



# Community Forest News

Summer 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 Forest Products (HPFP)

It has been a busy summer at the mill. Sales have ramped up over the last few months and are now at projected levels developed in the February budget.

Two part-time employees have been promoted to full time hours over the summer months. Matt Wouters and Mia Wingender previously worked a few hours after school weekly, dealing with wood waste, sawdust and yard maintenance. One of the positions is partially funded by the federal Summer Jobs employment program.

The re-saw attachment and required parts have been received and the mill is now operational for conventional re-sawing of cants. The University of Victoria engineering students who are assisting in the design of prototypes that will enable small log handling capacity for re-sawing have come up with several design solutions. These will be tested on site prior to fabrication.

Upgrades to the kiln are also underway. Several different solutions are being analyzed and priced. The Value-Added Committee will present their recommendation to the Board for approval in the fall.



*Left to right: Jon Symington, David Strom (manager), Matt Wouters, Eric Martin (manager), Floris Disselhoff, Simon Fraser, Kevin Johnson. Absent - Robert Skof*

## Donations

The following donations of lumber have been made since the last newsletter in May.

Harrop & District Community Centre Society	\$198.93
Friends of Sunshine Bay Park	\$26.40
Nelson United Church (Camp Koolaree)	\$3850.95
Nelson Nordic Ski Club	\$915.20
Bee Awareness Society	\$2000.00
<hr/>	
Total	\$6991.48
Total Year to Date	\$9274.96

# Harrop-Procter Watershed Protection Society (HPWPS)

## Annual General Meeting

The Harrop-Procter Watershed Protection Society (HPWPS) held its Annual General Meeting on July 18, 2018 at the HPCC office in Procter. Approximately 20 people attended the meeting.

Following reports from the President and the Forest Manager (delivered in his absence by Director Lloyd Johnson) and a review of the organization's mandate, there was general discussion regarding current initiatives and future focuses.

Items discussed included: wildfire mitigation, water protection, habitat assessment and rehabilitation, climate change adaptation project, water monitoring program expansion, micro-electricity assessment process and the water retention feasibility study.

Rami Rothkop volunteered to fulfill the role of independent audit oversight of HPWPS activities and was acclaimed. The election of Directors was the final agenda item.

Four new directors have joined the HPWPS board. Gwen Bridge, Marjorie Davidson, Ruth Prosser and Jim Yule (HPCC Director) along with returning Director Deb Crichton will serve a two-year term ending in 2020. The term for returning Directors Lloyd Johnson, Bruce Lane, Russell Precious, Kevin Shepherd and Joern Wingender will end at the 2019 AGM.

President Bruce Lane welcomed the new and returning Directors and thanked them for their willingness to volunteer. He also acknowledged the efforts of departing Directors Catherine Donnelly, Carol Feagan and Bill Macpherson.

## Water monitoring

Director Lloyd Johnson reported that the upgraded water monitoring equipment installed on Harrop/Mill Creek and lost in the spring freshet has been recovered. Passmore Labs is re-installing the equipment in a more secure location. The equipment permits continuous real time recording of flow levels.



*New Directors (L to R) Ruth Prosser, Jim Yule, Marjorie Davidson.  
Absent - Gwen Bridge*

# Forest Management and Operations

Regular forestry operations have finally resumed after last year's fire and its aftermath. Logging in Narrows Block 3 got underway in early July. Gord Hale is doing the logging in this block, which is the location for a comprehensive study of post-harvest regeneration in the face of climate change.

## **Harvest regimes, regeneration, and climate change research project**

HPCC is participating in a multi-partner study led by University of British Columbia professor Suzanne Simard. The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) has committed three years of funding, but ideally the project's physical legacy (seedling plots in a range of locations across the province with varying harvesting regimes around them) will continue for many decades.

The study includes over 20 research sites, representing six distinct climactic zones across southern and central BC. Four different harvest regimes—high-retention, patch retention, single-tree retention and clear cut—will be used at each research site. There will also be an unlogged control plot at each research site.

Each harvest and regeneration unit is approximately 4 to 5 hectares – with a one-hectare measurement plot in the center. A variety of tree species and genetic types will be planted at each research site. Study of the effects of the logging and retention practices on the seedlings will permit evaluation of regeneration success, carbon cycling, productivity and biodiversity.

Other study objectives include optimization of seed mixtures and the links between forest ecosystem structure and function (both above/below the ground) and how they are moderated by alternative harvesting and renewal methods.

## **Fireguard Log removal**

An agreement was reached to re-open an existing road on private land to access the 10 to 15 loads of decked fireguard logs without having to install a crossing of Slater Creek. The private road will be gated immediately after retrieval of the logs is complete. However the road will continue to provide access, if ever necessary, for future wildfire response.

## **Outreach**

An open house and community meeting was held in mid-June to inform HPCC and other community members of recent activities and future planning initiatives, including HPCC's ongoing climate change adaptation project. The sessions were well attended.

In his role as past-President of the BC Community Forest Association (BCCFA) HPCC Forest Manager Erik Leslie met with Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development in late May to discuss community forest program expansion plans. Erik also gave a presentation on the 2017 Harrop-Narrows wildfire at the three-day Wildfire and Climate Change conference held in Nelson in late June. The website for the event is <https://www.kootenaywildfire.ca>

# In The Community

## Scholarship Award

The inaugural winner of the Harrop-Procter Community Cooperative Scholarship award is Veronica Kearnes of Harrop. She receives \$1,000 dollars to put towards her post-secondary education.

Veronica will be attending the University of Victoria in the fall. For her first year she plans to take general arts but has her eye on the University's Environmental Studies program.

"I'll be joining a couple of clubs on that focus on environmental issues as soon as I get settled and familiar with the campus. In my second year I'm hoping to pursue environment-focused studies, perhaps in another country, through the university's cooperative program."

Veronica's parents Laura and Russell moved here in 2008 from White Rock. Veronica was seven, her older brother Quinn nine. She attended Redfish School through Grade 5 and then attended Trafalgar Middle School for Grades 6-8 before moving to LV Rogers for Grades 9 through 12. She is fluent in French thanks to 10 years in an immersion program.

Her outside interests include dance, theatre and social work. While attending school, Veronica volunteered with her Mom for the local chapter of ANKORS.

"I'm appreciative of the community I grew up in. Certainly, the scholarship award will help with costs in my first year of post-secondary education so I am very thankful to have been selected."



*Communications/Marketing Committee Chair Bill Macpherson and Veronica Kearnes hold the award cheque*

### CONTACT US

PO Box 5  
Procter, BC  
V0G 1V0  
Phone: 250 229 2271  
Email: [office@hpcommunityforest.org](mailto:office@hpcommunityforest.org)

HPFP  
Ogilvy Road  
Harrop, BC  
Phone: 250 551-5452  
Email: [sales@hpcommunityforest.org](mailto:sales@hpcommunityforest.org)

[www.hpcommunityforest.org](http://www.hpcommunityforest.org)

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](mailto:office@hpcommunityforest.org)