

Ken Macpherson

Ken (Kenny) Macpherson was born in Montreal June 1, 1941 and was soon returned to his family's ancestral home at Kingston, NB. Ken grew up in Kingston and graduated from MacDonald Consolidated School.

Ken graduated from Maritime Forest Ranger School in 1961, and started working with the Department of Lands and Mines (DNR). In September 1966, he joined the fledgling Forest Extension Service (a cooperative service sponsored by UNB, Ranger School, NB Department of Agriculture and Canadian Forest Association). Ken provided woodlot advisory services and public education in southern New Brunswick. In April 1976, Forest Extension Service was transferred to the Department of Natural Resources and Energy, Ken became Extension Ranger for Region 3, serving until retirement in 1995.

John Torunski characterizes Ken as a person who led by example maintained enthusiasm even when plans progressed sluggishly, a person who knew the difference between bureaucratic niceties and professional discretion, possessed the special talent for transferring ideas to landowners in a manner that they would think it was their own idea, a person who could honestly listen, a person whom staff and others (and other extension agencies) would turn to for advice, a person who earned the respect of colleagues and the public, a person most often chosen to train new staff in extension techniques and technical skills. In 1995, Ken was awarded the Rev. Canon Hart Award by the SNB Wood Co-operative and Forest Products Marketing Board, "recognizing his tremendous contribution to woodlot owners of southern New Brunswick". He was also honored by the Canadian Forestry Association "People and Trees Award".

Ken's service to New Brunswick Forestry includes:

Tree Farm Program (woodlot management); advisory and technical assistance to woodlot owners. Christmas tree production; technical assistance training in grading and marketing. Public education; arbor day, smoky bear fire prevention, 4-H Forestry Clubs, short courses, field days. Organization Building; instrumental in founding local Christmas Tree Organizations, guiding their development and operation. A driving force (while maintaining a professional distance) in the organization and development of the original SNB Wood Producers Association.