



BC Forest Safety

Safety is **good** business

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



**EVERY FORESTRY WORKER
GOES HOME SAFE - EVERY DAY**





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Safety is good business

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Images provided by Replant, Boreal West Forestry, Holbrook Dyson Logging, Newcastle Timber and Mosaic Forests.



BCFSC respectfully acknowledges the unceded ancestral lands of the Snuneymuxw First Nation, upon whose land we live and work, and are honoured to have the opportunity to engage and work with First Nations, Inuit and Métis across BC.





Message from the Board Chair and CEO

As we reflect on the past year, we are proud to present the 2023 Annual Report for the BC Forest Safety Council (BCFSC). Our ongoing discussions with key stakeholders, including the BC Wildfire Service, First Nations and WorkSafeBC, highlight our commitment to collaboration and continuous improvement.

2023 has been a year of remarkable achievements and progress. Despite the challenges posed by reduced harvesting activities, our training programs have reached unprecedented levels, with 7,158 course completions, a 21% increase from the previous year. This success underscores our dedication to enhancing the skills and safety of our workforce.

Our supervisor development program has also seen significant advancements, with 1,655 participants completing training, more than doubling our target. These efforts have been bolstered by partnerships with employers, further extending our reach and impact.

In the field, our teams conducted over 700 in-field visits, maintaining a strong presence despite external challenges. The establishment of the Research and Development Opportunity fund has enabled us to support innovative projects and partnerships, driving forward our strategic priorities.

Financially, BCFSC remains robust, with a strong balance sheet. Our prudent fiscal management has allowed us to navigate the complexities of the past year while continuing to invest in critical safety initiatives.

As we look ahead to 2024, a year that will mark a significant milestone as we celebrate our 20th anniversary, we remain steadfast in our mission to ensure that every forestry worker goes home safe, every day.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our dedicated staff, Board of Directors, contractors, trainers and industry members for their unwavering support and dedication. Every person in our industry has a role to play in achieving our collective mission and together, we are making a tangible difference in the lives of forestry workers across British Columbia.

Thank you for your continued efforts and partnership.

Sincerely,



D'Arcy Henderson
Board Chair,
BC Forest Safety Council



Rob Moonen
Chief Executive Officer,
BC Forest Safety Council

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The BC Forest Safety Council (BCFSC)



Who We Are

The BC Forest Safety Council (BCFSC) is a not-for-profit health and safety association dedicated to forest harvesting, sawmills and wood pellet manufacturing in British Columbia. BCFSC works collaboratively with employers, workers, unions, contractors and government agencies to support safety initiatives to help eliminate serious injuries and fatalities in the forest sector. We provide services to over 5,000 employers and approximately 40,000 workers across BC.

BCFSC is funded by industry contributions through WorkSafeBC annual assessments and is governed by a Board of Directors representing all sectors of forestry.

What We Do

BCFSC works with industry members to identify, develop, implement and continuously enhance and improve health and safety initiatives. Our focus is on fostering a positive health and safety culture and improving safety performance through various means such as SAFE Companies certification, training, resource and program development, planning and assessment.

Our Core Beliefs

The foundation of BCFSC is built upon our core values and beliefs, which guide our actions and decisions based on the following principles:

- All forestry fatalities and injuries are preventable.
- The safety of forestry workers is the utmost priority.
- Safety excellence is key to the long-term success of our industry.
- Injury prevention is most effective when industry owns and leads change.
- Safety is **good** business.





Our History

BCFSC was established in September 2004 in response to the recommendations made by the provincial government's Forest Safety Task Force. The task force aimed to address and reduce the high rates of injuries and fatalities in the forest sector. It included representatives from forestry companies, unions, independent contractors, associations and WorkSafeBC. Two key outcomes of the task force were:

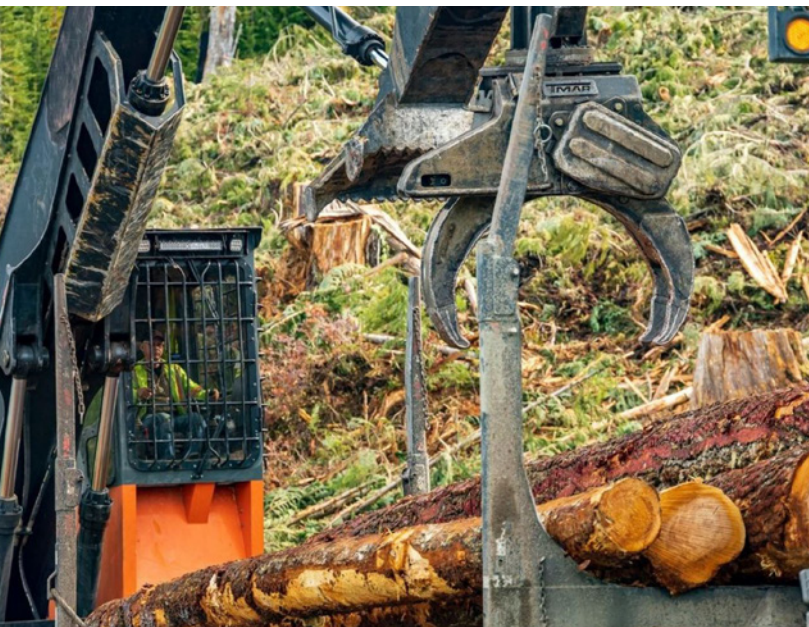
- The industry's adoption of the Health and Safety Accord for the BC Forestry Industry in April 2004.
- The creation of the non-profit society, the BC Forest Safety Council.

BCFSC was created with funding initiated through a special assessment collected by WorkSafeBC, with contributions from the harvesting, hauling and silviculture sectors.

Our Vision

BCFSC is committed to continuously improving and building a strong culture of health and safety in the forestry industry. We achieve this by closely collaborating with all stakeholders to develop, enhance and implement effective safety solutions and delivering them to industry through resources, training, in-field services, sharing best practices and supporting industry safety efforts.

Since 2004, we have persevered with our vision to see **every forestry worker goes home safe. Every day.**



2 Strategic Objectives



BCFSC's strategic objectives focus on high-risk activities and sectors within forestry that are the largest contributors to workplace injuries. Key areas of concern include manual tree falling, log transportation, tree planting, equipment operators, and wood products manufacturers.

Every three years, BCFSC's strategic goals are evaluated and updated to align with industry's safety concerns. In 2023, with guidance from the Board of Directors and through collaboration with industry stakeholders, BCFSC developed an updated three-year strategic plan for 2023-2025.

BCFSC identified eight strategic focus areas. These strategic areas were chosen with a focus on their significance and value to industry and to help us realize our vision that ***Every forestry worker returns home safe. Every day.***

To advance these priorities further over the next three years, BCFSC has established several work plan initiatives within each focus area. These initiatives including annual targets with measurable results designed to meet our strategic focus areas. These eight strategic focus areas are:

Promoting cultural change

1. Develop and promote communications of BCFSC and industry initiatives

BCFSC will be recognised as an industry leader for value-added health and safety and training resources.

2. Engage and inform industry

BCFSC will engage in partnership with key industry stakeholders and organizations to collaboratively develop and advance industry best practices.





Strategic Objectives

Developing a competent, confident workforce

3. Refine existing training programs

BCFSC will revise training programs to ensure accessibility and inclusion for all participants.

4. Increase access to training materials and programs to permit industry to train more people

BCFSC will increase access to training materials and programs to support improved learning outcomes for new entrants and existing workers.

Encouraging and supporting companies to have effective safety and injury management systems in place

5. Support Indigenous participation in the forest industry

BCFSC will work closely with Indigenous organizations to support worker awareness of safety issues, develop tailored safety programs, and improve access and availability of training programs.

6. Research, Identify and Promote New Technologies

BCFSC will research and promote new technologies aimed at eliminating and reducing existing and emerging risks to workers and develop new technologies aimed at simplifying incident and safety management system reporting requirements.

7. Improve and expand in-field support and advocacy services

BCFSC will provide targeted outreach and support to employers and workers engaged in high-risk activities.

Promoting a safety conscious legal regime

8. Develop industry guidelines and best practices

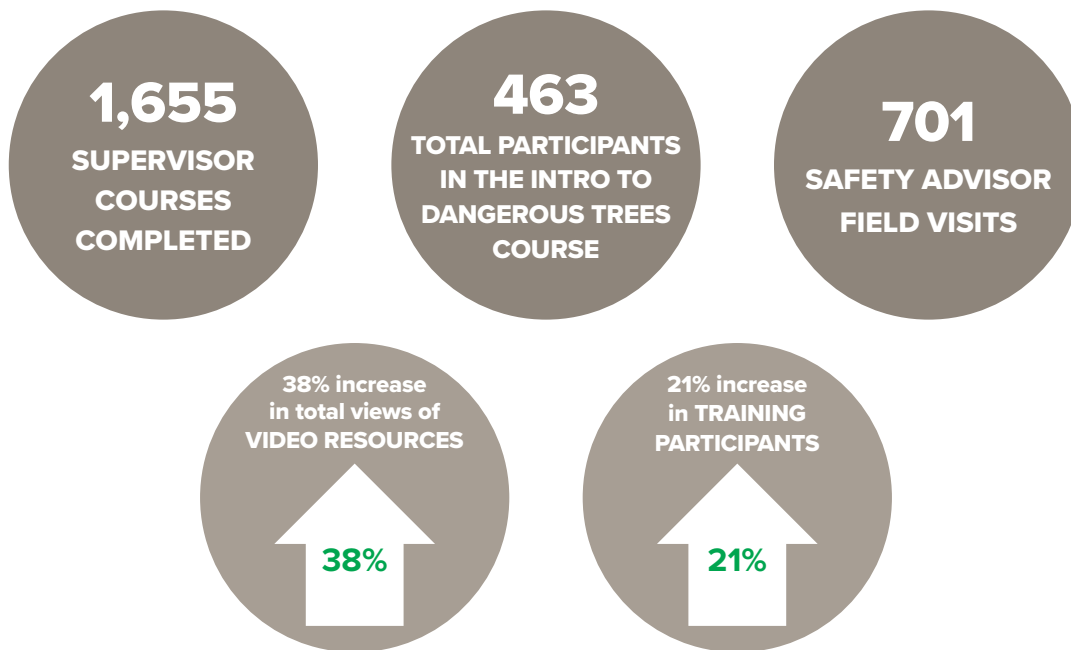
BCFSC will engage with industry to develop industry guidelines and best practices to enhance the consistent application of safe work practices for high-risk activities.



3 2023 Key Achievements



Overall Training Highlights



Research and Promotion of New Technologies

In 2023, BCFSC conducted research and promoted new technologies aimed at eliminating and reducing existing risks to workers along with developing new technologies aimed at simplifying incident and safety management system reporting requirements.

Log Load Securement

2023 Research Report Completed – Evaluation of Technologies and Practices to Reduce or Eliminate Log Load Securements Related Injuries

Injury Elimination with Automated Load Securement – Project began in 2023 to look into various technologies used in Sweden (Exte Com 90), New Zealand (Trinder – focussed on Log truck chain placer, tensioner prototype and a load monitoring system) and Brazil (Unylaser prototype).

FIRS App – Forest Industry Reporting System

BCFSC continued to add features to the FIRS App throughout 2023. FIRS is a free forms management mobile application to help streamline and reduce the amount of safety-related paperwork and administrative work required in the field.

It is available on both iOS or Android mobile device(s) and helps small employers build and maintain their SAFE Company Certification.





2023 Key Achievements

Communications and Outreach

In 2023, BCFSC conducted research and promoted new technologies aimed at eliminating and reducing existing risks to workers along with developing new technologies aimed at simplifying incident and safety management system reporting requirements.

Key Milestones:

Forest Safety Newsletter (FSN) – The FSN is BCFSC’s quarterly publication that combines information on Harvesting Safety, Falling, Transportation and Northern Safety, Wood Products Manufacturing Safety, Safety Training and Health and Wellness articles is distributed via email in March, June, September, December to 6,344 subscribers.

Monthly Safety Alerts – BCFSC’s Monthly Safety Alerts/bulletins provide safety incident summaries and key insights to assist with safety planning and update subscribers about the latest BCFSC information for the month. A total of 12 bulletins are distributed each year via email sent at the end of every month to 5,520 subscribers.

Social Media – BCFSC uses Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn to keep industry informed of the latest developments. Our YouTube channel is the central hub for our comprehensive safety video library.

Metrics 2023 vs. 2022

Facebook	17% increase in followers
Instagram	27% increase in followers
LinkedIn	47% increase in followers
YouTube	29% increase in subscribers

Total Views 88,175



Key 2023 Achievements



Safety Conferences

In 2023, we also held our free, in-person safety conferences on Vancouver Island and in Kamloops offering industry the chance to interact, network and work together on issues unique to forestry safety. These annual conferences provide a valuable platform for workers with boots on the ground to come together with management and owners to share and discuss safety concerns, all the while reinforcing the importance of maintaining a strong safety culture to help get workers home safe, every day.

Vancouver Island Safety Conference (VISC) - VISC was held on Saturday, October 28th in Nanaimo, BC. More than 290 forestry professionals from different sectors attended the free, full-day event with the theme of “Navigating the Future During Complex Times”. The conference featured three keynote speakers including Allan Moore, a seasoned environment, health and safety expert who shared insights into different styles of safety leadership, Dr. Alison Granger-Brown, who used her experience as a former prison therapist to explain the physiological and psychological responses to stress and Steve Donahue, a bestselling author and motivational speaker, who recounted his extraordinary experiences in the Sahara Desert, imparting the lesson of not just accepting change, but actively investing in it.

Interior Safety Conference (ISC) – the ISC is held in partnership with the Interior Logging Association Conference hosted in Kamloops BC. In 2023, over 100 delegates attended the event on May 4th. The conference theme “Lead from Where You Are”, focussed on empowering individuals to take ownership of safety in the workplace. We were fortunate to have an excellent lineup of keynote speakers, including former NHL goaltender and mental health advocate, Corey Hirsch, mental health expert, Amenda Kumar from WorkSafeBC, and Terry Small, known as “the Brain Guy”.





Key 2023 Achievements

Leadership in Safety Awards

The BCFSC Leadership in Safety Awards honour industry-nominated individuals or organizations who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to promoting safety in the workplace within BC's forestry sector.

In 2023, the prestigious Cary White Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award for Commitment to Safety Excellence was awarded to Roger Harris who served as the BC Forest Safety Ombudsperson for 17 years before retiring at the end of 2023. Sandra Higgins, Safety Coordinator at Mercer Forestry Services was honoured with the 2023 Most Valuable Player Award in Harvesting for her unwavering commitment to safety leadership which has been the hallmark of her lifelong career in forestry. The 2023 MVP Award Wood Products Manufacturing was presented to Patrick McDonald who was recognized for 15 years of safety innovation and leadership in wood products manufacturing for his focus on worker and operational safety solutions.



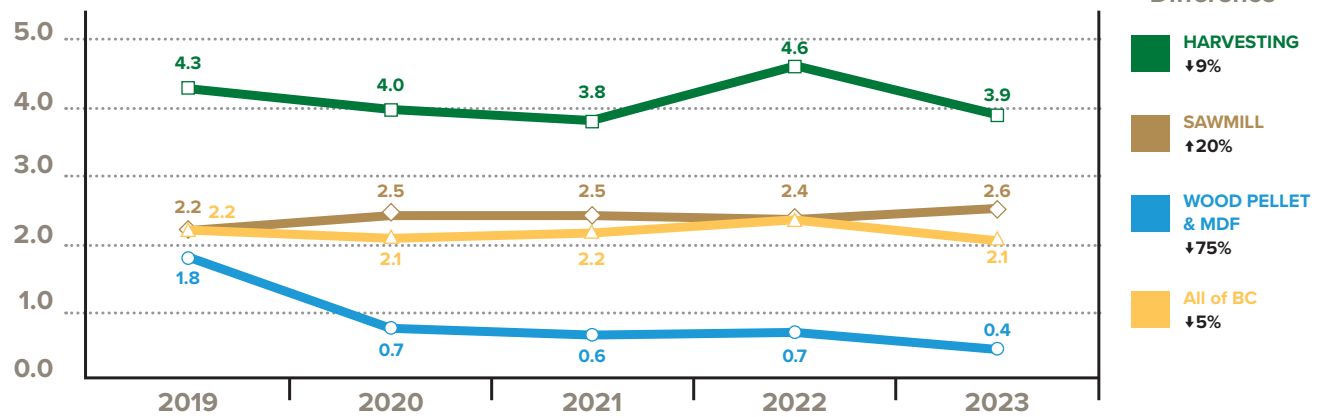
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Industry Statistics and Trends

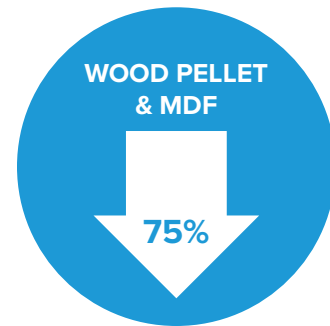


In 2023, the primary contributors to time loss and serious injuries remained consistent within the harvesting sector. The leading causes were attributed to four primary activities: log hauling, manual tree falling, equipment operation and tree planting.

Industry Injury Rates 2019-2023



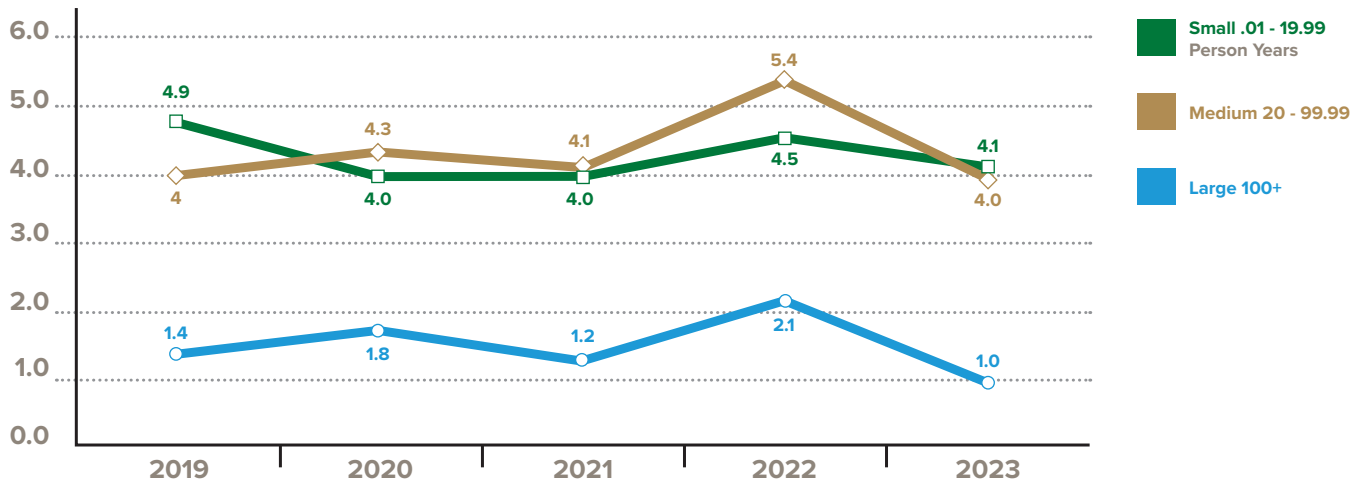
Changes to Injury Rates over the past 5 years





Industry Statistics and Trends

Harvesting Injury Rates 2019 - 2023 by Employer Size



**BCFSC Safety
Advisors completed
701
in-field visits**

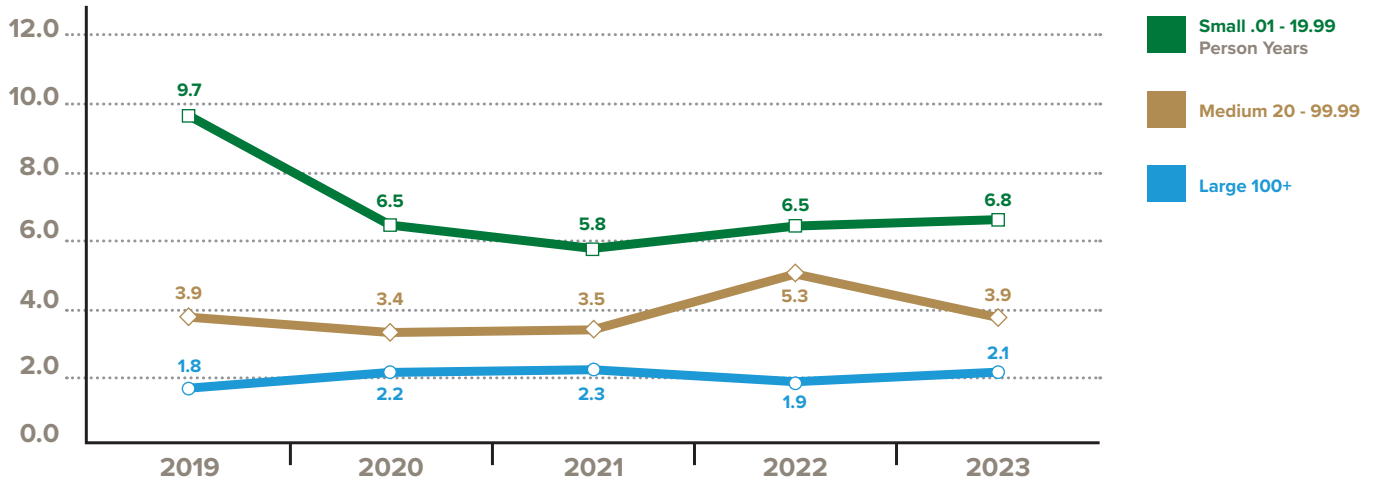
In 2023, positive progress continued to be made across a number of classification units. The 2023 injury rates for Manual Tree Falling (CU 703013) and Pellet or Pressed Wood Manufacture (CU 714019) were 17.9 and 0.44 representing the lowest injury rates ever achieved.

BCFSC continues to focus on working with small to medium size employers who traditionally experience higher injury rates. In 2023, there were 701 in-field visits compared to 767 in 2022 with 315 Falling Advocacy engagements compared to 365 in 2023 and 386 in-field verification audits compared to 402 in 2022.

Wildfire and reduced harvesting activities negatively impacted our opportunities to conduct in-field visits.



Sawmill Injury Rates 2019 - 2023 by Employer Size



Small and medium size sawmill employers in BC experienced higher injury rates in comparison with larger employers, typically with more comprehensive safety programs and controls in place. Small employer injury rates are 3.2 times higher when compared to large employers and medium sized employers have 1.9 times higher injury rates of large employers. 66% of the employers in the sawmill sector are small employers with medium and large employers at 17% each.

Forty-five Manufacturing Advisory Group (MAG) Audits have been completed since 2019. MAG evaluation of audit results has highlighted key learnings and opportunities to improve performance associated with the following high-risk activities: Working from Heights, Safeguarding, Mobile Equipment, Lockout and Combustible Dust. These priorities are well-aligned with WorkSafeBC focus areas.





5 Governance



Board Chair

D'Arcy Henderson – Vice President, Canadian Woodlands, West Fraser

BOARD COMMITTEE CHAIRS

(as of December 31, 2023)

Audit & Finance Committee

Provides oversight responsibilities relating to the annual Workplan budget, financial information and policies, internal control systems and the audit process

Chair: **Gordon Murray**

Governance Committee

Advises the Board on governance matters including Board effectiveness and BCFSC membership, along with setting the process for recruitment, appointment and ongoing development of Directors

Chair: **Reid Hedlund**

Human Resources Committee

Helps the Board meet its human resources obligations covering senior management recruitment, compensation and succession planning

Chair: **D'Arcy Henderson**

Program Committee

Gives the Board advice and recommendations on issues related to the effectiveness of BCFSC's certification, training and other safety programs

Chair: **John Betts**

Board of Directors

Board members and their years of service to the Board (as of December 31, 2023):

John Betts, Executive Director, Western Forestry Contractors' Association – 20 years

Reid Hedlund, Mid Boundary Contracting Ltd. – 17 years

Jeff Bromley, Wood Council chairperson, Local 1-1937, United Steelworkers – 3.5 years

Lana Kurz, Director, Safety & Risk, Interfor, Canadian Operations – 3.5 year

Bob Brash, Executive Director, Truck Loggers Association – 3.5 year

D'Arcy Henderson, Vice President, Canadian Woodlands, West Fraser – 3 year

Matt Austin, Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM), Minister of the Integrated Resource Operations Division (as of current date)

Ross Lennox, Vice President, Woodlands Canada | Canadian Forest Products – 1 year

Gordon Murray, Executive Director, Wood Pellet Association of Canada – 1 year

Mike Reagon, Director, Health & Safety, Mosaic Forest Management

Ex-Officio

Rob Moonen, CEO, BC Forest Safety Council



Members and Membership

As of December 31, 2023, the BC Forest Safety Council had 57 voting members:

1. BC Community Forest Association (BCCFA)
2. Council of Forest Industries (COFI)
3. Schoen Lake Falling Ltd.
4. Federation of BC Woodlot Associations (FBCWA)
5. Interior Logging Association (ILA)
6. Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development (MFLNRO&RD)
7. North West Loggers Association (NWLA)
8. United Steelworkers–IWA Council (USWA – IWA)
9. Truck Loggers Association (TLA)
10. Western Fallers' Association (WFA)
11. Western Forestry Contractors' Association (WFCA)
12. Weyerhaeuser Company Limited (WCL)
13. Van Isle Falling LTD.
14. I. Crosby Contracting Ltd.
15. Independent Wood Processors Association (IWPA)
16. Interfor Corporation (INTERFOR)
17. Mosaic Forest Management
18. Brinkman & Associates Reforestation Ltd.
19. Apex Forest & Wildfire Services Ltd.
20. Sladey Timber Ltd.
21. Canadian Forest Products Ltd. Forest Management Group (Canfor)
22. Akehurst and Galvani Reforestation Ltd.
23. Western Forest Products (WFP)
24. Zanzibar Holdings Ltd.
25. Spectrum Resource Group Inc.
26. Greenpeaks Resource Management Ltd.
27. Joe Dowe Enterprises Ltd.
28. Folklore Contracting Ltd.
29. Summit Reforestation & Forest Management Ltd.
30. Namgis First Nation & Atli Resources Corporation
31. Boom Bay Contracting
32. C.A.S. Forest Care Ltd.
33. Cecil Hill Contracting Ltd.
34. Copcan Contracting Ltd.
35. D/T Blasting Ltd.
36. Daniel Boyd Fretts dba Windfall Enterprises
37. Frost Lake Logging Ltd.
38. TDB Consultants Inc.
39. Ts'kw'aylaxw First Nation
40. W and E Services Ltd.
41. West Fraser Mills Ltd.
42. Gorman Bros. Lumber Ltd.
43. Blue Thunder Contracting Ltd.
44. Smokey River Holdings Ltd.
45. Hytest Timber Ltd.
46. Newco Logging Ltd.
47. Superior Selfloading Ltd.
48. Trevor Bennett Trucking Ltd.
49. Stones Bay Holdings Ltd.
50. Strategic Natural Resources Consultants Inc.
51. M.S.M. Falling L.T.D.
52. Sibola Mountain Falling Ltd.
53. Slew Foot Logging Ltd.
54. Western Canadian Timber Products Ltd.
55. Wood Pellet Association of Canada
56. Wilson Bros. Enterprises Ltd.
57. Shayne Bentley c/o Nature's Way Selective Logging

HOW IS MEMBERSHIP DETERMINED?

BCFSC's membership includes forest industry organizations⁽¹⁾ representing workers, employers, government and Crown Corporations.

⁽¹⁾ **Forest Industry Organization** means any firm, corporation, agency, governmental authority, society, other person, whether incorporated or unincorporated, which, as its primary purpose, participates in, regulates or provides services to the British Columbia forest industry; including forest sector companies that financially contribute to a classification unit(s) that support the BC Forest Safety Council activities.

The forest industry funds BCFSC by submitting a request to WorkSafeBC. Levies are determined based on the Classification units (CUs) which include "in woods forest industry," as well as sawmill and Pellet or Pressed Wood Manufacture sectors. Companies that contribute to this industry assessment are eligible to become voting members of BCFSC. To do so, they must send a notice to BCFSC which is reviewed by the Governance Committee.

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2023 Summary of Activities

SAFE Companies



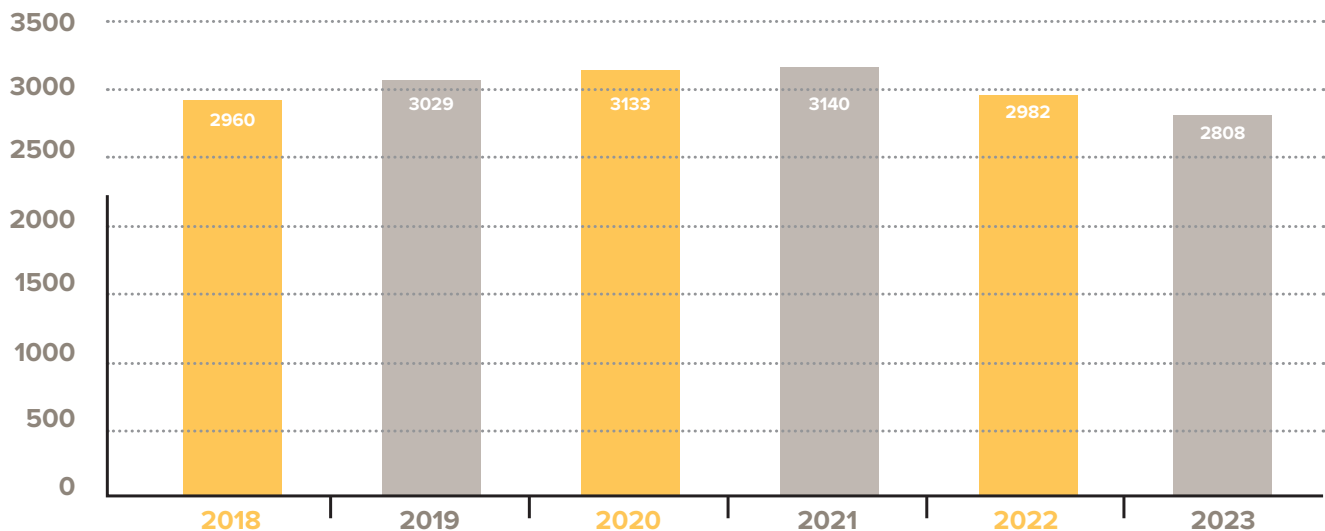
In 2006, the BC forest sector introduced SAFE Companies (Safety Accord Forestry Enterprise) as a pre-qualification safety initiative required to bid on forestry work in BC. For almost 20 years, BCFSC has been responsible for certifying BC forestry companies under the SAFE Companies program, ensuring a minimum standard of safety in all forestry workplaces.

In 2023, SAFE Companies continued to offer support to BC forestry companies through training, audit services and safety resources. BCFSC's committed Safety Advisors assisted 386 companies in developing and improving their safety programs. They provided audit services and adjusted verification audits to ensure that companies maintained their SAFE Certification and remained eligible for COR incentives.

Milestones:



SAFE Companies Certifications by Year



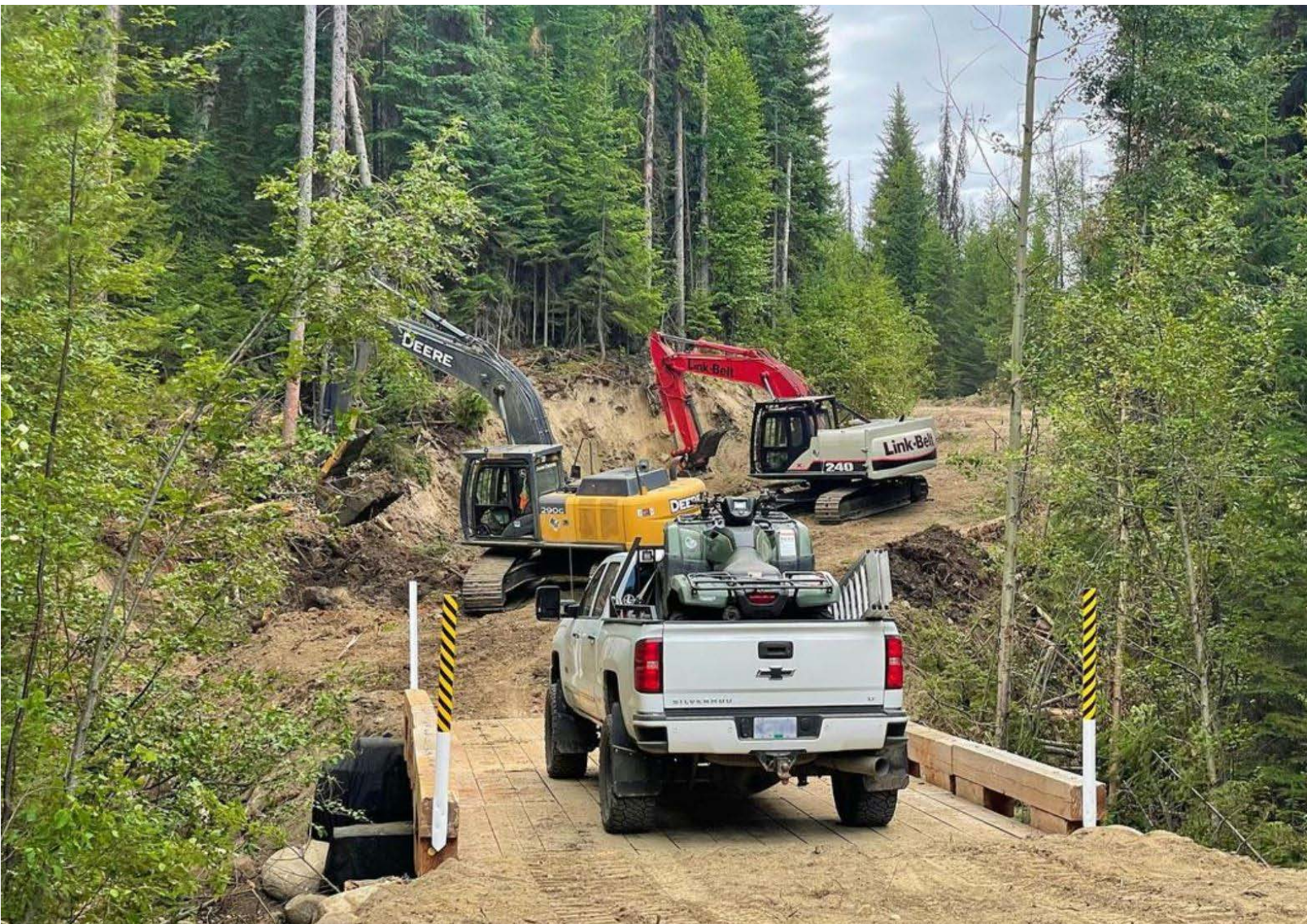


Summary of Activities SAFE Companies

FIRS (Forest Industry Reporting System) App

In 2023, the BCFSC FIRS App, a forms management mobile application designed to assist small employers, supervisors and contractors in meeting their record-keeping requirements for SAFECO Certification, was updated with new features including reporting for injuries, near misses, hazards, wildlife encounters and property damage. FIRS developers also introduced an integrated web-based dashboard that allows administrative users to manage users, add project information and view submitted records to extract essential information for audit submission purposes.

By the end of 2023, over 550 users were actively using FIRS.



Summary of Activities

SAFE Companies Training:

The SAFE Companies team collaborated with BCFSC Training to enhance the online Small Employer Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Training and refresher courses. These updates include comprehensive information on developing an effective safety program and successfully completing the SAFE Companies audit. The revised courses aim to support employers in meeting COR-related training requirements and provide qualified internal auditors with advanced training.

SAFE Companies Training Participation:

SAFE Companies Training Courses Participation:	
IOO Occupational Health & Safety (IOO OHS)	89
IOO OHS Refresher	59
Small Employer Occupational Health & Safety (SE OHS)	297
SE OHS Refresher	241
Internal Auditor	16
Internal Auditor Refresher	14
Auditor Renewal	2
External Auditor Refresher	11
External Auditor Online Meeting	140





Summary of Activities

Falling

In 2023, the BCFSC Falling Department concentrated on four key initiatives that reflect our unwavering commitment to upholding the highest standards of safety and competence for hand-fallers within BC's Forest industry. Recognizing the inherently high-risk nature of this profession, BCFSC concentrated enhancing our comprehensive training programs to ensure that all fallers, whether they're new to the industry or seasoned professionals, consistently meet the rigorous safety regulations and competency benchmarks essential for performing their duties safely and effectively.

Key Initiatives

Enhancement of Competency-based Training Standards

In 2023, BCFSC moved from a score-based assessment to a competency-based assessment process for faller certification. The assessment is designed to evaluate technical competency, safe work practices, professionalism, knowledge of the BC Faller Training Standard, and practical falling skills. The assessment may include multiple steps if all outcomes are not met, including a gap training plan and upgrade training where applicable.

2023 also saw changes to requirements for new faller trainees in the 180-day period as well as changes to the challenge requirements for out-of-jurisdiction fallers. In order for their experience to count towards certification, new faller trainees must work under the close supervision of a BCFSC certified faller, and their weekly progress reports must be handed in within 2 months of the work experience taking place. For those wanting to challenge the BCFSC faller certification, a minimum of a 180 days (90 days = 1 year) of production falling experience is required.

BCFSC also worked closely with industry subject matter experts, approved administrators, and the Falling Technical Advisory Committee (FTAC) to identify and develop safe work procedures not currently included in the BC Faller Training Standard.

Certified Falling Supervisor Qualifications

The falling department concentrated efforts on reviewing and updating of the qualifications required for Certified Falling Supervisor certification. The assessment process was updated to focus on outcomes rather than minimum scores, providing gap training plans and creating more knowledgeable falling supervisors. It also included the inclusion of soft skills of supervision and additional content from the updated Falling Supervisor Course, such as risk-based supervision and meaningful faller inspections.

Falling Safety Advisor Support and Quality Assurance

BCFSC Falling Safety Advisors actively engaged with industry, providing advocacy and mentoring services throughout the province. When companies requested reviews, our advisors provided hands-on support to trainees, fallers, and falling supervisors, sharing valuable insights to enhance safety practices and training principles. They continued to support Falling Supervisors with recommendations on critical tasks such as conducting meaningful faller inspections and risk-based supervision.

Falling Safety Advisors also focused efforts on quality assurance visits to trainees and trainers during the 180-day training period. They provided support and identified areas for improvement to both the trainee and trainer. The quality assurance visits also provided an opportunity for the Falling Safety Advisor to ensure trainees were receiving appropriate training and to monitor their progress, working towards certification.

Through their industry engagement and active participation, BCFSC Falling Safety Advisors have significantly contributed to promoting safety and elevating the overall standards of falling operations across BC.



Summary of Activities

Falling

Collaboration and Development

In 2023, the BCFSC Falling Department continued to collaborate with industry subject matter experts to enhance the Falling Supervisor Course. This led to the introduction of a comprehensive new resource designed to assist in developing a site safety plan. The *Falling Safety Plan* includes Emergency Response Planning, first-aid site assessment, safety meetings, site hazard assessment, site visitor orientation, worker sign-off confirmation, and a section for documenting and updating the general falling plan as needed.

BCFSC also began work with FTAC in 2023 to start on the development of updated content for new info-flips tailored for falling supervisors. These info-flips align with a risk-based approach to falling supervision and provide detailed guidance on the role and responsibilities of a supervisor. They also include safe operating procedures for managing fallers and best practice tips to support falling supervisors.

Milestones

- **New Faller Training:** Two courses completed, resulting in seven new faller trainee candidates.
- **Industry Training:** Eight courses completed, resulting in eight new faller trainee candidates.
- **Qualified Trainer Course:** Eleven BCFSC Certified Fallers attended two Qualified Faller Trainer (QFT) sessions in September and December. The QFT course instructs BCFSC certified fallers on the principles of adult education and how to train to the BC Faller Training Standard for the first 30 days of training.

Falling Activities Completed in 2023	Number
Faller Certification Challenge Assessments	11
New Faller Training	7
New Faller Training Assessments	5
Industry Training	8
Falling Supervisor Certifications	3
Quality Assurance Visits 180-day	14
Qualified Faller Trainer	11
Falling Advocate Engagements	315

Injury Rates 2019-2023



Serious Injury Rates 2019-2023



Summary of Activities

Transportation and Northern Safety

In 2023, through collaborative efforts with industry advisory groups, the BC Forest Safety Council (BCFSC) identified several key areas in transportation and northern safety with specific focus to help reduce injuries and fatalities in log hauling and harvesting. These concentrated efforts included:

- **Comprehensive Research:** in log load securement and technology to help reduce or eliminate musculoskeletal injuries (MSI).
- **Competency-based Training:** for professional industry drivers and off-road vehicle operators.
- **Media and Resource Development:** to support Log Hauling Safety and Emergency Response Planning.

Load Securement and Load-Assist Technology

BCFSC continued its research into log load securement safety in 2023, aiming to reduce or eliminate injury rates among log haulers. Partnering with industry and FP Innovations, BCFSC conducted a study to identify methods and tools that minimize risks to log truck drivers while ensuring efficient log transport. The study highlighted improved methods and tools that could significantly reduce back and shoulder injuries.

Using the research results, BCFSC began developing a series of “toolkits” which include videos and shareable resources focusing on safe work procedures for loader assist, using lightweight wrappers, tie-downs, throw assist tools and elevated platforms depending on the preferred method of the user.

Two new safety videos were released in 2023 on the BC Forest Safety Council’s YouTube channel, providing insights into safe work procedures for load securement via loader assist and lift strap (Molly) inspections:

- **Loader Assist Procedure Video:** Demonstrates risk assessment criteria and safe work procedures for using a log loader to place wrappers.
- **Molly /Lift Strap Safety Inspection Video:** Shows how to inspect lift straps to prevent failures that could pose risks to drivers and equipment.

These videos were produced in collaboration with industry partners, showcasing a collective commitment to safety and injury reduction.

Professional Industry Driver Program

In partnership with the College of New Caledonia and Okanagan College, BCFSC delivered competency-based training courses for professional industry drivers to enhance driver competence in core driving and loading/unloading skills for both fibre and log hauling. Training materials were made available through BCFSC’s learning management system to support training delivery and extend reach to various demographics and locations. In 2023, 60 students from the southern and central interior participated in the program.





Summary of Activities

Transportation and Northern Safety

Emergency Response Planning

BCFSC continued its multi-year project on Emergency Response Drills and Preparedness, encouraging contractors to evaluate their preparedness and conduct emergency drills. In 2023, BCFSC released a video focusing on the importance of including extraction drills in Emergency Response Plans. It demonstrated the process and tools used for a crew-initiated extraction as well as a self-extraction by the operator:

- **ERP Equipment Rollover and Operator Extraction** (released March 13, 2023 | 3,139 views to date)

Training Courses

- **ORV/ATV Operator Training:** Developed in collaboration with Overland Training Canada, this comprehensive program focuses on high-risk activities associated with ATV/ORV operation. The course offers one and two-day options to prepare operators for safe machine use.
- **Resource Road Driver Internal Trainer:** This three-day “train-the-trainer” course was developed to help companies deliver comprehensive resource road driver training internally.



TECHNOLOGIES AND PRACTICES TO REDUCE OR ELIMINATE LOG LOAD SECUREMENT RELATED INJURIES



BC Forest Safety
Safety is **good** business



Summary of Activities

Manufacturing Safety

BCFSC is dedicated to enhancing worker safety and reducing injuries and fatalities in BC's sawmills and wood pellet manufacturing sectors.

In 2023, through collaboration with industry advisory groups like the Manufacturing Advisory Group (MAG) and the Wood Pellet Association of Canada (WPAC) Safety Committee, we focused on key industry-identified concerns. Our efforts centred on innovative safety management strategies to improve operational practices and foster a strong safety culture.

Sawmills - Key Focus Areas

Mobile Equipment Risk Reduction

Mobile equipment (ME) in manufacturing facilities is a significant concern with risks of injuries and fatalities from struck-by incidents and musculoskeletal injuries (MSIs) to operators.

In 2023, an *Applied Innovation* research project was initiated to explore how to reduce these hazards using inherently safer design (ISD) using innovative workshops that evaluated ME hazards. Research participants included BCFSC, SafetyDriven, WorkSafeBC OHS Consulting & Education Services and Obex Risk Ltd. The sawmill industry provided data earlier in 2023 and general trucking and warehousing data was gathered in October.

Analysis of the data and literature review is underway and preliminary findings highlighted the need to:

- Increase awareness of the hierarchy of controls
- Formalize management of change (MOC) processes
- Improve equipment and facilities using safety innovations

The project will conclude in 2024, with knowledge transfer to the industry for key learning outcomes.

As part of our efforts in reducing struck-by incidents involving mobile equipment (ME), BCFSC hosted a webinar on May 25, 2023. This webinar featured a presentation by WorkSafeBC on the Human Factors Approach for Preventing Mobile Equipment Incidents.

Bow Tie Analyses and Workshops

In 2023, two bow ties were performed with industry relating to Working from Heights and Combustible Dust. In addition, four Inherently Safer Design (ISD) workshops were performed with participants from sawmills, pellet operations, general trucking, warehousing, equipment suppliers, SafetyDriven, and WorkSafeBC Consulting and Education Services.

The ISD workshops topics were Working from Heights, Mobile Equipment/Pedestrian Interface, and Combustible Dust. The in-person workshops were popular with the participants, provided skills in the topic areas and provided opportunities to network with others from the same or other industries.





Summary of Activities

Manufacturing Safety

Safety Leadership Development

In 2023, BCFSC advanced supervisor development in wood products manufacturing through a pilot project that included webinars, workshops, and coaching/mentoring for small and medium-sized employers.

The initiative provided on-site evaluations and training, led by BCFSC staff, to several companies across BC. The goal was to enhance supervisor competency in core skills and deepen their understanding of their role in safety.

Manufacturing Advisory Group (MAG)

BCFSC collaborated closely with MAG to address industry concerns and develop shareable resources and programs to support worker safety and operational efficiencies.

In 2023, BCFSC developed safety resources, including weekly Crew Talks, weekly manufacturing safety alerts, Wood Products Manufacturing Supervisor Training Modules and led quarterly online meetings to share industry best practices.

Wood Products Manufacturing Cross Country Shares

- Logging Sector Risk Assessment Workshop
- Working in Cold Environments
- Effective Contractor Management
- Hand Safety

Free Downloadable Resources

- 52 Manufacturing Safety Crew Talks
- 52 Manufacturing Safety Alerts

Supervisor Training Modules:

- Cornerstones of Effective Supervision
- Orientation, Training and Skills Development
- Leadership and Professionalism
- Communication Skills for Supervisors
- Due Diligence
- Hazard ID, Inspection and Investigation



Summary of Activities

Manufacturing Safety

Wood Pellets - Key Focus Areas

Drum Dryer Safety

In 2023, BCFSC and WPAC released a report detailing key actions for plant operators to mitigate combustible gas risks. Based on a bow-tie analysis workshop, the report provides actionable safety measures for wood pellet plants. Additionally, industry collaboration led to the development of direct-heated belt dryer resources from the Belt Dryer Safety Symposium. The symposium identified five critical safety steps: monitoring infeeds for contaminants, maintaining infeed equipment, preventing ignition sources, ensuring good housekeeping, and enhancing supervisor communication.

Managing Combustible Dust

Research and Resources

In 2023, BCFSC, WPAC, Dalhousie University, DustEx Research, and Obex Risk Ltd collaborated on a research project titled “Innovation at Work” which focused on implementing Process Safety Management (PSM) in wood pellet operations. The study examined key PSM elements such as process safety leadership, risk assessment and investigation, risk management, and operational improvements to establish a strong process safety culture in plant operations.

The research led to the development of a practical framework and resources for organizations to adopt PSM elements through a three-tiered phased approach of critical control implementation. Available industry resources include a PSM implementation template, gap analysis worksheets, best practices and downloadable fact sheets.

Communication

BCFSC staff participated in three Dust Safety Science podcasts. They discussed the importance of fostering a safety culture through collaboration and transparency, and provided insights into the Combustible Dust Audit Process.





Summary of Activities

Manufacturing Safety

Plant Operator Competency Training

In 2023, BCFSC and WPAC developed 15 free online safety training modules aimed at enhancing the safety of pellet manufacturing facilities. These modules, designed for plant operators and supervisors, include built-in knowledge assessments to support competency evaluations.

Plant Operator Training Modules:

- Risk and Risk Control
- Workplace Attributes
- Human Factors
- Legislation, Regulations and Standards
- Health and Safety for Plant Operators
- Upset Conditions
- Process Safety Management
- Plant Operations
- Combustible Dust and Gas

Industry-wide Safety Summit

In November 2023, the BC Forest Safety Council (BCFSC) and the Wood Pellet Association of Canada (WPAC) hosted a Safety Summit in Prince George, BC. The event gathered over 50 participants from across Canada, including wood pellet producers, operators, suppliers, and regulators.

The summit focused on current safety initiatives in the pellet industry and provided a platform for operators to share their experiences and innovations in safety. Additionally, participants explored future safety trends, such as process safety management (PSM), and discussed the impacts of PSM on workplace hazards and new regulations.



Summary of Activities

Training

BCFSC offers high-quality training to BC forestry workers that concentrates forestry safety relevant to specific roles and sectors. In 2023, BCFSC focused on addressing identified training gaps and enhancing the quality of our training courses and resources. Our primary objectives included evaluating existing gaps, supporting the delivery of Wood Products Manufacturing workshops and developing new courses tailored to industry needs.

Throughout the year, we saw significant achievements, including the completion of supervisory training by 1,655 participants and a notable increase in overall training completions. Our strategies prioritized delivering high-quality training through various formats—online, in-person, and blended—to best meet participants' needs. We focused on strategically aligned priority areas identified through collaboration with industry advisory groups and continuously updated our courses to incorporate the latest regulations and best practices.

Main Focus Points

- **Evaluated Gaps:** Conducted a thorough assessment of the gaps identified in 2022 to determine the need for additional learning resources, job aids, and development tools.
- **Support Workshops:** Prioritized the delivery of Wood Products Manufacturing workshops and refine online resources based on user feedback.
- **Developed New Courses:** Developed a course for non-certified fallers supervising fallers, building on the 2022 Falling Supervisor initiative.
- **Quality Training Delivery:** Designed and delivered online, blended, and in-person training for BC Forestry workers, incorporating videos into learning modules to enhance knowledge retention while considering diverse demographics and locations.
- **Targeted Training Areas:** Focused on critical areas identified through consultations with advisory committees, employers, supervisors, and workers, including input from FTAC, SAC, CHAG, and TAG.
- **Resource Development Priorities:** Prioritized the development of resources for Danger Tree Blaster (DTB), ATV/ORV training, an online component course that is part of the blended learning Basic Incident Investigation training, Forest Safety Overview, Blasting Regulation, and Winch Assist resources for 2023.
- **Course Maintenance and Improvement:** Updated courses to reflect regulatory changes, best practices, and new technologies, with a focus on enhancing inclusivity.
- **Regulatory Barriers:** Collaborated with government and industry stakeholders to reduce regulatory barriers affecting access to explosives and certification recurrency for DT blasting.
- **Competency-Based Standards and Assessment Tools:** Enhanced the utilization of competency-based standards and worker assessment tools in silviculture and manufacturing sectors by ensuring they are accessible to employers and workers.
- **Inclusivity and Accessibility:** Continued efforts to ensure resources are inclusive, particularly for Indigenous audiences, and improved accessibility across various platforms (website, Learning Module System (LMS) and print).





Summary of Activities

Training

Milestones: 2023 vs 2022



Free Online Courses Developed:

Introduction to Dangerous Trees on Forestry Worksites – This free course was developed to help identify high-risk dangerous trees hazards and work safely around them in harvesting, silviculture and firefighting forestry operations. 463 participants took this course in 2023.

Forest Supervisor Courses – Six free Forest Supervisor courses focussed on harvesting and silviculture supervisors. Courses include Basics of Due Diligence, Cornerstones of Effective Safety Supervision, Hazard ID, Inspection and Investigation, Orientation, Training and Skills Development, Basics of Effective Communication and Basics of Leadership and Professionalism.

Course Updates

Small Employer OHS Training – this course was updated with information on how to build an effective safety program and how to successfully complete the SAFE Companies audit.

Falling Supervisor Training – this course underwent a significant revision. Theory elements shifted to online training and are required to be completed prior to attending the in-person practical training. This update reduced the in-person training time from five days to four with an update to the second day of the course that concentrates on applied, hands-on supervision activities.

BCFSC conducted ongoing reviews and updates to course offerings to align with the most recent safety standards and OHS regulations. Some updates incorporated elements, like instructional videos, to effectively demonstrate best practices and enhance the overall learning experience.

Additional Highlights:

Free Hosted Webinar: to expand on the critical role supervisors play in fostering a robust safety culture, BCFSC delivered a free supervisor-focused webinar on March 16, 2023 that addressed effective supervisor-worker engagement. The webinar, “If You Want to Change Your Culture, You Need to Change Your Questions” was aimed at workers and supervisors to help build rapport and trust.

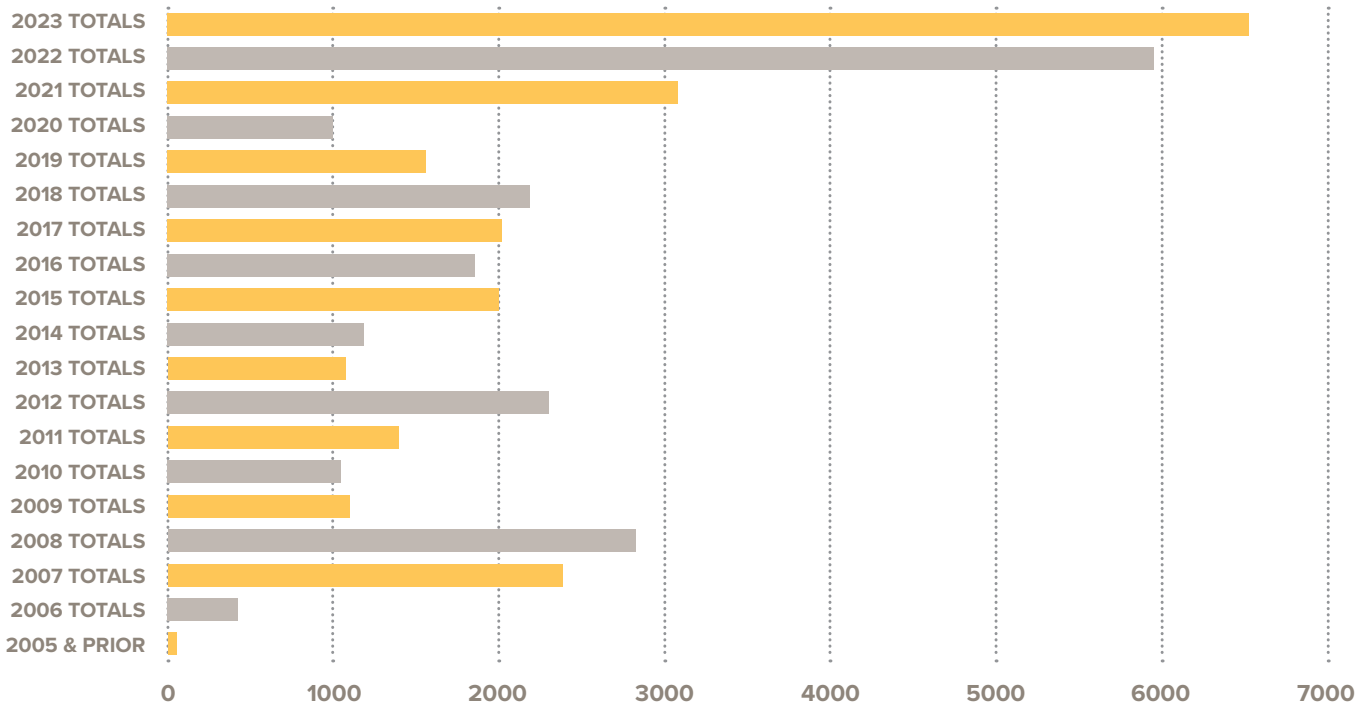
Summary of Activities

Training

20 Year BCFSC Training Participation Overview

There is a clear trend of increasing training numbers over the years, particularly from 2021 onwards, suggesting a significant rise in the engagement due to the introduction of online courses and/or blended training programs offered by BCFSC. This consistent growth each year highlights the growing demand and expanding reach of these courses.

BCFSC TRAINING



7 Financials



Statement of Financial Position: As at December 31, 2023

BCFSC maintains a sound financial position with cash and equivalents totaling \$2.17 million, excluding restricted amounts. An independent financial assessment performed by Meyers Norris Penny confirms the organization upholds a strong financial standing. The clean audit verifies all fiduciary responsibilities have been met without the need for further actions.

	2023	2022
Assets		
Current		
Cash	\$ 2,174,147	\$ 1,525,579
Accounts receivable	95,615	254,604
Goods and services taxes receivable	30,483	2,998
Prepaid expenses	168,555	125,522
Deposits	1,626	1,626
Externally restricted cash	1,162,825	1,337,074
	3,633,251	3,247,403
Capital assets	273,921	410,105
Internally restricted cash	838,560	603,560
	4,745,732	4,261,069
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accruals	334,747	154,326
Payable to WorkSafeBC - COR	61,578	88,707
Deferred contributions	862,857	843,517
Deferred contributions - other projects	257,615	493,557
	1,516,797	1,580,108
Commitments		
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	2,116,454	1,667,296
Invested in capital assets	273,921	410,105
Internally restricted	838,560	603,560
	3,228,935	2,680,961
	4,745,732	4,261,069

Statement of Operations: For the year ended December 31, 2023



	2023	2022
Revenues		
WorkSafeBC	\$ 6,008,761	\$ 5,625,307
Program Fees	682,138	665,399
Other government grants	-	39,956
Sponsorship and other	381,655	200,248
Interest and other	158,836	44,822
	7,231,390	6,575,732
Expenses		
Amortization	160,433	162,684
Bank charges and interest	14,324	18,106
Communication	30,381	39,661
Computer	353,282	342,472
Consultants	21,244	56,980
Contractors	892,775	627,577
Conventions and conferences	117,037	75,089
Directors and committee meetings	64,861	82,921
Employee benefits	644,102	567,994
Facilities and catering	38,202	52,340
General administration	90,667	107,512
Instruction materials	29,421	32,220
Professional fees	16,805	22,385
Project development	668,557	659,742
Rent, utilities, telephone and repairs	162,498	268,117
Salaries and wages	3,142,980	2,956,918
Travel	201,442	171,165
Vehicle	34,405	40,616
	6,683,416	6,284,499
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	547,974	291,233

REVENUES

2023: \$7,231,390

2022: \$6,575,732

EXPENSES

2023: \$6,683,416

2022: \$6,284,499



8

Industry Advisory Groups



The core of BCFSC's programs and strategic planning is anchored by the steadfast commitment of industry safety working groups. These groups' unwavering dedication offers essential leadership, guidance and expertise that is instrumental in BCFSC's efforts to develop programs and initiatives to reduce workplace injuries and improve safety performance.

The invaluable contributions by each advisory group are key to ensuring workplace safety within BC's forest harvesting, sawmill, and pellet production sectors are the top priority so every worker can go home safe - every day.



Harvesting Groups

Coast Harvesting Advisory Committee (CHAG) Working Team

Bill Nelson, Holbrook Dyson and TLA Representative

Jason Cox, United Steelworkers (USW)

Craig Tilander, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development

Derek Nelson, Western Forest Products

Ralph Friedrich, Interfor

Mike Reagon, Mosaic Forest Management

Dazy Weymer, D/T Blasting Ltd.

Mike Enns, Meraki Resources

Top areas of focus:

- Supervisor support and training
- Phase congestion
- Roadside debris
- Danger tree blasting

Falling Technical Advisory Committee (FTAC)

Chris Spronken, BC Wildfire Service

John Courchesne, Canadian Association of Geophysical Contractors

Mark Turnbull, Certified Utility Arborist

Dazy Weymer, Community Forests / Danger Tree Blasting

Bridger Schmidt, Falling Contractor

Kirk Bell, Falling Contractor

Terry Greaves, Falling Contractor

Rob Pridge, Falling Contractor

Richard Butler, Falling Contractor

Doug Harrison, Falling Contractor

Wade Schalm, Falling Contractor

Sean Estabrook, First Nations Forestry

Kaitlin Scown, Independent Faller

Darren Anonson, Independent Faller

Mike Davidson, Independent Faller

Clint Cleverley, Independent Faller

Neil Campbell, Independent Faller

Todd Chamberlain, Interior Logging Association

Aaron Steen, Mosaic

Gary Bauer, Interfor

Robert Shambrook, Western Forest Products

Clay Govett, Aspen Planers

Robert Scott, Interfor

Toby Jeffreys, Interfor

Conor Pierce, Logging Contractor

Creole Dufour, Logging Contractor

Shawn Sullivan, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Operations

Bob Marquis, Truck Loggers Association

Jason Cox, United Steelworkers

Jacob Van Dort, Western Fallers Association

Francois Sauve, Western Forestry Contractors' Association (Silviculture)

WorkSafeBC Observers (ex-officio members)

Darcy Moshenko

Chris Miller

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Safety Groups cont...

Terry Anonson
Tom Pawlowski

Top areas of focus:

- Development of safe work procedures to be added to the BC Faller Training Standard
- Update the current Falling Supervisor course
- Overhaul of the Certified Falling Supervisor assessment
- Emergency Response Planning and extraction

Danger Tree Blasting Committee (DTBC)

Dazy Weymer, D/T Blasting Ltd.

Derek Nelson, Western Forest Products

Doug Grant, Edge Contracting

Marla Guldbransen, FTAC Representation

Christopher Miller, WorkSafeBC

Tim Loblaw, WorkSafeBC

Top areas of focus:

- Development of sustainable competency-based training
- Addressing regulation and related legal requirements
- Development of industry safe practices

Forest Industry Forum – Harvesting Technical Working Group

Ken Pedersen, TAG Representation

Mike Dufour, Western Forest Products

John Betts, Western Forestry Contractors' Association

Jeff Bromley, United Steelworkers

Ed Kent, United Steelworkers

WorkSafeBC Forum Members:

Budd Phillips

Don Schouten

Tom Pawlowski

Top areas of focus:

- Current and emerging safety issues
- Risk reduction
- Regulation

SAFE Companies Advisory Committee (SCAC)

Ann Marie Baron, Lemare Group of Companies

Valerie Dettwiler, Griffon Safety Solutions Ltd.

Kim Edmondson, M. Edmondson Contracting

Deb McPhee, Larry's Heavy Hauling (1990) Ltd.

Paula Moore, Platinum Stone Contracting Ltd.

Wendy Sherman, Gudeit Bros. Contracting Ltd.

Dennis Thideman, Edynamics

Derek Nelson, Western Forest Products

Shawn Sullivan, Ministry of Forests

Dr. Jordan Tesluk, Independent researcher

Observers (ex-officio members)

Ali Kianfar, WorkSafeBC

Top areas of focus:

- Audit quality control and efficiency guidance
- Auditor training development
- COR program changes and input
- SAFE Companies terms and conditions revision

BC Safe Forestry Program – Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC)

Chris Akehurst, Akehurst and Galvani Reforestation

Brian Beaudry, Brinkman Reforestation

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Safety Groups cont...

John Betts, Western Forestry Contractors' Association (WFCA)
Sara Keay, Akehurst and Galvani Reforestation
Caitlin Burge, Next Generation Reforestation
Janine Perley, Next Generation Reforestation
Sylvia Fenwick-Wilson, Zanzibar Holdings Ltd.
Simon Hall, Spectrum Resource Group
Tammy Laidlaw, Blue Collar Group
Robin McCullough, Brinkman Reforestation
Chris Runnals, BC Timber Sales
Slaine Sutherland, Summit Reforestation
Dr. Jordan Tesluk, Forest Safety Advocate
Amanda Kuhn, Canfor
Crawford Young, Spectrum Resource Group
Ryan Zapisocki, Windfirm Resources
Craig Moore, Rider Ventures

WorkSafeBC Observers (ex-officio members)

Caitlyn Klaut
Tom Pawlowski
Helen Chandler

Top areas of focus:

- Climate concerns and mitigations: heat, fire/smoke, and drought conditions
- High-vis best practices
- Road deactivation and support for access management

Woodlot and Community Forest Association Safety Committee (WLCFASC)

Gord Chipman – Executive Director, Woodlots BC
Jennifer Gunter - Executive Director, BC Community Forest Association
Aurora Lavender - Manager Wetzwin'kwa Community Forest
Hugh Watt - True North Forestry Consulting
Ken Dodd - Woodlot Licensee
Rick Walters - Woodlot Owner/Williams Lake
Warren Hansen - Manager Sechelt Community Forest

Top areas of focus:

- WL-CFA licensee safety responsibilities/awareness
- Promote and support revised safety management system
- Climate adaption strategy planning and resource development

Transportation Groups

Commercial Vehicle Safety Committee (CVSC)

Samantha Eburne, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure / CVSE
Geoff Ford, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure / CVSE
Courtenay Lowther, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure / CVSE
David Stearns, Excel Transportation
Ken Pedersen, Trucking and Harvesting Advisory Group
Greg Munden, Log Truck Technical Advisory Committee
Todd Chamberlain, Interior Logging Association
Bob Brash, Truck Loggers Association

Top areas of focus:

- Commercial vehicle safety
- Commercial vehicle regulation and compliance

Log Truck Technical Advisory Committee (LTTAC)

Vern Woods, Vern's Ventures
Peter Bueckert, P. J. Bueckert Logging Ltd.
James Sinnett, FP Innovations

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Safety Groups cont...

Dave Barden, Barden Contracting Ltd.
Mat Lennox, Mosaic Forest Management
Greg Munden, LOTS Group Canada
Courtenay Lowther, Commercial Vehicle Inspections and Standards
Jeremy Kuharchuk, Blue Valley Enterprises
Mike Petersen, Western Forest Products
Earl Houlden, WorkSafeBC
Joe Mayhew, Mercer Forestry Services

Top areas of focus:

- Log Truck Driver competency/professional endorsement
- Professionalism in log hauling
- Emerging safety issues

Load Securement Working Group (LSWG)

Ken Pedersen, Trucking and Harvesting Advisory Group
Mithun Shetty, FPInnovations
Jerry Mooney, Tolko
Peter Bueckert, P. J. Bueckert Logging

Top areas of focus:

- Incident data and analysis
- Load securement techniques and technology
- Risk analysis and control

Self-Loading Working Group (SLWG)

Al Taylor, A R Taylor Loading and Hauling
Trevor Bennett, T Bennett Trucking
Gerrard Pagani, Stewart Systems
Brent Giesbrecht, BG Self-loading
Ken Fear, Fearless Contracting
Steve Jackson, AH Jackson Corp.
Jason Leroy, Profab Manufacturing Ltd.

WorkSafeBC Observers (ex-officio members)

Earl Houlden

Top areas of focus:

- Best practices/safe work procedures,
- Operator competency for loading and unloading self-loading log trucks,
- Industry resources for standardized inspections that meet or exceed WorkSafeBC regulation

Marine Forest Safety Advisory Group (MFSAG)

Aaron Frost, Strategic Natural Resource Consultants Inc.
Brian Beaudry, Brinkman
Gary Bauer, Interfor
Glenn Budden, Transportation Safety Board
Don Wilson, Silver King Ventures
Rick Viventi, Arrow
Sanjay Gupta, Transport Canada
Timo Scheiber, Western Forestry Contractor Assoc.

WorkSafeBC Observers (ex-officio members)

Tim Pryde

Top areas of focus:

- Small vessel safety
- Crew boat operator competencies and training
- Tug operations

Trucking and Harvesting Advisory Group (TAG) Task Team

Vern Woods, Vern's Ventures
Dale Jones, Tolko

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Safety Groups cont...

Ken Pedersen, Canfor
 Mark Todd, Canfor
 Ryan Weltz, Interfor
 Greg Hislop, Gorman Bros.
 Marty Hiemstra, Mercer Forestry Services Ltd.
 Marla Nicol, Conifex
 Ron Volansky, R&A Logging
 Mike Reagon, Mosaic Forest Management
 Mark Cookson, West Fraser Mills
 Shawn Byrne, Weyerhaeuser
 Trish Kohorst, LOTS Group Canada
 Mark Roller, Sinclair Group

TAG Steering Team

Mark Cookson, West Fraser Mills
 Nick Arkle, Gorman Bros Lumber Ltd.
 Larry Price, Interfor
 Mark Todd, Canfor
 Marty Hiemstra, Mercer Forestry Services Ltd.
 Greg Munden, LOTS Ventures Canada
 Todd Chamberlain, Interior Logging Association
 Andrew McLellan, Conifex
 Craig Tilander, BC Timber Sales
 Bruce McLean, Sinclair Group
 Norm Druck, Weyerhaeuser
 Mike Reagon, Mosaic Forest Management
 Jerry Mooney, Tolko

Top areas of focus:

- All forest operations incident data collection and analysis
- Communication and implementation of TAG best practices
- Log load securement
- Emergency Response Planning and implementation

Wood Fibre Hauling Safety Group (WFHSG)

Matt Cook, Arrow Transportation Systems Inc.
 Daniel Strobbe, Arrow Transportation Systems Inc.
 Jordan Barnes, Arrow Transportation Systems Inc.
 David Stearns, Excel Transportation
 Stacey Bott, Excel Transportation
 Keith Bradner, Excel Transportation
 Mike Grimm, Lomak
 Pete Davies, Lomak
 James Gelowitz, Canfor
 Jamie Skinner, DCT Chambers Trucking
 Paul Manwarring, M4 Enterprises
 Russell Klassen, Valley Carriers
 Dean Jardine, Elite
 Ahmad Abou-Chkair., Sutherland Group

Top areas of focus:

- Incident data collection and analysis
- Load tarping injury prevention
- Professional Industry Driver training and assessment

Access Management Working Group (AMWG)

Allan Bradley, FPIinnovations
 Benjamin Pellet, Ministry of Forests
 Caitly Klaudt, WorkSafeBC
 Greg Hislop, Gorman Bros.



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Safety Groups cont...

Janine Schroeder, BCTS
John Betts, Western Forestry Contractors' Association
Jordan Tesluk, Western Forestry Contractors' Association
Kori Vernier, Canfor
Mark Seilis, Cariboo Carbon

Top areas of focus:

- Development of best practices that improve worker safety
- Development of resources and standards that meet or exceed provincial regulations
- Increase awareness, training and engagement by licensees, workers, contractors, and regulators

Manufacturing Safety Groups

Manufacturing Advisory Group (MAG)

Mark Todd, Canfor
Patrick McDonald, Canfor
Daniel Gunton, Carrier Lumber Ltd.
Tristan Anderson, Coastland
Laura Necochea, Conifex
Marla Nicol, Conifex
Tony Mogus, Dunkley
David Murray, Gorman Group
Ian Gray, Hampton Affiliates
Daniel Ruzic, Interfor
Ben Cram, Kalesnikoff
Grant Fast, Sinclar Group
Tim Boyes, Sinclar Group
Scott Wynn, Tolko (MAG Group Chair)
Lori Saretsky, West Fraser
Troy Withey, West Fraser
Mike Dufour, Western Forest Products
Theresa Klein, Western Forest Products
Jay Pillappan, Weyerhaeuser
Jeff Larson, Weyerhaeuser

MAG Steering Team

Don Kayne, CEO, Canfor
Ray Ferris, CEO, West Fraser
Ian Fillinger, CEO, Interfor
Jeff Bromley, Wood Council Chairperson, USW
Brad Thorlakson, CEO, Tolko
Nick Arkle, CEO, Gorman Bros.
Ken Shields, CEO, Conifex
Greg Stewart, CEO, Sinclar Group
Steven Hofer, CEO, Western Forest Products
David Graham, Canadian President, Weyerhaeuser
Rob Novak, CEO, Dunkley Lumber Ltd.
Steve Zika, CEO, Hampton Affiliates
William Kordyban, President Carrier Lumber
Ken Kalesnikoff, CEO, Kalesnikoff Lumber

Top areas of focus:

- Leadership training development
- Hazard ID and control program
- Significant Incident Failure Potential (SIFp) reporting and trends
- MAG-Safe Audit program development and planning
- MAG resource sharing and development program
- MAG health and safety information exchange

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Safety Groups cont...



Forest Industry Forum - Manufacturing Technical Working Group

- David Murray, Gorman Group
- Grant Fast, Sinclair Group
- Lori Saretsky, West Fraser
- Marla Nicol, Conifex
- Scott Wynn, Tolko
- Ed Kent, United Steelworkers
- Lisa Durack, Stella-Jones
- Jason Lennox, Paper Excellence
- Rory Boyle, Canfor Pulp
- Mark Goebel, Mercer international
- Mike Dufour, Wester Forest Products
- Joe Yarama, Canfor Pulp
- Mark Todd, Canfor

WorkSafeBC Forum Members:

- Allen Heinrichs
- Don Schouten
- Jose Barranco
- Michael Brennan
- Mike Tasker
- Suzana Prpic
- Tom Pawlowski
- Jacqueline Morrison
- Kim Stubbs
- Morris Benetton
- Paul Stephens
- Steven Mueller

Wood Pellet Association of Canada Safety Committee (WPACSC)

- Ehsan Ahmadi, Aon Risk Solutions
- Scott Bax, CM Biomass Partners
- William Berg, Premium Pellet Ltd.
- Nathan Bond, Skeena Bioenergy Ltd.
- Michel Boudreau, Shaw Renewables
- Amber Bouska, Drax
- Tim Boyes, Sinclair Group
- Karen Brandt, Brandt Strategy Inc.
- Kayleigh Brown, Obex Risk
- Keith Culligan, Shaw Renewables
- J-örgen Dehlbom, Firefly AB
- Russ Dykstra, Brink - Platinum Pellets
- Michael Fantillo, Premium Pellet Ltd.
- Amanda Fee, West Fraser
- Shawn Gamble, Brink - Platinum Pellets
- Julie Griffiths, Shaw Renewables
- Tim Heneks, Dustcon Solutions
- Jeff Johnston, Drax
- Jay Juvenal, CV Technology
- Brad Kelly, Brink - Platinum Pellets
- Jason Krbec, CV Technology
- Phillipe Landry, Grand River Pellets
- Rene Landry, Shaw Renewables
- Nicholas MacGougan, Grand River Pellets
- Travis McCue, Canfor
- Andre Michaud, Group GDS
- P.O. Morency, Groupe Lebel
- Trevor Murdock, Premium Pellet Ltd.
- Gordon Murray, Wood Pellet Association of Canada

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Safety Groups cont...

Jeff Mycroft, Fike Canada Inc.
Eric Neil, Shaw Renewables
Arlene Pagan, Dustcon Solutions
Rachael Paley, West Pine
Darrell Robinson, Shaw Renewables
Jon Ross, Drax
Greg Rye, West Fraser
Lori Saretsky, West Fraser
Yves-Marc Schade, STELA Laxhuber GmbH
Serge Sirois, Grand River Pellets
Jeremy Slaunwhite, Rembe Inc.
Shahab Sokhansanj, UBC -Biomass and Bioenergy Research Group
Jason Stockall, Drax
John Swaan, FutureMetrics
Frank Wall, Premium Pellet Ltd.
Daniel Washburn, Shaw Renewables
Sheldon Wheeler, Canfor
Matt White, Drax
Miles Wright, Great Northern Timber
Fahimeh Yazdan Panah, Wood Pellet Association of Canada
Chris Zuberec, BFL Canada

Top areas of focus:

- Improving rotary drum dryer safety
- Plant operator training and use of alarms
- Process Safety Management (IAW2)
- Incident reporting—review and trend analysis
- Communications

The partnerships between the BCFSC and industry safety working groups play a pivotal role in developing impactful safety solutions. These joint efforts help foster an understanding of the vital role a strong safety culture plays within forestry operations. Safety is not just about safeguarding workers; it's about creating a legacy of safety excellence that is integral to operational success.







EVERY FORESTRY WORKER

GOES HOME SAFE - EVERY DAY



BC Forest Safety

Safety is **good** business

bcforestsafe.org