



COMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND THE FOREST INDUSTRY
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BUILDING THE FUTURE WITH FORESTS

Ms. Kathy Abusow



Kathy Abusow is President and CEO of SFI Inc., a non-profit sustainability leader dedicated to future forests. SFI works at the intersection of responsible purchasing of forest products, elevating the conservation value of managed forests, and engaging diverse communities to promote sustainability.

Under Kathy's leadership, forests certified to the SFI® Forest Management Standard have grown to more than a 300 million acres/120 million hectares across public and private lands from Canada's Boreal to the US South.

Since joining SFI, Kathy has led the development of several signature programs including:

- The SFI Forest Partners® Program, which is composed of National Geographic, Meredith, Macmillan Publishers, Pearson, Hearst Enterprises and Boy Scouts of America, and is investing in the future of our forests by making multi-year commitments to increase certification throughout the forest supply chain.
- The SFI Conservation and Community Grants Program which has, together with leveraged funds from partners, invested \$14 million in forest research in collaboration with conservation and community groups;
- Acquiring Project Learning Tree (PLT), an award-winning education program which educates teachers and youth about forests and the environment, as well as establishing PLT Canada, a non-profit that will grow future forest and conservation leaders through environmental education and a green jobs initiative.

Kathy has led, moderated, and spoken at well-respected international forums including the Greenbuild International Conference "Women in Green Power breakfast in DC", the Economist's World Forest Summit in Stockholm, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Fortune Brainstorm Green, and at TEDxWilmington where she gave a talk called [Be a Forest Hugger](#).