



National Aboriginal Forestry Association (NAFA)

Advancing the Indigenous Forest Sector since 1991

Position Profile

Senior Policy Advisor - *A hands-on visionary thinker of Indigenous descent is being sought to advance the role of Indigenous peoples in the forest sector.*

THE ORGANIZATION

The National Aboriginal Forestry Association (NAFA) is a non-profit, non-governmental, First Nation controlled organization, established in 1991, to promote increased Aboriginal participation in forest management and related commercial opportunities (primary objective and mission statement). One of the original, non-political, technical National Indigenous Organizations, NAFA was formed in anticipation of the forest sector becoming the cornerstone for economic and social development for many First Nation and Aboriginal communities throughout Canada. NAFA is a membership based grass roots initiative backed by First Nations and other Aboriginal groups, organizations, and enterprises that function in the Indigenous Forest Sector. NAFA initiatives and projects cover a broad range of forest-related issues through involvement in various research and policy processes established at local, regional, provincial, national and international levels. NAFA's work can be grouped into three broad areas of ongoing activity: 1) research and advocacy, 2) capacity and institutional development, and 3) business development support. To the extent possible, joint initiatives with First Nations, international Indigenous Peoples, and related parties active in the Indigenous Forest Sector are focused on.

THE POSITION

Reporting to the Executive Director, the Senior Policy Advisor will provide energy, vision and professional guidance to the association and to organizations within the Indigenous Forest Sector. The work is highly complex requiring a high degree of sensitivity and diplomacy in establishing and maintaining effective relations with various levels of government, the forest industry, non-governmental organizations, research institutes and other players in the forest sector, with a view to advancing the policy and institutional environment for Indigenous forest-based development.

NAFA is Canada's national Indigenous forest sector voice. Over 80% of First Nations are found in the forest, holding over 19.4 million cubic metres of annual allowable cut in aggregate. Driving performance with these nations through Free, Prior and Informed Consent can create over 5,100 new jobs and over \$2.4 billion in additional GDP, while protecting the environment and respecting culture.

The Senior Policy Advisor will play a key role in developing and managing policy research projects and contributing to governmental and non-governmental policy development processes. This will require ongoing analysis of developments within the forest sector and their impact on Indigenous communities and their forest values.

Generally, duties will include research, analysis, planning and policy development, developing project reports and participating in project negotiations; data collection in relation to the projects; monitoring, assessment and reporting; some office duties, organization of information dissemination activities through workshops, conferences and publications; developing material for social media, and related research and advocacy tasks.

QUALIFICATIONS

The successful candidate will possess:

- an undergraduate and/or graduate level of educational achievement in a discipline related to natural resources management, public policy, and demonstrated senior research and management capabilities.
- a thorough knowledge of Indigenous issues and relationships within Canadian society, along with lived understandings of Indigenous environmental and cultural concerns, and socio-economic aspirations.
- knowledge of the forest sector, principles of sustainable development, and federal government decision-making processes.
- proven depth with projects & research, advocacy and promotion, and written and oral communications and presentation skills.
- an ability to facilitate relations among, governmental and non-governmental organizations, the private sector, educational and research institutions.
- highly developed analytical and communication skills.

A flexible work/life balance in a stimulating but supportive environment is assured. Specific job tasks will be mutually designed, annually. A compensation package commensurate with education and experience is available. For this nationally based position, work location is negotiable with western, eastern, and national capital regions subject to discussion. All responses, including a letter format expression of interest and curriculum vitae should be sent, via email only (nafa@web.ca), with *Senior Policy Advisor position* in subject line, to the Executive Director, National Aboriginal Forestry Association (NAFA), 1608 Mishomis Inamo, Pikwakanagan, ON K0J 1X0; Tel: (613) 233-5563.

Applications will be accepted until August 21, 2022 with on-boarding beginning September 1, 2022. The position will remain open until filled. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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