



Jack Miller Retires From FTAC

During the March meeting of FTAC, Scott Rushton announced Jack Miller's retirement from the Falling Technical Advisory Committee after many years as a dedicated member, working tirelessly for faller safety. Jack was one of the founding members of FTAC and worked on sub-committees within the committee, most recently on changes to the BC Faller Training Standard.

Dazy Weymer shared his appreciation and saluted Jack as a fellow founding member of FTAC. "I first met Jack through the FTAC a bunch of years ago and have looked forward to our get togethers ever since."

Dazy goes on to say, "The most important function of the FTAC group is to keep the development of faller safety initiatives in the hands of the fallers. The people who are doing the job and know what will work for them and what won't. If you haven't been a faller, you can't possibly understand what is involved. And if a faller goes a long stretch without falling fairly steadily, they lose touch with some of the realities of the job."

One big strength of Jack being on the FTAC was that he was always a faller. Not off and on amongst other things. That's what he did for a living, and he was always fully in touch with the gig. He never lost focus on the realities of the job.

Jack's most significant contribution to the FTAC though was his heart. Jack has always truly cared about the welfare of his fellow workers. We attended a whole lot of FTAC meetings over the years and sat on a number of sub-committees together. He always spoke politely and calmly but made his convictions heard, and they always made sense from the perspective of a faller. That's what I love about Jack. He's going to be missed at the meetings. And I'm going to miss our Coast Bastion breakfasts."

Rob Shambrook described Jack as a very safe, conscientious faller. "When I started with Western Forest Products in 1990, Jack was the Safety Representative and he retired from that role. He was devoted to his job, truly believing in safety and making a difference. He was incredibly consistent in his role as the safety rep, ensuring that nothing was overlooked."

Rob went on to add that faller safety was paramount with Jack. He was always looking out for other fallers and the importance of safety was vital to him.

On behalf of FTAC and the BC Forest Safety Council, we wish Jack all the best in his future endeavours! 🍷



FTAC members surround Jack Miller at the March 10th meeting.

Hazard Identification Research Update – Seeing Safely

During the March 10th FTAC Meeting, Ron Corbeil, Madison Elliott and Dominik Roeser provided an update on the work they have been doing on hazard identification and developing an online training course to better educate individuals on the identification of hazards.

Madison Elliott, Cognitive Science PhD, presented on how human vision actually works and how to become an ‘expert’ at identifying hazards. In groups, Madison had FTAC members put their learning into practice. She asked members to identify certain objects on the screen. Once these random objects were identified, she explained the process of how our brains are trained to look for specific objects and provided strategies the group could adopt to help them more quickly identify them.

Dominik Roeser, Associate Professor, Forest & Wildfire Operations at UBC, gave a high-level overview of the Seeing Safely training course that has been developed so far. Although the site had not officially been launched at the time of the meeting, Dominic does intend for it to be available in 2023. BCFSC will circulate the training site information once it becomes available. 📍

