

RUMBLINGS



For Safe Roads, Loads and Drivers Across British Columbia

May 2016

Issue 159

Beyond the 'Fatality Alert'

Most of us are aware of Angus through a fatality alert, media or word of mouth. A young man, taken from this world too soon in a tragic log hauling incident.

Transportation was fortunate to get to know him a little better when his father called the BC Forest Safety Council about logging truck fatalities in our Province.

Beyond the fatality alert are the family, friends, and community whose lives Angus touched. Angus and his love and appreciation for the log hauling profession: "Gorgeous log haul through the Rockies into Radium Hot Springs. I love my job!!" are prominent on Angus's Instagram page.

Angus's love of life is evident. He posted about his trip to New York City: "Definitely a culture shock from being in New York City yesterday to being in the bush in Hinton, AB moving a rig today."

Every lost worker needs to be a reminder to each of us that even one death is too many.



Angus Rhys Broberg-Hull

October 18, 1994—January 26, 2016

Log truck driver wipes out own truck to save woman's life

On March 18, 2016, The Boundary Creek Times reported that Ernst Baxmann, was driving his personally-owned logging truck, fully loaded, when he met a jeep that had crossed the centre line.

Because of Baxmann's driving expertise, both he and the female driver of the Jeep are alive today.

He wiped out his own logging truck and could have easily been seriously hurt or worse. Read the full story here: <http://www.boundarycreektimes.com/news/372574031.html>

Interfor, with assistance from Big White Resort, recognized Baxmann with a certificate for accommodation and resort activities at Big White valued at \$1,500.

ISC Safety Conference—Vernon

The 2016 Interior Safety Conference is being held in partnership with the Interior Logging Association Conference.

FREE entry to the **Interior Safety Conference** in Vernon on Saturday May 7, 2016.

Learn more and register here: <http://www.bcforestsafe.org/ISC2016>.

Thanks to conference sponsors: Tolko, Interfor, Weyerhaeuser, Pinnacle Renewable Energy, Interior Logging Association, Canfor, WorkSafeBC and the BC Forest Safety Council.

Trucker Appreciation & Training Days

Transportation seminars have been scheduled throughout the Province as Industry continues to work towards the prevention of all log hauling injuries and fatalities.

May 2nd: Vavenby

Hosted by: Canfor

May 2nd: Princeton

Hosted by: Weyerhaeuser

May 3rd: Vernon

Hosted by: Tolko

May 4th: Merritt

Hosted by: Tolko

May 4th: Kamloops

Hosted by: Interfor

May 5th: Kamloops

Hosted by: Tolko

May 6th: Williams Lake

Hosted by: CCTCC

May 9th: 100 Mile House

Hosted by: West Fraser

May 11th: Prince George

Hosted by: Canfor

May 14th: Terrace

Hosted by: BC Forest Safety

May 18th: Vanderhoof

Hosted by: L&M

May 19th: Vanderhoof

Hosted by: L&M

May 24th: Burns Lake

Hosted by: Babine Forest Products

May 25th: Houston

Hosted by: Canfor

May 26th: Fort St James

Hosted by: Conifex / Apollo

May 31st: Chetwynd

Hosted by: West Fraser

June 1st: Chetwynd

Hosted by: Canfor

June 2nd: Fort St John

Hosted by: Canfor

June 13th: Mackenzie

Hosted by: Canfor

RUMBLINGS is produced to help keep you informed on what's happening in BC forestry transportation safety.

If you have best practices you would like to share, concerns you want to discuss, or topics you and others would like to learn more about, please give us a call or email:

250-562-3215 or toll-free 1-877-741-1060

transport@bcforestsafe.org

Why formal hiring practices are a good idea

Companies that use these strict hiring practices for finding safe drivers for their fleet, often notice much less money being spent towards legal, injury, and maintenance claims due to unsafe driving. 30% or more maintenance costs occur from equipment abuse, caused by new drivers who are not used to the equipment or who do not have good driving habits. Hiring poorly qualified drivers can also leave a company with higher maintenance and fuel costs.

Key points for formal recruitment is to have the right specifications and the right advertising strategy to attract the right employees for your company.

When obtaining information about the applicant for your company, these five items should be crucial for this process:

- Reference check
- Medical screening, drug testing
- Skill testing
- Driver's Abstract
- Psychometric testing

Reference checks are one of the most crucial parts of hiring a new employee. This process is often overlooked, yet it can be one of the most important steps. You can find out about past work history behaviour and habits of the applicant. Anecdotal evidence indicates that 31 to 43% of job applicants have reported lying on a resume so outside feedback can be very helpful.

No matter the past accident records or driver experience, the first six months for a new employee can be the highest risk time for incidents. Learning new routes, new paperwork and new procedures can take a worker's focus away from safe driving.

Including a mentoring program as part of hiring practices can be an effective way of assessing new drivers and training them in the hazards specific to your worksites.

Companies with high turnover rates usually have high incident rates.

Professional Log Truck Driver Competency Program



Congratulations to Mike Savignac of Prince George. Mike is the first candidate in British Columbia to complete the Professional Log Truck Driver Training Program and meet the competency assessment requirements. The program, initiated by the Log Truck Technical Advisory Committee and supported by the Trucking Advisory Group, is expected to include the assessment of over 1000 drivers by 2020. Log truck drivers will be assessed throughout the province by Qualified Assessors.

For more information on the Professional Log Truck Driver Program, contact the BC Forest Safety Council Transportation Safety Department.

Professional, What's That? By Earl Galavan, Safety Driven

I'm serious. We keep using this word professional in front of all sorts of things like professional ballplayer, professional golfer, or professional driver. Now that's a lot of professions, but what does this professional in front of driver really mean?

A quick check turns up a list of words describing professional. Words like expert, skilled, practised, career, and specialist. I can see that a professional driver would have all these words applied to their job but I also suggest that there is even more.

I think the professional driver is one who brings a professional attitude to the job each and every day. No easy task when surrounded by others who have little understanding of what the job of driving really is.

It's easy to react to situations around us and "lose it", but that reaction is a choice and seldom the right one. The professional is someone who chooses the high road in behaviour and displays the skills of a practised, career specialist every time in spite of the situations others create.

Let me tell you about a guy I drove with for years. Don was always the professional in dress, demeanour and performance. Right up to the day he retired, and on that day he delivered the same top notch job as any other. There were celebrations later but the on the job example is one I have always used as my model.

The choices we make, just like the choices Don made, are what result in that professional attitude. With a professional attitude, we become that skilled expert who continues to practice and improve their skills. We become professionals.