



Natural Resources  
Canada

Ressources naturelles  
Canada

# 2BILLION TREES

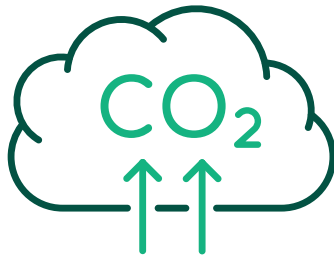


## TWO BILLION TREES PROGRAM ON TRACK

The 2 Billion Trees Program (2BT) is part of the Government of Canada's broader approach to nature-based climate solutions. It will contribute to Canada's efforts mitigating climate change while achieving key biodiversity, conservation, and human well-being benefits.

The Program is on track to plant 2 billion trees over 10 years, resulting in a permanent increase in forest cover in Canada. By the end of 2021, we will have planted 30 million trees – and that number will increase every year.

## WHY PLANT 2 BILLION TREES?



### CAPTURE CARBON

To capture carbon in growing trees to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and help in the fight against climate change



### ENHANCE BIODIVERSITY

To enhance biodiversity and forest resilience to climate change by planting the right tree species in the right places and restoring wildlife habitat



### PROMOTE HUMAN WELL-BEING

To support human well-being by creating more green spaces for recreational activities and sanctuaries for connecting with nature; better regulation of temperatures in cities; improved mental well-being and reduced risk of wildland fire and floods to our communities



# 2 BILLION TREES



## TREE PLANTING MOVES AT THE SPEED OF NATURE

**2 billion trees start with 2 billion seeds.** The process to get from seeds to trees is complex and takes several years to ramp up, which is why this Program has been designed to plant more trees in every planting year than the year before. By ramping up planting activities every year, we'll hit our target of 2 billion trees planted over 10 years.

- Tree planting requires careful planning to ensure the right tree is planted in the right place, for the right reasons. So, different species and sizes of trees are required in different planting projects.
- Seed collection, nursery operations, site preparation, and tree planting are seasonal activities, some of which can occur only **4 to 5 months per year**.



### LANDOWNER DECIDES TO PLANT TREES

Provinces, territories, Indigenous, municipalities, for-profit, not-for-profit, and Indigenous organizations first have to agree to plant trees and define objectives and timing.

YEAR 0



### SEED COLLECTION

Seeds of the desired species need to be collected or acquired, if not already available.

YEAR 1



### SEEDLING GROWTH IN NURSERIES

Seedlings are grown in the nursery until the tree is ready to plant (typically 1-3 years for reforestation trees but up to 10 years for urban trees).

YEARS 1-3



### SITE PREPARATION

6-12 months before planting a tree, site preparation creates the right planting conditions to increase seedling survival.

YEAR 2-3 (UP TO YEAR 15 FOR URBAN TREES)



### TREE PLANTING

The tree is planted.



### POST PLANTING MONITORING & MANAGEMENT

Monitoring starts for health and survival rate. Measures can be taken to ensure better survival rates, such as managing competing vegetation when tree survival is threatened in early years.

EACH YEAR



### SEEDLING FREE TO GROW

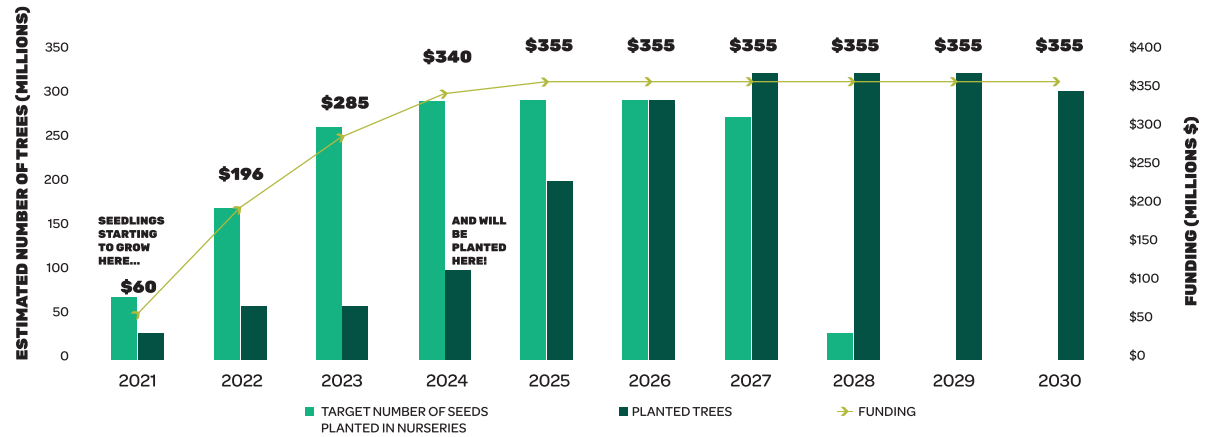
Seedling has matured and will continue growing on its own.

YEARS 7+

## STARTING SMALL - AND GROWING FAST

The 2 Billion Trees Program funding is aligned with the tree planting supply chain business model, using a 2 to 3 year production schedule, which is the time it takes to grow seedlings for most planting activities in Canada.

- The launch of the 2 Billion Trees Program in early 2021 signalled to nurseries across Canada that their capacity would need to increase by 40% in order to meet this Program’s targets.
- The Program will build a strong foundation by focusing on long-term agreements with tree-planting organizations that will in turn fuel stable demand on nurseries.
- As contribution agreements are signed and purchase orders are made, nurseries will be able to invest in infrastructure and seedling production.
- While that process is playing out, the Government is working with partners to plant seedlings that are currently overstocked at nurseries. This early work will see 30 million trees planted under the 2 Billion Trees Program by the end of 2021.
- After 10 years, 2 billion trees will have been planted across the country! e projects proposed by our program partners will determine the exact number of seeds and trees planted per year. The number of trees planted each year will gradually increase from one year to the next as the supply chain and the number of available trees grows.



The exact number of trees planted are reported by our partners after all of their planting activities are completed. Final results for the 2021 tree planting season will be available in spring 2022, once partners have submitted their final reports to the program.

Since Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) launched this program, many partners have shown keen interest in planting trees in both rural and urban settings. NRCan’s latest call for proposals was launched on December 16, 2021, and we will be announcing tree-planting projects as agreements are signed with prospective partners.

