



January 29, 2025

To: Members of Council  
Copy to: Adam Smith, Director of Planning  
From: Betty Muise, Tree Trust TBM

Re: PBS.25.004 Recommended Official Plan Update

As a widely supported local ENGO focused on tree canopy and tree preservation in TBM, Tree Trust TBM had recommended a small but critically important word change in section D8.2 of the Official Plan to recognize the critical role of established trees and that *preservation* of existing trees is a priority in all development on public and private lands in TBM, thereby emphasizing a preservation-oriented approach versus a cut-and-replace approach.

PBS.25.004 has recommended that Section D8.2 be updated to note that the Town recognizes the critical role of established trees on public and private lands and will prioritize their preservation wherever feasible/possible and has recommended an addition to D.8.2 specifying the existing requirement for a Tree Inventory and Protection Plan.

We are supportive of additional specific references to tree retention and enhancement in other sections of the OP as referenced in PDS 25.004, while recognizing that the clause "*where possible*" is subject to interpretation, with the potential to be interpreted adversely to retention. Vigilance and attention to the priorities of the Town regarding tree preservation and through specific tools including Site Plan Control, the Tree Inventory and Protection Plan, and a Tree Preservation By-law will be critical.

In closing, Tree Trust TBM supports the recommendations in PBS 25.004. We look forward to working with Town Staff on tree canopy preservation and enhancement, including contributing to the Tree Inventory and Protection Plan requirements/specifications.

Kind regards  
Betty Muise  
Tree Trust TBM