



Canadian Institute of Forestry
Institut forestier du Canada



JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

Canadian Institute of Forestry Names the County of Simcoe as the 2022 Forest Capital of Canada

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Version française disponible)

Mattawa, ON – Thursday, October 7, 2021 – The Canadian Institute of Forestry/Institut forestier du Canada (CIF-IFC) is pleased to announce the County of Simcoe, located in Ontario, as the Forest Capital of Canada (FCC) for 2022. This designation is equally as special as it marks the second time the County has received the designation, with the first time being in 1982.

“The Forest Capital of Canada designation was established in 1979 and celebrates a community or a region for its connectivity to the forest,” noted Mark Pearson, Executive Director, CIF-IFC.

The FCC program focuses on the valuable role forests play in the socio-economic and environmental health of our communities – past, present and future, while also recognizing and celebrating the rich forest heritage and commitment to sustainable forest management practices across Canada. Originally delivered by the Canadian Forestry Association, the CIF-IFC now administers this legacy program.

The 2021 CIF-IFC National Awards Ceremony was held virtually on October 6, 2021. Graeme Davis, Forester with the County of Simcoe was in attendance and provided a few remarks on behalf of the County.

The County of Simcoe is committed to maintaining and growing its vast forest network, which is owned and managed by the County. This designation also coincides with the Simcoe County Forests’ 100th anniversary celebrations, which will occur in 2022. The County was the first jurisdiction in Ontario to enter into the ‘Agreement Forest’ program in 1922 and has invested in tree planting, management practices and property acquisitions to become Ontario’s largest municipally-owned forest, now spanning more than 33,000 acres across more than 150 properties. Throughout 2022, the County will celebrate the growth of the Simcoe County Forest over the past century, and will proudly share news of this national honour of being the Forest Capital of Canada with its residents and partners.

“Recognizing the tremendous value of Ontario’s largest and oldest municipally managed forest network, we were pleased to select the County of Simcoe as the 2022 Forest Capital of Canada,” mentions Richard Dominy, Past President, CIF-IFC. “The County is very deserving and we look forward to seeing their celebrations and activities unfold over the next year showcasing their connectivity to the forest.”

Voice of Forest Practitioners
La voix des professionnels de la forêt

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About the County of Simcoe

County of Simcoe (simcoe.ca) is composed of sixteen member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia.

About the CIF-IFC

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: cif-ifc.org/national-awards

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