

Forests Ontario to Implement Tree Seed Diversity Program Contract for City of Toronto
Forests Ontario selected to source and supply native source-identified trees and shrubs through 2031

Barrie, ON [November 12, 2021] – On November 9, Toronto City Council approved a contract with Forests Ontario to supply and deliver native source-identified trees and shrubs from 2022-2031. More than 197,000 trees and shrubs will be sourced and delivered through the Tree Seed Diversity Program.

“This is an exciting step forward in supporting the health and biodiversity of our urban ecosystems,” said Rob Keen, Registered Professional Forester and CEO of Forests Ontario. “We are thrilled to be working with the City of Toronto to support natural area planting programs such as this one that will benefit communities for years to come.”

Together with the Parks, Forestry, and Recreation division, Forests Ontario will work with its network of partners to forecast and collect seed, as well as track and monitor stock development with participating nurseries. This initiative will help to support the resilience of Toronto ecosystems to climate change impacts through the planting of source-identified trees and shrubs including community planting and restoration planting in parks, ravines, and other key areas.

“Through our many partners, including seed collectors, nurseries, and planting delivery agents, Forests Ontario is uniquely equipped to carry out this essential program,” said Elizabeth Celanowicz, Chief Operating Officer of Forests Ontario. “Source-identified plant material is key to improving genetic diversity and helping urban forests respond to climate change.”

For more information or questions about the Tree Seed Diversity Program, please contact Elizabeth Celanowicz at 416-646-1193 extension 233, or ecelanowicz@forestsontario.ca.

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About Forests Ontario

Forests Ontario is a not-for-profit charity that promotes re-greening the province through forest restoration, conservation, education and stewardship. Forests Ontario commits to promoting a healthier future by sustaining and supporting healthy forests through multiple tree planting initiatives. Forests Ontario is the voice of our forests. Visit www.forestsontario.ca or follow us [@Forests Ontario](https://twitter.com/Forests_Ontario) to find out more.

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

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