

Welcome to Issue 38 of the Network for Women in Forestry (NWIF) newsletter. If you would like to subscribe to receive the newsletter directly please email sonya@blackburnegroup.co.nz. **This newsletter is for you, Women in Forestry, and we welcome your feedback and suggestions for future content.**

Highlighting an event for women in technical fields

WISE Women 2015 is a new, one-day event on 30 April that will seek to promote the achievement and contribution of women working in technical industries. It will discuss the distinctive contribution that sectors are realising through increased gender diversity in technical industries. As such, it will create a unique platform for women to network, learn from each other, share ideas, support each other, inspire and be inspired.

This event will explore topics including:

- Leadership stories and characteristics of leadership at a board level in technical industries
- Realising the elements of distinctive contribution that women bring to technical industries
- Recognising and managing the challenges inherent in technical industries
- How to influence and support change
- Attracting women to these sectors: an overview of trends of where the shifts are
- Leveraging the advantages of being a woman in these sectors
- Why and how networking and good connections will help

See the agenda at www.conferenz.co.nz/wise

Conferenz is pleased to offer **FICA members** / recipients of this email a **10%** discount off the conference price (both super saver and early-bird rates). To claim your discount, please use on-line booking code: **MW4WOC** or mention this email if registering by phone (09) 912 3616.
Super Saver rates close 5pm, 27 February 2015.

For more information on NWIF please contact Sonya Elmiger on 027 373 0910 or sonya@blackburnegroup.co.nz

December log exports the largest of the year for Eastland Port

By: Murray Robertson

December was a great month for Eastland Port with total export-import volumes of 221,778 tonnes and the biggest monthly log tally this financial year, said port services manager Deane Craw.

The tonnage total was made up of 219,521 tonnes of export logs, 1457 tonnes of plywood from Juken New Zealand, and 800 tonnes of fertiliser discharged.

“The log volumes were the largest for any month this financial year,” Mr Craw said.

“It was a great month....above forecast and budget and is not altogether unexpected as there is often a pre-Christmas flush of logs.”

The port has handled just one log boat so far this month due to the annual festive season break in harvesting.

Four more log ships are currently scheduled to the port before January 31 with the Ipanema Beach due first (on 10 Jan 2015).

The freighter Asian Lily is scheduled to dock on January 15 to load the first export squash shipment of the season to go out of Gisborne.

Source: *The Gisborne Herald*, 9 Jan 2015

This is a newsletter for you - the Women in forestry. Please email us and let us know what you want to see and read about in the next newsletter.

Start-up payments for kin carers available now

Applications are now open for the 2015 round of School and Year Start-up payments available to kin carers.

Payments are between \$400 and \$550, depending on the age of the child and are to acknowledge and support the additional costs incurred at the beginning of a new school year. The payment is available to help with pre-school and school-related costs such as clothing, school fees and stationery.

"Raising vulnerable children who've already had a rough start to life is hard work and these payments recognise the job grandparents and extended family members do raising children who come into their care, often because of the death of a parent or because of abuse or neglect." Social Development Minister, Anne Tolley says.

Last year around 6,500 carers were assisted, with School and Year Start-up payments of around \$3.3 million.

"People who care for a child when their parents are unable to do so play an invaluable role – both in the life of the child and in New Zealand society'.

"We're providing a bit of extra support so the children they are caring for have the opportunity to reach their full potential, to thrive, achieve, and belong." Mrs Tolley says.

Applications opened on 12th January and are open through until the end of February.

Applications can be made online at <http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/> or through a local Work and Income office.

Source: www.beehive.govt.nz/release/start-up-payments-kin-carers-available-now, 20 Jan 2015

GDP up 1.0 percent

Gross domestic product (GDP) was up 1.0 percent in the September 2014 quarter, as publicized by Statistics New Zealand on 18 December 2014. The growth was driven by primary industries, which increased 5.8 percent

"This is some of the strongest growth in primary industries for 15 years," national accounts manager Gary Dunnet said. "Milk production had a good start to the season, while oil exploration, and oil and gas extraction also grew."

The key drivers in the September 2014 quarter were agriculture (up 4.7 percent), and mining (up 8.0 percent). In contrast, forestry and logging was down 4.0 percent.

Manufacturing activity also grew (2.0 percent), led by increases in metal product manufacturing (up 4.9 percent), and machinery and equipment manufacturing (up 3.7 percent).

"Service industries were mixed this quarter, with rises in telecommunications and retail being offset by falls in transport and business services," Mr. Dunnet said.

GDP growth for the year ended September 2014 was 2.9 percent.

Household spending was up 1.5 percent, driven by a 4.0 percent increase in durables – including used motor vehicles and furniture (the highest quarterly increase in durables since before the global financial crisis). Investment also increased (3.5 percent), mainly due to increased spending on machinery and transport equipment.

Source: www.stats.govt.nz/browse_for_stats/economic_indicators/GDP, 18 Dec 2014