



BIONews

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Editor: Edwin S. Britton, RPBio.
Staff: Patricia McLellan

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bears! Fish Protection Act! Forest Practices Code! Aquaculture! Advocacy! Professional Development! Professional Reliance! Biologists Act!

For those of you who have had the opportunity to follow the issues that the Association has been addressing over the past number of months, you will see that we are entering a time of significant change. For those who need a gentle reminder, the above list is only a *partial* compilation of some of the items which Registered Professional Biologists have been involved in, and are issues which will likely heat up over the coming months.

How do we as Professionals position ourselves in controversial issues? When do we switch from relying on science to form our conclusions, to being an advocate for environmental sustainability? How can we as an Association provide to the public some level of assurance that our members are firmly rooted in sound science? How can we as an Association be a strong advocate for our members when they come against contrary opinions from other professionals? What pieces of legislation need amending to fully recognize Registered Professional Biologists? Your Board has been spending a considerable amount of time wrestling with these issues, and will be bringing forward a number of topics for your consideration at the Annual General Meeting in May.

In this issue you will find some of the suggestions being put forward for Professional Reliance, Professional Development, and whether the role of the professional is to be a scientist or advocate. We anticipate changes in administration in Victoria which may mean changes in the manner in which Biologists are recognized. At this critical time, there are three things that are needed from our members: First, please contact your Board member to provide your feedback; Second come to the AGM for detailed information and hear what others are suggesting, and Third put your name forward to serve on committees of the Board. We need your input – your Board is only effective when moving with the collective strength that comes from an involved membership. Let's show the public that a Registered Professional Biologist is someone to be respected. See you at the AGM.

Mel Kotyk, RPBio.
President



Association of
Professional Biologists
of British Columbia

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Web site: www.apbbc.bc.ca



CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS

ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL BIOLOGISTS OF BC

In accordance with Sec.28 of the APB Constitution and Bylaws, resolutions are being solicited for discussion and action at the **2001 Annual General Meeting of the Association of Professional Biologists of British Columbia** to be held at Dunsmuir Lodge in North Saanich, B.C.

Submissions should be outlined in the following form:

- A. In that (outline issue or problem)
- B. Be it resolved that (state the resolution)
- C. Discussion (present points concerning the need, logic or benefit of the resolution).

Resolutions must be received no later than April 5th, 2001

Mail, fax or email to:

Mel Kotyk, R.P.Bio.
 Association of Professional Biologists of British Columbia
 #205-733 Johnson Street
 Victoria, B.C. V8W 3C7

Email: apbbc@apbbc.bc.ca Fax: (250) 383-3306

SUMMARY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

FEBRUARY 5, 2001 – VICTORIA, B.C.

Present: Mel Kotyk (Chair), Joyce Boon, Ed Britton, Chris Clement, Rick Crozier, Lindsay Jones, Maureen Ketcheson (by phone), Carol Lamont, Andy MacKinnon, Linda Michaluk, Linda Stordeur, Pat McLellan.

Much of the February meeting of the Board was taken up with discussion about the Professional Reliance Action team, a multi discipline group which is working with government investigating the concept of increased professional reliance in forest management and practices in B.C. Currently, Linda and Mel are the main contacts and are working to finalize a terms of reference for this initiative. The project and its recommendations are to be completed by the end of June.

The AGM agenda and program were further refined and two regional meetings are in the planning stages. Ed, Lindsay and Andy are working on a Vancouver Island meeting, and a regional meeting is contemplated in Prince George in combination with UNBC.

Joyce Boon and her committee are continuing their work on the Continuing Professional Development proposal for discussion at the AGM.

The budget for 2001 was adopted, and the unaudited summary for 2000 was distributed.

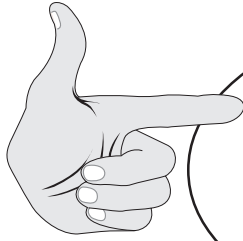
Joyce Boon reviewed the nominations for the Excellence in Biology award and the Bill Young Award. The Education and Awards Committee is currently reviewing the APB scholarship guidelines with the view of bringing back recommendations for change to the Board.

Linda Stordeur is updating the Web site in addition to her regular duties as Registrar. Linda notes that as of the end of the millennium APBBC membership stood at 1190 Registered Professional Biologists, 133 Biologists In Training and 9 Student Biologists.

Finally, Bill Schouwenburg provided his recommendation for the new chair of the Board of Examiners, and the Association is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Derek Ellis as the new BOE Chair. Many thanks to Bill for his two decades of contribution to the APB in many capacities, not the least most recently as Chair of the Board of Examiners.

The next meeting will be held at the APB offices Monday, April 2nd, 2001 at 10.00 am.

Lindsay Jones, RPBio.
 Secretary



2001 MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership fees were due on February 28th, 2001. If your fees are still outstanding, you risk removal from the register.

Send your membership fees in as soon as possible to maintain your membership in good standing.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2001 – DUNSMUIR LODGE, NORTH SAANICH, BC

BIOLOGISTS IN THE REAL WORLD, *or*

BIOLOGISTS AND POLICYMAKERS: MUTUALISM OR PARASITISM?

The theme of the 2001 Association of Professional Biologists Annual General Meeting is “Biologists in the Real World”. Speakers will be addressing the issue of how the work of professional biologists influences (or not) policy development and resource management in particular areas.

The session will begin with coffee and registration at 8:00 with the welcome address by the President at 9:00. Discussion areas will focus on topics such as ethics, policy development, grizzly bears, biologists and the

Forest Practices Code, water quality and treatment, and salmon aquaculture. The Board of Directors will present the outline for the Continuing Professional Development Initiative and resolutions, if any, will be considered during the business session. Representatives of the provincial and federal governments have been invited to attend.

Registration fee is \$40 per person and includes lunch.

**Andy MacKinnon, RPBio.
Chair, AGM Planning Committee**

Cut along dashed line

**ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL BIOLOGISTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
2001 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – REGISTRATION FORM**

Name (please print)		
Street address		
City	Province	Postal Code
Phone	Fax	Email
RPBio.	BIT	Student
		Enclosed \$

Are you interested in a one-day field trip Friday, May 4? YES NO

Please make cheques payable to: Association of Professional Biologists of BC. Registration forms should be sent to:

Andy Mackinnon, RPBio.
BC Ministry of Forests, Research Branch
3rd Floor, 712 Yates Street
Victoria, BC V8W 9C2 Canada

Phone: 250-387-6536

Fax: 250-387-0046

Email: andy.mackinnon@gems1.gov.bc.ca

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The Association wishes to welcome and congratulate the following new members:

Newly Registered Professional Biologists

Andrew M. Griffiths	1295
Robert Anderson	1296
Marc Cameron	1298
Jason Dunham	1299
Nell Postans	1300
Pamela Reece	1301
Donna-Marie Falut	1302
Curt L. Kerns	1303
Lorne Clayton	1304
Dennis Trotter	1305
Mary Jane Packham	1306
Kell Sadler	1307
Goran Krstic	1308
Lawrence Kratt	1309

Clayton Gillies	1310
Allan Eade	1311
Marilyn Fuchs	1312
Troy Kimoto	1313
Jacqueline Lee	1314
Karen Barry	1316
Tamara C. Grand	1317
Paul Grutter	1318
Ryan Liebe	1319
R. Bruce McTavish	1320
Mark Ayranto	1321
Jakob Dulisse	1322
Jared Hobbs	1324
Michelle Roberge	1328

Biologists In Training

Michael Coulthard
Lawrence David
Andrew Edeburn
Carrina Maslovat
John Norlin
Diane Orihel
Luanne Patterson
Diane Pellerin
Brent Persello
Sean Puchalski
Carlos Silva
Richard Wahlgren

PROFESSIONAL RELIANCE ACTION TEAM

The Association of BC Professional Foresters (ABC PF) has for some time promoted the concept of increased professional reliance as a better way to streamline resources management and exact accountability as and when necessary. Given the impact that this concept could have on other professionals in the resource sector, the APBBC decided to participate in a multi-party task force, the Professional Reliance Action Team, whose purpose is to consider and bring forward recommendations regarding how professional reliance could be implemented. The purpose of the Action Team is therefore not to consider whether or not greater reliance is a good thing, but rather to provide recommendations on how greater reliance can be implemented should government chose this strategy.

For the purposes of this initiative, the following draft working definition of “*professional reliance*” has been proposed:

professional reliance means the delegation of decision-making responsibility to defined professionals requiring the professionals to exercise discretion and judgement, all within the standards and accountability framework set out by the respective professional associations and government legislative requirements.

A draft terms of reference for the PRAT has been approved by the working table and has been forwarded to the Boards of Directors of the participating organizations for ratification. Any APBBC member wishing to comment on the following terms of reference should forward these comments asap to Linda Michaluk, by mail, or fax to the APBBC office, or via email to michaluk@direct.ca.

PROFESSIONAL RELIANCE ACTION TEAM – TERMS OF REFERENCE

(Approved by PRAT, 1 March 2001)

1. PREAMBLE:

1.1 All participants in the Professional Reliance Action Team (the “Action Team”) wish to ensure that British Columbia’s forest management and practices:

- Are effective in achieving a high level of stewardship of forest and environmental resources for both present and future generations, in line with sound scientific knowledge, professional principles and provincial goals and objectives;

- Foster a healthy economy and a competitive forest sector by allowing for operational and cost efficiency and flexibility; and,
- Demonstrate results that build confidence and earn the trust of the public in general.

1.2 Ministry of Forests (MOF) and Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks (MELP) executives support investigating the concept of increased professional reliance to contribute to the above ends.

- 1.3 Accordingly, the relevant professions, the Ministries of Forests and Environment, Lands and Parks, industry and the environmental community have agreed to form the Action Team to assess and report on what conditions need to exist for professional reliance to be successful and effective in meeting the above objectives.
- 1.4 It is understood that the participating groups have not been required to endorse the concept of increased professional reliance as a pre-condition to participation on the Action Team.
- 1.5 It is understood that considerations/recommendations of this group will recognize and respect professional regulatory legislation. It is recognized that some recommendations may come forward to help provide clarification.
- 1.6 However, all have agreed to keep an open mind and, to the extent the resulting recommendations have merit, in relation to the above objectives, to promote their endorsement by their constituencies.

2. PURPOSE:

- 2.1 The role of the Action Team is to consider and make recommendations to government and other affected parties on what conditions need to exist for increased professional reliance – if it is to be implemented, to succeed in meeting the above objectives. To this end, the Action Team shall undertake the following tasks:
- 2.1.1 Define the terms “professional” and “professional reliance”;
- 2.1.2 Assess the current state of professional reliance throughout the province;
- 2.1.3 Identify the appropriate scope/degree of professional reliance;
- 2.1.4 Identify the necessary conditions for increased professional reliance to be successful in meeting the above objectives and recommend how these conditions can be met on an ongoing basis and by whom.

In this regard, the following factors shall be considered:

- 2.1.4.1 Adequacy of established resource goals and objectives to inform professional decision making and judgement;
- 2.1.4.2 Professional standards, and quality assurance/accountability pro-grams, including professional independence;
- 2.1.4.3 The working relationship within and among the professions, professionals, and the public;

- 2.1.4.4 The degree to which relevant professions are utilized appropriately and their respective roles and responsibilities;
- 2.1.4.5 Training needs;
- 2.1.4.6 Employer support for the concept of professionalism (including professional independence) and for professionals in their employ;
- 2.1.4.7 The relationship between professional judgement and management prerogative/statutory decision-making authority;
- 2.1.4.8 Legislative and regulatory provisions;
- 2.1.4.9 Public awareness and acceptance;
- 2.1.4.10 Systems to monitor the success/effectiveness of increased professional reliance over time;
- 2.1.5 Outline generally the potential costs, benefits and risks expected to accrue to government, the forest industry, the relevant professions, and the public as a result of increased professional reliance;
- 2.1.6 Provide to and receive from the results-based Forest Practices Code pilots, advice regarding increased professional reliance;
- 2.1.7 Consider whether there is a need for professionals to be given statutory responsibility to oversee and verify that their plans and prescriptions have been implemented as planned;
- 2.1.8 Consider means for transparency, review, and revision of professional work;
- 2.1.9 Consider the role of professional reliance within forest certification;
- 2.1.10 Share information on available mechanisms to maintain/support professional independence; and,
- 2.1.11 Consider how the roles and responsibilities of government may change if increased professional reliance is to be implemented.

3. COMPOSITION:

- 3.1 The following parties will be represented on the Action Team:
- Association of BC Professional Foresters (ABCPF);
 - Association of Professional Biologists of BC (APBBC);
 - Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientists (APEGBC);
 - BC Environmental Network – Forest Caucus (BCEN/FC)
 - BC Institute of Agrologists (BCIA);
 - Council of Forest Industries (COFI);

- Ministry of Forests (MOF); and,
 - Ministry of Environment, Lands & Parks (MELP).
- 3.2 Each party shall appoint one primary representative who shall make every effort to regularly attend Action Team meetings.
- 3.3 Each party may also appoint alternate representatives one of who may attend in the absence of the primary representative.
- 3.4 Primary representatives are fully responsible for ensuring that alternates are kept fully informed.

4. MEETINGS AND SUPPORT:

- 4.1 Meetings shall not be held less than monthly. When practical, meetings may be conducted by conference call or other electronic means.
- 4.2 A quorum shall be two-thirds or more of the primary representatives (or alternates in their absence) in attendance.
- 4.3 Meetings shall be chaired by a neutral facilitator retained for this purpose. The neutral facilitator will not take part in decision-making or reaching or blocking consensus.
- 4.4 a) The ABCPF, with the approval of the Action Team, will engage a recording secretary to perform the following tasks, as listed: minutes, assistance with correspondence, scheduling, meeting arrangements, paper flow, and assistance with report writing. The recording secretary will not take part in decision-making or reaching or blocking consensus.
- b) The ABCPF, with the approval of the Action Team, will provide a project coordinator to perform the following tasks, as listed: attending Action Team and subcommittee meetings as required, report preparation and writing, managing consultants; subcommittees and resource people; research and background. The project coordinator may participate in discussions with approval of the Action Team and the facilitator. Tasks may be delegated by the Action Team to other persons. The project coordinator will not take part in decision-making or reaching or blocking consensus.
- 4.5 The ABCPF, with the prior approval of the Action Team, may engage consultants to carry out special projects in support of the Action Team's work.
- 4.6 Support staff, consultants and resource people may attend Action Team meetings and participate in discussions based on the approval of the Action Team and the facilitator.
- 4.7 The Action Team may delegate specific tasks to subcommittees.

- 4.8 The Action Team will decide on meeting procedures not otherwise addressed herein.

5. DECISION MAKING:

- 5.1 Decisions shall be made by consensus with consensus being defined as no representative being unable to live with the decision.
- 5.2 When the representatives cannot reach consensus on an issue, then the representatives will strive to reach consensus on the summary of outstanding perspectives on that issue. Consensus, on this summary, would be included in the relevant report.

6. CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION:

- 6.1 To facilitate and inform the process, the Action Team may consult with other interested/affected parties. The subject matter, procedures and timing of such discussions will be determined by the Action Team.
- 6.2 When communicating outside of the Action Team, each representative will only speak on behalf of their party and will not characterize the interests or positions of other representatives, parties or the Action Team.
- 6.3 Any person who speaks on behalf of the Action Team must be appointed by the Action Team to do so.

7. REPORTING, TIMING AND APPROVAL:

- 7.1 The Action Team progress reports shall be submitted to the governance bodies of the parties by 31 January 2001 and 31 March 2001. The Action Team has set a target date of 31 May 2001 for completion of the report.
- 7.2 Formal endorsement of the report shall be sought from the governance bodies of the parties as soon as possible following submission to the parties that is targeted for 31 May 2001.



Mark Nyhof

7.3 The Action Team has set a target date of 30 June 2001 for submission of the final report, including appended comments and/or reservations from the parties, to the executives of the Ministry of Forests and Ministry of Environment, Lands & Parks, and the governing bodies of the parties.

8. EXPENSES:

8.1 The out-of-pocket expenses of Action Team members traveling to and participating in Action Team meetings shall be borne by the group they are representing.

8.2 The Action Team will attempt to cover support and participation costs through grants obtained on behalf of the Action Team.

9. OTHER:

9.1 The Terms of Reference can be revisited as agreed to by consensus of the parties to address new issues as they arise.

AGREED TO: _____
(Date)

BY: Action Team



CONTRACTOR ELIGIBILITY LIST UPDATE

The Forest Practices Board invites applications from qualified individuals for placement on the eligibility list to be used for selecting contractors for audits, investigations and special projects.

Contractors included on the Board's current eligibility list should re-express their interest and provide an update of their skills, experience and rates.

Interested contractors will be evaluated in the following areas:

- experience with forestry, including roads, harvesting, silviculture, protection, range and operational planning;
- specialities relative to forestry, such as engineering, geomorphology, entomology, biology, agrology, soils, social sciences, recreation, wildlife or regional expertise;
- experience with audits, enforcement or investigations.

Contractors will be selected from the eligibility list to:

- form multidisciplinary audit teams, composed of an Auditor of Record, team leader, lead auditors and auditors, responsible for assessing forest practices or the appropriateness of government enforcement;
- undertake investigations of complaints about forest practices and related activities;
- participate in investigations and special projects regarding forest practices issues identified by the Board.

Audits generally require between one to three weeks of fieldwork, with additional time spent by some team members to determine audit samples and complete the final report.

Investigations and special projects can take up to several months to complete depending on the nature of the forest practices issues, but contractor involvement, if in a specialist advisor capacity, could take as little as two or three days.

Interested consultants are invited to obtain an information package from the Forest Practices Board web site at

<http://www.fpb.gov.bc.ca>.

Information packages can be submitted at any time, however the core audit teams are generally selected by mid-March. It is recommended that contractor information be submitted via the online form on the website. Submissions by mail or fax will also be accepted.

Forest Practices Board
Contact: Leanne Sheare
3rd Floor, 1675 Douglas Street
PO Box 9905, Stn Prov Govt, Victoria BC V8W 9R1
Phone: 250-387-7964 or toll free 1-800-994-5899
Fax: 250-387-7009



CUSO is a Canadian organization that supports alliances for global social justice. CUSO works with people striving for freedom, self-determination, gender and racial equality and cultural survival. CUSO achieves its goals by sharing information, human and material resources and by promoting policies for developing global sustainability.

Overseas Opportunities For Biologists

Project Description – 1

Conservation Melanesia (CM), a CUSO partner organization in Papua New Guinea, is seeking a qualified individual to develop a coastal marine conservation and sustainable fisheries program. This program will focus on Oro Province and will be developed in conjunction with the Oro Provincial Government (OPG), specifically the Division of Fisheries and Marine Resources. The position is based in Popondetta, the capital of Oro Province, but will require frequent travel and work in rural areas along the northeast coastline. The work will involve analysis of basic ecological, economic, and social systems of the Province, and the development and implementation of appropriate project activities to meet program goals.

CM is looking for an individual with relevant experience, a degree in biology and a unique combination of planning and program development skills. Applicants should have the ability to function independently as well as facilitate team work and to live and work in rural areas with few amenities.

For placement July, 2001.

Project Description – 2

The National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI), a CUSO partner organization in Papua New Guinea, is seeking a qualified individual to revitalize and train a counterpart in the operation of their Tissue Culture Facility. Located in the highlands of Papua New Guinea, this is an excellent opportunity to work with a dynamic and growing institution serving the people of Papua New Guinea through applied agricultural research and development. NARI is looking for an individual with tissue culture and plant pathology experience and a relevant qualification (preferably at the Masters level). The individual must be able to work as part of a motivated team striving to serve the semi-subsistence sector farmers of PNG.

For placement July, 2001.

For further information please e-mail:

cusobc@look.ca or jennifer.fillingham@cuso.ca

Fax: (604) 683-8536

Phone: (604) 683-2099

CUSO BC

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Vancouver, BC V6B 1H7

Interested in joining our eLearning knowledge community?

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karen.prager@tmnewmedia.com

Tim Mock
President



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