

Re: Dana Collins' Resignation

Dear Members,

After four and a half years as Executive Director of the Canadian Institute of Forestry-Institut forestier du Canada, Dana Collins has submitted her resignation, effective May 3, 2019. Through the duration of her term, the National Executive Committee has had the privilege of working alongside Dana who has exhibited endless passion and dedication while leading this organization.

Dana has played an instrumental role in transforming the Institute into a financially stable and sustainable organization – an achievement recognized and applauded by the financial auditor. The CIF-IFC has steadily contributed to a growing reserve fund, built a healthy operating cash flow, and has successfully grown the Science-Extension-Education-Knowledge (CIF-SEEK) platform, all supporting the financial position of the Institute.

Under Dana's leadership, the Institute has successfully grown and diversified its products, programs and services, and strengthened strategic partnerships and alliances to enhance membership value. Some highlights include:

- The steady growth of the National Electronic Lecture (e-lecture) platform – a core competency program, which services and educates over 5000 forest practitioners each year;
- The coordination of The Prince of Wales Forest Leadership Award for students in Canada and the UK;
- The national development and delivery of timely and topical themes, messaging and media campaigns for National Forest Week to increase the awareness Canada's natural resources;
- The creation of the Professional Foresters Bridge Training Program, providing training modules to help foresters acquire the skills and competencies practice professional forestry in Canada;
- Secured a historical amount of funding to initiate and lead a 'Gender Equity in Canada's Forest Sector National Action Plan', supporting the recruitment, retention, and advancement of women in Canada's forest sector;



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- Invested in, and established a comprehensive and customized Board Governance Manual and framework – a cornerstone of a membership-based organizations;
- Lead the developed a new 5-year strategic plan to set priorities and common goals, and chart an organizational pathway for short- and long-term success;
- Re-established committees and various working groups to fulfill the mandate of the Institute.

These bullet points only briefly describe Dana's level of strategic leadership, work ethic, and passion that she has brought to this organization.

We'd be remiss to fail to mention Dana's leadership and management of staff, and the positive influence it's had on the Institute. Dana has prioritized and fostered a positive workplace culture that attracts and retains talent, drives engagement, and generally impacts staff satisfaction and happiness, ultimately affecting performance. With that said, each year, this small but mighty staff have consistently surpassed expectations and goals set forth in the Institute's annual operating objectives.

We can definitely say that the Institute would not have achieved this level of success without Dana's infectious energy and guidance. On behalf of the organization and the membership of the CIF-IFC, we wish Dana good luck and success in all of her future endeavors.

Colin Carroll

CIF-IFC President