

# DNR Participates in World Forestry Congress

By Bruce Carter



The future of forests was the focus of the XII World Forestry Congress, held from September 21 to September 28, 2003 in Quebec City.

With the theme of the XII Congress being “Forests, Source of Life”, discussions brought together a wealth of knowledge and experience from throughout the world, representing some 138 countries. The format of the week included plenary and sub-plenary sessions, as well as theme sessions that were based on program topics and sub-topics held concurrently. With over 4000 delegates, the organization was quite a feat in itself!

Representing Nova Scotia at these sessions were: Natural Resources Minister Richard Hurlburt; former Deputy Minister Dan Graham, as well as members of senior staff.

In addition to the formal presentations and discussions, the Quebec City Convention Centre was the location for the Congress Exhibition. Close to 100 organizations, including the

Province of Nova Scotia, were represented with booths and displays. The theme of the DNR booth was “The Strength of Our Forests” and it featured photographs of Nova Scotia forests, plants and wildlife, and the forest industry. A short video presentation outlined various DNR programs as well as comments from private land owners and an industry representative. DNR staff received many compliments on our booth and Nova Scotia’s representation on the world stage.

The first World Forestry Congress took place in Rome in 1926, and since 1949, the multi-faceted event has been held approximately every six years. Coordinated under the auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), this event is considered by many to be the most important international meeting of the world’s forestry sector.

*Bruce Carter, a forester in DNR’s Lawrencetown office, travelled to Quebec City to staff the province’s exhibit.*