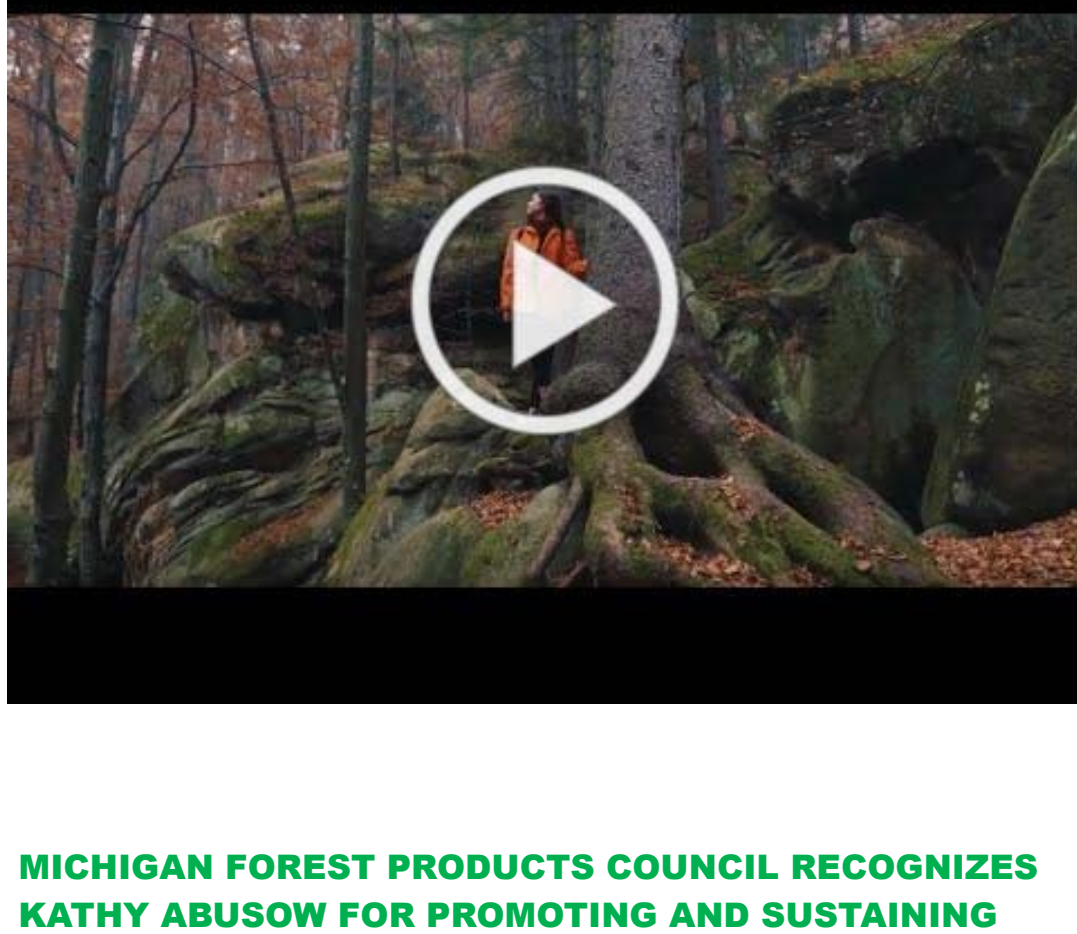


### THE IMPORTANCE OF FORESTS IN MITIGATING CLIMATE CHANGE VIDEO

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative is working with organizations like American Forests on important global issues such as climate change. Forests and forest products capture almost 15% of our carbon emissions each year. Watch the [video](#) to learn more about the importance of forests in mitigating climate change.



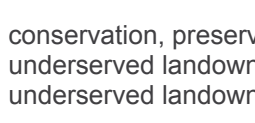
### MICHIGAN FOREST PRODUCTS COUNCIL RECOGNIZES KATHY ABUSOW FOR PROMOTING AND SUSTAINING U.S. FORESTS

The Michigan Forest Products Council [announced on July 25](#) that Kathy Abusow, President and CEO of SFI Inc., received the annual Tuebor Award from the council's board of directors at their annual board meeting in Traverse City. "This award recognizes not only her dedication to advancing forest sustainability but also an uncommon passion to evolve the SFI program into a solutions-oriented sustainability organization that focuses its work across four key pillars: standards, conservation, community and education. She recognizes the vast societal benefits that come from sustainable forests," said Director of SFI and Public Policy for MFPC, Scott Robbins.

Pictured left to right: Ada Takacs, Michigan Project Learning Tree State Coordinator; Mike Lesinski, Michigan SFI Implementation Committee Chair; Kathy Abusow, President and CEO of SFI, Inc.; Todd Johnson, MFPC Board Chair; Scott Robbins, MFPC Director of Forest Policy and SFI; Deb Begalle, DNR Forest Resources Division Chief



### PODCAST FEATURING EBONIE ALEXANDER, SFI BOARD MEMBER



*The Stories of Each Generation Make the Land As Important As the Blood in Your Veins* is a [podcast](#) featuring Ebonie Alexander, Executive Director of the Black Family Land Trust and an SFI Board Member. The Black Family Land Trust is dedicated to the conservation, preservation, and protection of African American and other historically underserved landowner assets known as "heir's property." SFI is committed to supporting underserved landowners through its [grant work](#) with the Black Family Land Trust.

### TREEHUGGER FEATURES STORIES ABOUT SFI AND PLT

[Secret Food Habits of Caribou Suggest Habitat Improvements](#) — Woodland caribou are considered threatened throughout much of Canada's vast boreal forest. [SFI Conservation Grants](#) grantee the [National Council for Air and Stream Improvement](#) followed a small herd of caribou over nine years to determine what role, if any, nutrition plays in maintaining caribou populations.

[Fifty-Three Schools Win the Green Ribbon for 2019](#) — Great things are happening for the environment at schools across the U.S. Thirty-five schools, 14 school districts, and four postsecondary institutions have been recognized as U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools for 2019. Five of the schools and one of the school districts selected are [Project Learning Tree](#) Program Participants.



# FORESTS OF OPPORTUNITY

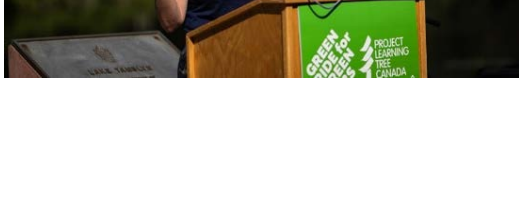


## 2019 SFI ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 21-25, 2019 | RICHMOND MARRIOTT, VIRGINIA

### GOVERNMENT OF CANADA HELPS PLT CANADA PLACE 500 MORE YOUTH IN GREEN JOBS

The Government of Canada is investing over \$4.4 million in [Project Learning Tree Canada](#) (PLT Canada)'s Growing Skills project. This funding will help more than 500 Canadian youth gain work experience in the conservation and forest sectors by October 2020. The PLT Canada Growing Skills project will include job coaching, mentorship, career planning and networking, as well as paid work experiences in green jobs across Canada in the conservation and forest sectors. The Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour made the [announcement](#) on July 12 at a [Green Ride for Green Jobs](#) event in Thunder Bay. More than 50 people were on hand for the event, which garnered significant media coverage. ([VIDEO: Thunder Bay News](#))



The Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour.

### SFI LEADS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY GREATER OTTAWA "WOMEN IN WOOD" BUILD DAY

A Habitat for Humanity Greater Ottawa "Women in Wood" Build Day brought together an inspiring group of women leaders from the government, forest, environment, and social sectors. SFI led this event. It was part of Habitat Greater Ottawa's largest build to date, which will consist of 16 townhomes. This year marks Habitat Greater Ottawa's 25th anniversary, and SFI has contributed financial support towards the organization's goal of raising over \$100,000 in donations. Since 2008, the SFI community has donated countless volunteer hours and certified products to numerous Habitat builds across Canada and the U.S.



### WHAT WILL MY WOODS LOOK LIKE BEFORE AND AFTER TIMBER HARVESTING?

Intended to help start a pre-harvest discussion about post-harvest results, this [website](#) and the [booklet](#) from the Maine Forest Service shows typical forest stands before and after different kinds of logging operations. The forest scenes also help tell the story of woodland stewardship, forest management and the professionals who make it happen.

Before and after thinning invasive trees in Maine. This project was funded, in part, by an [SFI Community Grant](#).



### COME SEE US THIS WEEK AT THE JAMBOREE



### FOREST ORGANIZATIONS SIGN AGREEMENT TO GROW OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIGENOUS YOUTH

Project Learning Tree Canada, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, and Outland, a division of Dexterra, signed an MOU on July 12 to empower even more Indigenous youth in the years ahead. Since 2018, with funding from [PLT Canada's Green Jobs Program](#) and support from 16 companies and organizations certified to SFI across Canada, [The Outland Youth Employment Program](#) has expanded from two Ontario-based camps to six unique programs across four provinces, employing over 140 Indigenous youth annually. Since its founding in 2000, OYEP has empowered over 500 Indigenous youth, which has led to increased high school graduation rates, meaningful long-term employment, and a greater sense of pride. [Watch a video](#) featuring Sage Moses, an OYEP Crew Leader, describing the program and the difference it has made in her life and the life of her brother.



Paul Robitaille, SFI's Manager of Indigenous and Youth Relations, welcomes OYEP and PLT Canada participants to an event in celebration of a memorandum of understanding.





## CONSERVATION GRANTS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS OPEN

**MONDAY, JULY 29**

THROUGH

**MONDAY, SEPT. 30**



### WE ARE HIRING!

#### COORDINATOR, STATISTIC & LABEL USE

Looking for an energetic and details driven person who can support SFI label use, data collection, analysis, and special projects for the Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

Learn more: [sfiprogram.org/join-our-team](http://sfiprogram.org/join-our-team)

