

# Letter to the Reader

This was a year of tremendous change for Tree Canada. The theme of this year's Impact Report, "Rooted in the Past, Reaching for the Future," is the perfect visualization of this change—illustrating how the strong foundation of the past has us poised for a great future.

That solid footing is in big part thanks to Michael Rosen, who led Tree Canada as President for nearly 18 years. We want to thank Mike for his incredible work in bringing Tree Canada to where it is today.

It's from that strong foundation that we continue growing as an organization. There is truly no better time for this to happen. The federal government has promised to plant two billion trees over the next 10 years—a bold commitment that Tree Canada applauds and is excited to help achieve. So much research supports the ability for trees to sequester carbon and make our communities more resilient to climate change. Just as notably, Canadians are feeling the transformation that trees bring to our communities: offering a space for recreation, relaxation, and learning. And that's just the start.

This Impact Report highlights the exceptional work of our Tree Canada team thanks to the unwavering

country. Whether it's greening initiatives with Indigenous communities, collaborations to help the City of Winnipeg plant one million trees, or teaming up with long-time partners like CN to celebrate their 100th anniversary, we are laying the groundwork to reach more communities and Canadians in the years to come.

The first months of 2020 have taken an unexpected turn, and Canadians have looked to nature to provide a sense of solitude and strength. We are reconnecting and appreciating our urban forests more than ever before. Let us take a deep breath of fresh air and stand beneath their shade; as the world changes, our trees remain to restore, shelter, and provide. Now it's our turn—let us never again forget the importance of environmental stewardship to protect the natural world on which we all depend.

We thank you for your support, and hope that you and your loved ones are keeping safe and healthy. Together we are planting the trees that will improve our communities and inspire the next generation of tree lovers.

Danielle St-Aubin, Chief Executive Officer Léo Duguay, Chair of the Board



## **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS** Welcomed our new Chiet Executive Officer. anielle St-Aubin, a Chair of the Board Léo Duguay **sponsors** supported

Supported the City of Winnipea's One Million Tree Challenge as a result of contributions from CN, Telpay, and other donors.

353,000 trees

trees in the round to mark

2,000 new

Added 1,833 trees to **CN's legacy forests** in eight communities to celebrate the railway's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

> 260 trees planted through **Operation ReLeaf** Ottawa-Gatineau following the 2018-

Led **four Canadian Urban Forest Network** workshops with technical experts from across the country.

2019 tornadoes.

## THE TREE CANADA TEAM

The Tree Canada team is rooted across the country and connected to communities through a shared love of trees and a deep understanding of how they better our lives.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Past Chair, David Domke, City of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, MB Director, Dorothy Dobbie, Pegasus Publications Inc., Winnipeg, MB

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Bruce Roberts, Newfoundland and Labrador

**COMMUNITY ADVISORS** 

Bruce Carter, Nova Scotia

Malin Anagrius, Montréal, Quebec Nairn Hay, New Brunswick Sheila Flint, Northern Alberta Tatiana Moroz, Regional Municipality Wood Buffalo

(Fort McMurray), Alberta Véronique Parent-Lacharité, Montréal, Quebec

#### CANADIAN URBAN FOREST NETWORK -**NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE**

Quebec Region representative: Dr. Christian Messier, Professor, Département des sciences biologiques, Université du Québec

Steering Committee Member: Dr. Danijela Puric-Mladenovic, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Forestry, University of Toronto

Atlantic Region representative: Heather Fraser, Natural Resource Program Coordinator, City of Moncton, NB Prairies Region representative: Gerard Fournier,

Southern Alberta, Tree Canada Community Advisor Pacific Region representative: Lanny Englund, Manager, Park Planning and Forestry, City of Coquitlam, BC Ontario Region representative: Peter Wynnyczuk,

Executive Director, Ontario Urban Forest Council

#### **HEAD OFFICE VOLUNTEERS**

Annie Grenon, Finance and Accounting Chris Xavier, Business Development Gillian Cooper, Program and Communications Jennifer Frankland, Volunteer Blogger Teo Guzu, Volunteer Blogger

#### NATIONAL HEAD OFFICE STAFF (AS OF MARCH 31, 2020)

Dr. Adrina Bardekijan, Urban Forestry Programs & Research Development Manager

Amelia Sproule, Corporate Partnership and Philanthropy Coordinator Carol Burnup, Communications and Marketing Lead Celia Johnstone, Acting Manager, Urban Forestry

Cristiane Doherty, Communications and Marketing Manager

Programs

Danielle St-Aubin, Chief Executive Officer Frederik Vroom, Program Manager Geraldine Hyland, Business Support Manager Greg Hotte, Development Manager Hannah Scott, Corporate Partnership Coordinator (on maternity leave)

Jennifer Feschuk, Community Events and

Sarah Quann, Lead Program Manager

Valerie Molino, Communications Coordinator

**Education Coordinator** Justin Létourneau, Program Manager Laura McLean, Development Assistant Linda Sawden-Harris, Accountant/Bookkeeper Marie-Paule Godin, Operations Manager Michael Petryk, Program Manager Michael Rosen, President Nathalie Gauthier, Business Support Coordinator Paola Guillen, Development and Database Administrator Rebecca Seltzer, Program Assistant

# Tree Canada's Four Branches

Over **150** 

Tree Canada's

mission.

## GREENING COMMUNITIES

Trees are the backbone of our communities. They make our neighbourhoods more vibrant and welcoming, offer habitat for urban wildlife, and improve our health and well-being. Our Greening Communities program pairs sponsorship support with grantees to beautify schoolyards, improve local food security, and ensure a thriving urban tree canopy is part of our lives for years to come. Our Partners in Planting program also provides a hands-on way for employers to engage their team and get involved in their local community. The **National Greening Program** planted over 320,000

Celebrating 100 Years of CN: We were delighted to partner with CN for its 100th anniversary celebrations: CN100 — A Moving Celebration. We coordinated major tree planting events in eight communities along CN's rail corridors, adding over 1,800 trees to urban forests. Tree species were carefully selected to ensure the new legacy forests would thrive and provide clean air for decades to come.

CN has been an integral sponsor of Tree Canada since From the Ground Up program. This unique partnership is one of CN's flagship environmental sustainability efforts, and involves the greening of towns, cities, and Indigenous communities along CN's North American rail corridors.

Winnipeg's One Million Tree Challenge: The City of Winnipeg is an inspiring example of what can happen when a community unites around a common goal: protect and expand the city's urban tree canopy—the likes of which has already suffered tremendous loss. Tree Canada is pleased to support the Manitoban capital's goal of planting a million trees in the next 20 years—a figure that surpasses the number of trees expected to be lost to age and disease. Tree Canada's commitment was made possible through the leadership and financial support of CN, Winnipeg-based company Telpay, and the generosity of individual donors.

#### **COMMUNITY TREE GRANTS**

**Edible Trees:** More than four million Canadians are food insecure. Fruit and nut-bearing tree species can directly address this problem—while also fostering community involvement and pride. Over 2,400 edible trees and shrubs were planted last year in 28 communities big and small, including on Hiawatha First Nation reserve land in Ontario, Edmonton, AB, and Hampton, NB.

**Greening Canada's School Grounds:** There's reading about trees in a textbook—and then there's the experiential learning that comes from getting your hands dirty to plant them! Students across the country planted 831 trees in 22 communities as part of this living classroom program.

Community tree grants were made possible through

Financial Corporation, Pembina Pipeline Corporation, Staples Advantage, TELUS, The Brick, and U-Haul Company

## REFORESTATION AND CARBON **OFFSETTING**

trees last year in a dozen projects across Canada. This wouldn't have been possible without diverse partnerships with individuals, municipalities, and businesses—not to mention our hardworking tree planters! Here are a few of

**REPLANTING CANADA'S FORESTS** 

**TELUS Trees for Paper Program:** Tree Canada continued its longstanding partnership with TELUS, planting 53,000 trees to offset the paper used by the Canadian telecommunications company. The planting restored forest cover on the reserve lands of Yunesit'in First Nation in the BC interior. That territory was scorched by wildfires in 2017, and this planting will kickstart the regeneration of a new forest.

From moonscape to greenscape: The City of Greater Sudbury in northern Ontario was once nicknamed "the moon" on account of its landscape devoid of trees and scarred by mining activity. Last year, we secured a five-year agreement with the municipality to reforest one of the city's many mine restoration sites. Tree Canada has funded the planting of 3.8 million trees in Sudbury since 1997.

**Community Forests International:** The Acadian Forest is an iconic old-growth forest that stretches across Eastern Canada. A partnership with Community Forests International will conserve and supplement the forest in New Brunswick. and support the growth of climate change-resilient species.

#### TREES: A NATURAL CLIMATE SOLUTION

Trees capture and store carbon pollution—among countless other benefits—making them a valuable nature-based solution to climate change. This year, the Grow Clean Air program raised funding for 46,500 trees to be planted, allowing 1,044 individuals and businesses to offset their emissions. This is more than six times the number of trees funded through the program in the 2018-2019 year.

# **ENGAGEMENT**

#### THE VOICE OF CANADIAN URBAN FORESTRY

Tree Canada continued to be the convener for nearly 1,000 urban forestry experts across Canada through the national Canadian Urban Forest Network (CUFN) and the CUFN national steering committee. Last year we facilitated four well-attended CUFN workshops in BC, the Prairies, Atlantic Canada, and Ontario—outlets to knowledge-share and discuss opportunities and challenges in urban forestry. During these workshops, Tree Canada urged the ongoing adoption of best management practices for urban forestry work.

#### TREE CANADA'S CROSS-COUNTRY RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS

#### The impact of greening initiatives in Indigenous **communities.** Finalizing this research project with

the Canadian Forest Service, the results of this study offered a number of insights and led to the creation of recommendations for better future engagement and partnership with Indigenous communities.

**Our Edible Trees program** was the focus of a capstone research project led by students from Carleton University's Master of Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership Program (Ottawa, ON). Surveying people who had received grants since Edible Trees launched in 2012, community engagement and the creation of shared community space were reported as the greatest impacts of the program.

Carbon storage in urban environments. Tree Canada wrapped up the second phase of its study with Environment and Climate Change Canada, University of Toronto, and Dalhousie University. The results will help Canadian cities assess urban forest carbon storage and inform policy around deadwood management.

## **OPERATION** RELEAF

#### IMMEDIATE RESPONSE. LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP

Rebuilding and regreening after a disaster takes more than a single year. That's why Tree Canada not only responds we remain. Operation ReLeaf continued its commitment last year to help communities across Canada replant, treat, and maintain trees following fires, extreme weather events, and

#### **Operation ReLeaf Ottawa-Gatineau Tornadoes:**

Summer 2019 was the first replanting season following the tornadoes that tore through the National Capital Region in September 2018 and June 2019. Tree Canada supported the planting of over 260 trees in collaboration with private landowners who were eager to recreate the urban forest that once attracted them to their neighbourhood.

**Operation ReLeaf Hurricane Dorian:** Strong winds wreaked havoc across Atlantic Canada in September 2019, mobilized in response and launched a fundraising initiative to bring natural beauty and a sense of normalcy back to these affected areas.

Operation ReLeaf in Western Canada: Operation ReLeaf has been working in Fort McMurray and across BC since 2016 and 2017, supporting communities and forests to recover from multiple episodes of devastating wildfires. Operation ReLeaf Fort McMurray and Operation ReLeaf BC Fires added 2,300 trees to the urban and rural community canopies this year, and plantings happened alongside municipalities, landowners, and local community groups.

#### Operation ReLeaf Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and **Operation ReLeaf Alberta Mountain Pine Beetle:**

Tree Canada continued to plant and treat trees to ward off these invasive pests. Operation ReLeaf EAB provided the botanical insecticide TreeAzin in Québec City (QC), City of Edmundston (NB), City of Barrie (ON), and Ville de Candiac (QC). Over 130 trees were planted in Jasper and Grande Prairie, AB, as part of Operation ReLeaf Alberta Mountain

# 32 Who We Are

Tree Canada is the only national non-profit organization dedicated to planting and nurturing trees in rural and urban environments. Through our programs, research, and educational efforts, we have helped restore tree cover in areas hit by natural disasters, quided communities in managing their urban forests, contributed to greening communities across the country, and organized urban forest conferences.

To date, we have planted more than 82 million trees alongside our community partners and sponsors. Our programs see us working on both municipal and private land (with individuals, corporate partners, and institutions), and our local partnerships ensure that the trees we plant survive for generations to come.

# National Tree Day: A GROWING IMPACT

2019-2020 was a record-breaking year for our National Tree Day festivities! Celebrated on September 25, 2019, National Tree Day celebrates and reminds Canadians of all the benefits that trees provide. Tree lovers from across Canada planted more than 2,000 trees in a single day. We were joined by close to 300 volunteers in six host cities: St. John's (NL), Montréal (QC), Ottawa (ON), Markham (ON), Winnipeg (MB), and North Vancouver (BC).

National Tree Day was also about planting the seeds of knowledge. Tree Canada developed a new educational toolkit that was sent to schools across Canada, reaching over 23,000 students who learned about trees and how they can be celebrated—not just on National Tree Day, but year-round!

Last year's events would not have been possible without the sponsorship support of Staples Business Advantage and community event support from Dreaming Tree Wines. We'd also like to extend a big thanks to our host cities for partnering and providing support, and to our National Tree Day volunteers for coming out to plant and celebrate!

ASSETS	\$ 2019	\$ 2020
Cash and cash equivalents	1,925,485	3,141,114
Accounts receivable	344,020	263,544
Prepaid expenses	78,952	125,750
Investments	1,505,709	950,011
Inventory	105,437	101,089
Total current assets	3,959,603	4,581,508
Investments	654,437	810,110
Capital assets	27,030	22,019
TOTAL ACCETC	4 041 070	E 410 C07

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the year ended March 31, 2020

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 2019	\$ 2020
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	175,294	86,704
Deferred sponsorship revenue	2,904,124	3,879,060
Total current liabilities	3,079,418	3,965,764
Net Assets		
Invested in capital assets	27,030	22,019
Restricted surplus	400,000	400,000
Unrestricted surplus	1,134,622	1,025,854
Total net assets	1,561,652	1,447,873
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4,641,070	5,413,637



2019	2020
147,926	297,374
44,742	40,166
4,907,776	4,001,725
133,375	24,553
29,637	52,797
5,263,456	4,416,615
4,979,875	4,530,394
283,581	(113,779)
	147,926 44,742 4,907,776 133,375 29,637 5,263,456 4,979,875

Programs: corporate 90%

Regional Group

Reliance Home Comfort

### Ve at FedEx Express Canada are committed to minimizing our environmental impact throughout our business, and working with Tree Canada is an obvious step towards a greener future. Our team is proud to be able to give back to the communities where we live and work, and programs like Partners in Planting allows us to do just that, while providing a positive impact on the environment, supplying cleaner air for the future, increasing wildlife habitat and reducing the effects of global warming." - Pina Starnino, Vice President of Operations, FedEx Express Canada, Partners in **Planting Sponsor**

## OUR SPONSORS AND DONORS: REACHING NEW HEIGHTS TOGETHER

Trees require specific conditions to flourish and grow. Our private-sector sponsors and donors are an integral part of





TELUS

Orideau

hydro

**SIEMENS** 

The BRICK

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Ingenuity for life



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**AND NET ASSETS** 



ALFRED SUNG















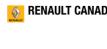


























## 2346069 Ontario Inc.

Aquam

Graly Resources Ltd. Green Spark Group 7-Eleven RENEW tm GreenFox Windows & Doors A Living Tribute **Abbotsford Senior** Groupe Ultratek (Solutions) GroupHEALTH Benefit Secondary School AET Group Inc. Solutions **GWL Realty Advisors** Agile42 Half Hours On Earth Ark Imports / Ark Fair Trade HEXO Corp. Armstrong International **HGrégoire** Movers Ltd. Hyperion Woodworking BenefAction Foundation Intellisports Better Go Getter International Conservation **BNQ Management Boucherville Elementary** Fund Of Canada (ICFC) School JAM Direct BREATHE - The Lung Association (Ontario) Just Mulch

By Nature Import Inc. Kiehl's Canada **KPMG Calgary** Cadence Litigation PC Canada Council For The Le Scorpion Masqué Linn Millwork Company Inc. Little Inklings Design Carlsberg Canada Inc. Centennial Optical Ltd. Luxedge Furniture/Lumber Mathnasium Canada Mats Unlimited CIMS Limited Colliers International McWilliams Moving & Conseil Des Écoles Storage Mobile Eco Detailing Publiques De L'Est De Specialists (MEDS) Inc. L'Ontario Modern Requirements Convoy Supply Ltd. Mutha Earth Copies De L'Est L.M. Inc National Campus and **Country Homes** CPA Canada Community Radio Association (NCRA/ Crawford Sheds DeNoray Solutions Inc. ANREC) Natural Organic Matters DHL Canada (Supply Chain) (NORM) Digital Joint Corp. Nature's Way Of Canada Drake International Elementary Teachers'

Nicola Wealth Private Giving Federation Of Ontario Foundation (PGF) **Emergent BioSolutions** OE Canada Inc. Okanagan Lavender & Herb Ottawa Community Foundation Ottewell Junior High School Pallet Pickup Canada PayPal Giving Fund Canada People For Education Financial Services Group Petroleum Technology Alliance Canada (PTAC) PIXELCUBE STUDIOS INC. Pizzeria IL FOCOLAIO (127490 Canada Inc.)

Puff Puff Plant

**REEF Parking** 

Red River Group

Render Construction Inc. Restaurant Jatoba Montréal RHB Enterprises Inc. **RJC Engineers** Rose Buddha Samurai Hardwood Flooring Sanexen - Services Environnementaux Inc. Saponetti Inc. Savons Prolav Inc. Scandinavian Building Services Ltd. Sim (Toronto) - Lighting + Sim (Vancouver) - Eastlake Lighting + Grip Skybound Inc. (Bookkeeping) Spec Furniture Stamped, comptable professionnel agréé inc St. John Paul II Catholic High School / Faculté Jean-Paul II Stonecrest Elementary Sun Peaks Grand Hotel & Conference Centre Synerion Talk Of The Town Travel Tantalus Labs TD Bank Group Team Glasser The Coup The Lucky Penny, General Store and Cafe

The Prairie Collective

TreeKi Apparel Ltd.

Trufflepig Travel Inc.

United Canada Inc.

United Way Ottawa

United Way Calgary

WealthBar Financial

Whitehorse Liquidity

XL Flooring / EZ Lay

Woburn Collegiate Institute

Partners Inc.

## Tree Canada's Strategic Plan Four out of five Canadians now live in cities, emphasizing the importance of growing our urban canopy to enhance the health and well-being of people across the country. As we reach into the future, Tree Canada aims to continue

to be an active partner in greening communities and to further establish itself as a thought-leader in urban forestry.

Specifically, we will work on four key objectives:

Improve lives by greening communities via key long-term partnerships;

Challenge communities to have up to one-third of their land base treed with an evenly distributed canopy cover over time;

Grow the Tree Canada brand while positively influencing the brand of our corporate and non-profit partners, and;

Sustainably and aggressively grow our revenue to increase our organizational capacity in pursuit of our goals.



## **PAYING TRIBUTE** TO MIKE ROSEN

Rosen, Tree Canada's President since 2002.

Said Michael on his retirement: "I am very proud of what Tree Canada was able to accomplish for Canadians. Over my time, I have experienced in many cases, the power of trees often taken too lightly and not seriously regarded. I frequently corrected people who indicated to me that urban forests 'looked nice' and were just for 'aesthetics.' As article after article continued to come out on the benefits of trees in terms of health, energy conservation, crime reduction and even community pride, I witnessed the shift in people as they began to see trees as an essential part of their lives and a part of the solution to so much that ails us."

Last year marked the end of an era for Tree Canada as we said farewell to Michael

Thank you, Michael, and we look forward to continuing your legacy!

that ecosystem—enabling Tree Canada to plant and nurture our country's forests for this generation and many more to come. Thank you for your support!

**ULTIMATE LEVEL** 



Canada

IKEA

Business Advantage

**Syncrude** 

Arbor Day Foundation

**PEMBINA** 

The Sixty-Three

**Foundation** 

**GOLD LEVEL** 

**SILVER LEVEL** 









&DREAMING TREE













The Merrifield Family

Foundation

newyorkfries

**RICKI'S** 

Victoria Park Medispa









of Troy











Canada Inc.

Foundation

Engineers)

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Enterprise Holdings

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Export Development











WINNIPEG FOUNDATION

DISASTER RELIEF

## You can contribute to our National **HOW TO DONATE,**

## **GET INVOLVED, AND CONTACT US** LAYING DOWN ROOTS FOR A

**GREENER FUTURE** 

Canadians need trees more than ever. Tree Canada is the only national nonprofit organization dedicated to planting and nurturing trees in rural and urban environments.

Donate securely at treecanada.ca, by phone toll free **1-877-666-1444**, or by email info@treecanada.ca

#### PLANT A TREE FOR YOURSELF, A FAMILY MEMBER, OR FRIEND

Greening Program for just \$5 per seedling and select the region where it's planted. Providing habitat for wildlife, clean air to breathe, shade on hot days, and more, a tree is a gift that truly keeps on giving.

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For more information about how to give

or get involved, visit our website at TreeCanada.ca