



A STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY

As the dust literally settles on the completion of our 61st Annual Convention and Trade Show, it has clearly shown me and hopefully to many others, the strong sense of community we have in this industry. The ability to remind ourselves why and who we are doing this for is important and the ILA Convention and Trade Show is a great way for this to occur. It's not only the contractors and their families that are dependent on the success of this initiative but also all of the equipment manufacturers, dealers, suppliers, tradespeople and the communities that they support through the timber harvesting sector.

It shows that we as an industry are engaged and want to be part of the solution. During our Convention, the ILA, TLA and NWLA met with Minister Donaldson regarding this issue and the ILA submitted a letter to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development requesting the ILA and its membership be recognized as a stakeholder in the process moving forward and be included in any future planning processes.

On behalf of the ILA, I would like to thank all those who supported and participated in the Convention and Trade Show. It is this continued support that

\$1,000 for trades and \$1,000 for a general scholarship. For more information or to apply, please go to our website, www.interiorlogging.org/scholarships.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Wayne Lintott for all his years of dedication and support to the ILA and wish him and his wife Maggie all the best in the next chapter of their life. I personally want to thank him for the support that he has shown to me as I transition into the general manager position.

Whether you are in Jaffrey, Kamloops, Prince George, Smithers or somewhere in between, the ILA and its members are part of your community and we will continue to support the communities that our members work and live in by addressing the issues that affect us all. There are many other issues that we continue to tackle on behalf of our membership and moving forward communication will be critical to ensure that membership is not only involved but that we as an association are conveying the correct message on your behalf.

I encourage our membership to contact me at 250-503-2199 or todd@interiorlogging.org to make sure we are engaged in the issues that are important to both you and your community. 🌲

Another issue of concern to our membership is the Caribou Recovery Strategy and the possible effects that it will have on the timber harvesting land base and subsequently what effects it will have on all of the communities that members support, work and live in.

It is this community that will enable us and other associations to be successful as we navigate through the many issues that we are facing together. We are demonstrating this as we continue the discussions regarding contractor sustainability with Council of Forest Industries (COFI), the Interior Lumber Manufacturers' Association (ILMA) and government representatives. Throughout this process, we are always conscious of how the final decisions will affect 'our' community.

Another issue of concern to our membership is the Caribou Recovery Strategy and the possible effects that it will have on the timber harvesting land base and subsequently what effects it will have on all of the communities that members support, work and live in. I was very encouraged by the turnout at the public open houses that were held as part of the engagement process and

keeps our community strong! I would also like to thank NWLA and TLA directors and staff for attending and continuing to support our Convention with not only their attendance but working with us on the issues that affect all of our members.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank those directors who have completed their terms on the Board including: Bill McDonald, Jeff Kineshanko, Shane Garner and Matt Edmondson; and I want to welcome our new directors: Shari Smaha, Sue Hagarty, Don Mathews, Creole Dufour and Shawn McIver.

As a way of giving back to our communities, we offer ILA scholarships to those who are planning on a post-secondary education. There is a total of \$5,000 in scholarship funding available including: \$2,000 for forestry, \$1,000 for business administration,

Todd Chamberlain joined the Interior Logging Association (ILA) in March of 2018. Previously, he spent the past 25 years working in the Merritt area as a woodlands manager for a major forest licensee, managed a forestry consulting firm for one of the local First Nations communities and was the transportation manager for a large trucking company. Todd started in the forest industry in 1981, graduated from Selkirk College in Castlegar with a diploma in Forest Technology in 1985, and became a Registered Professional Technologist in 2005.

He has worked in all regions of British Columbia and also in Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories.