

2026 SFI ANNUAL CONFERENCE

THE NEXT RING OF GROWTH

MAY 5-7, 2026
MONTREAL, QUEBEC

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CONFERENCE SUPPORTER



SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY MAY 5

- 2:00 – 3:15 pm **OPENING SESSION: THE NEXT RING OF GROWTH**
- 3:15 – 3:45 pm **BREAK**
- 3:45 – 4:45 pm **CHALLENGING TIMES AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN FOREST SECTOR MARKETS**
- 4:45 – 5:00 pm **PRESENTATION OF CEO'S AWARD**
- 5:00 – 7:00 pm **PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION**

WEDNESDAY MAY 6

- 7:00 – 8:00 am **5K FUN RUN**
- 8:00 – 9:00 am **BREAKFAST**
- 9:00 – 9:15 am **RECOGNITION OF KATHY'S LEADERSHIP**
- 9:15 – 10:15 am **LEVERAGING SFI CERTIFICATION FOR GLOBAL REPORTING FRAMEWORKS AND MARKET ASSURANCES**
- 10:15 – 10:45 am **BREAK**
- 10:45 – 11:45 am **SUSTAINING MARKET DEMAND: THE ROLE OF SFI CERTIFICATION FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE PRODUCTS**
- 11:45 – 12:00 pm **CELEBRATE PLT US 50TH ANNIVERSARY AND PLT CANADA**
- 12:00 – 1:15 pm **LUNCH**
- 1:15 – 2:00 pm **INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP IN FORESTRY**
- 2:00 – 2:15 pm **PRESENTATION OF SIC AWARD**
- 2:15 – 2:45 pm **BREAK**
- 2:45 – 3:45 pm **FROM DATA TO DECISIONS: SPATIAL TOOLS FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT**
- 3:45 – 4:00 pm **FROM FORESTS TO FRONT YARDS**
- 4:30 – 6:00 pm **DOWNTOWN MONTREAL URBAN FORESTRY TOUR**
- 6:00 – 9:00 pm **A NIGHT IN OLD MONTREAL**

THURSDAY MAY 7

- 8:00 – 9:00 am **BREAKFAST**
- 9:00 – 10:00 am **FROM RESEARCH TO RESULTS: SCALING SFI CLIMATE SMART FORESTRY ACROSS CERTIFIED LANDS**
- 10:00 – 10:15 am **PRESENTATION OF CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP AWARD**
- 10:15 – 10:45 am **BREAK**
- 10:45 – 11:50 am **SFI CLIMATE SMART FORESTRY ON THE GROUND**
- 11:50 – 12:00 pm **CLOSING REMARKS - KATHY ABUSOW**
- 12:00 – 1:00 pm **LUNCH**

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- 1:00 – 4:00 pm **SIC SESSION AND REGIONAL BREAKOUTS**
 - 1:00 – 3:00 pm **AUDITORS FORUM**

THURSDAY, MAY 7 URBAN FORESTRY DAY

- 9:00 – 10:00 am **SUSTAINABLE URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT IN CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES: FROM CERTIFICATION TO COMMUNITY IMPACT**
- 10:00 – 10:30 am **PROVING READINESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY: USING THE SFI URBAN FOREST STANDARD TO SUPPORT IRA INVESTMENT**
- 10:30 – 11:00 am **BREAK**
- 11:00 – 12:00 pm **PUTTING SUSTAINABLE URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT INTO PRACTICE**
- 12:00 – 1:00 pm **LUNCH**
- 1:00 – 2:00 pm **MOVING THE NEEDLE: APPROACHES AND RESOURCES FOR URBAN FORESTRY OUTCOMES**
- 2:00 – 2:30 pm **BREAK**
- 2:30 – 3:50 pm **PULLING THE RIGHT LEVERS: COLLECTIVE INTELLIGENCE IN THE SERVICE OF URBAN FORESTS**
- 3:50 – 4:00 pm **CLOSING REMARKS**

WELCOME TO MONTRÉAL/TIOHTIÀ:KE

I am thrilled to welcome you to the 2026 SFI Annual Conference in Montréal! The Kanien'kehá:ka (Mohawk) Nation is recognized as the traditional stewards of these unceded lands and waters, and Montréal, or Tiohtià:ke, was a historical gathering place for trade and diplomacy. It seems fitting to host our conference here because we need trade and diplomacy more than ever. We also need forest-focused solutions.

The forest sector has always shown resilience and an ability to overcome challenging times. It takes all of us working together to build a better future. That's why SFI is committed to collaborating with communities, SFI certificate holders, Indigenous Peoples, customers, conservation groups, government representatives, unions, and more. It's also why we're investing in environmental education, forest literacy, and career pathways with our initiatives Project Learning Tree and PLT Canada.

Since 2007 when I became CEO, we have continuously strengthened the SFI Standards and expanded SFI's scope to include conservation collaboration, community and Indigenous relations, environmental education, and urban forestry. SFI's scale and network are central to our success locally, nationally, binationally, and globally. SFI is recognized by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC). We collaborate to provide customers, investors, and regulators the assurance that certified organizations are part of the solution to overcome deforestation and degradation and create nature positive outcomes.

Together during this conference, we will celebrate our collective accomplishments, advance forest-focused collaborations, and lay the groundwork for this generation and the next generation to work together to foster forest-focused collaboration for the "Next Ring of Growth."

On a personal note, Montreal is where I started my career in the forest sector over 35 years ago, and it's where I'll say my goodbyes as CEO of SFI. It has been the pleasure of a lifetime to work with all of you. Thank you for being here, to celebrate our sector and the next ring of growth.



K. Abusow

Kathy Abusow
CEO SFI and PLT Canada

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

Continuing education credits will be offered for the 2026 SFI Annual Conference, including post conference events. For more details, stop by the conference registration desk.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE



UP TO 18.25

ISA CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS FOR PROFESSIONALS HOLDING ISA CERTIFICATIONS

SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS



UP TO 13

CONTINUING FORESTRY EDUCATION CREDITS

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY



UP TO 13

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE CREDITS

CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF FORESTRY

UP TO 10.75

CONTINUING FORESTRY EDUCATION CREDITS



Canadian Institute of Forestry
Institut forestier du Canada

ASSOCIATION OF REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS OF NEW BRUNSWICK



UP TO 12.25

SELF-REPORTED CONTINUED EDUCATION CREDITS

ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA FOREST MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONALS



Association of Alberta
Forest Management
Professionals

UP TO 6.75

CONTINUING
COMPETENCY CREDITS

ASSOCIATION OF SASKATCHEWAN FORESTRY PROFESSIONALS

UP TO 6.75

CONTINUING
COMPETENCY CREDITS



FOREST PROFESSIONALS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Forest
Professionals
BRITISH COLUMBIA

THE FPBC EMPLOYS
A 1:1 RATIO FOR ANY
LEARNING ACTIVITY.

ONTARIO PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS ASSOCIATION



Ontario Professional
Foresters Association

**UP TO 6 HRS
PER DAY**

SELF-REPORTED
CONTINUED EDUCATION
CREDITS

TUESDAY MAY 5

- ALL SESSIONS ARE IN THE **MONTREAL BALLROOM (11th floor)**
- ALL NETWORKING BREAKS AND MEALS ARE IN **GRANDE PLACE (8th floor)** UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

2:00PM - 2:15PM INDIGENOUS WELCOME



Chief Stephen Angus McComber
Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke

2:15PM - 3:15PM OPENING SESSION: THE NEXT RING OF GROWTH

- Kathy Abusow, CEO, SFI
- Dan Lambe, Chief Executive, Arbor Day Foundation, SFI Board Chair
- Catherine Grenier, President and CEO, Nature Conservancy Canada, SFI Board Member



3:15PM - 3:45PM NETWORKING BREAK

Sponsored by: **GEORGIA-PACIFIC**

3:45PM - 4:45PM CHALLENGING TIMES AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN FOREST SECTOR MARKETS

Moderated by Kathy Abusow, CEO, SFI

- Derek Nighbor, President and CEO, FPAC
- Michael Berger, Director General, PEFC
- Lennard Joe, CEO, BC First Nations Forestry Council, SFI Board Member
- Pete Madden, President, US Endowment for Forestry and Communities



4:45PM - 5:00PM PRESENTATION OF CEO'S AWARD

5:00PM - 7:00PM PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION

location: FORTIFICATIONS BALLROOM (9TH floor)



WEDNESDAY MAY 6

7:00AM - 8:00AM 5K FUN RUN/WALK

Sponsored by: **SMURFIT WESTROCK**

Check-in at the lobby

Runners will start at 7:00 am

Walkers at 7:05 am



8:00AM - 9:00AM BREAKFAST

Sponsored by: **GESTION RÉMABEC**

9:00AM - 9:15AM RECOGNITION OF KATHY'S LEADERSHIP

9:15AM - 10:15AM LEVERAGING SFI CERTIFICATION FOR GLOBAL REPORTING FRAMEWORKS AND MARKET ASSURANCES

Moderated by Jason Metnick, President, SFI

- Shenandoah Johns, Chief Environment and Sustainability Officer, West Fraser
- Paige Goff, VP Sustainability, Strategic Partnerships & Engagement, Domtar
- Kirsten Vice, Senior VP, Sustainability and Canadian Operations, NCASI



10:15AM - 10:45AM NETWORKING BREAK

Sponsored by: **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SERVICE**

10:45AM - 11:45AM SUSTAINING MARKET DEMAND: THE ROLE OF SFI CERTIFICATION FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE PRODUCTS

Moderated by Jason Metnick, President, SFI

- Sidney Filippis, Director of Design, Sterling Solutions
- Jackson Morrill, President & CEO, American Wood Council
- David Graham, President, Weyerhaeuser, SFI Board Vice Chair



11:45AM - 12:00PM CELEBRATE PLT US 50TH ANNIVERSARY AND PLT CANADA

WEDNESDAY MAY 6

12:00PM - 1:15PM LUNCH

Sponsored by: **CANFOR**

WOMEN IN WOOD/WOMEN'S FOREST CONGRESS MEET-UP

Location: PALAIS (8th floor)

1:15PM - 1:40PM INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP IN FORESTRY

Moderated by Ken Price RFT, SFI Forest Certification
Consultant for First Nations

- Shannon Rawn, General Manager, Miisun Integrated Resource Management Company
- Corby Lamb, General Manager, Kitasoo Forestry Co.



1:40PM - 2:00PM PRESENTATION OF INDIGENOUS FOREST LEADERSHIP AWARD, IN HONOUR OF CHIEF COBINESS



Lillian Perrault
Councillor Fabian Blackhawk



2:00PM - 2:15PM PRESENTATION OF SIC AWARD

2:15PM - 2:45PM BREAK

2:45PM - 3:45PM FROM DATA TO DECISIONS: SPATIAL TOOLS FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

Moderated by Dr. Healy Hamilton, Chief Scientist, SFI

- Pete Stewart, President and CEO, ResourceWise
- Marie-Michèle Rousseau-Clair, Chief Conservation Officer, Nature Conservancy Canada
- Kendall DeLyser-Roney, Senior Director, Forest Climate Science, American Forests
- Peter Stein, Managing Director, The Lyme Timber Co.



3:45PM - 4:00PM FROM FORESTS TO FRONT YARDS: IMPLEMENTING SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT IN URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTS THROUGH SFI



Meg Hanna, Director of Urban and Community Forestry for Canada, SFI

4:30PM - 6:00PM DOWNTOWN MONTREAL URBAN FORESTRY TOUR

Sponsored by: **NSF**

Pre-registration required. Meet in Hotel Lobby



Anthony Daniel, Planning Advisor, Biologist, Ville de Montréal (City of Montreal)

URBAN FORESTRY TOUR LEADS TO

6:00PM - 9:00PM A NIGHT OUT IN OLD MONTREAL



THURSDAY MAY 7

8:00AM - 9:00AM
BREAKFAST

9:00AM - 10:00AM
FROM RESEARCH TO RESULTS: SCALING SFI CLIMATE
SMART FORESTRY ACROSS CERTIFIED LANDS

*Moderated by Greg Cooper, Director, Conservation
Implementation, SFI*

- Chris Woodall, Director of US Forest Science and Policy, CTrees
- Andi Colnes, Deputy Director and Climate Fellow, New England Forestry Foundation
- Dr. Alemu Gonsamo, Associate Professor, Earth, Environment & Society, McMaster University
- Dr. Alexis Achim, Canada Research Chair in Silviculture Adapted to Climate Change, Université Laval



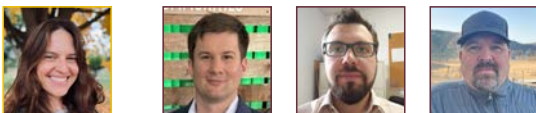
10:00AM - 10:15AM
PRESENTATION OF CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP AWARD

10:15AM - 10:45AM
NETWORKING BREAK

10:45AM - 11:50AM
SFI CLIMATE SMART FORESTRY ON THE GROUND

*Moderated by Lauren Cooper, Chief Conservation Officer,
SFI*

- Ross Holbrook, Sustainability Manager, Forest Investment Associates
- Samuel Bourque, Certification Manager, Domtar and Quebec SIC chair, CSF Advisory Committee member
- Lindsay Tighe, General Manager, Stuwix Resources Joint Venture



11:50AM - 12:00PM
CLOSING REMARKS, KATHY ABUSOW

12:00PM - 1:00PM
CLOSING LUNCH
Sponsored by: WEST FRASER

AFTERNOON — CONCURRENT OPTIONS

1:00PM - 4:00PM
SIC SESSION AND REGIONAL BREAKOUTS

Sponsored by: **DOMTAR**

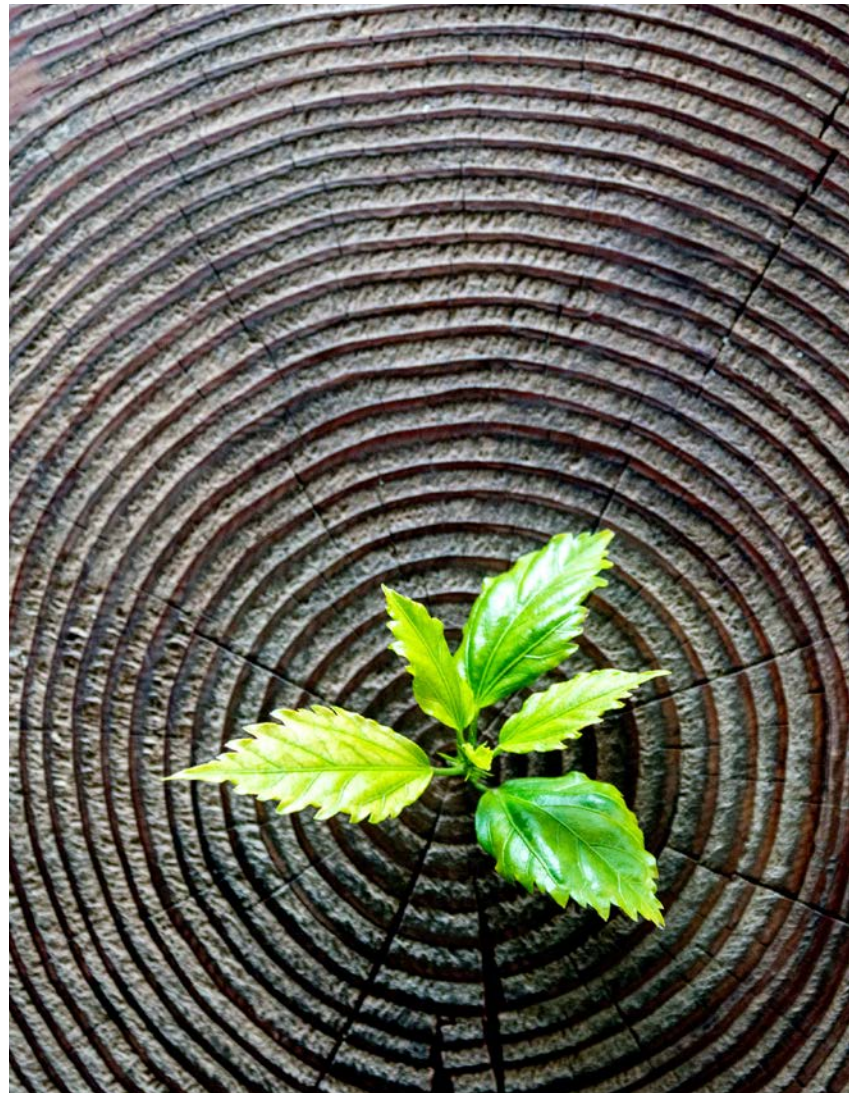
Open to SIC members and partners

Location: Montreal Ballroom (11th floor)

1:00PM - 3:30PM
AUDITORS FORUM

Open to Auditors only

Location: Ramezay (8th floor)



THURSDAY, MAY 7

URBAN FORESTRY DAY

Location: FORTIFICATIONS BALLROOM (9th floor)

9:00AM - 10:00AM

SUSTAINABLE URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT IN CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES: FROM CERTIFICATION TO COMMUNITY IMPACT

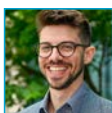
Moderated by Meg Hanna, Director of Urban and Community Forestry for Canada, SFI

- James Hallworth, RPF, Senior Forestry Specialist, Preferred by Nature
- James Lane, RPF, Manager, Natural Heritage and Forestry, The Regional Municipality of York



10:00AM - 10:30AM

PROVING READINESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY: USING THE SFI URBAN FOREST STANDARD TO SUPPORT IRA INVESTMENT



Michael Martini, Director of Urban and Community Forestry for the U.S., SFI

10:30AM - 11:00AM

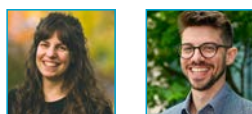
BREAK

11:00AM - 12:00PM

PUTTING SUSTAINABLE URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT INTO PRACTICE

Interactive Workshop

- Meg Hanna, Director of Urban and Community Forestry for Canada, SFI
- Michael Martini, Director of Urban and Community Forestry for the U.S., SFI



12:00PM - 1:00PM

LUNCH

location: GRANDE PLACE (8th floor)

1:00PM - 2:00PM

MOVING THE NEEDLE: APPROACHES AND RESOURCES FOR URBAN FORESTRY OUTCOMES

Moderated by Meg Hanna, Director of Urban and Community Forestry for Canada, SFI

- Charleen Kotiuga, Advisor, Programs Outreach – Community Canopies with the Green Municipal Fund
- Sylvia Wood, Director of Science, Habitat
- Brijpal Patel, Chief Program Officer, Tree Canada



2:00PM - 2:30PM

BREAK

2:30PM - 3:50PM

PULLING THE RIGHT LEVERS: COLLECTIVE INTELLIGENCE IN THE SERVICE OF URBAN FORESTS

Interactive Workshop with Core Facilitators

- Christine Earnshaw, Lead, GCCC, Tree Canada
- Stephane Pressault, Project Officer, Capacity Development – Community Canopies with the Green Municipal Fund
- Yvonne Ritchie, Advisor, Capacity Development – Community Canopies with the Green Municipal Fund



3:50PM - 4:00PM

CLOSING REMARKS FOR URBAN FORESTRY DAY



THANK YOU URBAN FORESTRY DAY SPONSORS



SFI BOARD

ENVIRONMENTAL



DAN LAMBE (CHAIR)
Chief Executive
Arbor Day Foundation



TERRY BAKER
CEO
Society of American Foresters



TRACY FARRELL
CEO, IUCN-US
Director, IUCN North America



CATHERINE GRENIER
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Nature Conservancy Canada



CAITLYN POLLIHAN
CEO and Executive Director
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ex officio liaison
ELLEN SHULTZABARGER
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USDA Forest Service

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International Association of Machinists
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CEO, SFI & PLT CANADA



JASON METNICK
PRESIDENT, SFI



CHRISTINE LEDUC
PRESIDENT, PLT CANADA
SFI VP, CAN. OPERATIONS
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forests.org



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WITH ALL
OF US!**

