Lakehead University is seeking their next Dean of Natural Resources Management to lead the Faculty through a period of renewal and revitalization, as the Faculty reimagines its vision and broadens its interdisciplinary work to support a balanced view of sustainable ecosystem management.

Lakehead University, recently recognized in the Top 100 of Times Higher Education Impact Rankings, is an innovative comprehensive university that provides an education that is about how to think, not what to think. Closely tied to that enterprising spirit is a deep connection to place. Lakehead is committed to making a difference in the communities it serves, developing a broader understanding of societal issues, and inspiring action for thoughtful, positive change. Lakehead University is also committed to the success of their Indigenous learners and to their relationships with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples based on the principles of mutual trust, respect, reciprocity, and collaboration in the spirit of reconciliation. Lakehead University acknowledges the history that many nations hold in the areas around its two campuses.

Lakehead University has just under 10,000 full-time equivalent students and 2,000 faculty and staff in ten faculties at two campuses in Orillia and Thunder Bay, Ontario. Maclean’s 2022 University Rankings place Lakehead University among Canada’s Top 10 primarily undergraduate universities and second in Ontario among primarily undergraduate institutions. Lakehead has a reputation for innovative programs and cutting-edge research and offers a variety of degree and diploma programs at the undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral levels.

The Faculty of Natural Resources Management replaced the Lakehead’s School of Forestry in 1994. The Forestry degree was among Lakehead University’s first degree programs at its founding in 1965. Today, there are two undergraduate degrees in the Faculty, the HBScF (Honours Bachelor of Science in Forestry) and the HBEM (Honours Bachelor of Environmental Management), as well as three graduate degrees, MScF, MEM and PhD in Forest Sciences. The Faculty aims to carry on program expansion into distributed learning (distance education) and international joint degrees. The Faculty’s professional programs are designed to offer a balanced view of sustainable ecosystem management with regard to the many social, economic, and environmental challenges which face us now and into the future. While the Faculty is located in the midst of Canada’s vast boreal forest, they are also cognizant of the need to make their students and future resource practitioners aware of stewardship on a global scale. The Faculty believes in the responsibility to be connected with the community it serves; these include Indigenous Peoples, environmental groups, natural resources industries, varying levels of government, and citizens at large.

Reporting to the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), the Dean of Natural Resources Management provides visionary strategic direction, academic planning leadership, and administrative oversight of the Faculty. The Dean is the chief academic and operating leader and is responsible for all academic, administrative and operational activities of the Faculty. Providing dynamic leadership, the Dean leads in the areas of student, faculty and staff matters, academic programs and research, fiscal and resource stewardship, budgeting, internal and external relations, and strategic planning within the Faculty. The Dean is accountable for ensuring the academic quality and integrity of the Faculty and for program quality and accreditation. The Dean fosters a supportive and collegial culture.
that invites diverse ideas and perspectives, and reflects a commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion.

The ideal candidate will have a PhD in a relevant discipline and will be an accomplished scholar and administrator who has demonstrated excellence in education and in research. With proven academic leadership experience and a record of building strong teams and engaging with the community, the new Dean will possess an open and collegial style, a creative approach to problem solving, and outstanding management, communication, and interpersonal skills.

As the ideal candidate, you are a committed, innovative and engaging leader, inspiring and fostering new approaches to cross-disciplinary curriculum development with the goal of providing students opportunities to experience scholarly expertise and unique learning experiences. You are a passionate and dynamic communicator who effectively builds long-term, sustainable relationships with regional, national, and international partners. You are an effective administrator, listener, and decision-maker with a passion in this field. You are committed to making a significant contribution to the communities that the University serves, and to the society at large, through the Faculty’s programs, research, and the wide range of activities undertaken by faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

If you are interested in this opportunity at an organization that is committed to making a difference in the communities it serves, please apply online at www.kbrs.ca/career/15461. For more information, contact Katherine Frank (kfrank@kbrs.ca) or Lauren Wright (lwright@kbrs.ca).

Lakehead University is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive environment and welcomes applications from all qualified individuals including women, racialized persons, Indigenous people, persons with disabilities and other equity-seeking groups. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority.

KBRS will provide support in the recruitment processes to applicants with disabilities, including accommodation that takes into account an applicant’s accessibility needs. If you require accommodation in order to participate as a candidate in the recruitment process, please contact accommodate@kbrs.ca.