



New Brunswick Federation of Woodlot Owners
Fédération des propriétaires de lots boisés du Nouveau-Brunswick

Member Newsletter - November 23, 2025

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Your Forest in a Changing Climate



Nature decorated a Christmas tree!

This balsam fir covered in red maple leaves was found by NBFWO member Nicole Violette Laforge on her family's woodlot this fall.

Naturally beautiful, and possibly a clever way to save money this holiday season :)

Share your pictures!

We love to see your woodlot pictures! Send us your pictures and they could be showcased in the newsletter, on social media or on the website.

Email them to:

info@nbwoodlotowners.ca



From the Desk of the Executive Director

In the last month the Federation has been to Ottawa to lobby on behalf of private woodlot owners as part of the Canadian Forest Owners. We met with Natural Resources Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, a senator and several members of parliament.

We continue to lobby for recognition of the importance of the contribution private forest lands bring to the Canadian economy, and as a result we should factor into government policy and regulations. In terms of area, Canadian private forest lands are 25 million ha! That makes us between Sweden and Finland in terms of size of forested land. Our contribution to the economy is larger than fisheries but we lack the recognition for our contributions that they receive.

Provincially, we have had one meeting with the Minister of Natural Resources and a couple of meetings with Department of Natural Resources staff. The meeting with the Minister was not overly positive. We again need to do the hard work of educating the Minister about private woodlots and our role. It is a slow process when meetings are 6 months apart. We will continue to seek to increase his awareness of our challenges, and of the important benefits that private woodlots bring to our province.

Our meetings with DNR staff have been much more productive. They have indicated that they see a role for the Federation in developing and maintaining a resource and information portal for woodlot owners. This work would include networking with our current key relationships and expanding that network to increase the resources available to woodlot owners. We would help bring synergies to the work being done by various groups to provide woodlot owners with the resources they need to get the most benefit from their woodlot, no matter what their goals are. Should you have any thoughts on the types of information or resources you would like to see as part of such a portal, please reach out and let us know.

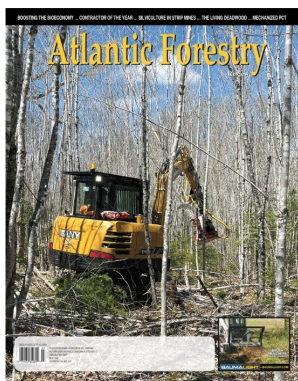
The Federal budget may mean that our 2Billion Trees project will end with the 2026 planting season. We have not yet received confirmation of this, but it does not look like good for our amendment that has been approved but not signed. Had this amendment been signed we would have funding to take us to the 2030 planting season.

I will end this update on a positive note - we have hired 2 new part-time staff. As we were looking for a part-time administrative assistant, we were lucky enough to find two amazing candidates. Hoping that we will soon receive additional funding for the Private Protected Areas program, we have elected to hire both until the end of our fiscal year. We welcome Noella Kalenga and Kayla Richard to the team!

Respectfully submitted,

Susannah Banks

Executive Director, NBFWO
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One of the advantages of being a member of the NBFWO is receiving a \$6 discount off of the price of a 1-year subscription to the ATLANTIC FORESTRY REVIEW. That's 6 issues a year for only \$14!

Launched in 1994, AFR is a magazine for woodlot owners, foresters, contractors and technicians in Atlantic Canada. If you are interested or involved in forestry, AFR is an essential resource of up-to-date information.

Subscribe today on the [Shop](#) tab of the NBFWO website (members must login to able to receive the discount).

News & Events

A round up of news from all over and upcoming events

[View News](#)

News

- *CTV News: Tariff impacts on N.B. woodlot owners*
- *Liberals scrapping 2 billion trees target as part of budget: sources*
- *Government of Canada releases Budget 2025: Canada Strong*
- *Canadian Tree Nursery Association: Federal Tree Planting Deserves Major Project Status Not Cuts*
- *N.B. minister backs cap on softwood to secure tariff deal*
- *EU Agrees Weakened Climate Target in Final-Hour Deal for COP30*
- *Woodland Pulp pausing mill operations until end of December*
- *What is Canada's role at COP30 climate summit? What to know*
- *UNB researcher explores human-in-the-loop autonomous truck technology to solve labour gaps in New Brunswick's forestry sector*
- *IBM and Polytechnique Montréal Launch AI Initiative to Strengthen Forestry Supply Chain*
- *N.B. Christmas tree farm suffers the effects of months-long drought*
- [See more News](#)

Interesting video

- [Land & Sea: Safeguarding the future of our forests](https://youtu.be/eKF8XamaDEg?si=wXJ8CCSpDmr8Kg4X) About 22 minutes long.
(<https://youtu.be/eKF8XamaDEg?si=wXJ8CCSpDmr8Kg4X>)

Upcoming events

[View Calendar of Events](#)

November 26: SNB Wood Cooperative: Malwa Demo Day

December 15-18: MCFT - New Brunswick Watercourse Alteration Certification For Designers- English

December 16-18: MCFT - 3-day Chainsaw- Basic Operation, Maintenance, and Felling Course

December 25 & 26: NBFWO office closed

January 1: NBFWO office closed

January 13: NBCC - Private Agriculture Class L1 certification



Series of workshops: Interactive learning to support woodlot owners

By Diane Fargialla, NBFWO Outreach Coordinator

The Federation has wrapped up the series of workshops for the project “*Towards Resilient Woodlots: Risk Assessment and Mitigation*”. These workshops were held at Ganong Nature Park, Mactaquac Provincial Park, and in Bathurst. At each session, we shared valuable information with woodlot owners. They are now better prepared to face climate-related risks.

Each day started with a bit of theory. We talked about climate change and managing climate-related risks. Throughout the presentation, numerous tips were given to better manage a woodlot.

Afterwards, we worked on two case studies. Each case was presented: tree species composition, topography, etc. Participants were then invited to ask themselves key questions: Does the woodlot



present any risk? What solutions could be implemented? And many more. The goal was to explore more hands-on situations and spark reflection.

After a well-deserved lunch break (you do have to recharge your batteries after giving your brain a workout!), we put on our jackets and headed out to the site. Observation and analysis shaped our field visit. We discussed the climate-related risks we observed and possible mitigation strategies. We also worked on the Climate Adaptive Silviculture Prescription Decision Tool – yes, that one again! Overall, this field visit helped illustrate the morning’s discussions.

In a few words, these workshops were

(Continued on page 5)

very dynamic. The interactions were engaging and full of insights. Managing climate-related risks now feels much easier to grasp.

Thank you to the foresters without whom these workshops would not have been possible: Anne MacKnight, Chris Higgins, and Patrick Doucet. Their collaboration was invaluable in supporting woodlot owners. They shared their expertise and answered every question with great enthusiasm and engagement.

Thank you also to the North Shore Forest Products Marketing Board for sponsoring the workshop in Bathurst.

Finally, **thank you, woodlot owners, for your support.**

As we move towards the next phase of the project, feel free to watch [CBC's story on the workshop at Mactaquac Provincial Park.](#)



Eastern chipmunks

By [Meduxnekeag Valley Nature Preserve](#)

Eastern chipmunks aren't true hibernators the way groundhogs are. Instead, they enter torpor — short periods of deep sleep where their body temperature and heart rate drop to conserve energy. But unlike true hibernators, chipmunks wake up every few days to snack on the food they've stored in their underground burrows.

So while they spend most of the winter underground and inactive, they don't sleep straight through the season. They're more like light sleepers with a well-stocked pantry!



Eastern Chipmunks are busy this time of year storing nuts and seeds for winter.

Instead of hibernating continuously through winter, chipmunks are sleepers, waking every few weeks to eat the food they stored in their burrows.

MEDUXNEKEAG RIVER
CONSERVATION

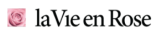
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Perks for Free

Perkopolis is a free program available to all Federation members that provides offers and discounts for all sorts of purchases!

Sign up with an email address and your NBFWO Member Number, you can receive offers and discounts for all sorts of purchases!

Sign up on the [Member Home](#) page. Scroll down to the MEMBER PERKS and select the 'Perkopolis' tab.

If you have any questions you can contact [Perkopolis customer service](#) through live chat, phone, or email.

Writers wanted



Do you have an interest in writing? We are looking for volunteer members who would like to write about forest-related topics for the Newsletter.

If you are interested, please get in touch with the topic(s) you would like to write about.

Email info@nbwoodlotowners.ca

If you would like to submit an article or pictures for the newsletter, please email info@nbwoodlotowners.ca

Thanks for reading - Until next time!

www.nbwoodlotowners.ca

