

TO: Mayor Gillingham and members of Winnipeg City Council

RE: April 27, 2023 Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: Report of the SPC on Water Waste & Environment, item #4: The Montreal Pledge – Cities United in Action for Biodiversity

On behalf of the Trees Please Winnipeg Coalition – a grassroots organization with members from roughly 20 groups from across the city – I'd like to thank the Water, Waste & Environment Committee and Executive Policy Committee for their support of the motion for Winnipeg to sign the Montreal Pledge.

On April 27th, we encourage Council as a whole to pass this motion and bring our city one step closer to becoming the 12th Canadian city to sign the Montreal Biodiversity Pledge.

Signing the Montreal Pledge will:

- Clearly demonstrate that our mayor and council are fully committed to transforming Winnipeg into a greener, more biodiverse and climate resilient city, and show that our council fully understands the importance and value of this city's natural assets – from trees and intact forests to wetlands, creeks and grasslands – and the critical infrastructure services they provide.
- Highlight the nature-positive initiatives Winnipeg is already undertaking that will help to meet the pledge's 15 goals.
- Provide Winnipeg with an opportunity to learn from other cities that have already signed and receive international, national, and most importantly, local public recognition for their efforts.

We are excited to see this motion passed by Council as a whole.

Sincerely,

Emma Durand-Wood on behalf of **Trees Please Winnipeg Coalition**

TREES PLEASE WINNIPEG COALITION MEMBER GROUPS INCLUDE:

Resident and Neighborhood Groups:

- Armstrong's Point Association Tree Committee
- Balmoral Spence Residents Association
- Fort Richmond Residents
- Friends of Kildonan Park
- Friends of Peanut Park (Crescentwood)
- Glenelm Neighbourhood Association
- Glenwood Neighbourhood Association
- Kingston Crescent Residents
- North Valour Road Residents
- Norwood Flats Resident Association
- River Park South Community Association
- South St Boniface Residents Association
- South Valour Road Residents
- Southdale and Area Group
- St John's Residents' Association
- West End Residents Group
- West End-St. James' Residents
- West Kildonan
- Wolseley Residents Association

Supporting and Affiliated Organizations:

- Bishop Grandin Greenway
- Chalmers Neighbourhood Renewal Corp.
- Coalition to Save The Lemay Forest
- Friends of Fisher Park
- Friends of the Harte Trail
- Manitoba Eco-Network
- Manitoba Urban Forest Council
- OURS Winnipeg
- Save Our Seine
- Sustainable South Osborne Community Co-op
- Transcona Trails
- Trees Winnipeg
- Wildwood Heritage and Conservation Committee