

Mutual Recognition Agreement between the Registered Professional Foresters Associations of Canada

Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals (ABCFP)

College of Alberta Professional Foresters (CAPF)

Association of Saskatchewan Forestry Professionals (ASFP)

Ontario Professional Foresters Association (OPFA)

Ordre des ingénieurs forestiers du Québec (OIFQ)

Registered Professional Foresters Association of Nova Scotia (RPFANS)

Association of Registered Professional Foresters of New Brunswick (ARPFNB)

Newfoundland and Labrador Registered Professional Foresters Program (NLRPF)

**First entered into 12 August, 2001
amended September 12, 2008**

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1. Purpose

This agreement is made between the Parties named on the preceding page and will remain in force until replaced by any further written agreement. It is made to be consistent with the obligations set out in Chapter Seven of the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) which deals with the subject of Labour Mobility. Its purpose is to establish the conditions under which a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) /ingénieur forestier (ing.f.) who is licensed/registered in one Canadian jurisdiction will have their qualifications recognized in another Canadian jurisdiction participating in this Agreement.

2. Definitions

- 2.1. "Competencies" refers to a set of knowledge, skills and abilities acquired through formal or non-formal education, work experience, and other means required for an occupation.
- 2.2. "Good Standing" refers to meeting registration or membership requirements of the Home Association including, but not limited to, character, payment of fees, discipline actions and continuing competency requirements.
- 2.3. "Home Association" refers to the Association/Ordre in which the member is currently licensed/registered.
- 2.4. "Host Association" refers to the Association/Ordre in which the member is seeking licensure/registration.
- 2.5. "Party" refers to a Regulatory Body that is a signatory to this agreement.
- 2.6. "Registered Professional Forester/ingénieur forestier" refers to an individual who has qualified and is licensed/registered in a jurisdiction.
- 2.7. "Right to practice" refers to a jurisdiction in which the practice of professional forestry is defined and reserved to members of the regulatory body of the jurisdiction.
- 2.8. "Right to title" refers to a jurisdiction in which prescribed title(s) is/are defined and reserved to members of the regulatory body of the jurisdiction.
- 2.9. "Professional forestry" refers to the practice of professional forestry as defined in each jurisdiction.

3. Terms and Conditions

- 3.1. WHEREAS the undersigned acknowledge that it is in the best interest of their memberships and the general public to enable RPF/ing.f. to have access to employment opportunities in that occupation in all provinces and territories in Canada;
- 3.2. WHEREAS this agreement does not modify the authority of each regulatory body to set standards and requirements;
- 3.3. WHEREAS it is further agreed and understood that threshold levels of competence and public safety in the practice of professional forestry must be established, maintained and upheld by regulators to ensure protection of the public;
- 3.4. WHEREAS the Parties have determined that there is a moderate degree of commonality between them with respect to the range of activities practitioners typically perform and the scopes of practice described in each Party's legislation.

AND WHEREAS all parties currently require for initial entry to practice:

- good character and repute;
- graduation from an accredited baccalaureate program in forestry, or equivalent as demonstrated by:
 - academic credentials
 - competency standards
- practical experience requirements
- commitment to professionalism and ethical conduct;
- a demonstrated knowledge of relevant local forest policy/legislation and professional practice;
- at least one sponsoring RPF/ing.f. who is in good standing;

AND RECOGNIZING that

- the Canadian Forestry Accreditation Board (CFAB) is the nationally recognized accrediting body for academic programs in forestry in Canada
- each of the Parties have complaint resolution and discipline procedures for regulation of their members
- forest practitioners regulated by the Parties must adhere to codes of ethics/conduct and standards of professional practice.

3.5. WHEREAS:

- RPF's in British Columbia and Ontario, and ing.f. in Québec have right to practice and right to title.
- RPF's in Alberta¹, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland and Labrador² have right to title.

¹ Alberta has a mandatory registration for those eligible for entry to the profession.

² Newfoundland and Labrador does not have regulatory legislation.

3.6. WHEREAS no Party will maintain or adopt any requirement for residency in its jurisdiction as part of its standards or requirements;

3.7. WHEREAS each Party shall ensure that any measure it adopts or maintains relating to registration of a RPF/ing.f.:

- is readily accessible on its website or a readily available website;
- does not result in unnecessary delay; and
- does not impose inequitable, burdensome fees, except for cost recovery.

3.8. WHEREAS each Party recognizes that:

3.8.1. For initial registration as a RPF/ing.f. in a Canadian jurisdiction an applicant is required to:

- demonstrate through examination or other forms of assessment the necessary competencies to begin practice as a RPF/ing.f. in the jurisdiction, where initial application is made.
- establish and confirm identity for entry into the register of members.
- pay applicable fees.

3.8.2. An RPF/ing.f. moving from one Canadian jurisdiction will be required to:

- be in good standing in their home jurisdiction.
- demonstrate they meet language requirements, if any, in place in the host jurisdiction.
- demonstrate they meet requirements, if any, pertaining to local legislation, regulation and professional practice in the host jurisdiction.

3.9. WHEREAS it is recognized that Parties may have members who qualified for licensure/registration under a different regulatory regime, and who may not meet the current standards and requirements for entry to practice. It is further recognized that these individuals are qualified, experienced RPFs/ing.f. and are eligible for membership in all Party jurisdictions provided they meet all other criteria described in this agreement.

3.10. WHEREAS the Parties to this Agreement may maintain differing continuing education requirements of RPFs/ing.f. in their jurisdictions. Applicants for licensure/registration will be required to demonstrate compliance with continuing education requirements in the host jurisdiction once licensed/registered there.

4. Terms of Recognition

4.1. THEREFORE in consideration of the principles contained in this agreement, we the Parties agree as follows:

4.1.1. RPFs/ing.f. moving from one jurisdiction to another in Canada may do so without impediment, subject only to:

4.1.1.1. The Parties recognize that a host jurisdiction may impose additional requirements for registration so long as those requirements:

- 4.1.1.1.1. arise out of a difference in legislated recognition or scope/definition of practice between home and host jurisdictions; or,
- 4.1.1.1.2. do not involve a re-testing or re-assessment of common competencies already addressed under CFAB accreditation; or,
- 4.1.1.1.3. do not involve something for which the transferring professional can demonstrate they already have education and experience equivalent to that required under the certification standards published by the Parties from time to time.

4.1.1.2. The Parties recognize the need for all transferring RPFs/ing.f. to meet other requirements in the receiving jurisdiction pertaining, but not limited to, identity check, application procedures and fees and language, and discipline.

4.2. All Parties agree to facilitate readily accessible and timely mechanisms for acquisition of competencies related to differences in legislated recognition of practice or scope of practice. Additionally, where possible, all Parties agree to provide authority to practice for any individual required to acquire additional competencies for registration in the host jurisdiction.

5. Administration of the Agreement

5.1. Each Party agrees to give advance notice to other Parties and to their respective Provincial labour mobility authority/contact when proposing modification or adoption of new standards or requirements that might impact on the interprovincial/territorial mobility of workers.

5.2. Each Party agrees that this agreement is a dynamic and evolving instrument that may be amended. The Parties agree to review this agreement every five years or as required before that time.

5.3. Each Party will give written notice to its government and to other Parties of its intent to withdraw from this agreement at least 12 months before the Party withdraws. The notice period is waived where the withdrawal is not within the Party's control.

5.4. Any regulatory body that acquires a statutory mandate to regulate professional forestry practice in the public interest after the effective date of this agreement (the "new regulatory body") may accede to this agreement on such terms as are agreed to by the existing Parties to this agreement and the new regulatory body.

5.5. Each Party agrees to seek the necessary legislative changes from their respective government if, in order to implement this agreement, there is a need for such changes. Each Party also agrees to seek to implement the necessary changes to by-laws, policies or procedures in order to implement this agreement.

5.6. The Parties agree to identify a CFPFA contact person responsible for liaison with respect to this agreement.

6.0 Signatory Page for Regulatory Bodies

Regulatory Bodies that exercise authority delegated by law for the practice of professional forestry in Canada.

Original Signed this 12th day of August 2001.

Amendment Signed this 12th day of September 2008

College of Alberta Professional Foresters

Governing Legislation Regulated Forestry Profession Act
Original signed by Dieter Kuhnke, RPF, CAPF President
Amendment signed by: Doug Krystofiak, RPF
Executive Director/Registrar

Association of British Columbia Professional Foresters

Governing Legislation Foresters Act of British Columbia
Original signed by Mike Larock, RPF, ABCFP President
Amendment signed by Randy Trerise, RPF, Registrar

Association of Saskatchewan Forestry Professionals

Governing Legislation Forestry Professions Act of Saskatchewan
Original signed by
Amendment signed by Roman Orynik, RPF, Registrar

Association of Registered Professional Foresters of New Brunswick

Governing Legislation The New Brunswick Foresters Act, 2001
Original signed by Rod O'Connell, RPF, ARPFNB President
Amendment signed by Jennifer Hacking, RPF, Executive Director

Canadian Institute of Forestry/Institut forestier du Canada Newfoundland and Labrador Section Registered Professional Foresters Program

Governing Legislation Ministerial approval, July 18, 1996
Original signed by Len Moores, RPF, NFLD RPF representative
Amendment signed by Jason Pond, RPF, Executive Director

Ordre des ingénieurs forestiers du Québec

Governing Legislation Forest Engineers Act (L.R.Q. c. 1-10)
Original signed by Johanne Gauthier, ing.f., Présidente-directrice générale
Amendment signed by

Ontario Professional Foresters Association

Governing Legislation Professional Foresters Act 2000
Original signed by Rick Monzon, RPF, Executive Director OPFA
Amendment signed by Tony Jennings, RPF, Executive Director

Registered Professional Foresters Association of Nova Scotia

Governing Legislation Foresters Association Act
Original signed by Ian Millar, RPF, President RPFANS
Amendment signed by Ian Millar, RPF, Executive Director

7.0 Signatory Page for Non - Regulatory Body

Signed this 12th day of August 2001.

Amendment Signed this 12th day of September 2008

The undersigned Canadian Institute of Forestry/Institut forestier du Canada (CIF) is a national body that advocates on behalf of professional forestry and forest stewardship in Canada. The CIF promotes the creation of legislation to establish professional forestry regulatory bodies in provinces that do not already have such legislation. By agreement between CFPFA member agencies, the CIF participates as a member of the CFPFA on behalf of, and representing the interests of, forestry professionals practicing in jurisdictions that do not yet have legislated recognition of practice and/or title and signs this agreement having the capacity and duties outlined here.

Canadian Institute of Forestry/Institut forestier du Canada

<i>Original signed by</i>	Don Gelinias, RPF, President CIF/IFC
Amendment signed by	Peter Marshall, Phd, RPF, President CIF/IFC