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Maine Development Foundation Recognizes Biobased Maine Executive Director Charlotte Mace with Champion of Economic Development for Innovation Award

PORTLAND, *October 24, 2018*—The Maine Development Foundation will recognize Biobased Maine executive director Charlotte Mace with its Champion of Economic Development for Innovation Award at its 40th anniversary celebration Thursday.

Mace offered the following statement:

“I’m honored to join the ranks of the Maine Development Foundation’s impressive awardees, and humbled to be recognized by an organization that has done so much for Maine communities and businesses over the past 40 years. I have also been honored to participate in MDF’s Forest Opportunity Roadmap Maine program, which has been a unique and collaborative effort to prepare our forest industry for the future.

This recognition of Biobased Maine’s work to advance Maine’s bioeconomy comes as the forest industry has seen recent major investments—including ND Paper’s investments in the [Rumford mill](#) and its plan to reopen the [Old Town mill](#); the FOR/Maine [vision](#) for forest industry investment that Biobased Maine helped develop; and Sappi North America’s [expansion](#) of its paper mill technology as part of a \$200 million capital investment. These exciting developments demonstrate that the second golden age for Maine’s forests has begun.

At Biobased Maine, we continue to work with industry, government, the University of Maine, and local communities to ensure this second golden age brings high-paying jobs to rural Maine. We work to create new value streams through commercial-scale technologies that convert sustainably-harvested forest residuals into high-value, climate-friendly products the world is strongly demanding. These new technologies can co-exist with existing mills to help ensure sustainability for them, their communities, and our forest industry.”

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Biobased Maine is a mission-driven trade association promoting the sustainable use of renewable biomass from forests, farm, and sea. We aim to expand biobased product manufacturing in Maine through applied research, technical assistance, and information sharing that supports new product development, process engineering, and market assessment.