

PRESENTATION

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# ANNUAL CONFERENCE



**WOOD PELLET**  
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

Vaughan Bassett, President, WPAC  
September 23, 2025

# YEAR IN REVIEW: 2024-2025





## WPAC TEAM



**Gordon Murray**



**Fahimeh Yazdan Panah**



**Jennifer Raworth**



# INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY & MARKET SUPPORT

Positioning the Canadian wood pellet supply chain with respect to superior quality, reliability, sustainability, safety, and ethical business practices in global markets.

- Engaged in international policy developments, including RED 3, EUDR, and Japan Sustainability.
- Produced trip reports, shared with members, and posted to website.
- Worked with domestic and international governments and associations on key policy initiatives.
  - Actively engaged and coordinated with BioEnergy Europe.
  - Supported SBP work to ensure standard revisions and regional risk assessments reflect Canadian approaches and perspectives.

- Argus London
- European Pellet Conference
- Alberta Gov't Japan Mission
- BC Chief Forester Japan Visit
- Japan PR Campaign
- Biomass Innovations Asia
- EU Bioenergy Futures



# DOMESTIC ADVOCACY & MARKET SUPPORT

Growing the domestic market: a) harmonization of Canadian and European biomass boiler standards, b) advancing domestic heating market specifically in the Maritime provinces and more generally in Canada.

- Supported updating Canada's boiler standards restricting import of EN 303-5 boilers.
- Working with NBPower/SaveEnergyNB to increase awareness of biomass/pellets.
- Promoted FESBC work to reduce harvest waste.

- Meetings with key New Brunswick and Nova Scotia Ministers
- NWT Biomass Week
- NB Energizing Efficiency Conference
- National Standards Strategy
- CSA B51
- Provincial-Territorial Advisory Committee

## CASE STUDY

### SAWDUST TO SEEDLINGS

Three new wood pellet boilers are keeping New Brunswick winters away from millions of seedlings at a renovated tree nursery

Nature's 'mini-battery', versatile wood pellets, undergo a reincarnation of sorts at Biomass Solutions Biomasse's (BSB's) latest custom wood pellet boiler system installation. Pellet heat created from the wood waste of New Brunswick's forest industry is helping conifer seedlings thrive in a harsh Canadian winter at the Kingsclear Tree Nursery.

Jonathan Levesque, BSB's General Manager in New Brunswick, said the biomass retrofit at the nursery helps reduce the province's reliance on costly imported fossil fuels.

"At the nursery, it's the full cycle, growing trees and using waste wood to help them grow while all New Brunswickers benefit from being less dependent on non-renewable energy," Levesque said.

Thousands of conifer tree seedlings grow at the Kingsclear Tree Nursery in Saint John, New Brunswick. The seedlings are protected from harsh winters by wood pellet boiler systems which replaced old fuel systems. Photo: Mark Rickard





# SAFETY

Continuing to improve wood pellet sector's safety performance.

- Julie Griffiths, Chair of Safety Committee.
- Monthly Safety Committee meetings.
- Strong relationship with BCFSC, bi-weekly meetings to review projects.
- Continual outreach with WorkSafeBC.

- E-learning Platform
- Safety Summit, Prince George
- Quarterly BCFSC Multi-Sector Safety Forum
- Rotary Drum Dryer Safety
- Safety Hero
- Safety Factsheets Translated into French



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# DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Lead, invest and support efforts to advance diversity and inclusion across the sector.

- Promotion and participation in D&I Initiatives.



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OCTOBER 23, 2024

**Forestry Video Showcases the Transformational Efforts of Large-Scale Forest Rehabilitation Projects in the Cariboo Chilcotin**



Percy Guichon, Executive Director of Central Chilcotin Rehabilitation Ltd. (CCR), on-site at Atlantic Power in Williams Lake, checking out their operations and the fibre transported from CCR projects to the energy plant. Photo: CCR.

**Central Chilcotin Rehabilitation Ltd. News Release**

Williams Lake, B.C. – Central Chilcotin Rehabilitation Ltd. (CCR), a joint venture between Tšideldel First Nation and Tł'etinqox Government, has just released the final video in their five-part forestry series showcasing the transformational forest rehabilitation efforts of their large-scale projects, and how First Nations are taking the lead in forestry to realize economic, social, cultural, and environmental benefits.



# RESEARCH & TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

The Association will carry out research and technical development projects as identified by membership and approved by WPAC's board.

- Took proactive steps to ensure strong funding foundation for ongoing research and product development.
  - Built a positive relationship with the Government of Canada. Building on the success of our current research initiatives to further mobilize new biomass feedstock sources.
- Enhancing Traceability, NRCAN Forest Innovation Program and SBP
  - In-Woods Biomass Processing: Comprehensive Analysis of the Feasibility and Economic Implications of In-Woods Grinding for Forest Biomass Pelletization in Ontario
  - Agri-Pellet Production with BBRG, BioFuelNet Canada
  - ISO Technical Committee 238 to ensure consistent and technically sound standards.
  - Near-Infrared Radiation (NIR) spectroscopy, with BBRG.



# COMMUNICATIONS

The Association is to communicate effectively with membership and external parties such as government, public, and other related organizations.

- Website in Japanese, Korean and Traditional Chinese
- 25+ Articles Published
- Consistent LinkedIn Presence
- Partnership with Annex Business Media Group
- WPAC Annual Conference
- Issues Management & Responses



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# BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

- In Canada we have more work to improve better utilization of forest residuals, reduce fire risk and provide more heating and energy options for Canadians.
- Internationally, we will continue to expand markets and support policy makers to ensure wood pellets continue to have a role in climate solutions.
- We will lead and support the advancement of new renewable energy alternatives.
- Fossil fuel restrictions starting in 2030 represent a significant opportunity for our sector to demonstrate our value; we have work to do!
- Our success will only be as good as the partnerships we build across the sector and supply chain.

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## KEY FOCUS AREAS FOR 2025/26

- 1 Positioning the Canadian wood pellet supply chain to global markets.
- 2 Promoting sustainability of Canadian wood pellet production.
- 3 Continuing advocacy efforts with Bioenergy Europe and NRCAN/Global Affairs.
- 4 Growing the domestic market.
- 5 Supporting and growing international markets.
- 6 Continuing to improve the sector's safety performance.

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# SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



René Landry



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