



Forestry Committee

Supplemental Agenda

Date: June 7th, 2022

Time: 10:00 am

Location: SNC Watershed Room
SNC Office
38 Victoria Street
Finch, ON K0C 1K0

**NOTE: CHANGE IN
MEETING LOCATION**



SOUTH NATION
CONSERVATION
DE LA NATION SUD

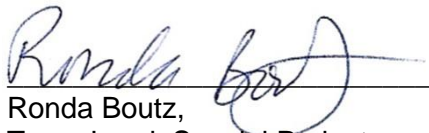


Forestry Committee

Supplemental Agenda

June 7th, 2022 at 10:00 am

1. New Business
 - a. Update: 2022 Tree Planting and Free Tree Days 3-5
 - b. Request for Approval: 2023 Tree Planting Fee Schedule 6-7


Ronda Boutz,
Team Lead, Special Projects.



To: Forestry Committee
From: Cheyene Brunet, Forestry Technician
Date: June 1, 2022
Subject: Update: 2022 Tree Planting and Free Tree Days

RECOMMENDATION:

The Forestry Committee receive and file the 2022 Tree Planting and Free Tree Days update.

DISCUSSION:

This spring South Nation Conservation (SNC) had another successful tree planting season which included the planting of 147,190 trees through the Forests Ontario Program (50 Million Tree Program), 43,100 trees at Larose Forest, and 12,340 trees sold through the Over-the-Counter program.

The planting season lasted 32 days over April and May. For the third year, SNC enlisted staff to plant 7,550 trees on 11 properties for the Forests Ontario Program. Staff completed the planting over a 10-day period. A list of 2022 customers per municipality is attached.

In total, 75 landowners across SNC's jurisdiction and in the United Counties of Prescott Russell planted trees in spring 2022 which will attribute to an estimated 212 acres (700 per acre) of increased forest cover in the future.

SNC currently has 100,350 trees reserved for spring 2022 by 49 landowners.

For the fourth year in a row, SNC offered municipalities free tree seedlings as part of the 2022 Free Tree Days. Each member municipality was supplied with 380 tree and shrub seedlings consisting of 11 native species (higher diversity due to limited quantities availability from the nurseries). There have been 18 giveaways totalling over 10,000 trees including a tree giveaway to nurses and healthcare workers at the Winchester and District Memorial Hospital, the Glengarry District Memorial Hospital and the Cornwall Community Hospital.

Over 3,000 residents throughout the jurisdiction applied for this years Free Tree Pick Ups. Approximately 80-200 households in each municipality received a bundle of 5 tree seedlings based on their indicated species preference. Pickups were held at a central location in each municipality and took place throughout the month of May.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget: The tree planting program is included in the 2022 Budget under Resource Management, Partner Programs, Forests pages 16-17.



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SNC Policy Adherence: SNC Forest Policy 2 and 3: The South Nation Forest shall be managed to provide a range of products and services that will maintain or enhance the long-term economic viability and a range of environmental and social benefits; and South Nation Conservation will employ silvicultural practices that are ecologically appropriate for the vegetation, species, sites and management objectives that maintain and/or enhance long-term forest diversity, health and productivity of the South Nation Forest.

For: 
Cheyene Brunet,
Forestry Technician

Attachment: 2022 Tree Planting Statistics by Municipality

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2022 Tree Planting Statistics by Municipality		
Municipality	No. of Landowners	No. of Trees
Alfred and Plantagenet	12	32,650
Champlain	6	17,200
East Hawkesbury	5	10,430
Nation	11	7,690
Russell	12	12,220
Clarence Rockland	12	5,190
Ottawa	14	9,310
North Grenville	3	5,950
Edwardsburgh Cardinal	1	500
Augusta	0	0
North Dundas	12	21,440
South Dundas	14	15,140
North Stormont	14	17,180
South Stormont	1	1,300
North Glengarry	4	3,330
Larose Forest	1	43,100
Total		202,630

* Includes plantings through Forest Ontario's: 50 Million Tree Program, Over the Counter and Larose Forest. These numbers do not include trees provided through the municipal tree giveaway program



To: Forestry Committee
From: Ronda Boutz, Team Lead, Special Projects
Cheyene Brunet, Forestry Technician
Date: June 3, 2022
Subject: Request for Approval: 2023 Tree Planting Fee Schedule

RECOMMENDATION:

The Forestry Committee approves recommending to the Board of Directors that the 2023 Tree Planting Fee Schedule be approved as presented.

BACKGROUND:

The South Nation Conservation (SNC) Tree Planting Program is subsidized through Forest Ontario's 50 Million Tree Program and Highway of Heroes Program; however, the subsidy does not cover program administration. Landowners provide revenue, as per the Board approved annual Tree Planting Fee Schedule, which supports administration costs, but is not full cost recovery.

The balance of the Program administration (including Forests Ontario reporting, staff visits to potential planting sites, contract administration for site preparation, planting and tending, sourcing trees, and site plan/landowner agreement preparation) is covered annually through the general levy.

Based on recent planting numbers of more than 200,000 seedlings/year, the general levy contribution is approximately \$100,000 per year. There are no other partner delivery agents, within the SNC jurisdiction, that could deliver a tree planting program of this magnitude to private landowners.

As the Program is delivered on private land, it is not considered a mandatory program and service (Category 1) under the amended *Conservation Authorities Act*, it is a Category 3: Other Program. As of January 2024, general levy cannot be used to support Category 3 programs; agreements with municipalities, including cost apportionment, will be required for any costs not recovered from external subsidies or landowner fees.

DISCUSSION:

Given the general levy will not be able to support this program in the future, staff recommend that the Tree Planting Program shift to a cost-recovery framework. To position the Program as cost-recovery, a significant increase in the Tree Planting Fee Schedule is required.

Costs vary greatly from planting site to planting site based on number of seedlings, contractor planting price, species (hardwood vs. conifer), and whether site preparation



and/or tending are needed. The proposed fee schedule is based on a review of Program costs for the past several years, working with an average cost per seedling. The proposed schedule considers current recoveries under the 50 Million Tree Program and Highway of Heroes Program. The proposed fee schedule would be in effect from July 2022 to June 2023.

Proposed 2023 Tree Planting Fee Schedule

Program	Landowner Fee	Potential Forests Ontario Subsidy*
50 Million Tree Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$1.00/conifer \$1.50/hardwood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$1.41/seedling
Highway of Heroes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$1.00/conifer \$1.50/hardwood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$0.365/seedling
Over the Counter Sales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> nursery stock cost plus 20% for shipping and handling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$0.25/seedling


* Note, Forest Ontario subsidy covers eligible costs for seedling, site preparation, planting, tending, and survival assessments by SNC staff. Amount is discounted from eligible landowner's invoice.

Staff are in the process of collecting information from other Conservation Authorities on their tree planting fee schedules, staff will provide a summary at the meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget: There is no impact on the 2022 Budget.

SNC Policy Adherence: Annual fee schedules are approved by the Board of Directors. As of January 1, 2023, all SNC fee schedules will adhere to the Minister's Fee Classes Policy as per section 21.2 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*.


 Ronda Boutz,
 Team Lead, Special Projects.

For: 
 Cheyene Brunet,
 Forestry Technician.