



Town of Petawawa, Community Services Department

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MEDIA RELEASE

Town of Petawawa Awarded \$25,000 TD Green Space Grant for Innovative Urban Forestry Initiatives in Underserved Neighborhoods

Town of Petawawa, ON (May 14, 2019) Today, the Town of Petawawa announced that it received a \$25,000 TD Green Space Grant from TD Bank Group (TD) and the Arbor Day Foundation to support innovative urban greening and tree planting projects in underserved areas of the community. The theme for the program is, *Innovations in Park-Based Green Infrastructure*.

The Town of Petawawa plans to use the grant to continue enhancements to Petawawa Point Park through the planting of new maple trees, installation of shade structures and solar LED lighting. Additionally, tree planting and tree care education programs will be part of the GET TO THE POINT event to be held at Petawawa Point Park on August 24th, 2019. The Town of Petawawa was one of 20 U.S. and Canadian municipalities selected to receive a grant.

"Green spaces play a critical role in creating more livable cities. Not only do they provide environmental benefits, but they also provide social services and economic benefits to cities and the people within them," said Andrea Barrack, Global Head of Sustainability and Corporate Citizenship, TD. "That's why we are working with the Arbor Day Foundation to support innovative community programs in municipalities including the Town of Petawawa that are striving to create a more inclusive and sustainable tomorrow."

"Our goal with this grant program is to help communities not only enrich their green spaces but also enrich lives," said Dan Lambe, President, Arbor Day Foundation. "We're supporting the Town of Petawawa in its effort to build awareness about the benefits of trees, educate residents on proper tree care, and lay the groundwork for a greener future."

"Parks and green spaces play an important role in the quality of life residents enjoy. Natural spaces provide opportunities for increased physical activities, improve mental health and forge a strong sense of community", acknowledged Petawawa Mayor Bob Sweet. "As a community that is strongly identified by their water and land assets, improving the tree canopy and adding shade structures at Petawawa Point will enhance this recreational asset for many generations. We thank TD and the Arbor Day Foundation for their invaluable support."

This important green space improvement project is being completed in partnership with the Petawawa Horticultural Society. With over 21 years of service to the Petawawa community and a long history of partnering with the Town of Petawawa on many greenspace

improvement projects, the Petawawa Horticultural Society will bring expertise, support and assistance to the arboricultural aspects of the project.

TD provides funding for the grants, which are awarded annually for tree planting, maintenance costs and educational activities, and the Arbor Day Foundation administers the program. The TD Green Space Grant program is a component of The Ready Commitment, TD's corporate citizenship platform designed to help create a more **inclusive and sustainable tomorrow.**

To be eligible for a grant, qualified municipalities must be within TD's footprint in the United States and Canada. Priority is given to projects occurring in a low- to moderate-income area of the local community.

In addition to the Town of Petawawa, other grant recipients this year are:

Canada

- Lake Country, British Columbia
- Trenton, Nova Scotia
- Mississauga, Ontario
- Niagara Falls, Ontario
- Toronto, Ontario
- Whitby, Ontario
- Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
- Montreal, Quebec
- Kisbey, Saskatchewan

United States

- Hartford, Connecticut
- Jacksonville, Florida
- Hallandale Beach, Florida
- Morristown, New Jersey
- Bronx, New York
- Watervliet, New York
- Easton, Pennsylvania
- Providence, Rhode Island
- Clinton, South Carolina
- Rock Hill, South Carolina

For more information, visit <u>arborday.org/programs/tdgreenspacegrants/.</u>

About the Arbor Day Foundation: The Arbor Day Foundation is a million-member non-profit conservation and education organization with a mission to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. More information on the Foundation and its programs can be found at arborday.org.

About TD Global Corporate Citizenship

TD has a long-standing commitment to enriching the lives of its customers, colleagues and communities. As part of its corporate citizenship platform, The Ready Commitment, TD is targeting CDN \$1 billion (US \$775 million) in total by 2030 towards community giving in four areas critical to opening doors for a more inclusive and sustainable tomorrow – Financial Security, Vibrant Planet, Connected Communities and Better Health. Through The Ready Commitment TD aspires to link its business, philanthropy and human capital to help people feel more confident – not just about their finances, but also in their ability to achieve their personal goals in a changing world. For further information, visit td.com/thereadycommitment.

For more information on the Town of Petawawa TD Green Space project, please feel free to contact Mr. Kelly Williams, Director of Community Services at the Town of Petawawa, (613) 687-5678 ext. 2104 or kwilliams@petawawa.ca.