

NEWS RELEASE



Forestry Art Contest Winners Announced

Vancouver, BC (November 23, 2015) – Does nature inspire creativity? We don't know for sure but based on the amazing pictures received by the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP) and the Truck Loggers Association (TLA), it just might be true.

Nine children (three in each of three age groups) emerged as winners of the National Forest Week contest held by the ABCFP and the TLA.

The art contest, now in its eighth year, is launched during National Forest Week as a way to help children learn about and celebrate the forests. “Each year we see pictures featuring camping and hiking as well as moms and dads working in the forest,” says Jonathan Lok, RFT, President of the ABCFP. “This year we noticed that the kids were drawing more animals and different tree species showing an improved understanding that a forest is a whole ecosystem and not just a bunch of trees.”

“TLA members create jobs in BC's 110 coastal communities—they are the economic backbone of these towns,” said David Elstone, RPF, Executive Director of the TLA. “I'm happy to see so many represented in the winners here—Nanoose Bay, Port Hardy and Port McNeill (twice!). The more people get involved in their local forests, the more likely they are to support a well-managed working forest that is sustainable and creates jobs in their town.”

Here are all the winners:

4-5 year olds

Winner: Azrael Carlson, 5, Port McNeill

Honourable Mentions: Alissa Koehler, 4, Ottawa; and Emily F, 5

6-8 year olds

Winner: Jazmine Crombie, 8, Williams Lake

Honourable Mentions: Kaity Mercer, 7, Nanoose Bay; and Matt Mercer, 7, Port Hardy

9-12 year olds

Winner: Rayah Dustin, 10, Port McNeill

Honourable Mentions: Tessa Wirtanen, 10, Sooke; and Kai Shively, 9, Burns Lake

Visit the ABCFP or TLA websites to view the winning entries: www.abcfp.ca and www.tla.ca.

*The **Association of BC Forest Professionals**, established in 1947, is the largest professional forestry association in Canada with over 5,400 members. The association registers and regulates professional foresters and forest technologists under authority of the provincial Foresters Act.*

*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.*

For more information:

Brenda Martin
Director of Communications
Truck Loggers Association
Direct: 604.684.4291 ext. 2
E-mail: Brenda@tla.ca
www.tla.ca

Amanda Brittain, MA, ABC
Director of Communications
Association of BC Forest Professionals
Direct: 604.331.2321
E-mail: abrittain@abcfp.ca
www.abcfp.ca
@abcfp