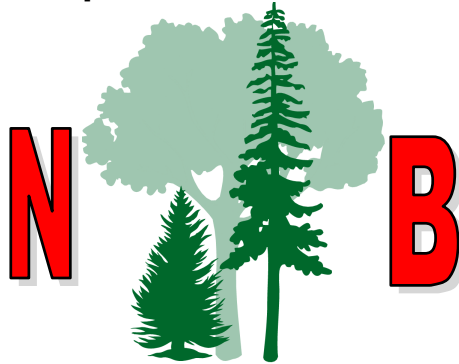


Propriétaires de lots boisés



Woodlot Owners

Federation News

Report on recent activities

March 2007

Crown Royalty Review: Last month we reported that the Federation and Marketing Boards had written the Minister and took the position to not respond to the stumpage survey request until we heard from the Minister. We listed three fundamental issues that needed to be addressed for us to continue on the Committee. We received a reply from the Minister. The Department of Natural Resources has not changed their position and refuses to explore and address the issues we identified. As a result, the Federation is standing firm and resigning from the committee. The Marketing Boards have also decided to not actively participate in the stumpage survey being conducted. The consultant performing the survey is contacting contractors and wood producers directly without assistance from the Boards.

Sylvicon 2007: About 40 brave souls attended the Federation's session at Sylvicon despite the poor weather. Those in attendance enjoyed three presentations discussing New Brunswick's forest industry of the past, present and future. Dr. Bill Parenteau of the UNB History department spoke about the past. It is ironic how history repeats itself. New Brunswick's forest industry and issues in the late 1800s were very similar to those of today. Dr. Tom Beckley of the UNB Faculty of Forestry gave an overview of the

current situation in the province and some thoughts on moving forward and things woodlot owners can do. Mr. Jim Richard of Business New Brunswick talked about the future. He believes there are many opportunities for the province and woodlot owners, but they will be different than the traditional ones to which we are accustomed.

Speech from the Throne: Federation president Ed Perry attended the opening of the Legislature on February 6th. The Liberal government gave its Speech from the Throne outlining the initiatives it will take to fulfil their platform. Of interest to woodlot owners is the statement; *"Your government will take steps to ensure that wood from private woodlots has equal and fair access to mills by requiring proportional movement of fibre from Crown land and private woodlots to mills throughout the year."* We are looking forward to hearing what exactly this means and how it will be implemented. For the complete speech see: <http://www.gnb.ca/cnb/Promos/Throne-2007/index-e.asp>.

Meeting with AV Nackawic: A Federation representative and Board managers from YSC, Madawaska, SNB and Carleton-Victoria met with AV Nackawic staff to discuss possible future partnerships. A very good dialogue took place and some interesting ideas

New Brunswick Federation of Woodlot Owners

Phone: (506)459-2990 Fax: (506)459-3515 email: nbfwo@nbnet.nb.ca
www.nbwoodlotowners.ca

were proposed. This group will continue to meet with Nackawic representatives to share ideas and ensure a productive relationship in the future that is beneficial to all parties.

Silviculture Program: Last month we reported on the successful 2006 silviculture program. With the change of government many are waiting to see if the Liberals will continue with the program commitments made by the Conservatives. The Federation has made it clear to the new government the importance of the program and the need for a long-term commitment. We have had no indication of what the 2007 budget will be. We are waiting for the March 13th provincial budget.

Federation Website: Coming to a computer screen near you! The Federation will be launching a long overdue website. We anticipate the website being functional by the end of March. The site is intended to keep woodlot owners informed of Federation activities and act as a communication tool. The site address will be: www.nbwoodlotowners.ca.

Meetings with Sub-licensees: In December 2006, the Federation sent letters to sub-licensees looking to meet and discuss issues of common concern and areas of possible collaboration. Troy Lifford and Ed Perry have met with several subs that responded to our letters. We found that we share many of the same concerns and problems. These meetings are leading to relationships that can be acted upon in the future.

Ecological Goods and Services: The Canadian Model Forest Network, Private Woodlot Strategic Initiative and the Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners

sponsored a workshop February 22nd in Amherst NS. Over 80 people were in attendance from NS, PEI and NB. The theme for the day was the "Valuation of Ecological Goods and Services". Presentations included an example of payment for ecological services from Costa Rica. Ducks Unlimited and the PEI Federation of Agriculture provided background on a pilot project underway in PEI to evaluate how to provide financial incentives to agriculture producers. Dr. Van Lantz provided an interesting presentation on his work developing methods to value ecological goods and services. The day wrapped up with a workshop on how we can develop the next steps to implement a system in the Maritimes.

Self-Sufficiency Task Force: The task force recently released its second "New Brunswick Reality Report". This report contained a section on Forestry with some "interesting" statements. The Federation is meeting with the Task Force on March 16th to bring woodlot owner issues to the forefront and express our concern with some of the recommendations in the report. The complete report can be viewed at: <http://www.gnb.ca/2026/index-e.asp>.

Upcoming Events:

- 1.INFOR,** Celebrating our Forests, October 2007, Fredericton.
- 2.Marketing Board AGMs:** Madawaska – April 16, SNB – May 26, YSC – May 30, SENB – June 7.
- 3.Atlantic Bioenergy Conference 2007,** May 9-11, Delta Brunswick Saint John.

Contact the Federation for more information on these events or any other information in this newsletter.