

Community Forest Meeting One Week Away

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By Karen Boden

Port Alberni residents have been studying Revelstoke's successful community forest model for more than a decade and have even made great strides of their own.

But another step in the process takes place on Wednesday, April 16 at 1:30 p.m.

The consulting forester for the local group is inviting people to attend.

"All who are interested in community forestry or have questions about experiences of community forests in other communities are welcome," wrote Cindy Hutchison, RPF, consulting forester, Alberni Valley Community Forest in a press release.

Members of the B.C. Community Forest Association will be doing a power point presentation and inviting input throughout the event.

"Our approach is to invite questions during the presentation rather than waiting until the end with a goal for an informal session salted with lots of examples to deliver our message and to address the individual interests of each group," said Susan Mulkey, BCCFA extension co-ordinator.

The presentation covers community forestry in the global context, and the history of the tenure development in B.C.

It also provides an overview of the Community Forest Agreement and what makes it unique.

The session will act as an introduction to the BCCFA and its work.

Participants will hear a range of stories of individual community forests their challenges, successes and lessons learned and will be guided through the steps involved in preparing an application and engaging the community.

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