We have a message to share with you!
In some parts of the world, it’s hard to grow your own vegetables.

"Seals, caribou and other animals provide food in remote communities where store-bought supplies are very expensive - if they are available at all. Furs from these animals provide income that northern hunters need to maintain their independence and a unique, land-based culture."

Mary Sillett, president, Inuit Tapirisat of Canada

“We do not just sell beaver furs, we also use the meat and medicines the beaver provides. The fur trade helps us maintain our independence and our Aboriginal traditions; it is part of our relationship with the land.”

Edward Gilpin Jr., president, Cree Trappers Association, Eastmain, James Bay (Quebec)

Practicing Conservationists

Responsible Stewardship of the Land

"You won’t often see trappers on the evening news; they don’t look for media attention. But they are our "eyes and ears" on the land - the first to sound the alarm when nature is threatened by pollution or other habitat destruction."

Bob Carmichael, Chief of Game and Fur Management, Manitoba, Dept. of Natural Resources

When you live close to the land, nothing is wasted. Muskrat stew and roast beaver provide healthy food for many Canadian families who get their groceries from the wild. The sale of furs generates important income for families who rely on seasonal employment. Trappers often live on land used by their families for generations; they have a direct interest in maintaining abundant wildlife and natural habitat for the future.
Farmed mink and foxes are fed from leftovers from our own food processing industries. In addition to fur, these animals provide fine oils for skin care and leathers, organic fertilizers and other useful goods while generating income for thousands of farm families.

Eco Logical!

A well-made fur coat is kept for many years... and fur can be remodelled as fashions change.

Regulated trapping can help keep wildlife populations stable and healthy.

Sustainable wildlife use helps protect natural habitat and reduce the potential for suffering caused by disease, starvation and habitat destruction.
Respect for the Diversity of People and Cultures

The fur trade includes thousands of independent, family-run businesses: trappers, fur farmers, designers, expert craftspeople, and retail furriers. They maintain traditional skills and knowledge that have been passed down through generations.

Respect for the Land

The fur trade is a responsible industry based on the sustainable use of renewable natural resources. No endangered species may ever be used and strict regulations ensure that the species we do use will remain abundant. The fur trade abides by the principles of "sustainable use" promoted by the World Conservation Strategy (WCS).

Respect for Wildlife

The Fur Institute of Canada's trap research and development program has provided the scientific basis for international humane trapping standards that have been adopted by the major fur producing nations.

There are as many beavers and muskrats in North America now as when Europeans first arrived on the continent. Raccoons, coyotes and foxes are more abundant than ever in many regions.

The fur trade accounts for about one-quarter of the animals used for food, clothing, and other purposes in North America. About twice as many unwanted pets must be put down in humane shelters each year. Ten times more animals are killed on our highways.

In many regions, beaver and other fur-bearing animal populations would have to be controlled even if there were no commercial markets for furs. Taxpayers would foot the bill.

Fur trapping is strictly regulated by the provincial and territorial governments. The fur trade is a successful working example of sustainable use of renewable natural resources.

Responsible use of wildlife can provide an economic incentive to help protect forests and other vital wildlife habitat. The loss of such habitat is, in fact, the greatest threat to wildlife today.

If you have any questions about our industry, please ask us!

For more information about the fur trade, please contact:
The Fur Council of Canada
1435 St-Alexandre, Suite 1270
Montreal, Quebec H3A 2G4
www.furcouncil.com
e-mail: info@furcouncil.com

For information about trap research and wildlife management, please contact:
The Fur Institute of Canada
130 Slater Street, Suite 505
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 6E2
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"Trappers receive training, and trapping is carefully regulated through registered trapping areas, harvest quotas, hunting seasons, and other measures to prevent overharvesting and to ensure that the best available methods are used to promote responsible conservation."

"All of society benefits from well-regulated hunting and trapping. These activities help to ensure stable and healthy wildlife populations, and reduce the risks of damage to property, while providing useful products for people. Fur is a renewable, natural resource."

"Regulated trapping plays an important role in the responsible management and conservation of wildlife and natural habitat."

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources