

*million. Per year. So it is a bit much to blithely indicate that you can remove land from the working forest base without its having a very substantial impact on people's lives and the revenues of governments, not to say anything of companies.* — Allan Sinclair, Vice-President, Government and Public Affairs, Council of Forest Industries of British Columbia (Issue 15:20).

Obviously, not all such views can be easily reconciled, but having heard from groups representing almost all of the major players, the Committee is convinced that a process of communication and consultation must be found towards a common vision for forests and forestry in Canada. A new tone must be developed in the debate, so that such angry terms as *industrial rape* or *environmental terrorism* are set aside in favour of a more constructive search for consensus. The new debate must be based on a common bank of knowledge and understanding about our forests, and it must be motivated by a common desire to reconcile conflicts in pursuit of truly sustainable forestry development. In helping to structure and nurture that debate, the Committee believes Forestry Canada can be a leader. In that context, the broad spectrum of view-points is worthy of note:

*Environmental groups* such as Forests for Tomorrow, the Sierra Club, the Canadian Nature Federation and the Canadian Wildlife Federation, to name only some, shared their concerns with us about such subjects as the importance of the forest ecosystem and the value of old-growth forests. We were assured that these groups are not opposed to development of the forest, but rather are deeply committed to ensuring that development is sustainable in the context of *the whole forest*.

*Issues of particular concern to Forests for Tomorrow include: the environmental effects of various elements of timber management, logging regeneration, herbicide and insecticide use, road building, sustainability of the industry, wildlife and fisheries protection, timber management planning, monitoring of the effects of logging, alternatives to the methods now used, economics of the industry and silvicultural efforts, integration of non-timber values, alternatives to pesticide use, land-use planning, mitigation of negative environmental effects, public participation in forestry planning, the future of the environmental assessment process, and the status of baseline ecological information.* — Don Huff, Chairman, Forests for Tomorrow (Issue 10:5-6).

*Large forestry companies* such as Canadian Pacific, Domtar, MacMillan Bloedel and Noranda made presentations to us, as did also such *representative industry organizations* as the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association, L'Association des industries forestières du Québec, the Canadian Forestry Association, the Ontario Forestry Association and the