



CANADA'S FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

# "30 BY 30" CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGE



An aerial photograph of a vast, dense forest. The trees are mostly evergreens, appearing in various shades of green, with some lighter green areas suggesting deciduous trees or younger growth. The forest covers a large, undulating area, with the canopy creating a textured, mottled appearance. The lighting is bright, casting soft shadows and highlighting the density of the trees.

THE CANADIAN FOREST  
INDUSTRY IS PLEDGING TO  
REMOVE **30MT OF CO<sub>2</sub> A YEAR**  
**BY 2030** - MORE THAN 13% OF  
THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT'S  
EMISSIONS TARGET.

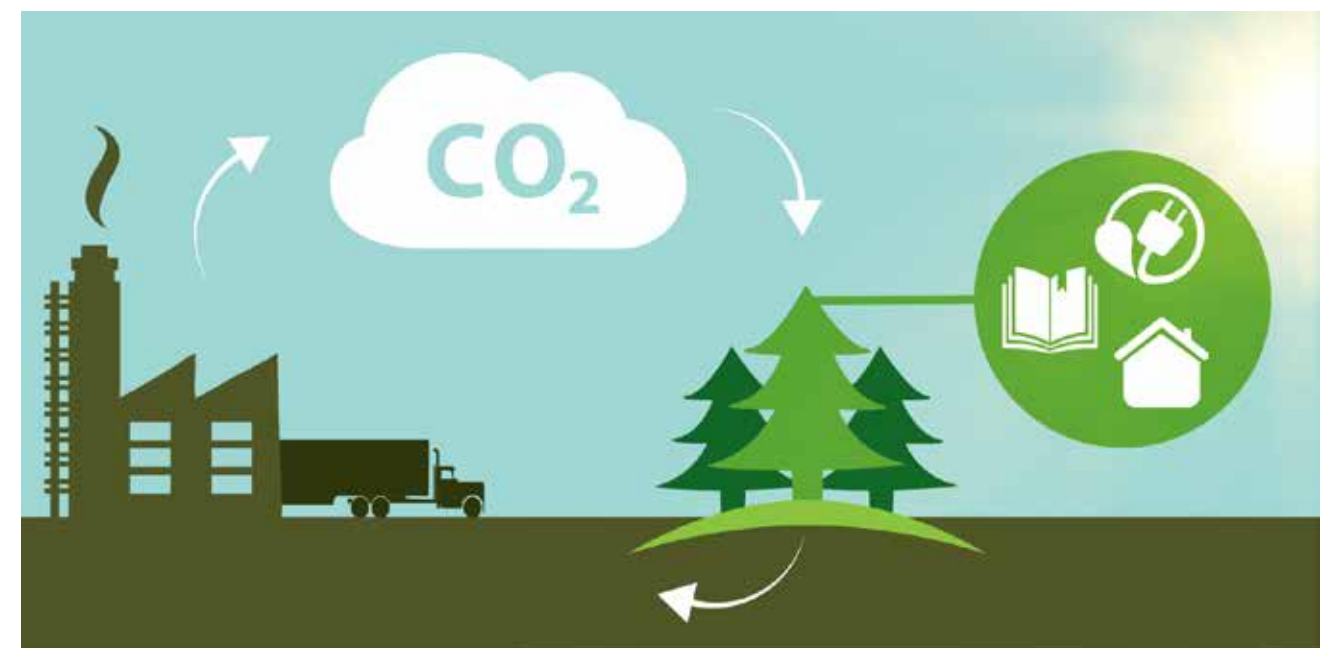


# PART OF THE SOLUTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Canada's forests are a truly astonishing resource. They represent 348 million hectares of forest land or 9% of the world's forests, a vibrant green ribbon stretching from the coastal rainforests of British Columbia to the boreal forests of Newfoundland and Labrador. These vast forests are not just a globally important ecosystem but also an economic driver that helps support many Indigenous people, while acting as one of the largest sources of employment in the country.

And Canada's renewable forests play another essential role - they absorb tremendous amounts of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), and by doing so help regulate the world's climate systems for the benefit of the entire planet. This critical role of storing carbon continues in the increasing array of products made from wood fibre and is further prolonged through the recovery and recycling of forest products including paper.

So as Canada faces the challenge of reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs), healthy Canadian forests and forest products obtained from them will have a vital role to play in the transition to a greener low carbon economy.



Canada's forest products industry has the best environmental reputation in the world.

Leger Marketing Survey, 2015



The Canadian forest products sector is aiming to contribute more than 13% of the government's emission reduction target.

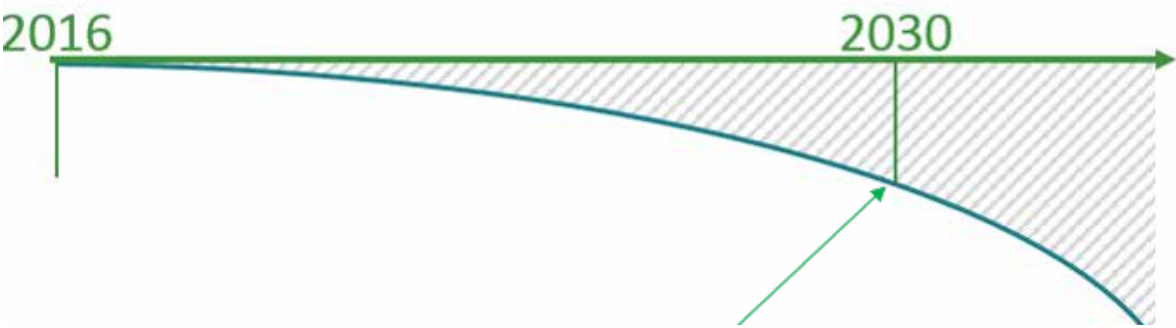
CANADA'S FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

# THE FOREST SECTOR CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGE

Climate change is emerging as the signature issue of our time. The federal government is now committed to reducing GHGs by 30%—the equivalent of 225 megatonnes (MT) of carbon a year by 2030.

The Canadian forest products industry is prepared to challenge itself to contribute to the government's goal by maximizing forest carbon sinks, by sequestering carbon in the products we sell, and by reducing GHG emissions from our facilities. We are committed to contributing more than 13% of the government goal.

## PROPOSED TARGET



The Canadian forest products sector is pledging to remove 30MT of CO<sub>2</sub> a year by 2030.

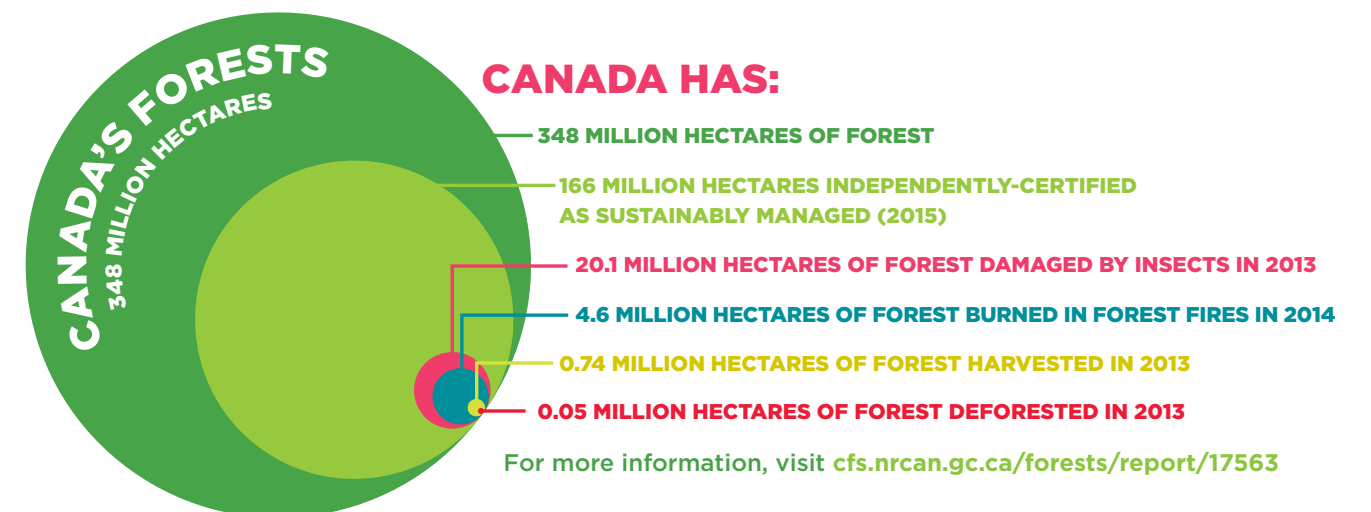


## CANADA'S FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

# A LEADER IN FOREST MANAGEMENT

The UN New York Declaration of Forests says that “forests represent one of the largest most cost-effective climate solutions available today”. Canada is largely retaining its forest stock and role as a carbon sink.

Forests are renewable and by law in Canada, any harvested tree is replaced — Canada has a mere 0.02% rate of deforestation, with most of that caused by agriculture, urban expansion and resource extraction — not forestry.



Each year about 551 million trees are planted in Canadian forests.

Canada has almost zero deforestation, just 0.02% a year and this rate is declining.

State of Canada's forests report, NRCan (2015)



## CANADA'S FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

# THE WORLD'S MOST CERTIFIED FORESTS

Canada is also recognized as a world leader in forest management, using science-based principles that balance environmental, social and economic considerations. In fact our country has 166 million hectares of forest independently certified to follow sustainable forest practices—that's 40% of all the certified forests in the world.



In 2013, Canada's managed forests and forest products were a net carbon sink, absorbing 48 million tonnes of carbon dioxide.

State of Canada's forests report, NRCan (2015)

By following climate-sensitive practices, properly managed forests can be a positive contributor to a Canadian climate management system. Active forest management practices can help forests adapt to climate change and maximize carbon sinks through such practices as salvage harvesting, jump-starting the growth of forests or planting resilient species.

The forest products industry is continuing to work to improve its forest management practices to maximize climate resilience. This includes science-based work with environmental partners under the Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement to develop and promote climate-friendly practices and reduce GHGs.

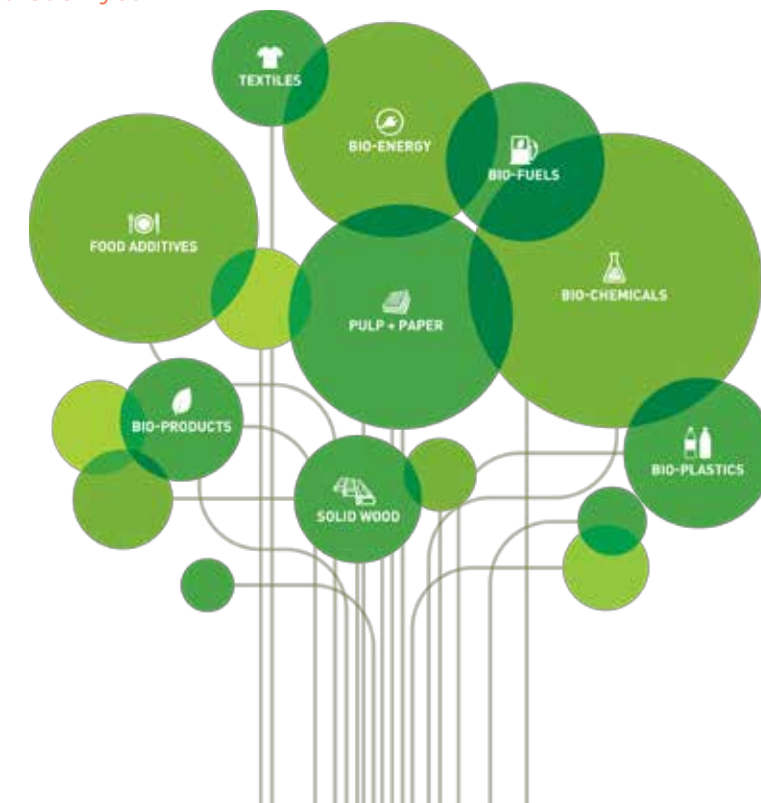


## CANADA'S FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

# INNOVATION IS IN OUR NATURE

**A cubic metre of wood represents almost one tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> removed from the atmosphere. The potential for carbon storage is especially evident in taller wood frame buildings using mass timber systems.**

Building code changes now permit up to six storey buildings but even taller wood buildings are envisaged, including an 18-storey residence building at the University of British Columbia and a 13-storey timber tower in Quebec City. These buildings store carbon in the wood and require less energy to produce, giving them a lower carbon footprint than competing construction materials such as energy-consuming concrete and steel. Vancouver architect Michael Green estimates that from a carbon perspective, a single 100,000 square foot wood building would be the equivalent of taking 1410 cars off the road each year.



The potential is also found in the increasing number of non-traditional bio-products based on wood fibre such as plastics that displace fossil fuel based products. Wood fibre is now found in everything from chemicals to cosmetics to car parts. For example the console of a Ford Lincoln made from a wood fibre composite helps the low-carbon economy in two ways—by replacing plastics made from non-renewable fossil fuels and by reducing the car's weight which reduces fuel consumption.

“From a carbon perspective, a single 100,000 square foot wood building would be the equivalent of taking 1410 cars off the road each year.”

Michael Green, Architect



# AHEAD OF THE CURVE

**Forest product companies have been “ahead of the curve” by aggressively reducing their carbon footprint and running more efficient facilities. In fact while Canada’s total GHG emissions were increasing, pulp and paper mills have cut emissions by an impressive 66% since 1990, the equivalent of 9MT of CO<sub>2</sub> a year.**

Some of this is because of a contraction of the forest industry but a large part is a result of changing energy usage and increases in the use of self-generated power from forest facilities. About 30 mills now generate green electricity from residuals at the mill site.

Further reductions in the carbon footprint at the mills will be challenging but the sector can find additional cuts by striving to be more energy efficient, fuel switching using mill waste to displace fossil fuels and reducing the use of fossil fuels when transporting harvested trees to the mills and shipping products to market.

Canadian pulp and paper mills have cut GHG emissions by almost 66% since 1990.





## CANADA'S FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

# WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT

The Canadian forest products industry has already successfully worked with governments to reduce the sector's environmental footprint —for example, the federal Pulp and Paper Green Transformation Fund helped companies reduce GHG emission equivalent to emissions from 150,000 cars, and the Investment in Forest Industry Transformation program spurred first-in class clean tech innovations including biomaterials and biochemicals.


In the months ahead the Canadian forest products industry will prepare a road map to meet its new Climate Change Challenge. To meet the “30 by 30” goal, we will need to once again work closely with all levels of government to ensure alignment with their policies and programs related to climate change. To help us achieve and accelerate our progress, the following would be helpful:

- Create a government “future forests” fund to stimulate local solutions and drive the most effective actions for forest adaptation, resilience and mitigation.
- Maintain effective carbon neutrality of biomass in the Pan-Canadian Climate Framework so mills can develop clean power sources to replace fossil fuels.
- Continue to fund FPInnovations and invest in innovation and transformation to de-risk the commercialization of new bio-products and clean technology in the forest sector.
- Ensure market-based policy mechanisms, such as carbon pricing and offsets, to maximize the mitigation potential of the forest sector.
- Adopt a “Carbon First” principle, where governments would consider the carbon footprint of all their procurement and infrastructure spending.
- Change building codes to reflect the exciting new opportunities for taller wood frame buildings.
- Expand the sector's adaptation and mitigation potential through continued funding of research and development including support for research partners such as FPInnovations and the academic sector.
- Provide for tax incentives that would encourage industry's contribution to climate mitigation.
- Promote domestically and internationally how the forest sector is contributing to climate change mitigation to create demand for sustainably produced wood products.

“As Canada transitions to a low-carbon economy, it is imperative that all levels of government - and industry - think big and work together to achieve results”

James Carr, Minister of Natural Resources



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**THE ENTIRE WORLD IS GRAPPLING WITH  
THE URGENT NEED TO ADDRESS CLIMATE  
CHANGE AND CUT CARBON EMISSIONS.  
THIS WILL REQUIRE FRESH IDEAS, BOLD  
CHANGES, AND EXTRAORDINARY WILL.**

**THE CANADIAN FOREST  
PRODUCTS INDUSTRY HAS THE  
DETERMINATION  
AND DRIVE TO DO ITS PART  
BY EMBRACING AN AMBITIOUS  
CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGE.**



## **CANADA'S FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY BY THE NUMBERS**

- Employs more than 230,000; is the lifeblood of much of rural Canada
- Generates \$65 billion/year in economic activity
- Exports to more than 180 countries: is Canada's number one exporter to Asia, including China
- Has invested \$1.5 billion in clean tech innovation over the past five years
- Is one of the largest employers of Aboriginal people



THE FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (FPAC) provides a voice for Canada's wood, pulp, and paper producers nationally and internationally in government, trade, and environmental affairs.