



Arboretum News

**Happy
New
Year!**

Upcoming Events 2018

March 26
Annual General Meeting

May 5
Annual Community
Planting Day

2017 Our Year in Review

The year started with our Annual General Meeting on March 27, 2017. John Grant, Database Administrator and David Tomlinson, designer of our masterplan announced their intention to step down from the Board at the end of their term in March 2018 due to time constraints. As well, Nancee Webb, Vice Chair and Volunteer Coordinator will be stepping down due to her upcoming move to Sechelt, British Columbia. These long term volunteers will definitely be missed.

Some of our 2017 highlights:

May was a very busy month starting with our Annual Community Planting on May 6th. We had a terrific turnout with 79 volunteers planting 500 trees and shrubs. We were also very pleased to have the Grade 8 class from the Rick Hansen Public School join us.



The Lions Club celebrated their 100 anniversary this year and they asked the Arboretum to help them mark this special occasion. We decided to create the “Lions Grove” and on May 27th, Lions Club members and our volunteers planted 100 caliper sized trees. In a few years, this will be a lovely forest and will help return the “bottomland” area of the Arboretum to the forest it once was before farming cleared the land.

In June, we added 180 trees to the bottomland forest area thanks to the Liberal Party who held a fundraiser by selling seedlings and then donated them to the Arboretum.

The beautiful burr oak carving was completed in time for the July 1st celebrations marking Canada's 150th birthday. It is a stunning piece of art and something we are extremely proud of and hear so many positive comments on it from the public. It showcases common animal and plant life of the river valley.



On October 14th, we added another 500 daffodil bulbs to the "Field of Gold". In the spring of 2018, we will add an additional 500 bulbs. We made the decision to plant some in the spring to allow us to fill in some of the bare spots which cannot be seen in the fall. If you have not had an opportunity to see this spectacular spring display, we hope you will be able to do so in 2018.



Brownies learning about planting daffodil bulbs

We were once again able to host some of the Grade 5 & 6 classes from St. Andrews College on their Community Giving Project. We had the young men add mulch to trees and beds as well as on a new path. Their enthusiasm and energy was wonderful to watch.

And finally we were honoured to be chosen by the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation as one of the 150 communities from across Canada to take part in "TD Tree Days". Staff and volunteers planted 450 trees in the bottomland forest on October 21st.

Thank You!

2017 was a very successful year with just under 1800 trees and shrubs planted! We couldn't have done this without our wonderful and dedicated volunteers. A BIG thank you to all of you! And we look forward to seeing you in 2018 as we continue to make the Arboretum a place of beauty and enjoyment for Aurora.



This newsletter is published by the Aurora Community Arboretum Inc.

For more information on Arboretum activities or events, or how to become a member, telephone (905) 727-3492

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