



Canadian Institute of Forestry
Institut forestier du Canada

Rocky Mountain Section 2017-2018
Annual General Meeting
April 24th, 2018

Year-End Report

Director's Report, Jeff Renton

Membership

As of April 2018, there are currently 1577 members in the CIF/IFC National database; total membership fluctuates annually as new members join and as member non-renewals are factored in. This number is slightly lower than the total reported at the in April of last year (2017).

The CIF/IFC continues to encourage and maintain Sustaining Corporate memberships currently there are 5 levels of membership. There are 46 Sustaining Corporate members. Eleven are based or significant in Alberta. More recent national additions include the Commonwealth Forestry Association, Ontario Forestry Futures Trust, TD Bank and the Government of Yukon. The highest category level, Cypress, at \$10,000 contribution, has yet to be claimed.

Institute Financials

The financial position has improved over last year, but boosting and maintaining revenues from membership renewals and Corporate Sustaining member's needs to continue. To this end, one of the key decisions approved by the National Board of Directors at the AGM was the increase in individual membership fees rates went up in 2016, and again in 2017. The second increase in dues by the Institute in is as follows:

- Active: \$147 plus tax
- Retired: \$63 plus tax
- Student: \$63 plus tax

All membership levels include access to the full suite of Institute products, services and activities. A review of student rates was discussed at 2017 AGM and a decision on the rate is anticipated.

Strategic Plan

At the National Board meeting in Ottawa, the Board of Directors updated the Institutes five-year strategic plan and committed to a number of annual activities that are linked to achieving our long

term strategic objectives. The five high level goals that continue to drive our strategic plan are as follows:

- Provide Value for members
- Ensure financial stability of the CIF
- Promote Professionalism
- Achieve National and International Profile
- Promote forestry awareness, public outreach

Since 2016, RMS has aligned its local strategic plan with the CIF-IFC National Strategic Plan. The incoming council will endeavor to finalize and implement this plan. This is still on going as of April, 2018.

National Personnel

Dana Collins, *Executive Director*

Kerry Spencer, *Admin Coordinator - out of the National Office.*

Natasha Machado, *Extension Forester - started in September 2016.*

Jordan Macmillan, *Technical Extension Forester - officially started this week*

Ronnie Huang, *Forest Science Extension Coordinator - started in September 2016.*

Ginny Hudson, *Current Forest Science Extension Intern - also works with FP Innovations*

Jen Allen, *Communications and Conference Intern – Started January 2017 and develop some of the Institute’s communication material including brochures, postcards, roll-ups etc.*

Brian Batchelor, *Director of CIF-SEEK Finances*

National Executive Members:

Alex Drummond - *President*

Colin Carroll – *First Vice President*

Luc M. Rainville– *Second Vice President*

Megan Smith- *Past President*

The Forestry Chronicle

The Forestry Chronicle continues to be the marquee publication of the Institute. A three year review of the Chronicle was completed in 2016. Two major challenges with the Chronicle are the lack of manuscripts to meet the bi-monthly commitment of production. The old business model was also no longer functioning properly. Few members want printed versions and fewer people want to advertise in the Chronicle. Starting in Jan 1, 2017 the journal was available to any reader without a financial barrier or technical barrier. The goal is to increase readership levels and journal exposure. The journal will no longer be printed it will be online only. The Chronicle comes out 4 times a year instead of 6. The focus is science only.

Communications

The CIF National Facebook Site has 2011 members. @CIF_IFC Twitter now has 2483 followers. The highly successful magazine, 'Success Stories from Canadian Forests', which featured 10 stories of innovation, peer-to-peer collaboration, and the application and implementation of better science and new technologies. Nearly 20,000 copies were distributed across Based on its success, CIF/IFC staff and partners has produced the second installation of the magazine. Volume 3 is now online. Visit <http://www.cif-ifc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/CIF-Success-Stories-From-Canadian-Forests-Volume3-8.5x11-WEB-min.pdf>

National Awards

National Award Nominations are being solicited; June 1, 2018 is the submission deadline - all members and sections are encouraged to submit nominations in all categories. Nomination forms are on the website. It is anticipated RMS will be making a 2019 nomination this year.

Prince of Wales Forest Leadership Award –Congratulations to the 2018 Prince of Wales Forest Leadership Award recipients! Daniel Root from the University of Toronto and Erin Pearson from College of the North Atlantic were selected among talented competition as the Canadian recipients, while Tom Haynes and Michael Wilson from the University of Cumbria, were selected among top United Kingdom applicants.

National AGMs

Following the successful delivery of the 2017 CIF-IFC National AGM in Ottawa. The RMS Section are hard at work planning the 2018 National AGM and Conference being held in Grande Prairie Alberta, September 18-20 2018. The conference will happen during National Forest Week and the theme is entitled “**Sustaining Resources and Enhancing Communities: Looking Back and Going Forward**”.

For 2019, The AGM and conference location and host are still to be determined. More details to follow.

The 109th AGM Report on Ottawa conference can be found here <https://www.cif-ifc.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Annual-Report-2016-2017FV.pdf> The 110th AGM report on Grande Prairie will be available in 2019.

Other

National looks to re-invigorate the membership committee. It will remain as a standing committee, chaired by the Past President.

The primary focus of the committee is on retention of current members and then long-term looking at increasing membership. The committee wants to understand current membership and membership trends, and develop strategies for membership retention and recruitment.

Current committee consists of: Megan Smith, Doug Reid, Vicki Gauthier, Jocelin Teron, Sean Greene, Ed Morrice, Nicholas Dormaar, and Brian Boswell.

The first step was to conduct a membership analysis which looked at trends throughout the country and within each section with a specific focus on demographics. (Completed February 2017)

The Second step saw a survey sent to all current active members in May 2017. The survey looked to measure membership loyalty, and perceived value and benefits of current members. The preliminary report from the survey was made available for members at the National AGM in 2017.

We are looking for more concrete data and discussions at the 2018 AGM.

Section “Check In”. This initiative is to support sections from a national perspective. Each section has their unique challenges and one of the things that National is hoping to do, as part of their due diligence, is to make sure sections are doing the best they can. This will be a positive thing for sections, and will add value. The “Check-In” will take place with each section on a rotating basis every year to make sure everyone is in alignment with national strategies. Timelines for the check-in process have been extended due to further reviews of National functions and structures

Student electronic lecture series - Generally e-lectures cost about \$1,000 for organizations and we are offering students the opportunity to participate in a special e-lecture series to showcase their research. We have reached out to the silver ring schools – students must submit a one page abstract and can be sent directly to Dana Collins.

Message from the Chair, Dan Wilkinson

The Section held two technical session this year. Thank you to Vic, Julie and Nathan for organizing these two events. The first session occurred on November 22nd “Integrating Wildfire Risk in Forest Management Planning”. The session was attended by 145 persons. Also we appreciate the collaboration with Foothills Research Institute to pull off a highly successful joint two day Forestry Forum in April 22th and 25th attended by XXX persons.

The RMS executive attended the National AGM in Ottawa and were given go ahead to host the 2018 National AGM in Grande Prairie. Students from NAIT and the University of Alberta attended in significant numbers and dominated the Quiz Bowl tournament-well done. Thanks to Alex Drummond for his ongoing and untiring support of student activities.

This year we say goodbye to several members of our council. Dan MacIsaac, Sharad Karmacharya, Graham Legarden, Noel St Jean and Lindsay Dent. Thanks to all the outgoing counsellors for their

efforts and contributions. With the amalgamation of the two colleges, the council awaits AAFMP Board direction on CIF representation. Heath Schneider's and Doug Krystofiak's assistance over many years has been appreciated.

Preparations for the 2018 conference in Grande Prairie "Sustaining Resources and Enhancing Communities: By Looking Back and Going Forward". Are well underway due to the hard work of the HAMPCO 2018 committee. More announcements to follow by email and social media. Hope to see strong RMS presence at the conference. Early Bird Registration opened on ??????

Council started working with a contractor to create a modern, RMS website authorized at the 2017 AGM.

Thank you for the privilege of being able to serve the Institute and Rocky Mountain Section this year. Congratulations to our award recipients. Thanks to the membership and council for their hard work this past year. Thanks especially to the executive committee (Jeff Renton, and Vic Lieffers) for their support. I look forward to serving as Director in 2018-2019 and helping out where needed.

RMS Council Committee Reports:

Technical Program Committee

Vic Lieffers, Julie Steinke and Nathan Lauer

Summary

Two Technical Programs were provided during 2017-18:

Winter Technical Program

A diverse lineup of speakers from government and academia shared their expertise on:

- Wildfire and climate change
- FireSmart and the wildland urban interface (WUI)
- Fire risk assessment at community and landscape scales
- Fuel management and silviculture strategies for reducing fire risk
- First Nations fire management

- Fire, caribou and protected areas

The special guest Bob Keane, Supervisory Research Ecologist and wildland fuel science specialist with the US Forest Service joined by skype- a first for technical sessions in Alberta

Thanks to Alberta Agriculture and Forestry for hosting the session.

Spring Technical Program

2018 Forest Forum - Alberta's Forests Under Threat: a call for action | April 24–25

The FRI Research Mountain Pine Beetle Ecology Program and the Canadian Institute of Forestry - Rocky Mountain Section¹ in conjunction with TRIA-Net² are collaborating on the planning and delivery of this year's Forest Forum.

Alberta Innovates hosted the 2018 Forest Forum where we will explore the threats to Alberta forests and, with combined science based knowledge, practical experience and consideration of institutional impediments, we will address what we can do as there is a call for action.

TRIA-Net will contribute to the Forest Forum agenda. Their presentations will provide overviews of the four research themes addressed by TRIA-Net as follows:

- THEME 1: Molecular analyses of MPB and host pines in historic versus novel habitats
- THEME 2: Population genomics of adaptation in MPB, fungi and pine hosts along axes of MPB range expansion
- THEME 3: Population dynamics of the MPB system in novel habitats
- THEME 4: Socioeconomic analyses of MPB invasion scenarios

Future Technical Programs

The program committee will be meeting in mid-spring to decide on potential topics and committee structures for 2018-2019 events. We are looking for opportunities to partner with AAFMP, CFS, FRI, WOLF Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and FPInnovations. These opportunities will focus on forestry centers outside of Edmonton. Because of the National AGM and Conference in Grande Prairie, only one technical session will be planned for spring 2019 in advance of the 2019 RMS AGM.

Technical Program Delivery

Technical program delivery is a team and partnership initiative; hence, Council encourages CIF-RMS members to submit ideas for technical programs. Many of the Technical Session programs are developed by people outside of Council, with organizational and logistical support provided by the Technical Program Committee.

Council is committed to the development of programs to meet the interests of the wide range of jobs held by our members and the resource professionals with whom they work.

The Program Committee appreciates the effort provided by Council and other CIF-RMS members in the development of the Technical Programs. The quality of the programs clearly demonstrated the value of having subject matter specialists lead the development of a program theme. This effort is complimented by the several volunteers that manage the registration before and the day of the sessions.

CIF-RMS Position on Soliciting and Accepting Sponsorship Funding

As part of RMS continued due diligence in budget planning and forecasting, we have defined a policy for sponsorship. This policy will ensure transparent and consistent sponsorship going forward

CIF-RMS will solicit and accept sponsorship funding for our technical programs from organizations that manage and use natural resources, or support natural resources professionals. CIF-RMS is committed to providing high quality, relevant programs to our members, to nonmembers, and all other natural resource professionals and the public on a first-come basis by registration.

All sponsors will be acknowledged in program announcements, program literature, and during the program by the moderator. If they choose, sponsors will be allowed to set up professional tradeshow

type displays if the venue is appropriate and the space is available. Sponsorship will cover one person attending the program.

Sponsorship funding will be used by the CIF-RMS to help insure that we continue to provide high quality technical programs relevant to forest ecosystems, and related activities of Council. Council maintains a strong commitment to maintaining scholarships for students enrolled in forestry programs at the University of Alberta and Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, several on campus forestry student activities, and participation of forestry students at national conferences. In addition, Council also provides ongoing support for other natural resource related programs, including Forests without Border, Envirothon, and other requests from time to time.

When accepting sponsorship funding, CIF-RMS is in no manner obligated and in-debt to the sponsor for the donation of funds.

Quantifying Sponsorship Options

1. \$50 – Table for adverts or displaying company stuff; company takes care of logo and all visual for company; company name goes into a list of displayers in a brochure
2. \$250 – Bronze sponsor – 1 paid admission with lunch, logo on the workshop literature, cover screen, etc.
3. \$500 – Silver sponsor - 2 paid admissions with lunch, optional table for adverts/display or will place a supplied poster for the company, company logo on literature and screen
4. \$1000 – Gold Sponsor – up to 4 paid admissions with lunch, optional table for adverts/display or will place a supplied poster, company logo on literature and screen, optional 2 – 3 minutes at the podium after lunch for promotion to the room.

Membership Committee

Graham Legaarden

There are two primary roles of the membership committee:

1. Use the CIF national membership email system as the primary CIF RMS vehicle to communicate information about CIF and RMS activities and notices to the membership.
2. To work with CIF-IFC National to create and maintain an up to date RMS membership list. The maintenance and update of this list is a continual activity. This can be a challenge with people that are moving, retiring, not renewing membership, or changing Email addresses. Several members were contacted to correct email addresses if contact information was available. We kindly request from the membership to please contact us should you find you are not receiving any communications regarding CIF-IFC and RMS activities. When you change your email address, please notify the CIF-IFC so there records can also be updated.

Membership Updates

Table One shows the currently membership numbers as of April 2017. Members in arrears have been significantly reduced with many members renewing or discontinuing their membership. All members in arrears are less than a year behind in payment. A national membership committee has been struck to examine the reasons behind declining enrollment in the last few years. Rocky Mountain Section will be actively participating.

RMS currently has 11 corporate members.

Table 1: Yearly review of total membership numbers for all of Canada, CIF current as of April, 2017

Year	Total Members				
2014	2200				
2015	2356				
2016	2015				
2017	1726				
2018	1577				

Awards Committee

Dieter Kuhnke

The Awards Committee approached the RMS membership again this year for Tree of Life nominees in a bid to make the nomination process more transparent and inclusive. Two very deserving nominees came out of this process. The RMS has had ten out of 27 recipients across the country over the last five years.

Other award highlights are:

- XXXXXX of NAIT receiving the RMS Aboriginal Student bursary, an endowed scholarship established through the generous contribution of an anonymous donor.
- CIF-RMS Book Prize (NAIT) awarded to XXXXXX
- CIF-RMS First Year Bursary (NAIT) awarded to XXXXX
- XXXXX was awarded the CIF Gold Medal (NAIT)
- CIF-RMS Field Camp Prize (U of A) awarded to XXXXXX
- CIF-RMS prize (U of A) awarded to XXXXX
- CIF Gold Medal (U of A) recipient to be awarded in June. Last year's award recipient XXXXXX

Treasurers Financial Report

Dan Wilkinson Acting Treasurer

Overview:

Council continues specified spending for and tracking of each student event (as per AGM two years previously)

GIC matured and postponed reinvesting to ensure coverage of 2018 AGM and conference –if required to cover any deficit arising from the conference.

Remaining GIC (\$9,229.47) was reinvested for one year term.

We used CIBC GIC \$15,170.63 to set up HAMPCO (As per 2016 AGM vote)

Changes in National Policy resulted in HAMPCO expenses being managed out of National. RMS Account now closed as of May 1, 2018.

So monies expended on AGM have been refunded to RMS about \$8900. Some bank fee account expenses absorbed by RMS. CIF National Account Expenses to date on 2018 conference are \$10,067.99

Major investment is for new RMS website \$10,000. Expenditures were constrained this year and next year to absorb one time expense for website. Being cautious on spending as profit or loss at 2018 conference is still uncertain at this time.

Searching for new permanent Treasurer- interim Todd Nash and MNP comptroller Connie helping with finances until fall 2018.

2017/18 RMS Budget Review:

The draft 2017/18 financial statements for RMS are being distributed at the AGM, and a copy is attached to this report for the official record. Three documents are included: Income Statement, Balance Sheet, and proposed RMS 2018/19 Budget. The draft documents were presented as information at the April 24th AGM pending verification process by MNP and an audit supervised by

two RMS members. After audit mail out and vote with RMS members will be undertaken or it will be reviewed and approved at the 2019 AGM.

The account balances (as of April 12th 2018): (These will be updated on May 1, 2018)

RMS Checking Account:	\$59,792.63
Forest Without Borders	\$3,753.60
RMS GIC deposits	\$9,229.47
TOTAL	\$72,775.70

This year's Income Statement includes the past two operating years for reference and is important to note that the spreadsheet was continues this year to show more detail regarding section spending and as a result there will be blanks in the previous years as these categories were amalgamated.

The presented income statement is interim as costs and revenues from the spring technical session have not been finalized as of April 12th and the verification and audit later in the year. The 2017/18 Income Statement indicates total revenues of \$44,743.07 (includes a matured GIC of \$15,274.36) for a net revenue of \$29,468.71. Total expenditures of \$29,836.29 resulting in a gain of \$14,906.78 less the residual CIBC GIC value of \$10,948.52 for a net gain of 3958.26. In December 2017 one of our GICs matured and was renewed for 1 year.

The rediscovered CIBC GIC in 2016 was utilized to fund the HAMPCO committee for the 2018 AGM preparation totaling \$15000.00. Early in the process, national advised a change in policy and took over the finances for the 2018 AGM. RMS expenses totaling about \$8900 were refunded and transferred to the RMS main checking account. From the former HAMPCO account of \$15000.00, \$4051.48(\$ 213.99 bank fees and \$3837.43 expenses) was added into to RMS general expenses. A further \$2207 account residual from the HAMPCO account has been transferred to the RMS main checking account as of April 30, 2018.

The 2018/19 proposed RMS Budget is tabled as the incoming RMS Council has yet to review and approve the budget. . For comparison purposes, the past years budget and actual expenditures (audited) for 2017/18 are provided. Membership present at last years AGM requested that RMS council itemize each student event expense, as a result, council tracked student event spending in the budget and referred to the budget as much as possible to ensure money being requested was allocated for spending.

RMS council will continue tracking student event expenditures in this year's budget. Please refer to the spreadsheet to see previous and proposed student event costs. RMS council is continuing to seek sponsorship support in our Tech Sessions.

A decrease in expenditures is proposed for the coming year, based on projected revenue of \$18,100. Council is requesting to maintain current expenditures for this years proposed budget resulting in a deficit budget with the balance being covered by our GICs. Council will seek approval of the 2018/19 budget as presented by mail vote later in the year after verification of 2017-18 expenditures.

At last year's AGM, RMS established a volunteer financial review committee comprised of CIF members XXXXXXXXXX. In XXXXX, our acting RMS Treasurer met with the committee to review our 2017/18 financials and outages were corrected as required. We would like to thank XXXXXX for their help.

Forests without Borders – Alberta Caucus Liaison

Teresa Stokes

Forest without Borders Caucus Report for 2017/18
Teresa Stokes, RMS Caucus Chair

Organization

Note this section will be updated after AGM. 2017-18 FWB report not available as of April 12th.

In 2017/18, the RMS continued to support the Forests without Borders charity (FwB) through a group of members called the RMS FwB Caucus. It is one of four Caucuses across all CIF Sections. The others are found in NL, ON and BC. The primary tasks of the Caucuses are to create awareness of FwB, raise funds for FwB, and to advocate for projects that are of particular interest to their Section members and Caucus. Two RMS members, Pat Wearmouth and Sharad Karmacharya also serve on the FwB National Board of Trustees (BofT). FwB is structured such, that final authority for project choice and funding rests with the BofT.

FwB's Mandate remains the same as in previous years. It is to improve people's lives through the restoration of community forests that will provide fuel wood, fodder, and food to a village. The process involves partnering with local NGOs to fund relatively small projects in developing countries that have a good chance of becoming self-sustaining. The projects are done with strong buy in from the community, and include an education component on the benefits of protecting and managing the forests. Typical individual project funding ranges from \$5,000 to \$10,000. More about the work of FwB can be found at their website and their [Facebook page](#).

RMS FwB Projects

In 2017/18 the RMS FwB Caucus supported two projects The first was a project in southern Nepal, which the RMS Caucus developed in 2014/15 and fully funded through solicited donations. The main component of the project was to engage the village of Pithauli's secondary school students in developing a tree nursery to produce seedlings for planting.

The project made significant progress in the first year of implementation. However, in April 2015, Nepal experienced a severe earthquake in the northern part of the country. Although the school was not physically affected, the aftermath of the earthquake led to social disruption, and the school was closed until the fall of 2015.

Since then, and through the 2017-18 reporting year, FwB continues to support the project. Students have been active to an extent.

The second project the Caucus was involved with in this reporting year is a seedling nursery and plantation project in northern Cameroon. We funded the drilling of a well to water seedlings in a village called Mindif. Mindif is situated in northern Cameroon, and the second village in which we have funded a well. FwB works with a local NGO called ABIOGeT, who supervises the project. Besides fuel, fodder, and food, trees are being used to help mitigate desertification, as the villages lie just south of the Sahara Desert.

Currently, the RMS FwB Caucus is assessing new project proposals from Kenya and Tanzania. We would like to take ownership of one of them in the near future. We find that both the Caucus and the public bring more energy and enthusiasm to requesting and giving donations if the project is specific.

RMS FwB Caucus Financials

During the past year, the RMS FwB Caucus engaged in soliciting donations. These included:

- Rotary Club presentations and requests for donations
- Forest Industry Donations
- UofA Forest Society/RMS golf tournament donations
- UofA/Nait/RMS Chili cook-off donations

A summary of results for the 2017/18 fiscal year is as follows:

Opening Balance \$ XXXXX

Total Donations XXXX

Expenses XXXXX

Total Credits XXXXXX

Forwarded to FwB XXXXXX

Ending Balance \$ XXXXXX

NOTE: The FwB Caucus operates under Canada's Charity Act. Donations which are given without the donor receiving value are sent directly to FwB National, which is the Charity, and can issue charitable receipts. These are recorded as credit to RMS FwB Caucus, but are not banked. Donations given where value is received (e.g. Silent Auction) are cashed by RMS FwB, banked, then forwarded periodically to FwB National. The RMS bank account used by Caucus reflects this situation.

Since the RMS Caucus was formally organized in 2014, we have donated approximately \$XXXXXXX to Forest without Borders.

Sincere thanks to the Caucus members, the RMS Treasurer, and all others who helped make the year a success.

Nomination Committee / 2016-2017 RMS Council

Jeff Renton and Vic Lieffers

- Slate presented to Council in April 2018
- Nominations solicited from selected RMS members
- No further nominations sought from floor as Council positions filled
- The 2018-2019 slate is presented as follows:

:

- Director Dan Wilkinson
- Chair Vic Lieffers
- Vice Chair & Secretary Ron Hall
- Treasurer Vacant
- Councilor Jordan Sykes
- Councilor Dieter Kuhnke
- Councilor Jim Stewart
- Councilor Nicole Luchanski
- Councilor Julie Steinke
- Councilor Nathan Lauer
- Student Reps TBD Fall 2017

Outgoing members of council:

- Jeff Renton Director
- Dan MacIsaac Treasurer
- Noel St. Jean Councilor
- Graham Legaarden (Councilor)

- Lindsay Dent (Counsellor)
- Sharad Karmacharya (Counsellor)

Outgoing student representatives:

- Leona Shepherd U of A
- Ben Mitten NAIT