



# Community Forest News

Summer 2021

*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)

### Annual General Meeting:

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held electronically via Zoom on July 21. Recent forest operations were reviewed by the President, a Treasurer's report was tabled and the expanded water monitoring program was reviewed by Vice-President Dennis Kruger.

A resolution to support the climate strike initiative was tabled; due to the lateness of receiving the request, there was no vote taken at the AGM. A subsequent resolution was presented to all HPWPS members electronically, the resolution was not approved by the majority of members who voted.

Officers for the coming year are:

President - Bill Macpherson  
Vice-President - Dennis Kruger  
Recording Secretary - Marjorie Davidson  
Treasurer - Debbie Crichton

### Water monitoring program:

At a meeting prior to the AGM, the board has committed to doing some of the water sampling analysis in-house. This would include conductivity, pH levels and turbidity. Relatively inexpensive meters will be purchased to enable regular, ongoing local analysis that adheres to the British Columbia Water and Wastewater Sampling Protocol.

Doing some of the analyses will support the organization's mandate of local employment and reduce the carbon footprint of the water monitoring program.

Coliform testing (total, thermo-tolerant and e-coli) and total suspended solids (TSS) will continue to be analyzed by Passmore Laboratories in Vallican.

In-house analysis is anticipated to begin in early October.

## Sawmill Tailer/Yard Labourer

The successful candidate must be in good physical condition, work well individually and as part of a team, take direction well, have a positive attitude, and be able to adapt quickly to the ever-changing needs of the operation. The position is very physically demanding so good fitness is required. The tailer is expected to handle all materials produced by the sawmill's head rig. This includes all targeted products, side lumber, and waste materials. The tailer will be required to grade, sticker and handle products appropriately and according to provided guidelines.

In addition to regular duties as tailer, there will be opportunities to work around the mill yard in varying capacities as needed.

For all required duties, the successful candidate will receive one on one personalized instruction with an experienced employee. No previous experience is required.

**Hours: Full time 40 hrs/week**

**Please drop off resume in person at 730 Ogilvie Road S. in Harrop at the Harrop Procter Forest Products (HPFP) sales office. Please include all relevant work experience and references.**

## Forest Operations

The five year Climate Adaptation Change project - funded jointly by Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) and the cooperative - is anticipated to be completed this winter. The project includes a drought and fire risk assessment of our community forest, and a detailed adaptation action plan. The project has also been expanded to include a hydrological analysis of Harrop Creek. The hydrological analysis will be completed by the Applied Research and Innovation group at Selkirk College, who have recently developed a methodology for modelling the impacts of climate change on the complex watersheds in our area.

A public meeting will be held in the fall to discuss the findings and guidelines developed over the course of the climate change adaptation project.

On a related note, HPCC has received funding from CBT and the BC government to make a series of short educational films about wildfire risk reduction. Watershed Productions, a Nelson-based film production company, has been hired to make the shorts. They will be distributed widely once completed.

The cooperative is also participating in research led by Dr. Lori Daniels (UBC) on the effectiveness of fuel treatments in BC community forests. A crew of eight graduate students worked in our West Procter fuel treatment area for a week this summer doing plot sampling. They will be back next year to sample the same areas when the fuel treatments are completed.

Meanwhile, HPCC's wildfire risk reduction operations continue as we develop fuel breaks in the West Procter and West Harrop areas.



*Blake Garrett from Wildfire Forestry Services being interviewed by Watershed Productions crew for HPCC's educational wildfire films project*

Fire risk reduction planning work is also underway in the East Procter/Carson Creek area. HPCC continues to access provincial funding to assist with these fuel treatment activities.

Due to the drought and extreme fire hazard conditions this summer, all high risk operations in our community forest were suspended in mid-July. However, with the recent rains and cooler temperatures work has resumed. Both mechanical and hand treatment activities will be ongoing through the fall.

## In the Community

### Scholarships granted to local students

The recipient of this year's HPCC Scholarship award of \$2000 is graduating LV Rogers High School student Kieran Dehnel.

An accomplished soccer player, Kieran will be attending the University of Lethbridge this fall studying kinesiology - working towards his Bachelor of Science degree - and playing for the Pronghorns varsity soccer squad.

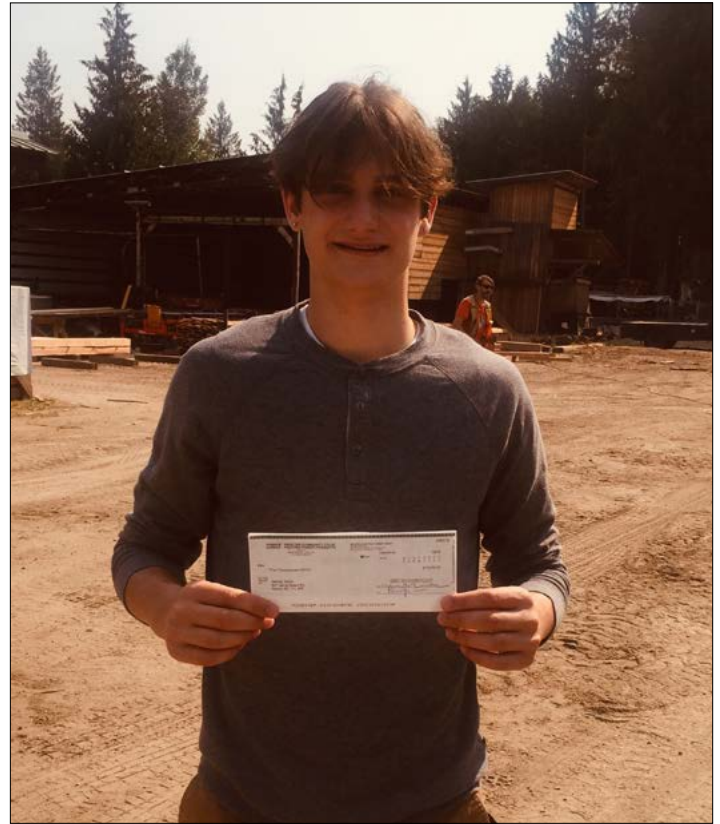
Once graduated, he plans to do a Masters degree in Physical Therapy from either the University of British Columbia or the University of Calgary. His career goal following schooling "is to work in hospitals and to eventually own my own physiotherapy clinic.

"I am appreciative of being chosen for this year's scholarship, and that this award for local students is available thanks to the community forest cooperative."

Kieran is the son of Harrop residents Jennifer and Kurt Dehnel.

A bursary of \$500 was also awarded to Raeleigh Arndt. She is in her second year of a Bachelor of Science degree at UBC Okanagan. Raeleigh will be majoring in microbiology this coming year.

Congratulations to both of you!



*Kieran Dehnel, recipient of this year's HPCC Scholarship award*



*Raeleigh Arndt, bursary recipient*

### Donations

|                                    |                  |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Procter Community Society          | \$3000.00        |
| Procter Harrop Seniors Association | \$1591.15        |
| <u>Total</u>                       | <u>\$4591.15</u> |

**Year to date: \$15,892.15**

## In the Community (continued)

The Harrop Procter Community Cooperative has been involved in a number of renovation projects within the community.

The Procter Community Society (PCS) is planning to rebuild the back deck of the Procter Hall using lumber donated from the mill. Following an ongoing internal renovation by local contractor Terry Huva - also using donated lumber from HPCC - the deck replacement is one of the final steps in the Procter Hall renovation process. Three thousand dollars of lumber was donated towards the late fall/early spring project.

Meanwhile, just up the street the Procter Harrop Seniors Association (PHSA) has been busy with renovations to their building. Changes/improvements include: new fire resistant siding on the exterior, wheelchair accessibility in the form of a metal ramp, a renovated main hall and bathroom, and repairs to the kitchen. The renovations/repairs used approximately \$1600 worth of wood donated by the mill. The ongoing project has used local contractors (Don Faust Contracting, Gray's Contracting, Garth's Plumbing & Heating and Evan Arnott Electrical) and a lot of volunteer efforts, fundraising and grants to improve the functionality and attractiveness of their building.

### CONTACT US

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*Nearly completed renovations in the building's main room*

Additionally, a second free firewood event was held. HPCC donated approximately three logging trucks worth of firewood that had been decked over the winter at various locations. The mill added nine dump truck loads of older saw logs, so there was plenty of firewood available for all. It was held at the Harrop Hall over the last weekend of May and throughout the following week. The Harrop & District Community Centre Society (HDCC) received \$750 worth of donations from those cutting and hauling, as well as a donation from HPCC towards cleanup costs - a lot of bark and sawdust to be raked up!

There is the possibility of another free firewood event happening later this fall. If not then, it will happen in the spring so stay tuned.

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)