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2024–2025

Conferences presented from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

# CFS-LFC lectures

Canadian Forest Service - Laurentian Forestry Centre

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## Investigating the impacts of forestry certification for the advancement of Indigenous rights: The case of the Forest Stewardship Council (The webinar will be in English)

Forestry certification is widely considered to be a driver of change in the field of forest management. Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), the certification system examined in this presentation, has been particularly recognized for its commitment to the protection of Indigenous rights. In recent years, FSC has renewed its efforts, through the adoption of the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), which is aligned with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. FPIC is present in the revised FSC standard and has been the focus of significant policy development within FSC circles. This presentation will look at the outcomes of this shift within FSC, comparing the jurisdictions of Canada and Sweden. The first part of the presentation will focus on the process of standard development and the dynamics of negotiating a shared interpretation of FPIC. The second part will present findings from two studies looking at early implementation of FPIC on the ground and what this means for the enhancement of Indigenous rights. This research allows us to take stock of how FSC certification is influencing forest management practices, and the specific institutional arrangements which characterize relationships between Indigenous nations and forestry companies.



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