



The Prairie Arborist

The Official Publication of the ISA Prairie Chapter Issue 4 2022



Photo by Linda Burns - Red Deer



Toni Newsham
President

Thank you to all who attended our **2022 Annual Conference in St. Albert!** What a turnout; about 170 of you showed up receiving the full spread of CEUs! We also had a thorough roster of speakers whom agreed to travel quite a ways to bring high quality education to us all. I sure needed that

interaction and correspondence with our industry and all you Arborists!

Since then, our tirelessly working Executive Director, Keith Anderson, has submitted all your CEUs and hopefully you have received notice of them credited towards your certification(s).

I also want to acknowledge those who attended our AGM in St. Albert. I know it's after a long day of sitting, but I appreciate the extra time coming to hear what the board is doing and asking the hard questions. You re-elected, **Jacqueline Butler**, **Matt Vinet**, and **Mimi Cole**, to resume their roles as our Alberta Director at Large, Director for Manitoba, and Secretary Treasurer. Thank you, Jackie, Matt, and Mimi for taking on another term for the Chapter and continuing to share your expertise with this membership.

The **Prairie Chapter Women in the Trees** workshop is proceeding ahead in full swing. Continue reading through this newsletter to learn what's coming up. We have a full committee ready to move forward with another workshop this summer, 2023!

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our **Strategic Planning Survey**. We had some fantastic comments and suggestions for the Chapter. Keith will be sending out the presentation that was presented by our Alberta Director, Andre Savaria at the conference, to the membership. We want you all to see some of the results that we received. The board is now working towards what a current strategic plan would look like for us in the coming future.

Lastly, the Board is moving forward with continuing to present **Webinars** to the Prairie Chapter throughout the new year. We've already started the planning, but tell us what you all want or need to hear about. Is there a certain aspect of Arboriculture you or your company needs covered? Is there a speaker you would like to hear? Let us know!

Stay warm this winter, working safely, and I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas!

Prairie Chapter Women in the Trees (PCWT) Committee Update

In June of 2021, a highly successful event dedicated to women in arboriculture was held at Olds College in Olds, Alberta.

Sixteen women, from across the prairies, participated in activities centered around tree climbing, to learn, collaborate, encourage, support, and inspire one another.

The participants of this event expressed an interest for future similar events. This inspired the formation of the PCWT committee to organize and plan more events for our members. The committee has held two meetings and has thirteen fantastic members!

Planning for the second women's tree climbing weekend is well under way.

The dates for this "All-Inclusive Event" (education with CEU's, networking, accommodations, and food) have been set for **July 7-9, 2023** at Olds College. Save the date and stay tuned for more information.

The great events the committee is planning are in part made possible because of our awesome sponsors. Thank you again to the sponsors of the inaugural event, Arborist Supply Co., The Arborist Store, Olds College, Davey Tree, Bartlett, LaRue Tree Care, Green Drop Tree Care and of course the ISA Prairie Chapter. If you or your company are interested in sponsoring the upcoming event, please send an email to: pcwomeninthetrees@gmail.com

Lastly, the committee is still recruiting for a representative from Manitoba, so please send the committee an email, if you are interested in this position at:

pcwomeninthetrees@gmail.com



Charlene Scott
Chair of the PCWT





NEW

Save the date

Prairie Chapter Women
in the Trees (PCWT)

The PCWT Committee is planning to hold
the 2nd ever PCWT Workshop at
Olds College July 7-9 2023.

Details will be on the website as planning
proceeds



Prairie Chapter 2023

NEW

The 2023 Prairie Chapter
Tree Climbing Competition
is planned for

August 25, 26, 27 in
Winnipeg, MB.

www.isaprairie.com

NEW

Save the Date

The Prairie Chapter
is working on securing a venue for the 2023
Conference and Tradeshow but
please save the date

October 23 & 24 2023

Don't miss the
next Prairie Chapter
Conference and Tradeshow

Up to 12 CEU's will be available

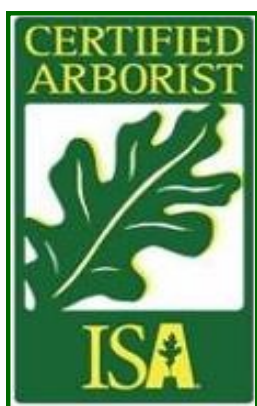
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ASCA's Tree and Plant
Appraisal Qualification
(TPAQ)

This course is being revised and is expected
to be available in 2023.

There are no workshops at this time.



Certification Exam

There is a paper based exam
planned to take place in the
Spring of 2023 at
Olds College.

Date to be determined.
Exam information will be posted here:

[https://www.isa-arbor.com/certification/
becomeCertified/examDatesAndLocations?
mode=exams](https://www.isa-arbor.com/certification/becomeCertified/examDatesAndLocations?mode=exams)

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Prairie Chapter 2023 dates and locations will be registered soon

For more information please call the
Prairie Chapter office at
866-550-7464



Laurie Newsham

Cheers to Laurie Newsham, the recipient of the Alex L. Shigo Award for Excellence in Arboricultural Education. This award is given to individuals who've played a key role in increasing the quality of professionalism in the industry through arboricultural education. An active member of the ISA Prairie Chapter, Laurie is an ISA Certified Arborist, an ISA Tree Worker Climber Specialist, and Tree Risk Assessment Qualified.

While employed at Olds College he was the Lead Instructor and curriculum developer in the Arboriculture Technician Certificate, Horticulture Diploma and the Landscape Horticulturalist Apprenticeship programs.

His work experience also includes working for private tree care companies, working as a municipal arborist, and co-owning and operating a tree service with his wife, Carla.

Learn more about ISA's Awards of Distinction
[#ISA Awards 2022](http://ow.ly/HHng50LttJE)



Laurie Newsham closes out the 2022 **Prairie Chapter Conference**, makes everybody cry, and gets a standing ovation anyhow.
 We love ya, Bro



Submitted by Jordyn Dyck,
Prairie Chapter
Women's Tree Climbing Champion

ITCC this year was pretty spectacular for me. You could tell all the people involved were so excited to be back after such a long hiatus, much like our Prairie Chapter comp.

It's always pretty intimidating to see world class climbers in person, but they are tree people after all, so everyone was so supportive and kind to each other.

The trees were beautiful and provided some very interesting challenges.

For me one of the most notable things we saw was an actual rescue during ascent event. One of the climbers passed out during her ascent and within seconds the techs responded. The in tree tech came down to her aid immediately and the two belayers had her on the ground in no time. She was checked out by paramedics and recovered quickly thankfully. I just can't say enough good things about all the techs and volunteers at competition.

Both the ITCC and our Prairie Chapter comp always have the absolute BEST volunteers!

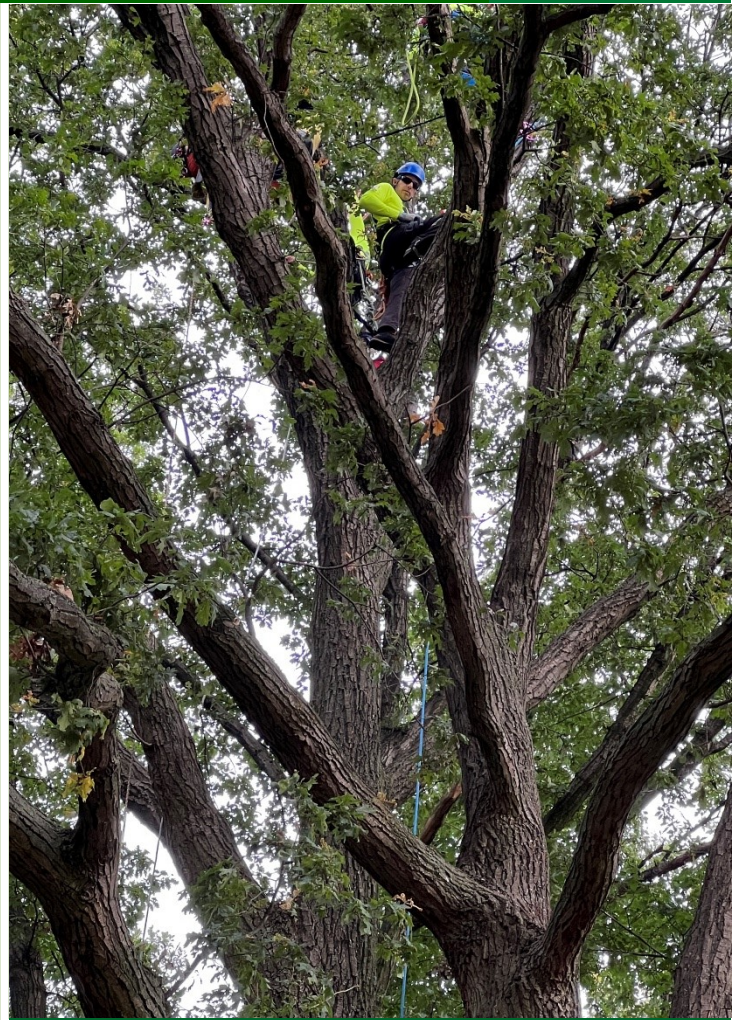
Big congrats to Barton Allen Hall and Josephine Hedger for their well earned champion titles! They each had such strong Masters runs, and it was a real pleasure to watch.

All in all, I learned a lot and I am so thankful that I had the privilege of representing our Chapter at such an amazing event.

Thank you so much to the Prairie Chapter for the opportunity to compete in such an inspiring and amazing competition!



Pictures on this page were submitted by Carla Antonation



The Sponsors of the 2023 Prairie Chapter Tree Climbing Championship



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By Peter LaRue
VP of the Prairie Chapter Board of Directors

We've all seen it, most of us have been there in person, and some never made it past that first big attempt. You look down at your boots, planted firmly into a secure union of your first big Elm prune. American Elm, *Ulmus americana*, is renowned for its beautiful form, prairie hardiness, and for us climbers, very hard to reach branch tips.

From your boots, your eyes follow your colourful rope up to your tie-in point. It seems solid enough, you lean back and feel the trunk flex subtly with your weight. From your tie-in point, your eyes wander through the canopy, taking note of unions, footholds, routes, and possible redirects. You look out to the end of a long lateral limb. You can see it, you know exactly which branch you have to cut. It's out there, seemingly way beyond the reach of the saw you have clipped onto your saddle. Now, you think, how do I get there? Balance.

The delicate art of moving around in a three dimensional world, while your footing sways with the wind and your weight, your anchor gives and pulls without warning, and the wood you're holding on to hasn't been, nor will it ever be rated for safety. Balance is key. Not only in this situation, but in life, and if you make it to the end of the limb and back, the techniques you used to get there can help you out not only in the upper canopy, but in life.

Get off the ground.

Whether a young climber, a first time business owner, new consultant, or a first year student, you've made the first important decision, you got your feet off the ground. That first step is more important than you realize.

When training young climbers, I get them to visualize their climb in small segments. Manageable tasks. Get to that first union. Cut that small piece of deadwood right there. Great! Now relax your body and really feel the tree. Feel the movement and recognize the strength in its flexibility. It's hard to see how to get from point B to

point C unless we leave point A.

As a business owner, this philosophy is key. See your end goal, and focus on getting through step one. Use your experience while getting to step one and continue your journey to step 2. Before you know it, your feet will be planted on firmer ground with your task accomplished.

Visualize your success.

I've descended out of more than one canopy because I let my mind visualize failure. Images of snapping trunks, failing root plates, breaking tie-in points.

Visualization is a key part of success, and a very critical part of failure. You've done your risk assessment, you've inspected the canopy, you've checked your equipment, you've planned your route. We tend to have an initial focus on a job task and what it will take to complete it, but during the process our end goal gets fuzzier and fuzzier in our minds as doubts creep in. We might get scared, taken by surprise by a sudden gust of wind or a small uncontrolled slip. Or, it might be an unexpected repair or a particularly nasty client. Don't lose focus.

Catch yourself, relax, breathe, re-visualize your goal and follow your plan.

Keep moving.

When doubts start to creep in, when fear sets in, I have seen many a climber stop where they are and grip the tree. Some of those scenarios required an

aerial rescue.

When fear and doubt start to overshadow the confidence and clarity that you once had, keep moving. Take small steps, reach for that next branch, find a small and easy task to accomplish. Keep moving.

Don't lean too far one way or the other.

This seems like an obvious one, but it bears repeating (for new business owners especially!). In the canopy, our body naturally tries to keep itself centered. We must stay centered or we fall, swing, slip, in other words fail. In life and in business many of us tend to forget this principle.

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Many business owners struggle with achieving balance in their lives that many throw in the towel.

I get it, businesses can be demanding enterprises to steer. We feel that without 18 hours of daily dedication they will surely fail. We lean in to them too far and get burned out, we fall off the limb. Lean the other way sometimes. Balance your business with your family, your hobbies, your reasons for living. Stay centered and goal oriented. Bring your strengths and joys to the table each day and practice a well-rounded approach to life, climbing, and work in general.

Stay flexible and relax, move with the tree.
The more time that you have spent in the canopy, the

more you'll understand this feeling. The bend and sway, the rhythmic motion of the branches under your feet, and the pull of your rope as the tree moves in the breeze. Trees are dynamic. They move.



So much of our lives are spent on more solid footing that it's a hard feeling to get used to. Allow yourself to be moved by the tree. Relax. Find its rhythms and its cadence. Smile and enjoy a feeling that not too many get to experience. Going with the flow and staying fluid is hard sometimes, but embracing movement is important if you're going to get to the end of that long narrow branch.

Climbing, Living, Working. Lessons learned in one area can be taken to another.



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Secretary Treasurer Mimi Cole in Mount Baker National Park in Washington State. She's been a Chapter member and a Board Member since time out of mind. Thanks for all you do for the Prairie Chapter.



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Reprinted from Canadian Register of Historic Places
www.historicplaces.ca/en/pages/43_roots_racines.aspx

Trees are some of the largest and longest living organisms on earth. Although all trees benefit the environment, specific trees function as commemorative memorials, expressions of religious commitment, and as cultural icons. The Canadian Register of Historic Places (CRHP) lists numerous examples of historic trees that have been commemorated as special landmarks in our landscape.

Surrey, British Columbia has recognized the importance of a number of trees associated with their history. There is, for example, the [Avenue of Trees](#), a row of planted ceremonial trees, including 14 Douglas Firs and 3 Western Red Cedars. Located near the historic heart of Surrey and adjacent to Christ Church, these trees were planted in 1884 and represent the community's religious commitment as well as the early pioneers who are buried in a nearby cemetery. Also located in Surrey is the [Royal Oak Tree](#), significant for its connection to the British monarchy. Planted in 1937, this tree celebrates the coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. It also helps to mark the historic centre of Surrey,

and has ties to the royal forest at Windsor Great Park, England where the tree, as a sapling, originated.

Surrey has other historic trees, some of which are quite unusual. One is the [Rock Tree](#), a Western Red Cedar growing out of a split glacial boulder. The tree holds spiritual significance to the local First Nations community who has given it the name 'Th'exsiyamia' meaning 'pushing forward great respected one'. Although not unheard of for trees like this to grow out of rocks in the mountains, it is uncommon to find a tree of this size growing from a boulder in the lower mainland. Additionally, the [Red Cedar Stump](#), estimated to be 500 to 1000 years old, is the remains of one of the first growth trees in North Surrey and pays homage to the pre-European settlement landscape. At 30 feet in circumference, the stump conveys the colossal size of the trees that were cut down by early loggers in Surrey. It is now a reminder of the town's early history and of the scale of pre-settlement forests in the area.

In nearby Langley, British Columbia, in the aftermath of the First World War, street names were changed to commemorate fallen soldiers who lived in the township. Of 360 men who went overseas from this city, 36 died in



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the line of duty. In order to create a living memorial for these fallen soldiers a tree was planted at each renamed street; of those originally planted, only four memorial trees have survived: The [Johnston Memorial Maple Tree](#), named after a local grocer; the [Wilson Memorial Tree](#), named to honour a man who died at Vimy Ridge, the [Wright Memorial Tree](#) dedicated to the memory of another soldier who fell at Vimy; and the [Trattle Memorial Tree](#), which memorializes a local farmer and Canadian Pacific Railway Worker who perished at Vimy Ridge. These four trees are now an immense size and notable community landmarks are reminders of the sacrifices our ancestors made.

Several areas have also been registered historic places specifically for their affiliation with trees significant to Canada's cultural heritage. A trip to Vancouver's [Stanley Park](#) National Historic Site of Canada, is not complete without visiting the giant hollow tree, the subject of attention by tourists and locals alike for over 100 years. The massive dead tree



stump of this long-standing attraction has been held up by a growing mass of metal braces and cables after it suffered serious damage from a powerful windstorm in December 2006. Although plans to remove the tree have been attempted, public outcry and funding through private donation have twice thwarted this endeavour. Calgary's [Wood's Douglas Fir Tree Sanctuary](#), protects a collection of Blue Douglas Firs that have nearly been eliminated from the province by fires and lumbering. Significant to the local First Nations community, this area is known as 'man-a-cha-pan' which can be loosely translated to "the place where they go for bows," providing the neighbouring Bow River with its name. Prince Edward Island's [Royalty Oaks Natural Area](#) consists of what is perhaps the largest concentrated area of the province's official tree, the Red Oak. Once utilized for fox farming and gathering lumber for the wooden shipbuilding boom, this almost untouched area, now a public site, is home to

(Continued on page 11)

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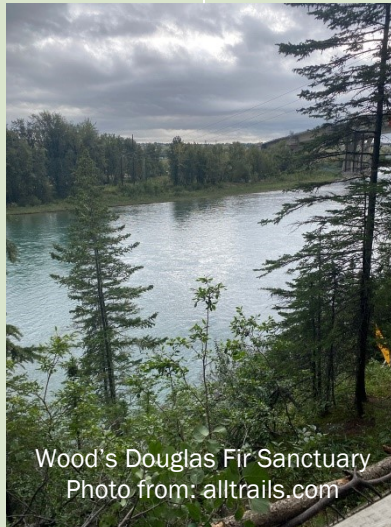
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trees most of which are over a century old!

If you find yourself in Ontario's Niagara region be sure to visit the [Copper Beech Tree](#) located in the [Battle of Lundy's Lane](#) National Historic Site of Canada at Drummond Hill Cemetery in Niagara Falls. The site of the battle itself, Lundy's Lane, was a major encounter during the latter stages of the War of 1812 involving American troops clashing with the British and their Canadian and First Nations Allies. The lengthy battle is known as one of the bloodiest confrontations during the war and signaled the termination of American offensive operations in Upper Ontario (Ontario). The Copper Beech tree itself was planted on January 1, 1914 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Lundy's Lane. Nearly a century old, this commemorative tree stands sentinal over the nearby graveyard where the soldiers of the war lie buried, an enduring testament to the sacrifice they made.

From coast to coast, trees form a significant part of our culture and identity. In fact, the Canadian Forest Service

estimates that trees occupy almost half of this country's terrain. Historically, trees have been vital to the development of Canada and our forest industry continues to play a significant economic role. For their spiritual, cultural and natural advantages, the Canadian Register is proud to recognize and celebrate trees as living monuments to our history. Discover your roots!



Wood's Douglas Fir Sanctuary
Photo from: alltrails.com

Wood's Douglas Fir Sanctuary

This article is from Historic Places and can be found here:

www.historicplaces.ca/en/rep-reg/place-lieu.aspx?id=11610&pid=0

The Wood's Douglas Fir Tree Sanctuary comprises approximately 12.5 hectares of land located on the south bank of the Bow River near Bowness Park. The sanctuary features a variety of flora, including fir, spruce, balsam poplar, and aspen trees, as well as thick brush, and lush vegetation.

HERITAGE VALUE

The heritage value of the Wood's Douglas Fir Tree Sanctuary lies in its preservation of one of the few extant stands of

(Continued on page 12)



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Calgary - May 17 - 18

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(Continued from page 11)

the inland variety of Rocky Mountain Douglas fir trees remaining in Alberta.

The inland variety of the Rocky Mountain Douglas fir, also known as the Blue Douglas fir, can be found only sporadically throughout Alberta's mountain valleys and foothills. The stand of these trees preserved in the Wood's Douglas Fir Tree Sanctuary on the most easterly slopes of the Rocky Mountain foothills represents one of the last and best collections of this species in Alberta. Fires and lumbering have virtually eliminated this variety of Douglas fir trees from the province. The inland variety of the Rocky Mountain Douglas fir is a majestic, imposing tree; the largest species of tree in Alberta, it can measure over 1 metre in diameter and rise up to 45 metres tall. With a potential lifespan of up to 400 years, the Rocky Mountain Douglas fir tree is also one of the most enduring tree species in Alberta. Some trees in the sanctuary are several centuries old. Situated close to the river valley and in the transitional zone between parkland and the open prairie, the area of the present-day sanctuary was in previous centuries used by native peoples to hunt and collect medicines and other natural products. The Rocky Mountain Douglas fir trees in the area possessed a particularly elastic quality and were used by Natives to create bows. This region was known as man-a-cha-pan - loosely translated as "the place where they go for bows" - and provided the Bow River with its name. The continuing

preservation of the inland variety of the Rocky Mountain Douglas fir provides a vital reservoir of seeds and gene pools of a species of flora largely decimated in Alberta.

Source: Alberta Culture and Community Spirit, Historic Resources Management Branch (File: Des. 1026)

Keep Alberta DED free

- Under the Alberta *Agricultural Pests Act (APA)* "Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation (PNCR)" the Dutch Elm Disease (DED) pathogens, smaller European elm bark beetle, and the native elm bark beetle are named declared pests.
- DED prevention/control measures for Alberta are enforceable under the APA and are found on the STOPPED website.
- Elm trees from a DED infected province cannot be shipped into Alberta.
- Elm Pruning Ban is April 1 - September 30 annually.

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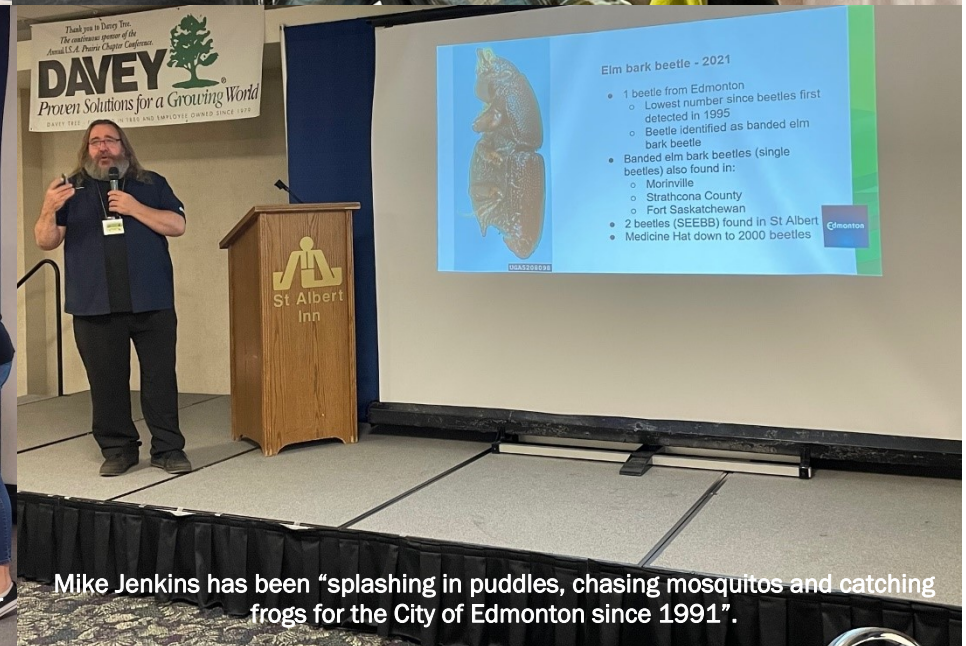
Keynote presentation 'Leader or Boss' Randy Miller from CNUC



Here's Chelsi Abbott from The Davey Resource Group enjoying her work and making us smile.



Emcee Bonnie Fermanuik, Chris Fields Johnson (Davey), AB Director Jackie Butler



Mike Jenkins has been "splashing in puddles, chasing mosquitos and catching frogs for the City of Edmonton since 1991".



International Society of Arboriculture – Prairie Chapter

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PRAIRIE CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – 2023

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Signature _____

ISA Code of Ethics can be viewed at: <https://www.isa-arbor.com/code-of-ethics>

2023 Membership Dues

Dues are for the calendar year: January 1 thru December 31, 2023, and not pro-rated for any portion thereof. All prices below are in Canadian funds. There is no GST payable on membership dues.

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Note: If you would like to have your information added to our "Hire a Certified Arborist" page on the ISA Prairie Chapter website, please contact the ISA Prairie Chapter Office. You must have a current ISA Prairie Chapter membership and be an ISA Certified Arborist in order to be listed

For the International ISA Full Membership (Professional or Individual), Student Membership, Senior Membership, or Patron Membership please go to : <https://www.isa-arbor.com/Membership/Renew-Membership>

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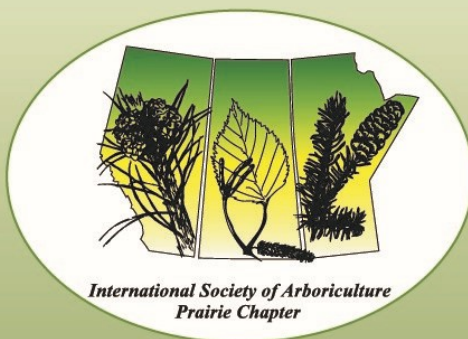
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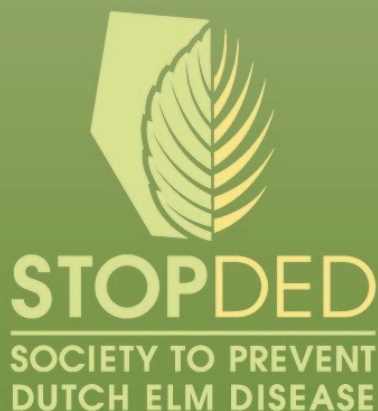
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