

# NEWS RELEASE

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## City launches tree donation pilot program

### Summary

The City of Nanaimo proudly announces the launch of its "groundbreaking" tree donation pilot program, a significant step towards bolstering the City's urban forest and fostering community engagement.

Scheduled to commence on April 26, 2024, the pilot program presents an opportunity for individuals, organizations, and service clubs to contribute to the City's greenery while commemorating special occasions or honouring loved ones. The program's inaugural year will focus on planting a maximum of 30 trees in Beaufort Park, selected for its significance as the home of one of the City's local food forests.

The urban forest has been identified as fundamental to the City's infrastructure, providing numerous ecological, physiological, and economic benefits, including wildlife habitat, shade provision, storm water management, and air quality improvements.

*Strategic Link:* In alignment with Section C1.3 of the Integrated Action Plan (IAP), the City aims to continue planting trees in public spaces while promoting the benefits of trees and vegetation.

### Key Points

- The program's inaugural year will focus on planting a maximum of 30 trees in Beaufort Park.
- The program has been developed to increase the City's urban forest canopy with a plan to keep Nanaimo green and full of beauty.
- The tree donation pilot program presents an opportunity for individuals, organizations, and service clubs to contribute to the City's greenery while commemorating special occasions or honouring loved ones.
- Donations cost \$1,500 per tree and the application period will be April 26 to July 26, 2024.

### Quotes

"This program represents a proactive approach towards enhancing our urban environment and promoting sustainable practices. We anticipate that the tree donation pilot program will not only enrich our cityscape but also inspire future generations to prioritize environmental stewardship."

Leonard Krog  
Mayor  
City of Nanaimo

### Quick Facts

- There will be a dedicated honour board at the planting site and inclusion on the City's website for donors.
- There is a ten-year maintenance commitment by the city, including watering, pruning, and weeding.
- A certified horticulturalist will select the trees to ensure suitability for the planting location.

Continued... City launches tree donation pilot program

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