

INDIGENOUS RIGHTS AND RELATIONSHIP BUILDING IN CANADA



WHY IT MATTERS

- Indigenous Rights recognition and relationship building are core expectations in sustainable forest management.
- Indigenous Peoples' Traditional Knowledges are increasingly being used to enhance sustainable forest management best practices and conservation research.
- Strong relationships with Indigenous Peoples can create positive socioeconomic outcomes, including growing diverse and resilient workforces and fostering healthy and prosperous communities.
- Consistent investments in relationship-building activities fosters trust, common purpose, and shared understanding to enable forest sector organizations and Indigenous Rights Holders to collectively navigate the quickly evolving landscape.

60+ INDIGENOUS
COMMUNITIES,

businesses, and partnerships
across Canada are certified to the
SFI Forest Management Standard

ACROSS NEARLY
**10 MILLION
HECTARES**



SFI STANDARDS ADVANCE INDIGENOUS RIGHTS AND RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

The [SFI Forest Management Standard](#) supports the implementation of many Indigenous priorities and values; includes measures to protect water quality, biodiversity, wildlife habitat, cultural values, and more; and requires certified organizations to identify and respect Indigenous Peoples' Rights and build relationships with Rights Holders.

The [SFI Indigenous Peoples and Families Module](#) supports Indigenous certification and partnership opportunities by scaling down the SFI Forest Management Standard to focus on requirements more relevant to land managers with smaller forest operations (under 20,000 hectares).

The [SFI Urban and Community Forest Sustainability Standard](#) has a variety of performance measures that integrate Indigenous Peoples' Knowledges, perspectives, and Rights recognition.



TRAINING ON INDIGENOUS RIGHTS AND RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

SFI and its initiative, Project Learning Tree Canada, have developed tools, resources, grant opportunities, and programs that support Indigenous organizations, communities, and youth.

In partnership with Sault College, PLT Canada developed [Indigenous Rights-Recognition and Relationship Building](#) courses to grow understanding of Indigenous Peoples' Rights and of how to build respectful forest-focused relationships with Indigenous Peoples and communities.



SINCE 2022

43,000 PEOPLE
WITHIN SFI-CERTIFIED
ORGANIZATIONS HAVE RECEIVED
TRAINING TO RECOGNIZE AND
RESPECT INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS

AS PER THE NEW REQUIREMENTS OF THE
SFI 2022 FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD

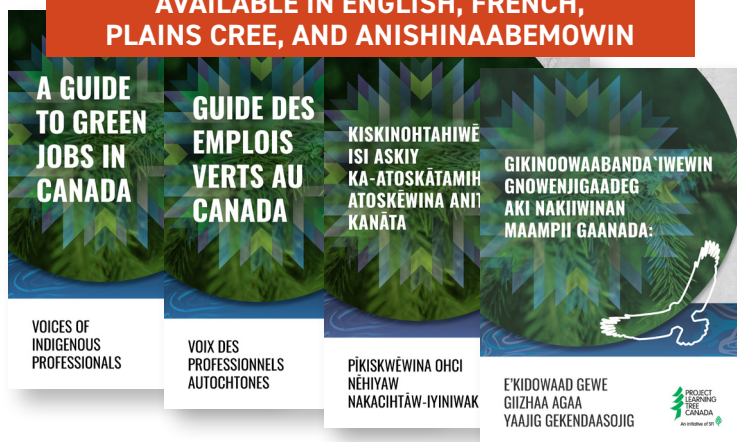
CAREER PATHWAYS PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT INDIGENOUS YOUTH

The Green Mentor program connects youth (age 18-30) with a green job professional to build successful and productive relationships in the forest sector.

And with wage matches through PLT Canada's Green Jobs program, Indigenous youth (age 15-30) have gained meaningful work experiences in the forest and conservation sector.

A Guide to Green Jobs in Canada: Voices of Indigenous Professionals, features first-person stories from 12 Indigenous leaders working in the forest, conservation, and parks sectors across Canada.

AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH, FRENCH,
PLAINS CREE, AND ANISHINAABEMOWIN



PLT CANADA HAS PLACED

1,200+ INDIGENOUS
YOUTH

ACROSS **100+** COMMUNITIES
IN GREEN JOBS



For more information about SFI's Indigenous relations work, connect with Elaina Cox at elaina.cox@forests.org.

Visit us at forests.org/Indigenous to learn more about how you can support Indigenous Rights and relationship building with SFI.

VIDEO SERIES PROMOTING INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP AND SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT

