



FACTSFAX

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

www.cila.ca
Ph:(250)562-3368

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Also serving members of the Northwest Loggers, Interior Logging Association, Western Silvicultural Contractors and BC Woodlot Owners

China Lumber Exports Break 2010 Record

Lumber shipments to China in 2011 have already passed the record setting total reached at the end of 2010. According to the latest international merchandise trade data released this week by Statistics Canada, lumber exports over the first eight months of the year from B.C. to China, including Hong Kong, total \$746 million. For all of 2010, B.C.'s lumber exports to the country were worth \$687 million.

The stats do not specify how those values translate into board feet of lumber, so it is not clear if the amounts reflect increased value of lumber or significant increases in the actual board feet being shipped..

Road Safety Conference Next Week

The bi-ennial CrossRoads Road Safety Conference goes next week, Oct 24 & 25 at the Coast Inn of the North in Prince George. This year's conference is focusing on men who drive for work. Speakers and presentations include Enform, BC Forest Safety Council, the WSCA, and the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations. Discussions will include driver training, the psychology of driving (why people do what they do), the upcoming Natural Resources Road Act, the harsher sanctions on speeding and impaired driving and how they effect employers, and health issues that link to driving performance.

The Conference is free, but you are asked to register ahead of time. Go to www.roadhealth.org, or call Kathleen @ 250 617-5724 to register.

Basic Incident Investigation

The BC Forest Safety Council is running its Basic Incident Investigation course in Williams Lake on November 16. To register, go to www.bforestsafe.org

Log Truckers Beware

The past couple of weeks have seen several "interface" crashes with log trucks in the interior – crashes between log trucks and private vehicles-some minor, and one resulting in two fatalities. In each case, it was the private vehicle that either turned in front of the truck, or crossed the centre line. In Prince George, a log truck collided with a mini-van when the mini-van made a left turn in front of the truck, going into a shopping area. The week before, a car whose driver didn't scrape the frost off the windows, pulled out in front of a truck. Again, the log truck driver had no opportunity to avoid the crash. Both of those incidents resulted in vehicle damage and minor injuries.

This past week, a car crossed the centreline in front of a loaded log truck on Hwy 16 near Bednesti. There was a second private vehicle involved, and a semi as well. Unfortunately, this crash resulted in two fatalities, and again, the log truck driver was not at fault. Problem is, the public

hears on the news, "crash", "fatalities", and "Logging Truck", and assumes it's the truck's fault.

Our log truck drivers are the best. They drive in some of the most difficult conditions in the world, and they are good at what they do. Our concern is that they get painted with a broad brush and unfairly labelled because of other drivers. Please, watch out for the trucks, and give them room, especially as winter conditions begin.

The CILA will be teaming up with the RoadHealth coalition and the BC Forest Safety Council to run a "Sharing the Road with Trucks" media campaign over the coming weeks. We support our log haulers and are proud of the job they do!

Log Export Survey

The question of log exports is again becoming a hot topic on government's agenda, and the forest industry in several ways on the issue. The question is: **Should the province allow log exports to increase, and if so, what conditions should apply?** The CILA needs your input, so we can clearly state our position on this to government.

BACKGROUND AND KEY POINTS:

· Limited log exports have been allowed from northwestern B.C., mainly the Terrace area, which has a limited number of lumber and pulp producers. Without the opportunity to export logs from that area, logging contractors would have very little work.

· On the Coast, log exports play an important role in keeping loggers and log brokers working, and their communities viable. Again, without opportunities to export logs, the amount of logging and hauling would not be sufficient to keep the harvest sector employed.

· In the Interior, demand for biomass is increasing at the same time that the availability of fibre is decreasing due to the mountain pine beetle infestation, raising questions about whether the AAC in the different Timber Supply Areas will be sufficient to keep sawmills, pulp mills and other fibre users (pellet plants, power generation, etc.) operating as the market for wood products strengthens.

TWO PERSPECTIVES:

1. Allowing log exports creates work and cash flow for government, and for the harvest sector and communities.
2. Allowing log exports is exporting jobs and will limit future opportunities for B.C.'s sawmilling, pulp and emerging biomass industry by reducing availability of fibre to locally-based businesses.

We have put a survey up on our website for you to fill out. Just go to <http://www.cila.ca> and find the "CILA Log Export Survey" on the front page of the website.