



## Transition is the key to Council changes

Transition is the key word for the Council — with the October appointment of Bev Briscoe as chair and CEO Tanner Elton's early 2009 departure, according to outgoing Co-Chairs Lee Doney and Ron Gorman.

"Bev's extensive senior experience in resource development, financial services, public sector and not-for profit community organizations will benefit the Council," said Doney.

Briscoe serves on the boards of Goldcorp Inc., Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers Inc., BC Rail Corporation and Coast Opportunities Funds and serves as a director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Vancouver and the Forum for Women Entrepreneurs.

Previously, Briscoe chaired the province's Industry Training Authority, was a director of Spectra Energy Income Fund and Westminster Savings Credit Union and president and owner of Hiway Refrigeration Ltd. She has also held executive positions with Wajax Industries Ltd., Rivtow Group of Companies and The Jim Pattison Group.

Briscoe praised Elton's efforts as the founding CEO of the Council: "His vision, commitment and hard work with staff, industry members and the Board set forest safety on the right road."

## Certification milestone

More than 1,100 forestry operations are SAFE-certified across B.C., only two years after the Council launched its pioneering SAFE Companies program. The milestone was passed in early November.

Certifications totaled 1,111 as this went to press: 96 individual owner operators, 803 small companies and 212 large companies.

"Overall, this means that forestry operations accounting for a major proportion of the work force have earned certification," said SAFE Companies Director Krista Bax. "The critical mass is shifting dramatically to SAFE-certification as the standard to work in B.C. forestry."

## We will work to stay effective and relevant

Joining the Council gives me a great opportunity to be part of an industry that is facing significant issues, but remains very important to the economy of B.C. Despite economic and other challenges, the province's forestry industry has made a lot of progress in getting behind safety.



After my first month as Council Chair, I am impressed with the solid foundation that has been established for a safer industry. What has been put in place over the last four years is significant, and the Council should be proud of its accomplishments.

We still have a way to go, but the industry is transforming how safety is valued and practiced in B.C. As the Council's new chair, I am proud to be joining this effort.

Moving forward, we need to evolve the Council, building carefully on existing programs and ensuring that the organization remains effective and relevant.

I look forward to working with the Board, management and all the many and dynamic individuals and organizations within the sector.

I know we will meet today's challenges and together make the Council's slogan — Unsafe Is Unacceptable — a reality.

Bev Briscoe, Chair

## Seeking a new CEO

The Board of Directors of the Council has launched a search for a new CEO to replace Tanner Elton, who leaves office at the beginning of 2009. Plans call for the new CEO to start next spring.

Enquiries about the position should go to Ken Werker at executive search firm Ray and Berndtson; phone 604-685-0261, or email [ken.werker@rayberndtson.ca](mailto:ken.werker@rayberndtson.ca).



## Human factors in safety

Dealing with human factors associated with on-the-job fatalities and serious injuries was the focus of a safety conference attended by more than 300 participants November 1 in Qualicum Beach.

The event was organized by an industry-union steering committee representing forestry, wood products manufacturing, pulp and paper and WorkSafeBC.

"We're looking at bringing the program to other areas of B.C. next year," said Steve Mueller, the Council's committee representative.

Streaming video of the conference presentations will be posted this winter at [www.bcforestsafe.org](http://www.bcforestsafe.org).

## Here's forestry young at art

Three youngsters have won Chapters gift certificates in a province-wide National Forest Week art contest. Taylor Charles of Surrey had the best entry (below) in the age 9-12 category, Arista Floritto of Surrey for those aged 6-8, and Zachary Noel of Port Hardy for ages 4-5.

The younger winners' work is at [www.bcforestsafe.org](http://www.bcforestsafe.org). Contest sponsors were the Council, the Truck Loggers Association and the Association of BC Forest Professionals.



WINNING ENTRY FROM TAYLOR CHARLES, AGE 9-12 CATEGORY

## Honouring leadership

The first of two new annual Council safety awards went to two of the 50 trainers, auditors, safety advocates and others working to deliver Council safety training, information and mentoring workers and companies.

**Safety advocate John Gooding** — Safety Leader of the Year Award for advancing safety through delivery or development of new standards, training, systems, tools or other methods.

**Trainer Steve Telosky** — Cary White Memorial Award for unwavering commitment to improving awareness, expanding forest safety knowledge and developing safety skills on the ground. White was a safety advocate with more than 30 years in forestry who died in 2008.

CEO Tanner Elton announce the awards in November; details at [www.bcforestsafe.org/content-nav-news/content-nav-mediacentre/Council%20Conference%20Awards%20-%20News%20Release.pdf](http://www.bcforestsafe.org/content-nav-news/content-nav-mediacentre/Council%20Conference%20Awards%20-%20News%20Release.pdf).

He called Gooding "a well-rounded safety professional working to make the industry a safer place for everyone."

Noting that Telosky has personally trained more than 100 new B.C. fallers, Elton said, "It's an honour to recognize Steve for his leadership and dedication to creating safe work environments in our province's forests."

## Our woman of the year

Forestry TruckSafe Director MaryAnn Arcand was named Influence and Impact Woman of the Year, a Northern B.C. Women of Distinction award presented at the 2008 Today's Woman Leadership Conference in October.

The award recognizes a "demonstrated leader who has made an impact in her community, company or industry." It was presented by B.C. Forests and Range Minister Pat Bell, who praised Arcand's "tireless" efforts for road safety across the province.

"MaryAnne has been instrumental in bringing "a culture shift in attitudes and driving behaviours among forest workers" leading to "a substantial reduction in injuries and fatalities."

## Coming attractions

**December 2-5** — Occupational Health and Safety Summit sponsored by B.C. Safety Council, Langley; details at [www.safetycouncil.bc.ca/pdf/BCSCSummitConference2008.pdf](http://www.safetycouncil.bc.ca/pdf/BCSCSummitConference2008.pdf)

**January 13-16** — Truck Loggers Association Convention; Vancouver; details at [www.tla.ca](http://www.tla.ca)

**January 23-24** — B.C. Natural Resources Forum, Prince George; details to be announced.

