

## **2008 Annual Report from the Board of Directors March 2009**

### **Bulkley Valley Research Centre 2008 Board of Directors:**

Sybille Haeussler, President  
Don Morgan, Vice President, Director of Operations  
Anne Harfenist, Secretary  
Brian Edmison, Treasurer  
Phil Burton  
Debbie Cichowski  
Rosemary Fox  
Brian Fuhr  
Jim McCormack  
Bob Mitchell  
Laurence Turney

### **Bulkley Valley Research Centre Support Personnel:**

#### ***Continuing Personnel***

Rick Budhwa, Research Program Manager  
Kirsteen Laing, Administrative Manager  
Amanda Follett, Communications Coordinator  
Erica (Close) Lilles, Soil & Vegetation Scientist  
Beth Henderson, Research Assistant

#### ***New Personnel (2008)***

Tamara Macleod, Operations Assistant  
Michelle Larstone, Fundraiser  
Marius Boldor, Research Associate  
Hilary Thorpe, Researcher, Post Doc  
Alana Clason, NSERC Researcher

#### ***Departed Personnel (2008)***

Rasmus Astrup, Senior Scientist (left in March 2008)  
Aaron Trowbridge, Junior Researcher (left in September 2008)  
Marie-Lou Lefrancois, Researcher (left in December 2008)

## **Activities in Year 2008:**

The Centre experienced many successes and challenges in 2008. Some of our successes included becoming NSERC eligible, collaborating on an international research project (LIDAR) and hosting a successful national conference on Timber Growth and Value. A major challenge for us in 2008/09 was the radically reduced funding available from the provincial government.

**NSERC Eligibility:** After a lengthy and complicated process, the Centre is now eligible for NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada) funding. This is very exciting for the Research Centre. We have qualified under the 'Industrial Research and Development' category. Currently, we have 1 student already engaged in this process and working with the Centre.

**Scientific Research and Projects:** The Centre was involved in 58 projects throughout the year. It was awarded 23 new projects, completed 26 projects, and will be carrying 32 projects forward to 2009. Contracts awarded to the Centre in 2008 totaled \$925,390.

**Scientific Extension:** In 2008, the Centre:

- maintained and updated its website, [www.bvcentre.ca](http://www.bvcentre.ca)
- hosted 1 successful conference (Timber Growth and Value, February 2008)
- hosted 13 biweekly Current Research Seminars in partnership with Northwest Community College
- prepared the following documents (available at [www.bvcentre.ca/documents](http://www.bvcentre.ca/documents))

### Research Reports (2):

- *The Importance, Traditional Use and Locations of Various Berry Species within the Gitksan Traditional Territory*
- *Uncha Mountain Red Hills Provincial Park Grassland Restoration Prescribed Fire: Results of First Year Vegetation Monitoring*

### Posters (1):

- *The effects of soil resources on tree neighborhood dynamics in sub-boreal spruce forests of British Columbia*

### Conference Proceedings (1):

- *Timber Growth and Value - Proceedings*

- Provided support to the Babine Watershed Monitoring Trust ([www.babinetrust.ca](http://www.babinetrust.ca))
- Maintained the Valley Vision website ([www.valleyvision.ca](http://www.valleyvision.ca)) to support coordinated land use planning in the Bulkley Valley.

### **Communications and Outreach:**

- Awarded the Jim Pojar and Irving Fox Awards at the AGM (March 2008)
- Participated with a display at the Minerals North Conference (April 2008) and the Green Building Trade Show – Hosted by One Sky, at the Bulkley Valley Fall Fair (August 2008)
- Produced two newsletters (June 2008, December 2008)
- Held a book launch for two members who co-authored books (December 2008)
- Held an open house (December 2008)

**Governance & Administration:** In 2008 the Centre acquired 26 new members for a total of 117.

**Scholarship Program:** *The Bulkley Valley Research Centre - Irving Fox Memorial Scholarship for Natural Resources Research and Management* was awarded to Erin Rechsteiner.

**Enhancing Community Capacity:** The Centre paid \$85,409 for administrative support and \$370,345 to researchers who work in the northwest (QCI to Vanderhoof) and \$169,962 on other local expenditures.