



Canadian Institute of Forestry Presents Canadian Forestry Scientific Achievement Award to William J. Beese of Nanaimo, BC

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Mattawa, ON - Wednesday, September 16, 2020 – The Canadian Institute of Forestry/Institut forestier du Canada (CIF-IFC) is pleased to announce William J. Beese of Nanaimo, BC and the CIF-IFC Vancouver Island Section as the 2020 recipient of the Canadian Forestry Scientific Achievement Award. The Award was presented at the 2020 CIF-IFC Annual National Awards Ceremony held virtually on September 15, 2020.

“This award recognizes individuals who have made innovative and outstanding achievements in forestry research in Canada,” mentioned Mark Pearson, Executive Director, CIF-IFC, “recognition can be for developing new practices, processes, or techniques, or for demonstrating the practical applications of research in forestry. The objective of the Award is to encourage innovation, exploration, application, and excellence in forest research.”

Before joining the Vancouver Island University Forestry Department in 2010, William (Bill) Beese spent over 30 years on the BC coast as a Forest Ecologist in research and policy development for several forest companies. He is a Registered Professional Forester with a MF in Forest Ecology from the University of British Columbia. His research includes silvicultural systems, prescribed burning, forest regeneration and biodiversity. He coordinated the multi-disciplinary Montane Alternative Silvicultural Systems (MASS) study. He helped lead the phase-in of variable retention harvesting as part of Weyerhaeuser’s Coast Forest Strategy—a team effort that received the Ecological Society of America’s Corporate Award for 2001. He has served on numerous advisory committees on research, old growth forests and ecosystem-based management including an international science panel for Forestry Tasmania. He is a co-author of three book chapters and numerous research papers, including global overviews of retention forestry.

“Bill has an international reputation for practical implementation of innovative forestry and is very deserving of this prestigious Award,” explained Pearson.

Formed in 1908, the CIF-IFC is the national voice of forest practitioners and many others with an interest in forestry and forests. The Institute’s 19 sections provide national leadership in forestry, promote competency among forestry professionals, and foster public awareness of Canadian and international forestry issues.

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