



NEWS RELEASE

October 6, 2008

For immediate release

Tree Canada, BC Transmission Corporation Provide “ReLeaf” from Pine Beetle Epidemic

Fort St. John, BC – Tree Canada, the country’s leading tree planting organization, launched its new Mountain Pine Beetle ReLeaf program today, announced Michael Rosen, President of Tree Canada.

“This program will help residents across BC replace trees damaged by the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic,” said Rosen. “Our goal is to help protect and revitalize the natural areas we all care about so much.”

BC Transmission Corporation is again providing financial support for this project, building on the successful partnership with Tree Canada for the Coastal ReLeaf and Community Greening programs in 2007.

“With people and projects located in all regions of this province, we’ve seen first-hand the damage caused by this epidemic. We are proud to support local efforts to combat the beetle’s impact,” said Jane Peverett, CEO of BC Transmission Corporation. “By working together today, we can help ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy BC’s natural beauty.”

Millions of trees across BC have been lost to the destructive and fast-moving Mountain Pine Beetle. This new program provides coupons to BC residents who have lost pine trees to the Pine Beetle epidemic. Coupons worth \$80 off a tree priced at \$150 or more are available to applicants who apply and can demonstrate proof of a lost tree in their yard. Individuals may apply for a coupon Tree Canada’s website at: <http://www.treecanada.ca/mountain-pine-beetle/index.htm>. Coupons are redeemable at any BC Landscape & Nursery Association member nursery.

In addition to the rebate coupons, funding for a community replanting project was announced this morning in Fort St. John. Richard Neufeld, Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources and Mayor Jim Eglinski were present at the announcement.

“BCTC and Tree Canada are to be commended for supporting this made-in-B.C. solution to help with the pine beetle epidemic,” said Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources Richard Neufeld. “Every community project, every tree planted in the backyards of individual homeowners, contribute to the beauty and value of our province.”

Other Canadians interested in supporting Tree Canada's efforts to combat the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic can donate and learn more at www.treecanada.ca or by calling 1-877-866-1444.

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MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE RELEAF PROGRAM

BACKGROUND

HOW IT WORKS

- Tree Canada's Mountain Pine Beetle ReLeaf Program, sponsored by BC Transmission Corporation, is helping BC residents replace trees lost to Mountain Pine Beetle
- If you have had a tree on your property killed by Mountain Pine Beetle, you may apply for a coupon worth \$80 off a replacement tree priced at \$150 or more
- To apply, visit Tree Canada's website at <http://www.treecanada.ca/mountain-pine-beetle/index.htm>
- Once approved, you will receive an email confirmation and a coupon will follow in the mail
- Coupons may be redeemed at any member nursery of the BC Landscape and Nursery Association <http://www.bclna.com/> (coupon expires March 31, 2009)
- Plant your tree and enjoy!

BC TRANSMISSION CORPORATION

BC Transmission Corporation (BCTC) is the Crown corporation that operates, plans and maintains the transmission system to provide safe, reliable and increasingly green power for British Columbians, today and tomorrow.

BCTC was created as a Crown corporation in May 2003 and is 100 percent owned by the people of British Columbia. Prior to 2003, BCTC was a part of BC Hydro and this history brings a strong legacy of knowledge and experience in electricity transmission.

Through its Community Investment Program, BCTC has the unique opportunity to invest in and to help enhance the quality of life in communities throughout the province. Each year, BCTC works in partnership with non-profit and charitable organizations such as Tree Canada to make a positive difference to the people and organizations that make British Columbia a great place to live and work.

TREE CANADA

Tree Canada is a non-profit charitable organization established to encourage Canadians to plant and care for trees in urban and rural environments. A winner of the Canadian Environmental Award (2007), Tree Canada engages Canadian companies, government agencies and individuals to support the planting of trees, the greening of schoolyards, and other efforts to sensitize Canadians to the benefits of planting and maintaining trees. To date, more than 75 million trees have been planted, more than 450 schoolyards have been greened, and Tree Canada has organized eight national urban forestry conferences. www.treecanada.ca.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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