



PRESS RELEASE

TLA and Parkland Refining Support VIU Heavy Equipment Operator Students to Improve Skilled Worker Shortage in BC

January 19, 2018, Vancouver – Trevor Foldy and Trevor Pinckney both accepted \$5,000 Truck Loggers Association & Parkland Refining Awards today at the Truck Loggers Association's 75th Conference & Trade Show in Victoria.

Trevor F. and Trevor P. earned their awards through their success in the Heavy Equipment Operator certificate program at Vancouver Island University. Based in Chemainus and Cassidy respectively, both students live close to many active forest operations run by TLA members. "TLA members are struggling to find enough skilled workers to get the wood out and we are pleased to see young people choosing forestry," said David Elstone, TLA Executive Director.

"These scholarships are part of the TLA's broader advocacy around the skilled labour shortage that is impacting our membership," said Elstone. "I'm pleased Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development was able to attend today and meet our scholarship winners."

"The forest sector has a bright future, but needs skilled workers, especially as the older generation retires. I commend the TLA and Parkland Refining for funding these scholarships and congratulate the winners," said Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

The TLA (Truck Loggers Association) represents 489 independent forest contractors and their suppliers operating in British Columbia. Our membership supports thousands of workers and, along with other independent contractors, accounts for close to 90 per cent of the trees harvested in BC. The TLA promotes a thriving, sustainable forest industry in BC.

- [Link to photo of scholarship winners](#), credit: Phillip Chin.
Photo description: (left to right) Adrien Byrne, Parkland Refining (B.C.); Trevor Foldy, VIU student; Doug Donaldson, Minister of Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development; Trevor Pinckney, VIU student; Ben Boon, Parkland Refining (B.C.)
- [Link to the full media package](#)

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For more information: Brenda Martin, Director of Communications, The Truck Loggers Association
Cell: 604.339.7554 • Email: brenda@tla.ca • Twitter: [@truckloggerBC](https://twitter.com/truckloggerBC) • Website: www.tla.ca