

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Crash of Ethiopian Airlines Flight 302 in Ethiopia
Death of Canadian Peter deMarsh**

Longueuil, March 11th, 2019. – Members of the Canadian Federation of Woodlots Owners were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Peter deMarsh, from New Brunswick, in the tragic plane crash in Ethiopia. Peter deMarsh was the Chair of this Canadian network of provincial associations of forest owners and Chair of the International Family Forestry Alliance.

For decades, Peter deMarsh was known to public authorities as the embodiment of the private woodlot owner striving to contribute to the vitality and dynamism of his rural community through sustainable timber and agricultural production. His representation for the rights of over 455,000 woodlot owners across Canada will be sorely missed.

Strongly believing that the tens of millions of woodlot owners around the world all share a similar reality and experiences, deMarsh worked all his life to convince them to act collectively in organizations to promote their interests and share learnings. Consequently, he served as Manager of the York Sunbury Charlotte Forest Products Marketing Board in New Brunswick between 1972 and 1988. In 1988 he went to work for the NB Federation of Woodlot Owners, which he helped to found in 1976. He continued this work by cofounding the Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners in 1989 and participated actively in the establishment of the International Family Forest Alliance to make the voices of woodlot owners heard in national and international forums.

A humble man, whose wisdom was nonetheless recognized by everyone who knew him, Peter deMarsh was an exceptional human being, a mentor and friend beloved by his colleagues.

About the Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners

The Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners (CFWO) is a national federation of provincial woodlot owner associations, representing 455,000 families across the country. It promotes the sustainable management of forest resources to ensure that they continue to provide economic, social and environmental benefits in rural communities across Canada. CFWO member organizations include the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations, Woodlot Association of Alberta, Woodlot Association of Manitoba, Ontario Woodlot Association, Fédération des producteurs forestiers du Québec, New Brunswick Federation of Woodlot Owners, Federation of Nova Scotia Woodland Owners and PEI Woodlot Owners Association. The organization's website is www.cfw-fcpb.org.

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