

2006 Annual Report from the Board of Directors March 2007

BV Research Centre 2006 Board of Directors:

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Irving Fox, Director Emeritus and one of the founders of the Centre, died in July 2006

BV Research Centre Support Personnel:

Rick Budhwa, Research Program Manager
Kirsteen Laing, Administrative Manager
Rasmus Astrup, Senior Researcher
Aaron Trowbridge, Junior Researcher
Amanda Follett, Research Program Associate

Activities in Year 2006:

Scientific Research and Projects: The Centre completed eight projects and carried 25 active projects forward to 2007 (listed in Appendix); we also submitted 20 project proposals or letters of intent. We held a research funding strategy café, which provided a good opportunity for coordination and for novices to pick up tips from more experienced proposal writers. Contracts awarded to the Centre in 2006 totaled \$776,693.

Tsayenyee Bay Dic'cen Forest Communities Program Proposal: With the Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corporation and other local organizations, the BV Research Centre submitted a proposal to the Canadian Forest Service's Forest Communities Program (FCP), a component of the international Model Forest Program. The proposal comprises several projects with the following broad objectives:

- To facilitate the integration of the values and principles of Aboriginal and non-aboriginal Canadians;
- To advance ideas and share knowledge locally, nationally and internationally;
- To strengthen community governance through organizational excellence and collaborative partnerships between stakeholders and agencies;
- To reconcile vision with reality in sustainable forest management through field application of tools, indicators and approaches;
- To assist communities with economic transition by developing new forest-based enterprises and non-timber forest products.

If successful, we anticipate that the Wetzin'kwa Community Forest on the outskirts of Smithers will serve as the core and showpiece for a model forest based in the Bulkley Valley and that the program will serve as an important source of funding for research, enhanced management and outreach within the Community Forest.

Scientific Extension: The Centre:

- maintained and expanded its website, www.bvcentre.ca;
- hosted 11 biweekly Natural Resources Seminar Series at North-West Community College;
- prepared Extension Notes on:
 - *Analysis of Presence/Absence Data when absence is uncertain (False Zeroes): An Example for the Northern Flying Squirrel using SAS; and*
 - *Northern Flying Squirrels and Red Squirrels: Is there Life after Beetles and Logging*

- produced the following report: *Landscape and Stand Scale Structure and Dynamics, and Conservation Ranking of Skeena River Floodplain Forests*
- prepared a *Review of the Hydrology, Geomorphology, Ecology and Management of the Skeena River Floodplain*;
- published a research brief, *Knowledge of the past helps plan for the Skeena River's Future* in the Forrex Spring 2006 Newsletter.

The above documents are available on the Centre's website:

www.bvcentre.ca.

The Centre also provided support to the Babine Watershed Monitoring Trust.

Communications: The Centre produced one newsletter to members, in August 2006; as well as news releases on the Jim Pojar and Irving Fox Awards that were granted at last year's AGM, and an article in the PG Citizen. The Centre's success at attracting research funding from the BC Forest Sciences Program and the Dec. 2006 opening of our Main Street office were reported in the Smithers Interior News.

Governance & Administration: In 2006 the Centre acquired 12 new members, including five supporting members, bringing the total up to 82. We established four new part-time staff positions: Rick Budwa was hired as Research Program Manager, Rasmus Astrup was hired as Senior Researcher, Aaron Trowbridge was hired as Junior Researcher, and Dave Loewen preceded Amanda Follett as Research Program Associate. We also employed one summer student (Olivia Pojar).

Enhancing Community Capacity: The Centre awarded \$234,350 locally (including hiring a summer coop student). \$56,609 was spent on local Ministry employees, and \$65,260 on other local expenditures. We awarded a \$500 Renewable Resources Scholarship to a Smithers Secondary School graduate, Cameron Reive.