

IC the Old-growth Tree



by Sue Ellen Fast, Editor and Executive Director

At the leadership clinic in Nova Scotia, I met many people from seedling environmental education groups struggling to get organized. Compared to them, IC seemed old—but strong, I realized, with established programs such as *InterpScan* that other groups could only dream about.

I began to view IC as an old-growth tree, with seasons of leaf drop and of bloom, responding to changing conditions, to other growing trees and the ecology around it. Over the years most regional sections have dropped away from our IC tree, and in this issue we hear that Peaks and Prairies section (formerly Alberta section) is in difficulties too. To accompany national, only BC section remains active.

Is this change a bad thing? We don't know yet. Vigorous new programs have sprouted to join the perennial favorites, and membership is stable.

IC has plenty of competition now from younger trees, particularly in the interpreter training market. Is this a bad thing for interpretation in Canada? I doubt it.



photo: Will Husby

Is it evidence that interpretation is now an established field in Canada? That the efforts of IC volunteers over the years have been successful? The IC tree has been bearing fruit now for thirty years, contributing to the interpretive field, and playing a big role in the professional lives of many interpreters, and sometimes in personal lives as well.

If you are one of the many who have contributed time and energy to IC over the years, congratulations! Please lift your head towards the sun; look up, not down; and take a moment to reflect on the turning of the seasons, and the legacy of our wonderful evolving organization.



Membership Housekeeping

Your username and password are included on 2nd row of your mailing label, this issue. Use them to login to the IC website to access the digital library, enter for awards, or enlist in business directory.

2919 PR Exp. Sep-08	Username and Password
lilysmith ab2919ba	to log on to IC website
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In 1st row are membership number, category (see page 16 for codes) and expiry date. Receipts now also include all of this, so you can keep track and login to the website when you need to. Also I will happily respond to queries by email.

Are IC's Emails Reaching You?

We communicate with members by email. If you don't receive a message from me by the end of March, please adjust your spam software to allow messages from membership@interpcan.ca to reach you.