

2026 WPAC Conference

# WPAC INITIATIVES



**WOOD PELLET**  
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

Vaughan Bassett, President, WPAC  
September 22, 2026



# WPAC TEAM



**Gordon  
Murray**



**Fahimeh  
Yazdan Panah**



**Jennifer  
Raworth**



**Hamid  
Rezaei**



**Suzanne  
Wheatley**

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## KEY FOCUS AREAS

- 1 Promoting qualities and values of Canadian wood pellet supply chain 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.
- 7 Assessing and validating opportunities for black pellets.



# 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.

- Engage in international policy developments, including RED III, EUDR, and Japan Sustainability.
- Work with international governments and associations on key policy initiatives.
- Communications campaigns.





# 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.

- Organize and participate in domestic events.
- Collaborate with NB Power on black pellets for Belledune.
- Bioheat case studies.
- Promote FESBC work to reduce harvest waste.



## WPAC and CCR at the Palmer Project: Forest Rehabilitation and Renewable Fibre

In Spring 2026, [Central Chilcotin Rehabilitation Ltd.](#) (CCR) and the Wood Pellet Association of Canada (WPAC) visited at the Palmer Project site to learn more about CCR's large-scale forest rehabilitation work in the Cariboo Chilcotin.

The video highlights how CCR is rehabilitating wildfire-damaged forests by recovering fire-killed wood fibre, reducing fuel loading, supporting forest regrowth, and creating value from material that may otherwise be left behind.

The recovered fibre supports B.C.'s pulp and bioenergy sectors, including the production of wood pellets that can be used as a lower-carbon energy source.



## CASE STUDY

### GREENER BEGINNINGS

Wood pellet heat gives mother nature an early start every spring at this Nova Scotia greenhouse

Harsh Maritime winters aren't friendly to delicate seedlings, but a custom wood pellet heating system installed at Searle's Garden and Florals in Truro, Nova Scotia, ensures plants and vegetables grown throughout the winter will thrive in gardens and homes every spring.

"We do our early germination and propagation in this greenhouse. The pellet boiler gives us under-bench hot water, which is really nice. Forced air from propane can help with humidity and as a backup, but it's a harsh heat, very uneven," said Andrew Searle, owner of the large facility. "The plants in here are tender and small. We want the best start for them possible."

Using wood pellets, produced from sawmill residues, makes sense for Searle. In 2018, the business moved to its present location in Truro, consolidating greenhouses, garden shop, flower centre and landscaping at one location.

Searle wanted an easy-to-maintain, efficient system to heat his new gutter-connected greenhouse from the end of December to early May. After experimenting with wood pellets in his other hoop-style greenhouses, Searle invested in a pellet-fired boiler system.

"We are growing annuals, vegetables and perennial production in pots and packs, hanging baskets and containers," Searle said. "We have a straight-to-retail operation at this location and wholesale to these



Searle's Garden and Florals in Truro, Nova Scotia, uses a custom pellet boiler heat system to grow seedlings all year-round during the coldest months. The facility uses wood pellets produced at local sawmills to heat the greenhouses. Photo: Courtney Jordan-Searle

other locations. We need a system that is reliable and efficient."

Searle purchased a MESyn/OkofEN boiler system supplied and installed by Biomass Solutions Biomass (BSB), a New Brunswick-based company owned by Groupe Savole and Compact Appliances. Since 2011, BSB has applied their biomass expertise to government, commercial and industrial locations, apartment buildings, garages and private residences. Most of these installations were provided to replace fossil fuels while supporting the growth of the local economy. Theo Loefer, BSB Development Agent, worked with Searle to design a system that could be





# MARKET DEVELOPMENT

The Association serves as the central industry coordinator to assess how domestic manufacturing capacity across the country could supply a large-scale Canadian coal conversion to black pellets.

1. Export market analysis and validation
  - Assess commercial feasibility.
2. Export market engagement
  - Gain market insights from participating in key conferences.
  - Site visits to two international black pellet production facilities.
3. Canadian pathway and government alignment
  - Engage NB government.
  - Develop Canadian black pellet supply chain concept and capital and funding pathways.
4. Carbon strategy and bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS)
  - Assess role of BECCS in export market expectations and Canadian positioning.
  - Interpret carbon accounting frameworks, policy signals and buyer expectations.
5. Integration and knowledge transfer
  - Deliver an industry workshop to present findings and support sector.



# SAFETY

## Continuing to improve wood pellet sector's safety performance.

- Implement WPAC Safety Committee work plan.
- Advance process safety management (PSM).
- Rotary drum dryer safety.
- SOP for winter truck loading/unloading.
- Safe wood pellet storage.
- Educate and inform on initiatives.



 ABOUT RESOURCES NEWS EVENTS SAFETY MEMBERS ENGLISH

PELLETS + OUR PLANET PELLETS + BIOECONOMY PELLETS + YOUR HOME PELLETS + BUSINESS

Home > News > Ted Brown, Site Trainer at Drax Entwistle—WPAC's Latest Safety Hero

JULY 28, 2025

### Ted Brown, Site Trainer at Drax Entwistle—WPAC's Latest Safety Hero

By Gordon Murray



Congratulations to Ted Brown, Site Trainer at Drax Entwistle in Alberta, the Wood Pellet Association of Canada's latest safety hero. He always endeavours to ensure that safety is the top priority.

Ted stepped into the newly established Site Trainer position in October 2024 and hit the ground running, enhancing training at the facility. He updates all onboarding and training documents and supports Drax's 30-60-90 day check-in process for new hires.

In the first five months of 2025, Ted conducted over 50 training sessions in overhead cranes, mobile equipment, confined spaces and fall protection and completed over 60 mobile equipment tickets.

He has also been trained as one of Drax's "Train the Trainers", where he completes the forms for practical evaluations, maintains document requirements, completes training standardization and completes document upload requirements.

"Ted has transferred knowledge to many new workers, improving their hazard recognition and site awareness," says Houston Ukpabi, the Plant Manager, who nominated Ted. "He ensures new hires have a great start to their career."

We recognize our colleagues' efforts in ensuring we go home safely every day. Acknowledging this work reconfirms our commitment to safety and raises awareness of the actions we can take—big or small—daily to improve our sector's safety. Do you know a safety hero? Nominate someone today online [here](#).



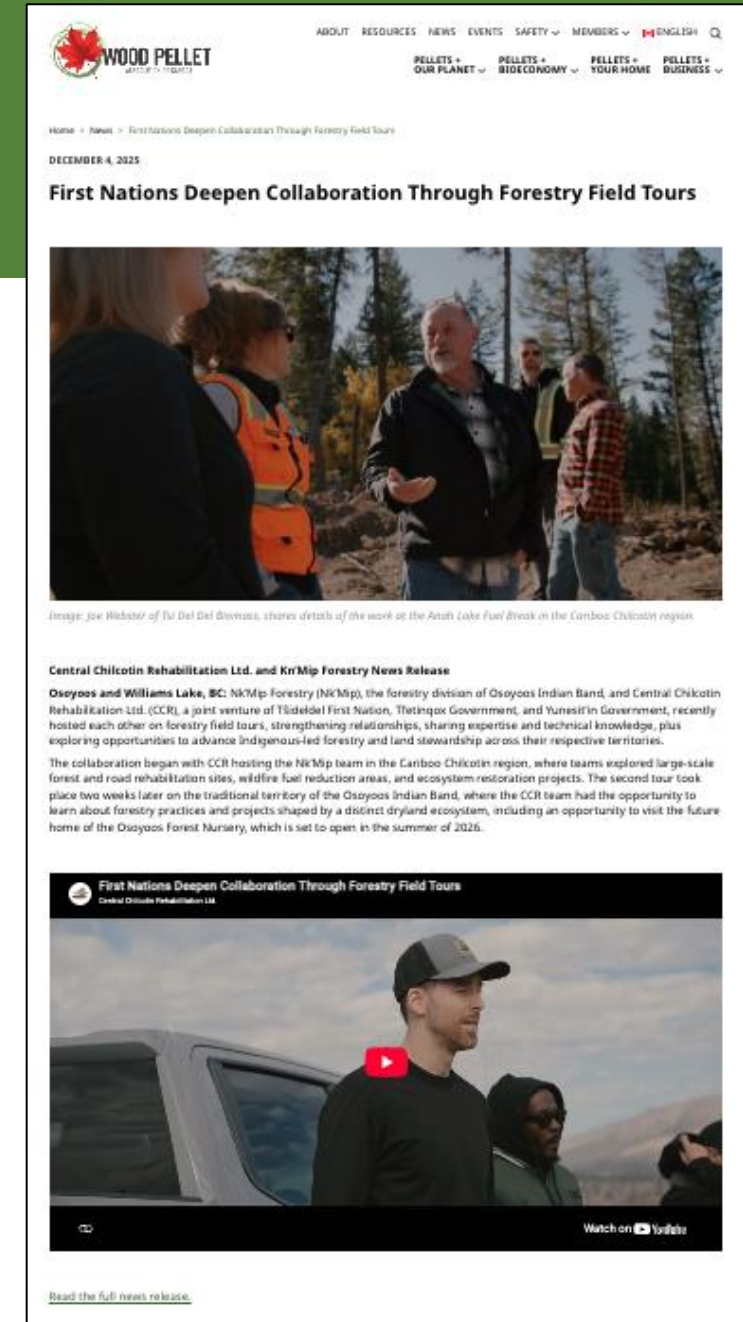
Ted Brown, Site Trainer, Drax Entwistle.



# DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

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

- Promoted and participated in D&I Initiatives.





# 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.
- Continued cooperation with BBRG at UBC.
- Agri-Pellet Production with BBRG, BioFuelNet Canada.
- Reducing Greenhouse Gases and Enabling a Net Negative Future.
- ISO Technical Committee 238 to ensure consistent and technically sound standards.



# COMMUNICATIONS

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

- Maintain multilingual website.
- Publish articles.
- Consistent LinkedIn presence.
- Partnership with Annex Business Media Group.
- WPAC Annual Conference.
- Issues management & responses.
- Quarterly newsletter.
- New factsheets in English and Japanese:
  - Cascading Use
  - Turning Wildfire Recovery into Renewable Energy

カナダの木質ペレット

## カナダ産木質ペレットとカスケード利用

世界のバイオエネルギー市場においては、顧客も規制当局も、木材のカスケード利用のような循環型経済原則を気候変動対策目標を達成する要と考えています。特にアジアと欧州連合がその良い例です。日本のクリーンウッド法、そしてFIT制度（固定価格買取制度）ならびにFIP制度（フィードインプレミアム制度）は、価値の高い木質材料を長寿命製品用とし、残材のみをエネルギー用途にすることが重要であることを明示しています。欧州連合の再生可能エネルギー指令（REDIII）は、木材のカスケード利用及び市場の需みに対する防壁策を要求しています。カナダの木質ペレットの生産体制は、こうした期待にまさに応えるもので、ペレット以上の価値を生み出す用途のない材料から再生可能かつ低炭素のエネルギーを作り出します。

カナダの森林産業は、世界でも最も厳しい法規と独立した認証制度の下で管理され、持続可能性、価値、そして効率性を実現しています。伐採された丸太から、まず製材品、パネル材その他の何十年も炭素を貯留する長寿命製品が生産され、加工副産物や不良材は他の用途に利用されます。したがって、伐採された立木は地元経済を支えと共に、一切無駄にされません。

この一体化された生産システムの一環として、カナダの木質ペレットはすべて残材のみで生産されています。一例が、製材所の副産物で、ペレット原料として利用される以前は廃棄材として焼却されていた。最近では、樹冠、枝、木質不良の丸太のような伐採時の残滓物、そして製材所では使えない火災や病虫害の被害木もペレット原料として利用されることが多くなっています。

図3. 2023年再生可能エネルギー技術による木質バイオマス利用の例

カナダの木質ペレット産業は、まず長寿命製品に炭素を貯留し、残ったものを活用して再生可能エネルギーを生み出すという、樹木一本1つものの価値を最大化する総合的なアプローチを基本にしています。

この方式は、グローバルな持続可能性という優先課題に対応し、カナダこそ循環経済と木材のカスケード利用を推進する信頼のパートナーであることを裏づけるものです。

WOOD PELLET ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

2025 九月

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# BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

- In Canada we have more work to improve 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 including black pellets.
- 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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