

Propriétaires de lots boisés



## New Brunswick Federation Of Woodlot Owners

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### Why Forest Product Marketing Boards Exist

Forest Product Marketing Boards were established with the aim of allowing all private woodlot owners, regardless of size, to sell wood from their woodlot and to receive a standard price for the product.

Prior to the formation of the Marketing Boards there were very few buyers. These buyers could set the price paid and determined who could sell wood. Woodlot owners were not happy with the situation and saw the advantage of joining together to give them the ability to negotiate better prices, ensure that everyone received the same price and had access to the market. Woodlot owners requested the formation of Marketing Boards. Marketing Boards provided more legislated authority and a structure that allowed the group to carry out negotiations with the various forest industries. Marketing Boards are able to sign contracts for the sale of primary forest products. The Boards were formed between 1971 and 1981 and are all not-for-profit entities run by a board of directors. The directors are all woodlot owners and are elected by their fellow woodlot owners.

Marketing Boards allow smaller operations/owners to work collectively to access the market, speak with a one voice and get a consistent price for their product. Marketing Boards prevent large companies from being able to pick and choose winners and losers. Marketing Boards treat all woodlot owners the same regardless of size or location. Without Marketing Boards industry would have even greater control of the total wood supply; crown, freehold and private. There would be no collective voice to stand up for alternative forestry models, alternative uses for forest products or the policies that private woodlot owners need to ensure they continue to be a significant contributor to the New Brunswick's rural communities.

Many family woodlots are managed for multiple uses. They are managed to provide recreational opportunities and to produce forest products other than wood. Woodlot owners manage for wildlife and biodiversity. They look to optimize the value that the woodlot can provide. These are the woodlots that are located close to where New Brunswickers live. These are the woodlots that you see every day and they provide many benefits to the surrounding communities. They help to provide clean drinking water, clean air and help to reduce the

impact of large rainfall events. They take carbon dioxide from the air and give back the oxygen that we breathe.

Without Marketing Boards to support small producers the large corporate entities thrive. It is important that we support Marketing Boards as they are what allow the small working woodlot and farm to continue. If you want anything other than an industrial model of forestry or agriculture then you need to support the marketing board system and tell you MLA that. This is a critical time for the future of rural New Brunswick.

Susannah Banks