

Welcome to New FRP/CEC Staff!

*By John Wright & Nancy Young*

The Forestry Research Partnership along with the Canadian Ecology Centre is pleased to announce the addition of their newest staff members. This season we have been lucky to pick up two great additions to the group: Ken Durst and Samantha Turcotte.

As the search begins for John Pineau's replacement as Extension Manager for the FRP, one brave soul has stepped up to the challenge of filling this role temporarily. Despite his horrendously busy schedule, Ken Durst, Forest Information Services Co-ordinator for Tembec Chief Forester's Group Ontario, has stepped into the ring. Ken brings to this position a great wealth of experience in all aspects of forestry, and a legendary work ethic. As he has been actively involved in the FRP's enhanced inventory and LiDAR projects as well as the North East Core Team for the last few years, Ken knows the FRP's background and has been a great supporter and help to this organization. Ken has already proved to be a great asset to the FRP team, and we look forward to continuing to work with him in his new role. For more information, check out Ken's profile [here](#).

Samantha Turcotte joined the team this fall as the Network Administrator/Website Specialist. Samantha recently received her Computer Systems Technology – Networking diploma from Canadore College, and has quickly become an indispensable resource at the Canadian Ecology Centre.

As the networking needs of the Partnership have increased over the years, so has the need for a technically savvy individual who can respond quickly to the varying challenges that both the CEC's and the FRP's networking needs can produce. The Canadian Ecology Centre houses a stationary lab of fifteen desktops, a portable lab of fifteen laptops, as well as upwards of twenty-five workstations. Samantha has done an excellent job of keeping these machines running properly, maintaining their network connectivity, and equipping them with whatever software is needed for the many different workshops, school groups and courses offered through the Partnership and the Ecology Centre.

Also, as the Research Partnership continues to provide website hosting, development, and maintenance for many new and existing clients, Samantha has been invaluable in creating new and exciting ways to develop web content and ensure these websites are functioning as they should. Samantha fills these many roles competently and professionally, and needless to say has become a very popular and welcome addition to the team; read her profile [here](#).