

# Heritage Tree Management Guide – DRAFT v.2

## 1. Registry of Heritage Trees

- **List:** Establish criterion and list of municipal owned heritage tree registry in Aurora
- **Documentation:** Photograph, measure, and record historical significance for archives.

## 2. Assessment and Decision Framework

- **Risk Assessment:** Confirm structural decline, assess health under existing tree inventory categorization.
- **Public Engagement:** Notify community and stakeholders; consider commemorative options.

## 2. Tree protection or preservation strategies (dependant on Risk Assessment)

- **Species and lineage preservation strategies (seed bank, nursery reproduction)**

## 3. Disposal and Repurposing Options

### Recycling and Reuse

- **Urban Lumber Programs:** Partner with local sawmills or artisans to turn logs into:
  - Benches, picnic tables, or park furniture.
  - Sculptures or art installations for public spaces.

Example: TreeCycle Canada: Converts urban wood into clean energy or wood products.

- **Community Projects:** Donate wood to schools or makerspaces for educational use

## **Biomass and Energy**

- Chipping for mulch or compost.
- Biomass energy generation through municipal or private facilities

## **4. Commemorative Practices**

- **Plaques and Memorials:**
  - Install plaques at the original site or on replacement trees.
  - Include QR codes linking to digital archives or tree history.
- **Heritage Displays:**
  - Use sections of trunk for interpretive signage in parks or museums.
- **Public Art:**
  - Commission local artists to create sculptures from salvaged wood.

## **4. Replacement and Ecological Continuity**

- Plant native or climate-resilient species near the original site.
- Follow or exceed tree replacement policies and Bylaw (e.g., multiple young trees for one large heritage tree).

## **5. Policy and Program Integration**

- Include end-of-life options in:
  - Tree Protection Bylaws.
  - Urban Forestry Master Plans.
- Offer Commemorative Tree Programs for community engagement (similar to Toronto and Edmonton models).

## **6. Communication and Education**

- Host farewell ceremonies or community planting events.
- Share stories via municipal websites and social media to highlight sustainability and heritage value

## **7. Funding Models**

- **Revenue:** potential with sale of commemorative items, or possible sale of nursery pots of direct lineage