



Your guide to
**Powell River
Logger Sports**

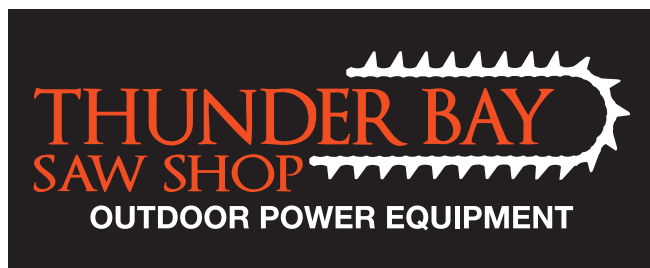


July 13 to 15, 2018

July 2018

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July 13 to 15, 2018

Sched

Thursday

Chainsaw art carvers from around North America begin work on their logs in the Willingdon upper gravel parking lot. See Page 27.

Friday

2 pm • Gates open

Trade show, food booths, exhibitors, and Lucky Program sales!

3 pm • Events begin

Open

Peter Couliver Memorial Chop

Chair Carve (World Champs)

Relay Event (World Champs)

Ladies

Single Buck

Underhand

Jill & Jill (Canadian Champs)

Kids

Axe throw

Chokerman's race

7 pm (approx) • Awards ceremony

Gate Admission

\$10 Family (two adults, two kids)

\$5 Over 12

\$3 for 12 & under

* Friday free admission with a donation to the food bank. (Cash or a non perishable food item.)

Saturday

Gates open 10am

Trade show, food booths, exhibitors, and Lucky Program sales!

Noon - Opening Ceremonies

O Canada, speeches by dignitaries

Novice

Tree climb (Canadian Champs)

Underhand Chop (Canadian Champs)

Standing Block Chop (Canadian Champs)

Double Buck (Canadian Champs)

Axe Throw

Shuttle from Complex

Avoid the congestion! A mini van will shuttle people from the complex top parking to Willingdon. All day Friday to Sunday, thanks to RJ Mitchell Rentals.

Get in on the action

- Just \$3 buys you a **lucky program** at the event. Draws for great prizes happen all day, every day.
- 50/50 draw. One draw per day.
- Three logging truckloads of firewood will be auctioned off – one per day – to the highest bidder.

ule

Saturday (cont.)

Intermediate

Standing Block Chop (Canadian Champs)
Obstacle Poll (Canadian Champs)
Husky Challenge (Canadian Champs)
Chokerman's Race (Canadian Champs)
Double Buck (Canadian Champs)
Springboard Chop - two boards

Ladies

Axe Throw
Chokerman's Race

Open

Two-man Springboard (World Champs)

2 pm • High Tree Act

4 pm (approx) • Awards ceremony

Events are not run in order.
Stay all day to catch all the action!

Sunday

Gates open 10am

Trade show, food booths, exhibitors,
and Lucky Program sales!

Open

Axe Throw (World Champs)
Unlimited Hot Saw (World Champs)
Underhand Chop (Canadian Champs)
Single Buck (Canadian Champs)
Springboard, four boards (Canadian Champs)
Standing Block Chop (Canadian Champs)
10cc PNE Cut (Canadian Champs)
Obstacle Pole
Double Buck
Jack & Jill
Chokerman's Race

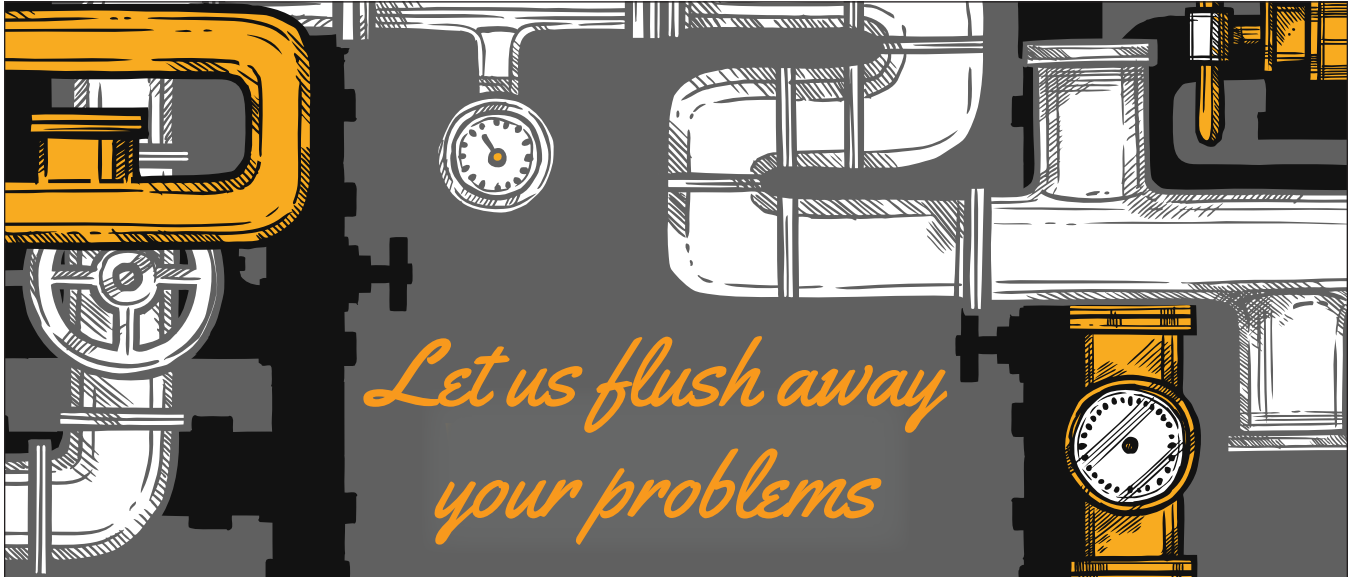
1 pm • Chainsaw carving - judging begins

2 pm • High Tree Act

3 pm (approx) • Awards ceremony

4 pm • Grand prize draw and closing





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On the cover: At Stillwater in 1918, a local logging crew poses with a legendary 237' log. From the Powell River Historical Museum & Archives.

Welcome to logger sports

If you've ever wanted to try throwing an axe, come on out to this year's Powell River Logger Sports. For the first time, BattleAxe is here with a safe, fun and competitive activity; anyone over 16 years can enjoy the thrill of throwing a light hatchet and hitting a target.

It's just one way that we're thrilled to invite you in to experience BC's coastal forest culture. All ages can participate in this community event, which features world-class athleticism, family-friendly entertainment, food and much more - at Canada's top Logger Sports venue: the Loggers' Memorial Bowl at Willingdon Beach.

Be sure to see the new Stihl Timbersports World Champion Sterling Hart - from Vancouver, BC - compete against your friends and neighbours.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

President Gary Amundsen • Vice President Art Lloyd • Secretary Laura Passek • Treasurer Michelle Silvester • Promotions/Marketing Sherri Wiebe • Past President Bob Marquis

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Top competitors from away



Stirling Hart, 29
Vancouver, BC

Why watch: Fresh from his international win - the Stihl Timbersports Champions Trophy in France in May - Hart is the biggest name in the sport in the world this year.



Mitchell Hewitt, 39
Scotch Creek, BC

Why watch: Current world champion on spring-board. Silver Medalist with Team Canada at the 2016 Stihl Timbersports World Championships in Stuttgart, Germany.



Andrea Hand, 33
Kaslo, BC

Why watch: Andrea took first place in the Stihl Western women's qualifiers in Port McNeil, and she's off to the Canadian Championships in Wasaga Beach, ON on July 21.



Jason Lentz, 33
West Virginia

Why watch: Son of legendary champion Mel Lentz. With a 6'6" solid frame, Jason is a top competitor on the Stihl Timbersports circuit.



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Top competitors from here

Verjall Ham, 28

Occupation: Instrument mechanic at Catalyst and firefighter at Malaspina Fire Department and Powell River Fire Dept.

Why watch: Verjall's first year competing was 2017; He won first in the pole climb and choker race at UBC, and placed in spring-board and double buck at Port McNeill last month.



Allan Knapp, 27

Occupation: Professional forester

Why watch: Last year he was the World Champion and Canadian Champion in choker race, plus the top intermediate in double buck.



Julian Welp, 42

Occupation: Owner, Welper's Tree Service

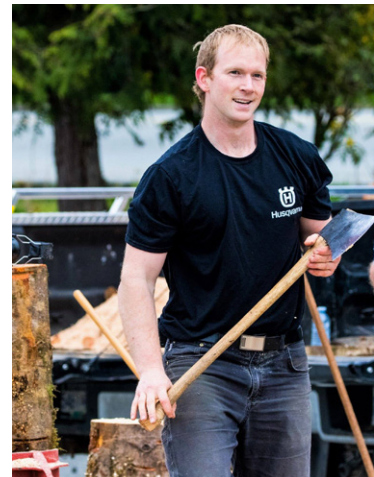
Why watch: This professional tree climber burst onto the Logger Sports scene in 2016, and won the Canadian Championship pole climb on his home grounds. He also placed in axe throw, obstacle pole and bucking.



Michelle Silvester, "not too old to compete"

Occupation: Commercial Lender with First Credit Union

Why watch: Started competing last year. Qualified in double buck and stock saw events in the Canlog circuit. After suffering a Logger Sports injury late in the season last year, she's back in action.



Tyler Brady, 29

Occupation: Auxiliary Powell River Firefighter and faller.

Why watch: Last year was Tyler's first year competing - and he won top novice and top intermediate for the Canadian Logger Sports Association 2017.

"Tyler Brady is the strong, silent typ and a family man. He's super fit - one of those guys who you want to see win."

- Deputy Fire Chief Rocky Swanson



Tree Climb

Novice
Canadian Championship

Equipment

Spurs, rope, belt, plus an 80' climbing pole

Skills

Strength, balance, courage

This is how you do it

Climb the pole! Use the spurs to gain purchase on the pole and the flipline to keep from falling backwards.

Items of interest

Historically, high-riggers had the most dangerous – and highly-paid – jobs in camp. They were responsible for setting cables on spar trees.

Chair carving

World Championship

Equipment

Chainsaw, log or stump

Skills

Artistry, precision

This is how you do it

You have four minutes to carve a chair out of a single piece of wood. Judged on neatness, consistency of lines, and general awesomeness.



Get to know logger sports

Events



Powell River is hosting five world championships; one North American title; and 12 Canadian championships.

Underhand chop

Novice
Canadian Championship
Open
Canadian Championship

Equipment

Racing axe, log

Skills

Strength, precision, courage

This is how to do it

Stand on the log, and chop half-way through. Turn around. Chop the rest of the way through.

Items of interest

Speed chopping has been a competitive sport for over 100 years. Racing axes are usually made in New Zealand or Australia. They can cost \$500+.

Peter Couliiver Memorial Chop

An Underhand Chop. Peter Couliiver and Bob Marquis represented Canada at the Guinness World Records logger contest in Germany in 2000. Peter has since died of a sudden heart attack. Only competitors who have chopped against Peter in the past are invited to participate in this event.

Three things to know about what you're about to see:

1. All events are sanctioned by the Canadian Logger Sports Association (CANLOG), the governing and regulatory body for most events held in BC.

2. Contestants participate in one of three classes: Novice, Intermediate or Open. An entrant of any age is considered "Novice" when competing for the first time. You must win two novice events to move up to Intermediate, and one event in Intermediate to move up to Open.

3. This summer, official CAN-LOG logger sports events are in Kaslo (May 20 & 21); Revelstoke (May 20); Port McNeill (June 2 & 3); Barriere (July 1); Chase (July 2); Bowen Island (July 8 & 9); Powell River (July 14 to 16); Campbell River (August 12 & 13); Smithers (August 26); Duncan (September 9 & 10)



Axe Throw

Open • World Championship

Equipment

Double-bitted axe with a 24"+ handle, 36" target

Skills

Precision, fearlessness

This is how to do it

Stand 20' from the target. Throw the axe at it, aiming for the bulls-eye (worth five points – the other circles are worth 4, 3, 2, 1). If the blade lands across two circles, the higher number is counted. Throw four axes; First is a practice. Next three are counted.

Items of interest

Started as a lunchtime activity on the work site, where fallers would compete for goodies.

Chokerman's race

Intermediate
Canadian Championship

Equipment

75-pound, 27-foot long choker (steel cable with connectors)

Skills

Strength, speed

This is how you do it

Carry the choker through the obstacle course, hook it around the log and run back.

Items of interest

Chokermen are responsible for securing cable around felled trees, so they can be moved using a yarder. It's one of the most physically-demanding jobs there is.

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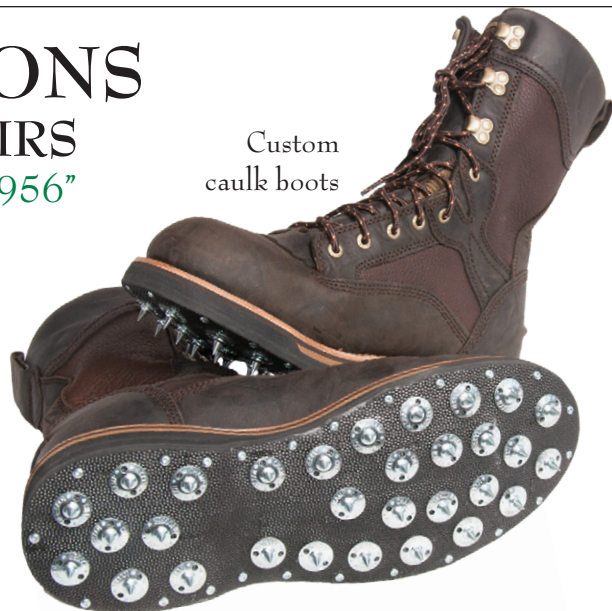
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Obstacle Pole Bucking

Intermediate
Canadian Championship

Equipment

Chainsaw, eight-inch diameter log

Skills

Strength, speed, balance

This is how to do it

Start by standing next to the top end of the cedar. Pick up your chainsaw, run to the bottom end, walk up the log and balance near the top. Make a cut one-inch deep near the end of the log, then finish the cut from the other side. The cuts must match up. After the piece falls off, shut off your saw, run down the log and around to the front of the log.

Items of interest

This event originated in Squamish. It usually lasts 12 to 14 seconds.

Hand-bucking

Single-buck,

Double-buck,

Jack & Jill, Jill & Jill

Novice • Double-buck
Canadian Championship

Jill & Jill

Canadian Championship

Intermediate • Double-buck
Canadian Championship

Open • Single-buck
Canadian Championship

Equipment

Crosscut saw, log, wedges, lube

Skills

Teamwork, knowledge, strength

This is how you do it

Saw through the log. Lubricants and wedges may be used to aid sawing.

Hot saw

Open
World Championship

Equipment

140 cc or less (hot saw), 18" diameter log. Saws must be single-cylinder engines using mixed gas and must be hand-started. Legal modifications include installing a larger-volume carburetor, boring out the cylinder, installing a full-circle balanced crankshaft, polishing the intake exhaust ports, installing a larger chain sprocket, and adding an expansion chamber.

Skills

Control, strength, mechanics, knowing your saw.

This is how you do it

Make three cuts: one down, one up, and one down, creating three "cookies."

Item of interest

The loudest of all events.



Husky Stock Saw Challenge

Intermediate
Canadian Championship

Equipment

18"-diameter log, chainsaw of 100cc or less – may be modified.

Skills

Control, strength, knowing your saw.

This is how you do it

Make three cuts: one down, one up, and one down, trimming three disks off the log.

Items of interest

In all chainsaw events, competitors wear pants made of Kevlar or other material to protect their legs from errant cuts.



100 cc PNE cut

Open
Canadian Championship

Equipment

Finely tuned 100 cc chainsaw, 18" diameter log.

Skills

Precision, strength, steady arms.

This is how you do it

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Springboard: two-board & four-board

Open four-board
Canadian Championship

Equipment

Metal-tipped wooden boards, axe

Skills

Strength, balance, accuracy, fearlessness

This is how you do it

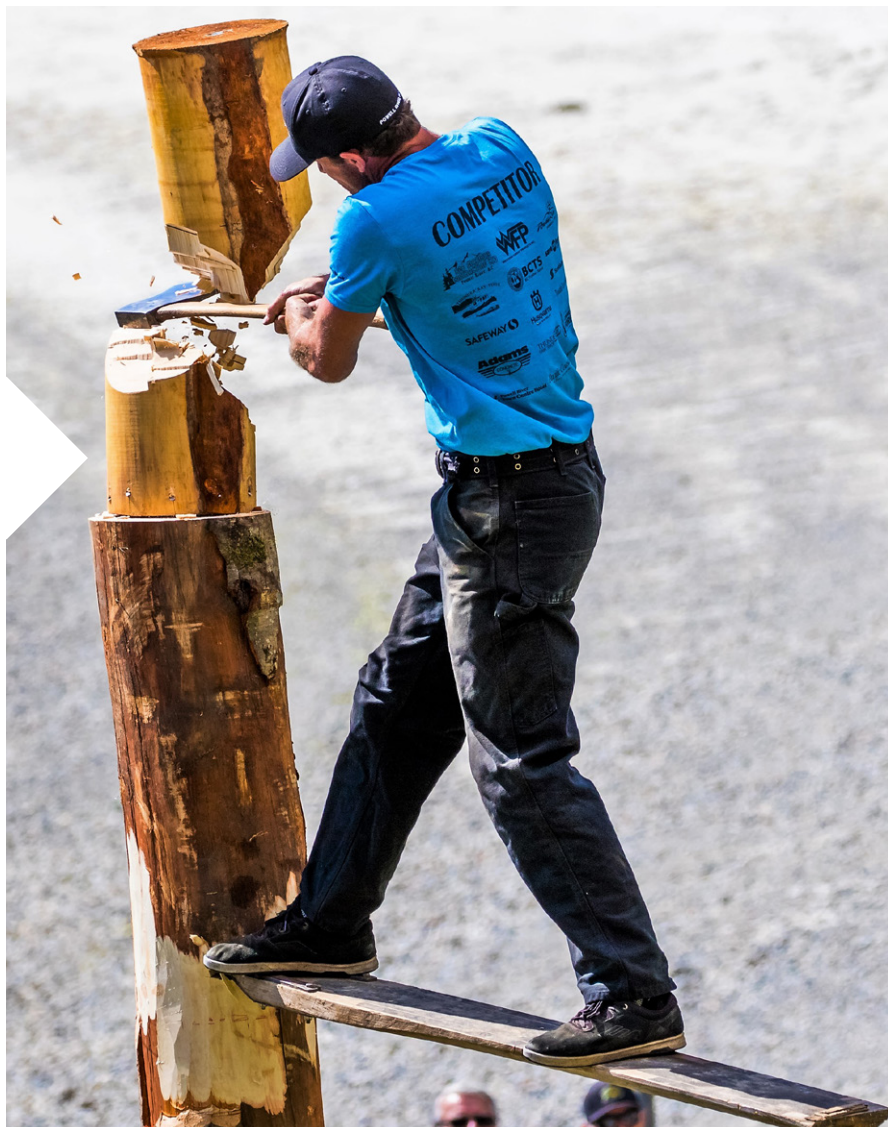
Intermediate class - cut two springboard holes one on top of the other. Put the boards in, and climb on the top one. Chop halfway through the tree, turn 180 degrees, and chop through the remainder. The clock stops when the chopped block hits the ground.

Open class - cut two holes as in intermediate class. Insert boards, chop halfway through the tree. Climb down, repeat on the other side of the tree, and chop through until the block hits the ground.

Items of interest

In the early days of logging, fallers worked in teams of two and used axes and crosscut saws. To cut down on the time it took to fall a large tree, they started their cuts in the straight part of the tree, above the swell of the butt. To reach that height, they chopped notches in the tree and inserted springboards. The name 'springboard' came about because the boards act like springs and can help a faller drive his axe harder into a cut.

In this event, it's vital to cut perfect springboard holes. A pro can cut his hole with four swings of his axe.



Relay

World Championship

Equipment

Chainsaw, choker, axe and cross-cut saw

Skills

Strength, speed, and teamwork

This is how you do it

The teams must consist of one lady (ladies' stock saw), one novice-intermediate (chokerman's race), one open (underhand chop) and another novice-intermediate (Jack and Jill double-buck).



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Thomas Symons

Novice All Around Jeff Coburn

Intermediate All Around

Leo Coudrau

Peter Couliwer Memorial Chop

1. Daniel Beams
2. Karl Bischoff
3. Dale Beams
4. George Williams
5. Brian Bartow
6. Stirling Hart

2017 Results

World Championships

World Championship Chair Carve

1. Sam Richards

World Championship Relay Race

1. Laurence O'Toole, Ben Lefler, Janet Walker
2. Stirling Hart, Leo Coudrau, Danielle Tkach
3. Matt Slingerland, Julian Welp, Stephanie Naud
4. Jesse Whitehead, Kevin Steward, Katelan Steward
5. Mitch Hewitt, Allan Knapp, Anita Jakowski
6. Daniel Clissold, Karl Bischoff, Andrea Hand

Two-Man Springboard World Championship

1. Mitch Hewitt & Jesse Whitehead
2. Laurence O'Toole & Jason Lentz
3. Matt Slingerland & Gerald Youles
4. Daniel Clissold & Koen Martens
5. Marcel Dupuis & George Williams
6. Stirling Hart & Leo Coudrau





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Canadian Championships

Intermediate Chokerman's Race Canadian Championship

1. Allan Knapp
2. Nick Hall
3. Tyler Brady
4. Kevin Cote
5. Jeff Coburn

Intermediate Double Buck Canadian Championship

1. Brett Marquis and Jeff Coburn
2. Zachary Riley and Lars Hobenschild
3. Tryler Brady and Allan Knapp
4. Rick Perry and Sheila Sitter

Novice Underhand Chop Canadian Championship

1. George Williams
2. Tyler Brady
3. Jeff Coburn
4. Thomas Symons



Novice Standing Block Chop Canadian Championship

1. Ben Flefer
2. Tyler Brady
3. Jeff Coburn
4. Julian Welp

Intermediate Standing Block Chop Canadian Championship

1. Leo Coudrau
2. Nick Hall
3. George Williams
4. Brent Saniger
5. Troy Lambert

Ladies Events

Ladies Single Buck

1. Stephanie Naud
2. Allison Briscoe
3. Amanda Beams
4. Erin Lavoie

Ladies Underhand

1. Erin Lavoie
2. Amanda Beams
3. Stephanie Naud
4. Katelan Steward

Ladies Axe Throw

1. Allison Briscoe
2. Marie Beck
3. Andrea Hand
4. Janet Walker



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Ladies Chokerman's Race

1. Erin Lavoie
2. Marie Beck
3. Ketelan Steward
4. Danielle Tkach

Kids events

Kids Axe Throw

1. Ryo Holmgren
2. Nathan Gruntman
3. Jake Hewitt

Kids Choker Race

1. Matti Logor
2. Nathan Gruntman
3. Jake Hewitt

Kids Underhand Chop

1. Jake Hewitt
2. Breaden Coburn
3. Pearson Coburn

Novice events

Novice Tree Climb Canadian Championship

1. Koen Martens
2. Julian Welp
3. Allan Knapp
4. Tyler Brady

Novice Axe Throw Canadian Championship

1. Nick Hall
2. Tyler Brady
3. Thomas Symons
4. Daniel Clissold

Novice Obstacle Pole

1. Jeff Coburn
2. Leo Coudrau
3. Tyler Brady
4. Erin Lavoie

Novice Husky Challenge

1. Jeff Coburn
2. Anita Jakowski
3. Michelle Lefler
4. Lars Hobenshield

Intermediate events

Intermediate Underhand Chop

1. Leo Coudrau
2. Ben Lefler
3. Brent Saniger
4. Dennis Yarjay
5. Julian Welp

Intermediate Springboard

1. Leo Coudrau
2. Koen Martens
3. Tyler Brady
4. George Williams

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Chainsaw Art

Starting Thursday night, a dozen expert chainsaw carvers from across North America will start with a log at Willingdon Beach.

By Sunday afternoon, their creations will be ready for the

judges. Watch the creations emerge in real time, as the sawdust flies and sweat drips. Several of these sculptures will become permanent pieces of public art around Powell River - a legacy of Logger Sports.



Brian Widahl

Cochrane, Alberta

Widahl Woodcraft on FB

Last year's Powell River Logger Sports was Brian's first competition. He began carving more than two years ago when work in the construction industry was slow.

Rocky LaRock

Chehalis, BC

rockylarock.com

Rocky has been carving for more than 30 years, and also works with troubled native youth and inmates as a counselor and teacher.



Damon Gorecki

Rosevelt, Utah

thebarefootcarver.com

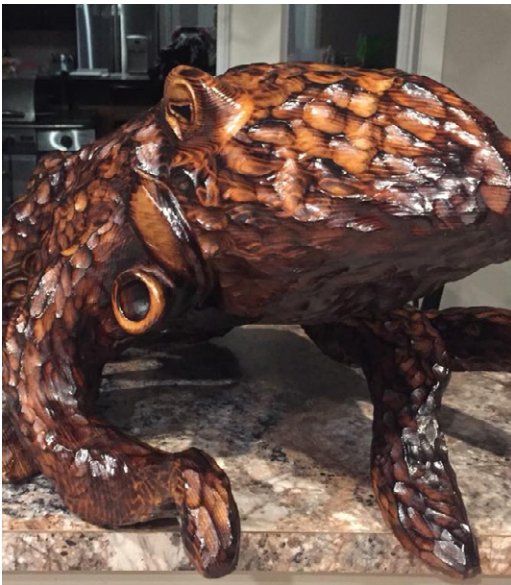
Damon is a professional free-form carver who creates custom wood art pieces and furniture out of wood and metal.

Randy Gauthier

Saulteau First Nation

Moberly Lake, BC

Randy's first international competition was in 2016 in Sun Peaks. At home in Prince George, Randy hosts carving competitions out of Prince George. The former faller carves full-time.



Bob Morgan

Burns Lake

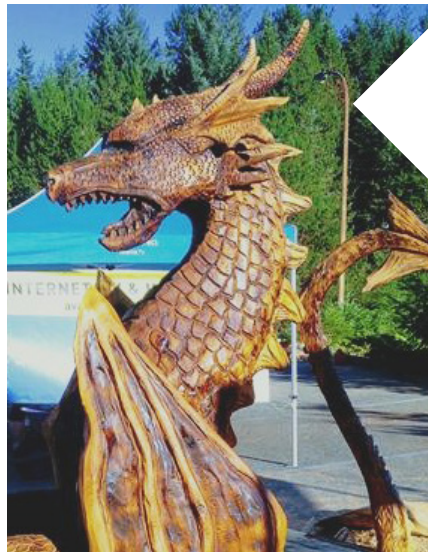
Man Cave Creations on FB

An out-of-work construction worker and carpenter discovered a talent for carving at 47. Now, it's his full-time business.

Shea Larking

Seymour Arm, BC

Shea has been carving for just three years, but he's already winning plenty of recognition. He won second place in Powell River in 2016. First in Campbell River that same year. Last year, he won second place carvers choice and people's choice in Campbell River.



Your local artists

Clint Bleaney - facing page

Powell River

rippintimber.com

Clint worked as a shake blocker then as a faller. He first competed in Logger Sports in Powell River, and while other competitors showed up with trailers full of tools, he was the guy who showed up with just his saw and a jug full of gas.

Jay Perrin - this page

Powell River

Bar & Chain Wood Design

Jay is a machine operator at Olympic Log Sort who first started making art with a chainsaw two years ago. This will be his first competition.

Liam Tromans

Chemanius, BC

A Cape Breton logger for nearly 30 years, Liam now lives in Chemanius and carves on commission.

Bev Murray

Westville, Oklahoma

Timberart by Bev

The only woman in this competition, Bev is a prolific American carver.

Vaden Burt

Merville, BC

Steve Harrison

Oakville, Ontario



Local heritage: The Eagle River Railway ran by Dodd and Horseshoe Lakes. *From the Powell River Historical Museum & Archives.*

5 reasons why Logger Sports is both **Your Heritage + Your Future**

1. It's official

In 1971, the BC Legislature proclaimed Logger Sports the province's official industry sport. And it still is.

2. Skills on display hark back - and forward

21st century loggers are rarely called upon to chop from a springboard anymore. But the axe skills you'll see at the Loggers Memorial Bowl July 13 to 15 were this province's foundation for more than a century. They're gaining popularity again. Axe-throwing bars and facilities are springing up across North America - so urbanites who have never chopped anything before can experience forest culture.

3. University teams are back

After some quiet years, UBC's Logger Sports team The Thunderjacks are back, and competing across Canada and the USA. Similarly, other post-secondary teams are raising the profile of the sport - and the industry - on campus.

4. It's a tourism and branding opportunity

Beyond Powell River, BC is home to many official and unofficial Logger Sports events, including shows in Merritt, Campbell River, Squamish, Port McNeil, Smithers, Kaslo, and elsewhere. They often coincide with official community days, drawing curious visitors. Overseas, teams from BC showcase the sports to help brand the province - as they have for nearly 50 years.

5. There's no lack of new, young athletes coming up

In the past, Logger Sports participants were mostly male, and most athletes had a background in logging. Today, the fastest-growing demographic of new competitors is women - and plenty of serious contenders both male and female have never worked in the woods.

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