



63rd Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting

April 7-9, 2020

Nottawasaga Inn Resort & Conference Centre
Alliston, Ontario

Theme: Our Roots, Our Future

Theme Statement: The OPFA has long roots in professional forestry with right to title in 1957 and regulation as a profession since 2000. Our efforts as professionals have been key in ensuring that the public interest is served and protected and that Ontario's urban and rural forests are well managed for the whole suite of forest values. Our ongoing efforts in the future will help to ensure that our forests continue to be healthy and able to provide the critical ecological services that we all depend on. As the world society moves to address climate change, foresters will play a key role in developing mitigation and adaptation strategies.

By acknowledging the past and recognizing the present, foresters are able to more effectively plan for the future. **This year's conference Our Roots Our Future will have attendees** networking with forestry professionals, friends and students of all ages and exploring how looking back and reflecting on today can help us prepare as a profession for what is to come. Attendees will be delving into climate change and its impact on our rural and urban forests, indigenous history and reconciliation and how it can help inform us in the future, the status of professional forestry in all jurisdictions and the role of technology in **the professions' future.**

Two exciting field tours are planned and will explore:

Urban forestry within the Regional Municipality of York- A hop, skip and jump north of Toronto, this region has both rural and urban characteristics along with a growing

population. This tour will explore how an urban forest can thrive within a growing community.

Forest management in Simcoe County- Consisting of 16 municipalities and 150 forest tracts, this region has benefitted economically, recreationally and socially from sustainable forest management for nearly a century. This tour will explore past successes **and future challenges of Ontario's largest community forest.**

In addition to the conference and tours, the annual OPFA meeting of members will be taking place. As well, a variety of exhibitors will be on hand to provide participants with the opportunity to learn about their programs and products and ample time will be available for connecting with old and new friends.

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