

# Strategic Direction

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April 2020 —  
March 2025



# INTRODUCTION

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## Our Vision

A genetically diverse, resilient forested landscape in Southern Ontario that supports healthy ecosystems, healthy people and a healthy economy.

## Our Mission

To ensure that genetic diversity is recognized and protected as the foundation of a resilient forested landscape.

## Our Goal

To assist forest practitioners to conserve the genetic diversity of southern Ontario forests, by implementing 4 strategies:

### Species Conservation

Implementing recovery programs for at risk woody plant species

### Climate Change Adaptation

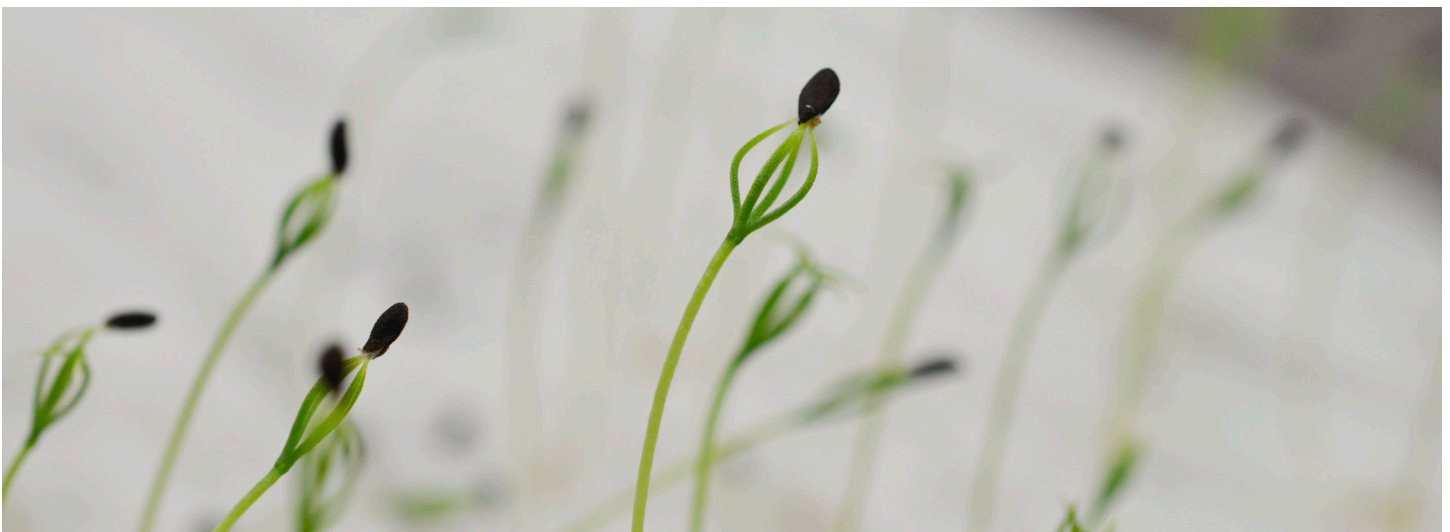
Providing strategic forest management advice and facilitating assisted migration

### Seed Management Expertise

Ensuring the supply and use of high-quality, locally adapted woody plant seed

### Education and Advocacy

Increasing awareness and expertise in forest genetic management principles and practices





# GUIDING PRINCIPLES

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Our Goal and four Strategies reflect both short and long-term opportunities and challenges. In particular, climate change is a lens through which we must view all our strategies. Additionally, in the next five years we will follow four guiding principles:

## **Gene Conservation**

We must conserve the diversity of adapted genes in our native woody plant species, that have the evolutionary capacity to keep our forests and our society resilient.

## **Communication and Partnership**

Communication and partnership with Ontario's forest management and conservation groups will help ensure basic gene conservation principles are in play.

## **Adaptive Management**

Adaptive Management is decision-making in the face of uncertainty based on monitoring human and eco-systems. It is essential to address the increasingly uncertain effects of climate change, invasive species and unforeseen threats.

## **One Forest**

Gene conservation is essential to the resilience of all forests across the Ontario landscape — large and small; urban and rural; private and public.



# OUR GOAL

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To assist forest practitioners to conserve the genetic diversity of southern Ontario forests.



FGCA will work with forest practitioners active in the following sectors — whether individual landowners or professionals, associations, agencies, industry or government — whose actions directly and indirectly affect the genetic diversity of southern Ontario's forests:

**Forest Conservation Sector**  
**Forest Restoration Sector**  
**Forest Management Sector**

**Research and Science Sector**  
**Forest and Land use policy makers**  
**Forest Associations**

For the full copy of the FGCA Strategic Direction April 2020 to March 2025  
please contact [kmclaven@fgca.net](mailto:kmclaven@fgca.net)