

## **FMF Partners Begin Re-Imaging the Model Forest**

About 30 partner representatives and members of Fundy Model Forest engaged in an animated discussion of the future direction for the organization during the 18th annual meeting in Apohaqui June 23, 2010.

Jerry Gogan, Village of Petitcodiac; Ken Hardie, NB Federation of Woodlot Owners; and Edouard Daigle, Fundy National Park prefaced the discussion with brief descriptions of projects that are underway with their respective organizations and the distinct role that Fundy Model Forest plays in those.



The tagline for this phase is “Our forests, our communities, our future.” Pointing to the space between our forests and our communities, Daigle said, “If there is one thing I would change, it would be to put the *and* in there because you can’t have one without the other.”

The discussion centered on the role science should play and how it can be incorporated into the work. Several partners expressed the view that Model Forests need to be able to identify their individual issues. They emphasised that

the strength of the Model Forest the rare opportunity it provided for direct dialogue among industry, researchers and communities to determine how to address those issues. This produces results are wanted and implemented.

Partners will meet again in the fall for more in-depth planning.

A tour of a nearby woodlot followed the business meeting and lunch where Danny Folkins, demonstrated how to shear a Christmas tree and Jamie Floyd showed participants logs that were actively producing shiitake mushrooms. Those who braved a drizzle of rain to take part in the tour were each treated to a helping of the tasty fungus to try at home.