

Forests Ontario supported the planting of 2.7 million trees across Canada this planting season – including 35,000 in Sault Ste. Marie

- [Forests Ontario](#), together with its national division [Forest Recovery Canada](#), is conserving, restoring and growing Canada's forests to sustain life and communities.
- Creating diverse, resilient, thriving forests is one of the most effective, nature-based solutions to combat and mitigate the impacts of climate change, including extreme weather that can lead to drought or wildfires.

Barrie, Ont. (August 23, 2024) – In an effort to encourage biodiversity, enhance wildlife habitat, support green job creation, minimize the devastating effects of climate change, and improve the health and wellness of our communities, Forests Ontario supported the planting of approximately 2.7 million trees across Canada this planting season. That brings the national total to 46.5 million trees planted and the total to date in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario to 122,000 trees.

The 2.7 million trees planted includes over 700,000 outside Ontario – which is a new record for the organization and is thanks to the support of municipal, provincial, and federal levels of government, individual and corporate donors, and new planting partners across the country.

“We have always built strong relationships with a comprehensive network of experienced partners and experts who understand the transformative power of healthy forests,” Jess Kaknevicus, Chief Executive Officer of Forests Ontario, says. “Now, as we are facing the twin crises of climate change and biodiversity loss, it is imperative that we build these relationships across the country, so that we can make a difference in communities from coast to coast to coast.”

“We are very proud of the accomplishments we made with our planting partners in Ontario and across Canada this year, including restoring ecosystems after wildfires and extreme wind events like hurricanes,” Peter Moddle, National Program Manager, Forests Ontario, says. “It has been an absolute pleasure connecting with local Indigenous communities, woodlot owners and groups, and ENGOs (environmental non-governmental organizations), who are all so passionate about creating healthy, resilient forests.”

“At Forests Ontario, we like to say that we do more than just plant trees, we grow diverse, resilient, thriving forests – but we know that isn’t possible without our incredible planting partners and the generous support of individual donors, corporate partners, members, and municipal, provincial and federal levels of government, so I offer my heartfelt thanks. Together, we can conserve, restore, and grow Canada’s forests,” Kaknevicus says.

Forests Ontario’s tree-planting programs significantly reduce the costs of tree planting, making increasing forest cover in communities easier and more affordable while ensuring the right trees are planted in the right place for the right reason. Whether you are a landowner looking to plant trees on your property, an institution or organization with a restoration or reforestation project in mind, or a corporate partner looking to show their environmental leadership, learn more at www.forestsontario.ca.

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

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About Forests Ontario & Forest Recovery Canada

Forests Ontario is the province's leading charity dedicated to the creation, preservation, and maintenance of forest and grassland habitats. Our ambitious, large-scale tree planting initiatives, extensive educational programs, and decades of community outreach result in millions of trees being planted each year.

Together with our national division, **Forest Recovery Canada**, we work with our many partners across the country to plant native trees and ensure our efforts today thrive and grow into tomorrow's diverse, healthy, and resilient forests.

Visit www.forestsontario.ca or follow us on [Facebook](#), [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#), [Instagram](#), or [LinkedIn](#) to find out more.

Photo



Caption: A growing forest planted with the support of Forests Ontario.