



Also Serving – Interior Logging Association (ph 250-503-2199) & North West Loggers Association (ph 250-635-6801)

Issue # 541 Week of December 11, 2009

Mark your calendar

Jan. 9 (Saturday) – CILA trucking members meet at 8 a.m. at the Tower Inn, Quesnel, for a discussion of current issues.

Jan. 15 (Friday) – the CILA's Board of Directors meets at 10.30 a.m. at the CILA boardroom. The agenda will include updates on Resources Expo, CILA membership, training initiatives and policy concerns. All members are welcome; please call the office before Jan. 10 if you'd like to attend.

Worth cheering along. . .

Folio, a U.S. media web publication, points out that when the U.S. government passed a transportation bill giving a dollar-a-gallon subsidy to industry if they incorporated bio products into the fuel they use, the purpose was to reduce their use of fossil fuels and carbon emissions.

U.S. pulp mills moved quickly to take advantage of a legislative loophole that lets them claim the subsidy for doing something they've been doing for half-a century: Adding diesel fuel to the black liquor byproduct of pulp-making and burning it to power the mills.

Talk about unintended consequences . . . Folio says the pulp companies have increased their fossil fuel use (diesel), increased their carbon emissions, and sucked up more than \$4.7 billion taxpayer dollars so far this year – a fact that also puts Canadian pulp mills at a big disadvantage.

The website suggests that magazine publishers ask their paper suppliers if they support the black liquor tax loophole, and encourage them to oppose it. We can't make much difference, but it's worth a cheer.

Do you need

A Benefit Plan for your employees? A Costing Program?

Just call us!



SUMMIT
INSURANCE BROKERS INC

250-564-4401 or toll free 1-800-663-5581

China buying more B.C. lumber

B.C. lumber producers say sales to China will make up about 18% to 19% of their total sales by the end of the year, and the good news is that a significant part of those sales are being made by forest companies operating in the B.C. Interior.

A new building code for the city of Shanghai appears to have opened the door, and 1.2 billion board feet of lumber was sold to China by the end of September. The total is expected to reach 1.8 billion board feet by the end of the year.

Forests Minister Pat Bell says 3 to 3.5-billion board feet in sales to China by the end of 2010 are possible, particularly if some mills convert some of their production to metric measurements, which are more in demand in China.

New land act will help FN development

The federal government has introduced legislation that will enable First Nations across Canada to develop commercial real estate on reserve land. Called the First Nations Certainty of Land Title Act, it will allow registration of on-reserve commercial real estate developments similar to what is done under provincial land titles or registry systems. This would help First Nations take advantage of economic development opportunities on reserve land, potentially making commercial property on reserves such as multiple-unit housing, stores, offices and other buildings closer in value to off-reserve commercial properties.



The Central Interior Logging Association's Weekly Log-Harvesting Industry Update

Telephone: (250) 562-3368

Facsimile: (250) 563-3697

Also Serving – Interior Logging Association (ph 250-503-2199) & North West Loggers Association (ph 250-635-6801)

The Squamish Band requested the Act to help launch a proposed commercial condominium development on reserve land in West Vancouver. Before the legislation could be applied, it would need the support of the province, and a First Nation group would need a commercial or industrial partner or developer.

Holiday parties carry some risks

It's the holiday season, and staff and/or customer parties are the talk of the week. If you're hosting a company holiday party, whether at someone's home or at a public place, know about your risks in doing so.

Recent Canadian legal cases dealing with employer liability and social host liability indicate that your wisest course of action is to ensure that any social function your company hosts is alcohol-free.

"The courts have broadened the scope of employer responsibility for monitoring employee behaviour in the workplace where alcohol consumption is involved," says Diana Dorey of Davis & Co. She adds that employers must take proactive steps to prevent 'the foreseeable risk of injury' caused by an intoxicated employee who chooses to drink and drive.

Employers can guard against potential lawsuits by speaking to staff before the festivities about the dangers of over-drinking, issuing written notice of company policies about alcohol consumption at company functions, and providing transportation home from events where liquor is served. And above, don't provide an "open bar" – it's nothing less than an invitation for trouble down the road... literally!