



# RUMBLINGS

FOR SAFE ROADS, LOADS AND DRIVERS — ACROSS BRITISH COLUMBIA

## FORESTRY TRUCKSAFE



BC Forest Safety Council

○ PRINTABLE VERSION

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**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.**

### KUDOS FOR A CHANGE

Wednesday night four Prince George area licensees and some of their contractors hosted a meeting in the Nukko Lake community, where they outlined their hauling plans for this coming winter logging season. There will be between 15,000 – 20,000 loads coming out of there over the next 4 months as that area peaks for beetle-wood harvesting- approximately 268 loads per day, 24/5, from mid-November to mid-March.

We want to congratulate Carrier Lumber, Canfor, BC Timber Sales and Lakeland for being up front with the community, and pro-active in their planning for reducing the risks to all road users. The meeting included WorkSafeBC, CVSE, RCMP, Regional District, BCTS and MoFR personnel as well, each of whom outlined their strategies for enforcement and education over the haul season. Canfor and Carrier are sharing the costs of a Road Safety Marshall to be out monitoring the roads. Forestry TruckSafe has played a very active role in problem-solving with this community over the past two seasons, and several residents expressed their appreciation that things were getting done and they were being informed ahead of time, instead of when the trucks started rolling. Good job, everybody!

### WORKDRUGFREEBC CONFERENCE INSIGHTFUL... AND SCARY

Despite the tough economic times, more than 100 health and safety personnel and managers took part in the WorkDrugFreeBC Conference this week. According to BC Council on Substance Abuse Executive Director Teresa Bennett, studies show that drug and alcohol use in the workplace is on the rise. Her statements were backed up by Dr. Brendan Adams, the keynote speaker, who outlined for the group what the effects of different drugs are and what employers and supervisors should be watching out for. Dr. Adams' presentation looked at the effect drugs & alcohol use and abuse have not only on the human body, but also on relationships, job performance and other factors. He also highlighted the difference between testing results or standards and actual impairment.

Was there ever a time in your life when you felt your alcohol use had a harmful effect on the following?		
	1994	2004
Friendships or social life	10.1*	14.2
Physical health	12.2*	14.8
Home life or marriage	5.5*	8.1
Work, studies or employment opportunities	4.9*	6.8
Financial position	6.9	6.9
	(CADS 1994 CAS 2004)	

\* the numbers with the asterix show a Statistically significant increase

Conference participants were stunned at his “mythbusting” statements as well, particularly about marijuana use. His presentation will be available for downloading on the Substance Abuse Council’s website next week, and is well worth looking at.

BC Forest Safety Ombudsman Roger Harris led a discussion on the “Code of Silence”, talking about why workers don’t speak up about what’s going on in their workplaces. Fear of reprisal or retribution, no follow-up from the top, and financial concerns topped the list brought up by participants. Forestry TruckSafe Director MaryAnne Arcand made a presentation on employer liabilities, responsibilities and the culture changes that need to happen in company structures to effectively undertake the policy changes that need to take place. As well, a panel discussion on what the drug free workplace would look like ended up in a lively discussion about drug testing – should it be done? Is it effective? Is it the answer?

More to come on this subject for sure.

### **HURTING COMMUNITIES LOOKING FOR RETURN OF APPURTENANCY**

There will be public meetings in Mackenzie and Ft St James this coming week to discussing appurtenancy, “tying logs to communities”. According to Opinion 250.com, “Many people in the towns and regions of rural British Columbia believe that forestry companies should be required to process logs in or near the communities where they are harvested. Without such regulation, their concern is that forestry companies simply shut down mills, especially in smaller towns, and ship the raw logs out of the community, out of the region, and even out of the country. On the other hand, the provincial government believes that having requirements that tie logs to communities will interfere with the “market forces” that make for a healthy and strong industry. B.C.’s Provincial government started phasing out appurtenance in the ‘80s and 90’s and the Liberal government completely removed it in 2003.”

One of the speakers, Rob van Adrichem, a regional development researcher who has written a paper on appurtenance and its possible application to the “knowledge industry”, believes appurtenancy was “vital for the establishment and sustainability of communities in B.C,” and that its principles “continue to be relevant today.”

The second speaker is Peter Ewart. He believes that in these uncertain economic times discussion on the issue of “tying logs to communities” is both “appropriate and necessary”. He also believes this concept could be used to foster, not only more primary wood production, but also getting more “value” out of the wood itself through the establishment of value-added wood operations and other means.”

### **LOG TRUCK DRIVERS HELP DEVELOP CORE COMPETENCIES ASSESSMENT TOOL**

A group of logging truck operators from across the province met in Prince George this week to build a list of the core competencies required to safely operate a logging truck. The group represented all the geographic areas, types of operation (from fleet, to union operations, to individual owner/ops, to self-loaders) and different hauling conditions and terrain. They spent two days “picking apart” their workday, and outlining step-by-step all the little tasks that it takes to be a successful and safe operator.

This information will now be developed into an assessment tool, and possibly a curriculum for new entrants into the log truck operating field, so trainers can ensure that new drivers know how to do the things that they need to do in a day, and for employers/supervisors to have a competency assessment, which is part of due diligence.

Once that tool is drafted, we will be sending it out to as many log haulers as we can to get feedback, input and validation that we have captured it accurately. So stay tuned!

### **ONLY ONE WEEK TO GO**

Time is running out for you to register for the ***Vancouver Island Safety Conference*** being held next week Saturday, November 1, 2008 in Qualicum. The theme is ***“Human Factors - Why bad things happen to good people!”***

Substance abuse, human factors, fatigue, technological changes and an aging workforce all contribute to injuries in the Pulp and Paper, Wood Products Manufacturing, Forestry and related Transportation sectors. To assist industry in meeting these challenges and to find new ways of helping workers and employers recognize wellness in industry, a steering committee made up of industry, union and WorkSafeBC representatives has planned a **free** one-day conference. Attending the 2008 Vancouver Island Safety Conference may also satisfy the eight

hours of safety committee training requirement in the Workers' Compensation Act part 135 Educational Leave.

*“Human Factors - Why bad things happen to good people!”* is a co-operative safety conference focusing on wellness from a personal perspective, a peer perspective and from a responsibility perspective. This conference will bring together health and safety committee co-chairs, safety representatives, employers, union representatives, policy makers, owner operators and industry leaders to discuss strategies on how to dramatically reduce and ultimately eliminate fatalities and serious injuries associated with human factors while on the job.

There is no cost for the conference, but you should register in advance, [visc@bcforestsafe.org](mailto:visc@bcforestsafe.org)

**CVSE – Friends helping friends**

On Saturday, Oct 18, the CVSE crew from Prince George and area took it straight to the top to help out members and their families going through a tough time.

A few weeks ago Bill Crandall, long time Inspector at the Tete Jaune scales, passed away from cancer. About the same time, Terry Deacon from the Prince George South scales was diagnosed with leukemia. When you live in the north, getting treatment for serious illness means heading south, at great cost for t

ravel and accommodations. The CVSE crew decided to hold a fundraiser to raise money to support the Crandall family, and Terry Deacon and his family. They held a silent auction and auctioned off head-shaves, raising more than \$6,000.00. Glenn’s moustache went for \$300!



Left to Right: Glenn Winther, Ron Marshall, Terry Deacon, Steve Larkman, Wendy Herring, Lee Trenholm, Barry Dawson, Val Hunsaker, Nick Leatham, Carol Juba, Ian Macmillan, Randy Vanden Bos, Ken Geleta, Mike Turnquist

Local truckers got into the action too, with their own wives paying to get their heads shaved! The event was fun, in the midst of sadness, and a real reminder for all of us that CVSE and other enforcement officers are people too – people that hurt, get sick, have families and care for each other – and our safety. Next time you’re through the PG or Tete Jaune scales, say hi to the crew and tell them “Good Job!”

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- November 1 Vancouver Island Safety Conference, Qualicum
- November 19-21 BC Injury Prevention Conference, Vancouver
- January 13-16 Truck Loggers Convention, Vancouver
- January 23, 24 Natural Resources Forum, Prince George
- February 4 -6 Western Silviculture Contractors Conference, Victoria

If you have a trucking related event you’d like us to post for you, email [arcand@bcforestsafe.org](mailto:arcand@bcforestsafe.org) with the details.

***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@bcforestsafe.org](mailto:arcand@bcforestsafe.org)***

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