




# Economic Opportunity through Investment in Canada's Bio-Economy

The newly formed Bio-Pathways Partnership Network, facilitated by FPAC and led by industry, provides a forum for member companies to meet, partner on initiatives of common benefit, and exchange knowledge and contacts.

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 Bio-pathways Partnership Network



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 Forest Products Association of Canada

Canada's forest products industry has positioned itself to be a vital part of the global bio-economy. Occurring on the heels of Canada's rich history in timber harvesting and forest product manufacturing, this new era in forest products is defined by new ways

There is a global bio-market opportunity of \$200 billion.

of maximizing what comes out of the forest, and profound developments in the use of forest waste. The common link: sustainable and economically viable results.

## BOLD MOVES FROM A WORLD LEADER IN FOREST PRODUCTS

Canada has been a world leader in the traditional forest products market for decades, mainly due to our vast wealth of natural resources, a powerful infrastructure that supports every stage from cutting to shipping, and extensive technological know-how. Canada's forest sector has served the world, leading to annual revenues of \$57 billion in 2010. The industry has also made major strides in "green" practices by extracting greater value from every tree and ensuring the sustainable use of renewable resources.

## SUSTAINABILITY—THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC WATCHWORD

Long-term sustainability requires a watchful eye on the development of new technologies and partnerships. This approach will

allow the industry to be true to its values of sustainable forest management by utilizing more from every tree harvested. It also means re-purposing existing facilities and equipment with the latest technology to meet new market demands. Already, a game-changing transformation has occurred, with early successes in the use of wood fibre for bio-energy, the production of bio-chemicals, and development of new and improved bio-materials.

The findings of the recently completed Future Bio-Pathways Project show that tremendous untapped potential exists for the industry. Notable areas include cross-laminated timber (CLT), veneer strand lumber (VSL), synthetic hydrocarbons, lignin-based products, and integration of bio-energy and bio-chemical product streams with conventional wood product operations.

## SOUND REASONS FOR INVESTMENT

Investment will ensure that the Canadian forest products industry capitalizes on the opportunity to transform itself from its traditional roots to an era in which the value from every tree is maximized, creating energy and products that range from food to aircraft, from polymers to cosmetics.

Investment in the Canadian forest products industry means a low-tax advantage and the type of return on investment that comes from blending the resources and infrastructure of a traditional sector with innovation, environmental leadership, and economic foresight.

