



**Canadian Institute of Forestry Presents the Presidential Award Dr. William W. Bourgeois of the North Vancouver, 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 Dr. William W. Bourgeois of North Vancouver, BC and the CIF-IFC Vancouver Section as the recipient of the 2020 Presidential Award. The Award was presented at the 2020 CIF-IFC Annual National Awards Ceremony held virtually on September 15, 2020.

“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 Mark Pearson, Executive Director, 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.”

Dr. William (Bill) W. Bourgeois holds a PhD and is a Registered Professional Forester. Bill invested over 40 years in improving forest land management in British Columbia. During this period Bill has been a Canadian Forestry Service research scientist, held corporate executive positions, and been a private consultant. Bill has been involved with a number of new and high-profile BC, Canadian and international land use and forest management initiatives, such as the UN Convention on Biodiversity Conservation, the North American Strategy for Biodiversity Conservation, the BC CORE process, the Innovative Forestry Practices Agreement legislation, etc. Bill’s strategic and innovative thinking resulted in Lignum Ltd receiving the 2002 Minister of Environment Award for industry leading work on carbon management. Bill’s work has also been recognized by receiving several other awards from the CIF-IFC, the Association of BC Forest Professionals, Joint ABCFP-Association of Biology, and BC Business Magazine. He currently consults and comments on strategic issues relative to forest policy, and forest resources sustainability through direct contracts, and coordination of the non-partisan Healthy Forests-Healthy Communities initiative, and related volunteer activities.

“Bill is an outstanding champion for forestry, and invests hundreds of volunteer hours annually to support forest education,” explained Pearson, “He is very deserving of this national Award.”

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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