



OPFA

Ontario Professional Foresters Association

A photograph of a forest stream flowing over mossy rocks, with a large fallen log in the foreground. The water is white and turbulent as it flows over the rocks. The surrounding forest is lush with green foliage and moss-covered trees.

Annual Report

2009

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Ontario Professional Foresters Association 2009 Annual Report

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REGISTRAR & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tony Jennings, R.P.F.

ADMINISTRATION

Priscilla Doyle, B.B.A., Registration/Office Coordinator

Mike H. Clarke, R.P.F., Administrative Projects Officer

Tracey Perozzo, Administrative Projects Officer

Judy Biggar, Competency & Practices Coordinator

Janice Sukhiani, Bookkeeper & Office Assistant

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2009 should be directed to the Executive Director,

Georgetown, ON L7G 2E2 (905) 877-3679

COUNCIL

2008-2009

PRESIDENT

Carl Corbett, R.P.F.

VICE PRESIDENT

Allan Foley, R.P.F.

PAST PRESIDENT

David G. Milton, R.P.F.

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COUNCILLOR-NORTHEAST

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COUNCILLOR-CENTRALWEST

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COUNCILLOR-CENTRALEAST

Jim McCready, R.P.F.

COUNCILLOR-SOUTHWEST

Caroline Mach, R.P.F.

COUNCILLOR-SOUTHEAST

Deb MacEwen, R.P.F.

COUNCILLOR-AT-LARGE

Laird Nelson, Associate

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Michael Barker

Bob Duncanson

Anne Koven

Brian Kurikka

Henry Lickers

REGISTRAR/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tony Jennings, R.P.F.

Highlighted names under Council are members of the Executive Committee

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This report covers the fiscal year December 1, 2008 to November 30, 2009

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COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

Carl Corbett, R.P.F.
Allan Foley, R.P.F.
Frank Miklas, R.P.F.
David Milton, R.P.F.
Mike Barker

Website Committee

CHAIR
Greg Pawson, R.P.F.

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Susan Jarvis, R.P.F.

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MEMBERS
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Dick Hunter
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Mac Squires, R.P.F.
Bill Thornton, R.P.F.

Complaints Committee

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Eric Doidge, R.P.F.
Denis Gagnon, R.P.F.
Bill Hubbert, R.P.F.
Laird Nelson, Associate

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Allan Foley, R.P.F.

PUBLIC MEMBER
Bob Duncanson
Brian Kurikka

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CO-CHAIRS
Paul Poschmann, R.P.F.
Susan Jarvis, R.P.F.

MEMBERS
Astrid Nielsen, R.P.F.
Reino Pulkki, R.P.F.
Ulf Runesson, R.P.F.
Jim McCready R.P.F.
Mona Wiltshire, R.P.F.

COUNCIL MEMBER
Deborah MacEwen, R.P.F.

PUBLIC MEMBER
Henry Lickers

Awards & Recognition Committee

CHAIR
David Milton, R.P.F.

MEMBERS
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John Cary, R.P.F.
Kevin Reese, R.P.F.
Jenny Tallman, R.P.F.

Nominations Committee

CHAIR
David Milton, R.P.F.

MEMBERS
Susan Jarvis, R.P.F.
Tony Jennings, R.P.F.
Terry Schwan, R.P.F.

Discipline Committee

CHAIR
Alex Denys, R.P.F.

MEMBERS
Ken Elliot, R.P.F.
Ed Tear, R.P.F.
Rob Tomchick, R.P.F.

COUNCIL MEMBER
Greg Pawson, R.P.F.

PUBLIC MEMBER
Anne Koven

Finance & Audit Committee

CHAIR
Bob Burgar, R.P.F.

MEMBERS
Lloyd Eckel, R.P.F.
Bohdan Kowalyk, R.P.F.
Judy Sewell, R.P.F.
Dave Winston, R.P.F.
Wayne Young, R.P.F.

Editorial Board

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EDITOR
Caroline Mach, R.P.F.

MEMBERS
Ken Armson, R.P.F.
Jim McCready, R.P.F.
Craig Robinson R.P.F.
Mike Rosen, R.P.F.
Eric Thompson, R.P.F.

Denotes Statutory Committee

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COMMITTEES

2009 Annual Conference Committee

CO-CHAIRS

Ed Tear, R.P.F.
Peter Street, R.P.F.

MEMBERS

Sarah Bros, R.P.F.
Paul Fantin, R.P.F.
Marc Hebert, R.P.F.
Matt Holland, R.P.F.
Gordon King, R.P.F.
Beth Litchfield, R.P.F.
Martin Litchfield, R.P.F.
Mark Nellis, R.P.F.
Don Mark
Judy Sewell, R.P.F.

Competency Support Committee

CHAIR

Bob Elliott, R.P.F.

MEMBERS

Jeff Barton, R.P.F.
Herb Bax, R.P.F.
Tom Croswell, R.P.F.
Steve D'Eon, R.P.F.
Dean Johnson, R.P.F.
Ivan Listar, R.P.F.
Trevor Longpre, R.P.F.
Nancy Luckai, R.P.F.
Richard Macnaughton, R.P.F.
Lauren Quist, R.P.F.
Judy Biggar

Private Lands Committee

CHAIR

Bob Bugar, R.P.F.

MEMBERS

Sarah Bros, R.P.F.
Greg Greer, R.P.F.
Peter Hynard, R.P.F.
Garth Kayes, R.P.F.
Wade Knight*
Doris Krahn, R.P.F.
Caroline Mach, R.P.F.
Will Martin**
Michael O'Neill, R.P.F.
Dave Pridham, Associate
Terry Schwan, R.P.F.
Martin Streit, R.P.F.
Peter Williams, R.P.F.

Urban Forestry Committee

CHAIR

Anne Koven

MEMBERS

John Cary, R.P.F.
Nancy Houle, R.P.F.
Craig Huff, R.P.F.
Andy Kenney, R.P.F.
Jim McCready, R.P.F.
Bruce McGauley, R.P.F.
John McNeil, R.P.F.
Michael Rosen, R.P.F.
Richard Ubbens, R.P.F.
Shelley Vescio, R.P.F.

Crown Lands Committee

CHAIR

Michael Barker

VICE CHAIR

Craig Howard, R.P.F.

MEMBERS

Norm Cottam, R.P.F.
George Graham, R.P.F.
Susan Jarvis, R.P.F.
Frank Miklas, R.P.F.
Bill Murphy, R.P.F.
Tom Ratz, R.P.F.
Kevin Ride, R.P.F.
Laird Van Damme, R.P.F.

Provincial Forest Policy Committee (MNR/MNDMF)

Tony Jennings, R.P.F.

CFAB Representatives

Faye Johnson, R.P.F.
David Winston, R.P.F. (alt)

Regional Advisory Committees (MNR) Representatives

James Harrison (R.P.F.)
(Northwest)
Matt Hollands, R.P.F.
(Northeast)
Jon Orpana, R.P.F.
(Southern)

* Ontario Woodlot Association

**Ontario Forestry Association

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Carl Corbett, R.P.F., President

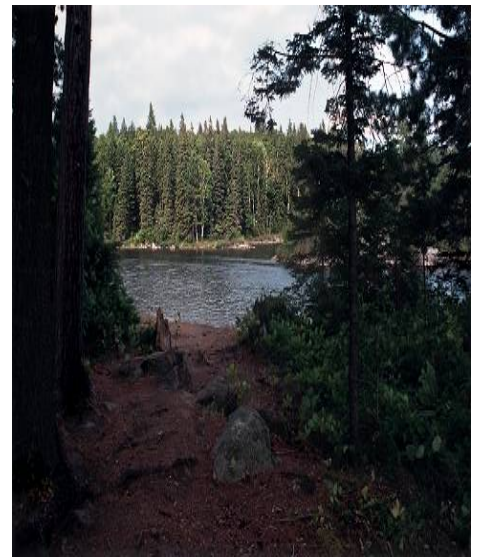
The past year has been a busy one for the association as we worked at getting our house in order, as well as meeting the responsibilities of a regulated profession. The 2004 Strategic Plan was updated during the year and it will guide our activities for the term 2009 – 2011. The Strategic Plan will be reviewed and revised accordingly every three years. Some key issues Council focused on in 2009 were advocacy (remember this one), unauthorized practice and tenure reform.

The 2009 Sudbury Annual Conference on the Role of Tenure, Pricing and Ownership of Ontario's Forests set the stage for one of the more major forestry changes in Ontario over many years. This was the addition of some activities to the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines which were previously delivered by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). Some members of Council met twice with both the Ministers and/or senior representatives of Natural Resources and Northern Development Mines and Forestry (MNDMF) to advocate on behalf of the Profession as the details of what was to change were being developed. During the Tenure and Pricing review conducted by MNDMF Council submitted a paper which was prepared by the relatively newly formed Crown Forestry Committee. Support for the submission was not unanimous amongst OPFA Members, but the vast majority supported the direction proposed. Such is the way of advocacy. Council will continue to take a cautious approach on advocacy which I believe is the right position for a regulatory body.

Unauthorized practice is a concern to many Members of the association. A difficulty in determining who is conducting unauthorized practice is the number of exemptions listed in the regulations. Nonetheless, the Executive Director has received six concerns re: unauthorized practice in the last year. The majority of these are resolved either by the party becoming an OPFA Member, arranging to work with an OPFA Member or refraining from said activities within OPFA scope of practice. In addition to the unauthorized practice, five complaints regarding professional practice have been laid against association Members. While some of the complaints have been resolved, the association continues working to finalize these in a timely manner, both for the OPFA Member and the party who laid the complaint.

As a regulator it is important to stay current on both proposed and new legislation about to be implemented. In the last year the Executive Director has spent considerable time dealing with Transparency in Public Matters Act, Apologies Act, Ontario Labour Mobility Act, Fairness Act, and minor changes to the Professional Foresters Act. Other initiatives worked on were the Ministry of Community and Social Services Accessibility Directorate, Inclusivity Project and the Agreement on Internal Trade. Also, OPFA bylaws have been reviewed and proposed changes are to be presented to Members at the 2010 annual general meeting. In addition to the above, Council has initiated a governance review to ensure it is as effective as is possible.

On behalf of Council I would like to thank OPFA staff members Tony Jennings, Priscilla Doyle, Judy Biggar, Mike Clarke, Tracey Perozzo and Janice Sukhiana, and the many association Member volunteers for their continued positive contributions to OPFA in 2009.



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REGISTRAR & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

by Tony Jennings, R.P.F., Registrar and Executive Director

2008/9 was memorable. While Tenure and Pricing and the splitting of the Government's Forestry responsibilities drew major attention, some innovations were introduced, the three Forestry Practices Committees (Crown Lands Forestry, Private Lands Forestry and Urban Forestry) and the Competency Support Committee were well launched or re-launched. A Strategic planning exercise was completed and most ongoing business was maintained. Once again we ended the year with a number of projects delayed and/or still underway.

The 2009 Annual Conference Committee stepped up to the plate and accepted Council's challenge to provide a venue for open discussion of a full range of options being urged by various parties and drew a record sized audience.

For the first time, we commissioned a piece of research – an international literature on the impact of Tenure, Pricing and Ownership on Forests and Forestry. Dr Shashi Kant presented a summary of his results and his draft paper was provided as background information to attendees and posted on our website. After integrating input from the Conference. His final paper is now on our site and was subsequently referenced by the Tenure and Pricing Review consultation website.

The Sustainable Forestry Management Network agreed to our using a Canadian Tenure Options paper by Harry Nelson as a second background paper for attendees and Harry joined Shashi as an opening presenter.

The Sudbury crew repeated the Lakehead successful innovation of a Wednesday night public keynote speaker: Andrea Mandel-Campbell, author of "Why Mexicans Don't Drink Molsons", drew strong reactions

with her lively statements that government ownership is not the right answer. At lunch on Thursday, Minister Donna Cansfield chose our Conference to formally announce the launch of a Tenure and Pricing Review, while stressing that despite our conference title, Ownership was not on the table.

Please find time to pass on your personal thanks to our conference sponsors; again the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) was in the lead, joined by the Canadian Forest Service and a number of Companies and Sustainable Forest Licensees.

As Members know, the Tenure and Pricing Review was carried out by the Ministry of Northern Development Mines and Forestry, when the last part of the mandate was transferred from MNR. The transfer affected many Members both in and out of government employment and the Executive Committee on behalf of Council initiated meetings (roughly quarterly) with this renamed ministry as was already normal practice with the Minister of Natural Resources.

As Carl has noted above, the Crown Lands Forestry Committee took the lead in preparing a Tenure and Pricing submission from OPFA, firmly anchored in our legislated professional practice responsibilities. Member input was collected by Email and two open conference calls, another innovation. Members were encouraged to submit their own unfettered suggestions and some did.

Council and the Executive were also heavily involved in the tone of our final submission, well received by most Members and available on the website. While pleased with the outcome, Council subsequently undertook a "post-mortem" discussion to consider how the process could be improved.

The Executive subsequently met with members of the consultation team to respond to questions or clarification.

The Crown Lands Forestry Committee and the Private Lands Forestry Committee initiated reviews of all practice bulletins and were still confirming or updating content at year end.

Meanwhile the Urban Forestry Committee provided Council and the Annual General Meeting, a statement on the relevance of Urban Forestry and initiated research on existing information resources relevant to Members active or interested in this area of practice.

This year, the Fall Seminars were held in 18 locations, Members in Kenora carpooled to Dryden as too few were "in residence" in Longlac. Despite the condition of the Forest Industry, year over year total attendance was maintained (215 attendees versus 216 in 2008 and 232 in 2007). The Tenure & Pricing submission and the MNR / MNDMF split were the lead topics. Again, linked field trips added value in several locations and local sponsorship for these events made the tour financially feasible. They too are shown on the last two pages.

The new Standing Competency Support Committee held an establishment meeting in January 2009 to launch implementation of this multi-year project. Rather than review their steps here, I encourage you to read Chair Bob Elliott's report and wait for Communications, timed for the Annual General meeting.

Like many "simple" documents, the Strategic Plan posted on the website in mid-2009 and reviewed at the Fall Seminars, was the result of extensive discussion. It or elements of it were

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part of Council's agenda at virtually every meeting over two years. It now leads Councils planning and program decisions. While the word "advocacy" does not appear, Members' input in this regard, balanced by the legislated mandate, is clearly reflected.

As mentioned last year, broader government actions continue to flavour our alphabet soup (Acronyms, a practice not unfamiliar to Crown Land Foresters):

- CFPFA (Canadian Federation of Professional Forestry Associations) continued to accommodate the requirements of the chapter 7 of this country's governments' AIT (Agreement on Internal Trade) intended to facilitate mobility of trades and professions. While this had not been a problem for our profession, we (and all 40 regulated professions in the province) are affected and come under the new OLMA (Ontario Labour Mobility Act) enacted during the year.
- Thanks to leadership by our largest Member, ABCFP (Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals), federal funding was obtained to support Inclusivity 2, an intergovernmental Accord on FQR (Foreign Qualifications Assessment and Recognition) was released at about the same time as the launch of this project.
- Early in the year, we received formal confirmation that our Forest Policy and Administration Exam was acceptable (This has not been true for other provinces). Again I should note that our Associate Membership category is a uniquely Ontario initiative and there is no parallel Member Category in other Provinces; thus, the mobility arrangements continue not to apply.
- We now file an annual report with the OFC (Office of the Fairness Commissioner) on our registration activities. Another requirement of FARPA (Fairness in Regulated Professions Act, 2006) is a periodic compliance audit by a third party auditor, a concept familiar to many members. Like Crown Land Licensees, we get to pay for the audit and the report goes to OFC. Unlike them, we get to pick our auditors, though the OFC defines the list from which we select and provides an audit template. Late in the year, we had selected the auditors and scheduled a first meeting; Results are due by the end of March.
- As stated last year, government activity such as these and the increasing expectation regarding Continuing Education and Quality Assurance programs (our Competency Support efforts) are increasing the importance of linking with other Ontario profession regulators through ORAC
- (Ontario Regulators for Access) and OPRPN (Ontario Profession Regulators' Policy Forum) each of which now meets quarterly.
- Increases in the numbers allowed on the Complaints and Discipline Committees, hopefully ensuring available panels without real or perceivable conflicts;
- Clarifying the relationship of sections 14 and 24 allowing suspension and/or cancellation of Members' certificates for administrative purposes;
- Authorizing the establishment of a registration appeal Committee as required under the Fairness in Regulated Professions Act.

Regulation is largely an administrative process and attention to its framework is important. 2009 saw the passage of useful changes to the Ontario Professional Foresters Act, 2000 as part of Bill 212, A Good Government Act 2009 (which was proclaimed shortly after our fiscal year ended (December 15, 2009):

The second tier of law for us is the regulation (145/01). No study or change was undertaken in 2009. The third tier is the by-laws of Council authorized under the Act and after a couple of years of promise, a complete review was undertaken in 2009, led by Past President David Milton assisted by Richard Steinecke, our regulatory solicitor and myself. At year end, a draft was being finalized, ready for review by some relevant Committees, Council consideration and approval, presentation to Members at the 2010 AGM and a subsequent confirmation vote by mail.

Your Office Team, Priscilla Doyle, Janice Sukhiani, Judy Biggar, Mike Clarke and me, were joined by another part-time person: Tracey Perozzo. Tracey's presence has

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meant finishing the review of all Member files, verifying consistency with on-line records, faster response on administrative questions, more timely dues receipts etc., not to mention the pleasure of her continued enthusiasm.

2008/9 saw two more complaint files open, one of which was closed by year end. Separately, there is a summary of the time-consuming processes involved. Carl has reviewed above, our continuing activity regarding unauthorized practice. While persuasion works in most cases, sooner or later, we will end by taking some person or firm to court.

Let me close as usual by acknowledging again the extensive work of volunteers in this organization. Carl Corbett brought his quiet but firm style to bear on our efforts and is a joy to work with; your Committee Chairs and our representatives on other bodies continue to lead and draw upon the currently active volunteers who make up over 5% of the total membership.

As I wrote last year, I encourage each person seeing this Annual report to take only a few moments to look at the list on page 2 of this report and thank at least one person appearing there.

Complaints and Discipline

It was suggested that I include in this report an outline of the Complaints and Discipline process. The following is an attempt to summarize the process in relatively simple English for general understanding. It should not be used as a guide; in a real situation, refer to the law itself.

The C&D processes can ultimately result in a finding of one of five things:

- No further action warranted,
- Some action less than a referral to discipline warranted, OR
- A discipline hearing resulting in a finding of:
 - ◊ professional misconduct,
 - ◊ unskilled practice, or
 - ◊ incapacity

There are two connected, but quite distinct processes involved as the above section title suggests. The first, the Complaints process is confidential, reflecting our common law heritage of innocence until guilt is proven.

The first step is normally a complaint about a Member which goes to the Complaints Committee, which is an investigative and review body, not a hearing board.

The Act says the Complaints Committee must consider any complaint, but also says it may not consider the complaint if it is outside OPFA's jurisdiction, i.e. is not related to professional misconduct, unskilled practice or incapacity.

As well, no action can be taken by the Complaints Committee unless

- the complaint is in a required format, and
- the Member whose conduct or action is to be investigated has been given at least 30 days to respond (extensions for reasonable reasons are the norm).

Importantly, this is a matter between the Committee and the Member; the complainant has no responsibility to further "make the case", although they may be asked for clarification or further information.

It is not unusual for a Respondent (the Member about whom the complaint was made) to raise issues that were not reflected in the initial complaint and thus a further reaction from the complainant may be sought as the Committee is required by the Act to make a reasonable effort to examine the information and documents the Committee considers relevant.

The Committee has only three choices for the outcome of their considerations:

- (a) direct that the matter be referred, in whole or in part, to the Discipline Committee;
- (b) direct that the matter not be referred under clause (a); or
- (c) take such action as it considers appropriate in the circumstances and that is not inconsistent with this Act, the regulations or the by-laws.

The action that would be authorized under (c) includes such things as making recommendations to the Member,

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cautioning the Member, and negotiating an undertaking with the Member requiring him or her to do certain things (such as complete a course).

The Complaints Committee must provide a written decision which goes to the Complainant and Respondent, and unless referring the matter to the Discipline Committee, must provide written reasons.

There is no appeal process from a decision of the Complaints Committee.

The second process starts if the Complaints Committee decides the matter should go to the Discipline Committee.

The Discipline Process is a public hearing process. It is not confidential unless the Discipline Committee considers it needs to be (on very limited grounds, such as safety). It is not an investigative process like the Complaints Committee process; it occurs when the Complaints Committee has finished its investigation and determined that the matter should be referred to discipline. That is, where the Complaints Committee believes that the behaviour is serious enough to warrant discipline and where adequate evidence could be assembled to meet the Association's burden of proof in a formal hearing.

A panel of Discipline Committee Members receives written and verbal presentations from the parties with process rules akin to court procedures. The date and place of the hearing would be published and except as noted above, the hearing is open to the public. Oral presentations are recorded.

The parties to the hearing are the Association and the Member. The panel would have an independent legal advisor to assist them. They may consider only evidence submitted in the hearing.

They too must provide a written decision with reasons. They may find that the case for discipline has not been made; otherwise they may decide on the listed findings noted above:

- professional misconduct,
- unskilled practice, or
- incapacity.

The latter two findings are more fully referenced in the Act (subsections 42 (2) & (3)). Professional misconduct is defined in Regulation 145/01 and lists 50 acts that constitute misconduct. I encourage Members to refresh their memory on these.

If they find the Member "guilty", the Committee may make an order that includes one or more of 10 listed possibilities, ranging from a reprimand to limiting, suspending or revoking a Member's Certificate (i.e. their license to practice any aspect of professional forestry). They may also order fines (up to \$10,000) or award costs and they may require that the finding and order be published with or without the Member's name.

Decisions may be appealed to Divisional Court.

Three other matters deserve mention:

- 1) During the Complaints process the Registrar assists with process and tries to impartially assist both complainants and respondents, while supporting the Complaints Committee's need to assemble

relevant information;

- 2) The Act allows the Executive Committee to refer a matter to the Discipline Committee if they believe it is warranted.
- 3) While not specified in the Act, the case law supports the use of alternative dispute resolution – mediation, etc. at any stage in these processes. In a number of cases, concerns raised with the office may be resolved without a formal complaint being lodged. However, in the complaint process, there is no guarantee that a complainant withdrawing his or her complaint would satisfy the Complaints Committee or that an agreement between the parties would satisfy the Discipline Committee and either of those processes might be continued to their conclusion despite such withdrawal or agreement.

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REGISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT

By Susan Jarvis, R.P.F. and Paul Poschmann, R.P.F., Co-Chairs

The Registration Committee met 7 times in 2009, one of which was a face-to-face meeting held in conjunction with the 2009 Annual Conference in Sudbury. The primary business of the Registration Committee is to consider applications for membership to the OPFA. Over the last year, the Committee accepted 9 candidates for Full membership and 3 for Associate membership. We also accepted 4 transfers from other provinces, 12 status changes to Inactive and 1 to Life membership.

The Committee spent a considerable amount of time reviewing scope of practice wording and conditions for our Associate membership applicants. The Committee also worked on changes to the application/ sponsorship form, the national mutual recognition and inclusivity projects and the Fairness Commissioner's Report. The Committee, in conjunction with Peggy Smith, the current examiner, agreed to change the Forest Policy and Administration exam to an open book exam.

The 2009 Registration Committee members were: Astrid Nielson, Mona Wiltshire, Deb MacEwan, Jim Turner, Ulf Runesson, Reino Pulkki and Co-Chairs Susan Jarvis and Paul Poschmann along with Public Council Member Henry Lickers. With the exception of Jim Turner, all current Registration Committee members have agreed to continue their participation on the Committee for 2010.

The Committee wishes to thank Jim Turner for his support and contributions to our discussions over the years.

Jim McCready has agreed to join the Registration Committee in 2010.

New Members	Number
Full	13 (4 transferred in from another province)
Associate	3
Provisional	12
Student	4
Reinstatement to Full membership	1
Total New Members	33
Loss in Membership	
Transferred to another province	4
Resigned	29
Deceased	12
Cancelled*	47
Total Loss in Membership	-59
Net Difference in Membership	

Changes in Membership	Number
Inactive from Full Membership	12
Non-Resident from Full Membership	1
Life from Full Membership	1
Suspensions at year end	1

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Age of Membership

The following tables reflect the “age class distribution” of Members grouped by the decade in which they were born.

By Category of Membership

Decade Of Birth	ASSO	FULL	HONR	IA	LIFE	NR	PRV	ST	Grand Total
1910					8				8
1920		1			52				53
1930		1			26	1			28
1940	8	37		9	10	5			69
1950	32	200		31	1	7	2		273
1960	8	178		16		11	8		221
1970	5	142		4		7	13		171
1980		19		1		1	1	1	23
No data*	1	4	3	1			2	14	25
Grand Total	54	582	3	62	97	32	26	15	871

By Section (Geographic area)

Decade Of Birth	Central East	Central West	North East	North West	Out of Province	South East	South West	Grand Total
1910		2			2	1	3	8
1920	11	7		4	2	6	23	53
1930	8	2		4	3	1	10	28
1940	6	11	1	11	6	10	24	69
1950	24	62	26	67	14	23	57	273
1960	15	51	34	58	15	21	27	221
1970	13	33	28	59	10	7	20	171
1980	1	3	2	12	1	2	2	23
No data*		4		12		1	8	25
Grand Total	78	175	91	227	53	72	175	871

AWARDS & RECOGNITION COMMITTEE REPORT

by David G. Milton, R.P.F., Chair

At the 2009 Annual General Meeting evening banquet on Thursday, April 23rd, an audience of 250 saw an exceptional series of presentations handed out by OPFA President Carl Corbett as Recognition and Award committee members Jack Harrison and John Cary introduced recipients.

In 1957, Bill 10 became the Ontario Professional Foresters Act, 1957. However, enrollment of Members, other than the dozen named in the Act did not take place until 1958. Even those 12 were assigned numbers on the member roll in 1958, so last year (2008) was the fiftieth year of membership.

The dozen named in the Act were:

J.W. Bernard Sisam
Dean, Faculty of Forestry
University of Toronto, Toronto

John B. Matthews,
Forester, Toronto

Thomas E. Mackay
Forester, Toronto

Alva S. Bray
Forester, Toronto

Robert C. Hosie
Professor of Forestry
University of Toronto, Toronto

George W. Phipps
Forester, Toronto

George G Garner
Forester, Atikokan

Robert I. Young
Forester, Port Arthur

Edwin F. Ault
Forester, Kapuskasing

Charles A. Rowe, Forester,
Sault Ste. Marie

J. Walter Giles
Forester, Pembroke

Ewan R. Caldwell
Forester, Braeside

Almost 425 persons became Members that first year. Perhaps reflecting the long time horizon needed by people concerned with growing trees, we can be proud that at the end of our 2008 fiscal year (Dec 1), 53 of those people continue to be listed as Members. Those were invited to attend as our guests at the Annual General Meeting and nine were able to accept the invitation. The details of the 53 and the 9 conclude this report under the title Fifty Year Golden Pins.

1. Honoured Professional

This award, normally presented annually to one individual, recognizes professional foresters who have made exemplary and significant contribution to the Ontario Professional Foresters Association or to forestry in Ontario.

Dr. John Naysmith, R.P.F. received a spontaneous standing ovation when named as the Honoured Professional. It was noted that he also was one of the remaining 50 year Members and he is the only one who has not chosen to become an Inactive or Life Member. He is still a full, practicing Member of the OPFA.

2. Forester of the Year

This award, normally presented annually to one individual, recognizes more recently registered professional foresters who have made notable contribution to the Ontario Professional Foresters Association or to forestry in Ontario.

This year the committee decided to make two Awards for Forester of the Year.

The Criteria for the Award focus our attention on recent graduates, but we have Members well past their first decade but deserving recognition for important achievements. The Criteria also speak of service to our Association – and of service to Forestry, and these are not the same thing.

A graduate of Lakehead University in 2004, **Michael Young, R.P.F.** became an OPFA Member at the end of 2005, almost immediately on achieving his required 18 months post-graduate experience. He stepped forward to Chair the Thunder Bay Annual Conference Committee which organized last year's successful discussion of Climate Change, despite the fact that he was based in Manitowadge, some distance from Thunder Bay.

In 2007 as well, a very different event occurred. A major urban center was named Forest Capital of Canada because of its work in Urban Forestry. Behind that designation is the urban forestry leadership of a 25 year Member: **John McNeil, R.P.F.**, the other recipient of the Forester of the Year award.

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3. John H. Sellers Award

The recipient will be a member of the Association and, through activities carried out in a particular year or over several years, will have made substantial and/or continuing contribution to the promotion and awareness of professional forestry in Ontario.

Those of us who know **J.R.M.**

(Mack) Williams, R.P.F. know a quiet but dedicated and determined man, not intrusive, but definite in his views, caring and persistent, among the 53 who have stuck with us for 50 years. As the OPFA Communications Task Force advised several years ago, Awareness of OPFA and Professional Forestry will best be advanced by each of us accepting some responsibility to tell our story. We could have few better models to emulate than this recipient of the John H. Sellers Award.

4. Honourary Member:

A non-member who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of forestry in Ontario may be awarded Honourary Membership in the Association by unanimous consent of Council. No more than one Honourary Member may be elected in any given year. Honourary Members may comprise no more than one percent of the Association membership at any given time. Honourary Members are exempt from payment of dues and may attend meetings but do not have the right to vote.

This year Council has agreed with your Recognition and Awards Committee to offer Honourary Membership to **R.D. Bob Carman**.

Bob was another Member of the group that joined OPFA in 1958. However, he gave up his Membership; when he was named Secretary of Cabinet and Clerk of the Executive Council of Ontario, he gave up all affilia-

tions. We welcome him back. While a number of RPFs have achieved senior rank including Deputy Ministers, reaching the highest office in the Ontario Public Service is unique.

Among his numerous honours are the Vanier Medal of the Institute of Public Administration of Canada and Member of the Order of Canada.

5. First James S. Miller Memorial Scholarship for a high school student interested in a Natural Resources future.

OPFA was pleased to provide a venue for the launching of another recognition initiative. As you may recall, rather than reach out in parallel to potential future Members, OPFA has provided modest but important annual funding over the past four years, to support the efforts of the Ontario Forestry Association, which is serving as host for this item. Among other Activities, OFA has agreed to administer this award.

Tom Crosswell and Ben Kuttner offered an effective slide show and music while explaining that the establishment of the Scholarship Fund reflects Jim's spirit of giving, his passion for the outdoors, his commitment to natural resources stewardship, and his belief in human potential. Established after OPFA's Member James Miller's untimely death, the annual scholarship is awarded to a graduating, northern Ontario, high school student, entering first year of a post-secondary resources program.

The first winner of the Award was unable to attend the Conference.

6. OPFA Certificates of Appreciation:

A small profession like ours must depend on the efforts of volunteers. These certificates of appreciation are awarded to Volunteer Committee Members who have stepped down from one of our Committees during or at the end of the previous fiscal year.

For those who left at the end of 2007/2008, Certificates were presented recognizing the efforts of:

Bill Brown
Complaints Committee

Ken Brown,
Continuing Education Committee

Lloyd Burrige
Urban Forestry Committee

Rod Carrow
Complaints Committee

Michael H. Clarke
Continuing Education Committee

Norma Griffin
Continuing Education Committ

Nancy Houle
Continuing Education Committee

Richard Macnaughton
Continuing Education Committee

Craig Howard
Council

Anne Koven
Complaints Committee

Melanie Mathieson
Continuing Education Committee

Lorne Riley
Website Committee

Ray Riley

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Margaret Wanlin
Council and Discipline Committee

Mona Wiltshire
Council

David Winston
Continuing Education Committee

One group that “stepped down” together was the **Competency Maintenance Working Group:**

David Balsillie	John Goodman
Herb Bax	Craig Howard
Rod Carrow	Susan Jarvis
John Cary	Caroline Mach
Phil Davies	Jim Parker
Herman Ebberts	Mona Wiltshire
Bob Elliott	

Another group that “stepped down” together was our **2008 Annual Conference Committee from Thunder Bay:**

Erin Banton	Michelle Nowak
Brad Chaulk	Kevin Ride
Fred Dewsberry	Ken VanEvery
Craig Howard	Yves Vivier
Paul Poschmann	Mona Wiltshire
Nancy Luckai	Michael Young
Bill Murphy	

Our third area of recognition is Longevity – recognizing loyalty of those who have maintained their membership over many years:

25 Year Silver Pins

Starting in 1983, Silver pins are awarded for 25 years of membership. This year we recognize current members who joined the OPFA in 1983 & in 1984 up to the annual conference, celebrating their quarter century of membership:

Brian Callaghan
David T. Deugo
Fiona H. Donald
Andrew Gordon

Colin Hewitt
Susan Jarvis
Joseph S. Kapron
James E.G. Kirkpatrick
Dirk E. Kloss
Robert J. Leni
Glenn R. MacGillivray
John McNeil
Greg Scheifele
Riet Verheggen

NEW: 50 Year Golden Pins

While most were unable to accept the invitation to attend the Annual General Meeting, about a fifth of the remaining originals were able to (bold below). All 53 names were read as those who were there came forward and stayed together to receive the first OPFA gold pins and the applause of their peers:

Ken Armson

Edwin F. Ault
George B. Bailey
William A. Bartlett
Garnet W. Bell
John C. Biggar
J. Edmund Bothwell
George P. Breckenridge
Robert Bunney

Robert Burgar

Alfred J. Campbell
William J. Charlesworth
James D. Coats

Douglas P. Drysdale

Wilfred G. Dyer
Lloyd Eckel
Donald J. Finan
John Fingland
William K. Fullerton
George Garner
J. Walter Giles

Dr. Alan G. Gordon

John D. Griffiths
Ridley Groves
A.D.(Dal) Hall
R. John Hall
William Hall
Sidney G. Holmes

John H. Hope
J. Douglas Hughes
Frederick Jackson
William E. Jonas
Erik Jorgensen
Lotars J. Kakis
Peter J.O. Kirby
Paul G. Masterson
Peter Murray
Dr. John K. Naysmith
William L. Oliphant
Cameron R. Park
William A. Perrin
Ronald E. Powell
Grant L. Puttock
Lewis Ringham
Paul Secker
Robert N. Staley
Rudolf Susanik
John E. Tait
R. Eric Thomson
Norman J. Turnbull
James A.G. Waddell
Stanley B. White
J.R.M.(Mack) Williams



EDITORIAL BOARD REPORT

by Matthew Benson, R.P.F., Chair

Membership on Editorial Board of the *Professional Forester* remained static in 2009 and included: Craig Robinson, R.P.F. (Thunder Bay), Eric Thompson, R.P.F. (Hearst), Jim McCready, R.P.F. (Carleton Place), Mike Rosen, R.P.F. (Ottawa), Ken Armson, R.P.F. (Toronto), Tony Jennings, R.P.F. (Georgetown); Matthew Benson, R.P.F., (Dryden) the Chairman, and Caroline Mach, R.P.F., (Rosemont), the Editor .

The Editorial Board met twice this year by conference call, on June 17th and December 16th. The purpose of these meetings is to confirm the themes for future issues and for each theme, to identify the types of subjects and authors that might be solicited to write articles. It is then the responsibility of the members of the Editorial Board to solicit authors or write the articles for each issue.

In addition to theme-based articles, each issue of the *Professional Forester* also includes these reoccurring features: 'What a Forester Does', Council/Councilor news, Coming Events and OPFA Member News. In 2008, we added a feature (in the June and December issues) that was a summary review of recently published, forest-related scientific literature pertaining to the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Forest. In 2009, the Editorial Board is still looking for a volunteer to prepare a similar summary-type article for the Boreal Forest in the March and September issues.

Articles are provided to Caroline Mach, the editor, who edits and

assembles the products into an electronic layout. Caroline then forwards the issue layout to the OPFA office. The *Professional Forester* went online in December 2007 and since then the OPFA office places the *Professional Forester* on the OPFA website and advises members by e-mail when the issue is available. The OPFA office also continues to produce a limited number of paper copies of the *Professional Forester* for members without access to e-mail, for distribution to MPP's offices and as required.

The *Professional Forester* publishes four issues per year. This year, the themes for those four issues were:

- March 2009 – “Tenure, Pricing and Ownership”
- June 2009 – “Forest Management as a Tool”
- September 2009 – “Forests to Manage Carbon”
- December 2009 – “Aboriginal Forestry”

The themes being developed for the 2010 issues of the *Professional Forester* include:

- “Community Forests”
- “Public Perception of Forestry”
- “The State of Forest Industry”
- “Species at Risk Legislation”

The Editorial Board encourages and greatly appreciates member input to the discussion of future themes. If you wish to identify possible future themes or contribute to the *Professional Forester*, please contact the Editor, Caroline Mach at newsletter@opfa.ca

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WEBSITE COMMITTEE REPORT

By Greg Pawson, R.P.F. Chair

The OPFA website committee has spent much of 2009 determining a new approach to refresh/redesign the OPFA website to better serve the membership.

The website committee membership for 2009 included:

Mike Clarke, R.P.F.
Fred Dewsberry, R..P.F.
Dave Legg, R.P.F.
Susan Jarvis, R.P.F.
Tony Jennings, R.P.F.
Greg Pawson, R.P.F. (Chair)

During the year a core group of the committee, consisting of Greg Pawson, Dave Legg, Fred Dewsberry and Tony Jennings convened roughly monthly in teleconference to deal with matters of immediate concern and need.

Efforts to upgrade and maintain the website included such items as:

- The ability for members to update personal and Continuing Education information (the utility of this item was upgraded).
- Enhancements to the career postings utility to allow advertisers to submit postings and directly control design, with the posting subject only to an administrator ensuring no “inappropriate” content. The upgraded application was developed, but has continued to experience difficulties; work continues at year end.
- Enhancing access to the administrator’s area for assigned/authorized users, e.g., a representative of the OPFA Annual General Meeting Committee to manage meeting registration from their home location.

- Enhancing the administrative utility of the website to better manage notifications and reports.
- Upgrading the consultant listing to update the list directly from the member database. During implementation, possible opportunities to add further value were identified and will be explored in future.
- Changes to several administrative reports were implemented as a result of identifying “errors” in counts, etc. (e.g. the program was reporting CE totals for the last 3 years of CE credits being reported, rather than for the past three years.)

Bruce Weild, the site designer, continued to assist the committee on an as-needed basis.

The OPFA website continues to be used for managing the OPFA AGM registration. This was successfully undertaken by the 2009 AGM committee and the 2010 AGM committee will also make use of this function.

The site was accessed regularly with approximately 30,000 visits to the OPFA main web page and approximately 430,000 total hits to the OPFA server during an 11 month period from January 2009 to November 2009. Some of the more popular website subject matter includes:

Consultants list
Members list
The Professional Forester publication
Job postings
Continued education
Current AGM

The website committee saw Susan Jarvis decide to step down during 2009 from serving on this committee. Susan has served the committee well over the years. I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation for the work that Susan has done over the years.

For 2009 the committee will begin as a 5 member committee, but we’ll be looking to add members as the year progresses, especially as the revisions to the website start to take shape and new responsibilities are determined in keeping the website up-to-date. Fred Dewsberry and Dave Legg will continue to bring strength to the technical side of the website.

The Committee will continue to seek the involvement of Association committees and encourage them to submit news of activities, meeting report synopses, updates of terms-of-reference, annual reports, committee member lists and any other information that a committee may feel is of interest to the general membership.

It is the Committee’s aim to see the website continue to grow and improve and be of significant value to the members of the Association. It is also a goal to have the website present a readily accessible source of information to the general public.

Member input and comments are always welcome. Contact any of the Committee members through the dedicated email address: “webmaster@opfa.ca”

COMPETENCY SUPPORT COMMITTEE REPORT

By: Bob Elliott, R.P.F., Chair

1. Introduction

In 2008, following the work of the Competency Maintenance Working Group, Council decided to form a Standing Committee to develop and maintain a competency support system for OPFA members. The Professional Foresters Act, 2000 requires that we have a quality assurance program. Although the OPFA has implemented a system based on self-directed continuing education (including the accumulation and tracking of CE Credits), this does not meet the regulatory requirements under the Act. The intent is to combine the Quality Assurance and Continuing Education authorities of Council. The search for volunteer members was completed in late 2008. The Committee met for the first time in January 2009.

2. Committee Membership:

Richard Macnaughton, R.P.F.
Dean Johnson, R.P.F.
Steve D'Eon, R.P.F.
Trevor Longpre, R.P.F.
Ivan Listar, R.P.F.
Judy Biggar
Bob Elliott, R.P.F. (Chair)
Herb Bax, R.P.F.
Nancy Luckai, R.P.F.
Lauren Quist, R.P.F.
Jeff Barton, R.P.F.
Tom Crosswell, R.P.F.
Tony Jennings, R.P.F.

3. The Task

To develop and recommend a member friendly competency maintenance program and working tool for all practicing members of the OPFA in support of

Council's Quality Assurance and Continuing Education authority to:

- Support member's individual responsibility for maintaining professional competency;
- Encourage excellence; and
- Adequately meet the Association's due diligence in these regards (Professional Foresters Act, 2000)

4. Key Working Principles

The Committee developed a number of principles to guide its work. The key principles are:

- The Competency Support System will be based on member self assessment and planning. It will be developed and driven by Members.
- The Continuing Education program will be relevant to the learning plan.
- The Competency Support System will be cost effective.
- Reporting mechanisms will be as efficient and simple as possible.

5. Progress

The Committee is proposing that the first components of a Competency Maintenance System are:

- A concise (a page or so in length) Personal Practice Focus developed by

each member based on the following three questions:

-What DO I know or am able to do?
What MUST I know or be able to do?
What do I consider to be my speciality?

-What do I WANT to know or be able to do? How has my job changed? What are my goals for the next 5, 10, 20 years?

-How will I acquire what I need or want to know or be able to do?

The Committee learned the following from OPFA members who worked on the development of their Personal Practice Focuses to help test the process:

-Update of personal resume and/or job description is a good place to start

-10 and 20 year horizons are difficult to deal with

-Causes reflection on what is important to individuals

-Raises a question about how we account for "learning on the job"

-The results of our work needs to ensure the preservation of confidentiality of Member information

-The OPFA role in linking to courses is important

-Affirmed that the Personal Practice Focus should be concise and to the point.

- A Learning Plan developed by each member to meet the learning needs identified in the Personal Practice Focus.

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- A Continuing Education program to support the Members' learning needs. The intent is to maintain a rolling three year learning requirement.
- A Recording and Reporting System to document and record each Member's learning achievements. This will serve individual Member's needs to maintain up to date records and the needs of the OPFA to be able to demonstrate that there is a viable quality assurance program in place.

The Committee made the following recommendations which were approved by Council in September 2009:

- The OPFA migrate from credits to hours effective 1 December 2010 subsequent to ratification of the by-law amendment at the following Annual General Meeting (April 2010).
- The number of hours to be acquired be set at a minimum of 60 (subject to periodic review) over a rolling three year period. The maximum reportable should be 6 hours/day. The 60 hour number is based on the need for 150 credits in the current system and the factor of 3 hours per credit.
- Consideration be given to expand the categories of Continuing Education to include professional contribution to the development of structured learning material and publications (research and development of material only – not the writing), learning by doing, and mentoring. The development of the “learning by doing” and the mentoring components will be

undertaken later in the Committee's work.

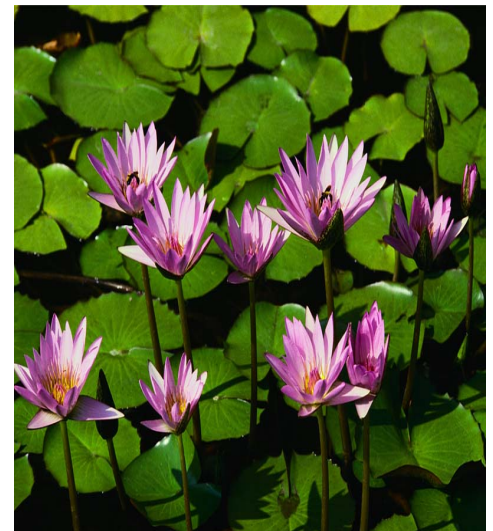
6. Current Committee Work

We are working on the following Tasks:

- Completing the testing and the development of the Personal Practice Focus Component
- Developing a Learning Plan Guide
- Developing a Reporting and Tracking system based on the Personal Practice Focus, Learning Plan and Continuing Education requirements.
- Examining the need for an OPFA Competency Support Manual as a way of documenting the System and providing a handy reference guide for Member's use
- Examining the need for a Continuing Education Catalogue to support Member's Learning Plan and to help locate relevant training and education opportunities.

7. And Finally,

Communication about the work of the Committee is vital to its success. OPFA Members are invited to ask questions, make comments and send suggestions aimed at developing a good and sound Competency Support System. You can do so by contacting the O.P.F.A. office or any of the Committee members.



PRIVATE LANDS FORESTRY COMMITTEE REPORT

By Bob Burgar, R.P.F., Chair

Subsequent to its formation in June, 2009 the Committee held 5 meetings in 2009. The Committee's efforts were devoted to 4 topics this year.

1. Review of Practice Bulletins #1 and #8

The Committee reviewed and revised Practice Bulletin #1 and has sent the revision to Council for Approval. The Committee is reviewing Practice Bulletin #8 and it is expected that a revised version of this Bulletin will be sent to Council in 2010 for their approval.

2. A letter has been prepared for the Council's approval to be sent to the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority suggesting that they reduce significantly or eliminate their "permit fee" when authorizing timber cutting, with a Good Forestry Practices prescription, in a flood plain. The Committee is also working on a similar letter for Council to send to Conservation Ontario suggesting that our two organizations cooperate in a joint examination of this permit fee issue to determine a Province-wide guideline that could be used by all Conservation Authorities.

3. The Committee is working on preparing guidelines, potentially in the form of a Practice Bulletin, to guide OPFA members on their responsibilities in dealing with the requirements of the new Endangered Species Act (ESA 2007) on private land. It is expected that these guidelines will be available in 2010.

4. The Committee is also working on a statement that Council could send to municipalities who are considering a tree cutting by-law that would explain the benefits of using "Good Forestry

Practices" rather than a "Diameter Limit as a basis for their by-law. It is expected that this statement will go to Council for its approval in 2010.

Association members who are interested in getting more information or in contributing to the work of the Committee are encouraged to indicate this interest by signing up on the web site.

Private Land Forestry Committee:

Sarah Bros, R.P.F.
Will Martin
Forestry Programs Mgr. OFA
Greg Greer, R.P.F.
Michael O'Neill, R.P.F.
Peter Hynard, R.P.F.
Dave Pridham, Associate member
Garth Kayes, R.P.F.
Terry Schwan, R.P.F.
Wade Knight
Executive Director, OWA
Martin Streit, R.P.F.
Doris Krahn, R.P.F.
Peter Williams, R.P.F.



CROWN LANDS FORESTRY COMMITTEE REPORT

By Mike Barker, Chair

The CLFC was initiated in the spring of 2009. This was in response to member's calls for a more active role by the Association in forest issues that affect the practice of the profession. The CLFC had a busy inaugural year.

2009 members were: Norm Cottam, Craig Howard [Vice Chair], George Graham, Susan Jarvis, Frank Miklas, Bill Murphy, Tom Ratz, Kevin Ride, Laird Van Damme, Mike Barker [Chair], Judy Biggar [Secretary] and Tony Jennings [ex-officio].

Terms of reference were developed by the CLFC and were approved by Council in September. Its mandate is to:

1. Monitor the Crown land forestry regulatory system and its' impact on the practice of forestry in the province.
2. Review Crown land forestry issues that are referred to the committee or approved by Council.
3. Define issues and make recommendations to Council as required.
4. Maintain a general focus on practice standards rather than technical standards.
5. Review each practice bulletin that relates to Crown land forestry at least every 5 years to ensure they reflect the current crown land forestry issues. Develop new practice bulletins as required.
6. Act as a focus group for discussions with allied or other organizations as requested.
- 7.. Maintain, for review and approval of Council, a list of issues being addressed. The Chair will make progress reports on these at Council meetings.

The CLFC met 10 times by teleconference since its formation in April and dealt with matters such as:

1. Electronic Use of Seal

- a. Policy revisions were developed and sent to Council, which approved them in September.
- b. A practice bulletin has been prepared and is now in the approvals process.

2. MNDMF's Tenure and Pricing Review

- a. The CLFC agreed to lead the development of the OPFA response.
- b. An approach was developed which included the formation of a writing team from CLFC members.
- c. 2 teleconferences were convened for OPFA members to explain the initiative. MNDMF staff participated. About 50 members participated.
- d. The response document was prepared under short timelines by the writing team. 2 drafts were reviewed by the committee and sent to Council for review. Adjustments were again reviewed, approved by the Executive and submitted to MNDMF..

3. Stand and Site Guide Training

- a. Members identified a need for MNR to expand the training sessions for the Stand and Site Guides to include forestry consultants.
- b. After CLFC discussion, MNR was contacted and has now offered the training as requested.

c. CLFC acquired the power point presentations which will be posted on the OPFA website.

4. Practice Bulletins

- a. CLFC members reviewed 4 practice bulletins.
 - i. Contingency Plans- no revision required.
 - ii. Certification of Annual Reports – no revision required.
 - iii. NDPEG – will be retired once the Stand and Site and the Landscape guides are issued
 - iv. Compliance Monitoring – is current at the moment but will be reviewed once the new Compliance Handbook is issued.
- b. Review of the bulletin for application of the forest management guides is pending.

5. Crown Land Issues List

- a. As per Items 2 and 7 of its' terms of reference, the CLFC compiled a list of issues which it will monitor for their implications to the practice of forestry.
- b. The current list includes:
 - i. MNDMF/MNR division of responsibilities
 - ii. Tenure and Pricing Review
 - iii. Boreal Forest Landscape Guide
 - iv. Far North Legislation
- c. OPFA members are encouraged to submit other issues for consideration as they arise.

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URBAN FORESTRY COMMITTEE REPORT

By Anne Koven, Chair

In March 2009, I assumed the position of Chair of the Urban Forestry Committee and, fortunately, inherited a powerhouse of experienced and qualified members. The committee members are drawn from across Ontario and possess strong credentials in urban forestry practice and regulation: John Cary is President of the Trees Ontario Foundation, Matt Hollands is Principal Consultant Hollands Forestry Consulting, Prof. Andrew Kenney teaches at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Forestry and is a well-known expert in urban forest issues, James McCready is President of the Eastern Ontario Model Forest, John Mc Neil is Forester/Manager for the City of Oakville, Michael Rosen is President of Tree Canada, Richard Ubbens is Director of Urban Forestry for the City of Toronto, and Shelley Vescio is City Forester for Thunder Bay.

The point of view of our committee is that urban forestry is important to the OPFA for two reasons. Our legislation, the *Ontario Professional Foresters Act 2000*, specifically defines the scope of the practice of professional forestry to be 'the "provision of services in relation to the development, management, conservation and sustainability of forests and urban forests"... and "urban forest" means "tree-dominated vegetation and related features found within an urban area and includes woodlots, plantations, shade trees, fields in various stages of succession, wetland and riparian areas"'. (Part One General Definitions (3. (1))

Ontario is the only Canadian jurisdiction to expressly recognize Urban Forestry. Despite the equivalent importance the Ontario legislation assigns to forestry practiced on Urban,

Crown, Private and other lands, our observation is that urban forests have not yet developed appropriate importance within the OPFA.

The second reason convincing us that urban forestry requires higher profile within the OPFA is our observation of what is happening on the ground: the science and practice of urban forestry is gaining prominence among urban residents, employers and politicians. Using the example of the City of Toronto, when it hosted one of the OPFA's regional meetings at City Hall on December 2nd, Richard Ubbens described an interesting metric: Toronto has 634 sq. kms of forested land and the annual forestry budget is about \$60 million, which translates to the city spending about \$95,000 per sq km on forestry. Compare this to Crown Land forests where the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources had a 2008 total annual operating budget of \$608 million and responsibility for about 365,000 sq kms of public lands in northern Ontario, which adds up to the provincial government spending roughly \$1,665 per sq km if all of the budget were devoted to forestry.

Richard, in his words, is trying 'to build the forest back into the city' by increasing tree canopy coverage in Toronto from 28% to 40%, a campaign which will involve the planting of 10 million trees. The work of urban forestry is well beyond arboriculture, it is forest science and forest management by way of inventory, conflicts over pesticide use, invasive species, tree planting and maintenance, regulatory compliance and even controlled burns. To urban foresters such as Richard, the value of green infrastructure is 'experiential' in the city where,

crowded in like sardines, urban residents appreciate the contribution of trees to temperature, clean air and water, health and recreation and property values; in contrast to the more tangible values derived from Crown Lands, such as timber, for example,

The first task of our committee was to rework the terms of reference to reflect our priority on supporting members of the OPFA who work in urban forestry, in making all OPFA members aware of urban forestry and in promoting best management practices. The text of the Committee's terms of reference can be found on the website.

We do not know the percentage of our members who practice urban forestry although we expect soon to have data that will provide us with breakdowns of members expressing interest in Crown, Private Land and Urban categories of practice. We think there is an appetite among OPFA members for urban forestry information and we anticipate that there will be more growth in urban forestry employment and opportunities for licensing professional urban foresters.

The committee's second task was to draft a statement on the importance of urban forestry to the practice of professional forestry. This statement was read into the record of the annual general meeting in Sudbury in April:

Urban forestry is a distinct practice requiring the skills of professional foresters, in collaboration with other professions including engineers, planners, arborists and landscape architects. Often, the urban forester encounters, especially in the context of municipal work, local representatives, advocacy and volunteer groups.

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Historically, in Ontario the significance of urban forests within the profession of forestry has been overshadowed by the immensity and challenges of managing Crown land forests. Urban foresters, however, continued to develop and hone their craft.

There is now a rapidly growing awareness of the importance of urban and peri-urban forests (i.e. forests in settled landscapes) to the sustainability of Ontario society. These forests and their benefits are increasingly recognized by the growing majority of Ontarians, over 80% of whom live in towns and cities mainly in the southern area of the province but also in northern cities such as Thunder Bay and Sudbury. For example, i-Tree, developed by the United States Forest Service, quantifies the annual ecological services provided by trees within the Town of Oakville at \$2.1 million. Organizations such as ICLEA are leading municipal efforts to reduce their carbon footprint and are now beginning to seek assistance from urban foresters to help recognize best practices to optimize the contribution of the urban forest in municipal Climate Action Plans for communities in North America.

The Ontario Professional Foresters Act 2000 defines urban forestry and refers to the role of urban foresters. It is now time for the Ontario Professional Foresters Association to recognize the unique skills of urban foresters, to do more to support and promote the professional practice of urban forestry, and to recognize that by doing so the OPFA is striving to serve the provincial public interest. I represented the committee at a workshop held on March 9th in Toronto. Sponsored by the Clean Air Partnership and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, the topic was climate change and the urban forest. The major recommendations of the

workshop participants were to engage all levels of government in funding and support, to develop a business case for urban forests in the context of climate change, to develop and promote best urban forest management practices, and to instigate public education and support. The report of the proceedings can be found on the website at www.cleanairpartnership.org. Click on SWO Clean Air Summit.

The OPFA is a member of the Ontario Urban Forestry Council (OUFC) and I represented the committee at the OUFC's annual meeting held on November 11-12th at the Arboretum at the University of Guelph. The theme of the conference was exploring the accommodation of tree preservation in the municipal and land use planning process and the involvement of the range of professionals in these processes. The OUFC is a non-profit group with a mandate 'to advance the conservation and maintenance of urban forests across Ontario' and to provide technical support for groups addressing urban forestry issues. (See <http://www.oufc.org/links.htm> for urban forestry links.) Urban forestry is an important national issue and Tree Canada, a not-for-profit charitable organization that encourages Canadians to plant and care for trees in urban and rural environments, is active across Canada. Since 1993, a biannual Canadian Urban Forestry Conference has been hosted by Tree Canada and a joint municipality. The Town of Truro, NS will host the 9th Canadian Urban Forest Conference on October 5 - 8, 2010 on the theme of watershed protection and management. Tree Canada has developed a compendium of best urban forest management practices for Canadian urban forests (see:

http://www.treecanada.ca/programs/urbanforestry/cufn/resources_bmp.html) and is promoting a Canadian Urban Forest Network

(see <http://www.tcf-fca.ca/programs/urbanforestry/cufn/pages.php?lang=en&page=home>.)

We are reviewing ideas for future committee projects that will have impact for OPFA members and raise the profile of urban forestry. Some of these proposals include promoting good urban forestry practice by writing articles and reaching out to other organizations; by developing an urban forestry tool kit for practitioners; and by drafting practice bulletins on the subjects of collaboration between professional foresters, arborists and others and on the distinct elements of the scope of urban forestry practice.

OPFA members and guests are encouraged to attend our annual meeting in Pembroke in April 14th-16th where urban forestry issues are expected to be prominent in the discussion of community forests.

I am interested in hearing the views of OPFA members about urban forestry and in receiving ideas and advice about projects that could usefully be undertaken by the committee. Please contact me at: annekoven@hipguard.com

Ontario Professional Foresters Association 2009 Annual Report

CANADIAN FORESTRY ACCREDITATION BOARD

by F. Johnson, R.P.F.

The Canadian Forestry Accreditation Board (CFAB) is responsible for the assessment of Canadian university forestry degree programs for the purpose of meeting academic requirements for professional certification (registration/licensure). Its role is to implement a national accreditation process mandated under a detailed Policy Statement agreed to by its member agencies, the eight professional forester/forest engineer associations of Canada, and the Canadian Institute of Forestry. Its membership is made up of representatives appointed by the member agencies.

The Board was established in 1989 and has been conducting site visitations since 1990. Assessment of academic program is undertaken in accordance with comprehensive subject area standards but includes, also, consideration of facilities and services offered; faculty experience, qualifications and tenure; and the ability of the program to imbue professional qualifications and qualities in students. The regular accreditation cycle for a program is six years, although circumstances may dictate a shorter period for a given program or an interim review to confirm that a program continues to meet accreditation requirements. At present, eleven baccalaureate forestry programs in Canada enjoy accredited status. The Board does not accredit faculties or institutions, nor does it review programs outside Canada.

In March 2009, the Board undertook an accreditation review of the Forest Management and Environment and Forest Operations Programs, Faculty of Forestry, Geography and Geomatics, Laval University. By decision of the Canadian Federation of Professional Foresters Associations (CFPFA), the programs were reviewed using the CFAB academic standards dated

March 30, 2000 (now replaced outside Quebec). It is anticipated that these reviews will be the last employing the old standards.

A second site visit, to the College of Science and Management, University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) for an accreditation review of the school's Forest Ecology and Management Major, Ecosystem Science and Management Program was completed in April 2009.

The Board met twice over the year – in January in teleconference and in Saskatoon in September. Of primary importance on the teleconference was consideration of major changes in the UNB program structure including the introduction of a new degree program, Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Natural Resources (BScENR), and related changes to the accredited BScF (Forest Ecosystem Management) and BScFE (Forest Engineering (RPF option)) programs as well as curriculum changes in the BScF programs as it moved from a five-year duration to four.

At the September meeting the Board considered the review reports provided by the assessment teams and determined that the two Laval University programs and the UNBC major program met the requirements for accreditation. The Board also determined that, as a means of balancing the annual load for reviews, the regularly scheduled site visit to the University of British Columbia (2010/11) would be deferred one year through administrative extension of the current accreditation period. The effect of this is to limit regular reviews to no more than two site visits in one year.

Several changes in Board membership occurred during the year. The

most prominent of these was the stepping down of Steve Hoyt, R.P.F. as Chair of the Board and as the appointee of the Association of Registered Professional Foresters of New Brunswick. Peter Marshall, R.P.F., the appointee of the Association of BC Forest Professionals, has succeeded Steve as Chair of the Board, effective January 1st, 2010.

In other changes, Randy Treise, R.P.F. assumed the alternate member role for the Association of BC Forest Professionals succeeding Mike Laroche, R.P.F. who will continue as backup for Randy. In the Atlantic Region, Roger Aggas, R.P.F. took over the alternate member position from Brendan Hemens R.P.F. for the Registered Professional Foresters Association of Nova Scotia. Lastly, Rebecca Aggas, R.P.F. stepped down as the alternate member for the Canadian Institute of Forestry. That position has not been refilled to date.

Board members and alternates at the end of 2009 were:

Steve Hoyt, R.P.F. (Chairman) and Rod O'Connell, R.P.F. (alt.), Association of Registered Professional Foresters of New Brunswick;

Bill Buggie, R.P.F. and Glen Knee, R.P.F. (alt.), Association of Newfoundland-Labrador Registered Professional Foresters;

Ian Millar, R.P.F. and Roger Aggas, R.P.F. (alt.), Registered Professional Foresters Association of Nova Scotia;

Germain Paré, R.P.F. and Jean-Louis Brown, ing.f. (alt.), Ordre des ingénieurs forestiers du Québec;

Faye Johnson, R.P.F. and David Winston, R.P.F. (alt.), Ontario Professional Foresters Association;

Ontario Professional Foresters Association 2009 Annual Report

John Daisley, R.P.F. and John Doucette, R.P.F. (alt), Association of Saskatchewan Forestry Professionals;

Janet Schilf, R.P.F. and Charles Backman, R.P.F. (alt.), College of Alberta Professional Foresters;

Peter Marshall, R.P.F. and Randy Trerise, R.P.F. (alt) Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals;

Bruce Dancik, R.P.F.. (no alternate) Canadian Institute of Forestry.

With the exception of Steve Hoyt, most of those serving in 2009 are expected to continue their participation in the coming year.

As a member, the Board remained fully active in the meetings and activities of the CFPFA. Much time was spent over the year by that body deliberating the labour mobility requirements of the federal/provincial Agreement on Internal Trade's Chapter 7, which came into effect during the first half of 2009 and the means by which those requirements will be implemented by the professional locally and nationally.

The Board is also an active member of the Association of Accrediting Agencies of Canada (AAAC). The AAAC considers items of mutual accreditation interest and shares accreditation experience amongst its thirty-five member agencies. Most AAAC member agencies have become involved in developing outcomes-based protocols for accreditation purposes or are seriously considering moving in that direction. A number have entered into the development of competency-based protocols similar in nature to the one approved by the forestry profession.

STATUS OF CFAB PROGRAM ACCREDITATIONS AT CANADIAN SCHOOLS OF FORESTRY

DECEMBER 2009

August 2004

University of Moncton, Faculty of Forestry, Forestry Sciences Program
Accredited for six years to June 30, 2010

April 2005

University of British Columbia, Faculty of Forestry, Forest Resources Management Program and Forest Operations Program
Accredited for six years to June 30, 2011 (extended by Board to June 30, 2012)

July 2005

University of New Brunswick, Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management, Forest Ecosystem Management Program and Forest Engineering Program
Accredited for six years to June 30, 2011

July 2005

University of Alberta, Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics, Forestry Program and Forest Business Management Program
Accredited for six years to June 30, 2011

August 2006

Lakehead University, Faculty of Forestry and the Forest Environment, Forestry Program (H.B.Sc.F.)
Accredited for six years to June 30, 2012

September 2009

Laval University, Faculty of Forestry, Geography and Geomatics, Forest Management and Environment Program and Forest Operations Program
Accredited for six years to June 30, 2015

September 2009

University of Northern British Columbia, College of Science and Management, Ecosystem Science and Management Program, Forest Ecology and Management Major
Accredited for six years to June 30, 2015

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ONTARIO PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2009

(draft until approved at 2010 AGM)

Thursday, April 23rd: 3:45 – 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

1) Call To Order

- President calls the meeting to order at approximately 4:10 p.m.

2) Members and Proxies

- The President called upon the Registrar who noted that there were 61 members in attendance and that 43 proxies had been received in the name of the President or Vice-President, and a further 14 in the name of other members, most of whom were present. He noted that 40 Members, combined total, were needed for a quorum.

3) President's Remarks

- The President welcomed members, and noted that guests were welcome, however, only members might vote during the meeting.
- The President noted that The Annual Report for the previous fiscal year with all reports and the audited financial statements were posted on the Website for Members and printed copies were distributed with the agenda. Page references were provided on the Agenda (and are shown in these minutes).

4) In Memoriam

- The President noted the (12) members who we had learned passed away since the last Annual Meeting, then asked for a moment of silence in their memory:
 - Garnet W. Bell
 - G. Cameron Bell

- William R. Bunting
- Peter J. Hare
- John H. Hope
- Donald D. Lockhart
- David V. Love
- William H. Mills
- James M. Taylor
- Murray G. Taylor
- R. James Quirt
- Cy J.R. Wilde

5) Recognition of New Members:

- The President asked those in attendance who had joined OPFA since the 2008 AGM, to stand and introduce themselves. 2 Members did so and were welcomed with a round of applause.

6) Approval of Minutes of 2008 Annual Meeting pages 20 - 28

- The President noted that the minutes were posted in draft on the website shortly after last year's meeting and are in the printed annual report.
- In response to a request from the President, it was

**Moved by Michael Willick, RPF,
Seconded by David McGowan,
RPF:**

“that the minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting be approved as presented”

Carried

7) 2008 Resolution Update:

- Only one resolution was passed at the 2008 AGM and subsequently considered by Council;
pages 25 & 26

“Resolution 2008-01”

Moved: Bob Elliott, R.P.F.

Seconded: Susan Jarvis, R.P.F.

“Whereas Council created a working group to develop a realistic program of Quality Assurance to support the maintenance of professional competence, and

Whereas the considerations of the group have led to significant consultation with the membership over the past year, and

Whereas the Group have now proposed such a program, but recommends only approval of the “Next Step”,

“Be it resolved that Council give consideration to implementing the Next Step recommended by the Group:

- 1) *Rather than moving next to CE audit, the next step would involve:*
 - a) *Documenting one's Personal Practice Focus, which will be recommended but voluntary in 2008, and mandatory by the end of 2009.*
 - b) *The optional document format, guide and examples will be available as soon as practical, but no later than the start of 2009.*
 - c) *Provisional membership and early identification of sponsors for new candidates is recommended immediately and mandatory for new graduates after the 2009 AGM.*
- 2) *Action to improve Member information about CE opportunities will be given early attention.*

Carried (with no dissent or abstention)

Ontario Professional Foresters Association 2009 Annual Report

The President noted that Council accepted the report and the thrust of the resolution at its June meeting. The Committee's report and the resolution, unanimously supported at one of the best attended AGMs in memory, were reported in the Professional Foresters Newsletter and in the Fall Seminars. During fall discussions, further suggestions were made by Members. A new Competency Support standing committee was struck to replace both the Competency Working Group and the Continuing Education Committee.

While timing had slipped from that sought in the resolution, the Committee held its first meeting in January 2009.

Committee Chair Bob Elliott briefly described the work of the Competency Support Committee.

Reports:

President Carl Corbett then noted that all reports were in the printed and posted Annual Report. As time was relatively tight he sought the concurrence of those present to consider the first four reports together.

Moved by Susan Jarvis, RPF, Seconded by Michael Young, RPF: that the following four reports be accepted as presented.

Carried

- 8) **President's Report** page 3
- 9) **Report of Registrar & Executive Director** page 5
- 10)
- a) **Report of the Finance Committee** page 19
- b) **Auditors Report & Financial Statements** pages 30- 39.
- c) **Appointment of Association Auditor For The Year Ending November 30th, 2009**

- The President called for a motion

Moved by Rick Monzon, RPF, Seconded by Richard Macnaughton, RPF: that Ed Girardi C.A. be appointed as Auditor for the Association for the year ending November 30th, 2009.

Carried

11) Ratification of Actions of Council

- The President called for a motion

Moved by Tim Reese, RPF, Seconded by Ed Tear, RPF: that all acts, contracts, By-laws, proceedings, appointments, elections and payments enacted, made, done and taken by the Council and officers of the Association since the last Annual meeting of the Association to the date hereof, as the same are set out or referred to in the minutes of the Council, or in the financial statements submitted to this meeting, be and the same are hereby ratified, approved, sanctioned and confirmed"

Carried

12) Fee Schedule 2009/2010

- The President called for a motion

Moved by Bob Elliott, RPF, Seconded by Stan Phippen, RPF: that the Current Fee Schedule as fixed by Council and approved at the Annual Meeting in 2004, be ratified for the next year.

Carried

The President noted that this would mean a sixth year without an increase.

13) Committee Reports

The President then asked if those assembled again would concur with an collective motion to accept the Committee reports.

Moved by Martin Litchfield, RPF, Seconded by Fred Dewsbury, RPF:

That the following 7 reports be accepted as presented.

Carried

- a) **Recognition and Awards** page 8
- b) **Registration Committee** page 9
- c) **Canadian Forestry Accreditation Board (CFAB)** page 11
- d) **Continuing Education** page 13
- e) **Editorial Board** page 14
- f) **Competency Maintenance Working Group** page 15
- g) **Website Committee** page 17
- h) **Urban Forestry Committee**
President Carl Corbett recognized John Cary who noted that there had been no activity by the committee during fiscal 2008, but that the Committee was now getting reinvigorated. He read a draft statement by the Committee reflecting the importance of Urban Forestry. (*appended*).

14) Resolutions

- The President noted that we have asked for Resolutions to be submitted in advance of the Annual Conference so we can do any relevant research, though currently, this is not required. Councillors Jeff Barton, RPF and Brian Kurikka had been asked to collect written Resolutions. One had been submitted well in advance of the AGM and another was submitted earlier that day.

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- The Councillors read each resolution, noting the mover and second order,

Res 2009-1: Electronic Seal

Moved by Dave Legg, RPF #1572

Seconded by Susan Jarvis, RPF #1294

Whereas the Ministry of Natural Resources forest management planning process now requires electronic submission of Forest Management Plans, Annual Work Schedules, Annual Reports, Forest Operation Prescriptions, Revisions and Amendments, etc.; and

Whereas the forest industry is evolving to centralized forest management planning, the OPFA should proceed to allow the use of electronic RPF and Associate RPF seals,

Be it resolved that Council give consideration to conditions applicable for the use of an electronic seal and any relevant control methods, such as, but not limited to:

- A "Delegation of Use" form must be signed by both the R.P.F. and the user of the electronic seal,
- Electronic seal must include the statement:
" This electronic seal is applied with approval of the R.P.F.,
- Electronic seal must be accompanied by an electronic signature of the R.P.F.,
- Electronic seal must be in a secure document format, such as PDF or JPG.
- Foresters remain responsible for the use of their seal".

After brief discussion, a vote was called and the resolution was

Carried

Res 2009-2: Advocacy on Misinformation

Moved by Tom Griffiths R.P.F.
Seconded by Bob Elliott R.P.F.

Whereas sustainable forest management practised in Ontario provides well paying jobs, improves forest health and sequesters carbon dioxide, and

Whereas there are numerous well funded organizations lobbying against sustainable forest management in Ontario, and

Whereas two resolutions (2007-1 and 2007-5) were approved at the OPPA AGM in 2007 respecting advocacy, and

Whereas The Professional Foresters Act, 2000, under Object 7 documents the promotion of public awareness of the role of the Association and to communicate with the public on behalf of its members.

Be it resolved that Council give consideration to implementing an advocacy programme to respond in a timely manner to inaccurate public statements concerning sustainable forest management and/ or professional forestry (reactive) and to identify public issues and develop statements that represent the position of the OPFA (proactive),

There was extensive discussion on the topic, Among the matters raised were:

- That the noted earlier resolutions had been discussed by Council and Advocacy was a major topic for Council at mot of its next year of meetings.
- The resolution and topic were also discussed at the Fall seminars in 2007, with no consensus emerging.
- Members were divided on the appropriate role for a regulatory body such as OPFA, particularly regarding taking positions.
- CIF is taking positions effectively and quickly by forming small teams with expertise to develop and issue statements.
- Encourage individual members or groups to take positions, but not wanting the regulator speaking for them.
- Others suggested that OPFA should support CIF and possibly OFA in this regard.

- There is a difference between correcting errors of fact and debating appropriateness of particular practices.
- The Association needed to stay away from the controversial.
- Several possible amendments were discussed, and subjected to "straw vote". Finally an amendment was:

Moved by Dave McGowan R.P.F. and seconded by Mike Willick R.P.F.

The amendment was carried and the revised Resolution presented for a vote.

Resolution 2009-02: Advocacy on Misinformation (as amended)

Whereas sustainable forest management practised in Ontario provides well paying jobs, improves forest health and sequesters carbon dioxide, and

Whereas there are numerous well funded organizations lobbying against sustainable forest management in Ontario
Whereas two resolutions (2007-1 and 2007-5) were approved at the OPPA AGM in 2007 respecting advocacy, and
Whereas The Professional Foresters Act, 2000, under Object 7 documents the promotion of public awareness of the role of the Association and to communicate with the public on behalf of its members.

Be it resolved that Council give consideration to implementing an advocacy program to respond in a timely manner by correcting misinformation in public statements concerning sustainable forest management and/ or professional forestry (reactive), and in addition, Council should consider opportunities to move to a more active role in advocacy.

Carried

15) Ontario Professional Forestry Foundation

Paul McAllister the current Chair was unable to be here; he had asked Tony

Ontario Professional Foresters Association 2009 Annual Report

Jennings as OPFF Treasurer to report briefly on Foundation activities:

- *Reduced Registration for Students attending the OPFA Annual Conference*
- *A Contribution towards Lakehead University 4th year Forestry Students attending the CIF Conference and visiting Forestry operations in New Brunswick.*
- *A Contribution toward the cost of the Forestry Student Symposium at Lakehead University.*
- *Assistance with a new educational activity to be announced at the banquet this evening.*

This is an information matter. Technically, the Foundation is a separate body. No motion is requested from the OPFA

16) Other Business

- The President inquired if there was any other business for discussion.

17) 2010 Annual Conference

- The President announced that the 2010 Annual Conference would be held at the Best Western in Pembroke next April 14-16.

Secretary's note: The Venue in Pembroke was subsequently changed

18) Acknowledgements 2009 Annual conference

- The President acknowledged the support of sponsors and exhibitors in difficult times, acknowledging particularly the support of the Ministry
- He then notes the excellent organization and hard work of the volunteers on the 2009 Annual Conference Committee:

Ed Tear, RPF, Co-Chair
Peter Street, RPF, Co-Chair
Sarah Bros, RPF
Paul Fantin, RPF

Marc Hebert, RPF
Matt Holland, RPF
Gordon King, RPF
Marc Nellis, RPF
Beth Litchfield, RPF
Martin Litchfield, RPF
Don Mark
Judy Sewell, RPF

- A small token was provided for each of them.

19) Adjournment

- President Carl Corbett called for a motion – “that the 2009 Annual General Meeting be adjourned”.

Carried

April 16th, 2009

TO: The Urban Forestry Committee and to the members of the Association at the 2009 Annual General Meeting.

RE: Statement on the Importance of Urban Forestry to the Practice of Professional Forestry

Urban forestry is a distinct practice requiring the skills of professional foresters, in collaboration with other professions including engineers, planners, arborists and landscape architects. Often, the urban forester encounters, especially in the context of municipal work, local representatives, advocacy and volunteer groups. Historically, in Ontario the significance of urban forests within the profession of forestry has been overshadowed by the immensity and challenges of managing Crown land forests. Urban foresters, however, continued to develop and hone their craft.

There is now a rapidly growing awareness of the importance of urban and peri-urban forests (i.e. forests in settled landscapes) to the sustainability of Ontario society. These forests and their benefits are increasingly recognized by the growing majority of Ontarians, over 80% of whom who live in towns and cities mainly in the southern area of the province but also in northern cities such as Thunder Bay and Sudbury.

For example, i-Tree, developed by the United States Forest Service, quantified the annual ecological services provided by trees within the Town of Oakville at \$2.1 million. Organizations such as International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives are leading municipal efforts to reduce their carbon footprint and are now beginning to seek assistance from urban foresters to help recognize best practices to optimize the contribution of the urban forest in municipal Climate Action Plans for communities in North America.

The Ontario Professional Foresters Act 2000 defines urban forestry and refers to the role of urban foresters. It is now time for the Ontario Professional Foresters Association to recognize the unique skills of urban foresters, to do more to support and promote the professional practice of urban forestry, and to recognize that by doing so the Association is striving to serve the provincial public interest.

Presented by John Cary RPF on behalf of Anne Koven, Chair, Urban Forestry Committee.

FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

By Bob Burgar, R.P.F., Chair

The Finance and Audit Committee held 3 meetings in 2009 to make recommendations to Council concerning the Association's financial affairs. The Committee's time was devoted to 4 items this year.

1. OPFA Financial Statements 2008 & Auditor's letter.

The Committee reviewed the Auditor's Report on the Association's finances and the Auditor's letter for the year 2008. The Committee was pleased with the thoroughness of the Auditor's Report and his letter to Council. The Auditor's previous recommendations for improvements in the Association's financial procedures have been implemented and continue to be used in 2009. The Committee accepted the Auditor's letter and forwarded it to Council.

2. OPFA Fees.

The Committee conducted a thorough review of the OPFA's fee structure. Comparisons were made to the fees of several other regulatory bodies in Ontario and with the fees of professional forester associations across Canada. The Committee recommended no change in the annual dues for Full Active Members, Life Members, Non-Resident Members, Associate Members and Inactive Members, but did recommend some changes in some of the administrative fees.

3. OPFA Insurance

The Committee spent a great deal of time on the question of availability of professional liability (Errors & Omissions) insurance for members. As was noted last year, because of our small numbers using this insurance our current insurer can no longer provide this insurance for us. To get a large enough number of insureds we

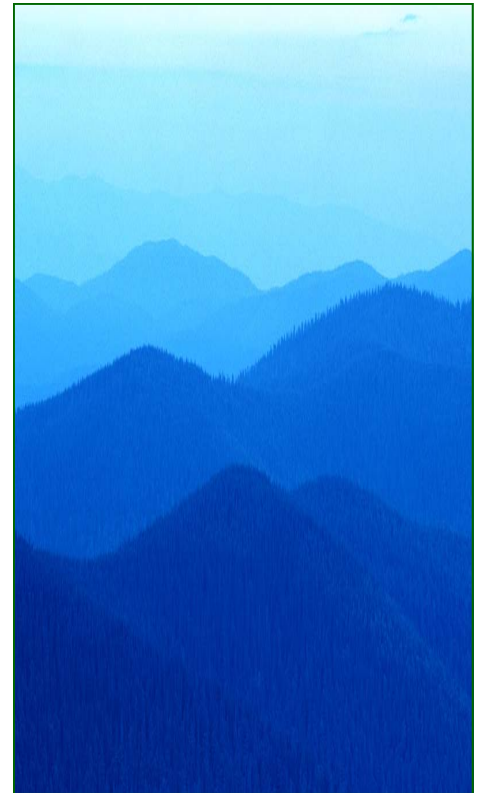
are looking into the possibility of combining with other Professional Forester Associations to get a large enough base that will allow this insurance to be made available to the membership. It is hoped that this E & O insurance will be available in 2010.

4. 2010 Plan & Budget

The Committee reviewed the 2010 Work Plan and Budget for the financial implications of the proposed Work Plan. The Committee recommended acceptance of the Work Plan as presented. After several years of trying to get it in place, next year the revised reporting of expenditures will be related to "OUTPUTS" rather than "TYPE OF EXPENSE".

Finance & Audit Committee:

Lloyd Eckel, R.P.F.
Dave Winston, R.P.F.
Bohdan Kowalyk, R.P.F.
Wayne Young, R.P.F.
Judy Sewell, R.P.F.
Bob Burgar, R.P.F., Chair



Ontario Professional Foresters Association

Audited Financial Statements

November 30, 2009

Ed Girardi
Chartered Accountant

Ontario Professional Foresters Association

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- Auditor's Report
- Balance Sheet
- Statement of Operations
- Statement of Changes in Net Assets
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Notes to Audited Financial Statements

Ed Girardi
Chartered Accountant

ED GIRARDI PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

(Authorized to practise public accounting by The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario)

10211 Yonge Street, Suite 206
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ED GIRARDI, B.B.A., C.A.
Chartered Accountant

Telephone: 905-884-8644
Fax: 905-884-6992
E-mail: e.girardi@rogers.com

AUDITOR'S REPORT


TO: The Members of the Ontario Professional Foresters Association

I have audited the balance sheet of Ontario Professional Foresters Association as at November 30, 2009 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Association's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at November 30, 2009 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Richmond Hill, Ontario
January 20, 2010

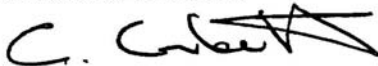

Chartered Accountant
Licensed Public Accountant

Ontario Professional Foresters Association

Balance Sheet As at November 30

	2009	2008
Assets		
Current		
Cash	\$ 187,142	\$ 58,451
Accounts receivable	6,184	4,072
Due from Ontario Professional Forestry Foundation	-	248
Prepaid expenses and deposits	11,057	7,601
	<u>204,383</u>	<u>70,372</u>
Investments (Note 3)		
Investments reserved for future use	308,579	296,662
Investments available for current use	87,934	45,245
	<u>396,513</u>	<u>341,907</u>
	<u>\$ 600,896</u>	<u>\$ 412,279</u>
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 37,307	\$ 26,849
Prepaid membership fees	113,726	12,935
	<u>151,033</u>	<u>39,784</u>
Net Assets		
Net assets reserved for future use (Note 6)	308,579	296,662
Unrestricted net assets	141,284	75,833
	<u>449,863</u>	<u>372,495</u>
	<u>\$ 600,896</u>	<u>\$ 412,279</u>

On behalf of the Board:



President



Registrar & Executive Director

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Ed Girardi
Chartered Accountant

Ontario Professional Foresters Association

Statement of Operations For the Year Ended November 30

	2009	2008
Revenues		
Memberships (Note 8)	\$ 329,718	\$ 288,604
Application and examination	12,440	11,490
Annual general meeting	(2,000)	(1,852)
Miscellaneous	435	2,650
Interest on investments and deposits	6,917	16,662
	<u>347,510</u>	<u>317,554</u>
Expenses (Note 7)		
Regulatory	55,368	1,841
Profile (recognition of profession)	35,004	67,944
Policy engagement	10,001	48,587
Competency	9,095	23,891
Member services	21,596	28,748
Governance	54,277	1,951
General administration	84,801	24,558
Litigious amount not recovered (Note 5)	-	44,845
	<u>270,142</u>	<u>242,365</u>
Excess of revenues over expenses	<u>\$ 77,368</u>	<u>\$ 75,189</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Ed Girardi
Chartered Accountant

Ontario Professional Foresters Association

Statement of Changes in Net Assets For the Year Ended November 30

	Reserve funds	Unrestricted	2009	2008
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 296,662	\$ 75,833	\$ 372,495	\$ 297,306
Excess of revenues over expenses	-	65,451	65,451	75,189
Funds reserved for future use (Note 6)	11,917	-	11,917	-
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 308,579</u>	<u>\$ 141,284</u>	<u>\$ 449,863</u>	<u>\$ 372,495</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Ed Girardi
Chartered Accountant

Ontario Professional Foresters Association

Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended November 30

	2009	2008
Cash provided by (used for):		
Operations		
Excess of revenues over expenses for the year	\$ 77,368	\$ 75,189
Changes in non-cash working capital components:		
Prepaid expenses and deposits	(3,456)	(1,901)
Accounts receivable	(2,112)	1,626
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	10,458	1,222
Due from Ontario Professional Forestry Foundation	248	(66)
Litigious amount recoverable	-	56,220
Prepaid membership fees	100,791	(2,285)
	<u>105,929</u>	<u>54,816</u>
Investing		
Increase in investments	<u>(54,606)</u>	<u>(88,082)</u>
Increase in cash during the year	128,691	41,923
Cash balance, beginning of year	<u>58,451</u>	<u>16,528</u>
Cash balance, end of year	<u>\$ 187,142</u>	<u>\$ 58,451</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Ed Girardi
Chartered Accountant

Ontario Professional Foresters Association

Notes to Audited Financial Statements For the Year Ended November 30, 2009

1. General

The Ontario Professional Foresters Association ("the Association"), established in 1957, serves as a governing body for professional foresters, ensuring professionalism and accountability. The Association is incorporated under the laws of Ontario and has no share capital.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Revenue recognition

Membership fees of the Association are recognized as revenue in the year to which the fees apply.

Investments

Investments consist of Guaranteed Investment Certificates and are recorded at the lower of cost and market value.

Capital assets

Council approved charging to expense purchases of office equipment for 1990 and subsequent years. In 2009 capital assets in the amount of \$ 5,761 (2008: \$843) were expensed.

Prepaid membership fees

Required fees received in the current year which pertain to the subsequent year are shown as a liability in the financial statements.

Contributed services

Volunteers contribute their time each year to assist the Association in carrying out its various activities. Because of the difficulty in determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

Ed Girardi
Chartered Accountant

Ontario Professional Foresters Association

Notes to Audited Financial Statements For the Year Ended November 30, 2009

3. Investments

The market value of investments at November 30, 2009 was \$396,513 (2008: \$341,907) and they consist of the following:

Guaranteed Investment Certificate	Interest Rate	Due Date	Cost and Market Value	Accrued Interest	Total
TD Canada Trust	0.35%	December 15, 2009	\$ 50,000	\$ 36	\$ 50,036
TD Canada Trust	0.35%	December 21, 2009	50,000	36	50,036
TD Canada Trust	0.35%	December 29, 2009	25,000	15	25,015
TD Canada Trust	0.35%	December 4, 2009	25,000	13	25,013
TD Canada Trust	3.05%	March 26, 2012	86,092	1,799	87,891
TD Mortgage Corporation	4.10%	March 28, 2011	34,000	2,349	36,349
B2B Trust	4.90%	July 16, 2010	25,000	2,917	27,917
Province of B.C. CPN	0.73%	July 9, 2010	9,573	8	9,581
Province of B.C. CPN	3.24%	December 18, 2014	49,694	190	49,884
Ontario Hydro CPN	3.37%	April 1, 2011	33,190	1,878	35,068
			<u>387,549</u>	<u>9,241</u>	<u>396,790</u>
Cash on deposit (overdraft) with Scotia McLeod			<u>(277)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(277)</u>
			<u>\$ 387,272</u>	<u>\$ 9,241</u>	<u>\$ 396,513</u>

4. Lease Commitment

The Association leases office premises at 5 Wesleyan Street, Georgetown, Ontario. Monthly lease payments are \$742 and the two year lease term expires on June 30, 2011.

5. Litigious Amount Recoverable

The Association has obtained judgement from the Ontario Superior Court of Justice against a former administrative assistant to recover funds embezzled by the assistant. In addition to the \$56,220 of misappropriated funds shown on the balance sheet, judgement also included damages for increased professional fees and general damages for business interruption as well as interest from the date the claim was issued. The total judgement award amounted to \$73,226. Action regarding the collection of these amounts commenced during the current fiscal year and the Association was able to make a partial recovery of the funds as shown below:

Ed Girardi
Chartered Accountant

Ontario Professional Foresters Association

Notes to Audited Financial Statements For the Year Ended November 30, 2009

5. Litigious Amount Recoverable... continued

Amount recorded as recoverable as at November 30, 2007	\$ 56,220
Amount recovered in 2008	<u>(32,329)</u>
Amount expensed in 2008	<u>\$ 23,891</u>

While Council approved writing off the balance of the funds, the Association will continue to be entitled to realize against the former administrative assistant's assets until August 13, 2013 when the execution expires and would have to be renewed.

Any future collections received will be treated as income in the year of receipt.

6. Funds Reserved For Future Use

In 2007 the Association formalized a policy of reserving funds for potential future liabilities including project over-runs, litigation or other contingencies.

A target level of funds has been established by the Council, upon advice from the Finance and Audit Committees and is to be achieved by contributions of at least \$5,000 annually in addition to the interest earned on these invested funds. These funds may only be used with the express approval of Council.

The current reserve target was calculated as follows:

Dissolution	\$ 45,000
Project over-runs	35,000
Allowance for two concurrent major disciplinary matters	200,000
Interest earned on invested funds	<u>16,662</u>
	296,662
Annual contribution in 2009	5,000
Interest earned on invested funds in 2009	<u>6,917</u>
	<u>11,917</u>
	<u>\$ 308,579</u>

Ed Girardi
Chartered Accountant

Ontario Professional Foresters Association

Notes to Audited Financial Statements For the Year Ended November 30, 2009

7. Operating Expenses

The following are key operating expenses of the Association in 2009:

Insurance	\$	11,076
Legal		17,503
Postage		7,809
Teleconferencing		2,493
Travel and accommodations		47,544
Staff		114,622
Other		<u>69,095</u>
	\$	<u>270,142</u>

8. Membership Revenue

The Association billed and collected a total of \$31,862 of membership fees relating to prior years. As a result, membership fees relating to the current fiscal year amounted to \$297,856.

Ed Girardi
Chartered Accountant

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

OPFA Fall Seminars
2009 Sponsors

	Faculty of Forestry & the Forest Environment, Lakehead University
Abitibi Bowater	Hearst Forest Management
Algonquin College, Pembroke Campus	Ministry of Natural Resources Districts
Algonquin Forestry Authority	Ministry of Natural Resources Regions
Canadian Forest Service	Ministry of Northern Development Mines and Forestry
City of Oakville	Model Forests Network
City of Toronto	Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority
County of Simcoe	Timiskaming Forest Alliance
Dryden Forest Management	Tree Canada Foundation
Eastern Ontario Model Forest	

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Thank you for your support!!!

Ontario Professional Foresters Association 2009 Annual Report

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2009 Annual Conference Sponsors

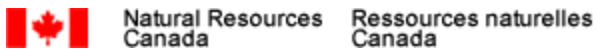


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Forestry Foundation



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Many thanks !!