



WILDFIRE &  
CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
CONFERENCE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **WILDFIRE AND CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE**

*Ecosystem Resiliency, Community Protection & Landscape Level Management*

**Nelson, BC** will see presenters coming from as far away as Oregon and New Mexico **on June 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, 2018** for a conference organized by the Slocan Integral Forestry Cooperative (SIFCo), the community forest based out of the Slocan Valley, to learn more about local, national and international actions being taken to address the growing challenges associated with wildfire and climate change.

"Wildfire and climate change are new realities, ones that could have a dramatic impact on our life's. Addressing these issues need a multi-level approach and coming together locally with expect from across North-America to share knowledge, learn from each other and create a blue print for action locally is of utmost importance" says Stephan Martineau Manager SIFCO

Conference attendees will hear about the latest scientific research and initiatives from the Kootenays and from the international arena on climate change, wildfire behavior and why this leads us toward an urgent need to take action at a landscape scale to create a more resilient ecosystem. Given the scope of the challenge, we will present the need for community emergency preparedness and steps residents can take to best be prepared for wildfires.

Day one and two of this conference will have multiple keynote presentations delivered to all of the attendees and throughout these two exciting and packed days attendees will be divided into two streams of presentations. The first stream will be targeted at licensees working in forestry and the second at community members and local decision makers.

The final day of the conference will be a workshop for all attendees, who will break off into the community and licensee streams. Licensees will participate in a half-day workshop that will focus on wildfire impacts from the forestry/ industry perspective. After this workshop licensees will go on a field trip to the SIFCo community forest to look at different Wildfire Urban Interface treatment sites and to carry on the conversations. Community members will also participate in a morning session focusing on barriers to community fire management and end this day with a site visit to learn hands on about best practices they can implement in their communities and on their private land.

#### **The Wildfire and Climate Change Conference Team**

*If you would like more information, want to sponsor this event or would like to be an exhibitor please get in touch with Avery Deboer-Smith by phone at 250-777-3858 or by email at [kootenaywildfire@gmail.com](mailto:kootenaywildfire@gmail.com). To register for the conference as a licensee or community member, please visit the conference website at [www.kootenaywildfire.ca](http://www.kootenaywildfire.ca).*

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