

# Media Fact Sheet

## What is the ABCFP?



### **About the ABCFP**

The Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP) is the registering and regulatory body for forest professionals in BC. The ABCFP is the largest forestry association in Canada and was the first to include Registered Forest Technologists. The ABCFP has over 5,400 members who work in every corner of the province.

### **What is the ABCFP's mandate?**

The ABCFP's primary mandate is to register and regulate the province's forest professionals; however with the changes to the *Foresters Act* in 2003, the ABCFP added advocacy to its mandate. We advocate on behalf of the people of BC – not our members – for good forest stewardship.

### **What are forest professionals?**

There are two main types of forest professionals in BC – Registered Professional Foresters (RPFs) and Registered Forest Technologists (RFTs). RPFs are involved in managing the forest and planning how it will be used and cared for. RFTs have a narrower scope of practise and are involved in many technical forestry activities such forest health, forest engineering, silviculture and more.

Both RPFs and RFTs have post-secondary education (at least an undergraduate degree for RPFs and at least a college diploma for RFTs) and have passed a rigorous registration exam. All forest professionals must adhere to the ABCFP's Bylaws and Standards of Professional Practice as well as all relevant legislation.

Both RPFs and RFTs can work for government, academia or industry. Many forest professionals own and operate consulting businesses of all sizes.

### **How is the ABCFP governed?**

The ABCFP is led by a volunteer council. The council is made up of 10 elected members (either RPFs or RFTs) and two lay members who are appointed by the provincial government. The council sets the strategic direction and goals of the ABCFP while the staff, led by the CEO, takes care of daily operations.

### **For more information:**

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