to open the lines of communication between the two industries
- to identify two or three objectives upon which we can work together

Road use in the Peace is increasingly daily as all three resource industries (forestry, mining and oil & gas) step up their activities in the regions. The infrastructure can't cope, and we all need to cooperate to ensure safety on the roads, not only for the working guys, but for the folks who live in those communities. This event will be the first of many, and a good start towards communication, collaboration and cooperation.

Forestry TruckSafe Hotline Calls

The hotline has been busy these past couple of weeks, with several angry members of the public about speeding logging trucks, unsafe passing, excessive use of jake brakes in residential areas, drivers using drugs and many more such issues. As I've travelled the roads myself lately I've seen several extremely unsafe situations – loaded trucks doubled up trying to pass each other up hills on Hwy 16, nearly running the private vehicles off the road as they ran out of room and power, passing on double solid lines, and others. But this week took the cake! I was travelling south on Hwy 97 between Mackenzie and Prince George in a charter bus. We had stopped at a railway

crossing, and while the bus started moving across the tracks a log truck passed us – right on the tracks! It's pretty hard to defend log truck drivers when the 40 people in the bus saw this happen! You know who you are... what was that about?

Please, don't only be careful, but think about the impression you're leaving on members of the public as you drive.

Hours of Service recommendations

The deadline for recommendations to NSC for logging trucks Hours of Service is quickly approaching. Your logging associations have been discussing what those recommendations should look like, and we'll be meeting in the next couple of weeks to finalize our presentation to NSC. The Canadian Hours of Service regulations set to go into effect for Jan 1/07 are going to be 13 hours driving, 1 hour service time per day. Please contact Keith Playfair if you want to have input into this process or the final recommendations. kplayfair@kdlgroup.net or phone (250) 996-7834.

Hiring drivers

With the current push to get to breakup and a shortage of drivers, contractors are tempted to grab every driver or truck they can find. This is just a friendly reminder that it would be worth taking the time to check the driver out, by getting his abstract and calling someone else he has driven for. We have had reports of drivers who have been disciplined for unsafe driving, who have been able to turn around and be driving someone else's truck the next day. We need to work together to keep unsafe drivers off the road!

CALENDAR - Upcoming Events where Forestry TruckSafe will be present

- Joint BCFSC/Enform Forum, Mar 10, Ft St John
- FERIC Conference, Mar 23, Campbell River
- COFI Convention, Apr 6,7,8, Kelowna
- ILA Convention, April 20,21,22, Kamloops
- North Central Municipalities AGM, May 4 & 5, Fort St John
- Forest Expo, June 1, 2, 3, Prince George

If you see that we're going to be in your area, and would like a Forestry TruckSafe presentation for your group, please call MaryAnne at 250 612 2267.

TruckSafe Trivia According to WorkSafeBC there were 90,900 truckers working in BC in 1999. With the increases in our resource industries over the past few years, we can assume that that number has now passed 100,000!

If you know someone who would be interested in receiving TruckSafe Rumbblings, please forward this email along. Signing up is easy. [Just click here and you will be taken to our new sign up page](#). If you know someone who'd be interested but doesn't have email, forward their fax number to us at arcand@bctrucksafe.org

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