

David F. Barrett
Corporate Secretary

Hugh A. Barrett
Vice President

Keith H.W. Barrett
Vice President

*A Family Owned and Operated
Value Added Manufacturing Business
Satisfying Customers for more than
96 Years*



224 BEAVER BANK ROAD
BEAVER BANK, NOVA SCOTIA
B4E 1J7
Phone: (902) 865-2330
Fax: (902) 865-6198
www.barrettlumber.com
barrett@barrettlumber.com

•BUILDING MATERIALS•ROOF TRUSSES•
•ENGINEERED WOOD PRODUCTS•
“From tree planting to end user”
A Value Added Company

Honored Tradition of Not Gating Forest Extraction Roads

13 April 2016

An Open Letter to:

Premier of Nova Scotia
NS Leader of the Opposition
NS Leader of the NDP

RE: The destruction of the Nova Scotia time honored tradition of not gating forest extraction roads.

For almost 50 years I have built and maintained over 40 miles of high-quality forest extraction roads mostly in the Beaver Bank area. At first, I followed the Nova Scotia time honored tradition of not gating the forest roads. Fifty years ago, most Nova Scotia residents respected private forest land and treated private timberland as they would their own land.

In 1978 I lost my temper, for that summer I found myself getting rid of dumped garbage, abandoned, stolen, burnt cars etc. The final straw that forced me to gate our roads was a criminal trail of a teenage girl being assaulted. The courts were told that it happened on one of Barrett Lumber Companies (BLC) Forest Extraction roads.

After I calmed down, I started to give keys to my neighbors. I still had problems for as one neighbor said to me, when I took him to task for giving others keys, “I know you would have given him a key, so as to not bother you I gave him a key”. The problem was that the first key holder had some rules, the person he gave the key to didn’t have any. I was forced to change the locks and stop giving keys away.

In late 1978 I made a decision that any responsible person who wanted a key to our gates (one key fits all of our gates) had to sign a contract that they would help BLC protect our forest land and to prove they were responsible they would make a donation to a charity of their choice, be it the IWK, boy Scouts etc., for I felt that if someone wasn’t responsible enough to support local volunteers, they were not responsible enough to use our wood roads.

MEMBER OF
MARITIME LUMBER BUREAU (MLB)
NOVA SCOTIA FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION (NSFPA)
WOOD PRODUCTS MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA (WPMANS)
ATLANTIC BUILDING SUPPLY DEALERS ASSOCIATION (ABSDA)
ATLANTIC WOOD TRUSS FABRICATORS ASSOCIATION (AWTFA)
CANADIAN WOOD TRUSS ASSOCIATION (CWTA)
CANADIAN FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS (CFIB)
CANADIAN HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION (CHBA)
CANADIAN WOODLANDS FORUM (CWF)
CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY ENTERPRISE (CAFÉ)

When I ask a psychiatrist (at a rotary dinner) why when I gave keys away, I had problems but when I indirectly charged by way of insisting on a donation, I basically had no problems. The psychiatrist said "if someone makes a capital investment in something they protect it, if they get it for nothing, they feel it has no value". All I know is that this system works.

During the last 50 years Beaver Bankers and others would call me whenever something that shouldn't happen was happening on our forest roads or land. At that time even at 2am in the morning I investigated. Before leaving home, I would call the RCMP and advise them of the report and recommend they come for I was going to do whatever it took to solve the problems. I am pleased to say the RCMP always came.

Here in Beaver Bank, BLC with the help of fellow Beaver Bankers has some of the nicest, cleanest and safest forest extraction roads in Nova Scotia. Thousands of Nova Scotians right down to mothers with baby carriages, enjoy our multi-use forestry roads, many of which go to lakes and rivers. One main reason we have such clean and safe forest roads is because of the high rate of volunteering in Beaver Bank.

"Stepping Up to the Plate"

As I am now over 77 years old and haven't the stamina to continue this challenge without help. This winter I asked the Beaver Bank All Terrain Vehicle (BBATV) club for help – I am very pleased to say the BBATV club accepted.

This March someone abandoned a car on BLC property on the Sandy Lake Forest Road. The secretary of the BBATV club, Dawn Maxwell, the president Jonathan Calnen and treasurer Eric Rideout followed through, with the help of the RCMP, to have the owner remove his vehicle. Because the road leading to BLC property at the end of Sandy Lake Road is not gated, the plan is for the BBATV club and myself to work together to come up with a solution at the BLC property line so only OHV access at that point and not highway vehicles.

I would like to say that Beaver Bank has one of the highest if not the highest rate of volunteerism in all of Nova Scotia. I also want to point out that with all due respect to politicians that I feel that Nova Scotia would fall apart if it wasn't for volunteers. I also by means of this letter want to thank all members of the BBATV club for helping make Beaver Bank such a great place to live.

PS: I feel that if our government only gave OHV members of responsible clubs like the BBATC club permission to travel on crown land, the various OHV clubs would help by means of peer pressure etc. to curb most of the destruction on crown lands.

Yours Truly,



David F. Barrett
Woodland Manager, Barrett Lumber Company

Copies to: Nova Scotia MP's
Nova Scotia MLA's
Mayor of Halifax
HRM Councillors
BBATV Club
Media