



In our news today:

- **Spotlight on Great Lakes Region Cold Storage**
- **Fond Farewell to Tom Harvie**
- **Have You Heard?**
- **All in the Family**
- **Did You Know?**

SPOTLIGHT ON GREAT LAKES REGION COLD STORAGE



From late November to early January, trees grown at PRT Oregon, Campbell River, Hybrid, Armstrong, Vernon, Prince Albert and Dryden destined for customers in the Great Lakes States are shipped to PRT's Great Lakes States Cold Storage facility in Wisconsin. The trees are quickly frozen at a temperature of -7°C (19°F) then stored at between -3°C (27°F) and -5°C (23°F) until they are ready to ship to customers for spring planting.

On July 1, 2016, PRT USA signed a long term lease with the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WI DNR) for the cooler/warehouse building located at the former WI DNR Hayward State Nursery site in Hayward, Wisconsin. Following some needed upgrades and improvements, this legacy facility has become the PRT Great Lakes States Cold Storage (GLSCS) facility.

PRT President and CEO Rob Miller commented: "We worked diligently with the WI DNR to arrive at this mutually agreeable arrangement for the cooler/warehouse building at Hayward State Nursery. We recognize the importance of the Hayward facility to the WI DNR and the history of forestry in the state. We will do our part to maintain the site in its heritage condition. We look forward to continuing to work with customers in the Great Lakes States region and being an integral part of reforestation now and in the future."

Having a cold storage facility local to our Great Lakes States customers allows us to make PRT's containerized forest seedlings available for quick and effective turnaround deliveries during the key spring plant period. Since taking over the facility, the refrigeration capabilities have been upgraded to accommodate the cold storage of containerized spring planting seedlings destined for plantations in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan.



Patrick Scheller

The facility is managed by Patrick Scheller, a professional forester with 30 years experience in the forest industry. As a forestry consultant and tree seed supplier, Patrick has been supplying PRT with Wisconsin seed cones for the past 10 years, making him a natural choice to run the facility.

In the first year of operations, almost 3 million trees filling 5,604 boxes were stored at GLSCS before being shipped to 16 of our Great Lakes States customers in spring 2017. Shipments out began in mid April with the last trees leaving the facility in mid May. In fall 2017, the number of trees in storage increased to 4.7 million however the cooler weather so far this spring has delayed planting projects and therefore caused shipments to be delayed until the end of April. The last spring shipment for 2018 is estimated to leave at the end of May.



FOND FAREWELL TO TOM HARVIE

PRT customers in the Pacific Northwest U.S. (PNW) know Tom Harvie well. Tom's nursery career began at the Duncan and Koksilah B.C. nursery in 1970. Working with the B.C. Ministry of Forests, he traveled with the nursery development group responsible for determining the suitability of nursery locations throughout the province.

Eventually, Tom took on the role of Nursery Manager at the province's Thornhill Nursery in Terrace, B.C. In 1987 when province opened the door to privatization of their nurseries, the Thornhill Nursery joined with five other nurseries under the leadership of Charlie Johnson and Ev Van Eerden, to form Pacific Regeneration Technologies (now PRT).



Tom Harvie

After a number of years at PRT Thornhill, Tom moved to PRT Campbell River as Nursery Manager. While at PRT Campbell River, Tom saw that by working more closely with customers to understand their specific needs, nurseries could do a better job of growing seedlings to meet those needs. This way of thinking gave rise to the creation of the Customer Service Representative (CSR) team at PRT in 2004.

Tom became the first CSR for the PNW region and worked hard at developing deep relationships with the customers in the PNW. Over the past 14 years he traveled many miles from the Canadian border down to California, over to Montana and up to Alaska, getting to know his customers and helping them with their seedling needs. Tom has been an important part of the growth and success of the company over the past 30 years and he will be missed by colleagues and customers alike. Taking over from him is Tiffany Roddy, RPF who resides in the northwest and has been working closely with Tom for nearly a year to ensure customer needs are understood and continue to be met seamlessly.

We wish Tom much happiness in this retirement.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

PRT Oregon is getting a new name! Fourteen years ago, when PRT's Oregon nursery opened its doors at the site southeast of Hubbard, Oregon, it was the only PRT nursery in the state. With the acquisition of the Plum Creek/Weyerhaeuser facility at Cottage Grove, Oregon in 2017, PRT took another step towards our goal of better serving our customers in the Pacific Northwest U.S.

With two growing facilities in the PNW, it was time to properly differentiate between facilities and help our customers more easily differentiate between the two PRT nurseries in Oregon. Effective May 1, 2018, PRT Oregon becomes PRT Hubbard (PRT HB). Customers with orders at Hubbard will find the location codes on their orders and correspondence changed to PRT Hubbard/HB, but will see no change in the seedling quality and service they have come to expect from the team there.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

At PRT we take pride in providing new opportunities for growth to one of our most valuable resources – our employees. We are pleased to announce the following changes in our PRT family.



Patrick Graveley
Regional Manager, North

Patrick Graveley, Nursery Manager from PRT Beaverlodge, has been appointed to the new position of Regional Manager, North. Patrick came to PRT in 2001 as part of PRT's Grower Trainee Program and continued to advance his career as a Grower, Superintendent and Nursery Manager over the past 17 years. He holds three associate degrees in Horticulture from Minot State University, Bottineau, North Dakota, and is a graduate of Brandon University's Bachelor of General Studies program.

Along with his responsibilities as Nursery Manager, Patrick served as PRT's Safety Coordinator developing OH&S policies and educational safety topics for all PRT sites. A designated Mentor for the development of new Nursery Managers, Patrick understands and promotes the importance of educating and fostering positive communication and strong relationships. Committed to Continuous Improvement and learning, as a certified Lean Greenbelt instructor Patrick has facilitated several Lean Training and Kaizen events to encourage the lean culture within PRT.

As Patrick moves on to the Regional Manager position, Edward Wood (formerly Senior Grower at PRT Beaverlodge), takes on the role of Nursery Manager. Ed came to PRT Beaverlodge in 2003 from Cook Lake Nurseries in Dryden Ontario. His vast experience in all aspects of nursery operations as well as his commitment to work with customers to ensure their satisfaction, make him a valuable member of the Beaverlodge team.

While working with PRT, he obtained his Horticulturalist Certificate in 2015, followed by his Horticulturalist Diploma in 2017 through the University of Guelph. He has consistently contributed to the continuous improvement and daily operations of the Beaverlodge site making him an excellent candidate for the Nursery Manager's role.



Edward Wood
Nursery Manager,
PRT Beaverlodge



Chelsea Curtis
Lead Grower, PRT Coldstream

Chelsea Curtis, daughter of Customer Service Representative Marilyn Curtis, joined PRT in 2013 after obtaining a Bachelor of Science, Nursing Degree from Vancouver Island University. During her time at with us, she has filled both Irrigation Specialist and Grower positions and earlier this year, was promoted to the Lead Grower position at PRT Coldstream.

Chelsea is currently enrolled in the Horticulture program at the University of Guelph and nearing completion of her Horticulturist certificate on the way to a Horticulturist Diploma. Along with her formal education, she continues to gain knowledge and hands on experience in nursery cultural practices.

We are confident that all three will continue to grow and develop new skills as they take on the opportunities and challenges of their new roles.

DID YOU KNOW?

Canada's forests by the numbers

- Canada has 347 million hectares (857 million acres) of forest land
- About 68% of Canada's forests are coniferous, 16% are mixed wood and 11% are broadleaf (the remainder is non-specified)

Canada's forests account for:

- 9% of the world's forest cover
- 28% of the world's boreal zone
- 40% of the world's forests certified as being sustainably managed

Society

- Most of Canada's forest land (90%) is owned and managed on behalf of Canadians by provincial and territorial governments (public land). Two percent of forest land is under federal jurisdiction and 2% is owned and managed by Aboriginal peoples. The remaining 6% of forest land is on private property.
- The provinces and territories have legislative authority over the conservation and management of the forest resources on the Crown land in their jurisdictions.
- The federal government has legislative authority over forest resources where those resources affect, or are affected by, matters related to: the national economy, trade and international relations; federal lands and parks; and the government's constitutional, treaty, political and legal responsibilities for Aboriginal peoples.
- In 2015, direct employment in the Canadian forest industry, as measured by Statistics Canada's System of National Accounts, increased from 2014 levels by 1.5% to 201,645 jobs.
- About 70% of all Aboriginal communities in Canada are in forested areas.
- Public participation is an important aspect of forest management planning in Canada.

Economy

- By value, Canada is the world's leading exporter of softwood lumber and newsprint.
- The forest industry contributed \$CAN 22.1 billion to nominal gross domestic product (GDP) in 2015.
- The United States is by far the largest buyer of Canadian forest products.

Environment

- Less than 0.3% of Canada's forests are harvested annually.
- Less than 0.02% of Canada's forests are deforested each year.
- 100% of forests harvested on Canada's public land must be successfully regenerated.
- As of December 2015, Canada had 166 million hectares (410 million acres) of forests certified as being sustainably managed under one or more of three globally recognized certification systems.
- Bioenergy accounts for 60% of the total energy used by the forest industry.

Source: <http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/forests/measuring-reporting/key-forest-facts/17643>

Contact Us

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