



# PROGRAM

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APRIL 10-12, 2024  
JW MARRIOTT PARQ HOTEL  
VANCOUVER, BC

## **BRANCHING OUT: BC FORESTRY FOR A CHANGING WORLD**

We respectfully acknowledge that this event is being held on the ancestral territories of the Squamish, Musqueam and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

# WELCOME MESSAGE



## Linda Coady

President & CEO,  
COFI

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### Welcome to the 2024 COFI Convention.

On behalf of the member companies of the BC Council of Forest Industries (COFI) I want to thank you for gathering with us to pursue the theme of **“Branching Out: BC Forestry for a Changing World.”**

It is our hope that this year’s convention can be a platform for conversations about the current state of the BC forest industry and the pivotal juncture it is at right now.

From the policy, market, and product changes reshaping our industry to the serious work that needs to be done on reconciliation, wildfire resilience, and stabilizing fibre supply, our 2024 program tackles the issues that will define the future of the BC forest sector.

As we come together over the course of the next day and a half, it is imperative that we be willing to branch out beyond past approaches to discover and develop new ones. Leveraging our collective expertise will enable us to chart a transition towards a more resilient, renewable, and investable forest sector in BC that can meet the needs of both present and future generations.

Thank you for your willingness to be part of this important discussion. I look forward to the conversations and connections that will emerge from the time we spend together.

**Linda Coady**, President & CEO, COFI

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Go to the App Store and download  
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7:30 am

## Continental Breakfast

Co-sponsored by:  PORT of vancouver | Vancouver Fraser Port Authority



8:00 am

## Official Welcome

**Greg Stewart**, Chair, COFI Board of Directors and President, Sinclair Group Forest Products Ltd.

8:30 am

## KEYNOTE

### Chief Terry Teegee

Regional Chief, British Columbia Assembly of First Nations  
Moderator: **Shannon Janzen**, Principal Owner, Hypha Consulting

9:00 am

## PANEL

### Economic & Investment Outlook: Are We There Yet?

**Daryl Swetlishoff**, Head of Research, Raymond James  
**Kimberly Burns**, Partner, Dentons Canada LLP  
Moderator: **Kurt Niquidet**, Vice President and Chief Economist, COFI

9:45 am

## Refreshment Break

10:15 am

## SPOTLIGHT

### Building Workforce Resilience Through Diversity

**Jason Krips**, President & CEO, Alberta Forest Products Association (AFPA)  
**Louise Bender**, Vice President, People & Administration, MOSAIC Forest Management

10:30 am

## PANEL

### B.C.'s Strategy for Stabilizing Fibre Supply

**Hon. Bruce Ralston**, B.C. Minister of Forests  
**Hon. Andrew Mercier**, B.C. Minister of State for Sustainable Forestry Innovation  
**Lennard Joe**, CEO, B.C. First Nations Forestry Council  
Moderator: **Linda Coady**, President & CEO, COFI

Sponsored by:



11:30 am

## Pre-Luncheon Reception

Co-sponsored by:





12:30 pm

## LUNCHEON KEYNOTE

**Arun Alexander**, Canada's Deputy Ambassador to the United States

Moderator: **Susan Yurkovich**, Senior Vice President, Global Business Development, Canfor

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2:15 pm

## PANEL

### Wildfires, Biodiversity and Natural Disturbances: Building a More Resilient Forest Sector

**Jamie Stephen**, Managing Director, TorchLight Resources

**Keith Atkinson**, Board Chair, Forest Practices Board

**Jeff Bromley**, Wood Council Chairperson, United Steelworkers

**Molly Hudson**, VP, Sustainability & Chief Forester, MOSAIC

Moderator: **Sandy Ferguson**, Advisor, Bioeconomy Initiatives, Foresight Canada

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3:00 pm

## Refreshment Break

Sponsored by:



3:30 pm

## PANEL

### A Conversation with Industry Leaders

**Sean McLaren**, President & CEO, West Fraser

**Steven Hofer**, President & CEO, Western Forest Products

**Dallas Smith**, President, Nanwakolas Council

**Robert Dennis Sr.**, Former Chief Councillor, Huu-ay-aht First Nations

**Nick Arkle**, CEO, Gorman Group

Moderator: **Laura Jones**, President & CEO, Business Council of BC

4:30 pm

## PANEL

### Exhibitors Hospitality Hour

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5:15 pm

## Networking Reception

Entertainment by **Encore the Duo**

**D'arcy Han** and **Michael Aihoshi**

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7:45 am

## Buffet Breakfast

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8:10 am

## Day 2 Convention Opening

Linda Coady, President & CEO, COFI

8:15am

KEYNOTE

## Forestry's Role in Climate Resilient Housing and Communities

**Don Iveson**, Executive Advisor, Climate Investing and Community Resilience, Co-operators Insurance

Moderator: **Zara Rabinovitch**, Director, Sustainability, COFI

Sponsored by:



9:00 am

KEYNOTE

## From Crisis to Consensus: How Wildfires are Changing the Public Conversation on Forestry

**David Coletto**, Chair and CEO, Abacus Data

Moderator: **David Elstone**, Managing Director, Spar Tree Group and Publisher, View From The Stump

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9:45 am

## Refreshment Break

Sponsored by:



BC Forest Safety

10:15 am

PANEL

## Forestry's Future from a Local Government Perspective

**His Worship Simon Yu**, Mayor, City of Prince George

**Brian Frenkel**, Councillor, District of Vanderhoof

**Susan Sinnott**, Lawyer, Councillor, City of Campbell River

Moderator: **Lisa Dominato**, Councillor, City of Vancouver



11:00 am

**ARMCHAIR DIALOGUE**

**Old Growth, Biodiversity, Conservation  
Financing and Three Zone Management:  
Connecting-the-Dots on the Managed  
Landscape**

**Lori Halls**, Deputy Minister, B.C. Ministry of Water, Land  
and Resource Stewardship

**Al Gorley**, Former Chair, BC Forest Practices Board  
and Co-Author of Old Growth Strategic Review

Moderator: **Michael Armstrong**, Vice President  
and Chief Forester, COFI

11:30 am

**Pre-Luncheon Reception**

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12:30 pm

**LUNCHEON KEYNOTE**

Co-sponsored by:



1:45 pm

**PROGRAM WRAP-UP**

**Greg Stewart**, Chair, COFI Board of Directors and  
President, Sinclair Group Forest Products Ltd.



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