



bulkley valley - lakes district  
airshed management society

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Burn Operators Forum  
HOUSTON BC  
September 6, 2007**

# Welcome!

- Thank you all for coming and to our sponsors - the District of Houston and their Fire Department, BVLD AMS and MOE
- **Purpose of Forum**
  1. To share information on existing and emerging regulations and innovations in resource management burning, wood smoke management and wood residue management
  2. To refine our action plan for improving business opportunities and operations affected by resource management burning and in the process reduce the number of Burn Bans, Health Advisories and Woodstove Use Reduction Requests
    - o. Key Questions for today:
      - How did the 2006 Resource management burning season go and why?
      - What can we expect this year?
      - What can we do differently to improve our performance?
      - Impressions of Clean Air Plan performance and feedback on strategies for other emission sources?

# Structure and Agenda

- Housekeeping: Refreshments, lunch, breaks, phones, restrooms, room temperature
- AMS has a tradition of inviting everyone to contribute to the discussion and using a consensus approach to decision making, based on the following principles:
  - The purpose of the negotiations is to agree.
  - We all agree to act in “good faith” in all aspects of the negotiations.
  - We all accept the concerns and goals of others as legitimate.
  - The focus will be on interests and concerns rather than on positions and demands.
  - We all commit to fully explore issues, searching for solutions in a problem-solving atmosphere.
  - We will faithfully endeavour to reach decisions which best serve the welfare of the community rather than the welfare of a particular organization or group.
- As facilitator, I’ll direct as necessary to ensure that the goals of the conference are met, which also means that
  - all voices are heard
  - we stay on topic
  - we finish on time



# Agenda

## Morning

- Welcome and Introductions
- Highlights from past Forums
- Status of Wood Processing Industry Code of Practice
- Status of District Level Burn Management Plans
- Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation (OBSCR)
- 2006 Air Quality and Burning Season Report
- Roundtable
- REFRESHMENT BREAK around 10:15
- LUNCH

## Afternoon

- Alternatives to burning revisited
- Roundtable
- Related BVLD air quality initiatives
- Improvements for the coming year and outreach efforts: open discussion on all topics
- Next meeting and event evaluation
- REFRESHMENT BREAK around 3:00
- Wrap up by 4:00

# Introductions

- Name, organization, community and have you been to a previous forum?
- One question you hope will be answered at today's forum.



## 2007 AMS\* Board of Directors

Paul Schwarz – President  
Dave Duncan – Vice President  
Ben Weinstein – Secretary  
Joanne Dickenson – Treasurer

### **Directors at large**

Dave Stevens, Frits Goossen, Ian Sharpe, Richard Vossen, Aurnir Nelson

3 government – Joanne, Ian and Ben  
3 public – Dave D, Frits, Dave S  
3 industry – Paul, Aurnir, Richard

*\*AMS is an incorporated, non-profit society with charitable status.*

# Purpose of AMS

- To educate, and increase the understanding of , the public, environmental organizations, government and the press about environmental preservation and restoration by offering workshops, seminars, training and lectures on the topic of air quality and its importance.
- To conduct research relating to air quality, and to disseminate to the public the results of such research.



# Putting this forum into context

- Highlights from 2006 Forum and other years



# 2006

- Overview of OBSCR
- Overview of dispersion modelling and scenario development
- Review of public comments on Clean Air Plan related to open burning
- Technology and best practices update (will cover this PM)
- Noted that timber grading revision may cause a gradual increase in amount of debris to be burned over time
- Noted that BC Hydro has a lot of woody debris from brushclearing and that there is a veto on burning this material within city limits of Prince George
- Status of Burn Plans

# 2005

- focus on evaluation of CVI Forecast service, funding formula and how to promote existence of service;
- lots of ideas for education and who AMS should be teaming up with to make sure messages are consistent outreach and making sure all stakeholders know;
- first year of mapping exercise



# 2004

- Recommendations for amending District Burn Plans
- Decision to continue annual meetings of Burn operators
- Established need for one stop information centre for Burn Operators on website
- Cross reference with Clean Air Plan (adopted June 2004)
- Report out on PIR Trials

# 2003

- Focus on current and best practices for resource management burning
- Comparison of strategies and requirements across burn plans with our airshed, around the province
- Development of recommendations to include in Clean Air Plan