

## STATEMENT ON RECONCILIATION

Our members' operations fall within the traditional territories of many Indigenous Nations. We respect the deep connection Indigenous Peoples have to the land. We also recognize that some Nations and organizations are seeking to increase Indigenous participation in the forest sector.

COFI wants to do its part to advance reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, appreciating reconciliation means different things to different communities. We want to strengthen our relationships, listen to the aspirations of Nations and work collaboratively with First Nations and government as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) is implemented in BC and Canada.

Indigenous communities are vital to BC's forest sector as owners, business and stewardship partners and employees. Many Nations are licensees and engage in unique partnerships with COFI member companies including through joint ventures and tenure, co-management and reconciliation protocol agreements – playing a critical role in the governance and stewardship of forest lands and resources. Indigenous-affiliated contractors and entrepreneurs are also providing logging, road construction, firefighting, silviculture as well as other services and supplies. Additionally, more than 5,300 Indigenous people are directly employed in forestry, contributing skills, knowledge and know-how across the sector.

## COFI MEMBER COMMITMENTS

COFI and our members are proud of the relationships we have established over many years, but we know there is more work to do. To that end, we commit to continuing the work to:

- **Build meaningful trusted relationships with Indigenous Peoples and communities based on honesty, integrity and respect**
- **Seek opportunities for partnership, collaboration and consensus-building**
- **Provide cultural awareness training**
- **Increase Indigenous participation in the industry and provide education and skills-training opportunities**
- **Integrate Indigenous perspectives and traditional knowledge within our operations**
- **Support increased resource revenue sharing from government to support sustainable economic benefits flowing to Indigenous communities**

In doing so, we are guided by COFI's *Statement of Sustainability Commitments* and our respect for the rights, diverse cultures, interests and aspirations of Indigenous Peoples on whose traditional territory forest product companies operate. We are also guided by our support of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action #92 (Business and Reconciliation) and will continue to help achieve the intentions outlined in UNDRIP, including the underlying principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent.