

**Ministry of Northern
Development, Mines,
Natural Resources and
Forestry**

Office of the Minister

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**Ministère du
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December 17, 2021

Michael Keel
Trustee, Forestry Futures Trust
RBC Investor Services Trust
michael.keel@rbc.com
and

Ray Riley
Chair
Forestry Futures Trust Committee
chair@forestryfutures.com

Dear Michael Keel and Ray Riley:

Re: Extension of the Forest Genetics Resource Management Purpose and Funding

Pursuant to Section 51(3), paragraph 4 of the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act* (CFSA), I am extending the purpose and the funding of the Forest Genetic Resource Management Program until March 31, 2027. Ontario recognizes that managing and investing in forest genetics assets is a long-term investment that contributes to healthy and resilient forests for the benefit of all Ontarians.

The amount of funding for this purpose is not to exceed \$675,000 per annum, providing \$375,000 in core funding and eligibility for \$300,000 in project funding for five fiscal years ending March 31, 2027.

This purpose will be funded from the Forestry Futures base charge.

Ontario recognizes the key role that its partners: Superior Woods Tree Improvement Association, Northeast Seed Management Association, and the Forest Gene Conservation Association provide, by maintaining Ontario's forest genetic assets, ensuring that genes are conserved and by developing trees that are adapted for future growing environments. Ontario continues its long-standing support for forest genetic resource management, and benefits from the activities that manage and conserve this genetic diversity. All of these activities contribute to the CFSA purpose of providing for the sustainability of Ontario's Crown forests.

Thank you again for your feedback on the proposed amendments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Rickford". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Greg" and last name "Rickford" clearly distinguishable.

The Honourable Greg Rickford
Minister of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry

c: Paul Charette, Superior Woods Tree Improvement Association
(pcharret@lakeheadu.ca)
Jeff Barton, Northeast Seed Management Association
(nesmagenmgr@gmail.com)
Kerry McLaven, Forest Gene Conservation Association (kmclaven@fgca.net)