



NEWS RELEASE
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Forestry Graduates Meet The Prince of Wales as they Begin Prestigious International Exchange Program

Mattawa, Ontario – June 11, 2015 – Yesterday four young forestry graduates from Canada and the United Kingdom – recipients of the inaugural Prince of Wales Forest Leadership Award – attended a meeting with His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales at his official London residence, Clarence House. Recognizing the Award as offering valuable learning experience in their early careers, His Royal Highness spoke with the four recipients, personally congratulating them on winning the award.

Click [here](#) to view a photo of His Royal Highness with the four award recipients.

Ross Hobbs and Jacqueline Hamilton of Canada and Keira Tedd and David Johnes of the United Kingdom received their awards in February and have been attending training sessions in the U.K. in advance of their summer internships. The award includes a \$12,000 bursary and an international internship program.

The Prince of Wales Forest Leadership Award is sponsored by TD Bank Group as part of the TD Forests program, and delivered in partnership by the Canadian Institute of Forestry-Institut forestier du Canada (CIF-IFC), the Institute of Chartered Foresters (ICF) and the Duchy of Cornwall. The award recognizes students and recent graduates in Canada and the United Kingdom with a dedication to sustainable forestry and the skills and aptitude to become future forest leaders. The international internship program that accompanies the award will send British participants to Canada for summer work placements in iconic coastal British Columbia, working with Strategic Natural Resource Consultants and in Algonquin Provincial Park with the Algonquin Forestry Authority. Both Canadian participants will intern in the west of England with the forestry consultants, Pryor and Rickett Silviculture, while also spending time learning about the sustainable management of the Duchy of Cornwall's woodlands.

"This is a truly special experience for budding forest professionals to meet with The Prince of Wales, a stalwart supporter and advocate for sustainable forestry globally. I look forward to following the progression of these future forestry leaders who will continue to lead the charge and play an instrumental role in supporting sustainable forestry on an international scale," said Dana Collins, Executive Director of the CIF-IFC.

"Forests are essential to a healthy environment, so we must make it a priority to develop forestry leaders of tomorrow," said Karen Clarke-Whistler, TD's Chief Environment Officer.

"These leaders will have a major role to play in shaping our future as our world becomes more urbanized and the pressure on our existing forest resources increases, especially in our urban and rural centres."



Geraint Richards, the Duchy of Cornwall's Head Forester:

"After many months in the planning I was thrilled to see the first Award recipients in the same room, meeting one another and, of course, meeting His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales. I am sure that all four of these remarkable students will have a memorable summer on their respective placements and that the experiences they gain will be of invaluable benefit as they pursue their forestry careers.'

Russell Horsey, Deputy Director of the ICF commented:

"The UK Forestry sector is thriving, but to keep pace with demand for graduates it is imperative that it nurtures young professionals and provides opportunities for them to learn from international colleagues. The Institute of Chartered Foresters is delighted to be working with the Canadian Institute of Forestry and the Duchy of Cornwall on this special award, which will help to shape the winners' future careers. The opportunity for them to share their passion and discuss their aspirations with HRH The Prince of Wales is a unique experience that these future forest leaders will remember for years to come."

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Notes to Editor

1. The Canadian Institute of Forestry (CIF-IFC) is the national voice of forest practitioners in Canada. The Institute promotes public awareness of Canadian and international forestry issues while promoting sustainability and competency amongst forest professionals. Visit cif-ifc.org.
2. The Duchy of Cornwall is a private estate established by Edward III in 1337 to provide independence to his son and heir, Prince Edward. It funds the public, charitable and private activities of the Prince of Wales and his family. Visit duchyofcornwall.org.
3. The Institute of Chartered Foresters (ICF) is incorporated by Royal Charter as the only professional body in the UK to award Chartered Forester and Chartered Arboriculturist statuses. Full details of how to join the Institute, and routes to professional membership are available on the ICF website: charteredforesters.org.
4. The Prince of Wales Forest Leadership Award is sponsored by TD Bank Group.
5. The Algonquin Forestry Authority (AFA) is the Crown Agency responsible for Sustainable Forest Management in Algonquin Provincial Park, Ontario, Canada. Visit algonquinforestry.on.ca.
6. Strategic Natural Resource Consultants is one of the most highly regarded natural resource consulting firms on the West Coast of British Columbia, Canada. Visit snrc.ca.
7. Pryor and Rickett Silviculture manages around 20,000 hectares of woodland in the UK and specializes in silviculture. Visit silviculture.co.uk

