



FOREST + PEOPLE + NATURE POSITIVE

GENDER, HUMAN RIGHTS & DISABILITY INCLUSION IN FORESTRY



KATHY ABUSOW

**President and CEO
Sustainable Forestry Initiative
Project Learning Tree Canada**

November 2023



Our Vision:
A world that values and benefits from sustainably managed forests.

Our Mission:
To advance sustainability through forest-focused collaborations.

FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC DIRECTION: 2020-2024



STANDARDS

To advance sustainability forestry and responsible purchasing globally through certification standards and certified products



CONSERVATION

To advance credible and effective solutions to environmental challenges through the SFI standards and leadership initiatives



COMMUNITY

To advance collaboration between local communities and the SFI network to increase mutual understanding of the values and benefits provided by sustainably managed forests



EDUCATION

To advance environmental education, forest literacy, and career pathways using trees and forests as windows on the world



SFI URBAN AND COMMUNITY FOREST SUSTAINABILITY STANDARD

OBJECTIVE 1:
COMMUNITY,
PEOPLE, AND
INDIGENOUS
PARTICIPATION



OBJECTIVE 2:
HUMAN HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



OBJECTIVE 3:
PROTECTION AND
CONSERVATION OF
BIODIVERSITY



OBJECTIVE 4:
STEWARDSHIP OF
NATURAL RESOURCES,
INCLUDING AIR,
WATER AND SOIL



OBJECTIVE 5:
URBAN AND COMMUNITY
FOREST AND TREE
HEALTH AND VITALITY



OBJECTIVE 6:
SPECIAL SITES,
INCLUDING
NATURAL AREAS



OBJECTIVE 7:
CLIMATE-SMART
MANAGEMENT



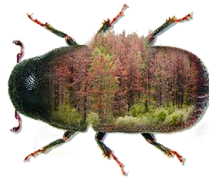
OBJECTIVE 8:
URBAN AND
COMMUNITY
FOREST
PLANNING



OBJECTIVE 9:
MANAGEMENT AND
CARE OF URBAN AND
COMMUNITY
FORESTS AND
TREES



OBJECTIVE 10:
DISASTER
READINESS,
RESPONSE AND
RECOVERY



OBJECTIVE 11:
CAPACITY BUILDING



OBJECTIVE 12:
URBAN WOOD
AND COMMUNITY
FOREST
UTILIZATION



OBJECTIVE 13:
COMMUNICATIONS



OBJECTIVE 14:
RESEARCH, SCIENCE,
AND TECHNOLOGY



**OBJECTIVE 15. LEGAL
AND REGULATORY
COMPLIANCE INCLUDING
RECOGNIZING
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES'
RIGHTS**



OBJECTIVE 16:
REPORTING



SFI CERTIFICATION OPTIONS

- **FULL STANDARD CERTIFICATION**
- **THEMATIC CERTIFICATION**
 - Community Well-Being and Human Health
 - Environmental and Conservation Leadership
 - Climate and Disaster Resilience
 - Urban Forest Improvement

SFI URBAN AND COMMUNITY FOREST SUSTAINABILITY STANDARD



SFI URBAN AND COMMUNITY FOREST SUSTAINABILITY STANDARD

Celebrated and promoted the new standard at ISA International Annual Conference in Albuquerque New Mexico in August

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT FUNDING:

SFI was selected as one of 12 National Passthrough Partners for this historic funding.

- 3 pre-matched grantees \$2.3 Million
- SFI Urban Forest Improvement Program Passthrough Grants \$1.7 Million
- SFI Administration \$1 Million

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE FORESTERS:

“RESOLUTION:

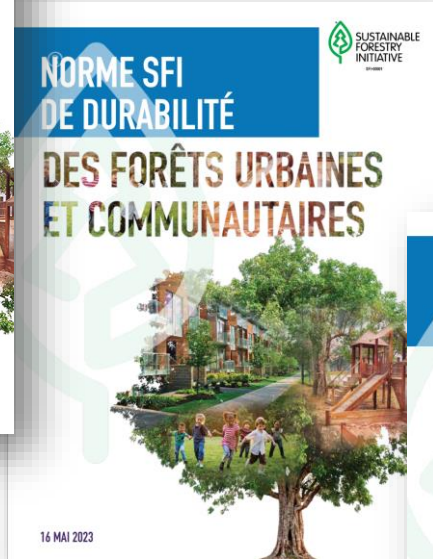
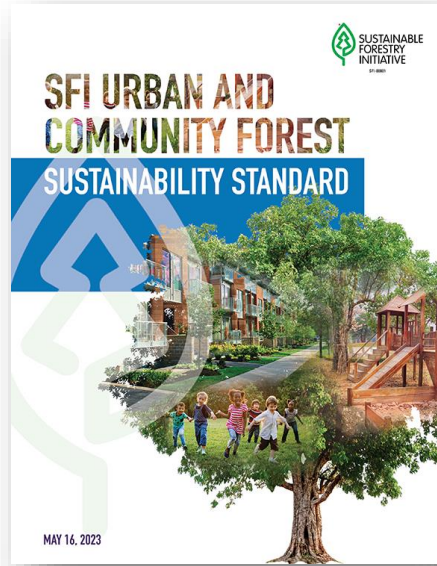
The members of the National Association of State Foresters adopt the Resolution to:

- Support the SFI U&CF Sustainability Standard
- Promote the Standard to NASF Members
- Assist Organizations with Awareness and Certification Process for the Standard”

Approved September 19, 2023



AVAILABLE
NOW
MAINTENANT
AHORA



EDUCATION

GOAL: TO ADVANCE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, FOREST LITERACY, AND CAREER PATHWAYS USING TREES AND FORESTS AS WINDOWS ON THE WORLD



PROJECT LEARNING TREE LIFETIME OF LEARNING



PLT EDUCATION

Curriculum resources for educators and community leaders that teach young people how to think about some of our complex challenges and support young people in exploring a green career



PLT FOREST LITERACY

Knowledge building tools and resources that teach important concepts around forests and sustainability



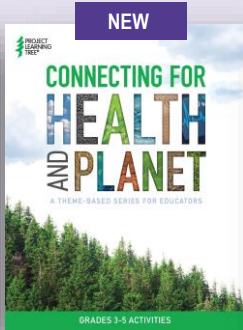
PLT CAREER PATHWAYS

Programming to support building career pathways that expose young people to the diversity of careers in the forest conservation sectors

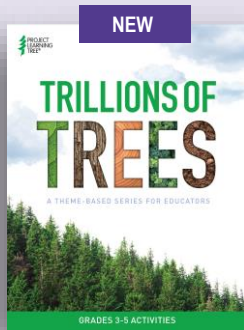
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



Hundreds of ideas for fun, easy-to-do, hands-on experiences to connect young children to nature.



Developed with support from Nice-Pak. Invites students to investigate how being outside provides many benefits.



Invites learners to investigate different tree species and discover how best to plan, plant, and care for trees in their communities.



50 hands-on, multidisciplinary activities to connect children K-8 to nature.

FOREST LITERACY

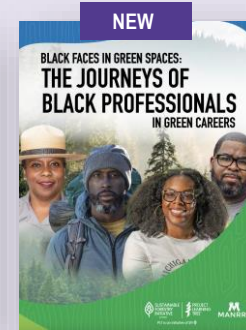


This online game helps young adults understand the value and benefits of forests and trees, and helps them learn about green careers from different people they meet along the way.



Translates the language of forests and sustainable forest management into concepts for everyone.

CAREER PATHWAYS



This guide introduces young adults to the many jobs in the forest and conservation sector through the lens of Black Professionals currently working in the sector.

PLT CANADA PROVIDES VALUABLE CAREER PATHWAYS EXPERIENCES

PLACED YOUTH IN

7,600+ →

GREEN JOBS

SINCE 2018

WORKING WITH

420+ **EMPLOYERS**

From the

**SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY
INITIATIVE (SFI) and
CANADIAN PARKS COUNCIL
(CPC) NETWORKS**

and many more...



PLT CANADA PROVIDES VALUABLE WORK EXPERIENCES

SINCE 2018

PLT CANADA HAS ACHIEVED

+50% WOMEN

IN GREEN JOB PLACEMENTS



PLT CANADA SUPPORTS INDIGENOUS YOUTH AND COMMUNITIES

PLT CANADA HAS PLACED OVER

1,000 INDIGENOUS
YOUTH

FROM OVER

100 DIFFERENT
COMMUNITIES

INTO GREEN JOBS

PLT CANADA IS PROUD TO OFFER

15% OF ITS

GREEN JOBS PLACEMENTS
AND MENTORSHIP PROGRAM
PARTICIPATION TO ITS

**INDIGENOUS
YOUTH**



PLT CANADA HELPS YOUTH FACING BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT

SINCE 2018, PLT CANADA
HAS PLACED

1,900+ YOUNG
ADULTS

FACING ONE OR MORE
BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT
IN GREEN JOBS



INDIGENOUS

LIVING WITH A VISIBLE OR NON-VISIBLE
DISABILITY

VISIBLE MINORITY

MEMBER OF THE 2SLGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE MINORITY

NEW CANADIAN

INVOLUNTARY NEET (NOT IN EMPLOYMENT,
EDUCATION, OR TRAINING)



YOUTH LIVING WITH A DISABILITY

11% OF GREEN JOBS
HAVE GONE TO
**YOUTH LIVING WITH
A DISABILITY**
IN 2023



DEFINITION OF DISABILITY:

Consistent with the Accessible Canada Act, disability means any impairment, including a physical, mental, intellectual, cognitive, learning, communication or sensory impairment, or a functional limitation, whether permanent, temporary, or episodic in nature, or evident or not, that, in interaction with a barrier, hinders a person's full and equal participation in society.

LEADERSHIP IN WORKFORCE DIVERSITY



“In the fight against climate change, Canada has an ally in its sustainably managed vast forests. That is why we have continued to partner with Project Learning Tree Canada. PLT Canada has provided the skills, training and experiences for young leaders to help to ensure that Canada remains competitive when it comes to talent and labour in the global economy, while reducing emissions and ensuring best practices.”

The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson
Minister of Energy and Natural Resources



“This year’s record wildfires brought home to Canadians just how critically important sustainable forest management is to deal with the twin crises of climate change and biodiversity loss. Canada’s forests are carbon sinks, nature preserves, economic drivers and refuges for the soul. Organizations such as Project Learning Tree Canada are leading the drive to a green economy through its one-of-a-kind programs and experiences for young Canadians and Indigenous Peoples. Thank you to Project Learning Tree Canada for your work to ensure that the next generation has the passion and skills to help our country grow sustainably.”

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault
Minister of Environment and Climate Change and Minister responsible for Parks Canada



GREEN JOBS GUIDE



GREEN



EXPLORING FOREST CAREERS

EDUCATOR GUIDE
COLLEGE AND CAREER PREP
LEARNERS AGED 12-25



EXPLORATION DE CARRIÈRES FORESTIÈRES

GUIDE DE L'ENSEIGNANT PRÉPARATION
AUX ÉTUDES COLLÉGIALES ET À LA
CARRIÈRE DES ÉLÈVES DE 12 À 25 ANS



PLT is an initiative of SFI

CAREER AND ROLE MODEL HIGHLIGHTS

BLACK FACES IN GREEN SPACES: THE JOURNEYS OF BLACK PROFESSIONALS IN GREEN CAREERS

SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE
PFI is an initiative of SFI

PROJECT LEARNING TREE

MANRRS

Meet JASMINE BROWN

NATIONAL STUDENT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY
WOODRUFF STATE UNIVERSITY, 2022 GRADUATE
18 YEARS OLD

Jasmine's Story
THE FUTURE OF FORESTRY

MEETING FOREST

"I ended up just taking forestry that day and loved my forestry classes! I really love this."

Meet SAM COOK

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FOREST ASSETS, TN OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION

Sam's Story
YOUR NETWORK IS YOUR NET WORTH

MEETING

MENTORSHIP

"Just love getting outdoors!"

A GUIDE TO GREEN JOBS IN CANADA

VOICES OF INDIGENOUS PROFESSIONALS

PROJECT LEARNING TREE CANADA
An Initiative of SFI

VOICES OF INDIGENOUS PROFESSIONALS IN GREEN JOBS

Meet professionals who are trailblazers

- 1. **BRUNNEN LARSEN**, 27
- 2. **JOHN BRADY**, 27
- 3. **BRADLEY DEWART**, 27
- 4. **LEONARD JEN**, 28
- 5. **JOHN BIRD**, 28
- 6. **BRUCE BATHURST**, 28
- 7. **DAVID BATHURST**, 28
- 8. **DAVID BATHURST**, 28
- 9. **DAVID BATHURST**, 28
- 10. **DAVID BATHURST**, 28
- 11. **DAVID BATHURST**, 28
- 12. **DAVID BATHURST**, 28
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- 16. **DAVID BATHURST**, 28
- 17. **DAVID BATHURST**, 28
- 18. **DAVID BATHURST**, 28
- 19. **DAVID BATHURST**, 28
- 20. **DAVID BATHURST**, 28

Meet EVAN SIMON

LAND OIGORIAN PROJECT INTER

EVAN'S STORY

LAND OIGORIAN PROJECT INTER

EVAN'S STORY

LAND OIGORIAN PROJECT INTER

MENTORSHIP

MENTORSHIP CAN HELP INSPIRE AND
RECRUIT THE NEXT GENERATION OF
FOREST AND CONSERVATION LEADERS

SINCE 2018, WE HAVE SUPPORTED NEARLY

600+ MENTORSHIP
PARTICIPANTS

IN **11** DIFFERENCE COHORTS
with more to come!



“This experience has definitely helped shape me into a greater agent of change and has given me more accountability in my life.”

**KIANNA BEAR
HETHERINGTON**
PLT CANADA MENTEE

PLT CANADA SUPPORTS

LONG TERM EMPLOYMENT SUCCESS

82% ^{OF} **YOUTH***

**STILL WORK
IN THE FOREST AND
CONSERVATION SECTOR**

3 YEARS AFTER

THEIR PLT CANADA GREEN JOB



***THAT RESPONDED TO SURVEY**



THANK YOU

