



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 13, 2016

Children show love of the forest through art; ABCFP and TLA art contest winners from Haida Gwaii, 100 Mile House and Terrace

(Vancouver)—Children from Queen Charlotte City on Haida Gwaii, 100 Mile House and Terrace are the winners of the 2016 National Forest Week art contest sponsored by the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP) and Truck Loggers Association (TLA).

The art contest, now in its ninth year, asks children in three age categories to show what the forest means to them through a painting or drawing. Launched annually during National Forest Week, the contest aims to inspire children learn about and celebrate forests. This year the ABCFP and TLA received more than 200 entries from across BC.

“Wildlife and people camping in the forests are prominent themes in many of the childrens’ creations,” said Christine Gelowitz, RPF, ABCFP CEO.

“Ensuring forests remain available for wildlife habitat while at the same time balancing public uses such as recreation is one of the core aims of the ABCFP’s 5,300 members who are responsible for the sustainable management of BC’s forests.”

“This artwork is a good reminder that British Columbians recreate in the working forest every day,” said David Elstone, RPF, Executive Director of the TLA. “BC’s forests are part of in all our lives no matter where we live in this province or what we do for a living.”

In addition to the three winners, each age category also had two runners up. Below is a complete list of the winners:

Age 4-5

Winner:

Odetta Muise Bissett, Age 5, Queen Charlotte

Runners Up:

Linden Chewter, Age 5, Nelson

Elencia Hazelton-Plante, Age 5, Francoise Lake

Age 9-12

Winner:

Luke Block, Age 10, Terrace

Runners Up:

Alexander Alguire, Campbell River, Age 10

Alicja Grymuza, Age 10, Parksville

Age 6-8

Winner:

Jordyn Meville, Age 7, 100 Mile House

Runners Up:

Ayla Block, Age 8, Terrace

Sophia Neilsen, Age 8, Campbell River

Visit the [ABCFP](#) or [TLA](#) websites to view the winning entries.

*The **Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP)** is responsible for registering and regulating British Columbia's professional foresters and forest technologists. It is the largest professional forestry association in Canada and the first to include forest technologists.*

*The **Truck Loggers Association (TLA)** represents 450 independent coastal forest contractors and their suppliers in British Columbia. The TLA promotes a thriving, sustainable forest industry in BC, and fosters communication and education within resource communities, urban centres and governments.*

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