



PLT is an initiative of SFI 

Position: Indigenous Opportunities Intern

Supervisor: Sr. Director, Indigenous & Youth Relations

Location: Flexible within Canada

Status: Fixed Term (through March 31, 2022), Full-time, Non-Exempt from Overtime

At the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Inc. (SFI), we believe that sustainable forests are critical to our collective future. SFI® is a sustainability leader through our work in standards, conservation, community, and education. As an independent, non-profit organization, we collaborate with our diverse network to provide solutions to local and global sustainability challenges. 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) is committed to using the outdoors to engage youth in learning about the world around them—in rural, Indigenous and urban communities—and advancing environmental literacy, stewardship and career pathways using trees and forests as windows on the world. PLT Canada is an initiative of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI). Since 2018, PLT Canada has placed over 3,500 youth into Green Jobs across 12 provinces and territories by supporting over 200 employers in the Sustainable Forestry Initiative and Canadian Parks Council networks. In addition to job placements, we offer a high-quality mentorship program for youth and forest and conservation sector professionals, we provide opportunities for youth to attend networking events and training workshops, and we also offer a wide variety of career resources via our website. In addition to our career programming, we also develop environmental education materials for parents and educators.

As the Indigenous Opportunities Intern, you will support PLT Canada's Sr. Director of Indigenous and Youth Relations in fostering positive, respectful relationships with Indigenous Peoples and other SFI Network partners, to ensure that PLT Canada'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:

- Growing the reach of PLT Canada programs and services among Indigenous communities
- Collecting case studies of innovative employment- and forest-focused collaborations involving Indigenous Peoples, communities, and businesses
- Strengthening forest sector collaborations involving Indigenous Peoples and businesses
- Developing professional development programming for other green professionals

PLT Canada has a proud history of forest-focused collaboration with Indigenous Peoples. PLT Canada 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 implementation of PLT Canada programs, resources, and initiatives that seek to advance forest sector employment opportunities for Indigenous youth and communities, including PLT Canada's Green Jobs Program.
2. Attend meetings and events with PLT Canada's Sr. Director, Indigenous and Youth Relations to provide notetaking and general support.

3. Identify and compile case studies of innovative employment- and forest-focused collaborations involving Indigenous Peoples, communities, and businesses.
4. Support community-based partnerships, projects and initiatives that enhance the participation of Indigenous Peoples in forest-based employment pathways.
5. Contribute to the creation of professional development workshops and resources that enhance Indigenous Relations capacity within the forest, parks, and conservation sectors.
6. Identify new opportunities for youth-focused partnerships through the SFI and PLT Canada networks.
7. Be creative! If you can think of ways to advance forest sector collaborations and opportunities for Indigenous Peoples, bring them to the table.

QUALIFICATIONS/PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

The ideal candidate will bring:

- Lived experience in distinctions-based relationship building with Indigenous Peoples (First Nation, Inuit, Métis);
- Basic technical knowledge and understanding of forest and conservation concepts, including career pathways and sustainable resource management frameworks;
- A demonstrated ability to work as a member of a team to implement community-focused programming, including youth-focused education and employment initiatives;
- Strong independent research and synthesis skills;
- The ability to work with diverse partners using interpersonal and communications skills;
- Strong presentation and language skills, using written, oral and online communications;
- 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.

PREFERRED EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE:

- High-school diploma required, a post-secondary diploma or degree in Community Development, Indigenous Studies, Education, Forestry, Natural Resources Management or related fields is preferred.
- At least one year of experience working with Indigenous youth, communities or organizations in a professional or volunteer capacity required.
- 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. Director of Indigenous and Youth Relations, at careers@forests.org. Subject line should say "Application: Indigenous Opportunities Intern". Applications will be accepted until July 3, 2021, or 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. Learn more about [SFI Staff Culture](#).