



**Canadian Institute of Forestry Presents Schlich Memorial Prize to Stephanie Wilford and Natasha Lebiadowski of Prince George, BC**

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**Mattawa, ON – Thursday, October 7, 2021** – The Canadian Institute of Forestry/Institut forestier du Canada (CIF-IFC) is pleased to announce to Stephanie Wilford and Natasha Lebiadowski of Prince George, British Columbia as the 2021 recipients of the Schlich Memorial Prize. The Awards were presented at the 2021 CIF-IFC Annual National Awards Ceremony held virtually on October 6, 2021.

The Schlich Memorial Prize is awarded annually to an outstanding student chosen by the university and technical school(s) represented by the Section hosting the Annual National Conference. The Prize is named after Sir William Schlich, a German forester who became Inspector General of Forests to the Government of India. He also founded the School of Forestry at Oxford in 1905, and was knighted in 1909 for his many achievements. He passed away in 1925 and the Oxford Forestry School sponsored a campaign to create a fitting memorial - the Schlich Memorial Fund.

“With their outstanding academic achievements and dedication to advancing forestry, Natasha and Stephanie are both worthy recipients of the Schlich Memorial Prize,” stated CIF-IFC Executive Director, Mark Pearson.

Stephanie Wilford obtained her Associates degree in General Science and diploma in Environmental Technology from Camosun College and earned her BSc (Honours) in Natural Resources and Environmental Management majoring in Forest Ecology and Management and minoring in Biology and Conservation. She has extensive experience working in forest entomology, endangered ecosystem restoration, and environmental community outreach. Stephanie participated in research in orchid mycorrhizae and the effects of Western larch litter on understory vegetation. In addition to her studies, she represented the University of Northern British Columbia on the CIF-Cariboo section board for two years. Stephanie hopes to continue in a career as a forest professional and in science communications.

Natasha Lebiadowski completed the Natural Resources and Forest Technology (NRFT) 2-year program at the College of New Caledonia. Natasha has experience being a Junior Research Forest Assistant at the CNC Research Forest, and also worked for Silvicon Services. While at the College of New Caledonia, Natasha was the CIF-IFC Student Representative, and also received the CIF-IFC Gold Medal Award in 2021.

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 strives to provide national leadership, promote competence, and foster public awareness of Canadian and international forestry/forest issues. To learn more about the CIF-IFC National Awards Program, visit: [www.cif-ifc.org/national-awards](http://www.cif-ifc.org/national-awards)

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MEDIA CONTACT: Mark Pearson  
Executive Director / Directeur général  
Canadian Institute of Forestry / Institut forestier du Canada  
[mpearson@cif-ifc.org](mailto:mpearson@cif-ifc.org)