



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

Issue # 539 Week of November 23, 2009

Tax battle goes to Ottawa

B.C.'s four logging associations continue to press the federal government for action to stop the Canada Revenue Agency from taxing trust payments made to contractors who had their contracts extinguished when the province took licence volume back from forest companies almost four years ago.

Logging association representatives recently met with federal officials to state our case, pointing out that this is a province-wide issue, with more than 300 contractors being reassessed by CRA.

Contractors accepted distributions from the trust in good faith, understanding at the time that the trust money was tax-exempt because it was a distribution of capital from a personal trust

Since then, many contractors have spent or reinvested their payments and can't pay the unexpected tax burden. To require payment of taxes now, this long after their contracts were extinguished (when it was understood that the trust payments would have no exposure to taxes being distributions of capital from a personal trust), would bankrupt a large portion of the industry.

Bio Diesel Concerns Truckers & Loggers

The upcoming Bio diesel requirement was a hot topic for truckers and loggers at last week's CILA hosted meeting in Williams Lake. Concerns range from quantities of bio actually in the fuel at delivery, labelling, warranty, effects on mileage and production, etc. The CILA is working with FERIC to generate a fact sheet for members before the mandated B5 (5% bio diesel) content average takes effect Jan 1, 2010. Some issues have already been identified around warranties based on what kind of bio feedstock is used in the blending and fuel labelling. Stay tuned for more on this in the very near future.



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Fuel efficiencies workshops

Tomorrow's edition of the Fuel Efficiencies workshops takes place at the Grand Trunk Inn, Vanderhoof, from 8am- noon. So far 22 truckers and loggers have signed up for the session. There's still time for you to come, too. Either call the CILA office a 1 877 562 5668 or show up at 8am tomorrow.

The CILA portion of the meeting will cover issues the Association is currently working on, including HST, the Loggers' Tax, Woodworker Lien Act, the Trust Tax, and more. Take the opportunity to give your input, get information you need, and find out what the Association does for its members.

Next Saturday's workshop takes place in Quesnel, at the Tower Inn from 8am to noon. Please call the CILA to register.

Facts about Idling

As weather turns colder and we get into our old habits of idling trucks and machines, think about these facts from FERIC. Idling increases fuel costs. Every hour of idling wastes up to 4 litres of fuel and increases harmful emissions (GHGs, NO_x, CO, PM, VOC). As well, idling increases maintenance costs. Extended idling can reduce the life of engine oil by up to 75%, and increases wear & tear of certain components (ex: filters, valve seats, piston heads, etc.). 1 hour of idling = 2 hours of running time, and depreciation and resale are directly related to the hour meter.



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ESP provides access to training

ESP Consulting has agreed to help the CILA provide access to training opportunities for contractors with the 100 Mile and Williams Lake areas, as part of our Forestry Labour Force Development partnership with the governments of Canada and BC, and the Truck Loggers. If you are self-employed, not eligible for EI, and want to upgrade your skills to help you stay in the forest industry, give Penny Robart a call at (250)392-4446. For the rest of the Central Interior, Northeast and Northwest, call the CILA office at 1 877 562 5668.

New SAFE Co's Director

The BC Forest Safety Council has announced Stephen Chaplin, RFT, as its Director of SAFE Companies, replacing Krista Bax. In his role Chaplin will involve close working relationships with government and industry, with an emphasis on practical, effective systems that reduce hazards and risk in the workplace.

Chaplin comes to the position from Western Forest Products, and has previously worked for Weyerhaeuser and McMillan Bloedel. He will be based in Nanaimo.

Mark's Workwearhouse cards available

Our CILA discount cards for Mark's Workwearhouse have arrived, and we are able to provide them to all our current members PLUS employees. Give us a quick call and let us know how many employees you have (and your subs) so we can get them to you in time for Christmas shopping. These are not a one time deal. They entitle you and your employees 10% off purchases at Mark's from now until November 2010, on outer wear, clothing, safety gear, and footwear.
