

INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

An Inactive Member:

- Pays annual membership fees (see the [Fee Schedule](#)).
- Is not entitled to practise any aspect of professional forestry, nor represent themselves as able to practise, in either a paid or volunteer capacity.
- Must return their current seal and membership certificate (a new certificate for Inactive Membership will be issued) except those on maternity/paternity leave.
- Is entitled to use the designations: R.P.F. (Non-Practising), Non-Practising Professional Forester, or Associate R.P.F. (Non-Practising) designation provided that it is not used to represent themselves as able to practise any aspect of professional forestry.
- Will continue to receive all member notices and *The Professional Forester* newsletter.
- Is entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting.
- Is not required to report competency information, however, if they wish to return to active membership they will be required to show proof of competency through a record of how they maintained their competency.
- May apply to return to Full Membership. Inactive Members are not entitled to practise until approved for Full Membership. Approval may be subject to requirements deemed necessary by the Registration Committee.
- Must complete the Good Character Declaration annually.
- Can be a Full or Associate Member on maternity/paternity leave. They must be approved for Full Membership before returning to practise.
- If they return after being Inactive for 5 years, but less than 15 years, they will be required to successfully complete the online Bridge Training for Foresters Ontario Forest Policy and Legislative Framework, Module 4 only. If they return after 15 years, Inactive Members will be required to complete Modules 1-4.

To apply for Inactive Membership, you must:

- Be a Full or Associate Member in good standing.
- Have held Full or Associate Membership for at least 12 months.
- Send in a formal request (email is acceptable) to the OPFA stating:
 1. The reason for the change stating what type of work (if any) including volunteer work that you plan to do.
 2. That you understand that you will not be entitled to practise or represent yourself as able to practise.
 3. That if you decide to return to Full or Associate Membership you will be required to provide proof of competency and the best way to do that is by maintaining your competency reporting.
 4. If you return to Full or Associate Membership after 5 years complete the online Bridge Training for Foresters Ontario Forest Policy and Legislative Framework.
- Must pay the Inactive Membership fee and Category Change Fee at the time of the approval of your application (see [Fee Schedule](#)).