

MAYOR PASCAL CLOUTIER HONOURED AS COMMUNITY CHAMPION BY CANADA'S FOREST PRODUCTS SECTOR

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Vancouver, BC – Earlier today, Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC) hosted its annual *Awards of Excellence* luncheon in Vancouver where Dolbeau-Mistassini, Québec Mayor Pascal Cloutier was recognized as a 2019 *Forest Community Champion*.



FPAC hosts this annual event to recognize excellence in the sector and to honour the achievements of our workers and community parters. The Forest Community Champion award is presented to a leader who demonstrates support for the forestry sector and its contributions to Canada's environmental and economic priorities. "Sustainable resource

development and land use planning pose complex challenges that require thoughtful consideration and community support," said FPAC President and CEO Derek Nighbor. "Mayor Cloutier has demonstrated a real commitment to finding solutions that address the interests of his community and region, and we applaud his engagement and leadership," added Nighbor.

Mayor Cloutier is a leading voice in his community on the issue of sustainable harvesting and a strong supporter for forestry workers and their families. He has demonstrated leadership in seeking out thoughtful solutions to support caribou recovery in his region, while also calling for governments to ensure local community input is incorporated into recovery plans. Mayor Cloutier was also a key contributor to FPAC's September 2018, Forest Sector Contributions to Woodland Caribou Recovery Report. "Over the last 10 years, a big part of my work has been dedicated to the future of forest-based communities like my own," said Cloutier. "I have never worked for the purpose of gaining personal benefits or recognition; but it is with great pride that I receive this award as a token of appreciation



In 1997, Mayor Cloutier was hired as a millwright at the Dolbeau-Mistassini paper mill and became president of the plant's labour union in 2009. When the plant closed down that same year, he played a key role in the process leading to the plant's re-opening in 2012. The next year, he became a municipal councillor in Dolbeau-Mistassini, and was elected mayor in 2017.

Last year, Mayor Cloutier became president of the *Alliance forêt boréale*, an organization dedicated to promoting the sustainable harvesting of the boreal forest and its natural resources.

To see the full list of FPAC Award recipients, please visit http://www.fpac.ca/canadas-forest-sector-celebrates-its-best-and-brightest-in-vancouver.

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FPAC provides a voice for Canada's wood, pulp, and paper producers nationally and internationally in government, trade, and environmental affairs. The \$69-billion-a-year forest products industry represents 2% of Canada's GDP and is one of Canada's largest employers operating in more than 600 communities and providing 230,000 direct jobs across the country.

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