



Forestry Committee

Meeting Agenda

Date: June 7th, 2022

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: McIntosh Park

Address: 6 Cockburn Street
Berwick, ON K0C 1G0
Park is just south of County Road 12 and County Road 9 intersection
(45°10'29.6"N 75°06'30.0"W)

Note: Park has free Wi-Fi onsite



Forestry Committee

Meeting Agenda

June 7th, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

1. Chair's Remarks
2. Approval of Forestry Committee Agenda (Supplemental Agenda)
3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
4. SNC Forestry Project Update – PowerPoint Presentation: Staff
5. Community Engagement
6. Approval of the Forestry Committee meeting minutes of March 3, 2022 3-8
7. Business Arising from Minutes (if any)
8. New Business:
 - a. Update: The Healing Place: Chris and Ronda 9-20
 - b. Update: Storm Damage in the SNC Forest: John 21-22
9. Supplemental Agenda (if any)
 - a. Update: 2022 Tree Planting Summary: Cheyene
 - b. 2023 Tree Planting Fee Schedule
10. Correspondence (if any)
11. Upcoming Events:
 - September 6th, 2022: Forestry Committee Meeting at 10:00 a.m., location to be confirmed
12. Adjournment

Ronda Boutz,
Team Lead, Special Projects.



FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, March 3rd, 2022, 10:00 a.m. – Meeting 01/22

By Electronic Participation



Present: Glenn Mackey, Committee Chair
 Maurice Chabot, Public Citizen
 Dorothy Hamilton, Stormont Dundas Glengarry Chapter – Ontario Woodlot Association
 Murray Inch, Public Citizen
 Dave Robertson, Public Citizen
 Bill Smirle, SNC Board of Directors, Past Chair, ex-officio
 Doug Thompson, Public Citizen
 Ben de Haan, United Counties of Stormont Dundas Glengarry

Regrets: François Allard, Public Citizen
 Archie Byers, Public Citizen
 George Darouze, SNC Board of Directors, Chair, ex-officio
 Steve Hunter, United Counties of Prescott Russell
 Pierre Leroux, SNC Board of Directors, Vice Chair, ex-officio
 François St. Amour, Mayor, SNC Director

Absent: Lloyd Benedict, Mohawks of Akwesasne
 Alain Bertrand, Public Citizen
 Tony Ricard, Public Citizen
 Ron Toonders, Ag Soil and Crop

Staff: Ronda Boutz, Team Lead, Special Projects
 Pat Piitz, Team Lead, Property
 Chris Craig, Senior Forestry Technician
 Caroline Goulet, Forester
 Tavish MacLeod, Forestry Assistant
 Mike Leger, Community Lands Representative
 Philip Duncan, Property & Approvals Assistant
 Meaghan Wert, Approvals & Administrative Assistant



CHAIR’S REMARKS

Glenn Mackey, Committee Chair, convened the Forestry Committee meeting of Thursday, March 3rd, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed Committee Members.

APPROVAL OF FORESTRY COMMITTEE AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. FC-01/22

Moved by: Bill Smirle
Seconded by: Doug Thompson

RESOLVED THAT:

The Members approve the Forestry Committee agenda of March 3rd, 2022 as submitted.

CARRIED

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Conflict of Interest.

SNC FORESTRY PROJECT UPDATE – POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Staff presented forestry program and project updates.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Bill Smirle advised the Committee members that he continues to make presentations to North Dundas Council

APPROVAL OF: FORESTRY COMMITTEE VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 30TH, 2021

RESOLUTION NO. FC-02/22

Moved by: Doug Thompson
Seconded by: Dorothy Hamilton

RESOLVED THAT:

The Members approve the Forestry Committee virtual meeting minutes of November 30th, 2021 as submitted.

CARRIED



BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES (IF ANY)

- Members requested an update on site visit regarding potential walking path at SNC's Grey's Creek property near Greely. Staff and committee member Doug Thompson to have a site visit at the property this spring.

NEW BUSINESS

UPDATE: 2022 COMMITTEE CHAIR AND MEMBERSHIP

RESOLUTION NO. FC-03/22

Moved by: Maurice Chabot
Seconded by: Ben de Haan

RESOLVED THAT:

The Forest Committee receives and files the 2022 Committee Chair and Membership report update.

CARRIED

UPDATE: 2022 TREE PLANTING AND FREE TREE DAYS

RESOLUTION NO. FC-04/22

Moved by: Doug Thompson
Seconded by: Ben de Haan

RESOLVED THAT:

The Forest Committee receives and files the 2022 Tree Planting and Free Tree Days update.

CARRIED

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: SEED COLLECTION PROGRAM

RESOLUTION NO. FC-05/22

Moved by: Murray Inch
Seconded by: Doug Thompson

RESOLVED THAT:

The Forestry Committee approves recommending to the Board of Directors to host the Certified Seed Collector course at an approximate cost of \$5,400 plus HST, as part of a seed supply strategy; and



FURTHER THAT:

SNC recover 100% cost for external participants attending the course; and

FURTHER THAT:

SNC staff include seed collection in annual workplans as part of a seed supply strategy to support species recovery; and

FURTHER THAT:

Staff bring a report to the June 7th, 2022 meeting for discussion on the future seed collection program.

CARRIED

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: EMERALD ASH BORER RESPONSE

RESOLUTION NO. FC-06/22

Moved by: Maurice Chabot
Seconded by: Doug Thompson

RESOLVED THAT:

The Forestry Committee approves recommending to the Board of Directors that SNC partner with the Canadian Forestry Service in 2022 for parasitic wasp release program; and

FURTHER THAT:

The Committee approves the hosting of partners on management of Black Ash.

CARRIED

Ben de Haan left the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: 2021 SNC ANNUAL REPORT

RESOLUTION NO. FC-07/22

Moved by: Murray Inch
Seconded by: Dorothy Hamilton

RESOLVED THAT:

The Forestry Committee receives and files the SNC Forest Annual Report 2021 as presented.

CARRIED



UPDATE: SNC FOREST RELATED PROJECTS AND VALUE-ADDED

RESOLUTION NO. FC-08/22

Moved by: Maurice Chabot
Seconded by: Doug Thompson

RESOLVED THAT:

The Forestry Committee receives and files the SNC Forest Related Projects and Value-Added Report update.

CARRIED

UPDATE: FOREST STEWARDS UPDATE

RESOLUTION NO. FC-09/22

Moved by: Dorothy Hamilton
Seconded by: Bill Smirle

RESOLVED THAT:

The Forestry Committee receives and files the Forest Steward Program update.

CARRIED

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA (IF ANY)

None.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 1st, 2022 Annual Contractors Meeting at 10:00 a.m., location to be confirmed

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- June 7th, 2022 Forestry Committee Meeting at 10:00 a.m., location to be confirmed
- June 7th, 2022 Joint Standing Committee Meeting at 1:00 p.m., location to be confirmed

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION NO. FC-10/22

Moved by: Doug Thompson

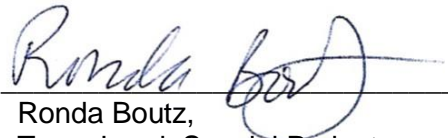


RESOLVED THAT:

The Forestry Committee meeting of
March 3rd, 2022 be adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

CARRIED

Glenn Mackey,
Committee Chair.



Ronda Boutz,
Team Lead, Special Projects.

/mw



To: Forestry Committee
From: Ronda Boutz, Team Lead, Special Projects
Chris Craig, Senior Forestry Technician
Date: May 31, 2022
Subject: Update: The Healing Place

RECOMMENDATION:

The Forestry Committee receives and files The Healing Place update.

DISCUSSION:

The Healing Place is a community green space located on the traditional territories of the Algonquin and Mohawk Nations in the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal. It was created in the fall of 2020 through a Reconciliation and Climate Change Planting collaborative partnership event. A working group of partners (South Nation Conservation (SNC), Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Department of Environment, Plenty Canada, Forests Ontario, and Ontario Power Generation) continues to meet to further develop site.

Achievements to date include:

- Official opening and establishment of the site in September 2020, where over 100 culturally significant trees and shrubs were planted.
- Site logo has been developed.
- Signage has been installed at the entrance to The Healing Place, graphic design completed for signage to inform visitors on the site layout (Medicine Wheel), 13 Grandmother Moons, 7 Grandfather Teachings, and culturally significant trees planted throughout the site. Sign production and installation pending funding.
- The story of The Healing Place has been captured in a communications piece, see attached, which shares the seed of the idea, to the realization of the site.
- Local settler and First Nation history has been researched and documented, plans for future online resources are under development as resources allow.
- Creation of Children's Butterfly Garden during the "Remembering the Children" event hosted in October 2021. The Garden commemorates the discoveries of unmarked graves on residential school properties across Turtle Island and provides a place for healing amongst Indigenous and non-Indigenous Peoples.
- A Three Sisters Garden is being planted in June 2022 in partnership with local schools. This Garden celebrates Indigenous cultural foods and food sovereignty and serves as a teaching site to share traditional knowledge. The "Three Sisters" comes from First Nations legend, corn, beans and squash are inseparable sisters that were given to the People by the "Great Spirit."



An event is being planned for fall 2022, it will include harvesting of the late varieties planted in the Three Sisters Garden. Once details are final, they will be shared with the Committee.

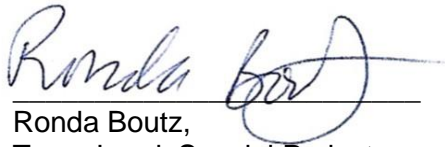
In addition to SNC support, funding for activities to date has been provided by Ontario Power Generation, Forests Ontario (grants from Enbridge Gas and TD Bank), and the Jane Goodall Foundation. The Working Group partners also provide in-kind resources and staffing support for events.

Committee members are encouraged to visit the site at 8040 Shanly Road (County Road 22), Shanly, ON; site is just north of the Shanly Road and Vantor Road intersection. As an SNC property, this site is open to the public.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

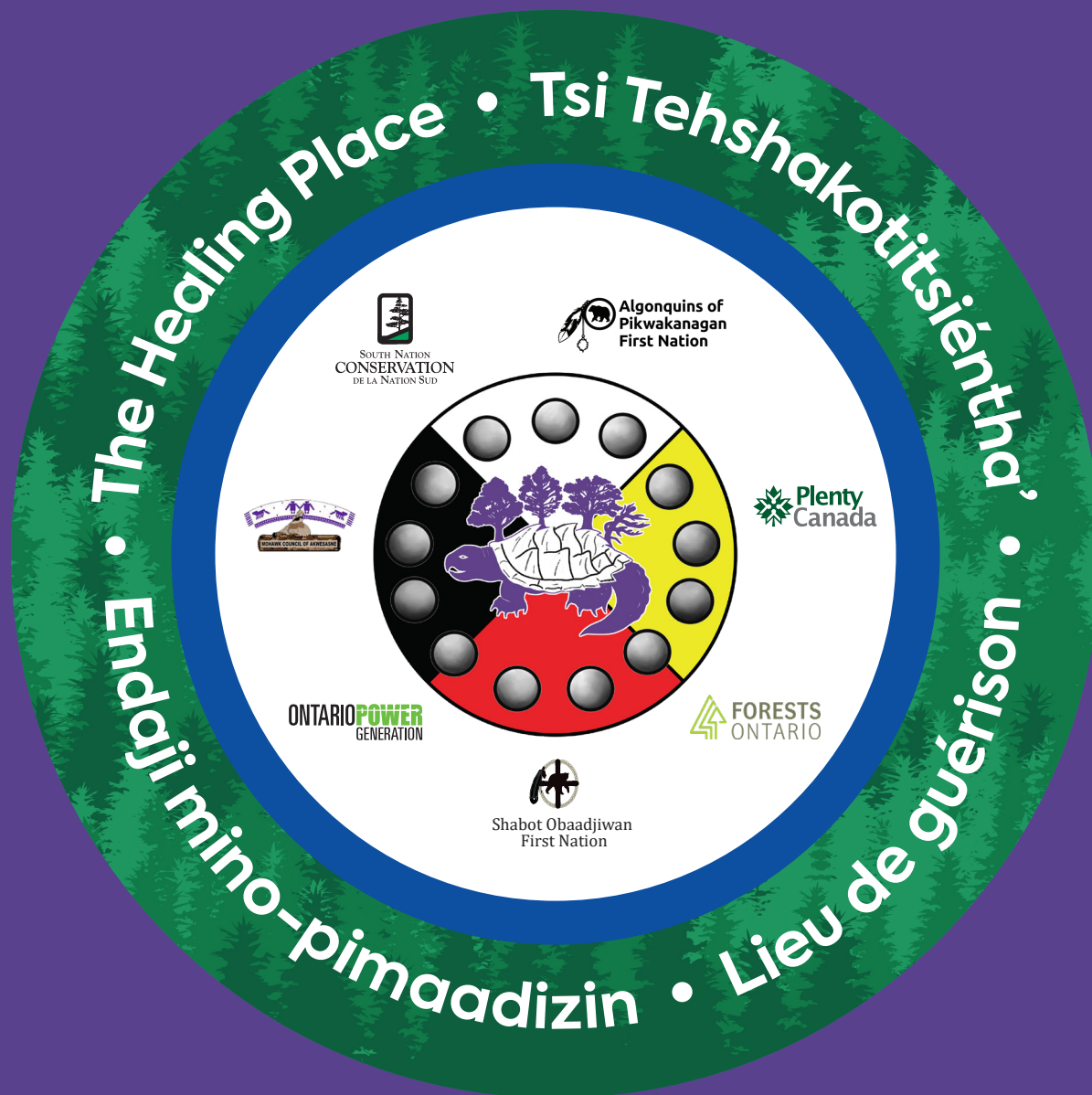
Compliance with Budget: The Healing Place project is included in the 2022 Budget under Resource Management: Projects: Habitat Restoration. Note, the Budget does not include additional grants received from the Jane Goodall Institute, Ontario Power Generation, and Forests Ontario for 2022 activities.

SNC Policy Adherence: All purchases related to the project adheres to the SNC Purchasing Policy.


Ronda Boutz,
Team Lead, Special Projects.

For: 
Chris Craig,
Senior Forestry Technician.

Attachments: Reconciliation and Climate Change Planting



Reconciliation and Climate Change Planting

Reconciliation and Climate Change Planting

The Healing Place • Tsi Tehshakotitsiéntha' • Endaji mino-pimaadizin • Lieu de guérison



The Healing Place is a community green space located on the traditional territories of the Algonquin and Mohawk Nations in eastern Ontario. It was created in the fall of 2020 through a Reconciliation and Climate Change Planting event planned through collaborative partnership.

The project partners have committed to continued maintenance and expansion of the site, as well as to the creation of a Healing Place network across the province and country in order to meaningfully engage Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities in a restorative process, creating physical places of healing while at the same time cultivating safe, ethical spaces.

More than a planting site or event, The Healing Place represents an important step forward in the journey towards reconciliation.

The Seed: Background

The seed for this project was first planted at the 2019 Assembly of First Nation's Climate Change Summit in Whitehorse, Yukon, when Eli Enns (Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation; Cofounder, CEO, and President of the IISAAK OLAM Foundation) and Curtis Scurr (Mohawk of the Bay of Quinte; Associate Director of the Assembly of First Nation's Environment Sector) approached Larry McDermott (Algonquin from Shabot Obaadjiwan First Nation; Executive Director of



Plenty Canada), pictured top left, with the idea of offsetting event participants' travel-related carbon emissions through tree planting. Larry in turn presented the idea to Chris Craig (member of Algonquins of Pikwakanagan; Senior Forestry Technician at South Nation Conservation), pictured middle left, and together they brought the idea to South Nation Conservation and the Eastern Ontario First Nation Working Group.



From there, the partnership grew, and the Reconciliation and Climate Change Planting Working Group was formed to advance the project; they committed to meeting on a regular basis to build their relationships with each other and plan the planting event.



The name of the site, The Healing Place, was born from a comment made by Abraham Francis (Mohawk from Akwesasne; Environmental Services Manager for the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne), pictured bottom left, regarding how forests are seen as safe and healing places by many, especially so by Indigenous peoples. Additionally, the name speaks to both the medicinal applications and traditional uses of the species planted there. The name also reflects the opportunity and necessity to build relationships and heal some of the pain that systemic oppression and violence towards Indigenous peoples has caused throughout Canada's history.

The Roots: Governance



From the start, the intent of this project was more than simply planning a planting event; rather, it was – and still is – about creating and maintaining a space of healing. As such, following a few initial meetings, project partners recognized the need to invest in a governance structure that accommodates Indigenous and non-Indigenous ways of transferring knowledge, tradition, and ceremony.

The Working Group dedicated several meetings to discuss governance structure and negotiate how two different First Nation ways could be incorporated. Following these discussions, the group adopted components of both traditional Algonquin and Haudenosaunee ways of governance, which have always been practiced out of respect for each other and all creation (and have become second nature to South Nation Conservation).

The overall success and impact of The Healing Place was contingent upon a strong root system – a governance structure founded upon ethical space, two-eyed seeing, and the concept that all voices are equal and important. The following methodology guided all project activities:

- **Begin each meeting with a traditional opening.**
Ceremony is a major part of all First Nations gatherings; conducting a prayer, smudging, or both is a way for all to become united in the same space, mind, heart, and spirit.
- **Pass the feather.**
This allows all the opportunity to speak and be part of a circle as equals.
- **Use the Two Row Wampum Belt, One Bowl One Spoon Wampum Belt, the Friendship Belt, and the 1764 Royal Proclamation Belt as a guide.**
There is a need to identify that the group is non-political, and to create ethical space where all can be comfortable not to worry about retribution of words spoken during group gatherings.
- **Flexible governance.**
Ensure various voices are heard and skill sets are used efficiently. Accommodate needs of both oral Indigenous and western written knowledge transfer systems.
- **Group consensus.**
All share a common end goal, and each member has equal opportunity to participate in discussion and decision making.
- **End each meeting with a traditional closing.**
This allows us to collectively express our gratitude for the opportunity to share our responsibilities for the continuation of all life and learn from each other.

Despite needing to convene virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Working Group was able to meet regularly without sacrificing traditional ceremony elements.

The Trunk: Partnership



The Healing Place is a unique project in many senses. It is the first local project of its kind where so many different partners and perspectives have been unified around a collective impact.

This project brought partners from Indigenous, non-Indigenous, and different First Nations backgrounds together, building upon the positive beliefs and stories that each group shares and facilitating both Indigenous-to-non-Indigenous and Indigenous-to-Indigenous knowledge transfer.



Also unique, the establishment of The Healing Place relied upon equal parts relationship building and project management, with heavy focus placed upon creating trust between partners. The partnership formed through The Healing Place is an ongoing entity, and is made up of:

- Algonquins of Pikwakanagan
- Mohawks of Akwesasne
- Shabot Obaadjiwan First Nation
- Assembly of First Nations
- Plenty Canada
- South Nation Conservation
- Forests Ontario
- Ontario Power Generation

Though each partner contributed unique resources and insight to the group, all worked together collaboratively to support the development of the governance structure, explore how reconciliation and two-eyed seeing could guide event planning, work to incorporate Indigenous teachings directly into the planting site plan, and discuss how The Healing Place could continue to engage community members, support the sharing of stories, and act as an educational resource long after planting.



“*When we put trees in the ground, we create more than just a physical forest that we see. We create an environment in which the mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual are all cultivated – they are all honoured, they are all part of that experience. When we do something like that together, we bond and become stronger in our relationships.*”

At one level, this planting event is a small gesture; at another level, it's hugely important. It brings a number of partners into the process, it allows us to tell our stories as we see them, and it gives us an opportunity to learn from each other and to help others learn about what's really important. To me, that is reconciliation. ”

Larry McDermott

The Branches: The Site and Event

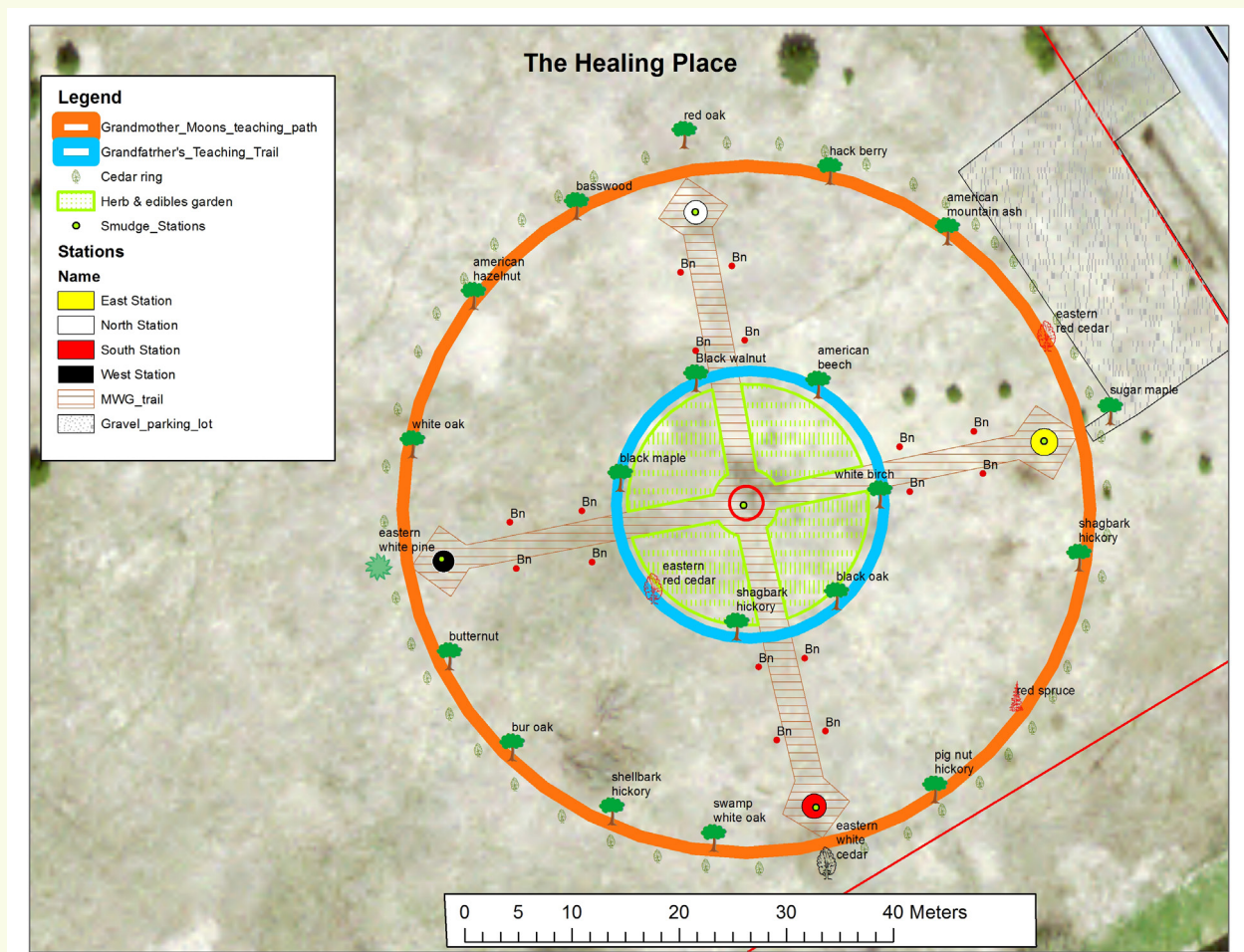


The Healing Place, planted on September 23, 2020 (National Tree Day), stands on the traditional territories of the Algonquin and Mohawk Nations in Shanly, Ontario. The 89-acre site, located on South Nation Conservation property, is home to several grassland Species at Risk, including the Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, and locally significant Gorgon Checkerspot butterfly.

Indigenous knowledge was interwoven into every aspect of The Healing Place, including species selection, site design, and graphic representation. In total, over 250 culturally significant trees, shrubs, and other species were planted according to a design by Chris Craig based on the medicine wheel and other cultural considerations.

Like the circle of life, the medicine wheel has no beginning and no end. The four pillars of life (mental, spiritual, emotional, and physical connections) and cardinal directions are represented in the wheel's spokes. Each colour of the wheel (white, yellow, red, and black) reflect the four elements all life depends upon: fire, earth, air, and water. Plant species and their locations were selected intentionally based upon cultural considerations.

- The east, where we enter and leave the circle, is also the entrance and exit to the site. Each direction is marked by a culturally significant tree: Red Oak in the north, Sugar Maple in the east, White Cedar in the south, and White Pine in the west.
- Medicinal herbs and berries such as strawberries, raspberries, red currant, white currant, gooseberries, and black berries were planted in the centre of the site.
- Seven trees were planted in the interior of the wheel and 13 along the exterior of the wheel to represent the seven Grandfather teachings and the 13 moons, respectively.
- An outside ring of Eastern White Cedars enclose the site, providing a quiet, safe place for self-healing.
- The land-based culture of Indigenous people intrinsically incorporates the presence of endangered tree species, such as the Butternut, and keystone tree species, such as the Sugar Maple, that ultimately promote biodiversity.



Twenty-five community and First Nations partners gathered to help plant The Healing Place. The planting event commenced with a traditional opening ceremony featuring a drum circle, smudging, offering of tobacco, and the Words Before All Else. The majority of the event was live streamed on Facebook for those unable to attend. It should be noted that interest in participating in this event was extremely high, but attendance had to be limited due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Funding from Assembly of First Nations, TD Bank Group, Enbridge Gas, and Ontario Power Generation was integral in supporting the establishment of The Healing Place. The site was donated through the Ecological Gift Program by John Gruntke with the intention to preserve ecological integrity.

The Forest: Vision for the Future



Truly, The Healing Place is more than a planting site or green space. It's about acknowledging and celebrating the connection between land and Indigenous culture. It's about stimulating difficult but important conversations. It's about beginning to restore land, health, language, and relationships. It's about working together to co-create an alternative future.

Our vision is simple: A network of Healing Places across the country where community members from both Indigenous and non-Indigenous backgrounds can come together and participate in the healing process of reconciliation, so that we may all learn how to move forward together. We will work towards this vision by continuing to maintain, expand, and identify opportunities for education on this site, while also carrying the idea to other communities.

Planting can support reconciliation only when it meaningfully engages all involved in a participatory manner. As such, it is each of our responsibilities to work together. As a group, we have made a long-term commitment to The Healing Place and the continual learning that comes with it; we have made a commitment to the concept of feeding the bundle and polishing the belt. We recognize that this is not a project with an end date, but rather an eternal lesson with its own heartbeat.

[Join Us On Our Journey](#)

To learn more and get involved with The Healing Place, please contact:
healingplaceinfo@plentycanada.com

“

This is a story that we tell; this is going to be a healing story that has many lessons, has many teachings for future generations. We're not just the descendants of our ancestors, we are future ancestors as Indigenous peoples, as people of this land.

Abraham Francis





The Healing Place • Tsi Tehshakotitsiéntha' • Endaji mino-pimaadizin • Lieu de guérison

00020



To: Forestry Committee
From: John Mesman, Team Lead, Community Lands and Outreach
Date: June 1, 2022
Subject: Update: Storm Damage in the SNC Forest

RECOMMENDATION:

The Forestry Committee receive and file the update on storm damage within the SNC Forest, and

FURTHER THAT the Forestry Committee recommend that a staff report be shared with the Board of Directors on operational requirements of salvage cuts.

DISCUSSION:

On Saturday, May 21st, 2022, a powerful storm event swept across many parts of the province, including the South Nation Conservation (SNC) watershed, leaving behind significant damage in its wake.

Several of SNC's 15 Conservation Areas were affected and staff surveyed damage and closed several properties and trails over the May Long Weekend due to safety concerns from fallen and damaged trees.

Most boat launches and docks were already temporarily closed due to high water levels and flows during the Water Safety Statement that was in effect for the watershed from May 17th to 24th due to significant rainfall received.

By Friday, May 27th all Conservation Area trails and boat launches were reopened once immediate hazards were addressed, with the exception of the following two areas:

- Two Creek Forest Conservation Area in South Dundas – which remains closed due to seasonally wet conditions and flooded trails.
- Jessup's Falls Conservation Area in Alfred-Plantagenet – which suffered the worst damage from the storm and will require several weeks of work and contractor support to re-open the seasonal property.

Inspections were completed in the SNC Forest within the Township of Alfred-Plantagenet on May 24th to assess potential damage while tree management work was prioritized in publicly accessible areas to ensure that residents can safely step outdoors and into nature.

Storm damage was reported on six SNC properties (SNC 32, 33, 48, 69, 72, and 83) that were located within the storm path and will require follow-up remediation. There were no hazards identified along roadways and staff are communicating with adjacent property owners to support the removal of debris.

Signs will be posted along roadways of several forested properties to alert nearby residents of potential tree hazards while SNC prioritizes restoration work.



SOUTH NATION
CONSERVATION
DE LA NATION SUD



Two SNC properties (SNC 69 and 82) received extensive damage to Red and White Pine plantations and will require salvage cuts. Staff are working with contractors to determine options for salvage operations. An update will be provided to the SNC Board of Directors.

SNC thanks its municipal partners and emergency responders for support provided in certain areas to help clean up and regain access to public properties.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget: Staff time for forest management and related operations are included within the approved 2022 SNC Budget: Property: Conservation Lands: SNC Forest pg. 36-37

SNC Policy Adherence: Recommendations are consistent with SNC Forestry Policy.

John Mesman,
Team Lead, Community Lands and Outreach.