

2019 2020 ANNUAL REPORT



FORESTS
ONTARIO





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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

Forests Ontario has always prided itself on being the voice for Ontario's forests, striving to create a future where healthy forests sustain healthy communities and a robust economy. This year was no different: we built upon our vision and the strength of our staff, partners, and programs to successfully amplify our forests' message. We worked tirelessly and successfully to cement our position as the go-to organization for tree planting and forest education and awareness across both the province and country, despite external challenges.

By 'external challenges,' we are, of course, referring to COVID-19. The global pandemic turned the whole world on its head, and Forests Ontario was not exempt. This situation has brought several things to light: forestry's designation (and all related activities) as an essential sector, Forests Ontario's ability to adapt and rise to *any* challenge, and the role our forests will play in leading a green recovery.

Even before discussions began about 'building back better,' Canada had already made a commitment to invest in nature-based solutions when, in the fall of 2019, Prime Minister Trudeau made a promise to plant two billion trees by 2030. Forests Ontario applauds the federal government's commitment, as we know better than most the many values tree planting provides, from purifying the air we breathe and water we drink, to providing wildlife habitat, to supporting jobs and local economies, to mitigating climate change.

Our organization has made great strides in 2019/2020 towards increasing canopy cover in Ontario and Canada as a whole: the planting of 1.9 million trees was facilitated through our newly re-launched and more accessible 50 Million Tree Program; our national division Forest Recovery Canada saw trees take root in five provinces, from Nova Scotia to British Columbia; and fruitful partnerships with other organizations created new opportunities to further green the province. And all of this in spite of the challenges imposed by COVID-19. In total, we've planted more than 34 million trees since 2004.

We recognize that a full landscape approach is what is needed to ensure a healthy environment. For this reason, we have introduced Grasslands Ontario's Grasslands Stewardship Initiative (GSI), a program which provides awareness and support towards the creation, enhancement, and maintenance of grassland habitat across Southern Ontario. After successfully administrating and supporting the implementation of grassland habitat restoration projects through this program, we are pleased to announce that the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has committed to supporting the GSI program for the next three years. This positions Forests Ontario as a leading practitioner as we head into the United Nations' Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

In addition to restoring landscapes, our education and awareness programs have promoted the social, economic, and environmental importance of forests in classrooms, at events, and online. It is of foremost importance to us to teach the next generation to be stewards of our forests and introduce them to the exciting forest sector careers available to them, which we do through programs like Forestry Connects, Envirothon, and Forestry in the Classroom. Our It Takes a Forest initiative provides a balanced perspective on Ontario's forestry sector and world-class forest management practices, engaging government, industry, other ENGOs, and the public at large. It is these efforts which culminated in Forests Ontario being recognized by name in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's *Sustainable Growth: Ontario's Forest Sector Strategy*.

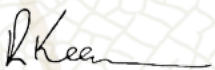
This year also marked the launch of our Reconciliation Community Tree Plant program, funded through TD Bank Group. Through this program, Forests Ontario engages with Indigenous communities and organizations to plan and hold planting events, each with their own unique vision, format, and contributions to the broader goal of reconciliation. This fall, we worked with several First

Nations communities and other partners to hold two extremely successful planting events, creating 'The Healing Place' in Shanly, Ontario and a multi-generational forest stand in Ohsweken, Ontario. We are looking forward to more Reconciliation Community Tree Plants this coming spring.

These accomplishments are considerable on their own, but made all the more impressive in light of COVID-19. We owe this to our most powerful assets: our members, our partners, our sponsors, our directors, and our staff. Thank you for your support and for adding your voice to ours and to that of our forests'.

The past two years, marked by obstacles and hurdles, have not been easy ones, but they have been incredibly rewarding as we have been continuously bolstered by our overwhelmingly supportive and inspiring audience. Our supporters have also been an enlightening litmus test of our unshakeable strength as an organization and our unwavering voice as spokesperson for our forests. We will continue to work towards our mission of supporting forest restoration, stewardship, education, and awareness so that our forests may continue to be as resilient as we have been.

All the best,



Rob Keen, RPF

CEO

Forests Ontario and Forest Recovery Canada



Steve Hounsell

President and Chair

Forests Ontario and Forest Recovery Canada



Rob Keen
CEO



Steve Hounsell
President

WHO WE ARE



The integral role forests play in supporting the health of both our population and our environment was heavily underscored over the past year.

As the lungs of our planet, trees and their ability to clean the air we breathe are especially valuable as the world battles COVID-19, a respiratory virus. Our forests also nourish our mental health, providing a socially-distanced respite for thousands of people amidst a global pandemic.

The effects of climate change continue to increase in severity, and our forests are our front-line defenders. Their canopies help to cool the landscape, providing relief from intense heat; their roots soak up rainwater, improving soil quality while simultaneously reducing the risk of major flooding; their trunks and branches provide shelter for all manner of wildlife, nurturing a biodiverse and resilient landscape.

As the voice for our forests, Forests Ontario continues to deliver high quality tree planting programs like the 50 Million Tree Program and encourage environmental education opportunities through events like the Ontario Envirothon and Tree Bee. We help to bring community awareness to the importance of healthy and sustainable forests through Community Tree Plant events, our Annual Conference, and the It Takes a Forest initiative.

By supporting the health of our forests, we support the health of Ontarians across the province. This is just as important – perhaps even more so – during times of uncertainty and global crisis. Nearly two million trees were planted this past spring through the 50 Million Tree Program, contributing to the more than 31 million trees planted through the program since its inception in 2008. Education programs were delivered virtually, and community engagement continues to happen as safely as possible. Forests Ontario remains dedicated to its mission of supporting healthy forests, healthy people, and a healthy economy.

VISION

Ontario's forested landscapes sustain healthy people and a healthy economy.

MISSION

To be the voice for Ontario's forests by supporting forest restoration, stewardship, education and awareness.

TREE PLANTING & MAINTENANCE

Our forest restoration efforts support the planting of millions of trees across the province and country each year. In order to enhance ecosystem resilience and adaptation in the face of new and mounting environmental challenges, Forests Ontario works in collaboration with seed collectors, nurseries, planting partners, landowners, the government, and other NGOs to increase forest cover through large-scale planting and effective forest management, seeking the maximum ecological, hydrological, and social benefits from all restoration activities.

FOREST EDUCATION

Through a variety of delivery methods, Forests Ontario's education programs empower youth to understand natural ecosystems and develop the skills and knowledge required to become future environmental stewards. At their core, our education products aim to connect students to nature and support them in developing a passion for the outdoors. Programs like the Ontario Envirothon and Forestry Connects continue to inspire the next generation of forest stewards.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Forests Ontario's awareness efforts are focused on telling the story of forest management in Ontario and its role in fostering healthy and prosperous communities. We promote and celebrate our forests and the work of forestry professionals through social media, presentations, publications, events, and the It Takes a Forest initiative.

TREE PLANTING & MAINTENANCE





Forests Ontario Planting Delivery Agents visit Ferguson Tree Nursery in Kemptville, Ontario for a fall stock viewing day.

90 partners

We have worked with more than 90 partners to deliver large-scale tree planting and forest restoration projects throughout the province and country.

TREE PLANTING INITIATIVES

Forests Ontario's planting programs reflect our desire for a future in which forests continue to support human health, resilient ecosystems, vibrant communities, and economic opportunity.

We have worked with more than 90 partners to deliver large-scale tree planting and forest restoration projects throughout the province and country. Our tree planting

programs are science-based, steering the process from seed collection all the way to follow-up assessments post-planting, ensuring that the trees we plant today grow into the healthy and abundant forests of tomorrow.

Forests Ontario is proud to be growing our forests as a resource for future generations.

THE 50 MILLION TREE PROGRAM

Forests Ontario's 50 Million Tree Program (50 MTP) has facilitated the planting of more than 31 million trees since 2008.

The 50 MTP offers financial and technical assistance to planting partners in order to increase forest cover in Ontario. The program helps communities by mitigating flooding, increasing property values, creating wildlife habitat, purifying air, and sequestering carbon.

A relaunch of the 50 MTP this year increased the accessibility of the program, allowing property owners with the space to plant as few as 500 trees to take part. The 50 MTP offers different types of plantings, such as:

Afforestation

Planting trees on land that is mostly open with no previous tree cover. This can include marginal or abandoned farmland that was logged historically.



Riparian

Planting sites that line the edges of waterbodies to improve water quality and habitat while stabilizing stream banks.

Windbreak

Planting rows of trees that reduce windspeeds and act as wildlife corridors.



Restoration

Planting to restore native forests and habitat following damage from fires, weather, or invasive species.

The COVID-19 pandemic posed some challenges for the 50 MTP's spring 2020 planting season. However, once forestry was deemed an essential service in Ontario, we worked with our partners to create new safety protocols for tree planting. Though some planting delivery agents held off planting or deferred planting sites to 2021, Forests Ontario still managed to see nearly two million trees take root through the 50 MTP.

With funding from the Government of Canada, corporate sponsors, and donors, we continue working towards our target of planting 50 million trees.



31+ million trees

Forests Ontario's 50 Million Tree Program has facilitated the planting of more than 31 million trees since 2008.

OVER-THE-COUNTER PROGRAM

Forests Ontario's Over-the-Counter Program, launched in 2020, allows property owners to purchase seedlings at a reduced rate. It is ideal for landowners whose properties don't meet the criteria for the 50 MTP. Thus far, the Over-the-Counter has been successful in supporting small-scale tree plantings in Ontario, having sold more than a quarter-of-a-million seedlings.

HIGHWAY OF HEROES TREE CAMPAIGN

The Highway of Heroes Tree Campaign and Forests Ontario have teamed up to reduce tree planting costs for eligible landowners living within 30 kilometres of the Highway 401 corridor running between Windsor and Cornwall. These trees are being planted to honour Canadian veterans and those currently serving in the armed forces.

Despite the challenges of COVID-19, more than half-a-million seedlings were planted across 181 properties in the spring of 2020 through this partnership.

GRANDTREES

Forests Ontario has partnered with GrandTrees, a group formed by climate-concerned grandparents with a goal of increasing tree cover in the Greater Toronto Area. This past fiscal year, the partnership saw more than 40,000 trees take root.

GRASSLANDS ONTARIO

Grasslands Ontario, a division of Forests Ontario, provides support towards the creation, enhancement, and maintenance of grassland habitat across Ontario. This initiative aims to protect and recover populations of Species At Risk Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark, with added benefits including improved soil quality and carbon capture. Grasslands Ontario sites typically occur on farmlands, conservation areas, and nature reserves.

In 2019-2020, Grasslands Ontario received an overwhelming 36 applications from interested partners. Nearly 200 hectares of grasslands were created, enhanced, or maintained across 16 different project sites.

FOREST RECOVERY CANADA

Forest Recovery Canada, Forests Ontario's national tree planting division, delivers coast-to-coast large-scale tree planting with an emphasis on increasing forest connectivity. Forest Recovery Canada also performs rehabilitative plantings on sites that have been damaged by the impacts of climate change, such as invasive species, droughts, wildfires, or floods. This fiscal, more than 12,000 trees were planted outside Ontario through Forest Recovery Canada in British Columbia, Alberta, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and California!

In the spring of 2020, Forest Recovery Canada contributed towards the reforestation of nearly 10 acres in northern California's Klamath National Forest, which has been unable to naturally regenerate following multiple wildfires. Forest Recovery Canada's contribution helped restore the landscape and re-establish critical habitat for wildlife, such as Northern Spotted Owl and Coho Salmon.

Forest Recovery Canada's supporters include Honda Canada, Rogers Communications, and Howland Green.



TREE MARKING PROGRAM

Forests Ontario delivers the Ontario Tree Marker Training Program under an agreement with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and in partnership with the Canadian Institute of Forestry.

Tree markers help care for forests and enhance biodiversity by carefully selecting trees for harvest or retention based upon several factors. Tree Marker Training courses teach forest ecology and Ontario forest management practices, and Level 1 certification is mandatory for all tree markers working on Crown land.

Three courses are typically offered:

Level 1: Tree Marking 101

Level 2: Crew Boss and Auditor Training

Level 3: Refresher Course

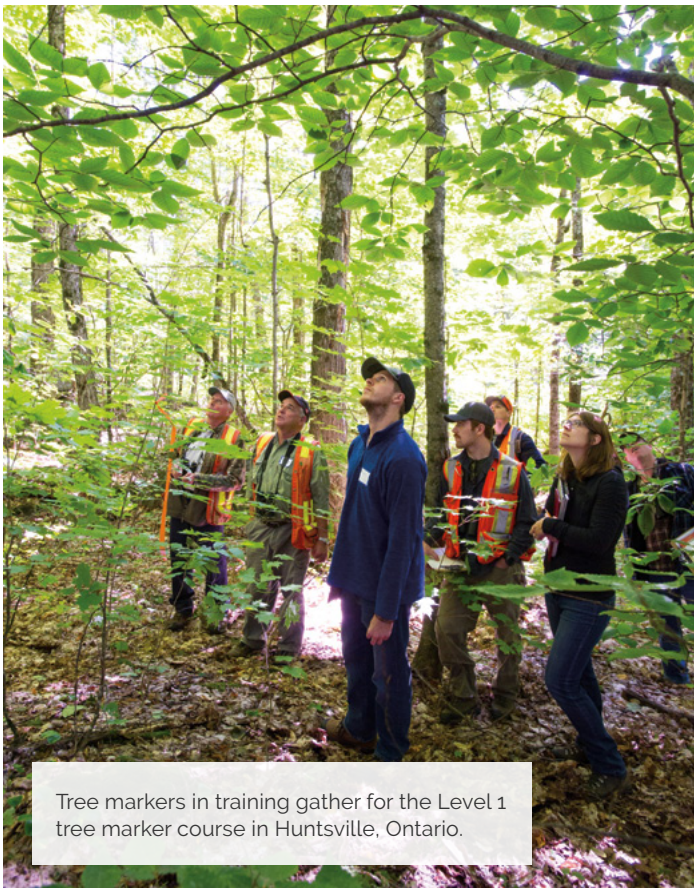
Due to COVID-19, the 2020 courses were deferred to 2021 for the health and safety of the course administrators and participants.

SEED COLLECTION & FORECASTING

Forests Ontario is concerned about the changing climate and the impact it will have on the long-term health of our forests. It is paramount that the right trees are planted in the right place for the right reasons to ensure ecological integrity – this all comes down to seed.

Federal funding continues to support Forests Ontario's growing seed acquisition program, which saw the employment of more than 40 province-wide seed and cone collectors and processing of 8.6 million viable seeds this year. In total, our seed bank holds 205 million viable seeds.

We continue to work with partners like the Forest Gene Conservation Association to develop guidelines for seed forecasting under climate change.




Tree markers in training gather for the Level 1 tree marker course in Huntsville, Ontario.



TREE PLANTING DELIVERY PARTNERS

The background of the image is a solid olive green. It features a stylized, light-colored graphic of palm fronds that sweep across the frame from the top left towards the bottom right. A thin, wavy, light-colored line runs horizontally across the middle of the image, separating the upper text area from the lower graphic area.



Thank you to the seed and cone collectors, nurseries, and planting partners whose experience, expertise, and enormous efforts enabled us to successfully and safely complete the 2020 planting season amidst a global pandemic! We're proud to work with you to make Ontario's forests greener.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



2019 TORONTO CHRISTMAS MARKET

For the ninth year in a row, Forests Ontario participated in the Distillery Historic District's Toronto Christmas Market.

We sold nearly 500 locally grown Christmas trees and wreaths to marketgoers and a growing list of faithful customers, with all proceeds going towards our tree planting programs. In collaboration with the Canadian Christmas Tree Growers Association, we also provided the centrepiece of the market: a 50-foot Balsam Fir, which was adorned with 40,000 lights, 800 ornaments, and one kilometre of ribbon.

Between a tree raising event, a tree lighting ceremony, and National Christmas Tree Day celebrations, Forests Ontario was able to reach countless Ontarians with the message that real, locally-sourced trees are the green choice.

2020 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Forests Ontario's 2020 Annual Conference was held at the Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston, Ontario on February 14th. The conference, *We the Forest*, brought together more than 400 guests, including forestry professionals, landowners, Indigenous leaders, educators, and students under the theme of collaboration for our forests' future.

This conference marked the first year of a standalone student session, which was attended by nearly 100 forestry students from Fleming College and the University of Toronto.

We the Forest showcased a diverse range of speakers, including keynote speaker Carol Phillips of Moriyama and Teshima Architects, a multigenerational panel discussion, and closing address by Tim Johnson and Deb Pella Keen from The Great Niagara Escarpment.

“It’s fitting that our conference is on Valentine’s Day, as a love for forests repays a thousand-fold. Our forests provide us with food, shelter, and warmth; they support the ecosystem services we depend on; they fight climate change – when we take care of our forests, they take care of us.”

– Rob Keen, CEO



Forests Ontario staff raising awareness of the value of our forests at the 2019 Toronto Christmas Market.



Ernie Demuth, Haliburton Forest & Wild Life Reserve, presents at Forests Ontario's 2020 Annual Conference in Alliston, Ontario.



Bill Montgomery from the Upper Canada District School Board at the opening ceremony of the Reconciliation and Climate Change Plant in Shanly, Ontario.



Mother and child participate in Reconciliation Community Tree Plant at Kayanase Greenhouse.

ECOHEALTH ONTARIO

Forests Ontario is the backbone organization for EcoHealth Ontario, a collaborative of professionals in the fields of medicine, public health, education, planning, parks, and the environment. EcoHealth Ontario promotes the connections between environmental and human health and seeks to improve the wellness of Ontarians through increased greenspace, ecosystem health and diversity, and access to nature.

This year, EcoHealth Ontario published *A Conceptual Framework to Understand the Business Case for EcoHealth in Ontario* in collaboration with Greenbelt Foundation and Ontario Trillium Foundation. The report, prepared by Green Analytics, presents a conceptual framework that connects investments in greenspaces to health benefits and the associated economic value of improvements in public health.

EcoHealth Ontario continues to explore opportunities to work with various organizations to advance awareness of the importance of green infrastructure on the wellbeing of our communities.

RECONCILIATION COMMUNITY TREE PLANT

2020 marked the launch of Forests Ontario's Reconciliation Community Tree Plant program. Through this program, Forests Ontario partners with First Nations communities

across the province to deliver unique tree planting events while creating a platform to share stories and knowledge and highlighting the intersection of ecological restoration and reconciliation.

Two Reconciliation Community Tree Plants were held in the fall of 2020.

On September 23rd, National Tree Day, 25 community and First Nations partners gathered for a socially distanced Reconciliation and Climate Change Tree Plant on Algonquin and Mohawk Nations traditional territory in Shanly, Ontario. In total, 250 culturally significant trees and shrubs were planted.

On September 30th, a Reconciliation Community Tree Plant took place in the Six Nations of the Grand River Reserve. This event focused on education, awareness, and environmental stewardship. One-hundred-and-fifty trees were planted.

Forests Ontario extends many thanks to TD Bank Group, the founding sponsor of the Reconciliation Community Tree Plant program, as well as to Enbridge Gas, Assembly of First Nations, and Ontario Power Generation for making these event possible. We are also very grateful to our event partners: Plenty Canada, Mohawks of Akwesasne, Algonquins of Pikwakanagan, Shabot Obaadjiwan First Nation, South Nation Conservation, Ontario Power Generation, Kayanase, and Grand River Employment and Training Inc.

NATIONAL FOREST WEEK 'TREEVIA'

2020 marked the 100th anniversary of National Forest Week. Running from September 20th to 26th, this year's theme was "Healthy Forests – Healthy Future."

The week-long event was established in 1920 to encourage greater public awareness of Canada's forests. During this week, Forests Ontario takes the opportunity to teach Canadians about our country's forest heritage and lead celebrations of forest resources.

This National Forest Week, Forests Ontario launched 'Treevia' – its first ever online trivia event, testing more than 30 participants' knowledge with 40 questions spanning forest history, silviculture, wildlife, and wood products. Two lucky winners took home prize packs, generously donated by Patagonia.

Let's see if we can stump you: Which forest bird can be identified by its distinctive call, "Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you-all?" Answer at bottom of page.

- A) Barred Owl
- B) Great Horned Owl
- C) Snowy Owl
- D) Great Gray Owl

HERITAGE TREE

The Heritage Tree Program collects and tells the stories of Ontario's diverse and unique trees. It was launched in 2009 in partnership between Forests Ontario and the Ontario Urban Forest Council to increase awareness of the social, cultural, and ecological value of trees in our province. To be accepted into this program, nominated trees must be culturally significant, be associated with a historic person or event, and/or be growing on land that is historically significant. To date, over 100 trees have been recognized through the Heritage Tree Program.

This year, Forests Ontario approved two new Heritage Trees – a sprawling Sugar Maple in Picton and a majestic Black Walnut in Morrisburg, Ontario.

In September 2020, Ontario Horticultural Trades Foundation contributed to supporting our Heritage Tree Program, which will allow us to designate more trees of cultural and historical significance.



Gisèle Mitrow and Normand Dessureault in front of the Heritage Tree on their property in Morrisburg, ON. Photo credit: Rebecca Comfort, Morrisburg Leader staff.

EDUCATION & AWARENESS





Scott Jackson, Forests Ontario's Director of Indigenous & Stakeholder Relations, delivers a presentation on sustainable forest management to the Toronto Society of Architects.

At Forests Ontario, we firmly believe that making connections between Ontarians and our forests today is integral in ensuring healthy landscapes tomorrow. As a result, we work hard to connect youth and adults alike to our forests in hopes of inspiring action in support of healthy, natural ecosystems.

IT TAKES A FOREST

It Takes a Forest (ITAF) is a collaborative initiative, led by Forests Ontario, with the goal of providing fact-based information on Ontario's forests, the sustainable management of these forests, and the values they provide.

2019-2020 was a watershed year for ITAF. Digitally, the initiative saw a 165 per cent increase in social media followers, the launch of a new Instagram account, the creation of more than 30 new publicly accessible resources, and the launch of an interactive map of wood buildings across Canada created in collaboration with the Canadian Wood Council and Ontario Wood WORKS!.

ITAF also initiated four new billboards in northern Ontario as part of a funding agreement and collaboration with FedNor and Canadian Wood Council/Ontario WoodWORKS!; this collaboration will see a total of 24 new billboards by the end of 2021.

Most notably, ITAF was mentioned by name in the Government of Ontario's forest sector strategy: "In Ontario, we have the third-party "It Takes a Forest" initiative that is helping to make the public aware of our strong record of sustainable forest management." *Sustainable Growth: Ontario Forest Sector Strategy*



Tree Bee activities have engaged youth for more than six decades. Forests Ontario is proud to keep this legacy going.

Leaf IT TO Memory

Tree Bee FORESTS ONTARIO

GOAL
Improve tree identification skills using distinguishing characteristics.

MATERIALS

- Two copies of memory cards, printed single-sided
- Bristol board or construction paper, one colour only
- Scissors
- Glue

WARN UP

- Print out the list of tree species.
- Have students familiarize themselves with the tree names before playing.

ACTIVITY

- Print out two copies of memory cards on single sided paper.
- Glue memory cards to Bristol board or construction paper. This will make the cards more durable and prevent the images from being visible in game play. **NOTE:** ensure that all cards are the same color on the backside.
- Cut the memory cards out to create your card set (20 card images).
- To play, begin by laying cards face down and mixing them. Once mixed, arrange cards in a square or other symmetrical shape face down.
- One at a time, players select two cards to turn over; if the images are a match, they can be removed.
- If the cards are not a match, they are flipped back over, and the next player takes a turn.
- Students can work cooperatively to find matches, as opposing teams (with each matching pair found counting as a point) or alone.
- Continue until all cards are matched; the player with most matching pairs wins.

EXTENSIONS

- Grow your memory deck by selecting some of the 100 native tree species which can be found in Canada and make additional game cards.
- Convert your memory game into flash cards by cutting the species name of each tree card off the bottom and pasting it on the backside.

TAMARACK
Tamarix

WHITE CEDAR
Thuja occidentalis

KEYE

GINKGO
Ginkgo biloba

CUCUMBER TREE
Magnolia acuminata

SHAGBARK HICKORY
Carya ovata

BUR OAK
Quercus macrocarpa

RED PINE
Pinus resinosa

SASSAFRAS
Sassafras albidum

STAGHORN SUMAC
Rhus typhina

Images of Tamarack, Eastern White Pine, Ginkgo, Cucumber Tree, Shagbark Hickory, Bur Oak, Red Pine, Sassafras, Loblolly Shortleaf Pine, White Birch, American Beech, Northern Red Oak, White Oak, Loblolly Shortleaf Pine, and American Mountain Ash are courtesy of Registered Pro. Image of Ohio Buckeye courtesy of The Ohio State University. Image of Staghorn Sumac courtesy of Nature & Garden. Image of Tulip Tree courtesy of Pinterest. Image of White Ash courtesy of USDA Plants Database. Image of Hackberry courtesy of USDA Plants Database.

“I have participated in the Forestry in the Classroom a few times over the past several years. I have always found the experience to be very rewarding for my students. The presenters kept the students engaged in learning through the use of hands-on activities, powerpoint presentations with photographs, outdoor activities, and rich discussions about forestry issues in the local community. This has been especially important for students who are new to the country as well for other students who have a limited understanding of the natural environment that surrounds them in the city.”

– Ellen D’Heureux, Teacher, Ryerson Community School

FORESTRY IN THE CLASSROOM

Forestry in the Classroom connects students with environmental and forestry professionals via classroom visits, offering youth in grades four through twelve a unique glimpse into what it’s like to work in a green job. Volunteers for this program include professional foresters, arborists, scientists, and environmental technicians.

Despite challenges associated with COVID-19, Forests Ontario engaged more than 1,200 students and educators through 45 in-person and virtual presentations.

TREE BEE

Launched in 1956, Tree Bee is Forests Ontario’s longest running education program. It began as a tree identification competition for grade school students and has since evolved into a modern-day program incorporating conservation education, online tools, and face-to-face competitions.

This fiscal year included two Tree Bee competitions – one in York Region (sponsored by the Regional Municipality of York) and another in Durham Region (sponsored by Ontario Power Generation – Pickering Nuclear Generating Station). These events, combined, engaged approximately 180 students from more than ten schools.

ONTARIO ENVIROTHON

Forests Ontario is the lead agency for the Ontario Envirothon – a one-of-a-kind environmentally themed academic competition and program that immerses high school students in hands-on learning. It offers budding environmental leaders the chance to receive mentorship and to explore career paths in the natural sciences.

Every year, Envirothon teaches and tests students on four core topics: forestry, aquatics, soils, and wildlife. There is also an annual 'current issue,' which, this year, was waste management.

The 2020 Ontario Envirothon adapted its format to be COVID-friendly, seeing the competition component of the program replaced with engagement resources, online tools, and volunteer-made educational videos. In total, seven videos were produced, and students participated in nine activities and one iNaturalist project, all of which cumulated in an online quiz to test their knowledge. At last count, these videos had more than 1,000 views.

The competitive facet of this year's provincial Envirothon, the Online Presentation Challenge, was won by St. Elizabeth's Catholic School from York Region.

Plans are already in place for the 2021 Ontario Envirothon; the current issue will be Nature Based Solutions to Climate Change.



Ontario Envirothon Virtual Lab: Sustainable Forest Management

OUR IMPACT





PARTNERSHIPS



OUR PARTNERS



Private Family
Foundation



AG Artists/
Shawn Mendes
Foundation



Karen Green and
Sean Fisher
of the Karen Green
Charitable Trust



OUR SUPPORTERS

AirGate Technologies Inc

AL Creatives

Algoma Power Inc.

Algonquin Forestry Authority

Alpine Shredders

A.M.A Horticulture Inc

Andrew J Jeffery Medicine

Professional Corporation

Association of Power Producers
of Ontario

Bell Canada: CTV-Cardinal

BentallGreenOak

Bevel Wood

Bill and Jean Somerville
Foundation

Busch Systems

Canadian Christmas Tree Growers
Association

CHIMP: Charitable Impact
Foundation

Charities Aid Foundation
of Canada

Chartwell Mastercare LP

City of Temiskaming Shores

Colleges and Institutes Canada

Conam Charitable Foundation

Conservation Ontario/Latornell

DECKplus Ltd

Digital Chaos Inc

Dundee Recycling Ltd.

EACOM Timber Corporation

EcoSikh Canada

Epic Practice

Escarpment Biosphere

Reserve Evergreen Thrift Store

Facedrive

Fiesta Parcel Services

First Resource Management
Group Inc.

Fleming College

Foch Family Landscape
Architecture

Forest Products Association of
Canada

Ontario Forest Ranger School
67 Grads

Four Seasons Sunrooms GBVL
LLP

Georgia-Pacific

Goddard Gamage LLP

Grain Farmers of Ontario

GreyStone Books

Greenbelt Foundation

Half Hours on Earth Brewery

Haliburton Forest & Wild Life
Reserve Ltd

Hammond Paper Company

Hammerhead Wood Designs

Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd

Huntsville Lakes Probus Club

Huron County Planning
Department

Hydro One

Interface Inc

Invasive Species Council

jals photography

Kissed by Light Photo Studio

Lavern Heideman & Sons Ltd

LCBO

Lennox Forestry Services

Les Belles Bouclettes

Limberlost Forest and
Wildlife Reserve

MacKenzie Wood Products

Maple Cross

McRae Mills Ltd

Melloul-Blamey Construction

Michael Poeltl

Ministry of Detail Events

Moose Studios Ltd

Mount Joy Public School

Muskoka Lakes Association

My Tribute Gift Foundation

Ontario Horticulture and Trades
Foundation

Ontario Power Generation

Ontario Tree Seeds Ltd

Ontario Trillium Foundation

Ontario Urban Forest Council

PayPal Giving Fund

Pineneedle Farms

Private Foundation

Probus Club

Raw Materials Company Inc

Resolute Forest Products

Restoration Packaging

Royal LePage Signature Realty

Sustainable Forestry Initiative

Simcoe County

Simply Superior Services

Somerville Seedlings

South Grey News

Sustainable Tree Inc

TH Industrial Solutions

The Algonquin Ensemble

The Chawkers Foundation

The Mills Team

The Second Wedge Brewing
Company

The Tadenac Club (United)

The Turning Point

The&Partnership

Thompson Emergency Freight
Systems

Toronto Christmas Market Tree
Chic Design

True Northern Life

United Way

Universal Field Supplies

Westin Ottawa/Marriott

International Inc

Weston Forest Products

Weyerhaeuser

Wood WORKS!/Canadian Wood
Council

York Region

Your Family Memories
Preserved Inc.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS



STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 2020

Revenue

Government funding	\$ 5,145,872	74%
Individual & corporate contributions	\$ 747,660	11%
Not for profits & charities	\$ 481,882	7%
Investment & other income	\$ 571,317	8%
	\$ 6,946,731	



Expenditures

Program	\$ 5,251,580	73%
Human resources	\$ 1,071,916	15%
Communications & program development	\$ 505,205	7%
Office & general	\$ 274,171	4%
Professional & consulting fees	\$ 101,933	1%
	\$ 7,204,805	
Excess of revenue over expenditures	-\$ 258,074	



For the year ending September 2020, Forests Ontario faced many challenges in executing its full complement of programs; like many other charities, we had to pivot. We are proud that we were able to keep staff working and complete the spring planting season, all thanks to our dedicated staff and planting partners. To accomplish this goal, Forests Ontario was able to draw on reserves and keep working thanks to the past support of our donors.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

SEPTEMBER 2020

Assets

Total cash & investments	\$ 6,307,288	86%
Accounts receivable	\$ 364,461	5%
Inventory & prepaid expenses	\$ 495,225	7%
Fixed assets	\$ 159,816	2%
Total assets	\$ 7,326,790	

Liabilities

Trade payables & program commitments	\$ 2,488,973	40%
Deferred program revenue	\$ 3,668,242	60%
	\$ 6,157,215	





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