

Forest Ecology and Climate Change Adaptation – [Professor John Caspersen](#)**Opening: PhD students**

A fully-funded Ph.D. position in forest ecology and climate change adaptation is available and interested candidates may enroll in the Institute of Forestry and Conservation at the University of Toronto or in the Department of Renewable Resources at the University of Alberta. The Ph.D. candidate will participate in an operational-scale silvicultural experiment that will test various “climate-smart” strategies for promoting the resilience of temperate mixed wood forests in the Petawawa Research Forest in central Ontario. The strategies include assisted migration and modifying the partial harvest regime to alter both the size structure and species composition of residual stands. The Ph.D. candidate will assess the growth and survival of transplanted seedlings, examine how performance varies among species and provenances, and determine whether performance varies with residual stand structure. The Ph.D. candidate may also examine the long-term effects of stand structure and species composition on the resilience of forest productivity using retrospective dendrochronological analyses of existing silvicultural experiments at Petawawa.

Qualifications: 1) sincere interest in forest ecology, 2) strong quantitative skills, 3) excellent oral and written communication skills in English.

Applicants should send a letter of enquiry and curriculum vitae to John Caspersen (john.caspersen@utoronto.ca) and Charles Nock (nock@ualberta.ca). Full applications will be solicited and reviewed beginning January 12th, but the positions will remain open until a suitable candidate is selected.

The Ph.D. project is funded by Silva21 and the Petawawa experiment is part of the Adaptive Silviculture for Climate Change network:

<https://www.silva21.com/?lang=en>

<https://www.adaptivesilviculture.org/>

<https://www.adaptivesilviculture.org/project-site/petawawa-research-forest>

The University of Toronto is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from racialized persons / persons of colour, women, Indigenous / Aboriginal People of North America, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ2S+ persons, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.