



RUMBLINGS

FOR SAFE ROADS, LOADS AND DRIVERS — ACROSS BRITISH COLUMBIA
FORESTRY TRUCKSAFE



BC **Forest Safety** Council

○ PRINTABLE VERSION

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Safety in Forestry Transportation TruckSafe Rumbings is published biweekly to keep you informed on what is happening in forest hauling safety in BC. Call MaryAnne Arcand to provide input or get the news out on best practices and concerns in the industry.

Editor's Note: *until the Forestry TruckSafe position has been filled, MaryAnne Arcand will continue to edit and produce Rumbings. We may have a couple guest editors over the next couple of months, so stay tuned for different perspectives and different 'voices'. thanks*

WorkSafeBCBC releases report on Resource Roads Demonstration Projects

This past Tuesday WorkSafeBCBC, Ministry of Forests and various forest, petroleum and mining industry officials gathered in Prince George for the release of WorkSafeBCBC's Report on the recent Resource Roads Demonstration Projects conducted in the Prince George Forest District and the South Peace.

The Demonstration Projects largely centred around the formation of Road Safety Management Groups (RSMG), consisted of the major industrial stakeholders utilizing a road network or the resource road systems in a region. The South Peace RSMG has forestry, oil & gas and mining company representatives sitting around the table, whereas the Prince George group is largely forestry.

There are other groups like these underway in various areas of the province, either spearheaded by the local road users and road permit holders, or the Ministry of Forests- Burns Lake, Stuart Lake, Quesnel, Vernon, Chilliwack, Bamfield, just to name a few.

The report makes several recommendations to WorkSafeBCBC, the Ministry of Forests, the BC Forest Safety Council, and Enform (Oil & Gas safety organization), mainly focused on formation and management of the RSMG's in all 29 forest districts, training, and compliance. The main recommendations:

- Road Safety Management Committees being established throughout the province as the administrative structure for safety on resource roads
- WorkSafeBCBC taking a leadership role to ensure any system put in place for road administration is compliant with the Workers Compensation Act
- New technology being reviewed and used appropriately by all road users
- Electronic stability control becoming a standard on light duty trucks and other vehicles when feasible
- Driver training standards being identified, implemented, and enforced
- Subcommittees or Road User Groups (RUGs) be put in place at an operational level where work is occurring within each unique road system or road network

The movement towards RSMG's stems partially from Forest Safety Ombudsman Roger Harris' report entitled "No Longer The Road Less Travelled" released in January 2008, in which Harris cites the need for collaborative efforts from industrial users of resource roads to manage road safety from an operational perspective in the field, in cooperation with the regulators (mainly WorkSafeBCBC and MoFR).

[Both Harris' report](#) and the [WorkSafeBC Demonstration Project Report](#) can be downloaded at the BCFSC website, www.bcforestsafe.org

Forest Minister outlines his 3C's of Resource Road safety strategies

Collaboration, compliance and culture change were the 3 C's Minister Pat Bell outlined for resource road safety moving forward in a speech he made Tuesday in Prince George. Bell said the aim is to build a culture of safety through collaboration between the various players and promoting compliance by maintaining enforcement of the rules.

He noted that, as of January 1 2009, operators in the province's timber sales program must be "Safe Certified". There are 2,185 forest operations currently SAFE Certified in BC, with 2,224 registered and in the certification process.

The Minister also mentioned the ongoing project of provincial standardization of radio protocols and signage, being led in part by Forestry TruckSafe, noting that last year two pilot projects on standardizing radio protocols were introduced on the Coast and in the Peace, and that there will soon be a day when the same protocols are in place throughout the province.

"It's not acceptable to me that we operate under different radio programs in different forest districts and different forest areas throughout the province," Bell said. "We will have a consistent set of protocols that will be in use by the end of this year."

Oil patch loses hundreds of workers in motor vehicle crashes

Duane Mather, President and CEO of Nabors Canada has highlighted the need for resource road safety management in the oil patch. "In the next few years, there will be a huge increase in the number of trucks using the road system in the Northeast," "We need this project (the RSMG's) at this time to ensure that the workers who will help us make the Horn River and Montney plays succeed will be safe."

Mather released numbers from the oil patch that showed in the years 1995 to 2005 the petroleum industry lost more than 300 workers in motor vehicle crash fatalities. He went on to explain how many semi-truck loads it takes to put drilling rigs and wells in place- approximately 28,000 for every 20 wells. When you do the math, and consider that in some seasons 140 wells have been drilled, that's almost 200,000 loads (2 way trips) with semis into the bush – and that does not include the crews, the pickups, the service trucks, the hotshots, the engineers, the supervisors, the pipeliners or the subcontractors. Or the servicing of existing wells. And all that traffic is sharing the resource roads mixing with the forest industry (harvesting, silviculture, fire protection) and the mining industry, tourism, ranchers, and now bio and alternative energy. No wonder they call their season "the 100 days of hell"!

Chetwynd Judge upholds Ministry of Forest's right to issue speeding tickets on FSR's

Forest & Range Minister Pat Bell said on Tuesday that a judge in Chetwynd upheld MOFR's authority to issue speeding tickets on FSR's after three tickets were challenged in court. "So we are confident we now have the tools that we need in order to issue those tickets," he said. "As I tell people, every time you see a green pickup truck coming toward you, you'll never know if it's the truck that's going to have the radar gun it or not, and you better pay attention to it, because we're going to continue to have an aggressive role in enforcement."

Ritchie Brothers sale a sign of the times

Yesterday's Ritchie Brothers sale in Prince George saw a complete dispersal of the logging side of Blackwater Construction, and more major realignments of other large contractors. Downsizing and diversification is the

name of the game for many contractors in order to survive, but we see more and more harvesting capacity disappearing, and the equipment and people moving to other industries. In the case of Blackwater Construction, their activities in the mining sector and roadbuilding continue to expand, and the bulk of their operations have moved into the Tumbler Ridge area. We wish Terry O Neil and his staff the best in their ventures, but we'll miss them, and many others like them, in the forest industry.

As harvesting capacity continues to diminish, it begs the question – what are we going to do when the turnaround comes? Where are we going to find the workers? How can we work together to keep companies viable?

And the Search is on for the next Director of Forestry TruckSafe & Northern Initiatives....

The BC Forest Safety Council is receiving applications for Director of Forestry TruckSafe and Northern Initiatives until the end of August. It's a demanding job that requires an unwavering commitment and passion for safety. If you're self-motivated, energetic, and like a challenge, this may be the position for you. You can express your interest by sending an email to the Council's CEO, Reynold Hert, hert@bcforestsafe.org and make sure you're on the distribution list for the posting when it comes out officially.

George, a trucker from Vernon, said to me yesterday that I left mighty big shoes to fill. I just want to say that you don't have to. Nobody has to try to be me, or do things the way I did. Each of us has our own skill set, and our own way of doing things and dealing with people. What matters is that you have the passion, the energy and the drive to keep pushing forward in what could be the most challenging job of your life. It is a very complex, sometimes frustrating, but oh, so rewarding job, and well worth pursuing. And I'll be right behind you with support, encouragement, and if you want it, advice. So go ahead.... Take up the torch! *MaryAnne*

Cariboo Big Rig Show n' Shine goes this weekend in Quesnel

Congratulations to Chester De Raspe who drives for Swaile & Sons in Quesnel for organizing the first Truck Show n Shine in Quesnel, set to go on Saturday at the Maple Park Mall parking lot. Chester says trucks will start arriving Friday night, and the "show" and judging will begin at 9am Saturday morning. If you're in the Cariboo come out and support Chester and his crew in their outstanding efforts. We'll be there, and hope to see you too! Which hat will I be wearing? Both the Forest Safety Council's and the CILA.... See you Saturday!

SHARP Announces Fall Conference

From Brad Evans: Although we recognize the extremely poor state of the forest industry, the purpose of this email is to inform you that the SHARP Trustees are pleased to announce that there **will be** a SHARP Safety Conference on September 24th, 25th, 2009 in Prince George. This year's theme is "**SHARPEN Your Safety Senses - Understanding Human Factors.**" As usual, employees from SHARP participating companies can attend this high caliber safety conference **free of charge**. Non SHARP members are welcome to attend for per participant registration fee.

Attention all Safety Committees: the 2009 SHARP Safety Conference will be held on September 24 & 25, at the Westwood MB Church in Prince George.

This year's theme is "SHARPEN your Safety Knowledge– The Human Factor"

Key presenters include:

- Dr Louis Francescutti from the University of Alberta talking about trauma and injury prevention,
- The WorkSafeBCBC incident investigation/human factors team presenting specific information about incidents and the SHELL model investigation tool.
- Panel discussion/forum on current challenges and stressors in the workplace and how they affect safety performance; lead by Terry Tate of the Steelworkers Union
- David Smith – Become Master of Your Destiny.
- Bob Aitken from Van Com College – leading Change with the Brain in Mind.
- Marketplace from industrial safety companies and service providers.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 18 Cariboo Big Rig Show n Shine, Maple Park Mall, Quesnel
July 18-19 Duncan Antique Truck Show, BC Forest Discovery Centre, Duncan
July 31-Aug 3 Vancouver Island Truck Show, Saanich
Sept 19-20 Antique Truck Show, McLean's Mill, Port Alberni
Sept 23 -24 SHARP Conference, Prince George
Oct 20- 21 CrossRoads Road Safety Conference, Prince George

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