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**LIVING**



*July 9-13, 2025*

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Logger  
Sports**

**5TH  
TIMBER**  
SPORTS

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Darlene Perry	RONA - Powell River Building Supply Ltd.	Westcoast Endeavours Ltd.
Freshco	Royal Zayka	

# Powell River Logger Sports

July 9-13, 2025

# Sched

## Gate Admission

Free for Everyone! Please bring non-perishable food or cash as a donation to the Powell River Action Society Food Bank. We are hoping to fill a gravel truck each day!

## Get in on the action

- Just \$3 buys you a Lucky Program at the event. Draws for great prizes happen all day, Saturday and Sunday.
- Silent Auction at Merchandise booth will include 4 Truck Loads of Firewood donated by Thichum Forest Products and 3 Round Trip for 2 travellers vouchers between Vancouver and Powell River donated by Pacific Coastal Airlines.
- Dinner and Dance tickets – Watch Powell River Logger Sports and Carlson Club Facebook pages for ticket sales.

## Beer Gardens

Run by Jo-al Meilleur with Rosemary Lane & Co. Enjoy a pint while you watch the action July 12 & 13.

## Carving Competition July 9-13

Sponsored by Thunder Bay Tugs

Upper parking lot, Willingdon Beach

Wed/Thurs/Sat • 8 am to 5:30 pm

Friday • 8 am to 6 pm

Sunday • 8 am to noon, judging noon-1,  
Top 3 announced around 2 pm

4 • Your Guide to Logger Sports 2025

## Saturday, July 12

**Gates open at 9:30 am:** Trade show, food booths, exhibitors, merchandise and Lucky Program sales. **Preliminaries begin** with competitors competing in preliminary events to make it into the show for a certain event.

**Noon Opening Ceremonies:** Bagpipes and dignitaries.

*The following events will not necessarily be in this order. See event schedule posted to Powell River Logger Sports Facebook page closer to the event.*

### Novice

Obstacle Pole

*Sponsored by DMD Accountants, Hair N Dipity, J M G Logging Ltd., Subway*

Underhand Chop

*Sponsored by Massullo Motors, Oceanside Entertainment, Bell's Rental, Kiwanis*

Axe Throw

*Sponsored by Tideline Services Ltd., Villani and Company, Royal Zayka, Couverdon*

### Intermediate

Obstacle Pole

*Sponsored by Laochra Construction, S J A Forestry, Big O Tires, Taste of Heaven G&K*

Stock Saw - Husky Challenge

*Sponsored by Thunder Bay Saw Shop*

Underhand Chop

*Sponsored by Kim Bartfai and Sharyn Gowley, Nancy Dietrich, Rosemary Lane & Company, Chris Redman*

Standing Block Chop

*Sponsored by Can-west Well Drilling Ltd., Columbia Fuels, KR Logging*

100CC Power Saw with Pipe

*Sponsored by Powell River Tree Service Inc., Bay Line Enterprises Inc., First Credit Union*

Springboard 2-Board

*Sponsored by Aaron Service & Supply, BC Fallers, Powell River Vintage Car Club, RONA- Powell River Building Supply Ltd., Westcoast Endeavours Ltd.*

Double Buck (Canadian Championship)

*Sponsored by BC Event Makers and Big West Wrestling, Trevor & Debbie Mueller, Community Futures*

# wle

## Saturday, July 12 (cont.)

### Masters

#### Peter Colliver Memorial Underhand Chop

*Sponsored by Bob Marquis Contracting,  
Thichum Forest Products*

### Ladies

#### Open Single Buck

*Sponsored by Murphy Electrical, Freshco, Select Safety Services,  
Twisted Tree Service, Crystal Clear Engraving*

#### Novice Underhand (Canadian Championship)

*Dominos Pizza, Peak, Just Frys! And Dogs*

#### Open Underhand

*Sponsored by Carlson Club, Rural Septic Services,  
Canadian Tire Powell River*

#### Jill & Jill Double Buck

*Sponsored by Welpers Tree Service, Mitchell Brothers,  
Darlene Perry, Canlog*

### Relay

#### Powell River Logger Sports Relay

*Sponsored by Thunder Bay Tugs*

## Sunday, July 13

**Gates open at 9:30 am:** Trade show, food booths, exhibitors, merchandise and Lucky Program sales.

### Show begins at noon.

*The following events will not necessarily be in this order.  
See event schedule posted to Powell River Logger Sports  
Facebook page closer to the event.*

### Open

#### Axe Throw (Canadian Championship)

*Sponsored by Aero Services, Road Warrior Holdings,  
Tin Hat Mountain Contracting*

#### Obstacle Pole

*Sponsored by Olympic Forest Products, Select Sand and Gravel*

#### Standing Block Chop

*Sponsored by Oceanview Helicopters Ltd.,  
Tempco Heating & Cooling Specialists, Texada Transfer Ltd.*

#### Underhand

*Sponsored by Tla'Amin Lake Contracting, Powell River Insulation,  
McDonald Marine Services Ltd., Bottom Up Tree Service Ltd.*

#### Single Buck

*Sponsored by Malaspina Construction & Contracting,  
Powell River Town Centre Hotel*

#### 4 Board Springboard

*Sponsored by Julie's Airport Cafe Ltd., Lois Lumber Ltd.*

#### 140CC Hot Saw (Canadian Championship)

*Sponsored by Valley Building Supplies Ltd.,  
Western Forest Products*

#### Double Buck

*Sponsored by Borealis Fuels & Logistics, Goat Lake Forest Products*

#### Unlimited Hotsaw (North American Championship)

*Sponsored by Veyron Properties Group, Mosaic Forest Management*

#### Jack & Jill

*Sponsored by A Frame Carpentry and Woodworking,  
Powell River Community Forests Ltd.*

### Ladies

#### Axe Throw

*Sponsored by Beach Gardens Hotel, Pacific Coastal Airlines,  
Relay Rentals*

### Relay

#### Powell River Logger Sports Relay

*Sponsored by Thunder Bay Tugs  
and Tilt Contracting Ltd.*



*Good luck to all  
of the competitors!*



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# Welcome to Logger Sports

**L**adies and gentlemen, competitors, and visitors, welcome to Powell River Logger Sports!

We gratefully acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional territory of the Tla'amin Nation. We honor their deep and ongoing connection to these lands and forests that continue to bring our community together.

We gather here to celebrate the strength, skill, and tradition that define our rich forestry heritage. From axe throwing to sawing events, each competition showcases the determination and resilience rooted in generations of forestry workers. Our carving competition highlights the artistry that lives in this culture — transforming raw timber into powerful expressions of creativity and craftsmanship.

We would also like to thank the many volunteers whose hard work and dedication make this event possible. Their efforts embody the spirit of teamwork and community that logger sports are all about.

A special thank you goes out to our sponsors — your generous support helps keep this tradition alive and thriving. Your commitment makes events like this possible, and we are truly grateful for your contribution to our community and culture.

Let the games begin — with passion, respect, and the thrill of friendly competition.

Here's to unforgettable moments and the enduring spirit of logger sports!

*Powell River Logger Sports Association  
President Tyler Brady, and Board of Directors*

## Your 2025 Powell River Logger Sports Board of Directors:

- President • Tyler Brady
- Vice President • Kevin Cote
- Past President • Bob Marquis
- Treasurer • Michelle Silvester
- Secretary • Brenda Mowat
- Directors • Willy Mowat, Laura Passek, Gary Amundsen, Jay Perrin

qathet Living / Gastropod Media  
7053E Glacier St, Powell River BC V8A 5J7  
editor@qathetliving.ca • tel 604-485-0003

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**ON THE COVER:** Port McNeill's Thomas Symons in last year's spring-board chop — one of the most popular, and physically demanding, events.

PHOTO BY MICHELLE PENNELL

## CONTENTS

Schedule of Events	4-5
Chainsaw Carvers	8-9
Event Explainers	11-16
2024 Results	18
Powell River's Logging Legacy	20-21
Bob's Forestry Report	22

*Thanks to photographer Michelle Pennell, who provided the photographs for this publication.*

Owner & Editor • Pieta Woolley  
Publisher & Sales Manager • Sean Percy  
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**Witness 11 chainsaw artists transform a tree to art in just four days. Drop by the gravel parking lot at Willingdon Beach starting Wednesday, July 9, to see this local and international group of competitive artists in action.**

**Vote for your favourites.**

**This year's artists are:**

Jay Perrin • Powell River

Clint Blaney • Powell River

Shea Larking • Seymour Arm, BC

Dave Mckamey • Penticton, BC

Brigette Lochhead • Vancouver, BC

Tyler Welfing • Vernon, BC

Kamron Garbe • Armstrong, BC

Tao Feng • Surrey, BC (China)

Benji Waretini-Hemara • North Vancouver, BC  
(New Zealand)

Michael Penny • Fernie, BC

*New to Powell River Logger Sports:*

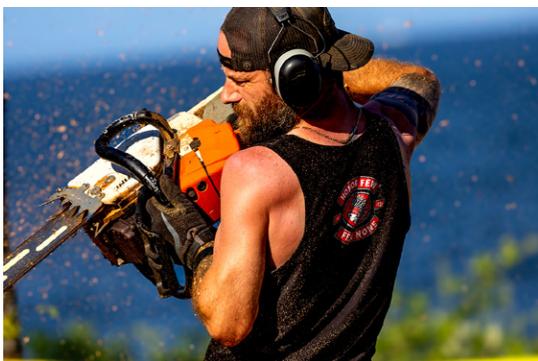
Stephanie Penner • Ste. Anne, Manitoba

Colin Brown • Brucefield, Ontario

2024  
#3 Winner

2024  
#1 Winner

2024  
#2 Winner



# ain Gang



**ANIMAL CARVINGS:**

Jay Perrin's octopus,  
Bridgete Lochhead's salmon,  
and Tyler Welfing's eagle bench.



The City of Powell River welcomes you to Loggers Memorial Bowl – one of our community’s finest assets. This spectacular amphitheatre was built as a multi-purpose venue for everyone to enjoy, be it for sunsets, picnic lunches in the shade of cedar trees, arts and culture events, and, of course, the thrill of Logger Sports.

We wish the athletes, competitors, spectators, and volunteers a fantastic Logger Sports weekend!



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Competitors demonstrated chair carving at a past fundraiser held at Scotiabank.



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Get to know Logger Sports

# Saw Events

## Hand-bucking

Single-Buck

Ladies Open | Open

Double-Buck

Intermediate | Open

Jack & Jill

Open

Jill & Jill

Ladies

### 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.

# Springboard: Two-board & Four-board

Intermediate two-board |  
Open four-board

## 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.



# Axe Events

## Underhand Chop

Ladies Novice & Open  
Novice | Intermediate  
Masters | Open

### Equipment

Racing axe, log.

### Skills

Strength, precision, courage.

### This is how you 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+.

## Axe Throw

Novice | Ladies | Open  
Canadian Championship

### Equipment

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

### Skills

Precision, fearlessness.

### This is how you 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 count.

### Items of interest

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

## Peter Colliver Memorial Chop

Masters

An Underhand Chop. Peter Colliver and Bob Marquis represented Canada at the Guinness World Records logger contest in Germany in 2000. Sadly Peter passed away and this event is to honour him. Competitors must be 50 years or older to chop in this event.

*This year, Powell River Logger Sports is hosting one North American title and four Canadian championships.*

A man wearing a green t-shirt with a 'Pocahontas River' logo and a dark cap with 'Metaspina Tree Service' is using a STIHL chainsaw to cut a large log. The background is a grassy field with more logs.

# Chainsaw Events

## Husky Stock Saw Challenge

Intermediate

### Equipment

18"-diameter log, chainsaw of 100cc or less, not modified, provided by Thunder Bay Saw Shop.

### Skills

Control, strength, knowing your saw.

### This is how you do it

The saws are provided. Contestants begin with their hands on top of the log, the saw idling, and the chain brake disengaged. When the signal is given, the contestant must make a downward cut to produce a complete disc. Time stops once the disc is fully severed. To confirm the cut is legal, the contestant must pass the disc through a 1 ½" gate. Women have the saw idling, while men must have the saw turned off.

### Items of interest

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

## Hot Saw

Open 140cc hot saw  
Unlimited hot saw

### Equipment

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

140cc is one cut down, one up, creating two "cookies" which must line up and be no more than 4". Unlimited is three cuts, down, up, down, creating three "cookies" that must be no more than 6".

### Item of interest

The loudest of all events.



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## Obstacle Pole Bucking

Novice | Intermediate | Open

### Equipment

Chainsaw, eight-inch diameter log.

### Skills

Strength, speed, balance.

### This is how you 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.

# Multiskill Events

## Relay

### Events

Stock Saw, Open Underhand, Double-Buck, end with an intermediate 1-board springboard

### Skills

Strength, speed, and teamwork.

### This is how you do it

The Canadian team faces off against the American team. Five Open competitors on each. Placement based on combined times.



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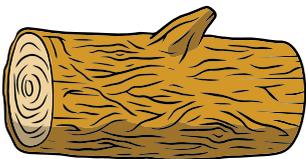
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Logger Sports



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# 2024 results

## **Canadian Championship Novice Axe Throw**

Steve Valentyne

## **Novice Underhand Chop**

Connor Robertson

## **Novice Tree Climb**

Callum Simmons

## **Intermediate Underhand Chop**

Mitchell Brown John

## **Intermediate Obstacle Pole**

Brad Laviolette

## **Intermediate Husky Stock Saw Challenge**

Connor Robertson

## **Canadian Championship Intermediate Tree Climb**

Cash McQuaid

## **Intermediate Springboard**

Jake Hewitt

## **Intermediate Double Buck**

Jake Hewitt/Morgan Bischoff

## **North American Championship Intermediate 100 CC**

Jake Hewitt

## **All Around Novice of the Day**

Steve Valentyne

## **All Around Intermediate of the Day**

Jake Hewitt

## **Sportsman of the Day**

Dustin Miller

## **Peter Colliver Memorial Chop**

Karl Bischoff

## **Open Underhand Chop**

Stirling Hart

## **Open Obstacle Pole**

Mitchell Hewitt

## **Open 4 Board Springboard**

Mitchell Hewitt

## **Open Double Buck**

Stirling Hart/Mitchell Hewitt

## **Open Single Buck**

Stirling Hart

## **Canadian Championship Open 140CC Hot Saw**

Mitchell Hewitt

## **North American Unlimited Hot Saw**

Stirling Hart

## **Open Axe Throw**

Stirling Hart

## **Canadian Championship Tree Climb**

Brian Bartow

## **Jack and Jill**

Stirling Hart/Allison Briscoe

## **Ladies Axe Throw**

Sarah Mooney

## **Ladies Single Buck**

Allison Briscoe

## **Jill & Jill Bucking**

Dawn Briscoe/Allison Briscoe

## **Ladies Open Underhand Chop**

Andrea Hand

## **Canadian Championship Ladies Novice Underhand**

Megan Keogh

## **Open Logger of the Day**

Stirling Hart

## **Lady Logger of the Day**

Allison Briscoe

## **Sportsman of the day**

Nick Hall



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By Devan Gillard

Long before the construction of the paper mill, several industries drew pioneers to the Powell River region. While some early pioneers came to trap or farm, the most profitable venture was logging, thanks to the area's dense old-growth forests.

Commercial logging in the Powell River area took root around the 1880s, as loggers expanded northward from Vancouver. In those early days, logs were hauled by oxen and horses down skid roads into the water, where they could be floated to be sent to mills back east. This labor-intensive method relied heavily on muscle, both animal and human, and the natural advantage of gravity to move timber to the coast.

Initially, logging operations were limited to areas near the shoreline,

as moving timber inland without modern transportation was nearly impossible. However, by the time of the First World War, new technology began to reshape the industry. Two key innovations—the steam donkey and the steam locomotive—arrived at the turn of the century and revolutionized logging in the Powell River area.

The steam donkey, a simple steam-powered engine connected to a winch, replaced the use of horses and oxen, pulling logs with far greater efficiency.

Meanwhile, steam locomotives made it possible to push deeper into the backcountry, opening up vast new tracts of forest. Soon, a network of railways spread across the region, supporting the expansion of large-scale commercial logging.

In 1902, the British Columbia government moved to stimulate industrial development by offer-

ing several 21-year coastal pulp leases. The largest of these was in Powell River. Intended to attract investment in the province's burgeoning forestry sector, the Powell River lease was initially granted to the Canadian Industrial Company but little development occurred initially.

That changed in 1908, when two seasoned timber operators from Minnesota, Joe Scanlon and Dwight Brooks, arrived in the area. Together, they established a logging company that would eventually become Brooks, Scanlon, and O'Brien. Recognizing the potential of the dormant pulp lease, Brooks and Scanlon quickly acquired the rights, along with control of the vital lake water source.

This marked the beginning of the first pulp mill in Western Canada—and an industry that would soon give rise to the town itself.



# Muscle, Steam, & Timber

Powell River's Logging Legacy



# Bob's state of the forest report

**T**oday's BC forest sector certainly is facing some challenging times.

Of course, there are the broad challenges such as excessive lumber duties on our forest products and the further uncertainties of any potential additional duties, all of which challenge the core economics of the forestry business.

This is further complicated by a legislative environment that is complex, cumbersome, and many times contradictory, and causes very lengthy times for any potential approvals, if they get approved at all.

We have a term in forestry called "lurch" logging which is a consequence of all these problems. Workers and the many phases involved in our business find themselves tripping over each other, resulting in further inefficiencies impacting all of us trying to make a living out in the bush. This in turn causes problems for the manufacturing plants such as sawmills, as the flow of fiber to them is inconsistent.

What's needed is for all involved in the forest sector to come together with a collective vision for our industry and then make sure government gives us the proper legislative and regulatory

certainties to ensure we regain our competitiveness and ensure our sustainability. Moving us forward requires this full partnership to make sure we all succeed.

BC's forest sector has always faced challenges and today's reality finds that even more so, with inconsistent and persistently low harvest levels combined with ongoing threats of increased tariffs to our major markets in North America.

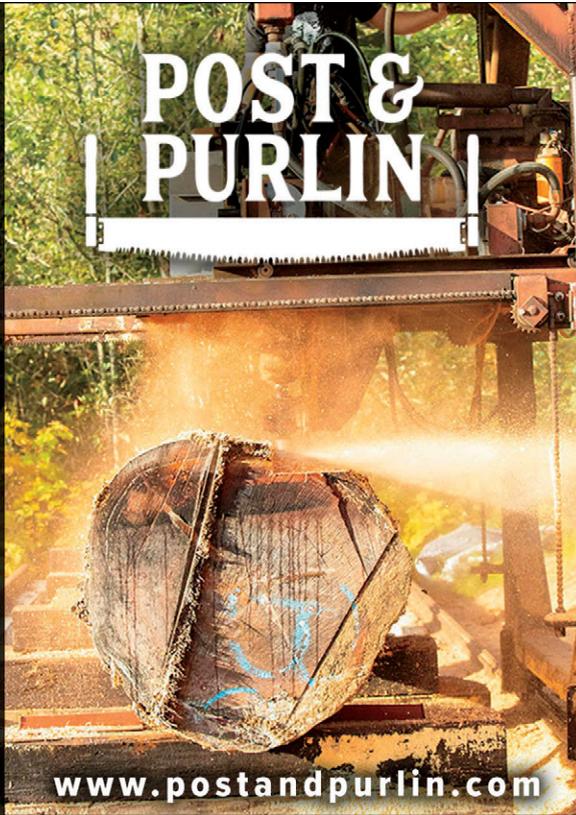
Having said that, the Provincial government and new Minister of Forests have stated their renewed support for returning prosperity to our industry. To make this happen will require real change in our forestry regulatory environment and we hope to those indications soon.

Here on the Upper Sunshine Coast, we are a model for the rest of the province on how a collective vision can work, with First Nations, industry, and backcountry users all sharing the forest. It seems to work well in the qathet region.

*Bob Marquis is a third generation local logger and road builder. He is vice-president of the BC Truck Loggers Association - representing more than 400 BC forest industry companies. And, he is past president of Powell River Logger Sports.*



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LSJ is proudly based  
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## PRCF is pleased to support Powell River Logger Sports

It's a fun way to celebrate how important forestry is to our community.

Good luck to all the carvers and competitors and thanks to all the volunteers who make this great event happen.



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