

Speaker Biographies

Erin Bremner

2025 Provincial and Central Woodland Owner of the Year Winner

Erin Bremner's connection to the land began early, as the 8th generation growing up on her family's farm and woodlot, where she developed a deep appreciation for forests, wildlife, and the importance of responsible stewardship. Those early experiences shaped both her personal values and professional path.

With a background in environmental and natural resource sciences, Erin has spent the last 30 years building her career around conservation and sustainable resource management. She is passionate about finding practical ways to balance ecological health with responsible use, ensuring that working landscapes can continue to support both communities and the environment for generations to come.

Today, Erin represents her family's woodlot with pride, carrying forward the legacy of care and stewardship instilled by her father, Jim Bremner. It is in his memory, and in recognition of that shared commitment to the land, that she accepts the Woodland Owner of the Year award.

Ryan Dickie

Forest Operations Coordinator, Family Forest Network
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Ryan graduated from the Natural Resources Environmental Technology program at NSCC in 2009. Out of school, he worked for a contractor doing quality control on planting sites, layout and also running saws on both PCT and harvesting sites. In 2012 he went out on his own as a silviculture contractor doing PCT work for private landowners and local mills. During the "off" season for silviculture he also logged with chainsaw and skidder and wrote management plans. Ryan worked at this full time until 2016 and has continued to take on work part-time to this day.

In 2016 Ryan began work as a harvesting and silviculture supervisor for a large mill in Central NS. While his passion is and always will be working with small private landowners, the experience and knowledge he gained in this position was invaluable. He stayed in this role for 2 years and then returned to working with small private landowners again. In 2019, with a baby on the way and much uncertainty in the forest industry, he took a job as a construction foreman that lasted 3 years. While he still did some part-time work through his own business, he always knew he would go back to full time employment in the forest sector. He had a few opportunities over the years and is very happy to have waited until his current role came along. Ryan currently resides in Elmsdale with his partner Becca, their son Everett, Polo their dog and Houdini the hamster. Along with his 2 brothers and parents, he stewards approximately 100 hectares of woodland in East Stewiacke.

Kari Easthouse, MScF.

Forest Analyst, Kari Easthouse Resource Consulting

Kari Easthouse is a forester from Cape Breton with close to 30 years of experience in the forest industry. Throughout his career Kari has focused on supporting sustainable forest management through the application of innovative technology solutions. Over the course of his career Kari has worked with Stora Enso, NSLFFPA, the Cape Breton Privateland Partnership, and most recently was the Director of Client Services for Remsoft Ltd. Specializing in remote sensing, forest modelling and growth and yield, Kari is a co-founder of Loupra, and also works as an independent Forest Analyst, providing technology and management planning services to a wide range of clients throughout the Atlantic Provinces. Kari also raises grass fed beef and lamb on his family farm and woodlot in Roberta.

Paul Gilbert

Association for Sustainable Forestry
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Paul has mostly worked for industry since Ranger School. Having the opportunity to have worked for over thirty years with Stora/PHP and Northern Pulp. After the shut down of Northern Pulp he worked for JD Irving until Hurricane Fiona. Paul then had the opportunity to join David Sutherland and Ed MacLean at the ASF helping coordinate the Fiona Woodlot Assistance Program. Paul can be found biking with Sarah and enjoying their granddaughter in his spare time.

Jennika Hunsinger, RPF

Stewardship Coordinator, Nova Scotia Working Woodlands Trust
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Originally from Ontario, Jennika grew up hiking and exploring the old-growth cedars in the Niagara Escarpment near her hometown. With family ties to Nova Scotia, she eagerly moved east to study Environmental Science at Dalhousie University. While completing a Master's in Forest Conservation at the University of Toronto, she joined the Medway Community Forest Co-op in 2019 as a research intern, where she developed a baseline biodiversity study. Jennika is a registered professional forester and avid birder, always happy to spend time in the woods.

Mike Jodrey, ICIA

Senior Partner, Jodrey & Company Ltd.
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Michael Jodrey is the senior partner of Jodrey and Company Limited, a small business accounting and tax advisory firm in Shubenacadie Nova Scotia and serves on the board of both Conform Ltd and the Guild of Industrial Commercial and Institutional Accountants.

Jodrey has provided accounting and tax services to both businesses and individuals for more than 30 years. Because his accounting firm is in rural Nova Scotia, many of his clients are in or connected to the forest industry including many private woodlot owners.

Jodrey's interest goes beyond the business of assisting woodlot owners with tax and estate issues, he also owns and operates a small hobby farm with a 300 plus acre woodlot in Carrolls Corner, and has just completed rebuilding an old Foley Belsaw small sawmill for personal use.

Caitlin McCavour

PhD student, Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture
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Caitlin McCavour is a PhD student in Soil Science at the Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture. She completed her undergraduate degree in Environmental Science at Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture, followed by a Master's at Dalhousie University, where she studied the response of soil and plant tissue to liming in two acidified forest stands in Nova Scotia. Caitlin spent three years as a provincial soil specialist in agriculture, conducting extension work and contributing to federal and provincial research programs. In addition to her experience in agriculture and forestry, she has also worked in wetland restoration. Passionate about the intersection of soil science and land management, she is now developing a forest soil health and extension framework for Nova Scotia's private woodlot owners.

Jaimee Morozoff

Director of Conservation, Nova Scotia Nature Trust
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Jaimee Morozoff (More-Oh-Zoff) grew up in the woods of northern Manitoba and now calls Nova Scotia home. As Director of Conservation with the Nova Scotia Nature Trust, she works alongside landowners and communities to protect and care for private lands. She brings 20 years of experience and a practical, collaborative approach to keeping forests and working landscapes healthy.

Jesse Moura, MScF.

Innovation and Technology Lead, ACFOR Inc.

Jesse Moura is the Innovation and Technology Lead at ACFOR Inc., with a background in forestry, analytics, and performance engineering. Originally trained as a Forest Engineer in Brazil, he holds a Master of Science in Forestry from the University of New Brunswick. Prior to joining ACFOR, Jesse spent nearly four years at Remsoft, advancing to Lead Analyst and Performance Engineer, where he supported forest management planning and system performance. He is also a co-founder of Loupra Technologies and is passionate about leveraging innovation and data-driven solutions to advance sustainable forest management and strengthen resilient woodlot operations.

Lori Phinney

Species at Risk Program Coordinator, Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute
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Lori Phinney is the Species at Risk Program Coordinator with the Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute. She grew up in Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley and studied biology at Acadia University and the University of Waterloo. Lori has worked with MTRI since 2016 on biodiversity conservation projects involving species such as bats, snakes, and turtles. She currently leads MTRI's bat conservation program, which focuses on research, monitoring, and public education across Nova Scotia.

Dale Prest, MSc.

CEO, Growing Forests
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Dale comes from a family with a long history of forestry and sawmilling on the Eastern Shore. In his own career, Dale has worked to integrate carbon markets into the economic framework of forest management. At Growing Forests, Dale's work offers landowners struggling with succession a new option to see their legacy of forest stewardship continue. Owned by almost 100 people across the Province, Growing Forests uses carbon markets to help finance the acquisition of private forests at fair market value. With the cost of the woodlots largely covered Growing Forests is able to manage the forests carefully and patiently, increasing the carbon stored within and improving the ecological health of the forests. Growing Forests has developed the first forest carbon offset project in the Maritimes.

Lynsay Spafford, PhD

Postdoctoral Researcher, Forestry and Environmental Management, UNB
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Lynsay completed her Ph.D. in Environmental Science at the Memorial University of Newfoundland (2023), and B.Sc.Hons. in Environmental Sciences at St. Francis Xavier University (2017). She has worked as a Research Consultant for the Swiss Federal Institute of Forest, Snow, and Landscape Research, and also as a technician for the e-phenology lab in Universidade Estadual Paulista in Brazil. During her PhD, Lynsay collaborated to establish and expand the Acadian Phenocam Network across the Maritimes, tracking dynamic climate change impacts to forest ecology. As a postdoc researcher managing the Acadian Phenocam Network, Lynsay has expanded this network and enhanced its monitoring capacity to include radial growth. Lynsay has also developed a new cost-effective tool for tracking vertical growth. Her work aims to track and anticipate the impacts of climate change on forest health and climate change mitigation potential. In her free time, Lynsay enjoys playing fiddle, spending time outdoors, baking, and travelling.