

## CIF-IFC Code of Ethics



# Canadian Institute of Forestry/Institut forestier du Canada

## CODE OF ETHICS

*This "Code of Ethics" is intended to guide the conduct of all members of the Canadian Institute of Forestry/Institut forestier du Canada (CIF/IFC) and those that wear the Silver Ring in their business relationships with the public, their employers and/or clients, their employees and each other. While promoting just and honourable relationships, mutual confidence, respect and competent service, the Code is meant to encourage the highest possible standards of stewardship on forest lands both public and private, under the care and management of CIF/IFC members.*

### Responsibility to Maintain the Public Good

***Forest Stewardship*** – To advocate, promote and practice the highest possible standards of forest stewardship, based on ecologically sound principles, which will maintain, protect and enhance the integrity, utility and value of the forest resource for the benefit of society, without compromising the opportunity for present and future generations to meet their objectives.

***Public Confidence*** – To inspire the public's confidence in the practice of forestry by maintaining high standards in one's conduct and daily work. To carry out such work in a spirit of integrity, honesty, fairness, good faith and courtesy.

***Public Understanding*** – To broaden the public's understanding of forests, the practice of forestry, the value of forestry to society and our commitment to the highest possible standards in the practice of forestry. The promotion of truthful and accurate statements on forestry matters should also be undertaken.

***Public Welfare And Safety*** – To have proper regard, in all aspects of work, for the safety, health and welfare of the public and the potential impacts of forestry practices on public welfare.

### Responsibility to the Profession

***Improve the Practice of Forestry*** – To work towards improving the standards, practices and policies that affect the stewardship of the forest land.

***Ensure Competency*** – To undertake only such work as the person is competent to perform by virtue of their training and experience and to strive to improve the competence of all those practicing forestry.

### Responsibility to the Employer/Client

***Consistent, Professional and Dedicated Service*** – To promote the best interest of an employer or client by consistently maintaining high standards of performance while acting in a conscientious, diligent and efficient manner.

***Consequences of Actions*** – To anticipate and advise employers or clients of the consequences of any contemplated policy, procedure or course of action which based on professional judgment, is not consistent with the principles of sound forestry practice and best possible stewardship of forest land.

***Confidentiality*** – To hold as confidential and not to disclose information obtained as to the affairs, technical methods, practices and process of the employer or client, unless released from this obligation by the employer or client, or except as required to do so by law.

***Conflict of Interest*** – To ensure that activities related to all forestry undertakings do not conflict with the interests of their employer or client.

**Responsibility to Other Professionals**

***Fairness*** – To conduct oneself in a manner that demonstrates personal dignity and respect towards other forest practitioners, who are involved in the practice of forestry at all levels.

***Support*** – To provide advice, recognition, support and guidance to those practicing forestry in order to assist in furthering and enhancing their efforts and to ensure that the best possible practices and objectives are undertaken and recognized.

***Questionable Practice*** – To strive to avoid improper or questionable practices in their own work and in the work of others and to take steps as soon as possible to correct such practices and minimize their impacts on both the resource and the reputation of those engaged in the practice of forestry.

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