



NEWS RELEASE

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UBC forestry student Matthew Shields wins Association of BC Forest Professionals Sustainable Forest Management Award

(Vancouver)—Matthew Shields, a master’s student in the University of British Columbia’s Faculty of Forestry, is the inaugural winner of the Association of BC Forest Professionals Sustainable Forest Management Award.

The award was created in 2016 through a \$30,000 endowment from ForesTrust, the ABCFP’s registered charity. The aim of the endowment is to create an annual scholarship for students enrolled in UBC’s Master of Sustainable Forest Management (MSFM) program.

The award is based on the candidate’s motivation and aptitude for professional forest land management, scholastic ability, leadership potential, as well as financial need, and intention to enroll with the Association of BC Forest Professionals.

UBC’s Master of Sustainable Forest Management program is a nine-month, professional master’s program that prepares students for careers as professional forest land managers in North America and overseas.

“By providing scholarships and bursaries to forestry students through our ForestTrust charity, the Association of BC Forest Professionals is helping support young people who choose to pursue a career in forestry and who will play an important role in continuing to sustainably manage BC’s forests for future generations,” said Christine Gelowitz, RPF and ABCFP CEO.

“Through this endowment the ABCFP and its members are demonstrating their commitment to ensuring that highly qualified and passionate individuals are entering the forestry profession in British Columbia. Students will know that their association is there to welcome and support them during their careers. The Faculty is deeply grateful to the ABCFP for their generosity and to their commitment to the education of our future forest professionals,” said John Inness, Dean of the UBC Faculty of Forestry.

“Forestry allows me to work for communities with new tools at the landscape level. The connections between people and the landscape are vitally important and can be greatly influenced by foresters, thereby helping build healthier communities,” Shields said.

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The Association of BC Forest Professionals is responsible for registering and regulating BC’s professional foresters and forest technologists. It is the largest professional forestry association in Canada.

For more information:

Dean Pelkey, Communications Director
Direct: 604-331-2321; E-mail: dpelkey@abcfp.ca
www.abcfp.ca