



Oweekeno Forestry

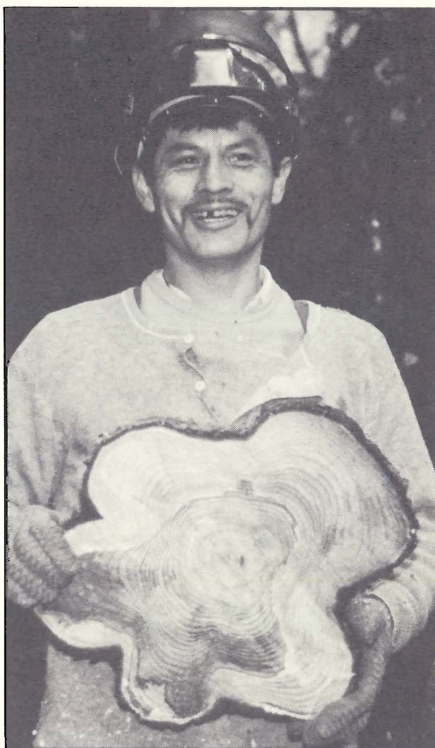
(Or the Case of the Fluted Hemlock)

What's a fluted hemlock? No, it's not a musical tree, but rather one with deep ingrown bark seams and outward ridges much like the grooves used to decorate columns in classical Greek architecture. However, when they occur in immature hemlock the tree becomes virtually worthless since the bark cannot be effectively removed and very little usable lumber can be sawn from the log.

The Oweekeno Band's forest inventory identified a 40-year-old mixed stand of hemlock, sitka spruce, red cedar and amabilis fir in which 50% of the stand volume was made up of fluted hemlock. A hard choice faced the Band. The hemlock was of merchantable size, averaging 30 cm in diameter and 20 m in height, but was of low market value and was not likely to significantly gain in value if left to grow further. The growth of the spruce, cedar and amabilis fir was slowing down from competition within the stand but the growth and value would accelerate if the stand was thinned.

The Band's decision — get funding from the Canadian Forestry Service (CFS) and thin the stand. Thin it from 1900 trees per hectare to 750. Get rid of all the garbage hemlock and favor, in order of preference, sitka spruce, western red cedar and amabilis fir.

Next question: how to do the job and at the same time create a productive, reliable and well-trained silviculture crew to work both on and off the reserve? Decision — invite bids from Band members and contract it to a Band crew operating at arm's length from the Council. The Band recognized that their members would need assis-



Dennis Hanuse displays an example of a fluted hemlock being thinned out of the Oweekeno Band's Reserve.

tance in bidding, training and project implementation. The Band's Silviculture Management Committee studied the situation and had their forest consultant prepare a formal plan.

The area being thinned is a mixture of sites, such that, some are simple to treat while others are comparatively difficult. Taking this into consideration, as well as the need for on the job training, the consultant recommended that

the Band; (a) take into account pre-contract training and the inexperience of the crew to allow for a gradual increase in production as successive contracts are completed; and (b) permit the contractor to start in a relatively easy area, thereby, encouraging the forestry crew to gain confidence by exercising the skills learned in their training programs, and, at the same time, helping the contractor to build up cash reserves.

The work of the crew is monitored by the Band's professional forester who is also responsible for submitting technical reports to the Canadian Forestry Service with the Band's claim for payment. The crew is paid in full if work is done to the pre-determined standard. If it isn't they are given the opportunity to bring it up to standard. If it can't be brought up to standard they may not receive full payment for their work.

The Band provides guidance and technical and business skills to support the crew and assist them in successfully completing each contract area. However, no matter what the outcome, the contractor assumes full responsibility.

Nobody really knows why the flutes develop on the hemlock but one theory relates it to constant wind exposure experienced on coastal lowlands. So, it appears, fluted hemlock actually does have something in common with the musical flute. After all, they both require wind to operate!

Indian Forestry — What Does it Mean?



Michael Clements, President of the U.S. Intertribal Timber Council, shared his experiences with the BCIFA at their inaugural meeting in October, 1987.

"Indian Forestry — What Does it Mean?" was the theme of the inaugural meeting of the British Columbia Indian Forestry Association (BCIFA) held in Kamloops last October. There must be a lot of interest in the question because 37 bands, 7 tribal councils and 5 other Indian organizations sent representatives to find out. British Columbia Minister of Forests and Lands, the Honourable Dave Parker, attended as did several senior officials from the CFS and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). Several speakers addressed this question: Ross Macdonald, Director-General of Pacific and Yukon Region, CFS; John Graham, Director-General, INAC; as well as the Honourable Dave Parker. Perhaps the most interesting speech, however, was made by Michael Clements, President of the United States Intertribal Timber Council.

Mr. Clements spoke of the American Indian experience. He said a number of tribes in the United States were concerned about the management of their resource and that they were considering a lawsuit against the U.S. government to improve their situation. He also told of how five people from

separate tribes carried on a dialogue about mutual concerns for four or five years before holding their first symposium in 1972. The group then formed into a legal body in 1978 under Articles of Organization. Now, they represent sixty timber tribes and organizations across the United States. Mr. Clements credits the success of their organization to their partnership role with government, and to the fact that it only deals in specific issues. Politics remain the responsibility of individual tribes and are avoided by the Intertribal Timber Council.

Workshops during the BCIFA meeting focused on the legal aspects of Indian forestry, government programs and Indian forestry, and the business aspects of Indian forestry. All the workshops were well received, the only complaint was that only one could be attended as all were held simultaneously. The following general themes emerged from the workshops:

- there is a need for an organization to assist native people in addressing forestry issues both on and off the reserve;
- there is a strong desire for more native participation in all levels of the forest industry and in the management of forest resources on reserves;

"There is a need for improved communications between the native community and the forest sector to foster better understanding on both sides."

"There is a strong desire for more native participation in all levels of the forest industry."

- there is a need for improved communications between the native community and the forest sector (public and private components) to foster better understanding on both sides.

Recommendations were made to improve the following aspects of the Forest Resource Development Agreement's Indian Forest Lands Program:

- the delivery mechanism;
- the consultation and communication process;
- the coordination of agreements and regulations dealing with forestry on Indian reserves;
- clarification of existing policies; and improving the effectiveness of government programs by identifying information gaps.

The meeting concluded with the selection of an interim Executive. David Walkem of the Cook's Ferry Band accepted the position of Interim Executive Director. The interim Board made a commitment to analyze the symposium recommendations and report back to the membership within six months with a proposed constitution, bylaws and budget. ■

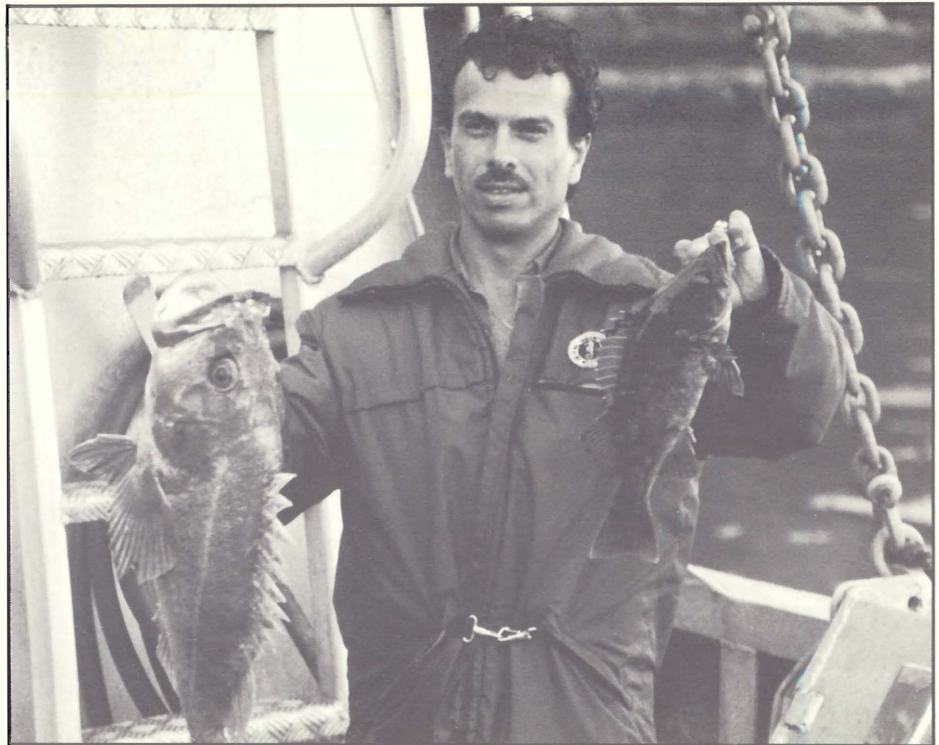
B.C. Intertribal Forestry Association Hold Second Symposium

Acting on recommendations made at the inaugural meeting of the Association in Kamloops, the BCIFA held Symposium #2 six months to the day after the first one. Reports, reviews and position papers were presented on proposed changes to the Indian Timber Regulations, the Canada-British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement Indian Forest Lands Program, the McTavish Report, and the British Columbia Forest Act.

A constitution and bylaws were adopted and elections held for officers of the organization for a two year term (as shown below).

Both Harold Derickson and Bill Wasden are also members of the Advisory Board for the FRDA Indian Forest Lands Program.

More information on the development of this important organization will be forthcoming in future issues. In the meantime, contact Harold Derickson at (604)769-5666 for further information.



Harold Derickson, Westbank Band, displays his catch made while on a forestry trip to the Tsawataineuk Band at Kingcome Inlet.

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer
Director at Large

Harold Derickson
Richard Watts
Thomas Pierre
Robert Simon
Bill Wasden

Westbank Band
Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council
Carrier Sekani Tribal Council
Shuswap Nation Tribal Council
Musgamagw Tribal Council

Forestry Staff Changes at Indian Affairs

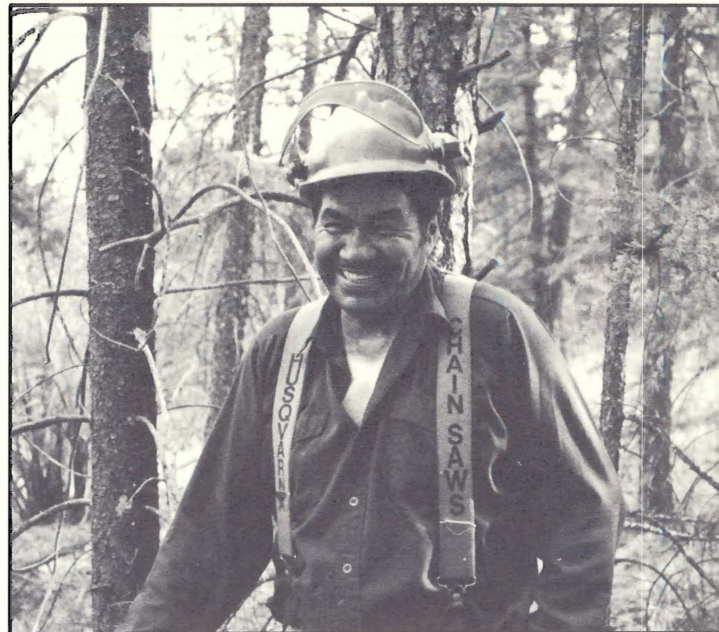
Dave Bodak, RPF has joined INAC assuming responsibility for forestry and environmental matters in the Central and Vancouver districts. Prior to joining the Department Mr. Bodak worked for various forestry consulting firms. He gained most of his experience working with Indian bands while employed by Hatch Woodlands Ltd. of Vancouver.

Jorge Trevin has accepted a term appointment with INAC in Campbell River. Mr. Trevin graduated as a forest engineer from the National University of La Plata, Argentina in 1976. He came to Canada in 1983 and earned a master's degree in natural resources management from Simon Fraser University in 1987. Mr. Trevin has experience in forest inventory, management

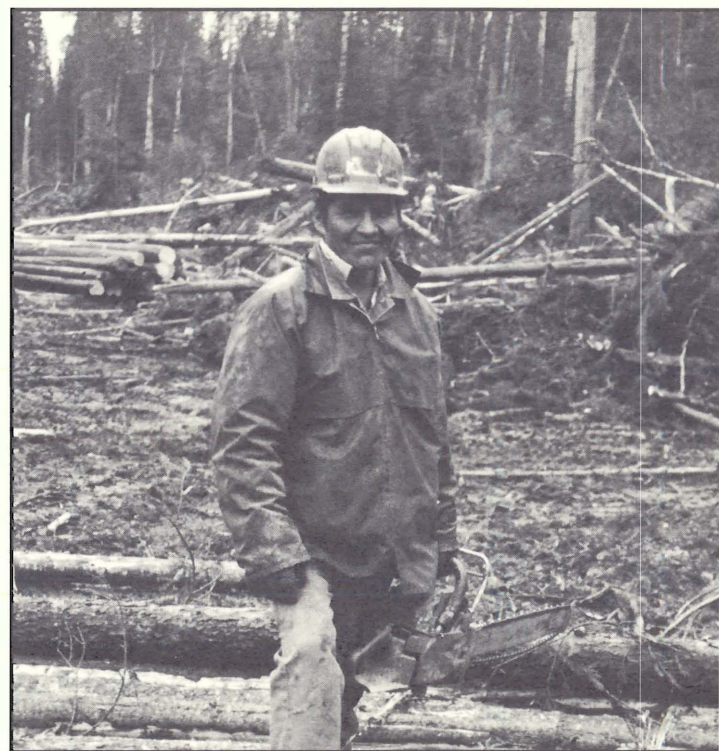
planning, forest fire protection, growth and yield research, and ecological classification. This experience has been gained in the forests of Argentina, Honduras and British Columbia. Mr. Trevin replaced Ron Frank who left the Campbell River position in October, 1987 to pursue opportunities in forest consulting. Two other foresters are currently on staff with INAC, Shannon Stone in Prince George and Ned Kontic in Terrace. The position of Regional Forester remains unfilled.



Marvin Shuter, foreman of Lower Nicola Band Forestry crew, spacing trees. The Band spaced 138 hectares under the Indian Forest Lands Program in 1987.



Francis Joe, forestry foreman for Shacken Band.



Landing man at Tanizul Timber Ltd.

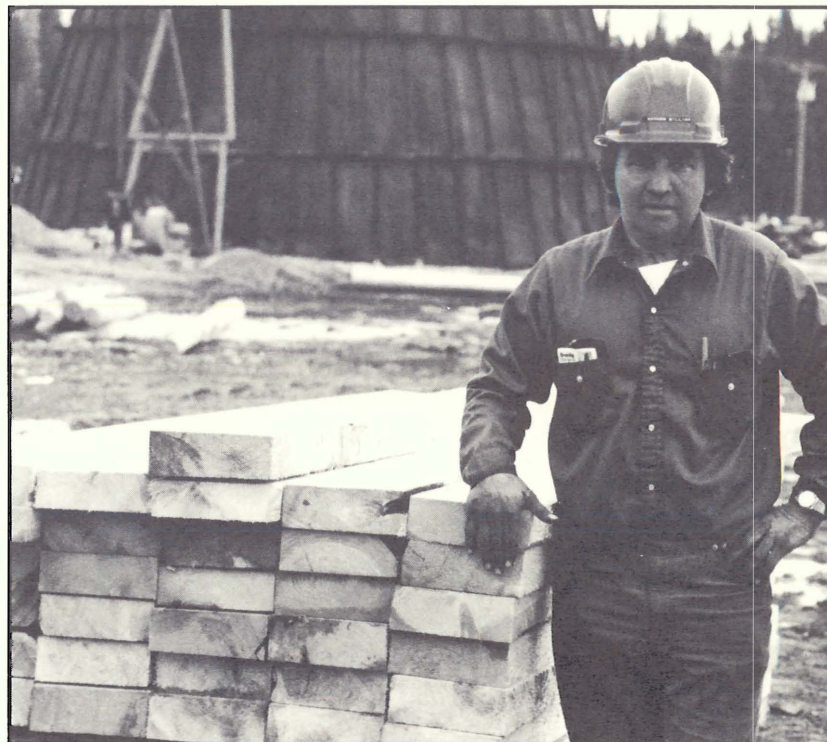
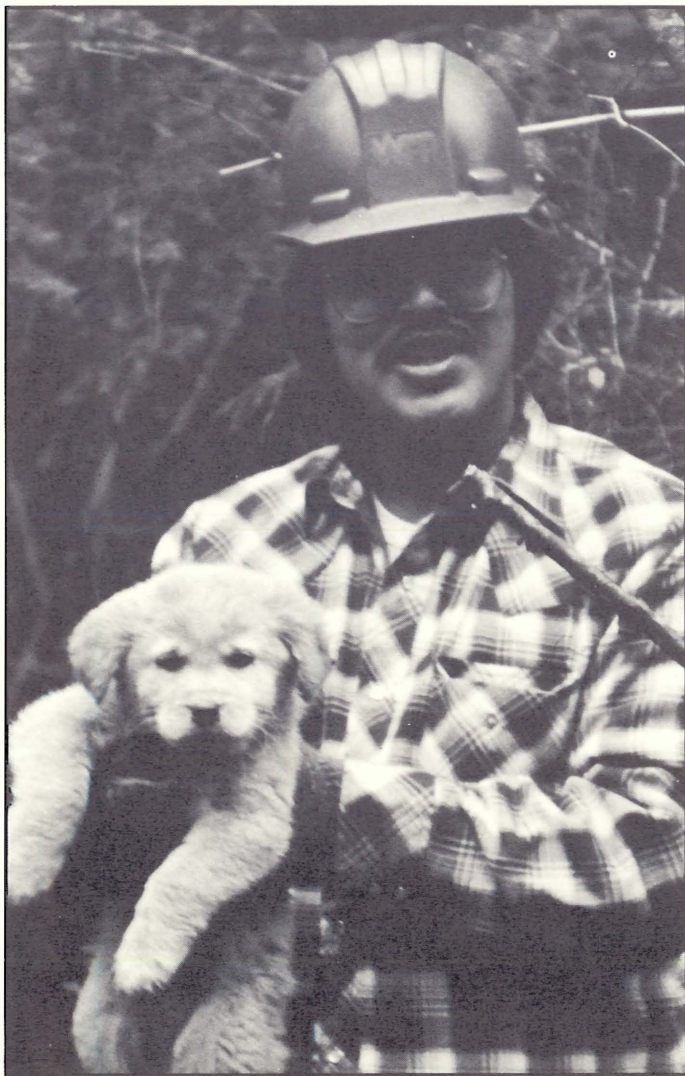


Bernard Dick operating the Mt. Currie Band's "bush" sawmill.

1987 — The Year in Pictures



Ralph McDougall and "Buck" horse logging for the North Thompson Band.



Warner Williams, Logging Superintendent for Kyah Industries owned by the Moricetown Band.

All kinds of wildlife abounds in the forest including this "wild dog" caught by Vince Shaughnessy on the Nimpkish Band's Reserve.



Kispiox site preparation by contractor. Sixty nine hectares were machine cleared.

Indian Forest Lands Program Third Year Accomplishments

What was the third year's emphasis?

Silviculture projects became a significant program component during the third year of FRDA (1987/88) accounting for more than half of program expenditures. Emphasis on forest inventories and development of forest management plans also continued and made up the balance of program expenditures.

How much area was silviculturally treated?

Twenty six bands implemented silviculture projects during the year. Site preparation of 285 ha and juvenile spacing of 1005 ha were the main program components. However, 80 ha were planted, 66 ha brushed and 39 ha received conifer release. In addition, 1575 ha received a pretreatment survey and 750 000 seedlings were sown. All areas treated met or exceeded provincial standards.

The areas treated were less than planned due to heavy snow accumulations and frozen ground on some of the Interior projects and rough seas preventing access on some of the Coastal projects. Only two silviculture projects had been funded in previous fiscal years.

How many inventories and management plans were completed?

Thirty four bands completed inventories and management plans during the year. Since program inception 88 bands have developed management plans and have conducted inventories on 173 300 hectares. This represents 45% of all Indian bands and 51% of all reserve land in British Columbia respectively.

What did everything cost?

All inventory and management planning projects were tendered and awarded on the basis of the lowest evaluated bid. The total cost of these projects was \$905 800 of which the share was \$634 300 (unaudited). The

majority of site preparation was by machine clearing and awarded on the basis of the lowest bid to site prep contractors. Seedling orders were placed on the basis of the lowest bid by commercial nurseries. Other silvicultural treatments were carried out using band labour with the per hectare cost being arrived at through negotiation with the band. The total 1987/88 cost of all silvicultural projects was \$897 000 of which the CFS share was \$703 400 (unaudited).

Bands continued to have difficulty providing a 20% equity contribution to projects. Their main source of funding in order of importance were Canadian Employment and Immigration Commission's (CEIC's) Job Development Program, Band internal financing, the Indian Community Human Resources Development Strategy (ICHRDS) and Indian Affairs economic development funds. The CFS accommodated other sources of financing by being flexible in the structuring of contribution agreements.

In summary what has the program accomplished to date?

Program activities for the 1987/88 fiscal year and a cumulative total for the first three years of the program are summarized in the table on page 7.



Howie Sexsmith and Marvin Sampson help advertise their site preparation project. ■

**FRDA Indian Forest Lands Program
Program summary to March 31, 1988**

Activity	1987/88 total			Cumulative total (1985-88)		
	# Bands	CFS \$	Area (ha)	# Bands	CFS \$	Area (ha)
Inventories and plans	34	\$634 300	64 130	88	\$1 478 500	173 300
Silviculture	26	703 400		28	764 900	
Surveys			1575			1575
Site preparation			285			287
Planting			80			82
Brushing			66			66
Conifer release			39			105
Spacing			1005			1061
Fertilization			0			0
Totals		\$1 337 700	67 180		\$2 243 400	176 476

In addition to the above, 750 000 seedlings were sown during the 1987/88 fiscal year for planting in the spring of 1989.

What's Wrong With The Indian Lands Program?

What's wrong with the Indian Forest Lands Program? What can be done to improve it? Those are the questions the BCIFA and the CFS asked each other early last year when it became apparent that the 1987/88 budget of \$1.97 million would not be spent. To find the answers the BCIFA recommended that the CFS retain Allen Hopwood Enterprises Ltd., a forest consulting firm, to review the program.

Allen Hopwood was instructed to identify constraints to the program, and to recommend action for Indian bands to undertake during the two years remaining in the current program and in any subsequent program.

Mr. Hopwood, assisted by other members of his firm, canvassed users and potential users of the Indian Forest Lands Program. He also consulted with members of the program's Indian Advisory Board and the directors of the BCIFA. In addition, he obtained verbal feedback from other forest consultants as well as INAC and the CFS.

The survey indicated numerous positive aspects of the program, but

also identified a variety of problems. The majority of difficulties identified related to the implementation of silviculture projects.

Perhaps the biggest problem identified by Mr. Hopwood is the requirement that each band contribute a minimum of 20% of total project costs. Although the CFS will allow those funds to come from other government programs, such as those operated by Employment and Immigration Canada, bands found this requirement too restrictive. Indeed, some bands were unaware of the opportunity to use these other funding sources.

Other problems pinpointed by Mr. Hopwood included lack of adequate CFS staff, weak band administration, and too few foresters or forest technicians at the band level to deal with the technical aspects of administering a forest management program.

The study recommends that:

- bands and tribal councils hire professional foresters on a full or part time basis with funding provided by the federal government;
- a new promotional package be prepared, including a video and illustrated brochure, and that the BCIFA take a more active role in promoting the program and forestry in general;
- the program's advisory board be made into a full-fledged program management committee having the authority to make decisions;
- the CFS be flexible in their funding of projects that enhance multiple use of the forest resource;
- the requirement that the bands must contribute 20% of project costs should be eliminated.

Mr. Hopwood presented his review and analysis of the program in a draft report to the BCIFA general meeting held April 28-29 in Vancouver. The report was well received. Copies of the complete report are available from the CFS in Victoria. ■



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada

Canadian
Forestry
Service

Service
canadien des
forêts

Canada-British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement

New Member on the Advisory Board

Russel Alec, of the Stuart-Trembleur Lake Band was appointed a member of the Advisory Board at the January meeting. Mr. Alec gained his forestry experience while serving on the Board of Directors of Tanizul Timber Ltd. where he has been involved since its creation in 1981. Before that he was part of the steering committee that organized this firm. He is currently employed by the Necoslie Band as their Education Director and also serves on the Board of their Nakazdli Development Corporation. Mr. Alec replaced Thomas Pierre who resigned due to his pressing business commitments with Tanizul Timber.

What is the structure of the Advisory Board?

The Board has nine voting members, five native and four government, and generally has five observers representing Employment and Immigration Canada, Agriculture and Rural Development

TREE TALK

Indian Forest Lands Program

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Indian Forest Lands Program

Canada

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Advisory Board members Harold Derickson, Russell Alec and John Jackson inspect seedlings during a tour in March of Northwood's nursery in Prince George.

ment Agreement (Special ARDA), Fisheries and Oceans Canada, British Columbia Forest Service and British Columbia Native Affairs Secretariat.

How long do native members serve on the Board?

Officially, native members are appointed for two-year terms with termination dates staggered to maintain some continuity on the Board. Nominations are received by the CFS and new members are selected based upon their forestry experience, and to

ensure equitable geographic representation throughout the province. However, no one has ever been replaced because of the lack of nominations. So, if you feel like serving, why not drop us a line stating your forestry experience and other qualifications. The BCIFA has expressed an interest in nominating members, so you might consider making yourself known to them as well.

Who is on the Board?

Membership on the Board is shown below.

Native

Harold Derickson
Bill Wasden
Allan Casimir
John Jackson
Russel Alec

Westbank Band
Musgamagw Tribal Council
Shuswap Nation Tribal Council
Nicola Valley Indian Admin.
Carrier Sekani Tribal Council

Alternate

Irvine Johnson

Alkali Lake Band

Government

Vic Ulrich	CFS
Mark Atherton	CFS
Doug Gordon	INAC
Shannon Stone	INAC

