



2024
Annual
Report

Regreening Program



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2024 Partners

Regreening Program

City of Greater Sudbury

Collège Boréal

Natural Resources Canada

Sudbury Earthdancers

Sudbury Integrated Nickel Operations, a Glencore Company

Tree Canada

Vale Canada Limited



2024 Highlights

The annual Regreening Program operated from the first week of May to the second week of October. The implementation of the 5 YEAR PLAN 2021-2025 continued in its fourth year resulting in 28 temporary employment opportunities. By season’s end, the crew limed 7.5 hectares (ha) of barren land off the east end of Lasalle Boulevard and planted over 135,000 tree, shrub, and understory tree seedlings throughout Greater Sudbury.

The large-scale forest floor transplant project proceeded again in 2024 with 20 forest floor plots established on four sites (i.e., five plots per site). The total area covered by forest floor transplants is 2.28 ha since 2010.

The highly anticipated release of the film Planting Hope: A Regreening Story was made available for public viewing November 29, 2024, at Dynamic Earth.

Regreening Component	2024	To Date (since 1978)
Tree Seedlings Planted	101,138	10,323,560
Shrubs and Understory Tree Seedlings Planted	34,824	599,990
Area Limed	7.5 ha	3,504 ha
Area Fertilized	---	3,271 ha
Area Seeded	---	3,199 ha
Forest Floor Transplants	0.032 ha	2.28 ha
Program Cost	\$957,312	\$38,400,825
Temporary Employment Opportunities	27	4,895
Awards	---	15
Number of Schoolyards Regreened	---	50
Volunteer Tree Planters	80	13,391
Trees Planted by Volunteers	3,273	393,349
Trees Provided for Residential Plantings	290*	432,489

*Values are included in the Tree, Shrubs and Understory Tree Seedlings Planted.



Crushed Limestone, Fertilizer and Seed

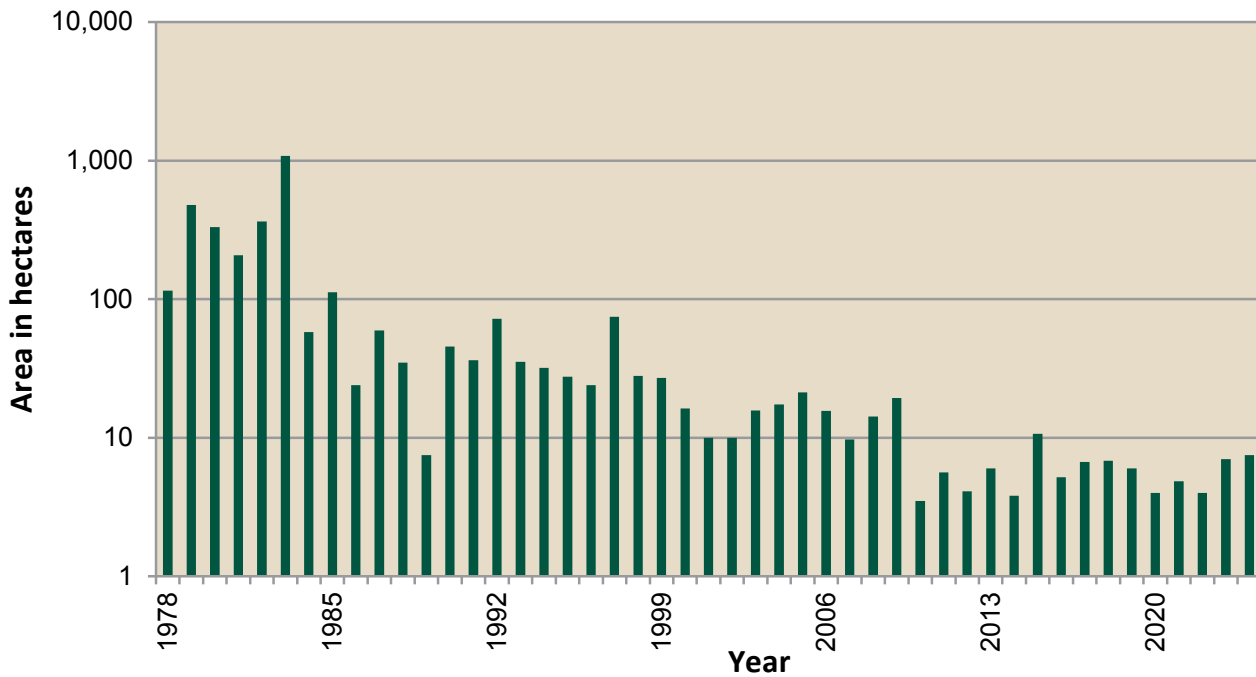
The manual application of crushed dolomitic limestone on barren land occurred on 7.5 ha at the east end of Lasalle Boulevard as a continuation of work performed in 2023. Liming is scheduled to continue in this area in 2025, at which time fertilizer and seed application will occur to the entire treated area.

Refer to page 6 for a map of the location of liming activities.

To date, the Program has manually treated 3,512 ha of barren land with crushed limestone.

Area Limed 1978 to 2024

The bar graph below indicates the area in hectares limed per year by the municipal Regreening Program since 1978 with a total of 3,512 ha limed to date.



Vale Aerial Seeding Program

Although not part of the municipal program, Vale aerially seeded approximately 100 ha of barren land east of Wahnapiatae using pelletized dolomitic limestone, fertilizer, and seed mixture.

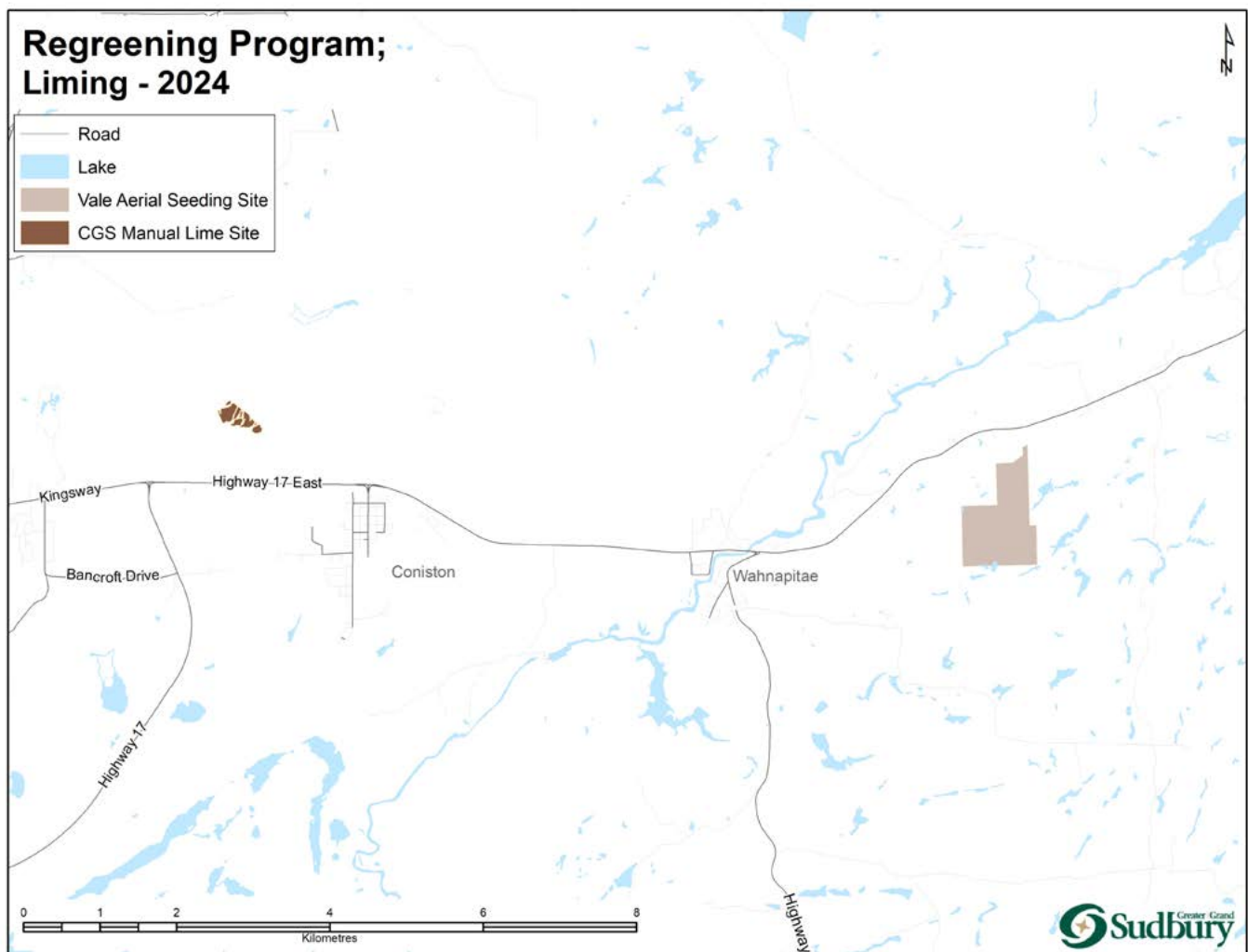
This activity is part of Vale's ongoing collaboration with the City of Greater Sudbury's Regreening Program.

Vale and the Regreening Program use the following seed mix:

- 40% fall rye (*Secale cereale*)
- 20% Canada wildrye (*Elymus canadensis*)
- 20% little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)
- 10% slender wheatgrass (*Elymus trachycaulus*)
- 10% alsike clover (*Trifolium hybridum*)

The seeded area will be planted with tree/shrub seedlings in 2025. Refer to the map below for the location of the aerial seeding activities.

Map – Lime Site 2024



NOTE: Up-to-date mapping is available on the [Regreening App](#).

Tree Planting

A total of 101,138 tree seedlings and 34,824 shrub/understory tree seedlings were planted at various locations in Greater Sudbury through the spring and fall. Since 1978, the Program has planted a total of 10,323,560 trees and 599,990 shrub/understory trees.

The success of this year's tree planting is attributed to sponsors and donations: conifer seedlings were provided by Vale (88,872), funds for other seedling purchases were supported by Tree Canada (\$79,161), and labour and logistics for the planting of the seedlings were supported by the 2 Billion Tree program (\$50,000). Costs for tree planting include the labour cost of tree planters and the costs of transportation, storage, watering, etc.

The 40,000 seedlings funded through Tree Canada were planted north of McFarlane Lake on Crown lands to increase the plant diversity of that area.

Barren land aerially seeded by Vale, located south of Wahnapiatae, was selected for the 2 Billion Tree program funding where trees were planted more densely in certain areas to increase carbon sequestration capability.

In all, 100,000 seedlings were planted consisting of the typical first phase planting mix of jack pine (*Pinus banksiana*), red pine (*Pinus resinosa*), white pine (*Pinus strobus*), red oak (*Quercus rubra*) and green alder

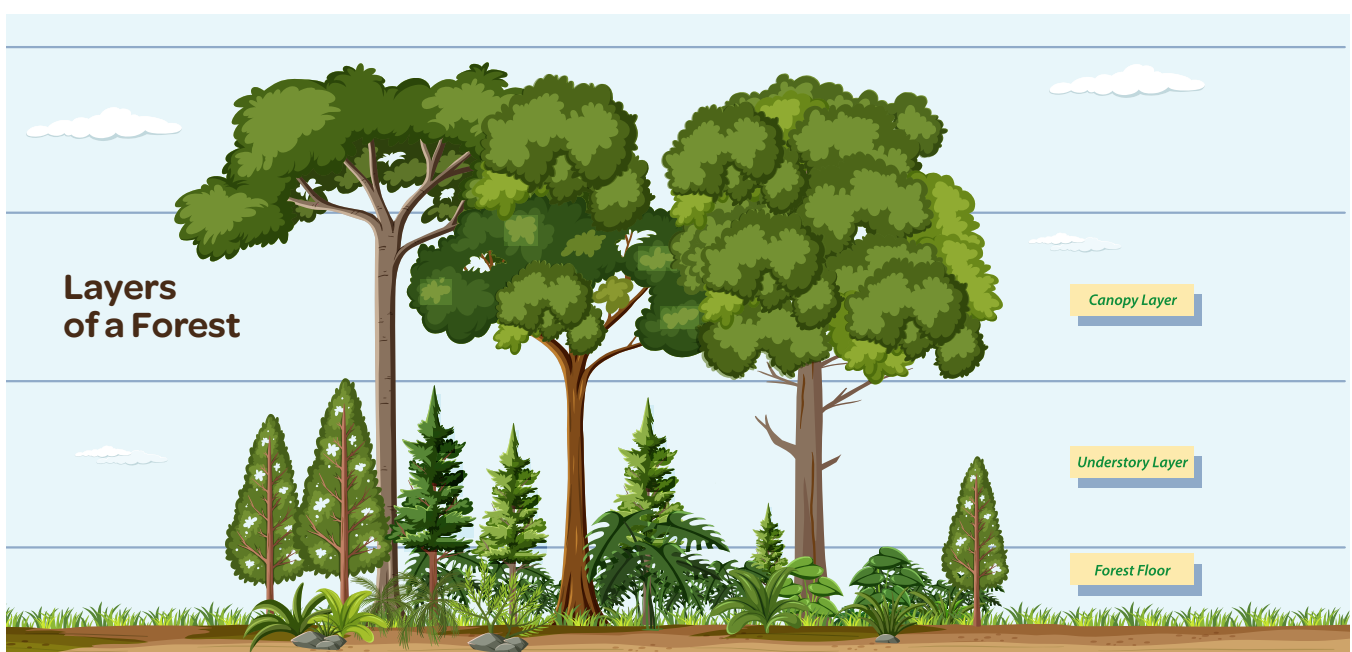
(*Alnus viridis ssp. crispa*). Vale's seedling contribution was instrumental in securing the 2 Billion Tree program funding.

Refer to the tree planting map on the next page for locations of the planting sites.

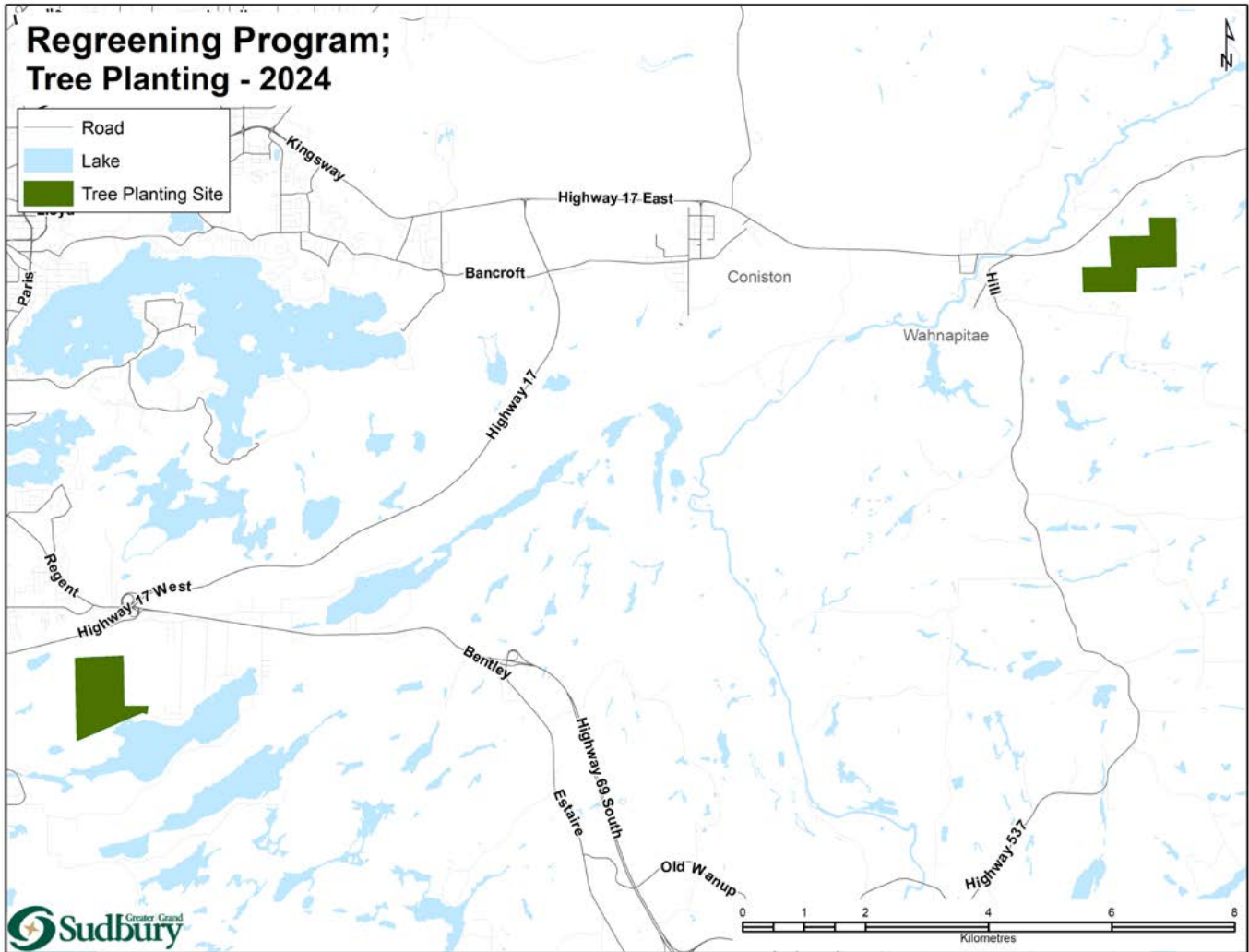
Five species of canopy trees (conifer and deciduous), eight species of deciduous understory trees, and 13 shrub species were planted in 2024.

To date, 29 species of canopy trees (13 conifer and 16 deciduous), 11 species of understory trees and 43 species of shrubs have been planted.

A total of 83 different tree and shrub species have been part of the Regreening 'recipe' to date. Refer to pages 9 and 10 for a complete list of species planted as part of the Regreening Program since 1979.



Map – Tree Planted Areas 2024



NOTE: Up-to-date mapping is available on the [Regreening App](#).



Species List

The tables below outline the scientific and common names of the species of canopy trees, understory trees and shrubs that have been planted by the Program. Those species with an “*” are non-native. Those species followed by a “+” were part of the 2024 planting mix.

Scientific Name	Common Name
Trees	
<i>Abies balsamea</i>	Balsam Fir
<i>Acer (rubrum, saccharinum, saccharum)</i>	Maples (Red, Silver, Sugar)
<i>Betula alleghaniensis+</i>	Yellow Birch+
<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	Bitternut Hickory
<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	American Beech
<i>Fraxinus (americana, nigra, pennsylvanica)</i>	Ash (White, Black, Red)
<i>Larix (decidua*, kaempferi*)</i>	Larch (European*, Japanese*)
<i>Larix laricina</i>	Tamarck
<i>Ostrya virginiana+</i>	Ironwood+
<i>Picea (abies*, glauca, mariana)</i>	Spruce (Norway*, White, Black)
<i>Pinus (banksiana+, nigra*, resinosa+, strobus)</i>	Pines (Jack+, Austrian*, Red+, White)
<i>Quercus (alba, macrocarpa, rubra+, velutina)</i>	Oaks (White, Bur, Red+, Black)
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia*</i>	Black Locust*
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Eastern White Cedar
<i>Tilia americana</i>	Basswood
<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	Eastern Hemlock

Scientific Name	Common Name
Understory Trees	
<i>Acer (pensylvanicum+, spicatum+)</i>	Maples (Striped+, Mountain+)
<i>Alnus viridis ssp. crispa</i>	Green Alder+
<i>Amelanchier (laevis+, sanguinea+)</i>	Serviceberry (Smooth+, Roundleaf+)
<i>Cornus alternifolia+</i>	Alternate-leaf Dogwood+
<i>Prunus nigra</i>	Canada Plum
<i>Prunus pensylvanica</i>	Pincherry
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Common Elderberry
<i>Sorbus (americana+, decora+)</i>	Mountain-ash (American+, Showy+)

Species List (Continued...)

Scientific Name	Common Name
Shrubs	
<i>Amelanchier (canadensis, spp., stolonifera+)</i>	Serviceberry (Canadian, spp., Running+)
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi+</i>	Bearberry+
<i>Aronia (arbutifolia, melanocarpa+, melanocarpa "Viking")</i>	Chokeberry (Purple, Black+, "Viking")
<i>Caragana arborescens</i>	Siberian Peashrub
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Buttonbush
<i>Clematis virginiana</i>	Virgin's Bower
<i>Cornus (rugosa, sericea+)</i>	Dogwood (Roundleaf, Red Osier+)
<i>Corylus americana</i>	American Hazelnut
<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>	Northern Bush-honeysuckle
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia*</i>	Russian Olive*
<i>Gaultheria procumbens</i>	Eastern Wintergreen
<i>Ilex (mucronata, verticillata)</i>	Holly (Mountain, Common Winterberry)
<i>Juniperus (communis+, horizontalis)</i>	Juniper (Common+, Creeping)
<i>Lonicera canadensis+</i>	Fly Honeysuckle+
<i>Myrica gale</i>	Sweetgale
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius+</i>	Ninebark+
<i>Pinus mugo *</i>	Mugo Pine*
<i>Prunus (pumila, virginiana)</i>	Cherry (Dwarf Sand, Choke)
<i>Rhus typhina</i>	Staghorn Sumac
<i>Ribes hudsonianum</i>	Wild Black Currant
<i>Rosa (acicularis, blanda, palustris+)</i>	Roses (Prickly Wild, Smooth Wild, Swamp+)
<i>Rubus odoratus</i>	Flowering Raspberry
<i>Sambucus pubens+</i>	Red Elderberry+
<i>Shepherdia canadensis+</i>	Canada Buffaloberry+
<i>Spiraea (alba, alba var. latifolia)</i>	Meadowsweet (White, Broad-leaved)
<i>Spiraea tomentosa+</i>	Steeplebush+
<i>Symphoricarpos alba+</i>	Snowberry+
<i>Taxus canadensis</i>	Canada Yew
<i>Viburnum alnifolium</i>	Hobblebush
<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	Nannyberry
<i>Viburnum nudum var.cassinoides+</i>	Wild Raisin+
<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	Highbush-cranberry

Quality and Survival Assessments

As part of the veritree funding received in 2022 and 2023, survival assessments were conducted on five sites. Over 400 seedlings (0.1 per cent of total seedlings planted) were assessed, and both one- and two-year-old plantations averaged 98.8 per cent survival.

Tree Canada requires that funded plantations be evaluated for planting quality (correct depth, spacing, etc.) and survival rates.

A certified assessor (Registered Professional Forester and professor at Collège Boréal) visited the planting site during planting in the spring and again in the fall

The crew's planting quality was evaluated at 94 per cent and 96 per cent respectively. The survival assessment conducted on a first-year plantation was evaluated at 93.1 per cent and survival on a second-year plantation was evaluated at 88.1 per cent.

Volunteer Tree Planting Events

The Regreening Program offers seedlings, planting equipment and guidance to local groups wanting to participate in the regreening effort. Volunteer participation provides an educational opportunity to address environmental issues, learn about the City's Regreening Program, gain tree planting experience, and instill a sense of community pride and ownership of the natural environment.

Group planting activities were undertaken by Confederation Secondary School, Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School, and Junction Creek Stewardship Committee with seedlings provided by the Regreening Program.

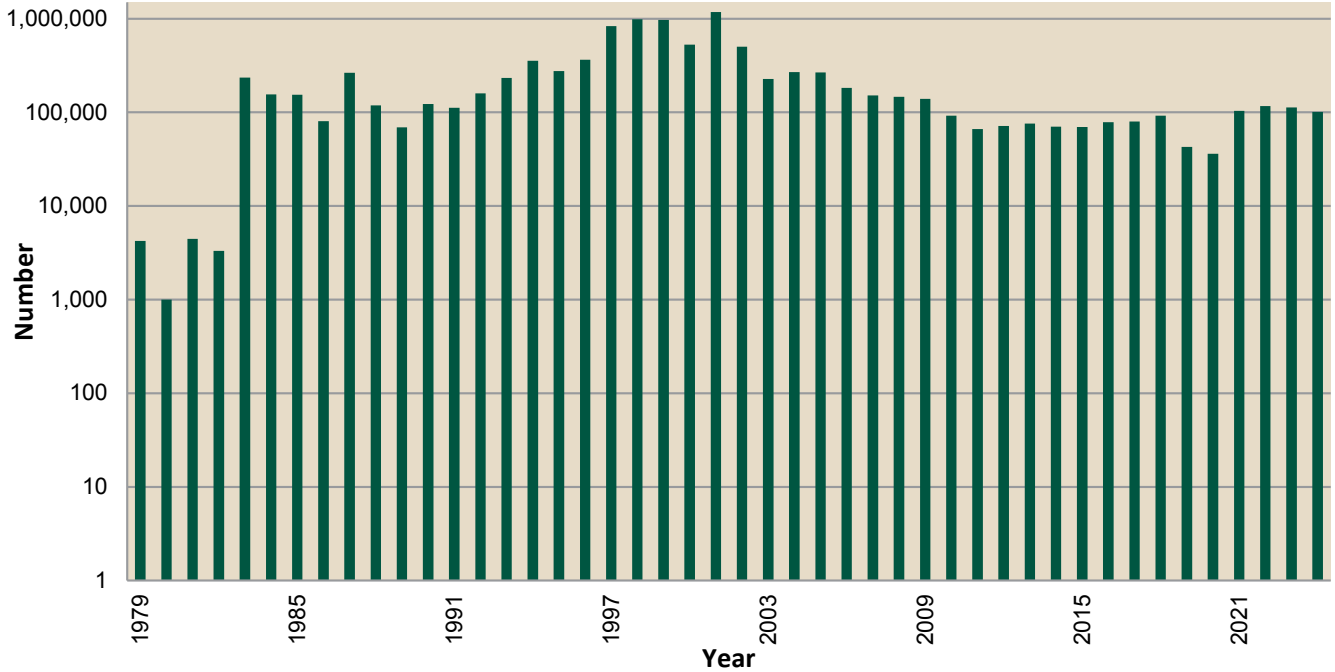
Tree Canada's Partners in Planting funding supported the planning, purchase, and planting of 260 potted trees and shrubs along the Jean Tellier Trail in Coniston where over 20 volunteers from a local business were instrumental in getting the trees planted.

Together, about 80 volunteers planted 3,273 seedlings this year. Since the volunteer program began, 13,391 volunteers have planted 393,349 seedlings.

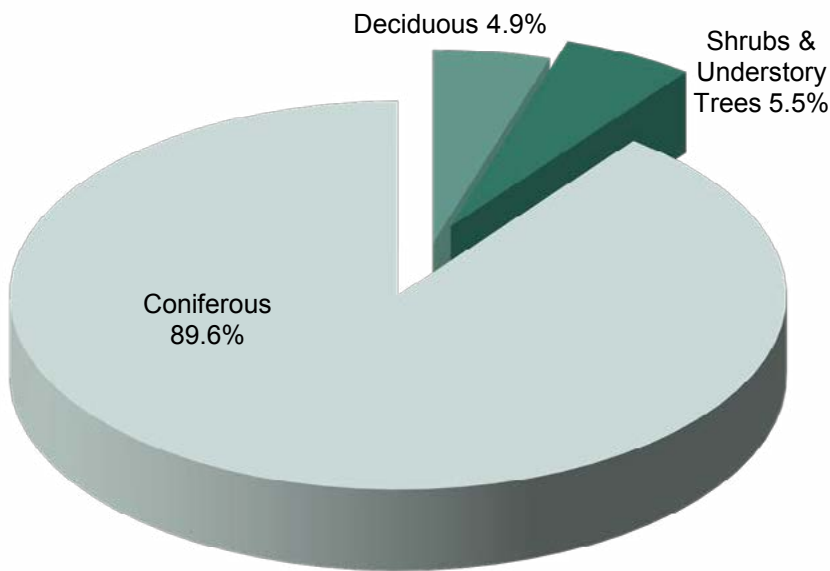


Number of Trees Planted 1979 to 2024

The bar graph below indicates the number of trees planted each year since 1979 totaling 10,323,560 trees.



Percent of Species Planted 1979 to 2024



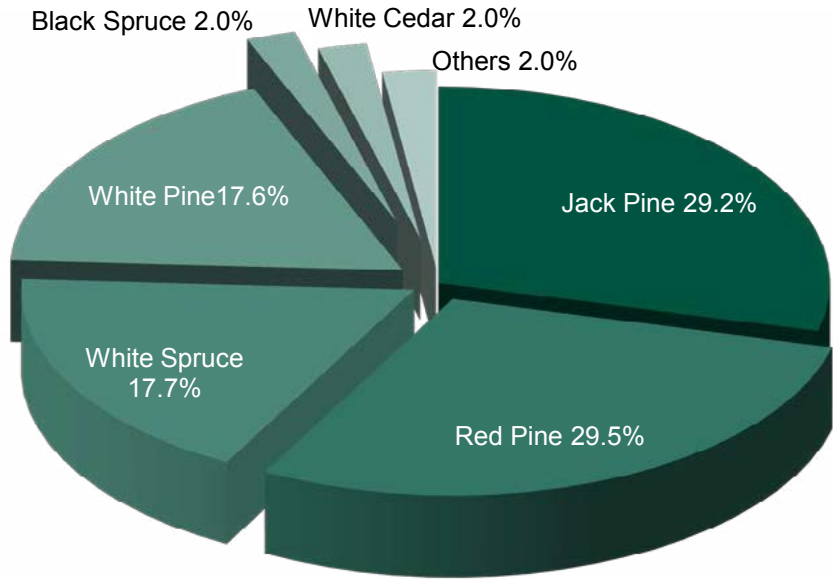
The pie graph (left) illustrates the percentage of each type of species planted since 1979 totaling 10,923,550 plants.



Percent Coniferous Species Planted 1979 to 2024

The pie graph (right) illustrates the percentage of each coniferous tree species planted since 1979 totaling 9,791,132 trees.

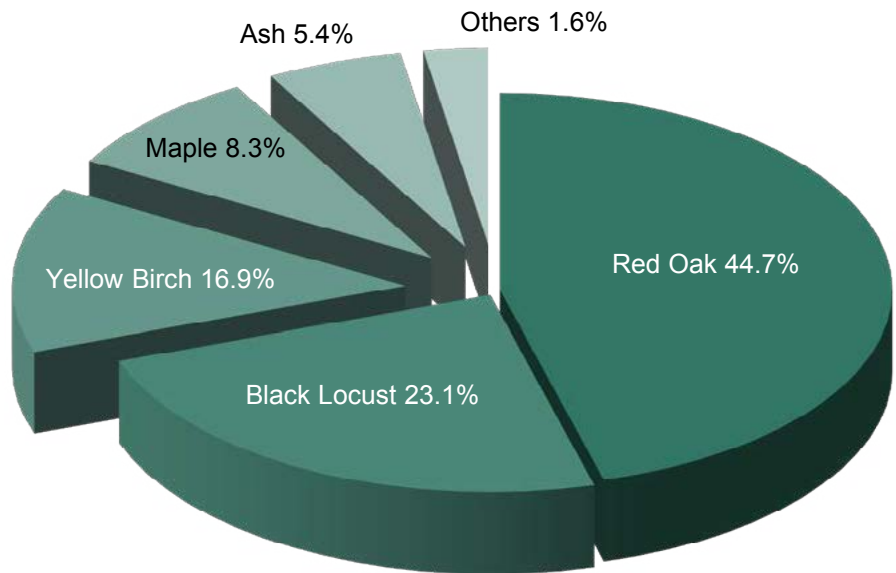
Others Include:
 tamarack 1.4%, balsam fir <0.3%, Norway spruce 0.2%, larch <0.2%, hemlock 0.1%, and Austrian pine <0.05%.



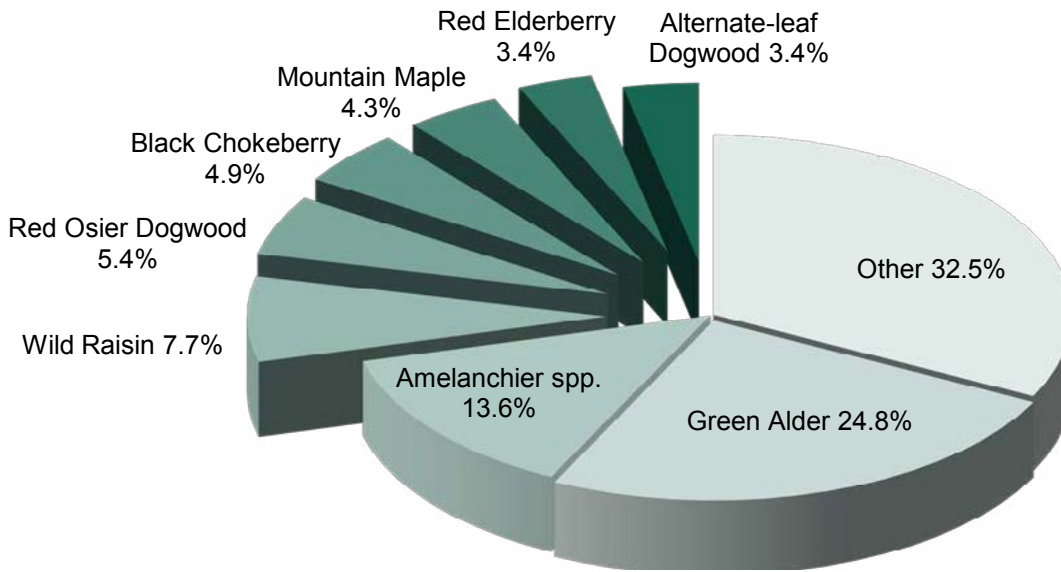
Percent Deciduous Species Planted 1979 to 2024

The pie graph (right) illustrates the percentage of each deciduous tree species planted since 1979 totaling 532,428 trees.

Others Include:
 bur oak 0.7%, ironwood 0.6%, American beech 0.1%, basswood <0.1%, bitternut hickory <0.1%, white oak <0.1% and black oak <0.1%.



Percent Shrubs and Understory Trees Planted 1979 to 2024



The pie graph (left) illustrates the percentage of each type of shrub or understory tree species planted since 1979 totaling 599,990 plants.

Others include:

striped maple3.2%	Canada buffaloberry.....0.8%	hobblebush0.1%
common elderberry3.1%	common juniper0.8%	buttonbush0.1%
roundleaf dogwood2.6%	swamp rose0.7%	pincherry0.1%
staghorn sumac2.1%	showy mountain-ash0.7%	wild black currant0.1%
mountain-holly2.0%	high-bush cranberry0.6%	black chokeberry 'Viking'0.1%
bearberry1.8%	chokecherry0.5%	flowering raspberry0.1%
steeplebush1.6%	prickly wild rose.....0.6%	sweet gale0.1%
common winterberry1.4%	snowberry.....0.5%	Canada plum <0.05%
American mountain-ash1.4%	virgin's bower0.4%	fly honeysuckle <0.05%
Siberian pea shrub1.2%	white meadowsweet0.3%	eastern wintergreen <0.05%
smooth wild rose1.2%	mugo pine0.3%	purple chokeberry <0.05%
northern bush-honeysuckle .1.0%	nannyberry0.3%	American hazelnut <0.05%
Russian olive0.9%	Canada yew0.2%	dwarf sand cherry <0.05%
ninebark0.8%	broad-leaved meadowsweet 0.1%	creeping juniper <0.05%



Seed Collecting

Crew and staff collected propagules (seeds, berries, nuts) of 14 species that were subsequently shipped to a contract nursery to grow for future stock.

The propagules collected resulted in over 1.5 kilograms of clean seed. See the table below for species and quantity of clean seeds collected in grams.

Staff also collected small quantities of the forest herbs pale corydalis (*Corydalis sempervirens*) and wild columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*).

These seeds are being held in storage for future manual seeding activities as part of normal greening operations.



Species	Clean Seed (in grams)
Striped Maple	278
Mountain Maple	299
Bartram's Serviceberry	3
Smooth Serviceberry	105
Round-leaved Serviceberry	2
Bearberry	45
Black Chokeberry	12
Canada Fly-honeysuckle	13
Ironwood	305
Prickly Wild Rose	287
Red Elderberry	112
American Mountain-ash	10
Showy Mountain-ash	<1
Snowberry	110

Biodiversity

According to The Convention on Biological Diversity's website (<https://www.cbd.int/restoration>), "Ecosystems and their biodiversity underpin economic growth, sustainable development, and human well-being. Yet the loss of biodiversity continues, resulting in serious reductions in ecosystem goods and services, negatively impacting economic prosperity and environmental sustainability."

Locally, this trend has been reversed. Thanks to the efforts of VETAC over the past 50+ years, coupled with reclamation activities through the City's Regreening Program and the creation and implementation of the local *Biodiversity Action Plan 2009*, former impacted areas are over time becoming inhabited by an increasing number of plant and animal species.

Forest Floor Transplants

The practice of transplanting forest floor plants has occurred yearly since 2010 as a technique for re-introducing species, improving habitat, creating a seed bank and increasing the diversity of older reclamation sites. Forest floor from Crown land north of Capreol was harvested from mid-June to August.

The Regreening crews hand dug the top 10 cm of soil containing plants, seeds, microorganisms, and invertebrates from the donor site. The vegetation was watered overnight and transported to regreened (receptor) sites in Greater Sudbury for transplanting. The

focus this year was to introduce shade tolerant species in appropriately shaded sites.

Criteria for selecting receptor sites for the understory transplants include the following: adequate canopy cover, low understory species diversity, sufficient soil depth and organic layer (>5 cm) and surrounding areas that are large enough to allow the species to spread

This year, trays of plant material were transplanted covering an area of approximately 0.032 ha. There were four sites in all, representing 20 plots (each plot measures approximately 4 m x 4 m) and over 26 species re-introduced to the regreening sites.

Over the 15 years of this initiative, 1,509 plots have received understory transplants covering a total area of 2.092 ha, and 143 plots have received transplants from forest openings ('exposed transplants') covering a total area of 0.185 ha with approximately 190 different species being introduced. This work involved the digging and transplanting of 71,256 trays of forest floor material (understory and exposed transplants) into 1,652 plots. The area covered by forest floor transplants (2.28 ha) is now the equivalent of approximately 2.5 football fields or about 1.5 baseball fields in size.

NOTE: Up-to-date mapping is available on the [Regreening App](#).



Pink Lady's Slipper Monitoring



Monitoring efforts continue in plots of pink lady's slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*) established early in the forest floor mat transplant exercise (2010). The largest native orchid in the area, this species is typical of dry upland conifer mixedwood stands. The presence of multiple pink lady's slipper individuals 14 years after

transplant indicates that this species is surviving and thriving. Of note, it generally takes 10 years from germination to flowering stage. All eight long-term monitoring sites were visited this year.

All sites in the semi-barren area had individuals present with approximately 50 per cent of them in flower and there was a higher number of individuals in this area when compared to the barren area.

Two sites in the barren area did not have any individuals present, however, three sites displayed dispersal/spread ranging from 6.2 to 8.2 metres.

Next year is the 15th anniversary of transplanting pink lady's slipper, and further investigation may include soil and habitat characterization.

Regreening Treatments

Four Regreening Management Units (RMUs), #83, 85, 98 and 99, within the Coniston Barren Ring were selected for further examination of stages of completeness or requirement of further regreening treatments.

A total of 85 vegetation surveys were performed and completed within these four RMUs. Sites were assessed for abundance and distribution of all species encountered.

Broad habitat classes were determined based on vegetation present. Data were sent to Canadian Forest Service for comprehensive analysis for "Dark diversity", which identifies a pool of missing species from specific habitats, species that could theoretically exist in specific habitats.

This work will continue to inventory areas where regreening treatments can be captured in operational plans.

Educating Youth

As part of a strategic visioning session held by VETAC early in the year, participants agreed that today's youth are not growing up in an environment as impacted as when their parents were young and would benefit from learning about Sudbury's regreening story.

Although the Ugliest Schoolyard Contest did great work over the years engaging local schools in regreening efforts, it was time to adopt a new approach.

A Regreening Educator was hired by the City in September for a two-year period to prepare an in-class regreening presentation for local schools and develop several follow-up activities to keep the students engaged in the regreening efforts. Information has been developed and will be delivered to all four school boards starting in 2025.





Labour

Program staff included a foreperson, four crew leaders, 12 workers and eight students involved in regular greening activities with two Biodiversity Research Assistants engaged in monitoring activities associated with greening work. In total, 28 temporary positions were created in 2024.

The table below outlines the temporary positions created and the number of weeks worked, with 27 positions created in 2024.

Position Title	# Positions	# Weeks	Activity
Foreperson	1	31	Supervision
Crew Leader	1	28	Supervision
	3	27	
Regreening Worker	12	24	Tree planting, liming, transplanting, fertilizing, seeding, seed collection
Student	8	17	
Biodiversity Research Assistant	2	31	Field data collection and analysis, seed collection
Regreening Educator	1	17	Prepare educational materials to be delivered to local schools
Total Positions	28		

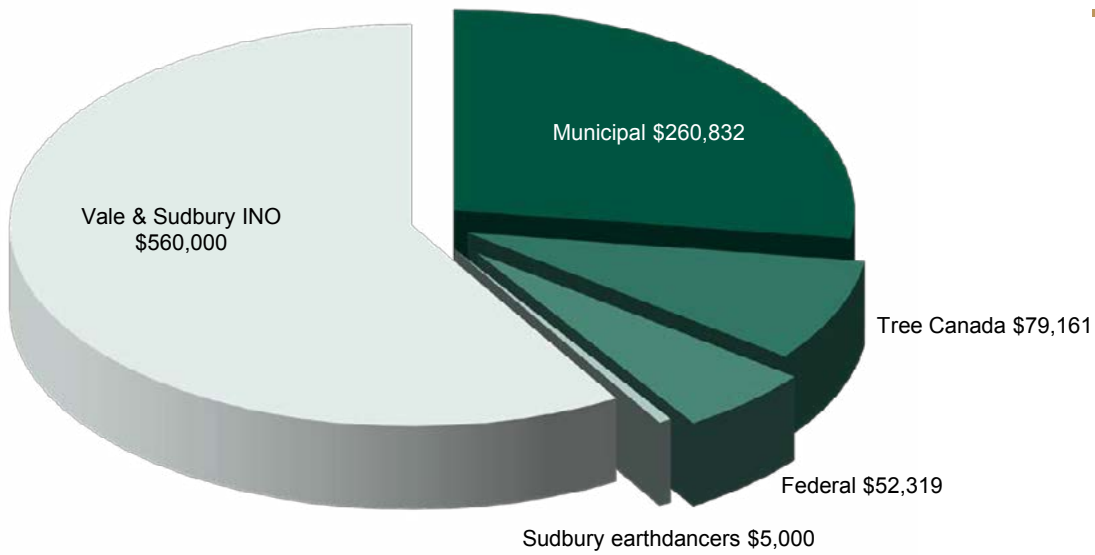
Funding

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 sought. Funding from Natural Resources Canada for the 2 Billion Tree Campaign was granted again this year. Vale and Sudbury INO continued with their significant support of all aspects of the Program.

The table below outlines the program contributors and the dollar amount associated with their contributions in 2024 for a total of \$957,312.

Program Contributor	Description	Source	Amount
Labour			
Employment and Social Development Canada	Canada Summer Jobs Program for one student over eight weeks	Federal	\$2,319
Cash			
Sudbury earthdancers	Financial contribution	Private	\$5,000
Natural Resources Canada	2 Billion Tree Campaign	Federal	\$50,000
Vale	Financial contribution	Mining Co.	\$250,000
Sudbury INO	Financial contribution	Mining Co.	\$285,000
Materials			
Tree Canada	Funding to purchase 40,000 seedlings	Private	\$76,000
Tree Canada	Funding to purchase and plant 260 potted trees/shrubs	Private	\$3,161
Vale	Donation of 88,872 seedlings	Mining Co.	\$25,000
Subtotal	Sum of external funding sources	Various	\$782,464
City of Greater Sudbury	Financial contribution	Municipal	\$260,832
Grand Total	Sum of all funding sources	Various	\$957,312

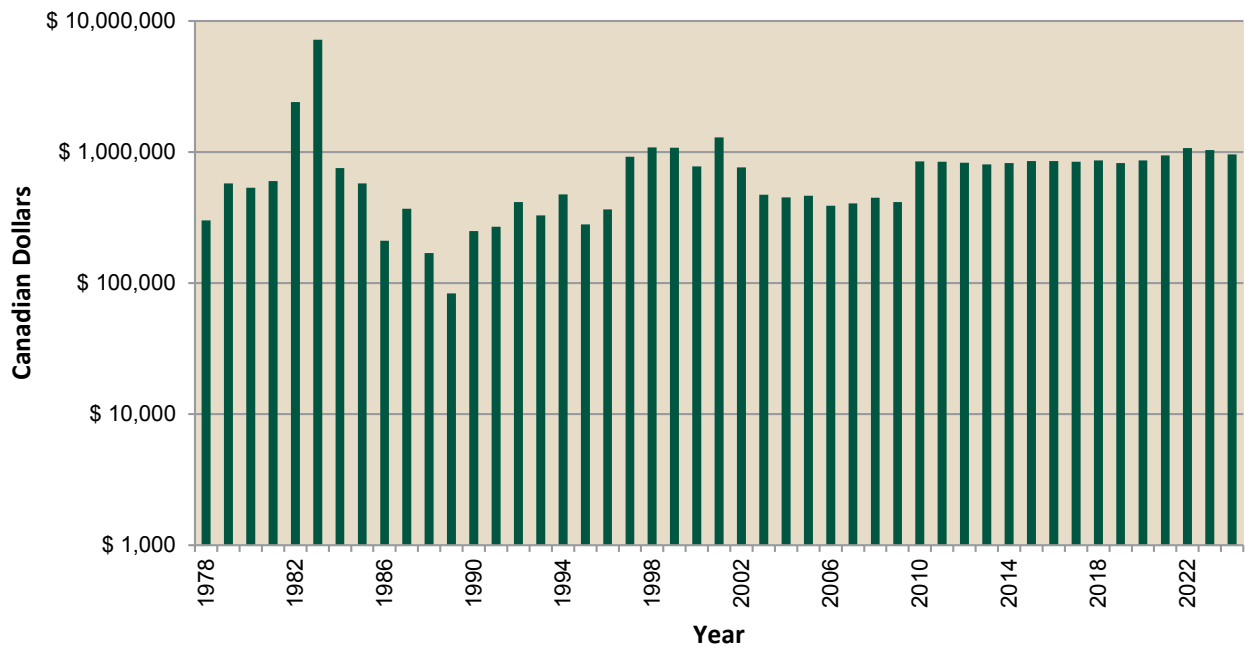




The graph (left) illustrates 2024 funding contributions by source.

Yearly Program Costs 1978 to 2024

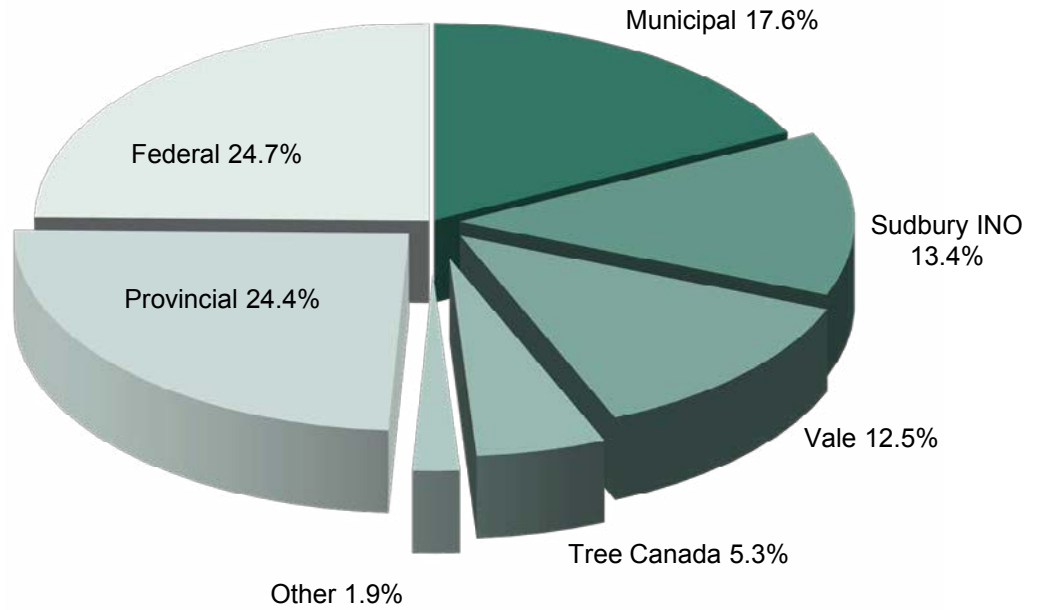
The bar graph below indicates yearly program costs from 1978 to 2024 with a grand total of \$38,400,825.



Percent Funding Contributions by Source 1978 to 2024

The graph (right) illustrates funding contributions in percentages by source from 1978 to 2024.

Since 1978, the City's contribution to the Program has averaged 17.6 per cent of the total costs with 82.4 per cent coming from external sources. To date, the Program costs exceed \$38.4 million.



Community Engagement

Tree Giveaway

The Sudbury Horticultural Society partnered with the Sudbury Market to host their annual Gardener's Day and Spring Plant Sale which took place on Saturday, May 25, 2024, at Elm Place Mall.

VETAC held their annual Tree Giveaway at the event, providing 140 northern fly honey suckle and 150 ninebark seedlings to local citizens to encourage gardening with native species.



Vale Greenhouse Turns 50

On June 6, 2024, Vale held a BBQ celebration at its greenhouse facility to celebrate the 50th anniversary of seedling production. Local school groups and dignitaries along with VETAC members and staff were in attendance. To date, the Vale greenhouse has provided nearly 1.4 million seedlings to the City's Regreening Program.

Rock the Farm

VETAC member Kierann Santala attended the Rock the Farm event on August 28, 2024, held at the Lively Anderson Farm. She provided seedlings to the public on VETAC's behalf as part of the outreach to the community. Vale generously provided the nearly 100 seedlings for the event, which were donated to local residents.

Children's Water Festival

On September 18 and 19, 2024, the Sudbury Children's Water Festival was held at Terry Fox Complex. Aside from assisting with logistics, the Regreening staff hosted a tree planting/regreening booth. Several VETAC members also hosted booths at the event. In total, 310 Grade 3 students from the English program and 234 Grade 3 students from the French program attended the event.

Glencore Open House

Glencore hosted a Community Open House on September 19 at Levack Public School where Regreening staff hosted a booth providing information and swag to community members, students, and parents. A large TV screen displayed the regreening video loop (<https://www.greatersudbury.ca/live/environment-and-sustainability1/regreening-program/the-sudbury-story/>) which sparked great conversations among the visitors.

14th Annual Ontario Mine Reclamation (OMR) Symposium and Field Trip

The 14th Annual OMR Symposium and field trip was held on September 24 and 25, 2024 at Bryston's on the Park in Copper Cliff. During the symposium former VETAC member Nathan Basiliiko now with Lakehead University presented "From 'moonscape' to The Happiest City in Canada: how pollution control, soil reclamation, and afforestation are restoring the Sudbury, Ontario landscape (and sequestering carbon). VETAC member Dr. Graeme Spiers also presented on "Harnessing Lichens as Cost-Effective Environmental Monitoring Tools in Mining Regions".



Planting Hope: A Regreening Story

The premiere of Science North's latest production *Planting Hope: A Regreening Story* was held on November 28, 2024, at Dynamic Earth.

This documentary celebrates the transformation of the Sudbury landscape as well as the resilience of its people. Positioned as the world's most successful reclamation project, stunning imagery and compelling storytelling are sure to captivate audiences for years to come. *Planting Hope* is available for public screenings at Dynamic Earth's Epiroc Theatre as part of regular admission. For showtimes and tickets visit dynamicearth.ca.



February 14

Dr. Peter Beckett gave a presentation on Sudbury Landscape Restoration to 70 students in the ARCH 2526 class at the School of Architecture.

March 20

For the International Peat-Metal Research Group, Dr. Peter Beckett led a webinar on the Backdrop for Peatland Restoration in Sudbury.

March 22

Dr. Peter Beckett gave his annual regreening presentation at Cambrian College to 29 students from the College's Environmental Monitoring and Impact Assessment Program.

March 23 and 24

Dr. Graeme Spiers lectured Graduate Course students focused on Circular Economy at Universidad Nacional Jorge Basadre Grohmann (UNJBG) in Tacna, Peru, focusing on reclamation practices in Ontario with focus on both Sudbury and other mine sites.

March 27

Staff participated in Science North's Climate Summit where 100 high school students were in attendance attempting to solve the issues of water, recycling, regreening and transportation considering climate change. Students were provided some brief background information on the Regreening Program and assistance was given to students with their assignment.

April 1

Dr. Graeme Spiers signed a Memorandum of Understanding between Laurentian University and Universidad Catolica de Santa Maria in Arequipa, Peru, with focus on exchanges with Sudbury for Training of Academics and Students in the Applications of the Sudbury Method.

May 21-23

During the International Peatland Workshop at the Living with Lakes Centre Dr. Peter Beckett talked about Sudbury Landscape Restoration and led a regreening tour for several delegates from the University of Manchester and University of Limerick, Ireland.

June 12

Dr. Graeme Spiers presented The Role of Engineers in Land Reclamation Program Initiation, Sudbury, Ontario which was a special invitation presentation at a special symposium in honour of the Faculty of Engineering Becoming a Teenager, UNJBG, Tacna, Peru.

July

Dr. Peter Beckett provided a tour of Regreening areas to Dr. Chris Lenhart, University of Minnesota. He later requested regreening information for use in teaching.

July 6

Dr. Graeme Spiers provided three presentations to Joint Graduate Classes of 50 students in total (Ph.D. and M.Sc. Programs) at Postgraduate School of the UNJBG, Tacna, Peru. Presentations included:

- a) Use of Organic Wastes for Land Reclamation in Sudbury Region, Canada.
- b) From Black to Green - Landscape Recovery in Sudbury.
- c) Composting Research at Laurentian University from 2005 to 2010.

July 19

Dr. Graeme Spiers provided a presentation to Environmental Engineering Students entitled Engineers Drive Land Reclamation Efforts, Sudbury, Ontario.

July 22

Dr. Graeme Spiers provided The Sudbury Story - an Overview to Environmental Engineering Faculty Members, at the UNJBG, Tacna, Peru.

July 31

Dr. Peter Beckett provided regreening information to judges from the Capreol Communities in Bloom competition as they toured the area.

August 13 and 14



The City of Greater Sudbury participated in Communities in Bloom (CiB) Ontario 2024. CiB is a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to enhancing the aesthetic appeal of communities and fostering friendly competition among Canadian towns and cities to beautify their civic spaces.

Two judges toured various aspects of the city which kicked off with a tour of the Jane Goodall Reclamation Trail with Peter Beckett and Tina McCaffrey. The following day there was a visit to the Vale Greenhouse hosted by Mike Peters, and the Collège Boréal greenhouse hosted by Marc Hébert. A wrap-up social was also attended the evening of August 14 to provide any further information to the visiting judges.

August 21-24

Dr. Graeme Spiers contributed as a speaker with the topic “The history of destruction and recovery of ecosystems over time”, framed in the second day of the third International Symposium “Sharing experiences in the promotion of university research”, an event organized by the Research Institute of the Vice-Rectorate of Research of the UNJBG, Tacna, Peru. In attendance were 150 people live in-audience, and another 60 online.

August 22

Staff hosted a tour of the Jane Goodall Reclamation Trail to visiting Cath Pattenden of Switzerland and local Glencore communication staff. Pattenden was preparing to highlight Greater Sudbury’s Regreening at the upcoming International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) forum in London, UK.

August 26

Dr. Graeme Spiers provided a Sudbury Regreening Presentation to Sister Ruth, Ukrainian Nun from Winnipeg.

October 11

During the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Mining Conference organized by the Greater Sudbury Development Corporation, Dr. Peter Beckett led a half-day regreening tour for 20 delegates.

October 18

35 students from the Restoration Program at Sir Sandford Fleming College participated in a Regreening Tour at the Kelly Lake Hill under the leadership of Dr. Peter Beckett.

November 28

90 grade 11 students (in 2 sessions) from St. Benedict’s School discussed with Dr. Peter Beckett the past 50 years of Healing and Restoring the Sudbury Landscape and visited an adjacent reclamation trail.

August 26-30, 2024

Beckett, P.J., Seaward, J., Basiliko, N., Harris, L. 2024. Sphagnum Re-Establishment in Smelter-Impacted Peatlands in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada: The Potential for Restoration (included a section on the Regreening Program). 14th European Conference on Ecological Restoration, Tartu, Estonia.

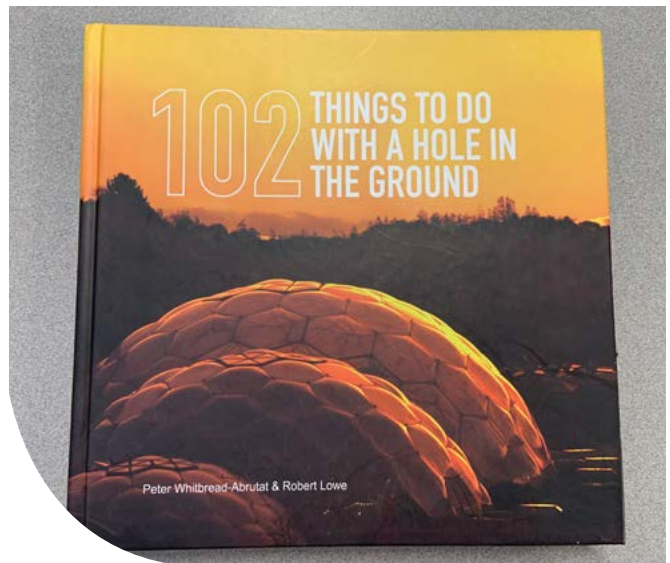
October 24-28, 2024

Beckett, P.J., Spiers, G.A., Lavigne, J., Basiliko, N., Hebert, M., Baudet, O. 2024. 50 years of pollution controls, soil amendments, and afforestation are restoring the landscape of Sudbury, Ontario, Canada. Society of Ecological Restoration, North American Conference, Vancouver, B.C., Canada.



Publications

Dr. Peter Whitbread-Abrutat co-authored the book *102 Things to Do with a Hole in the Ground*, which was released in July. It features Sudbury's Regreening in chapter 101 in a spread covering four pages. The entire book showcases remarkable post-mining reclamation projects around the world.



Web News

May 10, 2024

Accent: [Little has changed in Little Italy.](#)
Thesudburystar.com

May 16, 2024

[Provincial awards honour College Boreal teacher in Sudbury.](#) Thesudburystar.com

June 6, 2024

[Vale Greenhouse celebrates 50th anniversary.](#) by Alana Everson, CTV News Northern Ontario

June 7, 2024

[Vale showcases greenhouse that helped regreen Sudbury.](#) by Len Gillis, Sudbury.com

June 7, 2024

[Vale tente depuis 50 ans de réparer les dégâts après des décennies de pollution.](#) by Venant Nshimyumurwa, Radio-Canada

June 11, 2024

[Ottawa provides \\$200K for more greening in Sudbury.](#) by Staff, Thesudburystar.com

June 12, 2024



[City gets \\$200K to plant 200,000 trees by 2027.](#) by Staff, Sudbury.com

June 14, 2024

[Research project aims to restore peatland carbon sink in Sudbury, Ont.](#), by Jonathan Migneault, CBC News

July 17, 2024

[Mine reclamation event coming to Sudbury: Two-day symposium an initiative of Canadian Land Reclamation Association, Ontario Mining Association](#) by staff, Northern Ontario Business

July 19, 2024

[Life after mining: New book spotlights global reclamation projects.](#) Amanda Stutt, mining.com

July 27, 2024

[Sudbury Accent: There is more than one way to grow an outstanding garden.](#) by Hugh Kruzel for Thesudburystar.com

Communication (continued...)

July 30, 2024

[State of the Arts: Best books on Sudbury's history](#), by Dieter K. Buse, Sudbury.com

August 9, 2024

[Senior governments pledge \\$61 M to plant trees](#), by Len Gillis, Sudbury.com

August 16, 2024

[Bold: Forests as recreation and as remembrance](#), by Jenny Lamothe, Sudbury.com

September 10, 2024

[GREEN LIVING: How the City of Greater Sudbury plans to protect 30 percent of land and water by 2030](#), by EarthCare Sudbury, Sudbury.com

October 3, 2024

[Look up, Coniston: Vale's aerial seedling program underway again](#), by staff, Sudbury.com

October 8, 2024

[Science North's 'Jane Goodall' IMAX film adds to its pile of awards](#), by staff, Sudbury.com

October 15, 2024

[Sudbury-helmed giant screen film about Jane Goodall takes home four awards](#), by Star Staff, Thesudburystar.com

November 28

[A new movie from Science North tells Sudbury's regreening story](#), cbc.ca

November 2

[Watch: Planting Hope – A Regreening Story](#). thegreenpages.ca

November 30

[New Science North film shows decades-long effort to regreen Sudbury](#), by staff, Sudbury.com

November 30

[Science North celebrates premiere of Planting Hope: A Regreening Story](#), by Star Staff, Thesudburystar.com

December 2

[Science North film shows decades-long effort to regreen Sudbury](#), by Sudbury.com staff, northerntariobusiness.com

December 29

[Greater Sudbury's urban tree canopy compares favourably to others](#), by Tyler Clark, Sudbury.com

Television Interviews

October 21



VETAC Co-Vice Chair Sarah Woods was interviewed by Isabelle Ménard for Season 2 of *Fête au village*, a documentary series produced in Moncton, New Brunswick, airing on Radio-Canada (television) in 2026.

Fête au Village follows Ménard as she travels across Canada, discovering francophone communities through their festivals. Sarah was interviewed regarding the success of Sudbury's regreening efforts as they walked the Jane Goodall trail.



VETAC Members 2024

Chair

- Dr. Peter Beckett,
Laurentian University

Co-Vice Chairs

- John Negusanti,
Citizen
- Sarah Woods,
Citizen



Members

- Olivia Baudet,
Collège Boréal
- Katherine Benkovich,
Sudbury Integrated
Nickel Operations,
a Glencore Company
- Jaimee Bergeron,
Conservation Sudbury
- Jennifer Braun,
Blue Heron Environmental
- Mathieu Cayen,
Wahnapiatae First Nation
- Tony Fasciano,
Citizen
- Vanessa Felix,
Pioneer Construction
- Enzo Floreani,
Citizen
- Jenny Fortier,
Northern Wildflowers
- Marc Hébert,
Collège Boréal
- Wayne Hugli,
Sudbury Horticultural Society
- Bill Lautenbach,
Citizen
- Tim Lehman,
Citizen
- Derrick Luetchford,
Ministry of Natural Resources
- Franco Mariotti,
Citizen
- Tina McCaffrey,
City of Greater Sudbury,
Regreening Program
- Samantha McGarry,
Sudbury Integrated Nickel
Operations, a Glencore Company
- Dr. Stephen Monet,
City of Greater Sudbury, Strategic
and Environmental Planning
- Robert Paishegwon,
Whitefish Lake First Nation
- Roger Pennarun,
Wahnapiatae First Nation
- Mike Peters,
Citizen
- Kierann Santala,
Canadian Forest Service
- Quentin Smith,
Vale Canada Limited
- Dr. Graeme Spiers,
Laurentian University
- Ben Vaanholt,
Citizen





For further information, please contact:

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Accessible version available upon request.

