

THE TOWN OF FORT FRANCES

Section: Operations and Facilities

Policy: Tree Canopy

Creation Date: February 2019

Review Date:

Resolution Number:

Supersedes Resolution Number:

Policy Number: TBD

Introduction

An urban forest is essential to the current and future health of the Town of Fort Frances residents. A healthy, well maintained urban forest does not come about without forethought, planning and resource commitment. The Town of Fort Frances municipal tree canopy policy presents a strategy for the development of a sustainable urban forest that is capable of surviving well into the future. This forest management policy is supplemental to the Town's other guidance documents such as the Town's Official Plan and Tree Maintenance By-Laws.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Town of Fort Frances Municipal Tree Canopy Policy is to provide the Town with a guideline for effectively managing, sustaining and ensuring the growth of the Town's Municipal Tree Canopy in an arboriculturally sound and cost-effective manner.

Policy:

The Town of Fort Frances will endeavor to maintain and enhance its municipal tree canopy through the adoption of a "no net loss" practice when it comes to its municipal trees.

Where it is required, for a tree to be removed to facilitate road reconstruction, the tree has been damaged, is dead or diseased, the tree poses a threat to residential or municipal property, and the tree falls on the Town's property, the Town will replace said tree with a new tree in a suitable location so as to not impact municipal infrastructure. The tree may not be placed in the same location from which it was taken. The Town will endeavor to replace the removed tree within one year of removal depending on budget availability.

The Town of Fort Frances will consult an arborist to prepare and have in place an installation specification document for the proper installation of trees within the Town boulevards. The specification

will include areas of Town that could see an increase in the tree canopy as well as those areas where there should not be additional plantings. Further this document shall suggest native tree species to be planted to minimize impacts to infrastructure in the vicinity of the tree.

The Town will not install trees within municipal boulevards.

The Town will investigate new technologies for tree planting to mitigate risk to the Town's infrastructure. All Trees planted in proximity of infrastructure that could be impacted will be done so following proper engineering specifications to mitigate damage.

The Town of Fort Frances will require the inclusion of trees within all site plan control and subdivision applications.

The Town of Fort Frances encourages its residents to install trees within the 7.5 meter front yard setback between the boulevard and front of their house.

In an effort to expand the Municipal Tree Canopy, the Town of Fort Frances will offer a memorial Tree program. This program will allow for the purchase of a tree to be planted on public lands in remembrance, observation or acknowledgement of a special event or loved one. An application (Appendix A) shall be submitted by the proponent asking for the tree. The Town of Fort Frances, at its own cost, will replace the tree if it dies within two years of the planting of the tree. Location, species and time of planting will be determined in concert with the Town of Fort Frances Operations and Facilities Division.

Responsibilities:

The protection and enhancement of the Town's Municipal Tree Policy falls within multiple departments of the Town.

Operations and Facilities:

- The O&F Division is in charge of pruning trees within and adjacent municipal land when they interfere with the safe use and maintenance of municipal roads and sidewalks.
- The O&F Division takes complaints of nuisance, diseased, and dead or dying trees within the municipal right of way and properties and removes the trees as manpower is available.

Planning and Development:

- The P&D Division is in charge of ensuring the inclusion of trees in development proposals through the Chief Building Official/Municipal Planner
- Issues surrounding nuisance trees and hedges on private property will be handled by By-Law enforcement.

Fort Frances Power Corporation

- The Fort Frances Power Corporation has a policy governing tree trimming in areas of high voltage primary lines, low voltage secondary lines and street light lines and the trimming or removal of trees on private property that may involve FFPC services.
- During the year as Operations and Facilities inspects properties, instances of trees interfering with FFPC infrastructure will be reported to appropriate FFPC personnel.

The General Public:

The general public is responsible for compliance with the Town's tree installation guide and the Tree Maintenance and Installation By-Law.

Tree Inventory:

The Town of Fort Frances will endeavor to collect an inventory of trees within the Municipal properties within the municipal boundary. The Town will utilize internal staff and other experts to complete and maintain the tree inventory. This inventory will provide the Town with more detailed information on the location, size and condition of the trees within its municipal tree canopy to allow for better decision making in infrastructure planning.



Town of Fort Frances Memorial Tree Program

Order Form

Trees may be planted on public lands in remembrance, observation or acknowledgement of a special event.

CUSTOMER INFORMATION			
Name:			
Street Address:		P.O. Box:	
Town/City:	Province:	Postal Code:	
Phone:	Email:		

TREE INFORMATION
Species of Tree:
Proposed Location of Tree:

If a plaque is required, please fill in the box with the information to be included on the plaque

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- Species of Tree is subject to approval of the Operations and Facilities Division Manager or Designate.
- Location of tree is subject to the approval of the Operations and Facilities Division Manager or designate.
- Cost of tree will be variable based on species chosen.
- If the Tree dies within two years of planting the Town shall replace the tree, if the tree dies after two years the Town will not replace the tree.
- A \$100.00 Deposit is required upon application

Applicant Signature

Date