



**Forest
Professionals**
BRITISH COLUMBIA

NEWS RELEASE
February 10, 2026

Forest Professionals BC Honours Seven Outstanding Forest Professionals

Vancouver — Forest Professionals British Columbia (FPBC) honoured seven individuals as part of its recognition program in Vancouver on February 5.

Forest Professionals BC recognized three Distinguished Forest Professionals, one Forest Professional of the Year, one Jim Rodney Memorial Volunteer of the Year, and two authors for BC Forest Professional Magazine Best Article at the 78th Forest Professionals BC forestry conference recognition banquet.

“Congratulations to those recognized,” said Dave Clarke, RPF, Forest Professionals BC Board chair. “Their dedication, expertise, and accomplishments continue to inspire forest professionals across the field. Showcasing these contributions gives the forestry community an opportunity to celebrate peer achievements and recognize those whose work serves the public interest while strengthening trust and confidence in the profession and its registrants.”

Jeff Fisher (North Vancouver), BSF, RPF, **Christopher Vukovic** (Qualicum Beach), HBScF, RPF(Ret), and **John Walker** (Williams Lake), RPF, were honoured as Distinguished Forest Professionals for 2025. This category recognizes significant accomplishments over a career, for providing outstanding service to the profession of forestry and for furthering the principles of Forest Professionals BC. It is the profession’s highest honour for a registrant.



Jeff Fisher



Christopher Vukovic



John Walker



Peter Flett

Peter Flett, MSFM, RPF, of Penticton is the 2025 Forest Professional of the Year, recognizing a Registered Professional Forester (RPF), Registered Forest Technologist (RFT), or Affiliated Forest Professional (AFP) for recent, outstanding service to the profession of forestry and furthering the principles of Forest Professionals BC.

Margaret Symon, RPF, PCP, of Duncan is the 2025 Jim Rodney Memorial Volunteer of the Year, issued since 1997 and recognizing a registered forest professional for providing outstanding volunteer service to FPBC.



Margaret Symon (left)

Lastly, Vanessa Fetterly, BSc, RPBio, and Carl Pollard, BSc, RPF, collaborated on the 2025 BC Forest Professional Magazine Best Article. This category recognizes individuals who have written outstanding articles for publication in BCFP magazine.

Fetterly is a senior research assistant with the College of New Caledonia in Prince George, while Pollard is the director of the College of New Caledonia Research Forest. They collaborated on Why Did the Western Toad Cross the Road? A Look at the Impact of Roadside Ponds on Amphibian Populations in Northern BC, which ran in the summer 2025 edition of BC Forest Professional.

Forest Professionals BC recognition is based on nominations submitted by other forest professionals.

Forest Professionals BC is responsible for registering and regulating the province's 4,900 professional foresters and forest technologists.

For more information:

Dean Pelkey, communications director Direct: 604-331-2321

E-mail: dpelkey@fpbc.ca

Web: fpbc.ca