

# Dear Teachers,

We would like to start by expressing our sincere gratitude for everything you do to spark interest and wonder in the minds of our youth. Your hard work does not go unnoticed. Thank you.



## Introducing Boris

During National Forest Week, we are excited to present you and your students with the first unveiling of Boris the Spruce Tree. Your students are special. They get to learn about Boris before anyone else.

On October 9, Boris' full interactive online videos will be released and available on our website. At which time, everyone can join Boris on his adventures through the boreal. Expect everything from amazing learning opportunities from local professionals to visiting a real bear den and taking a helicopter ride.

**We hope you'll do the following to further spark student interest in our forests:**



- 1.** Please show students the sneak peek 1-minute introduction video this week. Here's the link: [www.tinyurl.com/Boris-Coming-Soon](http://www.tinyurl.com/Boris-Coming-Soon)
- 2.** Please give each student a set of pencil crayons, the colouring page, two Boris stickers, one Forest Capital of Canada sticker, and the "Ask Boris Anything" postcard, which can be mailed.
- 3.** Please provide students with classroom time to colour the Boris colouring page and fill out the "Ask Boris Anything" postcard.

➔ *If you're able to take photos of the finished colouring pages and send them to [info@fcc2024.com](mailto:info@fcc2024.com), we would love to share them on social media.*

## Background

The Mackenzie Region of Alberta was crowned the Forest Capital of Canada (FCC) 2024 by the Canadian Institute of Forestry. This award has been given out since 1979, and it helps us all recognize the valuable role forests play in the health of our communities.

As you may know, the Mackenzie Region is 80,000 km<sup>2</sup>—larger than New Brunswick—and much of our land is covered by the boreal forest. And, over 70% of the region's citizens are involved with, rely on or work in the forest in some capacity.

As a local volunteer board, FCC 2024 has been hosting and sponsoring events, contests, and initiatives since January.

## Questions and Feedback

Thank you for your help as we begin to spread this amazing content locally and beyond. We invite questions and feedback at any time. Please don't hesitate to contact us. We can be reached at [info@fcc2024.com](mailto:info@fcc2024.com)