

Joint Media Release







For Immediate Release May 16, 2024

Town gives trees to local schools from donation from Canadian Trees for Life

Georgina, **ON** – The Town is donating trees to schools in Georgina. Thirty trees have been given to each of 13 schools in the York Region District School Board and to each of four schools in the York Catholic District School Board. The trees were part of 2,500 generously donated to the Town by <u>Canadian Trees for Life</u> in April.

"We are pleased to be able to donate some of the trees the Town received to the schools in our community," said Mayor Margaret Quirk. "We understand the importance of trees and the need to maintain a mature tree canopy. Trees are essential to our health and well-being for a vibrant, sustainable community. It will be wonderful to watch as these trees grow along with the students at the schools. I also want to acknowledge Councillor Dave Neeson for his efforts to secure the donation of the trees for the Town."

Members of the Keswick Public School ECO Club participated in a tree planting at the school on Wednesday, May 15, 2024.

"I appreciate the great relationship with the Town of Georgina and want to thank them for this very generous donation," said YRDSB Trustee Carolyn Butterworth. "This is an amazing opportunity for schools in Georgina to increase their tree canopy. Greener school grounds directly improve our students' health and well-being and the environment in which they learn. I hope our students and our schools will feel a strong sense pride in knowing how these trees will improve their school yards."

Members of the Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Academy Environmental Club participated in a tree planting at the school today, May 16, 2024.

"The York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) is very thankful to Canadian Trees for Life and the Town of Georgina for this wonderful donation," said YCDSB Trustee for East Gwillimbury/Georgina/Newmarket Theresa McNicol. "These trees will be appreciated by students and staff for generations to come while cleaning the air they breathe every day. All our school communities in Georgina are excited to welcome these new trees."

In April, the Town celebrated Earth Day by giving away 2,000 trees to residents in an event at the ROC Chalet. The Town is also in the process of updating it's <u>Tree Preservation and Compensation Policy</u>, and is working on its planning and development processes to create a more diverse urban forest that will be sustainable and enjoyable for all.

<u>Canadian Trees for Life</u> is a national charity with a mission to create a healthier, happier Canada by planting native trees where we live, work and play.

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