

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY/MEDIA ADVISORY

Windsor Heritage Tree – 225-Year Old Sycamore Rooted in Windsor’s Pre-Confederation History

Two trees receive recognition through Heritage Tree 150

- WHAT:** Forests Ontario to recognize a 225-year old sycamore in Roseland Park, Windsor as our latest Ontario Heritage Tree
- WHO:** Forests Ontario, TD Bank Group
- WHEN:** Monday, May 8th, 2017, 3:00 pm
- WHERE:** 4219 Roseland Dr. West, Windsor, ON
254 Pitt Street West, Windsor, ON

Forests Ontario is pleased to announce the recognition of our latest Ontario Heritage Tree, a 225-year old sycamore located in the Roseland area of Windsor.

Trees are not just beautiful landmarks and the heart of healthy ecosystems, but characters in the stories that form our history. In celebration of Canada’s sesquicentennial, Forests Ontario and TD Bank Group invite Ontarians to help us collect and tell the stories of 150 Heritage Trees across the province.

The Roseland Residential District in Windsor, Ontario has gone through significant changes in the last 100 years. Before becoming a part of the City of Windsor in 1978, the area was occupied by the Roseland Park Country Club frequented by members of the surrounding community.

Prior to the development of the site as a golf course and country club in 1926, records show the property having been owned by the McKee and Marantette families, both of whom played key roles in the development of the Town of Sandwich, now part of the City of Windsor. The property eventually passed through the ownership of members of both families who served in the war of 1812.

Immediately following the Heritage Tree ceremony in Roseland, Forests Ontario will recognize an ancient Jesuit Pear tree on the property of Maison Francois Baby House, a historic residence that was owned by a prominent local politician Francois Baby. The house was a French-Canadian ribbon farm that has historical ties to the War of 1812 where it was used as a headquarters by both the American and British Forces. The Francois Baby House has been designated as a National Historic Site of Canada.

We invite you to join us at this celebration in honour of two Heritage Trees in the Windsor area. We encourage local residents and all Ontarians to share their Heritage Tree stories with us. The next deadline for the consideration of nominated Heritage Trees is May 31st, 2017; the second is September 22nd, 2017.

For more information, photos, or to arrange an interview please contact:

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ABOUT FORESTS ONTARIO

Forests Ontario is the voice for our forests. Working to promote a future of healthy forests sustaining healthy people, Forests Ontario is committed to the re-greening of Ontario through tree planting efforts on rural lands and in urban areas, as well as the renewal and stewardship of Ontario's forests through restoration, education and awareness. Visit www.forestsontario.ca or follow us @Forests_Ontario.

ABOUT THE HERITAGE TREE PROGRAM

Forests Ontario's Heritage Tree Program collects and tells the stories of Ontario's diverse and unique trees and brings awareness to the social, cultural, historical, and ecological value of trees. Trees are nominated for recognition based on distinctness in size, form, age, rarity, or their connection with historically significant events, individuals, or locations. More about the Heritage Tree Program can be read [here](#).