BC Forest Safety

2022 BGFSC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Dave Lehane - Board Chair

Dave is a retired forest industry executive with over 35 years of diverse experience in reforestation, harvesting, mill management, fiber supply, government and community relations.

Over his career he held several senior executive positions in BC, Alberta and the south-east United States always with a steadfast passion and responsibility to creating a safe workplace, implementing new safety management systems and embedding a strong safety culture.

Dave holds a Bachelor of Science in Forestry and a Masters of Business Administration International Business.



Scott Bax - Safety Committee Chair, Wood Pellet Association of Canada (WPAC)

Scott has been Chair of the WPAC Safety Committee since 2014 and is dedicated to striving for safe wood pellet plants by improving better safety processes and reducing hazards and risks to industry workers. He has more than 20 years' experience in various logging and wood manufacturing operations throughout Canada and the US and holds an MBA and Master of Forestry from the University of Alberta and a Bachelor of Science (Environment) from the University of Guelph.

A leader in pellet safety and operations, Scott was recognized as one of the Top 36 Most Influential Leaders in the Biomass Industry in 2016 and most recently served as Chief Operations Officer for Pinnacle Renewable Energy.



John Betts - Executive Director Western Forestry Contractors' Association (WFCA)

John has been the Executive Director of the Western Forestry Contractors' Association since 1998. He first planted in trees as a Junior Forest Ranger in Ontario in 1968. After working as a logger on the West Coast in the 70s, he returned to planting trees and began his own silviculture firm which he operated throughout the 1980s.

Before his role with the WFCA, he consulted in public affairs, was a free-lance journalist and reported for the Nelson Daily News. In 2020, John was made an honorary member of the Association of BC Forest Professionals.



Bob Brash - Executive Director, Truck Loggers Association (TLA)

Prior to taking on the role of Executive Director for the TLA, Bob was a member of the Board of Directors for ten years. He is a Registered Professional Forester and has an MBA from Queen's University.

He led an accomplished and varied career as a senior level executive in the private, public and First Nations sectors of BC's forest and resource industry. His career began with 17 years in various technical and management roles with the Ministry of Forest and Lands followed by 13 years as Vice-President and President with the Husby Group of Companies and the past eight years as Chief Operating Officer and Chief Executive Officer with Haida Enterprise Corporation.



Jeff Bromley – Chair, Steelworkers Wood Council

Prior to being elected Steelworkers Wood Council Chair in 2019, Jeff was a rank-and-file IWA member. In 1994 he was hired as an operator at the Elko Sawmill at age 25. Then in 2008, was elected 3rd Vice-President of Local 1-405. He graduated from the USW's Leadership Development Program in 2010 and two years later, in 2012, he was elected Financial Secretary and has served the local union in a full-time staff role ever since.

Jeff earned his Associate Degree at East Kootenay Community College (now College of the Rockies) majoring in history with a minor in political science.



Melissa Sanderson, Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) Ministry of Forests - Timber, Range and Economics Division

Melissa began her career in the resource sector with Nova Scotia Power. She moved back to BC to pursue a career in BC Public Service and worked with the Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Petroleum Resources until becoming the ADM for the Ministry of Forests - Forest Policy and Indigenous Relations Division now called the Timber, Range and Economics Division.

Melissa is dedicated to supporting economic development, building strong communities and Indigenous reconciliation. As ADM responsible for the Intentions Paper, she is leading the modernization of the forest sector to meet today's current forest management challenges and opportunities. In April 2022, she became the lead ADM for the Ministry of Forests Safety Program.

Melissa holds a BA in History and Political Science from SFU.



D'Arcy Henderson – Vice President Canadian Woodlands, West Fraser

D'Arcy joined West Fraser in 1997. He started out as a forestry consultant and worked in various roles in the woodland sector for West Fraser before landing at Fraser Lake Sawmill in 2001. In 2007, he transferred to another division of West Fraser, Williams Lake Sawmill becoming General Manager. Over the next decade, D'Arcy worked his way up through the organization as General Manager of Quesnel Sawmill from 2012- 2014 and then Regional General Manager for West Fraser in 2014 working with divisions across both BC and Alberta. In 2019 D'Arcy was promoted to General Manager of Canadian Woodlands and was most recently appointed Vice President, Canadian Woodlands in 2020.



Reid Hedlund - Chairman Interior Logging Association (ILA)

Reid was a member of the Forest Safety Task Force and chaired the Forest Industry Safety Association from 1999 until 2004.

A logging owner since 1979, Reid bids on crown and private land contracts. He studied automobile mechanics at Okanagan College and completed a mechanics trade apprenticeship.



Lana Kurz - Safety & Environment Manager Interfor, Western Operations

Lana is the Safety and Environment Manager for Interfor Corporation, Western Operations. Lana has 25 years of operational experience in the forest industry and has spent her career in silviculture, harvesting and manufacturing in BC, Washington and Oregon.

She holds a Forest Technology Diploma from Selkirk College and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Natural Resources Management from UNBC and is a registered professional forester.



Stephen Mackie - Executive Vice President, Canfor, North American Operations

Stephen has been with Canfor since 2005. In his current role, he responsible for leading Canfor's wood products operations throughout North America and supporting employees with their leadership growth and professional development within the organization.

Before taking on his current role, he held of number of senior executive positions including Senior Vice President, Canadian Operations, Vice President, Operations Canada and Director, Capital and Strategic Projects. Prior to Canfor, he worked with Weldwood of Canada in operations, capital planning and marketing. Raised in Houston, BC, he started in the forestry industry at 16 working in sawmills and holds a BCom degree from UBC.



Digger Pond – Chief Operating Officer (COO), Mosaic Forest Management

Digger is the Vice President, Operations of Mosaic Forest Management. Digger spent most of his 29-year career in forest management, working his way up through firefighting, scaling, production management and planning, harvesting and sawmill supervision to regional forestland management in Ontario, Saskatchewan and Arkansas. Prior to joining Mosaic, Digger was the General Manager of a Pulp Mill in Alberta.

Digger holds an undergraduate degree in Forest Resource Management from the University of New Brunswick.



BOARD OBSERVER

Chris Back, Director of OHS Consultation & Education Services, WorkSafeBC

Chris has been with WorkSafeBC since 2014. Before moving into his current role, Chris managed the Manufacturing & Retail portfolio and Construction portfolio in Consultation & Education Services. Chris aims to build stakeholder capacity and encourage safety ownership and culture to positively impact workplace OHS knowledge, abilities, motivations and behaviours.

Prior to WorkSafeBC, he held various leadership positions in health and safety and disability management, primarily in the healthcare industry. He has a background in Kinesiology, is a Canadian Certified Professional Ergonomist and holds an MBA from Royal Roads.



EX-OFFICIO MEMBER

Rob Moonen – Chief Executive Officer, BC Forest Safety Council

Rob was appointed to CEO in 2016 and has been with BCFSC since 2010. In his current role he is responsible for leading the efforts of BCFSC in supporting industry to eliminate serious injuries and fatalities in BC's harvesting, sawmill and wood pellet sectors.

Prior to taking on his current role, he worked as BCFSC's Business Manager before taking on the dual role of Director, SAFE Companies. Before joining BCFSC, he worked with Catalyst Paper. Rob grew up on Vancouver Island and brings more than three decades of experience in occupational health and safety and human resources with a focus on forestry and wood products manufacturing. Rob holds a Diploma of Technology in Occupational Health and Safety from BCIT.