

September, 2011

Forest Professionals and ASTTBC Meet



ABCFP and ASTTBC meet to discuss matters of common interest. Pictured (left to right) are: Rick Brouwer, RPF, Past President, ABCFP; Ian Emery, AScT, RFT President, ABCFP; Bill MacPherson, AScT, President, ASTTBC; Clarissa Brennan, AScT; ASTTBC Council Director; Mike Larock, RPF, Director, Professional Practice & Forest Stewardship, ABCFP and Honourary Member of ASTTBC; and John Leech, AScT, CAE, Executive Director, ASTTBC.

A recent meeting of the leaders of the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP) and ASTTBC provided a great opportunity to get caught up and share notes on matters of common interest. A key topic was how to encourage new recruits into forestry and technology fields. It was agreed we should work together wherever possible to encourage youth to enroll in math, science and technology when in high school in order to have maximum flexibility when looking to career options. Some time was spent talking about Aboriginal youth and what we can do to encourage more young Aboriginal youth into these careers.

The conversation moved to professional recognition and practice rights with ABCFP referencing the rights of the Registered Forest Technologist and ASTTBC talking about Qualified Professional status for AScTs, CTechs and our many Technical Specialists. ASTTBC's proposed Professional Technologist and ASTTBC talks with APEGBC was noted as was various professional regulatory matters such as continuing professional development, mentoring, auditing and practice reviews.

All in all a good conversation shared over a fine meal.