



RUMBLINGS

FOR SAFE ROADS, LOADS AND DRIVERS — ACROSS BRITISH COLUMBIA
FORESTRY TRUCKSAFE



BC **Forest Safety** Council

○ PRINTABLE VERSION

June 26, 2009----ISSUE 104

Safety in Forestry Transportation TruckSafe Rumbings 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.

New Trucking Safety Council of BC seeking trucker input

The newly formed Trucking Safety Council of BC has developed a draft business plan to improve safety in BC's trucking industry. Motor carriers are invited to review and provide input into the plan at Town Hall meetings in June and July.

The Trucking Safety Council, formed with funding from WorkSafeBC, provides programs and services to help the trucking industry reduce the human and financial costs of workplace and road incidents. The industry currently suffers 10 to 15 fatalities and more than 1,000 injuries per year, costing about \$165 million in WorkSafeBC and ICBC claims per year. Beyond the dollars is the huge toll these incidents take on companies, employees, and families.

The business plan defines how the Council will be governed, organized, staffed, and funded over the next five years. The plan also discusses programs and services that the Council will provide to the industry, including the new safety [Certificate of Recognition \(COR\) program](#) recently approved by WorkSafeBC.

The Trucking Safety Council's primary client group is the employers and employees in WorkSafeBC's General Trucking and Moving and Storage classification units, which will fund the Council's work. Employers in these groups will automatically become members of the Council.

You can provide input at the following Town Hall meetings:

- **Kelowna:** June 24, 2009, 7-9 pm, Holiday Inn Express, 2429 Hwy 97 North
- **Cranbrook:** June 25, 2009, 7-9 pm, Sandman Hotel, 405 Cranbrook Street
- **Nanaimo:** July 7, 2009, 7-9 pm, Best Western Inn, 70 Church Street
- **Prince George:** July 8, 2009, 7-9 pm, Ramada Inn, 444 George Street
- **Langley:** July 15, 2009, 7-9 pm, BC Trucking Association, 20111 93A Avenue

To attend one of these meetings, RSVP directly to Rob Weston, General Manager of the Trucking Safety Council, at safety.council@bctrucking.com. For any of the July meetings, please send your RSVP **no later than**

five days prior to the meeting date.

BC Professional Truck Driving Championships in Abbotsford this Weekend (from Today's Trucking)

This weekend more than 50 of B.C.'s top professional drivers will compete for bragging rights.

The 2009 edition of the province's [Professional Truck Driving Championships](#) will be held this Saturday, June 27, at the Tradex Centre in Abbotsford, B.C. The driving portion of the contest will take place from 8:30 a.m. to approximately 4:00 p.m. Spectators are welcome to attend with no admission charges.

The competition will consist of three tests of knowledge and skill: a written exam, which tests the drivers' general knowledge of the industry and equipment; a vehicle pre-trip inspection, during which drivers must find a series of planted defects; and the actual driving competition, which simulates the everyday skills of manoeuvring, cornering and judging distance on an obstacle course.

To be eligible to compete, each driver must be accident free for the 12-month period prior to the championships

Driver Distraction Contributes to Crashes, according to new study (from truckinginfo.com)

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Driver distraction – from cell phone use to dispatching devices – was involved in 100 percent of commercial vehicles crashes in the US, according to a recent study. In addition, driver distraction was involved in 81 percent of safety-critical events, which includes not only crashes but also other events such as lane deviations, according to a study on driver distraction in commercial vehicle operations conducted by the [Virginia Tech Transportation Institute](#)

The study found that tasks such as text messaging and dialling while driving posed the most risk. Out of a span of six seconds, drivers' eyes were looking off of the forward roadway for about five seconds while texting in the middle of a critical event, the data showed. On average, drivers who were dialling a cell phone during a critical event took their eyes off the forward roadway for about four seconds at a time. Dispatching devices were also distracting during critical events, drawing drivers' eyes for about four seconds.

The study's authors offered these recommendations to carriers when addressing the distraction issue:

- Implement education to emphasize the importance of having eyes forward and scanning the surroundings.
- Non high-tech activities, such as reading, writing and mapping, can also be risky distractions.
- Consider enforcing policies such as no texting or other use of in-vehicle devices.
- Encourage drivers to avoid manual dialling and the use of dispatching devices on the road.
- Inform drivers that talking is permitted. It can help keep them alert.
- Look into dispatch devices that include Bluetooth capabilities, voice activation or lockout features.
- Conduct research on some of the other protective effects of certain tasks.
- Support regulation related to driver distraction, such as the text messaging ban or hands-free requirements.

(Editor's Note: we're expecting to see the BC government introduce this kind of legislation next year, similar to what's in place in Ontario and Quebec)

Cariboo Big Rig Show n' Shine postponed

The Cariboo Big Rig Show n Shine set for last Saturday in Quesnel has been postponed to the weekend of July 18-19, Billy Barker Days. Organizer Chester DeRaspe says he just ran out of time, because he's been working. So the event is now going to be at the Maple Park Shopping Mall parking lot on Hwy 97, during Billy Barker Days. It includes several different classes of trucks, and a "light up" in the evening. Let's support Chester in his efforts to bring some pride to the truckers in the Cariboo. If you want to bring your truck, the entry fee is \$10. You can call Chester at (250)991-2754. See you there!

BC Big Rig Weekend ready to go

If you really want to see a lot of shiny trucks, head for Chilliwack's Heritage Park (right on the freeway) on the July 4 weekend. Over 100 rigs of every shape, size and vintage, from BC, Alberta and the US show up to compete for prizes, trophies and bragging rights. You've never seen so much chrome! There's also a pancake breakfast, an antique tractor pull, and the Saturday night light show is absolutely spectacular! There are usually

several working logging trucks from the Island, the Interior, and of course, Chester from Quesnel! Good luck this year Chester – maybe you can finally beat Jordy! For more info, go to www.pro-truckermagazine.com/bc-big-rig-weekend or call (604)580-2092.

MaryAnne says thanks... and see ya later!

It's hard to believe that this is the week, but as of today, I'm done as the Director of Forestry TruckSafe. It has been a wild and challenging ride, one of the most rewarding things I've ever done in my life – and I've done some pretty cool things! My most overwhelming feeling this week is gratitude. I'm grateful for the opportunities I've had through this job, and feel privileged to have met so many of the great people who work in this industry, from the ground right up through to the government folks. But I especially want to thank the truckers, the guys who put the miles on every day, who live the realities of the road summer and winter, rain or shine. You guys are the best! I've never met such hard-working, decent people in my life, and you are pro's. So thanks, guys and gals. Thanks for the input, the phone calls, the emails, and the encouragement over the years. You folks have provided the guidance, the sounding board and the vision for what needed to be done to improve things out there. If there have been changes for the better, and many of you say there have, it's because we worked at them together.

And many thanks for all the kind words, emails and cards I've received going into my new job. I will still be out there fighting for loggers and log truckers, just with a new hat, so you haven't heard the last of me. I'm still there if you need help or information, and certainly if you're in CILA territory (from 100 Mile north), I'm your gal! Here's my new contact info as of July 15, 2009.

MaryAnne Arcand, Executive Director Member Services
Central Interior Logging Association
Ph: (250)562-3368 Cell: (250)961-3258 Email : maryanne@cila.ca

What's going to happen with Rumbblings?

Until a new Director is found for Forestry TruckSafe, MaryAnne is going to continue putting Rumbblings together on behalf of the Council. If you have letters, issues, or news items, please forward them to Kathleen Meise meise@bcforestsafesafe.org and she'll make sure to forward them.

Your Voice

Hi Maryanne,

I am sure that I can honestly say that I speak for every driver in B.C. when I say that you will be missed as our Ombudsman and our protector. I understand you're moving to better yourself and the Industry overall. I wonder who I will cry to with you leaving? You are going to leave a lasting footprint that will be hard for anyone to fill. -Dennis

Just a note to let you know your efforts at TruckSafe were appreciated. Good luck going forward. -Gary
Hi Maryann!

Well --- You are going to be missed greatly.

There are not enough words in the dictionary to say Thank You for what you have done and for your efforts at making all our worlds a better place to work and live in. Thank You Maryann for taking our challenges and seeing what our world really looks like. Most people would have never done what you have done. -George

Hi MaryAnne

I was wondering what happens to all the good and all the great things that were started under your direction? -GS

Editor's Note: The good news is that the Forest Safety Council is committed to continuing the Forestry TruckSafe program and is actively looking for the right individual to pick up where MaryAnne left off. Stay tuned, and if you

have any great suggestions, email them to hert@bcforestsafe.org

June 24	BC Professional Truck Driving Championships, Abbotsford
July 4 -5	BC Big Rig Weekend, Chilliwack
July 14	WorkSafe Resource Roads Demonstration Project Report Rollout, Prince George
July 18 -19	Cariboo Big Rig Show n Shine, Quesnel
July 18-19	Duncan Antique Truck Show, BC Forest Discovery Centre, Duncan
July 31-Aug 3	Vancouver Island Truck Show, Saanich
Sept 19-20	Antique Truck Show, McLean's Mill, Port Alberni
Sept 23 -24	SHARP Conference, Prince George Theme: Human Factors
Oct 21 – 22	CrossRoads Road Safety Conference, Prince George Theme: Fit to Drive

If you know someone who would be interested in receiving TruckSafe Rumbings, 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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