

Canadian Institute of Forestry Presents the Presidential Award to Al Stinson of North Bay, ON and Michel Vallee of Nanaimo, BC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Pembroke, ON - Tuesday, October 8, 2019 – The Canadian Institute of Forestry/Institut forestier du Canada (CIF-IFC) is pleased to announce Al Stinson of North Bay, ON and the CIF-IFC Algonquin Section and Michel Vallee of Nanaimo, BC and the CIF-IFC Vancouver Island Section as the 2019 recipients of the Presidential Award. The award was presented at the 2019 CIF-IFC Annual Awards Banquet held on October 7, 2019 at the Germania Club in Pembroke, ON.

“This Award is presented to individuals who have made significant or consistent outstanding contributions to the Institute through their actions in support of the Institute’s mission,” noted Luc M. Rainville, President, CIF-IFC, “more specifically, they have advanced the stewardship of Canada’s forest resources, demonstrated leadership in forestry, taken an active role in promoting competence among forestry professionals, and have fostered public awareness of Canadian and international forestry issues.”

As a Past President of the CIF-IFC, Al worked with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources for 36 years. In retirement Al has worked part time as a Research Forester for the Canadian Wood Fibre Centre at the Petawawa Research Forest, and he continues to instruct on the Ontario tree marking training and certification program, where he was a leader in its development and delivery. He is also a strong believer in partnerships which is evident through his contributions to the Forest Research Partnership out of the Canadian Ecology Centre. Through Al’s hard work, dedication and commitment to every task and project, he has greatly contributed to being a role model for those around him and educating a diverse audience on the practice of forestry.

Also as a Past President of the CIF-IFC, and a recently retired instructor from the Vancouver Island University’s Forestry program, Michel has been involved in a number of national and regional committees on forestry education including co-founder of the BC National Forest Week Coalition. Through his professional life as an administrator, educator and consultant, Michel has worked tirelessly to enhance forestry and promote the forestry profession. He has organized over 25 successful international forestry tours for both students and CIF-IFC members to promote knowledge exchange between Canadian and international forestry professionals. As a long-standing member of the CIF-IFC, Michel’s passion for the CIF-IFC is evident to all that know him, while demonstrating leadership at the Section, national and international levels.

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

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