



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF SUDBURY

LAND RECLAMATION PROGRAM

1997 ANNUAL REPORT

The Regional Municipality of Sudbury - 1997 Land Reclamation Program was very successful, exceeding all of our goals and objectives. A record number of trees were planted and numerous sites were "greened" (limed, fertilizer and seeded) including a major liming effort in the Coniston area. A record number of participants helped to complete the program, a work crew of over 60 individuals planted over 800,000 trees and reclaimed over 75 hectares of land.

The following is a summary of the activities that occurred.

1) PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS - SUMMARY

TASK	RESULT - 1997	TOTAL COMPLETED (1978-1997)
Area Limed	75 ha (185 acres)	3,223 ha
Area Fertilized	55 ha (135 acres)	3,076 ha
Area Seeded	47 ha (116 acres)	2,956 ha
Trees Planted	837,352	3,540,958
Volunteers	910	
Funding Partners	The Regional Municipality of Sudbury Federal Government (Job Creation Partnership, Summer Career Placements Program) Provincial Government (Ministry of Northern Development and Mines) TransCanada PipeLines Limited Inco Limited Falconbridge Limited	
Other Partners	YMCA Employment Services Nickel District Conservation Authority Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Tree Canada Foundation District of Sudbury Social Services Administration Board Health & Social Services - Regional Municipality of Sudbury Sudbury Hydro Sudbury North East Lions Club Caisse Populaire (within Region of Sudbury)	

2) THREE-MILLIONTH TREE CELEBRATION

On September 24, 1997, The Regional Municipality of Sudbury celebrated the planting of the three-millionth tree. The ceremony took place at the Big Nickel Mine site. A plaque was unveiled to acknowledge the continuing commitment of the people of the Regional Municipality of Sudbury and the many hundreds of dedicated volunteers and employees to environmental improvement through land reclamation. A twenty five foot white spruce tree, donated by Falconbridge Limited, was also planted at this ceremony by various dignitaries and program partners.

3) NEW PROGRAM PARTNERS

The success of the 1997 Land Reclamation Program was assisted by our new partners; Ontario Works and the Tree Canada Foundation/TransCanada PipeLines Limited.

The Ontario Works Program allowed us an increased labour component to plant trees and complete our reclamation work by liming, fertilizing and seeding "barren" areas. Over 600,000 trees were provided to us by TransCanada PipeLines through the Tree Canada Foundation. Both of these contributions, in addition to our other long term partners' contributions, enabled us to make the 1997 Program one of the most successful in recent years.

4) PLANT A TREE BROCHURE

A brochure to explain the proper method to plant a tree was developed and produced. This brochure identifies methods of tree planting on a reclaimed site, as well as on your residential property. The brochures were handed out at the annual "Tree Give Away" and were greatly appreciated by the public. It is intended to utilize these brochures at future "public" functions and events.

We were very fortunate to work on this initiative with Sudbury Hydro who paid for the design and production of the brochure.

5) TOM DAVIES COMMEMORATIVE FOREST - IDENTIFICATION SIGN

The Sudbury Regional Commemorative Forest was officially renamed the Tom Davies Commemorative Forest on November 16, 1997. Two signs have been designed and produced. These signs will identify the location of the Tom Davies Commemorative Forest in the Lake Laurentian Conservation Area. The signs will be erected in the spring of 1998 and will be placed along the trails that lead to the area of the Forest.

The signs were graciously donated by the Sudbury North East Lions Club and the Region of Sudbury Caisses Populaires.

6) ANNUAL TREE GIVE AWAY

The annual Tree Give Away was held Friday, May 9/97 and Saturday May 10/97 at the New Sudbury Shopping Centre. 22,960 tree seedlings were handed out by more than ten volunteers. The tree species given out included Red Pine, White Spruce and the ever popular Cedar. Over 7,000 individuals received trees.

This year the "collection" box, for voluntary donations received \$1,435.02. We also had an opportunity at this event to promote our program and answer questions. The people of Sudbury are definitely proud of this Program and have an interest in the progress and future of the Program.

7) VOLUNTEERS

Over 900 volunteers assisted with this years program and planted almost 38,000 trees. These volunteers ranged from children in elementary school to adults involved with an organized group or club. The volunteer program provides educational opportunity on environmental issues, information on the Region's Land Reclamation Program, and tree planting experience.

Keating Educational Tours Limited again included tree planting as a part of their itinerary for the more than 260 students from the Toronto area, who visited the Sudbury Region.

8) MONITORING STUDIES

Several studies to determine success rates of planted sites occurred during the summer of 1997. These studies included: previously planted survival rate; Black Spruce survival rate; a "difficult sites" analysis; and a "Knotweed" test plot study. In addition several ongoing studies were continued with new data to assess trends and status.

These studies will help us determine our success rates of the various species of trees that we plant and help to determine improvements to our program. This "bench-marking" will enable us to ensure our planting techniques, specie selection and application rates are working successfully and that our efforts are maximized.

9) NICKEL CENTRE WELCOME CENTRE - LAND RECLAMATION DEMONSTRATION PLOT

The planting of all species of trees that are used in the land reclamation program continued at the Nickel Centre Welcome Centre site. It is anticipated that additional trees will be planted in future years. It is the intent that these plantings will become part of an outdoor educational walk illustrating the various tree species planted in the Land Reclamation Program.

10) PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS

Several initiatives continued to reduce program costs while maximizing efficiencies and program results. These cost-saving initiatives included:

- bulk purchases of lime, fertilizer and seed
- utilizing the Region's Frobisher site as a storage area and holding site for trees
- purchasing equipment where rental costs were inefficient
- ensuring materials and equipment were purchased for "best cost"
- renting fuel efficient buses

11) VEGETATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VETAC)

The Vegetation Technical Advisory Committee (VETAC) continued to review its strategies and direction for the next decade. Several new sub-committees were formed and identified their goals and objectives.

Some of the initiatives currently being developed by the sub-committees include:

SUB-COMMITTEE	INITIATIVE
Program Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- initiation of a 5 year plan- mapping of reclaimed sites
Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- initiation of a "Friends of VETAC" fund raising initiative- placement of 3 plaques throughout the Sudbury Region to acknowledge land reclamation efforts- completion of signs to identify the Tom Davies Commemorative Forest in the Lake Laurentian Conservation area. These signs were donated by the Sudbury Lion's Clubs.- development of a logo for VETAC
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- production of a "Plant a Tree" brochure- proposal to improve the Land Reclamation display board- initiation of methods to market the land reclamation program through the media
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- completion of several monitoring success rate studies- initiation of several ongoing studies to examine specific "problem" areas

12) LABOUR

This year the Program worked with the District of Sudbury Social Services Administration Board and the Regional Municipality of Sudbury's Health & Social Services Department to facilitate an Ontario Works Community Placement. This partnership was very successful. One hundred positions were created for a four day work week. These individuals worked as a part of the "crew" planting trees and completing liming, fertilizing and seeding. In addition to helping with the 1997 Land Reclamation Program, these individuals received job experience, a work history and became familiar with job search skills and opportunities.

PROGRAM	POSITIONS	COST TO PROGRAM
Regional Municipality of Sudbury - Temporary/Summer Students	5	100%
Regional Municipality of Sudbury - Temporary/Summer Students	10	80%
Human Resources Development Canada - Job Creation Partnership	20	nil
Ontario Works	50 (100 people)	nil
TOTAL	85	

13) FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Financial Summary - Including "In-kind" contributions of labour and material.

PROGRAM	NUMBER	WEEKS	SOURCE	AMOUNT
<u>CONTRIBUTIONS BY OTHERS</u>				
LABOUR				
• Job Creation Partnership (HRDC)	20	400	Federal	\$ 160,000*
• Jobs Ontario - YMCA Employment Services	9 (partial)	144	Provincial	\$ 10,080
• Jobs Ontario - MNM	1 (partial)	12	Provincial	\$ 840
• Ontario Works	100	1600		\$ 600,000*
CASH CONTRIBUTION				
• Inco Limited				\$ 25,000
• Falconbridge Limited				\$ 15,000
• District of Sudbury Social Services Administration Board				\$ 40,000
MATERIAL CONTRIBUTION				
• Inco (Trees)	50,000			\$ 15,000*
• TransCanada PipeLines/Tree Canada Foundation (Trees)	680,000			\$ 204,000*
Sub-Total				\$1,069,920
<u>CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF SUDBURY</u>				
LABOUR	15			\$ 65,000
MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT				\$ 67,679
Sub-Total				\$ 132,679
GRAND TOTAL				<u>\$1,202,599</u>

*in-kind Contributions (material or labour)

Total "in-kind" contributions by others was \$ 989,920.00. Total cash contributions by others was \$80,000.00

CHALLENGES FOR 1998

- development of a 5 Year Plan to outline proposed planting and reclamation areas
- GIS mapping of planting areas
- coordination of future liming areas with Inco and their aerial liming program
- development of ongoing long term funding commitments
- facilitate and assist VETAC subcommittees with their various projects

