



# TimberLess Times

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[R. Wiles photo]

## Youbou Sawmill Justice

Everyone wants to know about “Clause 7” and the never-ending court case. To help sort out the 10-year timeline, we have distilled our boxes of documents into this short history.

**JULY 1997** — Tree Farm Licence (TFL) 46 replacement agreement signed off by BC Forests Minister David Zirnelt without its “Clause 7” timber processing language for the Youbou Sawmill.

**OCTOBER 2000** — TimberWest Forest Corporation announces plan to permanently close the Youbou Sawmill. CEO Scott Folk first reveals the absence of “Clause 7.”

**JANUARY 2001** — Acting Forests Minister David Zirnelt tells Youbou Sawmill workers on the steps of the Legislature, “If it was brought to my attention it wouldn’t have happened.”

**JANUARY 2001** — Last log cut as the Youbou Sawmill is permanently closed and TimberWest Corporation retains all rights to TFL 46.

**JANUARY 2001** — Lawyer Daniel Gelb is retained by the BC Government to conduct an independent review of why “Clause 7” was not included in TFL 46 contract.

**MAY 2001** — The IWA Canada union launches a court action against the BC Minister of Forests and “certain bureaucrats” for bad faith and negligence.

**MAY 2001** — The Daniel Gelb review is terminated by the BC Government before any final conclusions can be drawn.

**JUNE 2001** — Premier Gordon Campbell claims that a final Gelb review is unnecessary because the issue will be addressed by litigation.

**AUGUST 2001** — A YTS appeal to the Premier for a Public Inquiry is rebutted obliquely by: “*this legal action will require the omission of Clause 7 to be canvassed fully.*”

**MAY 2003** — IWA Canada drops court action against the BC Government.

**JULY 2003** — Supported by the YTS, lawyer Joseph Arvay launches a class action proceeding on behalf of Youbou Sawmill workers against the BC Government.

**MAY 2004** — Justice R.D. Wilson of the BC Supreme Court grants class action certification.

**JUNE 2004** — BC Government appeals the BC Supreme Court decision.

**MARCH 2005** — BC Court of Appeal dismisses the Government’s appeal.

**AUGUST 2005** — Court orders Notification of Class Members. Court allows a Government request for a “case already judged” (*res judicata*) hearing.

**MARCH 2006** — Court hears *res judicata* arguments.

**JUNE 2006** — Court rules in favour of BC Government’s *res judicata* argument.

**JULY 2006** — Youbou Sawmill workers file an appeal and

the YTS commences a \$20,000 fundraising campaign to finance legal costs.

**DECEMBER 2006** — The YTS legal defence fund achieves its \$20,000 campaign goal.

**APRIL 2007** — BC Court of Appeal hears arguments against the *res judicata* decision.

As we go to press, the latest ruling of the BC Court of Appeals is pending. No one can claim that Youbou Sawmill workers, their families, and their community have not been patient and persistent.

## TimberLess Log

15 DECEMBER 2007

### YTS Community Xmas Party

At the Youbou Community Hall.

(Potluck starts at 5:00 PM)

### Campaigners



[R. Wiles photo]

Jo Rai and Ron Larose, here sporting a battle-scarred protest sign, were among the faithful that attended the YTS AGM in Duncan.



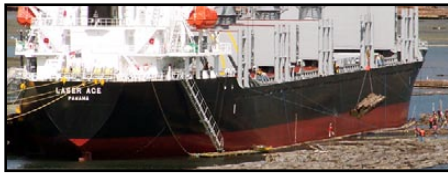
[Roy Legate Photographic Collection]

# More TimberLess Times

## YTS Group Medical

Members are reminded that they can choose to enroll in the YTS extended group medical and dental plans at any time. Transferability options and attractively low premiums are enticing more forest sector retirees to sign on. Premiums are 100% income tax deductible. For more information, consult [www.savebcjobs.com](http://www.savebcjobs.com) or call volunteer Lynne Barge at (250) 745-3718.

## EXPORTS CONTINUE



[K. James photo]

The Panamanian-registered vessel **Laser Ace** was filmed loading out sawlogs at Cowichan Bay this Spring.

## PROTESTS CONTINUE



[K. James photo]

The YTS is part of the Ban Log Exports Coalition. An April parade and rally hosted by the Pulp, Paper, and Woodworkers of Canada culminated at the headquarters of Island TimberLands in Nanaimo. A broad spectrum of community groups listened to Forests Minister-In-Waiting Bob Simpson as he and his caucus colleagues described the need to overhaul BC forest policy and finally halt the export of logs.

# Community Outreach

Two recent initiatives have helped to raise both the profile of the Youbou TimberLess Society and operating funds for its work in public education and advocacy.

Thousands of conifer seedlings were given away along parade routes in Lake Cowichan and Duncan this past summer. Volunteers distributed trees from the back of a decorated YTS float.



[K. James photo]

Attached to each seedling was a label displaying our logo and the text: "A gift of life from the Youbou TimberLess Society. Help this tree to grow and it will sustain our community and assure an evergreen future for all of us. We believe that an

environmental ethic can coexist with a work ethic. Share our vision. Join us: [www.savebcjobs.com](http://www.savebcjobs.com)"

In September, former Youbou Sawmill power engineer **Buddy Bhandar** participated in The Great Lake Walk.

The ultra-marathoner actually ran the 56-kilometer round-the-lake "walk" in a blistering time of 4 hours, 46 minutes. He finished the Cowichan Lake event in second place, only 11 minutes off the leader whose time broke the course record.

While Buddy finished second in the Cowichan Lake event, he earned a "first place" with the Youbou TimberLess Society by raising \$545 for our work.



[R. Wiles photo]

## The Right Choice

The *TimberLess Times* supports the use of Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified paper and we encourage YTS members to patronize all forest products displaying their distinctive logo.

What does FSC-certified mean? It is the most exacting certification system in the world.



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The resource custody chain—from tree, to timber, to finished paper—is rigorously audited to the highest ecological and socially responsible standards.

The YTS is pleased to have participated in the development of the FSC standard in BC through the Social Chamber Working Group (BC Chapter).

## Youbou TimberLess Society

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