



# Annual Report 2009

Land Reclamation Program



## 2009 Partners

### Regreening Program:



### Ugliest Schoolyard Contest:

Ashley's Landscaping

Botanix Azilda Greenhouses

Brown's Concrete Products

Canadian Tire (Regent Street)

City of Greater Sudbury

Echo Rentals

Executive Landscape Group

IODE, Elizabeth Fry Chapter

Holla's Produce and Greenhouses

Hollandia Land and Environmental Solutions

Rona Cashway (Val Caron)

Southview Greenhouse Growers

Sudbury Horticultural Society

Sudbury Master Gardeners

Val Caron Equipment Rent-All

Vale Inco

Xstrata Nickel

Zellers (Southridge Mall)

## 2009 Highlights

The 2009 Regreening Program created 20 temporary employment opportunities; reclaimed almost 20 hectares of barren land located within the watershed of Bennett Lake; planted almost 140,000 tree seedlings and over 3,000 shrubs throughout Greater Sudbury. Outside funding, material and in-kind contributions enabled the continuation of the Program's major objectives as well as newly initiated projects. A quick summary of accomplishments is below.

<b>Regreening Component</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>To Date</b>
<b>Tree Planting</b>	139,962	9,118,036
<b>Shrub Planting</b>	3,005	47,251
<b>Area Limed</b>	19.3 ha	3,425 ha
<b>Area Fertilized</b>	8 ha	3,212 ha
<b>Area Seeded</b>	8 ha	3,139 ha
<b>Program Cost</b>	\$337,892	\$24,910,125
<b>Temporary Employment Opportunities</b>	20	4,510
<b>Awards</b>	0	14
<b>Number of Schoolyards Regreened</b>	5	18
<b>Volunteer Tree Planters</b>	479	9,428
<b>Trees Planted by Volunteers</b>	15,590	317,673
<b>Trees Provided for Residential Plantings</b>	1,600	420,813

VETAC is the City's Advisory Panel for the Regreening Program. As part of their ongoing initiatives, VETAC's Urban Landscape sub-committee continued with the fifth annual "Ugliest Schoolyard Contest". The grand prize winner was École publique de la Découverte in Val Caron. In all, 18 local businesses, corporations and special interest groups provided funding, materials and offered services to complete the schoolyard regreening project. Corporate funding from Xstrata Nickel enabled the Committee to extend the prize package to four runner-up schools; École publique Franco-Nord in Azilda, Valley View Public School in Val Caron, R.L. Beattie Public School in the South End and Carl A. Nesbitt Public School in New Sudbury. Schoolyard transformations occurred from late August through to October.

## Program Operations

This year, the Regreening Program was primarily focused on improving local watersheds and increasing the diversity of species planted. Spring planting efforts were directed to the shoreline and general watershed area of Ramsey Lake. The target area was located within the Lake Laurentian Conservation Area where the shoreline of Ramsey Lake stretches from the end of South Bay Road to Camp Sudaca at the end of Moonlight Beach Road. Roughly 75% of the spring trees and shrubs were planted in this area in an effort to further enhance the aquatic ecosystem and protect the water quality of Ramsey Lake. In the fall, planting was completed within the Wanapitei River watershed in an area aerial seeded by Vale Inco. This is a continuation of regreening efforts where portions of the area were limed and planted by the Regreening Program over the last two years.

Over 3,000 shrubs of eight species were planted: Red-osier Dogwood, Nannyberry, Highbush Cranberry, Buttonbush, Ninebark, Winterberry, Narrow-leaved Meadowsweet and Serviceberry. Some of the shrub species along with 200 Bitternut hickory seedlings were selected as a trial to test survival rate. These species currently occur just to the south of the City and are expected to migrate north in response to climate change.

In addition to the primary trees planted by the Program (namely the pines) various hardwoods (Striped Maple, Red Maple, Yellow Birch and Red Oak) and other conifers (Balsam Fir, Eastern Hemlock, Tamarack and Black Spruce) were also planted this year. Since 1979, the Program has planted 27 different tree species and 24 different shrub species.

Tree planting is one way to help protect the quality of our lakes. Many areas require the application of lime and seed mixture to prepare the site for tree planting. VETAC selected the Bennett Lake watershed as the area to focus liming efforts this year. Bennett Lake is a small lake behind Laurentian University. Water quality data was collected prior to reclamation activities so comparisons can be made in the future.

### Tree Planting

Spring and fall planting activities resulted in 139,962 tree seedlings and 3,005 shrubs planted throughout Greater Sudbury. To date, 9,118,036 trees and 47,251 shrubs have been planted by the Program.

Vale Inco donated over 50,000 seedlings to the Program this year. Most of these seedlings were planted in the fall within the Wanapitei River watershed where Vale Inco had aerial limed and seeded in the last 2 years.



Worker loading up with shrubs.



Truck loaded with various tree and shrub seedlings.



Liming activities within the Bennett Lake watershed.

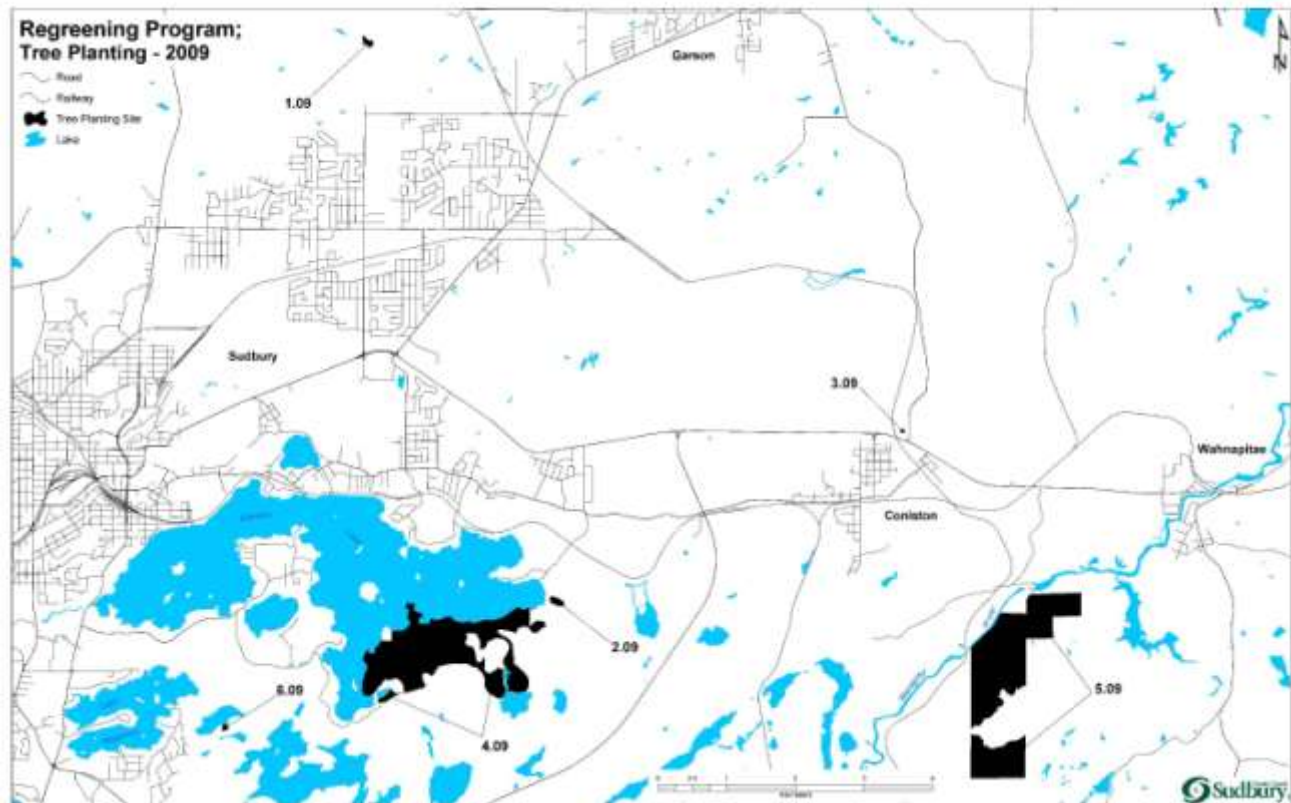


Spring plant within the Ramsey Lake watershed.

Ontario Power Generation, a past financial supporter of the Regreening Program, once again showed their support by allowing Regreening crews to access the site through their facility at the end of Coniston Hydro Road.

Tree Canada donated 67,641 seedlings for the spring plant, which represents an increase of 20% from last years' donation and the Nickel District Conservation Authority (NDCA) was in a position to donate 400 red pine seedlings for the fall plant.

Refer to the tree planting map below for locations of the planting sites.



Volunteers also participated in regreening activities by planting trees. This year, 18 volunteer groups involving over 400 individuals planted over 15,000 tree seedlings throughout Greater Sudbury. The following is a list of the groups that participated in tree planting activities this year:

Capreol Ski Club  
 St. Patrick's Church parishioners  
 FedNor  
 Junction Creek Stewardship Committee  
 Silver Lake Stewardship Group  
 LoEllen Park Secondary School's Environmental Club  
 Ministry of the Environment  
 St. Paul the Apostle School, Coniston  
 Bio Ski Club

LU's Communicating Science Program Students  
 Sudbury District Health Unit  
 Sudbury Game and Fish  
 Carl A. Nesbitt Public School  
 Kaycan Limited  
 @ Home Energy  
 VETAC Members  
 OLG Slots employees  
 Roots & Shoots participants

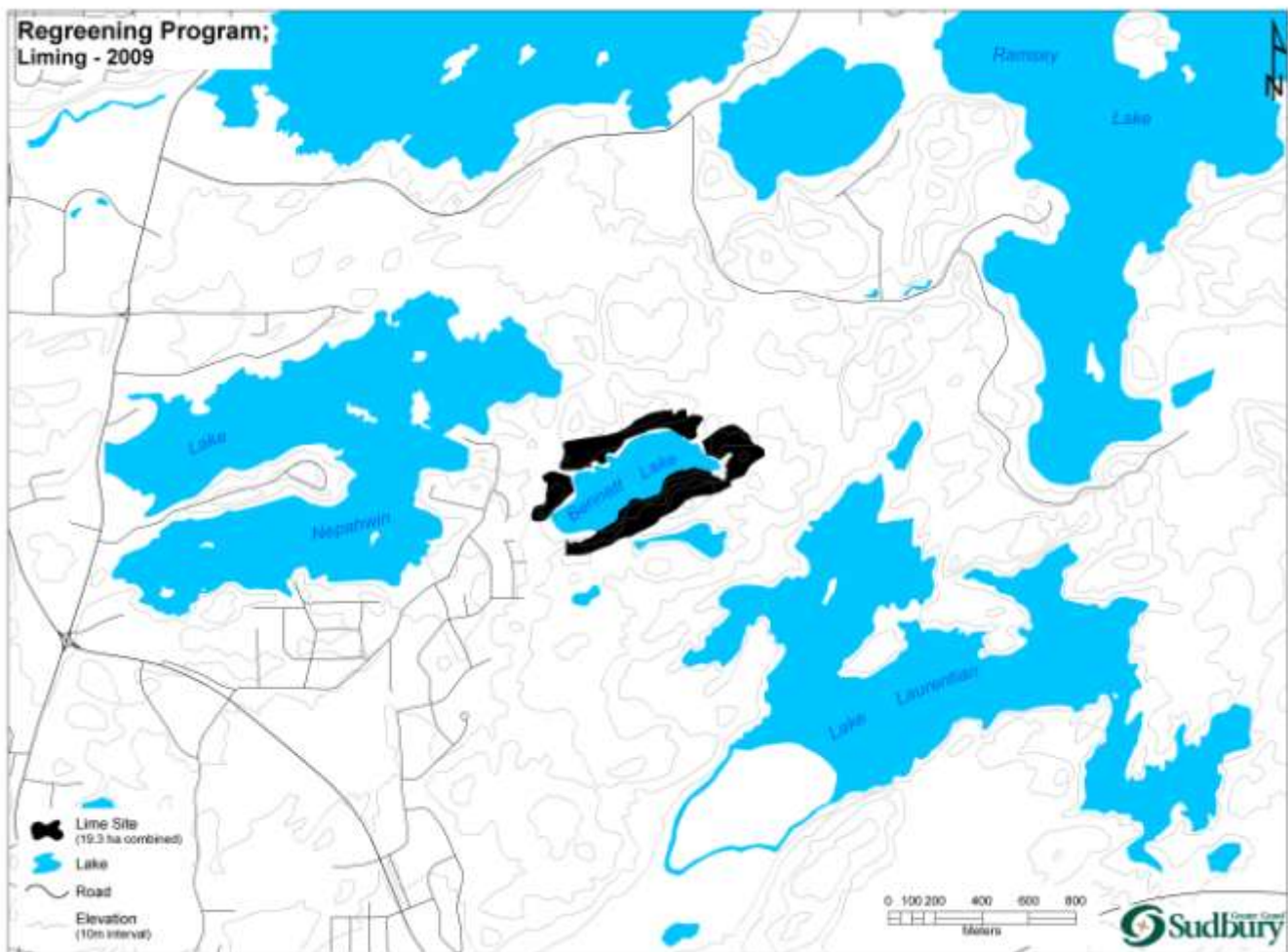


The Regreening Program is able to offer seedlings, planting equipment and direction to any local group wanting to participate in the regreening effort. The volunteer program provides educational opportunity on environmental issues, information on the City's Regreening Program, tree planting experience as well as a sense of community pride and ownership of the natural environment. Many thanks to all the volunteers groups listed above, their efforts affirm the importance of trees in our local environment. To date, 317,673 seedlings have been planted by over 9,000 volunteers as part of the City's Regreening Program.

## Liming

Just over 19 hectares of barren land in the watershed of Bennett Lake (map below) was limed, of which 8 hectares were fertilized and seeded with a grass/legume seed mixture.

To date, 3,425 hectares of barren land have been treated with lime.



## Ugliest Schoolyard Contest

The Canadian Biodiversity Institute and Earth Day Ottawa initiated the Ugliest Schoolyard Contest in 1998. VETAC's fifth annual version of this Contest was another overwhelming success thanks to the tireless efforts of Mr. Wayne Hugli, Co-chair of VETAC's Urban Landscape Sub-committee and the generous support from all sponsors. The winning school,

### École publique de la Découverte

in Val Caron, was selected from the 10 applications received. Thanks to the financial support from Xstrata Nickel in the amount of \$75,000, runner-up prizes were awarded to four area schools:

École publique Franco Nord, Azilda  
R.L. Beattie Public School, Sudbury  
Valley View Public School, Val Caron  
Carl A. Nesbitt Public School, Sudbury

As the winner of our contest this year, École publique de la Découverte in Val Caron received almost \$22,000 in financial support for their project from Xstrata Nickel, \$600 from the Sudbury Horticultural Society, \$300 from the Sudbury Master Gardeners and \$1,200 from IODE, Elizabeth Fry Chapter. Additionally, the school received assistance in the planning and coordination of their project, and material donations from a wide variety of sponsors (listed to the right).

One of the major features of this project was the development of a number of outdoor teaching areas at the school. In their initial planning with the students and teachers a decision was made that they would focus on the development of outdoor spaces. These areas would be designed so that teachers could work with students throughout the school year and the space would offer more shade and attractive green spaces for the students.

The first phase of the project involved the planting of twenty large linden and silver maple trees. This work was completed by a dedicated group of volunteers who braved the rain and cold on the last Saturday in August. At the same time, eight large wooden planters were built and filled with topsoil to provide a garden for each class at the school. In the spring, students will plant vegetables in those gardens and care for them throughout the growing season so that they can be harvested in the fall.

### Sponsors:

Ashley's Landscaping  
Botanix Azilda Greenhouses  
Brown's Concrete Products  
Canadian Tire (Regent Street)  
City of Greater Sudbury  
Echo Rentals  
Executive Landscape Group  
IODE, Elizabeth Fry Chapter  
Holla's Produce and Greenhouses  
Hollandia Land and Environmental Solutions  
Rona Cashway (Val Caron)  
Southview Greenhouse Growers  
Sudbury Horticultural Society  
Sudbury Master Gardeners  
Val Caron Equipment Rent-All  
Vale Inco  
Zellers (Southridge Mall)

### Special thanks to our corporate sponsor:



At the front of the school new flowerbeds were developed and filled with a variety of shrubs, perennials and bulbs by the students in the primary grades. Six concrete benches were installed and an ivory silk lilac tree was planted to add additional shade. These gardens will be maintained by the students and parents and will provide an outdoor teaching area for younger students at the school.

Six large picnic tables were installed in the playground near the new trees that were planted. As those trees mature they will provide shade for classes that make use of this area for outdoor lessons and relaxation during recess and lunch breaks throughout the year.

A large pad was constructed in another area of the schoolyard and a low concrete wall was built around half of its perimeter to provide seating. On the open side of the pad and behind the wall a wide variety of shrubs and perennials were planted by the students in the junior grades to make this an inviting space for students to gather and for teachers to bring their classes for outdoor education experiences.

Due to the foresight of the school board and the developers who constructed this school, a “wild space” was maintained at the back of the schoolyard but within the fencing that surrounds the school. As part of the project, nature trails were developed throughout that area and a wide variety of native trees, shrubs and wildflowers were planted by the older students at the school with the assistance of adult volunteers. Along the trail several large stones were placed to provide seating and sod was laid in a large area to provide yet another teaching area and gathering space for students who will make use of this area during recess and lunch breaks. In the spring, identification tags will be placed near the plants to assist teachers and students in identifying the plants that they encounter as they explore these trails.

The results of all of the schoolyard projects are very impressive and will provide a greatly improved environment for the students and teachers at these schools. Since the inception of the contest, eighteen schools have been provided support for their greening projects and VETAC looks forward to assisting more schools in the future. Generous financial support and donations from local businesses and organizations in our city will ensure the continuation of this Contest well into the future.





## Biodiversity Partnership

On March 24<sup>th</sup>, the idea of forming a Greater Sudbury Biodiversity Partnership was communicated at a breakfast event with local groups/agencies that have been involved for years in work relating to biodiversity either by identifying, counting, and monitoring organisms; improving habitat; raising awareness; protecting and maintaining natural areas; promoting crop diversity; and more. As discussed at the meeting, the Partnership would not replace or overlap any group's mandate and efforts, but rather would seek to enhance opportunities for collaboration, community engagement, communication, education and awareness of Greater Sudbury's rich biodiversity.

Stephen Monet, Manager of Environmental Planning Initiatives at the City of Greater Sudbury, gave a brief presentation on biodiversity efforts worldwide and highlighted the benefits of a Sudbury Biodiversity Partnership. Local group's/agency's findings, upcoming activities, workshops, appeals for volunteers, and any other items would be communicated through various means that could include an annual biodiversity forum; an electronic newsletter; an electronic magazine/journal; fact sheets; a dedicated website; school curriculum, among others.

Attendees were asked to sign up for the Partnership if they wished and provide any comments or suggestions they may have had regarding the sharing and communication of knowledge. Every group/agency that participated agreed to the Partnership. A full list of partners is located to the right.

To allow information sharing, wider participation on group activities, and heightened public awareness and education on biodiversity issues, a Greater Sudbury Biodiversity Partnership has been formed. A Website was developed and includes the Biodiversity Action Plan that was developed late this year as well as other relevant information on biodiversity.

### **Greater Sudbury Biodiversity Partnership Members:**

CGS Lake Water Quality Program  
Rainbow Routes Association  
Cooperative Freshwater Ecology Unit  
Sudbury Horticultural Society  
Sudbury Food Connections Network  
Cambrian College  
Collège Boréal  
Science North  
The Foodshed Project  
EarthCare Sudbury  
Ontario Parks, OMNR  
CGS Regreening Program  
Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters  
Junction Creek Stewardship Committee  
Laurentian University, Biology Department  
Laurentian University, Earth Science  
Department  
Nickel District Conservation Authority  
Fisheries & Oceans Canada  
MIRARCO  
Vale Inco  
VETAC  
Sudbury Master Gardeners  
Sudbury Ornithological Society  
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources  
Sudbury Naturalists Club  
Xstrata Nickel

Visit the website:

[www.greatersudbury.ca/biodiversity](http://www.greatersudbury.ca/biodiversity)

## Biodiversity Action Plan

With over 330 lakes and thousands of hectares of forests and wetlands, Greater Sudbury is home to a rich diversity of plants, animals and ecosystems. In fact, some of the largest remaining stands of old-growth red pine forests are found here along with 12 species of amphibians, 10 species of reptiles, 183 species of nesting birds and 46 species of mammals.

A large area, however, remains impacted by past mining and smelting activities. Although past greening efforts have achieved significant improvements on these lands, the Sudbury Soils Study's Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA) report which was released on March 31, 2009, confirmed that there is much more work to be done. Local mining companies, Vale Inco and Xstrata Nickel, accepted to work with the Greater Sudbury community to manage the risks identified by the Sudbury Soils Study's ERA. It was also accepted that a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) for Greater Sudbury would be the best mechanism to address ecological risks identified by the Sudbury Soils Study's ERA. Accordingly, Vale Inco provided \$60,000 and Xstrata Nickel provided \$48,000 to cover the costs of developing the Greater Sudbury Biodiversity Action Plan.

Over several months, the community participated in the development of the BAP by; participating in Biodiversity Stakeholder Involvement Sessions (June 6, 17 and 24, 2009); attending Biodiversity 'Have Your Say' Workshops (July 7, 8 and 9, 2009); responding to Biodiversity Feedback Questions on the website (July to end of September, 2009); participating in Biodiversity Telephone Survey (August, 2009); and finally by reviewing and commenting on the Draft Biodiversity Action Plan (October 30 to November 30, 2009) before its release on December 23, 2009.

The BAP that has been developed builds on past greening successes and defines the path forward for future work needed to support Greater Sudbury's ecological recovery and defines the vision and prioritized goals for ecological recovery. This Action Plan will serve as a 'living document' that will be reviewed regularly and updated according to changing landscape and community priorities. The Biodiversity Action Plan can be viewed at [www.greatersudbury.ca/biodiversity](http://www.greatersudbury.ca/biodiversity) and hard copies are available at all area libraries.



## Labour

Program staff included two foreperson positions and seven worker positions. There were a total of seven summer students involved in regular reclamation activities as well. Student positions were partially funded by YMCA Summer Job Service for a period of 17 weeks. Ontario Works provided a total of four individuals to work two days per week from May 5 to October 30. These individuals were engaged in the spring and fall planting activities as well as the greening activities during the summer months. A summary table of labour distribution is below.

Program	Positions	Weeks	Cost to City	Activity
<b>CGS Temporary Staff</b>	9	30 27	100%	Foreperson (2) Tree planting, liming (7)
<b>CGS Summer Students</b>	7	17	82%	Tree planting, liming
<b>Ontario Works Participants</b>	4	26	Nil	Tree planting, liming
<b>Total Positions</b>	20			

In total 20 temporary positions were created. To date 4,510 temporary positions have been created.

Crew in May includes Forepersons, Workers and Summer Students.



Crew engaged in liming activities in the Bennett Lake watershed area.



ATVs used to deliver tree seedlings to planting crew.



Crew in October includes Forepersons and Workers.

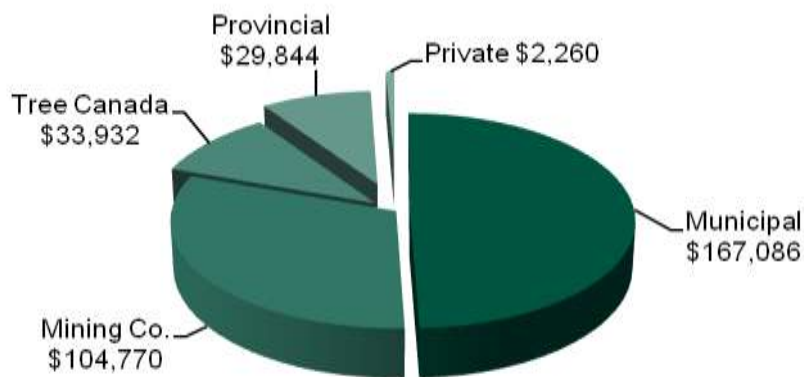


## Funding

The Regreening Program relies on donations to operate the yearly Program. Many successful partnerships have been developed over time and new opportunities are always being investigated. The table below outlines funding sources by type of donation received in 2009.

Program Contributors	Weeks	Number	Source	Amount
<b>LABOUR</b>				
Ontario Works Program	26	4	Provincial	\$12,310
YMCA - SJS	17	7	Provincial	\$7,534
<b>CASH</b>				
Ontario Works			Provincial	\$10,000
Vale Inco			Mining Co.	\$50,000
Xstrata Nickel			Mining Co.	\$40,000
Sudbury earthdancers			Private	\$2,060
<b>MATERIALS</b>				
Vale Inco		49,232 seedlings	Mining Co.	\$14,770
Tree Canada		67,641 seedlings	Private	\$33,932
Nickel District Conservation Authority		400 seedlings	Private	\$200
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>				<b>\$170,806</b>
City of Greater Sudbury				\$167,086
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>				<b>\$337,892</b>

### Funding Contributions 2009



Since 1978, the City's contribution to the Program has averaged 14.3% of the total costs with 85.7% coming from outside sources. To date, the Program costs approach \$25 million.



## Events

### Ugliest Schoolyard Contest - Sponsor Recognition

On February 19th, an event was held to recognize the sponsors of the Ugliest Schoolyard Contest over the past 4 years (2005 to 2008). The event was attended by 50 individuals representing contest sponsors, winning and runner-up schools and VETAC. Ann Coffey from the Canadian Biodiversity Institute delivered a compelling presentation on her efforts in School Grounds Transformations in Ottawa. Her talk emphasized the importance of schoolyard re-greening projects from the students' point of view and as a global responsibility.

Ms Coffey discussed various examples of schoolyard improvements providing many new ideas, and encouraged businesses and landowners to transform their spaces as well. She also demonstrated how the new environment could be utilized as a learning experience and how curriculum could be tied into various activities.



Wayne Hugli of VETAC who spearheaded the contest in Sudbury, provided all sponsors with a certificate of appreciation for their donations and support of the contest. He

also provided winning schools with a hard covered book containing photos of their schoolyard regreening project to display at their schools.

Display material from the Sudbury Master Gardeners, the Ugliest Schoolyard Contest and the Regreening Program were available to any interested attendees.



Appreciation certificates were prepared for the following sponsors for their contributions to the contest from 2005 to 2008, listed below by category:

#### **Landscape Design:**

Janet Rice-Bredin  
James St. John

#### **Garden Centres:**

Adam & Eve Garden Centre  
Botanix Azilda Greenhouses  
Canadian Tire on Regent Street  
Eco-Logic  
Freskiw Farms  
Gisele's Greenhouses  
Holla's Produce and Greenhouses  
Southview Greenhouse Growers Whitewater  
Greenhouses and Yard Art Centre

#### **Hardscaping & Supplies:**

Allmac Tree Service  
Armand's Auto Clinic  
Ashley Landscape Supplies  
Brown's Concrete  
BT Paving  
Carniello Contracting  
Echo Rentals  
Evans Lumber & Building Supplies  
Fisher Wavy  
Hollandia Land & Environmental Solutions  
Home Hardware-Garson  
Lafond Contraction  
Lopes Mechanical  
Nordoors  
Rona Cashway  
Saturn Sudbury  
Kal Tire  
Vale Inco  
WD Tree Removal

#### **Labour & Advice:**

Sudbury Horticultural Society  
Sudbury Master Gardeners  
Sudbury & District Health Unit

#### **Major Corporate Sponsor:**

Xstrata Nickel



## Sudbury Soils Study Release of the Ecological Risk Assessment

On March 31<sup>st</sup>, the long awaited results of the Sudbury Soils Study Ecological Risk Assessment were released to the public. During this event, the Regreening Program was on display and staff was made available to answer any questions from the public.

## Earth Day

VETAC participated in the annual Earth Day Event at Market Square on April 18<sup>th</sup> where 1,600 seedlings were distributed to the public. Seedlings included White Spruce and Red Pine. To date, over 400,000 seedlings have been distributed to homeowners in an effort to reclaim urban spaces.

## Ugliest Schoolyard Contest

Queen Elizabeth II Public School, the 2008 winner of the Ugliest Schoolyard Contest, hosted its grand opening ceremony showcasing the newly regreened schoolyard on June 5<sup>th</sup>. Students were joined by their classmates, parents and teachers to celebrate their green learning space. Principal Jane Davey delivered the school's gratitude to all contest sponsors.



## Margaret Atwood Birthday Caper

Margaret Atwood came to Laurentian University on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> to celebrate her birthday and to mark the final stop on *The Year of the Flood* book tour.

Laurentian started the birthday caper five years ago, using each event as a fundraiser for a worthy cause. This year the beneficiaries of the dinner included the Living with Lakes Centre, the Junction Creek Stewardship Committee and VETAC. To commemorate this event, a particularly healthy stand of trees along the Jane Goodall Reclamation Trail was named the Margaret Atwood Grove.



"...for just as the Sudbury of the past was an emblem of the nightmares caused by a disregard for nature, the Sudbury of the present and future shows what can be accomplished through understanding and respect. Go, Sudbury!"

Margaret Atwood

## Communications

Communicating the successes of local greening efforts continues yearly, to both local audiences and groups abroad. Media coverage was wide spread with positive comments on initiatives associated with the Program and VETAC. Presentations, tours, and field trips featuring planting activities were also provided to a wide range of audiences.

## General Media

EarthCare Sudbury was featured in Northern Ontario Construction News March 2009 Volume 1 No. 12 on page C6 to C8 in an article entitled “Sudbury Goes Green, Sustainability initiative turning industry town eco-friendly” which contained before and after photographs of greening efforts in Greater Sudbury.

The Regreening Program's commitment to the UN's Billion Tree Campaign was featured in the Sudbury Star on November 4, 2009 on page A2. The article was entitled "Sudbury has planted 60,000 trees this year".

# Biodiversity Action Plan

The development of the new Biodiversity Action Plan drew much attention from the local media. The following is a list of articles and interviews that were published:

- **Public's input sought on biodiversity action plan**  
➤ April 29, 2009 - Christopher Wren - Letters to the Editor - Editorial/Opinion - Sudbury Star - p. A11
- **Plan d'action sur la biodiversité**  
➤ le 30 octobre 2009 - Cision - Maude Rivard - : BOREAL EXPRESS (2) HEURE: 16:23 (CBON-FM), HEURE: 16:23, DURÉE: 00:04:57
- **Plan d'action sur la biodiversité**  
➤ le 30 octobre 2009 - Cision - Robert McMillan, Éva Levouteur Bédard - : BOREAL EXPRESS (2) HEURE: 16:34 (CBON-FM), DURÉE
- **Regreening the Greater Sudbury area**  
➤ October 30, 2009 - Cision - Gord Nicholls - NEWS AT 11:30 (CICI-TV), Sudbury, Time: 23:43, Length: 00:01:19
- **Biodiversity action plan**  
➤ October 30, 2009 - Cision - Todd Gale - 6:00 AM NEWS (CJTK-FM), Sudbury, Time: 06:00, Length: 00:00:33
- **Biodiversity in Sudbury**  
➤ October 30, 2009 - Cision - Michael Vlasveld - 16:00 NEWS (CICS-FM), Time: 16:00, Length: 00:00:33
- **Biodiversité à Sudbury**  
➤ le 30 octobre 2009 - Cision - Alex Boissonneault - LE TELEJOURNAL ONTARIO HEURE: 18:31 (CBLFT-TV), Toronto, HEURE: 18:31
- **Environment**  
➤ October 30, 2009 - Cision - Gary Rennie - POINTS NORTH (2) (CBCS-FM), Sudbury, Time: 17:33, Length: 00:01:01

- **Greener will look different**  
 > October 31, 2009 - Mike Whitehouse - Sudbury Star - p. A1
- **Next stage of greening plan takes shape**  
 > October 31, 2009 - Mike Whitehouse - Sudbury Star - p. A1
- **Biodiversité sudburoise - Encore bien du chemin à faire pour retrouver la nature d'antan**  
 > le 4 novembre 2009 - Pascale Castonguay - Le voyageur - p. 5

## Ugliest Schoolyard Contest

The 2009 Contest winner was featured in an article entitled “Ugliest School Named” in the Sudbury Star on June 19, 2009 on page A5.

On Monday, November 23, TFO filmed a clip of the Ugliest Schoolyard Contest winner which is available at <http://panorama.tfo.org>.

## EarthCare Minute

In an effort to educate residents of Greater Sudbury about local environmental initiatives, EarthCare Sudbury developed the ‘EarthCare Minute’. Segments covering various environmental programs aired every Wednesday on MCTV just before the 6 p.m. news and provided viewers with related tips to reduce their own environmental footprint.

On June 24<sup>th</sup>, “Regreening of Sudbury” was highlighted with an update of the Program’s accomplishments and the improvements made to the quality of life for residents and the environment. Targets for the current year were also provided. On July 1<sup>st</sup>, “Biodiversity” was the focus as a natural next step to what has been completed by the Regreening Program to maintain a balanced healthy forest for generations to come. Residents were also encouraged to attend “Have Your Say” workshops during the week of July 6<sup>th</sup> to provide input to the development of a Biodiversity Action Plan for the Greater Sudbury area. “Ugliest Schoolyard Highlights” were aired on October 7<sup>th</sup>. A brief update was given from the start of that project in 2005 with two winning schools showcased.

All “EarthCare Minute” episodes can be viewed on the website at [www.greatersudbury.ca/earthcare](http://www.greatersudbury.ca/earthcare)

## Print Material

Posters and brochures for the Regreening Program were printed this spring and available for distribution at events throughout the year.

In September, Dr. Jane Goodall released her latest book, HOPE FOR ANIMALS AND THEIR WORLD: How Endangered Animals are being Rescued from the Brink. It is an inspirational account of formerly endangered species whose populations are now being regenerated, including some Canadian success stories. The City of Greater Sudbury's Regreening Program is featured in the book along with a before-and-after landscape photo. During a public lecture on September 23rd at the Glad Tidings Tabernacle, Dr. Goodall spoke about the significant strides committed residents of Greater Sudbury have made in



healing the environmental scars from nickel mining and smelting in the area and shared success stories of animals brought back from the brink of extinction across the globe.

#### **Presentations, Tours & Field Trips**

VETAC member Graeme Spiers was abroad during April and May delivering talks on the Regreening effort in Greater Sudbury to audiences in New Zealand, Australia and South Africa.

Peter Beckett, Chair of VETAC offered two presentations to 90 local students attending the Sudbury Regional Historical Heritage Fair on May 8<sup>th</sup>. The Fairs are a celebration of Canada's heritage, in the form of student history projects. Locally, the history of Greater Sudbury's denuded landscape and transformation to a living landscape is communicated to the youth through these presentations.

Science North and Laurentian University hosted the 38th Annual Conference of the Canadian Science Writers Association from May 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>. The 90 delegates involved were scientists, science journalists, communications officers and policy makers from across the country. On May 26<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Peter Beckett provided attendees with a seminar entitled Healing the Landscape: The Regreening of Greater Sudbury which was followed by a full day tour with a picnic lunch at the Jane Goodall Reclamation Trail. The guided tour of the Wahnapiatae and Coniston areas of Greater Sudbury built upon the Monday afternoon conference session. Delegates visited the site of an old roast bed, witnessed areas of blackened rock (Greater Sudbury's past moonscape) and compared them to areas that have been reclaimed. While walking the Jane Goodall Reclamation Trail, participants heard from the scientists involved in the regreening project - what has been done, what has worked, what has not and what they are doing differently now.

On August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Tina McCaffrey, Supervisor – Regreening Program and Christine Hurst, Foreperson – Regreening Program provided a guided tour along the Jane Goodall Reclamation Trail for 20 students from the Montessori School. Students looked at different types of trees that grow in Sudbury and discussed their importance.

The Ministry of Natural Resources hosted the Regional Workshop for Forestry Local Citizens Committees on September 11<sup>th</sup>. As part of the activities for this event, Dr. Peter Beckett provided a regreening tour for 30 delegates involved.

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009, the Regreening Program hosted 200 participants from the Roots & Shoots Conference sponsored by Science North. Participants were divided into groups and provided with presentations from VETAC members Dr. Peter Beckett, Mark Kuhlburg, Stephen Monet, Tina McCaffrey, and Jennifer Braun. Then the students proceeded to spread lime on an area of barren land within the Bennett Lake watershed and plant tree seedlings in the reclaimed land. The field activity was assisted by Program staff and numerous VETAC members. In addition to hosting field activities for participants, the Program also provided other host groups with equipment, trees and lime for similar activities throughout the City. Other groups included the Nickel District Conservation Authority, Rainbow Routes, Junction Creek Stewardship Committee and Dynamic Earth.

Several VETAC members were taken on a tour of some of the diversity plantings located near Camp Sudaca on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

## Other

On August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009 the International City Managers Association (ICMA) film clip was produced primarily as a promotional piece that ran during the conference, an event that took place in Montreal in September that would welcome delegates from all over the world. The story captures Sudbury's transformation from mining town to regional centre for healthcare expertise. Such a remarkable transformation would not have been possible without the greening efforts that have been completed with major support and engagement of Sudbury's citizens, not to mention an impressive team of rehabilitation specialists and experts, many of whom have received international recognition for work done here in Sudbury. Interviews with Stephen Monet, Manager of Environmental Planning Initiatives at the City and Dr. Peter Beckett, Chair of VETAC were filmed amid the Regreening Program staff spreading lime within the Bennett Lake watershed. In addition to the promotional coverage the clip received during the ICMA conference, the footage itself now belongs to the City of Greater Sudbury and will be used for further development of the greening story for future applications in various media. The video is available for viewing at

[http://www.icmatv.com/news/economic\\_regeneration\\_through\\_greening/](http://www.icmatv.com/news/economic_regeneration_through_greening/)

Ontario Visual Heritage Project released the DVD entitled "Riches Beyond our Rocks: Stories from Greater Sudbury" early in the year. The Regreening Program was provided a complimentary copy of the DVD for their contribution towards the film which features the greening effort in Sudbury in the last chapter. Copies are available for sale at all Libraries/Citizen Service Centres.

The Regreening Program provided various historic photos for a short film being produced for the Junction Creek Stewardship Committee. The film entitled 'The Junction Creek Clearwater Revival' was shown to the public on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009 during Cinefest.

## Appendices

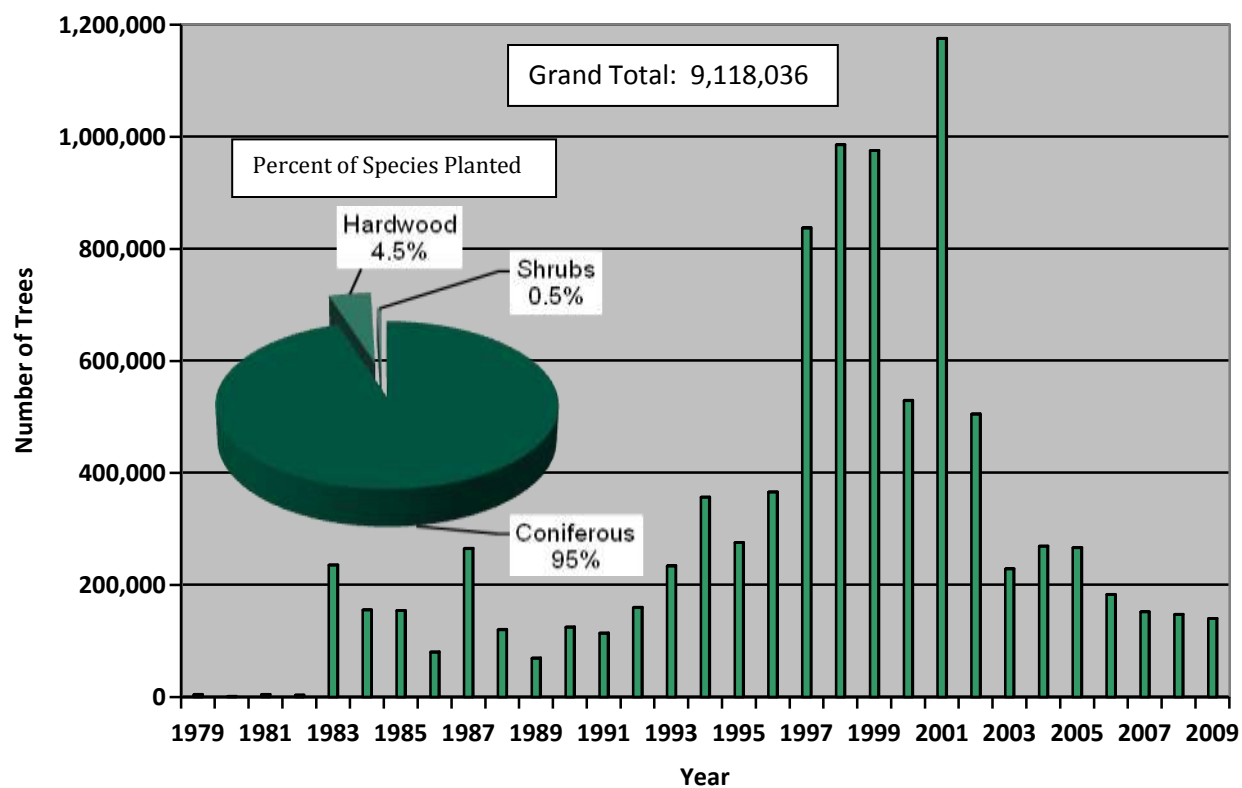


Regreening site at the end of Barrydowne Road and Maley Drive, 2008

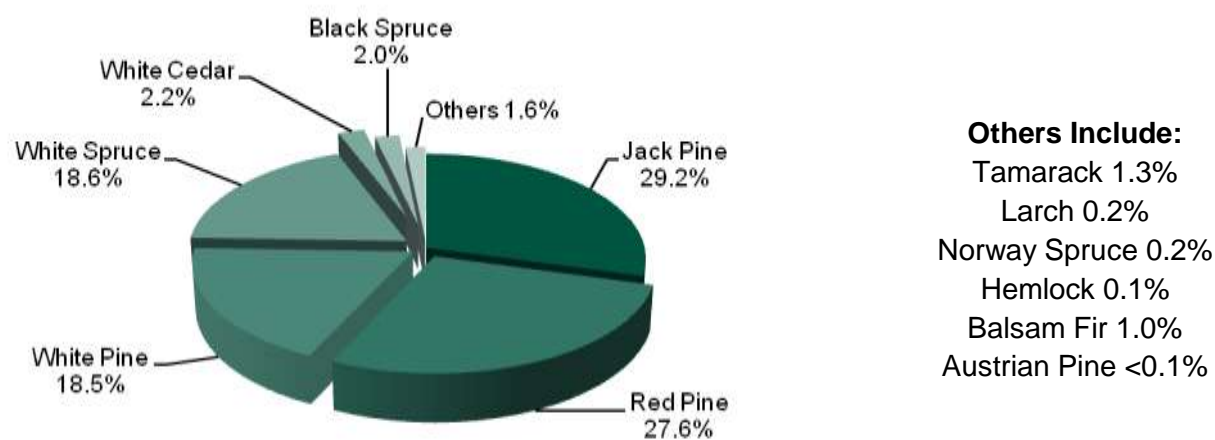


Regreening site at the end of Barrydowne Road and Maley Drive, 2009

## Number of Trees Planted 1979 to 2009

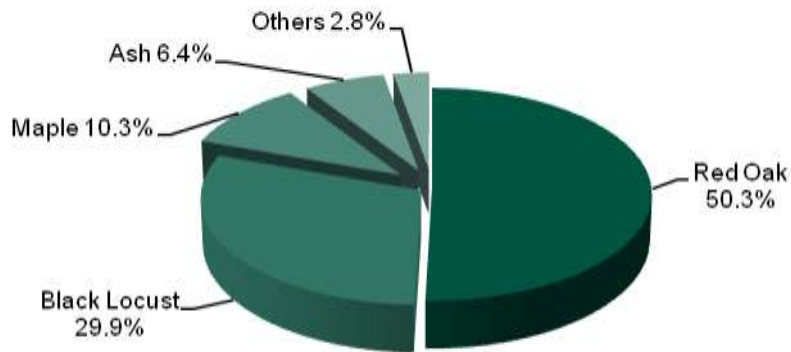


## Percent Coniferous Species Planted 1979-2009



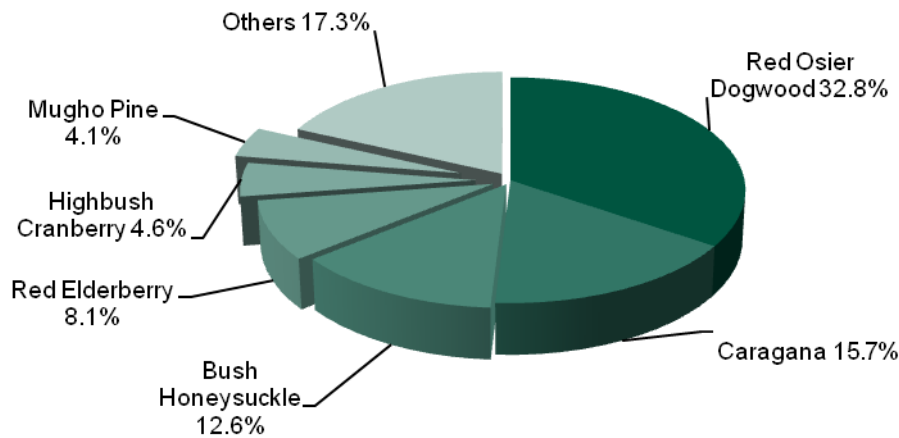


## Percent Hardwood Species Planted 1979-2009



**Others Include:**  
 Russian Olive 1.3%  
 Yellow Birch 1.1%  
 Bur Oak 0.6%  
 American Beech 0.1%  
 Bitternut Hickory <0.1%

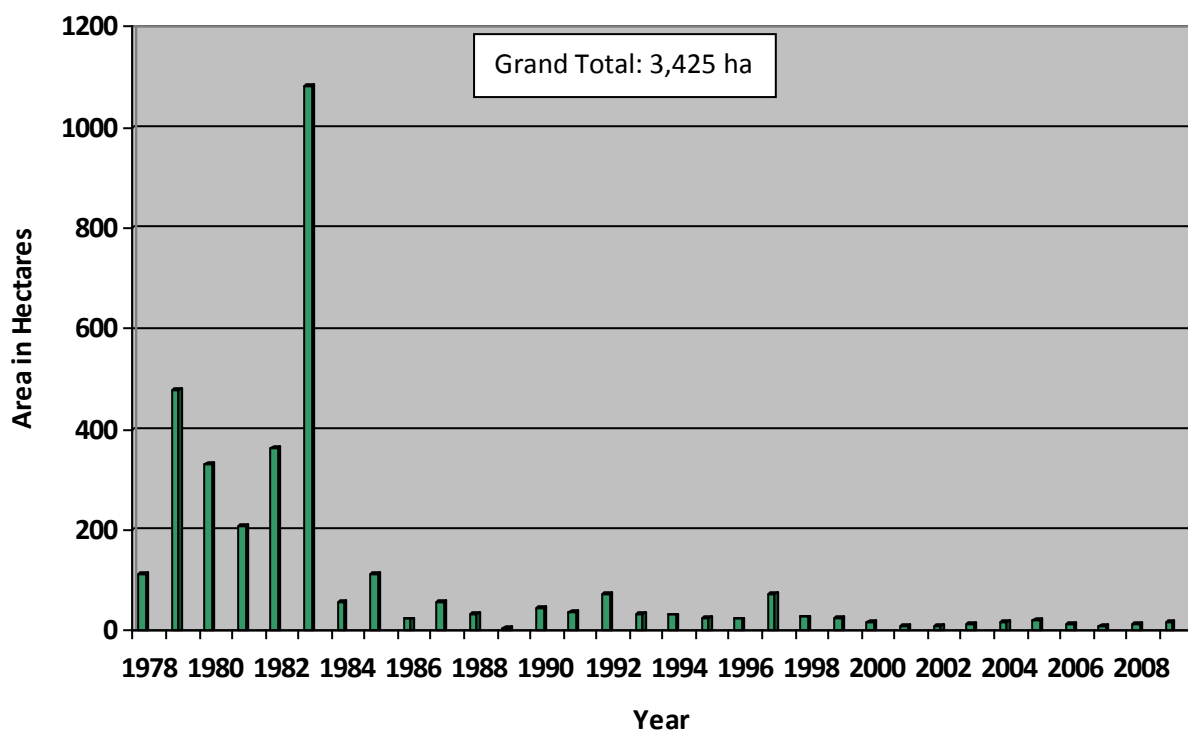
## Percent Shrubs Planted 1979 – 2009



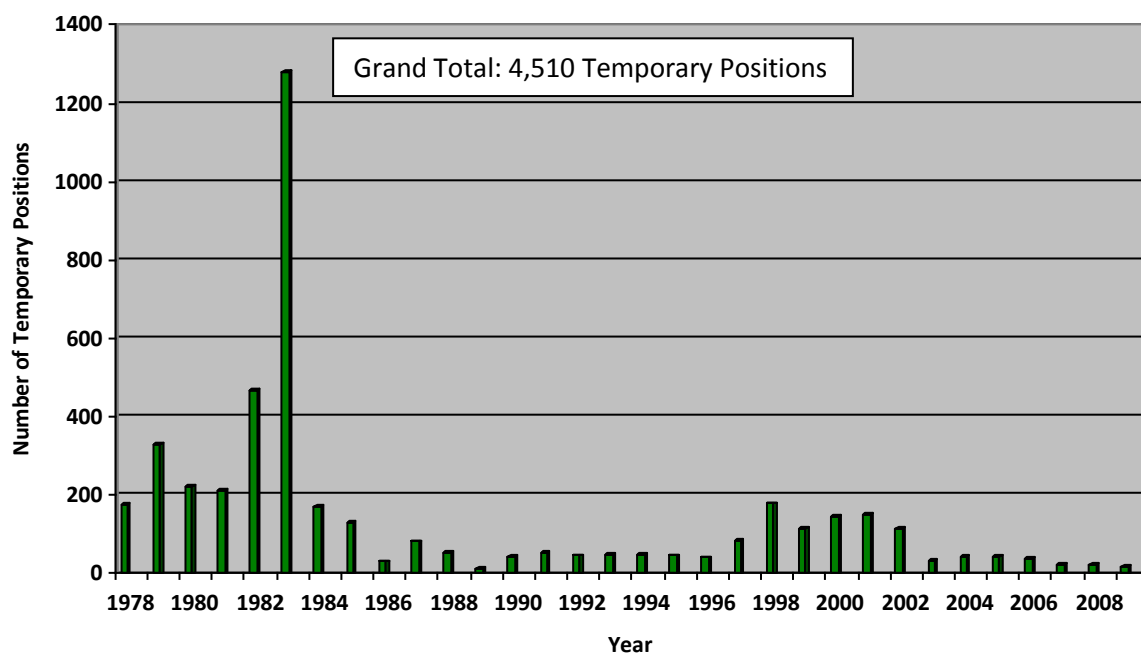
### Others Include:

Nannyberry 3.3%	Wild Raisin 0.6%
Juneberry 2.7%	Broad-Leaved Meadow-Sweet 0.6%
Alternate Leaf Dogwood 2.4%	Alder 0.5%
Staghorn Sumac 1.9%	Bearberry 0.4%
Narrow-Leaved Meadow-Sweet 1.9%	Choke Cherry 0.4%
Serviceberry 1.7%	Buffalo Berry 0.4%
Pin Cherry 1.7%	Buttonbush 0.4%
Ninebark 1.7%	Sweet Gale 0.2%
Round Leaf Dogwood 0.95%	Winterberry 0.2%

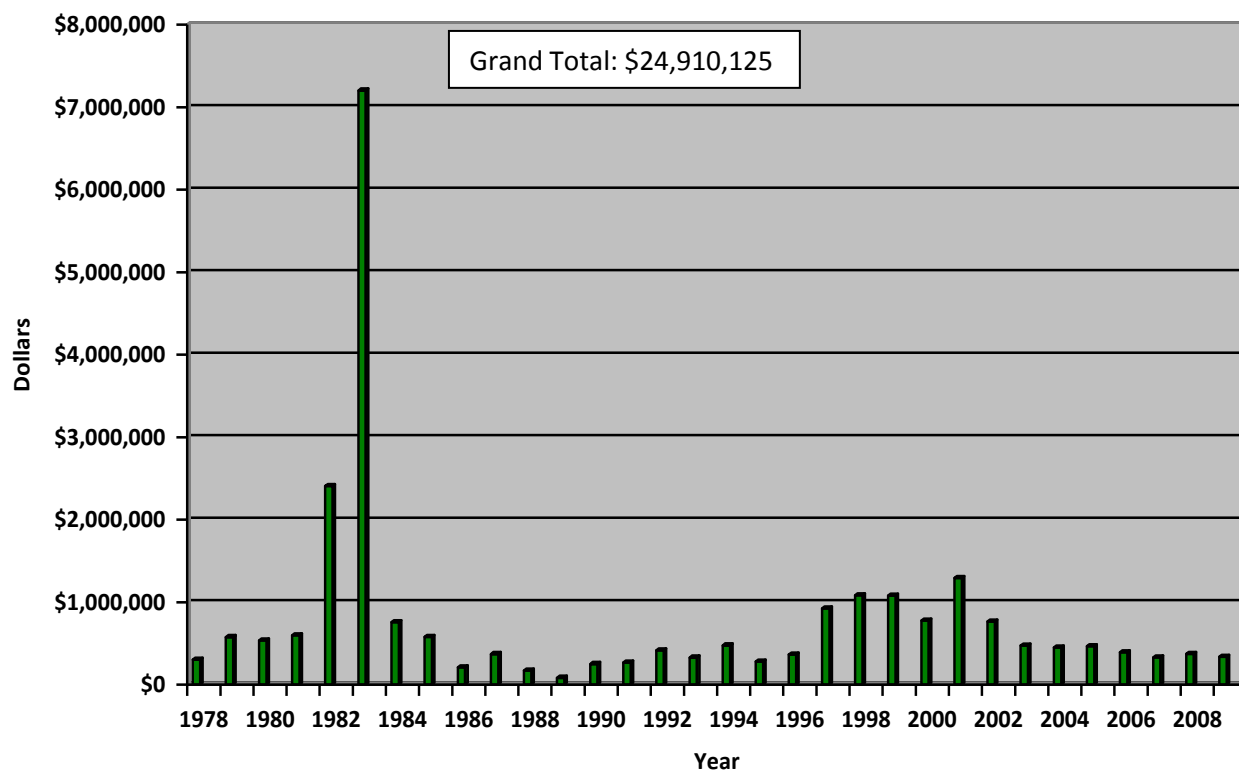
## Liming Area 1978 to 2009



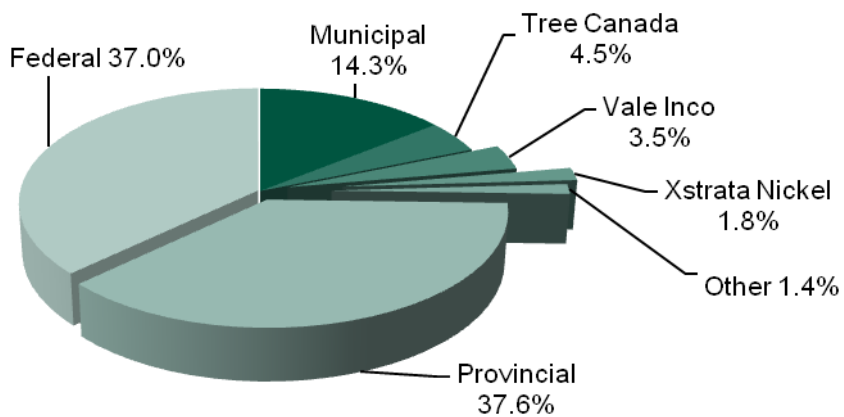
## Temporary Positions 1978 to 2009



## Yearly Program Costs 1978 to 2009



## Percent Funding Contributions by Source 1978 to 2009



## VETAC Members 2009

Chair	Dr. Peter Beckett	Laurentian University
Vice-Chair	Bill Lautenbach	City of Greater Sudbury, Planning Services
Members	Jennifer Braun	Golder Associates Ltd.
	Tony Fasciano	Private
	Enzo Floreani	Master Gardener
	Wayne Hugli	Horticultural Society
	Jim Ilnitski	Private
	Mark Kuhlberg	Laurentian University
	Lisa Lanteigne	Vale Inco
	Lisa Leger	Xstrata Nickel
	Shirley Makela	Private
	Tina McCaffrey	City of Greater Sudbury, Regreening Program
	Dr. Stephen Monet	City of Greater Sudbury, Environmental Planning
	Charlotte Morden	NORCAT
	John Negusanti	Ministry of the Environment
	Mike Peters	Private
	Paul Sajatovic	Nickel District Conservation Authority
	Graeme Spires	MIRARCO
	Betty Sutherland	Xstrata Nickel
	Ben van Drunen	Hollandia Land & Environmental Solutions
	Glen Watson	Vale Inco
	Sarah Woods	Junction Creek Stewardship Committee





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website: [www.greatersudbury.ca/VETAC](http://www.greatersudbury.ca/VETAC)