

# FORAGE FIRST

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## Sutherland to Lead Association in 2002

During the AGM activities of the Association on December 1<sup>st</sup> at Taylor, B.C., **Chuck Sutherland** of Groundbirch was elected as President.

Other officers, committee chairs and directors for 2002 are Treasurer, **Bill Wilson** of Dawson Creek; B.C. Forage Council Committee, **John Kendrew** of Pouce Coupe; Secretary, **Michael Cowger** of Montney; Wildlife Policy Committee, **Burnem Grant** of Tomslake; Research and Development Committee, **Glenn Hogberg** of Progress; Vice President and Communications and Information Committee, **Ernest Nimitz** of Sunrise Valley; Director **Fred Burres** of Farmington and Director **Pat Gerlinsky** of Doe River.

**Arnold Bennett** of Two Rivers plans to remain closely involved with Association activities in his capacity as Past President.

**Sandra Burton** will continue working with the Association in the role of Forage Coordinator. Effective December first her title was changed from Cross Commodity Manager to Forage Coordinator as this more accurately affects the type of work that she is involved with on behalf of the Association.

A good sized crowd was present for the AGM and luncheon of the Forage Association and were appreciative of the useful and interesting information delivered by: **Julie Robinson**, University of Northern British Columbia in Prince George; **Jim Forbes**, Livestock Agrologist with the BCMAFF in Dawson Creek and **Sandra Burton** Consultant and Forage coordinator from Farmington. The guest speakers addressed themselves to and described the successes of several of the Forage Association research and demonstrations projects.

Treasurer **Bill Wilson** reported a healthy financial situation for the Association which will allow us to continue the existing projects plus expand their scope, as well as beginning the implementation of several new projects in 2002.

**The Secretary** reported a healthy membership situation with 130 paid up members at the end of the 2001 year. As well, he reported on these successes. Several Forage Firsts that were well received by its audience. Forage Friendly Field Days at Hogberg Ranch at Progress; The Kiskatinaw River Ranch at Sunrise Valley, the Baldonnel Research Plots Site; Bill and Brenda Wilsons at Mile Zero Farm in Dawson Creek. Several Directors meetings throughout the year. Several Winter Forage Club meetings last winter. A hugely attended Summer Forage Tour in the Groundbirch, Lone Prairie and Chetwynd area. A well attended Winter Forage Seminar in Charlie Lake in cooperation with the then Ministry of the Environment and the PRRD Wildlife Committee.

It was complementarily noted during the meeting several times that the work of **Sandra Burton** in the past two years as Cross Commodity Manager on behalf of the Association has been extremely valuable in terms of moving the Association forwards towards reaching its goals and objectives.

# Pasture Management in the Peace 2002

Submitted by E.H. Bine, Roving Reporter, Moco Mountain, B.C.

The annual pasture school at Lacombe in June each year hosted and organized by the Western Forage Beef Group has a well deserved excellent reputation for delivering properly balanced information on both the practical and technical aspects of pasture and livestock management.

This is a limited entry event so that a lot of "hands on" and "one on one" can occur between participants and presenters.

The three days and two nights of intensive activity have been likened to cramming the key parts of three years university education and three years good work experience in range, pasture and livestock management into about 75 hours ! However, nothing but good reports have emanated from those who have attended, even though all describe the sessions as "definitely intensive in nature"!

Realizing that this type of adult extension education can prove both culturally and economically valuable to livestock producers and other forage enthusiasts in the B.C. Peace River Country, your local Forage Association has decided to bring a mini pasture school to our area in 2002

This opportunity for local ranchers and farmers will be presented in four modules, featuring many of the leading edge scientists, extension staff and forage producers who are involved in the annual Lacombe event.

The first module **"Why Bother with Pasture or Woodland Management"**? Will be presented at Doe River Community Hall on Tuesday January 22, 2002 This session requires an investment of \$15 per adult and is an **unlimited entry event**.

Here is the information on the other three modules.

## **Day 2: Thursday, April 4, 2002: *How to get started in managed grazing***

Taylor Community Hall or North Peace location

3:30 pm to 5:00 pm Review of Day 1 & Grazing Principles by Jim Bauer, Acme Producer

5:00 pm to 6:00 pm Extending the Grazing Season by Greg Griffin, Fairview Producer

6:00 pm to 7:00 pm Dinner

7:00 pm to 8:00 pm Pastoral Economics by Arnold Mattson, Edmonton, PFRA

8:00 pm to 9:00 pm Panel discussion with speakers and local resource people

## **Day 3: Thursday July 4 evening and Friday July 5, 2002: *More tools for grazing management***

Kiwanis Enterprise Center, or hall in south Peace to meet for a few short sessions; but, mostly field sessions.

Review & updates from previous days Grant Lastiwka/Sandra Burton

Pasture Species Selection Calvin Yoder, AAFRD, Fahler

Plant ID Keith Carroll/ Kathy Erichson-Arychuk, AAFRD, Fairview

Understanding Grass & Legume Growth Jim Bauer / Jim Forbes, BCMAFF, Dawson Creek

Nutrient Cycling Grant Lastiwka / Sandra Burton

Pasture Assessment Walks Grant Lastiwka (Western Forage Beef Group)

## **Day 4: Thursday, Sept 5, 2002: *Putting grazing principles into practice***

Grazing Systems Design led by Jim Bauer, Greg Griffin & Arnold Mattson

Fencing & Water System Options with agribusiness & PFRA reps

Wrap up Sessions: Summation of Four Learning Modules; plus where do we go from here in Forage Based Agriculture ?

You are advised to **preregister** for the last three modules as they are **limited entry events for members only** on a first come, first served basis.

You may register for any one module or for all three modules.

Investment required per module is \$50 per adult. On the other hand you may wish to achieve complete pasture knowledge by attending all three modules for only **\$100 total**.

For further information or to register please contact:

\*Sandra Burton, Forage Coordinator (250) 789-6885

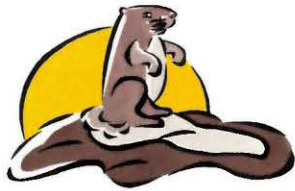
\* The Peace River Forage Association Box 908, Dawson Creek, B.C., V1G 4H9

\* Jim Forbes, BCMAFF (250) 784-2225

**Don't Delay! Pay Today!**

**And a special note to Agribusiness and resource Agencies:** If you are interested in helping sponsor any one or all of these mini pasture school modules please contact any one of the above. We anticipate that this type of sponsorship will result in extremely favourable publicity for those who choose to become involved.

# Goods and Services Auction



Ground Hog Day,  
Saturday, February 2, 2002



Cecil Lake Community Hall, Cecil Lake, B.C.

Back by Poplar demand,  
the Forage Association Goods and Services Auction will be held in Cecil Lake.

Viewing of Auction Items at 5:00 pm  
Genuine Farm Style Supper at 6:00 pm  
Auction Sale at 7:30 pm

A cash bar will be setup and entertainment, enlightenment and other fun  
activities are sure to occur!



\$20.00 per person, \$30.00 per couple

For further information and to donate items please contact:

Nelda Bennett (250) 789-3350  
Kim Strasky (250) 843-7018  
Sandra Burton (250) 789-6885



All proceeds of this fun event go to provide "seed money" for future projects of  
your Association; so, hope to see you there!

Hosted by the Peace River Forage Association of B.C.



## Thank You To Advisory Committee

The Association is taking this opportunity to thank our advisors who have once again provided valuable guidance and financial encouragement to us during the past year : **Brett Henschel**, PFRA; **Karen Goodings**, PRRD; **Jim Forbes**, BCMAFF, **Doris Miedzinski**, Kiwanis Enterprise Centre; **Duane McCartney**, Western Forage Beef Group at Lacombe; **Ross Green** BCFS; **Tom Pittman**, BCMAFF, **Bruce Rutley**, Agricultural Consultant at Fairview; **David Butler**, Butler Farms Equipment and **Gerry Gleeson**, BCFS. Thank you ladies and gentlemen.

## Winter Forage Club Meeting - Forage Friendly Field Day Combo

A Winter Forage Club Meeting/Forage Friendly Field day Combo will be held on **silage feeding** at several locations on **an afternoon in January** in the Tomslake District to acquaint members with the benefits, economic and otherwise, of making and feeding silage. Please stay in contact with Sandra Burton and directors of the Forage Association on this one as date, place and time will be announced early in the New Year.

## Two Thank Yous

Thank you **Art Hadland** for helping sponsor the AGM and thank you **Joy Sather** for managing the registration desk at the AGM.

## Another Special Date To Remember

74<sup>th</sup> Annual B.C. Cattlemens Association **AGM - Convention-Tradefair** in Dawson Creek, British Columbia - **June 6-7-8,2002**. For further information on this important event please contact **Bill Bentley** at (250) 843-7575 and **Judy Madden** at (250) 782-7875. For specific information on the Trade Fair please contact **John Kendrew** at (250) 786-5652.



## 2002 Directors of the Peace River Forage Association of British Columbia

*"Dedicated to putting forage first in the hearts, minds and pocketbooks of livestock producers and other forage enthusiasts"*

Chuck Sutherland	Ernest Nimitz	Bill Wilson	Michael Cowger	Fred Burres	Pat Gerlinsky	John Kendrew
President	Vice President	Treasurer	Secretary	Director	Director	Director
780-2221	843-2300	782-2866	787-1790	843-7074	759-4038	786-5652
Committee Chairmen: Wildlife Policy-Burnem Grant 786-5566; R & D-Glenn Hogberg 843-7653; BC Forage Council-John Kendrew;						
Communications and Information - Ernest Nimitz; Forage Coordinator -Sandra Burton 789-6885						

**Wishing You and Yours A Merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year in 2002**



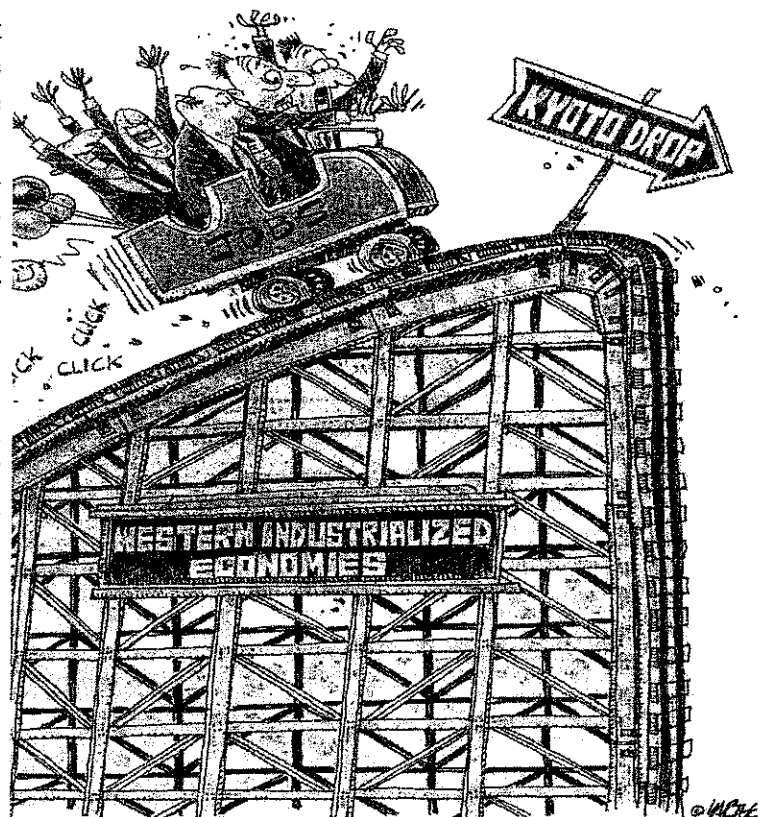
# Association Plans Busy Year of Activities Designed to Benefit Membership

One major activity discussed at length at the AGM in Taylor on December first was the **B.C. Peace River Country Forage Development Project**. This comprehensive planning and action document has been under the process of revision for the past 10 months. To date it has been reorganized, fleshed out and polished up; and, brought up to date for accuracy of the data included. For the annual meeting, the entire contents of this project were hung on the walls of the meeting room with a separate page for each individual component complete with a date line from 1992-2015. Those attending were asked to paste on information of their choosing on the individual projects of their interest.

Initial monies have been allocated and more are currently being sought: to fund the various activities under this project and to fund organization and formatting of this information complete with proper datelines and linkages followed by entry of information onto a selected website. Please be aware that this often takes the use of significant amounts of Corral Language to accomplish! Time goal is within the next six months. There are approximately 22 sections to the BCPRCFDP and 51 projects and subprojects underway and planned. Currently the Association has accumulated a significant amount of useful economic and environmental type forage information in the 10 years since its formation. By making this information readily available to its membership via the internet it is anticipated that the economic benefits can be substantial. The proper use of an association forage website can also assist the directors and staff to a high degree in terms of planning for the next 10 years and monitoring various projects currently underway. The BCPRCFD Project may itself be likened to the management of a large forest whereas each component or subproject may be likened to the management of individual trees or clumps of trees within the forest.

Specific activities discussed at the AGM that are expected to get a lot of attention in 2002 include Forage First, Winter Forage Club Meetings and Forage Friendly Field Days, Water Demonstration sites, Forage Facts, Intensive Management and Controlled Grazing on Poplar Logged Areas, several projects involving Soil Management and Nutrient Increase in Forage Plants and the Summer Forage Tour/Winter Forage Seminar. (Included together as Mini Pasture School 2002).

Another significant area of Association involvement in 2002 will be assisting the Peace River Regional Cattlemen's Association and the B.C. South Peace Stockmen's Association in planning and organizing the **74<sup>th</sup> Annual British Columbia Cattlemen's Association AGM-Trade Fair-Convention** in Dawson Creek on June 6,7,8<sup>th</sup> 2002.





# Winter Forage Seminar

**Tuesday, January 22, 2002**

**Doe River Community Hall, Doe River, B.C.**

**9:00 am til 5:00 pm**

**\$15.00**

**Lunch Included**

## **Why bother with Pasture or Woodland Management?**

**"Pasture Management in the Peace 2002"**

- 9:00 am to 9:30 am** Welcome by President of Forage Association Chuck Sutherland  
Why are people here ? (Goal setting session led by Sandra Burton)
- 9:30 am to 10:30 am** Matching the Cow to the Grass by Christoph Weder, AAFRD, Camrose  
*Grazing management from animal nutrition & requirements viewpoint*
- 10:30 am to 11:00 am** Coffee break and refreshments & visit displays in the mini trade fair
- 11:00 am to 12 noon** Grazing Management Basics by Harvey Yoder, AAFRD, Lac la Biche  
*An appetizer to grazing management from the forage point of view*
- 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm** Lunch & visit displays in mini trade fair
- 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm** Panel discussion of different approaches to woodland management  
Ted Moore, BCMAFF, Agro Forestry, Specialist, Prince George  
Keith Carroll, BCFS, Range Section, Fort St. John  
Bob Austman, Manitoba Forestry Association - -Taso Boszic, Alberta Woodlot Association  
Glen Wonders, Small Woodlands Program, Prince George  
Murray Caven , Rancher, Chetwynd, Peace River Woodlot Association
- 2:30 pm to 3:00 pm** Coffee and refreshment break and visit displays in mini tradefair
- 3:00 pm to 4:45 pm** Panel Discussion with Leading Edge Graziers in the Peace  
Fred Burres of Farmington, Horst David of Tomslake, Glenn Hogberg of Progress,  
Ernest Nimitz of Sunrise Valley, Bill Wilson of Dawson Creek

For the information of participants on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, please note that this is the first of four modules of our B.C. Peace 2002 Mini Pasture School. Attendance is not limited for this session so plan on coming and bring your neighbor too!!

**Your Hosts for today are:**

- \* The Peace River Forage Association of British Columbia
- \* The B.C. Forage Council
- \* The Small Woodlands Program of B.C.

**For Further information please contact:**

Sandra Burton at (250) 789-6885, any director of the local Forage Association.  
Jim Forbes at (250) 784-2225