



# Free Forestry Tour to Power River Teacher Professional Development Event

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Professionally run field trips for teachers  
Learn about our FREE pro-d opportunities

## NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2009

### Unique Pro-D experience for teachers - A FREE three day Forest Sector tour on the Sunshine Coast.

Our upcoming forestry tour comes with a twist. The Spring Professional Development tour will take participants to the Sunshine Coast where teachers will have a chance to walk through managed forests, tour manufacturing facilities, visit community forests, speak with the many stakeholders engaged in the local forest landscape and gather materials and information to take back to the classroom. We will spend all day Friday and part of Saturday touring the area. Saturday afternoon we will leave for the Evans Lake Outdoor Education Camp in Squamish for a special add-on to this tour.

Teachers interested in outdoor learning opportunities for their students can book Evans Lake during the school year for on-site outdoor learning programs.

Many of the teachers who take their students to camp have told us that they wish they knew more about how to use the camp or other outdoor settings to teach about forestry and ecology.

Teachers will spend Saturday night at Evans Lake where we will have a campfire, drink their famous hot chocolate and sing songs. The following day will feature a facilitated workshop dedicated to classroom and outdoor program development. This program will be valuable to any teacher interested in outdoor learning.

We will be joined on the tour by a local elementary school teacher who has been taking her class to Evans Lake for over 20 years. ☺



### Who is the Festival of Forestry?

The BC Festival of Forestry is a non-profit organization committed to providing quality professional development experiences for school teachers.

We run tours twice a year taking 20 Lower Mainland and Victoria area teachers to rural communities in BC. The tours provide an interactive learning experience to enhance teachers' understanding of the complexities of sustainable forest management issues, and methods to integrate information into their classes.

Teachers have the opportunity to immerse themselves in a resource-based community and interact with the people most connected to resource

issues. Our tours include hikes in various forest ecosystems, visits to active forest management areas, protected areas, and tours of processing facilities. Presenters on each tour represent a wide range of interest areas providing a clear balance of perspectives.

Tours include mini-courses on tree identification, wildlife habitat issues, water quality and other riparian considerations in forest management, soil characteristics, ecosystem management, conservation and preservation of sensitive and special areas of the forest, as well as the social and economic values we gain from the forest. ☺

**Check out our Facebook Group for more information**

FESTIVAL OF FORESTRY

Participants will travel by bus from Horseshoe Bay Ferry Terminal on Thursday afternoon (special arrangements for Victoria teachers will be made later). The tour takes place Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Teachers return to Horseshoe Bay Sunday afternoon. Accommodation is shared, two per room, and will be provided by the Festival of Forestry. We cover accommodation, meals, and transportation to and from Vancouver or Victoria and the tour destination. Additional information will be provided one week prior to the tour and will include what to bring, where to meet and what to expect.

## TOUR APPLICATION FORM

### JOIN US ON THE SUNSHINE COAST AND EVANS LAKE

MARCH 19 - 22, 2009

REGISTER TODAY

FREE EDUCATIONAL EVENT



#### SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Name:

School Principal:

Street/Mailing Address:

Web Site:

Phone Number:

City:

Fax Number:

Province:

Postal Code:

Email:

#### TEACHER INFORMATION

Your Name:

Grade(s) Taught:

Home Address:

Subject:

Home Phone Number:

City:

Your email (if different from above):

Province:

Postal Code:

Your Gender  Male  Female\*\*

\*\*this information is used to determine accommodation room sharing arrangements

Have you applied to attend a tour in the past?  Yes  No

Have you attended a tour in the past?  Yes  No If YES, where did you go?

#### PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

**NOTE:** Your application must be accompanied by a short paragraph explaining how attending this event would benefit your teaching.

**Please fax or email by FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup> 2009, to:**

FESTIVAL OF FORESTRY

FAX: 604-891-1227 | EMAIL: [sandy@treefrogcreative.ca](mailto:sandy@treefrogcreative.ca)

Selections will be made by the Festival of Forestry by March 4th, 2009, only successful applicants will be contacted.

For more information please contact Sandy at 604-916-9117 or email [sandy@treefrogcreative.ca](mailto:sandy@treefrogcreative.ca)



# A<sup>+</sup> What the teachers had to say about ...

## The Fraser Valley Tour

“We need to get more teachers out! Jam packed with info and really opened my eyes to the world of forestry and what goes into running a sustainable forest. Lots of great tools and resources for the classroom. Very applicable to the curriculum. An experience very teacher should have!”

“This tour was great. I think it is really important for more forestry education and awareness to occur in elementary and secondary schools in order to present forestry as a career option to students who might not know about the opportunities available in forestry.”

## The Campbell River Tour

“Outstanding tour! Informative and very well planned. The information will be truly useful in the classroom and all of my questions were answered clearly and in depth. I enjoyed the variety of sites we visited as well as meeting and listening to all of the people involved in the forest industry. Really, it was a terrific professional experience and I appreciate the passion of the foresters. Thanks for all the handouts, I’ll certainly use them.”



## The 100 Mile Tour

“This tour was an incredible learning experience for me. Coming from the city, I never realized all that went on to bring me my wood and paper. It was fascinating to learn about the pine beetle infestation and to understand the effects that this is having on the whole industry in the interior. I will definitely use this new learning in my classroom and a general appreciation for the forestry industry.”

“This tour was a great chance to go beyond the textbook and see first hand the realities of the forest industry. I liked learning about how the industry influences communities. This is directly related to curriculum and I recommend it to any teacher.”



# Festival of Forestry has deep roots in British Columbia

The History of the Festival of Forestry reaches back forty-one years. Concerned about the perceptions of the public, and teachers in particular, a logger named Bill Moore took action and formed an organization dedicated to telling the truth about forestry in British Columbia, and dispelling fears about monsters in the forest. Moore, a young logger from Winter Harbour on northern Vancouver Island recognized the critical need for urban teachers to understand B.C.'s forest management practices. In 1967, he pulled together a group of dedicated individuals from industry, unions, education and governments to create the Festival of Forestry – a non-profit educational society. Today, the B.C. Festival of Forestry continues to thrive, providing quality educational experiences for teachers. By 2005 they had hosted more than 1,600 teachers on their forest tours.

Moore's involvement in forestry started while he was still in high school. At the age of 21, he took over the helm of a 50-man logging camp where he began a career that would keep him in caulk boots for 55 years. And yet, this rugged woodsman was also an eloquent spokesman and poet. The year he started up the Festival of Forestry, Moore had just completed a two-year term as president of the Truck Loggers Association (1964-65). He was also president of the Pacific Logging Congress and a director of Forest Industrial Relations. Who better to sing the praises of an industry in need of some good public relations work?

November 24, 2000, the forest sector mourned the loss of this influential man; but his spirit lives on and is fostered through the TLA's Bill Moore Legacy Fund, a sponsorship program set up to support the Festival of Forestry teacher tours initiated by Moore so many years ago. Looking back at Moore's achievements, it is no surprise that he should take on the role of spokesman for the sector.

The Festival of Forestry strives to provide an interactive learning experience to enhance teachers' understanding of the complexities of sustainable forest management issues, and methods to integrate information into their classroom curriculum. Twice a year, 20 teachers from Greater Victoria and the Lower Mainland are taken to a resource-dependent community in British Columbia. These unique tours provide a complete experience for the attendees. Teachers have the opportunity to immerse themselves in a resource-based community and interact with the people most connected to the issues. The two-day tour includes hikes in various forest ecosystems, visits to research sites, parks and protected areas, active logging and tours of processing facilities. Presenters on the tour represent a wide range of interest areas and provide a balance of perspectives.

Teachers get mini-courses on tree identification, wildlife habitat issues, water quality and riparian considerations in forest management, soil characteristics, ecosystem

management, as well as conservation and preservation of sensitive and special areas of the forest, with a focus on the social and economic values we gain from the forest.

Do teachers feel that their time has been well spent on these tours? Anik Tauson, a teacher from William Bridge Elementary School in Richmond, B.C., certainly thinks so. "I had a lot of misconceptions and very little knowledge regarding the forest industry before this tour; now I have some knowledge, some understanding and I want to learn a lot more. I'm leaving with an understanding and appreciation of the true importance of the B.C. forestry industry. If B.C.'s forests are healthy, B.C. is healthy. We are lucky to have such a diversified, useful, multi-faceted, renewable resource. My experience was positive and I truly appreciate it. To have walked in the streets of a resource-based community and talked to people about issues from their perspective and understanding has opened my eyes to many things and is absolutely priceless."

With assistance from professionals in the local communities, volunteer board members of the Festival of Forestry coordinate and oversee each tour. All those involved in providing the tour experience agree the tours are addictive. Teachers may come into the forest expecting monsters, but they leave believing that the people who work in woods are the most dedicated tree-huggers of all.

We would like to thank our sponsors: The Truck Loggers Association, The Association of BC Forest Professionals, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, The International Order of the Hoo-Hoo (Club 48), The BC Ministry of Forests and Range, Kelly McCloskey & Associates, and Tree Frog Creative Communications