



Community Forest News

Spring 2018

The Community Forest is comprised of two organizations, the Harrop Procter Community Co-operative, which manages the forest tenure and mill, and the Harrop Procter Watershed Protection Society, a stewardship body that undertakes monitoring of HPCC plans and activities, water monitoring, education and outreach.

Harrop-Procter Watershed Protection Society (HPWPS)

The society continues to meet quarterly. At the last meeting, board members heard a presentation from Sunshine Bay resident Andre Piver and Selkirk College School of Environment and Geomatics instructor Rob MacRae. The presentation proposed 3rd and 4th year program students using the community forest tenure for a study that would explore the possibility of retention ponds being established within the community forest.

The study would be part of the student's course work and would be a trial exercise to see if suitable locations exist within the community forest tenure. Retention ponds would conceivably provide water for multiple purposes: firefighting, shortages during low stream flows and energy production.

The HPWPS board agreed to support the proposal. Results of the study will be shared with HPWPS (and the community) upon completion - likely in a year's time.

The results of the habitat assessment study conducted by Masse Environmental Consulting regarding Narrows Creek are available at the community forest office. If you would like a copy, please email office@hpcommunityforest.org or call 250-229-2271.

A fundraising event is planned for the fall of this year. More details will be forthcoming in the next newsletter. If you wish to volunteer with the society, please contact office administrator Amy Nealy at the above coordinates. New community volunteers are always welcome!

Community Open House and Information Meeting

When: Wednesday, June 20th
Where: Harrop Hall - 6066 McConnell Road
Time: Open House - 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Meeting - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Agenda:

- Climate Change Adaptation project update
- Forestry planning and operations update
- Mill planning and operations update



Harrop-Procter Forest Products (HPFP)

The mill has been steadily picking up in activity since the advent of the warmer weather. While sales are not at the same level as last year, they continue to increase with several large orders being shipped out of the region over the last few weeks. Local sales remain steady and the log supply is holding during this period of forest harvest inactivity.

There have been several changes in personnel. Darryl Finchem opted to move north for personal reasons leaving the mill management to Eric Martin and David Strom. Recently, Kyle Erikson has left in order to pursue a career based on his training in heavy equipment operation and maintenance. The hiring of Simon Fraser has offset his departure. Robert Skof is also back to work full time following recuperation from his thumb injury.

The mill has recently finished a complete inventory of raw and finished materials on site. An agreement with Harrop Creek Firewood (HCF) was reached in order to effectively deal with waste wood following changes to regulations that eliminated the ability to burn. (Read the insert for an explanation of the necessity of the agreement.)



Logger Rocky Hawes (l) and Mill Co-Manager Eric Martin (r) with logs from Block 2 - Narrows Creek.

Donations to date (2018):

• Harrop & District Community Centre Society (siding for Hall renovation)	\$1260.00
• Harrop & District Community Centre Society (rough wood and flooring for Schoolhouse interior renovations)	\$661.45
• Nelson & District Women's Centre	\$262.03
• Procter-Harrop Seniors Association	\$100.00
Total	\$2,283.48

In the Community

Scholarship Fund

Applications are now being accepted for the Harrop-Procter Community Cooperative (HPCC) Scholarship award. The deadline to apply is June 1, 2018.

The scholarship program is the result of the cooperative winning the Robin Hood Memorial award from the BC Community Forest Association, last June. Accompanying the award was \$10,000 dollars from the provincial government.

The HPCC Board decided that this money would be best spent supporting a permanent fund that will annually award a Grade 12 graduating student \$1000 to defray costs of their post-secondary education. The award is limited to a student from the Harrop-Sunshine Bay-Procter area at this time. Preference will be given to students planning to study in forestry, environmental studies or resource management at a post-secondary institution.

The application form has been distributed via community e-mail. The form (along with award

regulations) is also available on-line at www.hpcommunityforest.org or by e-mailing office@hpcommunityforest.org or by calling the office at 250-229-2271. (Note: Wednesdays between 9 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. is when the office administrator is present)

The selection committee - board members and representatives from the community at large - will meet in early June to make their selection.

Redfish Elementary School project

HPCC has donated the wood for Redfish Elementary School's outdoor classroom project. The Traditional Timber Framing Company Inc. did the design and construction.

Located on Redfish Creek across from the school, the stylish structure will be used by students for outdoor studies/activities when the weather is appropriate. The school is hosting a Grand Opening on Friday, June 8 at 1:00 p.m. Members of the community are welcome to attend.



The outdoor classroom constructed using wood from HPFP

Forest Operations

Active logging operations have been minimal over the past several months. Rocky Hawes did some harvesting in Block 2 (Narrows Creek) over the winter; the majority of the logs went directly to our mill in Harrop.

There will be an open house and public meeting to provide information to the community on Wednesday, June 20. The open house will be between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 pm, the public meeting will be held between 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. Both the open house and the meeting will be held at the Harrop Hall. The address of the Hall is **6066 McConnell Road**.

Topics to be discussed will include:

- climate change adaptation project update
- forest operations update
- mill operations update

Plan to attend these informational sessions to engage with your community forest!



Fireguard constructed near Slater Creek last summer

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HPCC members get a 10% discount, so send us your email address if you would like to be informed of upcoming specials!



To request a donation, not-for-profit groups simply need to provide details of the project and community benefits on their letterhead and submit to: office@hpcommunityforest.org