

CRUISING AND PROFESSIONALISM

Casey Macaulay RPF

Registrar and Director of Act Compliance – Association of BC Forest Professionals



OUTLINE







1. Association mandate
2. The importance of self-regulation
3. The duty to resolve or report
4. The forestry team
5. Getting involved
6. How to apply

WHO IS THE ABCFP?

- Provincial association that regulates the practice of professional forestry
- Mandate from the people of BC
- 5,400 members (70% RPF, 30% RFT)
- 137 ATC / ATE
- Right to title / Right to practice
- Ensures competence, independence, conduct and integrity of members
- Ensure anyone practicing is accountable
- Advocates for stewardship

WHAT IS THE ABCFP MANDATE?

FROM THE *FORESTERS ACT*

PUBLIC INTEREST	STEWARDSHIP ADVOCACY	GOVERN MEMBERS	REGISTRATION STANDARDS	CODES OF CONDUCT	CERTIFICATION SCHEMES
<p>Uphold the public interest by ensuring the competency, independence, conduct and integrity of members</p> <p>Ensure person engaged in practice is accountable to the association</p> 	<p>Advocate for and uphold principles of stewardship of forests, forest lands, forest resources and ecosystems</p> 	<p>In accordance with the ACT, bylaws and resolutions</p> 	<p>Establish, monitor and enforce standards of education and qualifications for enrollment, registration and continued membership</p> 	<p>Establish, monitor and enforce codes of conduct and standards of practice</p> 	<p>Establish and administer certification of technical occupations related to the practice</p> 

WHY SHOULD I GET REGISTERED OR CERTIFIED?

- Expanded opportunities
- Legally required for practice
- Employer assurance
- Public trust
- Professional / personal development
- Community of members / support
- Giving back / volunteerism
- Professional liability protection

A SELF REGULATING PROFESSION

- The public entrusts us
- We have the knowledge and the competence
- We are the best evaluators of what is good practice
- The members are the eyes and ears of the profession
- Monitoring ourselves and our peers is important
- Decisions based on short term gains or self-interest have long term implications
- Realtors and teachers have seen these consequences

THE DUTY TO RESOLVE OR REPORT

BYLAW 11.3.4 AND 11.4.3

- Public responsibility to ensure good stewardship and professional conduct
- Be sure of the facts
- Raise the matter with the member
- Seek resolution if possible
- Report your concern if there is no means to resolve
- Document your inquiry and facts

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- We hold our opinions dearly – how often do we check them?
- Human tendency to be defensive
- Power imbalances: client/contractor, ministry/licensee, ministry/contractor
- Cruising disputes: Section 3.7 – Check Cruise Dispute Mechanism
- Use of a third party (e.g. non-ministry)
- Separating professional decisions from interpersonal
- Importance of healthy, ongoing working relationships
- What would the public say about the dispute?

THE FORESTRY TEAM

- Six classes of membership: **registered**, enrolled, retired, special permits, **associate members**, honorary members
- Registered members hold certificates of registration: RPF, RFT
 - requires degree or diploma
- Associate members hold certificates of accreditation: ATC, ATE
 - requires evidence of competency
 - need more employer / client recognition of these

THE FORESTRY TEAM

- Currently looking at other types of associate membership
 - forest technician recognition
 - GIS
- Limited licenses may be granted to practice forestry for a limited purpose (e.g. forest hydrology)
 - requires a related degree or diploma
- Many in the workforce lack degree / diploma but have experience
- Talk to the registration department about your options

GETTING INVOLVED IN THE PROFESSION

- Shifting from “me” to “us”
- 23 committees – almost 200 volunteers
- Council elections every year – strong governance
- Volunteers are influential to the association and their employers
- Greater understanding of mandate
- The inside view often negates the critics and creates advocates
- Shape the future of the profession

RFT, RPF, NRP - HOW DO I GET REGISTERED?

- Confirm eligibility of your education
- Apply (no prior work experience needed)
- Once approved, you need 24 months of applicable experience
- Get a sponsor
- Begin modules
- Submit package for credential assessment (ASFIT only)
- Fill competency gaps if identified (ASFIT only)
- Complete modules, exams and work experience
- See *Registration Procedures* online

ATC, ATE - HOW DO I GET CERTIFIED?

1. Complete application form
2. Academic records and certificates
3. Recent resume
4. Indictable offence declaration
5. 2 confidential work experience reports
6. Timber cruiser's log
7. Complete ethics exam if a non-member or an enrolled member
8. Application fee

QUESTIONS?

cmacaulay@abcfp.ca