ATTACHMENT D

Setting the path to protect our tree canopy



John Orlikow
RIVER HEIGHTS-FORT GARRY CITY COUNCILLOR WARD REPORT

Our urban forest matters deeply to me and I know it does to many of you, too.

Our trees are crucial to fighting climate change and protecting our collective future. They have defined our neighbourhoods for decades and they contribute to making our houses and streets truly homes and communities.

Over the years, in speaking and listening to you, I have heard so many good ideas on how we can best tackle this challenge our trees are facing. I am so proud of the strides we have made together — creating working groups, programming and funding opportunities that have made a difference.

To ensure we continue down this path, taking all the lessons we have learned in River Heights-Fort Garry and including all of your voices and thoughts on this important topic, we're asking that you take the time to participate in developing a city-wide plan for our tree canopy.

The City of Winnipeg is inviting residents to provide input into the Winnipeg Urban Forest Strategy — a long-term planning document that will guide the protection, preservation and management of the city's tree canopy.

We want to hear from you at: winnipeg.ca/urbanforest in English or winnipeg.ca/foreturbaine in French.

By participating, you will guide the development of a community vision for Winnipeg's urban forest and help identify opportunities to protect, grow, and enhance our tree canopy and, ultimately, contribute to Phase 2, the drafting of an urban forest strategy.

The development of the draft strategy also includes a robust research process alongside technical analysis.

The City of Winnipeg is providing online presentations on the project website, where participants can learn more about the current state of our urban forest and discuss a vision for the future.

You're also encouraged to participate in a self-guided walking tour or virtual tour, available until Nov. 1, to further explore our urban forest and maybe even inspire more thoughtful ideas for the Winnipeg Urban Forest Strategy.



Supplied photo

City councillor John Orlikow (River Heights-Fort Garry, at left) participated in a tree-planting event with Mayor Brian Bowman (right) on National Tree Day.

I want to give a shout-out to tree activities I have had the honour of being a part of this past month.

- Friends of Peanut Park planted another 10 trees in the park and had a strong turnout of neighbours who made the work load light;
- Trees Winnipeg had a fall session of its tree-planting program and I want to thank them for having me as a volunteer.

If you are interested in a tree for your property be sure to check them out at http://treeswinnipeg.org/releaf-tree-planting-program/

Please reach out to me if you have any questions, comments and suggestions on protecting and enhancing our tree canopy by calling my office at 204-986-5236 or emailing me at jorlikow@winnipeg.ca

