



News Release

1450 K.L.O. Road
Kelowna, B.C. V1W 3Z4
Telephone: (250) 763-4918
Fax: (250) 763-0606

www.regionaldistrict.com
www.facebook.com/regionaldistrict

October 3, 2012

Preserving the legacy of heritage nut trees for a greener Regional District of Central Okanagan

TD Green Streets awards Regional District of Central Okanagan with \$15,000 for nut tree inventory and orchard management plan

The Regional District of Central Okanagan is pleased to announce it has been selected by TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TD FEF) and Tree Canada to receive a \$15,000 TD Green Streets grant for its Gellatly Nut Farm Regional Park – Heritage Tree Inventory and Nut Orchard Management Plan.

The funding will support the Regional District of Central Okanagan – *Gellatly Nut Farm Regional Park Heritage Tree Inventory and Nut Orchard Management Plan*, which includes the inventory of over 600 trees and 1179 hazelnut shrubs, the preparation of the nut orchard management plan and future establishment of a nut tree arboretum in the park.

Robert Hobson, Chair of the Regional District of Central Okanagan says, “This grant is funding important information that will further enhance the historical significance and international reach of the work at the Gellatly Nut Farm, which is now preserved as a Regional Park. After more than 100 years, it continues to be a working nut orchard for all to experience and see.”

The tree inventory will collect information about each tree and shrub at the Gellatly Nut Farm Regional Park and assign a unique numbered metal tag to each tree. This database of information will assist RDCO Parks Services staff to link some of the historical records of David and Jack Gellatly’s original nut tree breeding trials and existing Gellatly tree varieties growing in various arboretums, botanical gardens and private nurseries across North America to our tree inventory.

Seventy-five applications were submitted to the 2012 TD Green Streets program, and the Regional District of Central Okanagan is one of 21 municipalities selected to receive a grant.

“The goal of TD Green Streets is to encourage the adoption of leading-edge practices in municipal forests, and we want to commend the Regional District of Central Okanagan for such an innovative project,” said Mary Desjardins, Executive Director, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation.

“We congratulate the Regional District of Central Okanagan for developing an initiative that will create an important green space in their community,” says Michael Rosen, President of Tree Canada. “We’re pleased that we have been able to support the efforts of the Regional District of Central Okanagan and we look forward to seeing their plan come to life.”

About TD Green Streets

TD Green Streets is a national program that supports innovative practices in municipal forestry. Through this unique program, communities across Canada are eligible to receive matching grants of up to \$15,000 to support local forestry projects. TD Green Streets is open to Canadian municipalities, Aboriginal communities and Business Improvement Associations (BIAs) in Montréal, Vancouver and Toronto.

For more information about TD Green Streets visit www.tdgreenstreets.ca.

-30-

For further information or to arrange an interview please contact:

Bruce Smith
RDCO Communications Officer
250-469-6339

Mandip Kharod
Regional Manager, TD FEF
604-654-8832