



**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Jonathan Lok of North Vancouver Island to become new CIF/IFC Second Vice-President**

**Cornerbrook, NL, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013** – The President of the Canadian Institute of Forestry - Institut forestier du Canada (CIF/IFC) Michel Vallée is pleased to announce that Jonathan Lok will be the Institute's 2nd Vice President for 2013-2014. His term will begin October 2013.

Jonathan Lok is one of the founders, and a current managing partner, of Strategic Group, the largest interdisciplinary natural resource consulting company in coastal British Columbia. Founded in 2003, during one of the most challenging forestry business environments in decades, Jon and his team managed to successfully grow his company to become one of the most respected in the sector. Much of this success can be attributed to a simple and effective business model; to build a preferred employer, based on teamwork and strong leadership, and by connecting talent and opportunity to create value and vision.

Jonathan's strong background in sustainable forestry - working with reputable companies including Canfor, TimberWest and Weyerhaeuser, has made him capable in business development, project management and strategic planning. His education at BCIT, Registered Forest Technologist designation, membership in the Canadian Institute of Forestry, and his background have all made him a natural fit as a managing partner of Strategic group, and also earned him the Forest Technologist of the Year Award (2011).

Under Jon's leadership, the Strategic team works with a variety of stakeholders, offering insightful solutions to a range of tactical challenges, accomplished with technical and professional excellence. Some interesting projects the company has been a part of include: Plutonic Power's Toba Inlet Run-of-River project; Cape Scott Windfarm, Interior-Lower-Mainland (ILM) BC Hydro transmission project (largest transmission upgrade in last 30 years); Entry Level Forest Worker Training (Woodlands Harvesting Certificate); Development and Delivery with North Island College, project Management; construction and operational Management of the North Coast Trail in Cape Scott Park; and Forest Fire Suppression and Fuel Hazard Abatement programs in community interfaces. Utilizing an interdisciplinary approach and building a positive rapport with clients, Strategic continues to grow.

With a wealth of knowledge and experience in many facets of forest management, Jon

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**Canadian Institute of Forestry/Institut forestier du Canada**

*Voice of Forest Practitioners/La voix des professionnels de la forêt*

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is an excellent new leader for the Canadian Institute of Forestry. Jon would be committed to serving the Institute and its membership with strategic vision, collaboration, and dedication to positively influencing our future. He believes in what the Institute stands for – that the principle of sharing knowledge of forestry across Canada is even more important in the information age. Jon promotes the notion that a national community of forest practitioners plays a pivotal role in strengthening Canada's position as a global forest leader and that we all have something to contribute and much to learn as we strive to achieve an optimum balance between the environmental, social and economic benefits that society requires from our forests. Jon's term on the National Executive of the Institute will be four years. His Presidential year will be 2015-16.

Jon currently resides with his wife Jennifer, in their North Vancouver Island home. Straying not too far from his obvious passion for forestry, Jon volunteers as the President of the Consulting Foresters of BC and Director on several boards. While a very busy person, Jon still makes time to enjoy riding motorcycles, driving his 77 CJ5 Jeep in the wild, and enjoying time with his wife.



*Jonathan Lok, new CIF-IFC 2nd Vice President*

**For additional information, please contact:**

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