



## Woodlot Storm Recovery Program - Application Guidelines

On May 21, 2022, a derecho, a narrow line of intense winds up to 100km/hr, caused extensive damage to forested areas in Eastern Ontario from the City of Ottawa eastward through the municipalities of Clarence-Rockland, Alfred-Plantagenet, Champlain, and East Hawkesbury.

Partnerships with the Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario, and partner municipalities have enabled the establishment of a recovery program for woodlot owners affected by natural disasters like the May 2022 Derecho Storm.

This program is based on the long-standing success of South Nation Conservation's (SNC) Tree Planting and Woodlot Advisory Programs which offer free advice on the management of private woodlots, support the creation of Forest Management Plans, and provide cost-share funding to help source, plant, and tend tree seedlings.

This reforestation program will also provide enhanced funding for storm clean up and site preparation to help prepare sites for tree planting with the objective of restoring the forest, increasing forest resilience through biodiversity, and sequestering carbon.

Considering the volume of work and availability of both contractors and nursery stock the project has been established for a five-year duration (2023-2027). Future maintenance costs beyond the project duration are the responsibility of the landowner.

The management framework includes a site visit to each interested and eligible landowner's property to determine their site-specific objectives, the preparation of a silvicultural prescription by a qualified forestry professional, a tree planting plan, survival assessments, and possible tending, all based on the site-specific evaluation. SNC, on behalf of landowners, will administer all work to complete forest restoration.

The project will maintain or enhance carbon-storing potential of these forest areas while enhancing biodiversity and resiliency to climate change.

The grant program recognizes that landowners may have reacted on their own to manage the effects of the derecho storm event before this funding was announced. Funding is retroactive for eligible work completed after May 21, 2022 that conforms to the project objectives and guidelines.

Funding will be provided when the project is completed, inspected to the satisfaction of SNC, and when copies of **all** invoices with acceptable proof of payment, permits, and any other required paperwork are provided. Invoices must provide a detailed breakdown of labour hours, quantities of materials purchased and associated costs.





### **Eligible Applicants**

Woodlot landowners, with a minimum of 4.0 hectares, within the City of Ottawa and the United Counties of Prescott-Russell impacted by the May 2022 derecho storm event.

- Applications will be tracked by registered owner, tax roll and/or property identification number (PIN).
- Landowners must be willing to enter into a site preparation and tree planting agreement with SNC.

**Note:** Funding is limited, and supply of tree seedling is subject to availability, therefore work will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Additional landowners will be placed on a waiting list.

### **Eligible Costs**

- Permits and approvals
- Supplies and materials directly related to access for cleanup or site preparation (i.e gravel, culverts, etc.)
- Contract labour and equipment
- Professional fees

### **Ineligible Costs**

- Labour or machinery use of applicant, family dependents, or applicant's business
- Costs of equipment purchased or rented (ie. ATVs, tractors, chainsaws etc.)
- Gas and oil
- Taxes

### **Funding**

- 100% of professional services
- 100% of site preparation costs (supplies, materials, contractor equipment and labour)
- Subsidized tree planting. Landowner costs: \$1.05 per conifer seedlings and \$1.58 per hardwood seedling

**Note:** Expenses incurred from May 21, 2022 may be eligible for retroactive payments.