




COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	June 12, 2023
SUBJECT:	City of Hamilton Recognized as Tree City of the World by Arbor Day Foundation and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (ES23011) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Cynthia Graham Director, Environmental Services Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

Arbor Day Foundation and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has recognized the City of Hamilton as a [2022 Tree City of the World](#). The City of Hamilton (City) joins the international program, Tree Cities of the World, to highlight its dedication to growing and maintaining its urban forestry efforts.

Tree Cities of the World was founded in 2019 by the Arbor Day Foundation and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The program is designed to recognize cities committed to ensuring their urban forests and trees are properly maintained, sustainably managed, and duly celebrated.

Trees serve a critical role in the City's fight against climate change. By increasing canopy cover, through protection of existing public trees and the planting of trees within the City, the City is able to reduce energy consumption, aid in stormwater management and erosion control, and improve air quality. This recognition emphasizes the City's dedication to fostering high level urban forestry practices and a commitment to critical green infrastructure for residents.

Recognition as one of the 2022 Tree Cities of World was awarded through a comprehensive application made through the Forestry section highlighting urban forestry policies and best practices, the dedication of funds through capital and operating budgets for urban forestry programs and initiatives. Each city was required to

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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provide an application which provided proof of meeting five core standards of urban forest management.

The City of Hamilton is now one of twenty-two Canadian cities to join an international network of 170 cities across 21 countries. These recognised cities are not only celebrated for their efforts to date but gain access to resources and tools and provide a network to share best practices and improve forestry management which improves community resilience. Initiatives like this international program help protect and build the urban tree canopy, while also working to preserve and improve our urban forest.

For more information on Tree Cities of World, visit <https://treecitiesoftheworld.org/>

For more information, please contact Robyn Pollard, Manager of Forestry and Horticulture, at (905) 546-2424 extension 3919.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

N/A