

## COFI CONFERENCE

Canadian Women In Timber is very grateful to the **BC Council of Forest Industries (COFI)** for providing a booth at their annual Forestry conference in Vancouver, April 5-7<sup>th</sup>.

The Vancouver Convention Centre was a beautiful venue for the event. There were 53 exhibitor booths from around the province and Canada representing a wide variety of businesses associated with the forest industry.



Many thanks to Diana Gillrie from COFI (centre) for arranging our booth and taking such good care of us at the conference.

Susan Yurkovich, President and CEO of COFI kicked off the conference at the Ice Breaker and welcomed the delegates. The delegates attended some very interesting and informative seminars and panel discussions during the 2 days. The convention wound up with a luncheon on Friday, with Christy Clark as the keynote speaker.

The two-day conference was an outstanding event with attendance at more than 600 delegates and high profile speakers such as architect Michael Green, BC's Trade Envoy to the United States David Emerson, Assist. Deputy Minister of Trade Policy & Negotiations Canada Kirsten Hillman and Premier Christy Clark.



Chatting with the Mayor of Merritt Neil Menard

Thank you very much from Canadian Women In Timber to all the companies and organizations that donate or provide a booth space for us at their conferences. As a non-profit volunteer organization, CWIT would not be able to attend these functions without their generosity.



## Splinter's Travels

Our very popular Splinter activity books have been sent to the BC Forest Centre in Duncan, the Canadian Forest Services in Sault Ste. Marie Ontario and a classroom in New Westminister. They have also been distributed at several forestry functions and schools we have attended. Splinter's "Fun In The Forest" book is going to be used once again to help celebrate National Forest Week in September.

## Canadian Women In Timber - Vancouver Island Branch at the Earth, Water and Wild Foods Festival in Nanaimo

On April 23, CWIT-VI Branch Secretary Molly Hudson attended Nanaimo's Earth, Water and Wild Foods Festival at Bowen Park. This event was organized by the City of Nanaimo, the Regional District of Nanaimo, and the Nanaimo and Area Land Trust and featured displays on water conservation, invasive plants, local foods and food security, and local entertainment.

In partnership with TimberWest, Molly handed out over 350 free western red cedar seedlings to eager kids and adults alike. CWIT's amazing resources were on hand and as popular as always, especially the 'Logging with Splinter' activity book.

Molly had many interactions with the public throughout the day, and reflected on a highlight: "This event was a great opportunity to spread forestry's message of sustainability and community. My favourite part of handing out hundreds of trees was hearing how people had received a seedling from a forest company decades ago that has now grown on their family property to be a huge tree today. I'm grateful that I get to play a part in that tradition on Vancouver Island!"



## ABC FP Conference in Prince George - February 22-24



Island Timberlands kindly donated a booth to CWIT and made it possible for Ann and Betty-Ann to attend the 69<sup>th</sup> ABCFP conference in Prince George. We were very busy during the breaks from the seminars. We handed out many of our Splinter activity books, as well as CWIT information. Many delegates and high school and college students stopped by our booth. We talked with several people we had met at previous conferences and made new connections with others.



With CWIT Past Chair Alison Anderson



Fellow exhibitor and CWIT member Nancy Turner with Ann

## Interior Logging Association Conference and Trade Show



Joanne, Marg, Vicki, Betty-Ann, Ann, Melinda

Thank you once again to the **ILA** for donating a space for CWIT at their annual conference and trade show in Vernon in May. Vicki, Marg, Joanne, Betty-Ann and Ann took turns with the ILA forestry van and the booth and we set up and ran the silent auction. Thank you to all the donors and bidders that helped to make the auction a great success. The **ILA** very generously donated some of the auction proceeds to CWIT.

CWIT member Melinda Morben was the guest luncheon speaker. She is the Manager of Logistics at Island Timberlands. The theme for this year was "Women Working in the Forest Harvesting Industry."

## Canada North Resource's Expo

Betty-Ann and Ann volunteered to go the Canada North Resource Expo in Prince George with the ILA forestry van. We had a table with CWIT information and materials set up outside the van. We were very busy and ran out of some of our handouts. We estimated about 600 people stopped by, including many families with young children. There was great interest in the van, and more people than usual went through and had many questions about the display inside. We had lots of good conversations with loggers, retired forestry workers and the general public.



Wayne manning the table while we went for lunch :)

## Cherryville Elementary School

Ann and Betty-Ann travelled with the ILA van to Cherryville Elementary school on June 19 and gave their forest education presentation to the entire school comprised of 70 students from K to Gr. 6.



The students and teachers were very enthusiastic and appreciative of the presentations. Thanks to Jim and the Cherryville Community Forest Association for hosting a barbeque for everyone.



## Growing a forest – one tree at a time.

In BC, the law states that all forests harvested on Crown land must be regenerated. As such, BC plants 210 million trees in the forest every year—approximately three trees for every one harvested.

The cycle begins with a pre-harvest silviculture prescription. Think of this as a road map that directs where a harvest will take place, how trees are removed, and methods for regenerating the future forest. Many factors are included in decisions about how, when and where to harvest, but reforestation is a very important part of a forest management plan.

Reforestation can be done via natural regeneration—seeds from surrounding trees—or by planting seedlings.

Replanting can speed reforestation because larger seedlings occupy the area immediately and are less likely to be outgrown by weeds and other plants. Planting also allows foresters to direct what species of trees will be present in the next generation of forest – guiding landscapes to regenerate into the forest type that existed prior to harvest.

Seeds are collected either from natural forest stands or seed orchards where trees are grown to produce specific types of seed. In BC, seed destined for planting on Crown land is registered and often stored at a secure government facility called the Tree Seed Centre.

Prior to harvest, foresters arrange for seeds to be moved to a nursery where they are carefully grown in preparation for planting in harvested areas. Pre-planning is important as seedling production can take between one to three years.

Planting companies are contracted to deliver trees to the site and manage planting. They hire planters who are paid by the tree (on average making eight to twenty-five cents per tree), planting to strict standards.

The average BC planter puts about 1,600 trees per day into the ground. They carry hundreds of trees in specially designed bags, bending over more than 200 times an hour while travelling up to 16 km per day on foot. Planting technique is essential to protect planters from injury.

Planters must know the micro-site requirements of all the different species they plant, to ensure optimum growth. Being a successful tree planter requires good technique, stamina and personal motivation.

Tree planting is a tough job. Planters live in bush camps where mosquitoes, rain, sunburns and run-ins with wildlife are part of the lifestyle. Being a successful tree planter requires good technique, stamina and personal motivation.

### In British Columbia



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