Position: Indigenous Youth Opportunities Coordinator  
Supervisor: Sr. Manager, Indigenous and Youth Relations  
Location: Flexible within Canada  
Status: Temporary (through March 31, 2021), Full-time, Non-Exempt from Overtime

SFI® Inc. is a sustainability leader that stands for future forests. We are an independent, non-profit organization that provides supply chain assurances, produces conservation outcomes, and supports education and community engagement. SFI works with the forest sector, brand owners, conservation groups, resource professionals, landowners, educators, local communities, Indigenous Peoples, governments, and universities. SFI Inc. is governed by an independent three-chamber board of directors representing environmental, social, and economic sectors equally. Project Learning Tree Canada (PLT Canada), an initiative of SFI, is dedicated to advancing environmental literacy, stewardship, and career pathways using trees and forests as windows on the world.

As the Indigenous Youth Opportunities Coordinator, you will contribute to SFI’s growing array of community engagement and environmental education initiatives. Working collaboratively with other members of SFI’s diverse and multidisciplinary team, you will play an integral role in the development and implementation of programs, resources and initiatives with a specific aim to enhance the number, relevancy and accessibility of opportunities for Indigenous youth in the forest and conservation sectors. You will also support SFI’s Sr. Manager of Indigenous and Youth Relations in fostering positive, respectful relationships with Indigenous Peoples and other SFI Network partners, to ensure that SFI’s programs and initiatives respond to real needs and are delivered in an appropriate and effective manner.

Some of the projects and initiatives you will be working on include:

- Launching the PLT Canada Ambassadors Program
- Helping Indigenous communities access Green Jobs funding to employ local youth
- Supporting Indigenous communities in designing and delivering forest-focused skills training for youth
- Connecting PLT Canada’s Guide to Green Jobs in Canada: Voices of Indigenous Professionals to new audiences
- Facilitating mentorships between Indigenous youth and professionals through the My Green Mentor Program
- Growing SFI & PLT Canada’s National Partnership with the Outland Youth Employment Program
- Celebrating the successes of Indigenous Green Jobs alumni

SFI has a proud history of forest-focused collaboration with Indigenous Peoples across what is now North America. SFI recognizes and respects the rights of Indigenous Peoples and believes our shared quality of life improves when forests are sustainably managed for current and future generations. We take a flexible, respectful approach to relationship building, that helps us to effectively address the issues that matter most to each of our community partners. Every day, we strive to co-create meaningful change, while also listening, learning, and growing as an organization to become the best possible partner we can be. Supporting opportunities for Indigenous youth is an important part of this work.

**ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS:**

1. Support the development and implementation of programs, resources and initiatives with a specific aim to enhance the number, relevancy and accessibility of employment opportunities for Indigenous youth within the forest sector.
2. Advocate for high-quality Indigenous youth employment opportunities within the forest sector and support innovative education and employment initiatives, such as the Outland Youth Employment Program.
3. Elevate and support Indigenous Green Jobs recipients, to promote their continued career growth and encourage more Indigenous youth to get excited about opportunities in the forest sector.
4. Identify and establish mentorship opportunities for Indigenous youth and young professionals in the full spectrum of forest-focused career pathways utilizing both the SFI and PLT Canada networks.
5. Lead the implementation of a Green Jobs Ambassadors Program, designed to promote giving back to one’s own community using the transferrable skills developed through a Green Jobs employment experience.
6. Guide the respectful, culturally-informed integration of Indigenous teachings, perspectives, traditional knowledge and lived realities into PLT Canada’s programming and education materials.

7. Foster Indigenous Relations leadership throughout the SFI Network by developing resources and tools that support meaningful relationship building with Indigenous Peoples at the local and regional levels, and by providing individualized support to SFI Certified Organizations and PLT Canada Green Jobs employers.

8. Support community-based partnerships, projects and initiatives that enhance the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the sustainable forest economy, such as youth education and employment initiatives.

9. Be creative! If you can think of ways to meaningfully grow our relationships with Indigenous Peoples, bring them to the table. This may include the development of programming or access to funding sources to deliver on Indigenous youth employment and education initiatives in partnership with local communities.

10. Support the SFI team in the delivery of other objectives as needed.

QUALIFICATIONS/PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

The ideal candidate will bring:
- Lived experience in distinctions-based relationship building with Indigenous Peoples (First Nation, Inuit, Métis);
- A proven ability to work in an engaging and respectful manner with young people, age 15 to 30;
- A demonstrated ability to work as a member of a team to design and implement community-focused programming, including youth-focused education and employment initiatives;
- The ability to work with a diverse range of partners to develop solutions-focused outcomes using strong interpersonal and communications skills;
- An understanding of Aboriginal and treaty rights as they pertain to forest-based development;
- A drive to generate solutions and proven experience in solving complex problems;
- Strong presentation and language skills, and proven ability to develop written, oral and online communications that are compelling and linked to organizational objectives;
- A positive attitude and high energy;
- Active curiosity and engagement in ongoing learning;
- Ability to manage multiple complex projects in a fast-paced environment, handling tasks with diplomacy, tenacity, patience, attention to detail and a drive for results;
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel, PowerPoint);
- Ability to travel up to 10% of time.

Preference will be given to qualified Indigenous (First Nation, Inuit, Métis) candidates.

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:

- Bachelor’s Degree or higher in Community Development, Indigenous Studies, Education, Forestry, Natural Resources Management or related fields;
- At least three years of experience working with Indigenous communities or organizations in a professional or volunteer capacity;
- Direct experience with forest-based community development is an asset.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for this position, email a resume and cover letter to the attention of Paul Robitaille, Sr. Manager of Indigenous and Youth Relations, at jobs@sfiprogram.org. Subject line should say "Application: Indigenous Youth Opportunities Coordinator". Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

SFI Inc. is proud to provide our employees with a collaborative, dynamic, and rewarding professional experience, with a competitive compensation and benefits package and growth opportunities. We are committed to creating a diverse environment and being an equal opportunity employer. Our team represents a broad range of cultures, education, disciplines, and work and life experiences, and we strive to leverage these differences in our daily work. We will not discriminate against any employee or applicant on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, or any other protected characteristic. We believe in creating an empowered and supportive team that is committed to advancing sustainability through forest-focused collaborations.
SFI PROMOTES INDIGENOUS RIGHTS, RESPECT AND ENGAGEMENT

SFI INVESTS IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY-LED, FOREST FOCUSED INITIATIVES.

SFI HAS PROUDLY PARTNERED WITH AND SUPPORTED 130+ INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES ACROSS CANADA

STANDARDS

Guided by the voices of Indigenous Peoples, the SFI Standard recognizes and respects Indigenous Peoples’ rights and traditional knowledge.

NEARLY 40 INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES and their businesses are certified to the SFI FM Standard

ON OVER 4 MILLION HECTARES of forestland

INNOVATIVE TOOLS FOR CERTIFICATION SUCCESS

SMALL-SCALE MODULE FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

• Economies of scale for forests under 20,000 hectares
• All the rigour of the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard

FOREST PARTNERS PROGRAM

Provides certification-readiness supports, including guidance and consulting services, gap assessments, and audit readiness training

CONSERVATION

GRANTS

Support collaborative partnerships that involve Indigenous communities, SFI Program Participants and/or non-profit organizations.

DIRECTLY INVESTED

$300,000+

IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY-LED PROJECTS

PROJECTS HAVE SUPPORTED:

• Bridging Elders with Youth through Cultural Heritage Resource Assessments
• Culturally Modified Tree Databases and Management Systems
• Post-Harvest Culturally Significant Plant Regeneration
• Understanding Indigenous Forest Sector Employment Opportunities
• Sustainable Management of Culturally Important Species for Traditional Harvesting

SUPPORTING OVER

$2 MILLION

IN LEVERAGED FUNDING
SFI Promotes Indigenous Rights, Respect and Engagement

COMMUNITY

OUTLAND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (OYEP)

JULY 2019 MOU ON INDIGENOUS YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES GROW OYEP’S REACH AND LIFE-CHANGING IMPACTS FOR INDIGENOUS YOUTH

SINCE 2018 PLT CANADA & SFI NETWORKS HAVE CONTRIBUTED APPROXIMATELY $1.5 MILLION TO OYEP

CANADIAN COUNCIL FOR ABORIGINAL BUSINESS (CCAB)

PROUDLY SUPPORTING THE CCAB’S PROGRESSIVE ABORIGINAL RELATIONS PROGRAM

• Promotes continuous growth and innovation through:
  • Leadership Actions
  • Employment
  • Business Development
  • Community Relationships

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

$120,000 INVESTED IN FUNDING TO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PROJECTS THROUGH HUMANITY CANADA’S INDIGENOUS HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

DONATIONS OF SUSTAINABLY SOURCED BUILDING PRODUCTS FROM SFI CERTIFIED COMPANIES ACROSS CANADA

PROUDLY SUPPORT HABITAT GREATER OTTAWA’S INDIGENOUS YOUTH SKILLS BUILDING PROGRAM

EDUCATION

SINCE 2018

300 INDIGENOUS YOUTH PLACED THROUGH GREEN JOBS PROGRAM

FROM OVER 80 INDIGENOUS NATIONS

FREE CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR YOUTH ATTENDANCE AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE AND EVENTS IN THE FORESTRY, PARKS AND CONSERVATION SECTORS COVERS TRAVEL, HOTELS, MEALS AND REGISTRATION

SINCE 2019 HAVE SUPPORTED YOUTH FROM 11 INDIGENOUS NATIONS

PROVIDE INDIGENOUS YOUTH THE TRAINING, SKILLS AND CERTIFICATIONS TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS IN THE GREEN JOBS SECTOR

FLEXIBILITY FOR COMMUNITIES TO DESIGN THE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES THAT BEST MEET THEIR UNIQUE NEEDS

MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

LAUNCHING #MYGREENMENTOR IN 2020

CONNECTING INDIGENOUS YOUTH AND GREEN JOBS PROFESSIONALS

SUPPORT CONTINUED LEARNING AND GROWTH ALONG EACH YOUNG PERSON’S UNIQUE EDUCATION AND CAREER PATHWAY

INVESTING $50,000 IN 2020

GREEN SKILLS TRAINING FOR INDIGENOUS YOUTH

IN car.

$50,000

Gaggi

1