



International Society of Arboriculture – Ontario Chapter

Annual Meeting of Members

RBC Place, London ON
Thursday, February 19th 2026

11:30am

AGENDA

**Annual Meeting of Members
International Society of Arboriculture – Ontario Chapter
7856 Fifth Line South, Milton Ontario, L9T 2X8**

Date: Thursday, February 19^h, 2026

Location: RBC Place London

Time: 11:30 am

1. Presidents Call to Order and opening remarks
 - a. Introduction of 2025 Board of Directors
2. Procedural Announcements
 - a. Declaration of Quorum
 - b. Appointment of scrutineers for the election of President-Elect and Directors
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Acceptance of the minutes from the February 20th, 2025, AMM
5. Business arising from the February 20, 2025, AMM
6. Reports
 - a. Report from the Board of Directors
 - b. Finance Report / Treasurer's Report
 - i. Approval of the 2025 financial statements
 - ii. Approval of the accounting firm, Smith, Chappell, Marsh, Vilander for 2026 engagements review of the accounts
 - c. ISA International Report – Council of Representatives (CoR)
 - d. Committee Reports
 - e. Canadian Tree Fund Report
7. Elections
 - a. President-Elect – Nominations and Election
 - b. Directors – Nominations and Election
8. Special Business

The Board has submitted the following Motion as presented to update our ISA Ontario Policies and Procedures document and is seeking Member confirmation of Policy updates.

MOTION: To amend the name and description of Section V. M. of the ISA Ontario Policies and Procedures document as follows. The name of Section V. M. is to be changed from the current title of the Certification Committee to the Credentialing Committee, with the following updated description. (changes to the description italicized; items proposed for removal have a strikethrough).

M. ~~Certification~~ *Credentialing* Committee

~~The Certification Committee shall be responsible for the ISA certification process in Ontario in accordance with ISA standards and requirements. The Committee will, with ISAO Board approval, make recommendations to the ISA regarding such matters as may improve or otherwise be advisable in the certification process. This committee shall be composed of three or more members.~~

M. *Credentialing* Committee

The ISA Ontario Credentialing Committee plays a vital role in upholding the integrity and standards of the ISA credentialing process within the Ontario chapter. Serving as a vital link between ISA headquarters and ISAO, the committee strives to enhance the experience of current and prospective credential holders through the consistent delivery of high-quality credentialing programs by providing localized support, readily accessible resources, and clear guidance for all credentialing activities within Ontario.

Beyond its administrative functions, the committee actively promotes credentialing events and CEU opportunities to Chapter members. With ISAO Board approval, the committee may also submit recommendations to the ISA, advocating for improvements and changes that may optimize the credentialing experience and ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness.

This committee shall be composed of a minimum of three members, and shall include the Executive Director, Certification Liaison, and Assistant Liaison (if assigned).

Rationale: The Certification Committee has grown since first created and the Board is proposing these changes to better align with what the committee includes now. Below outlines the rationale behind some of the proposed updates:

- Title Change: It is currently titled "Certification" committee; however, the committee also oversees other types of credentials, including Qualifications (TRAQ).
- Process: Updating the phrase "responsible for the ISA certification process" to "responsible for *managing* the ISA certification process, as the Process is developed by ISA Int and we only manage it in Ontario.
- Specific Liaison Role: Added "The committee acts as a *liaison* between ISA headquarters and ISAO" highlighting its key communication function. Quality and Consistency Focus: Explicitly added "ensuring the *quality and consistency* of certification programs".
- Local Support and Resources: Added "providing *local support and resources* for credentialing activities" clarifying the scope of committee action.

9. Announcements

10. Motion for Adjournment

Annual Meeting of Members
Minutes
International Society of Arboriculture – Ontario Chapter
7856 Fifth Line South, Milton, Ontario L9T 2X8

Date: Thursday Feb 20, 2025 11:30 AM

Place: Caesars Windsor, Windsor ON

a) President’s Call to Order and Opening Remarks

- a. Call to Order at 11:46AM
Welcome to the Annual Meeting of Members (AMM)

b) Introduction of Board of Directors for 2024

<u>Executive Board</u>	President –Michael LaPorte	President-Elect – Mandy Vandenberg	
	Past President – Matt Logan	Treasurer – Andrew Smit	
	Vice President – Ryan St. Pierre		
	Executive Director – Julie Tucker		
<u>Directors</u>	Rhoda deJonge	Courtney McCann	Stephen McQuigge
	Rob Shaw-Lukavsky	Serena Soucy	Kim Statham
<u>Staff</u>	Bridget Dilauro		

- Thank you to all our Board members, staff and members and a special thank you to our three board members ending their terms: Matt Logan, Stephen McQuigge, Andrew Smit.

c) Procedural Announcements

- a. Declaration of Quorum - Confirmed
- b. Appointment of Scrutineers for the elections of President-Elect and Directors: Linda Hawkins and Warren Hoselton were appointed.
- c. Note: only “*members-in-good-standing*” can vote on motions or make motions

d) Approval of the Agenda

- a) There were no additions to the agenda
MOTION to approve the agenda for the Feb 20 2025 Annual Meeting of Members as presented;
Moved by Rhoda deJonge. Seconded by Kim Statham..... All in Favour. None Opposed. -Carried

e) Acceptance of the Minutes of the February 22, 2024 Annual Meeting of Members

- MOTION** to accept the minutes of the February 22, 2024 Annual Meeting of Members as presented;
Moved by Matt Logan. Seconded by Rob Shaw-Lukavsky All in Favour. None Opposed. -Carried

f) Reports

President’s Report (Pg 7): The board was excited to ratify our strategic plan, as well in 2024 we celebrated our 75th Annual Conference with our largest conference yet, we also held a successful TreeFest and our largest OTCC yet – thank you to our members for their support.

Treasurer’s Report (Pg 8)

Approval of the 2024 Financial Statements (pg 9-22): We ended 2024 in a favourable position thanks to positive returns on investments, we also had a successful conference. Questions from the floor: What is the special projects? the ground worker training program. ISA International mentioned they send us \$120,000 USD – where is this? ISA Ontario hosts exams – we receive a percentage of exams – this would be found under Certification. And when ISA Intl receives a membership – they send us the chapter fees.

- MOTION** to accept the financial statements for the fiscal year Jan 1 2024 to Dec 31 2024 as presented;
Moved by Andrew Smit. Seconded by Courtney McCann..... All in Favour. None Opposed. – Carried.

Approval of the Accounting firm, Smith, Chappell, Marsh, Vilander for the 2025
Engagement Review of accounts

MOTION to approve appointment of Smith, Chappel, Marsh, Vilander as accountants to conduct a review engagement & approve compensation for Jan 1 2025-Dec 31 2025;
Moved by Matt Logan. Seconded by Kyle McLoughlin..... All in Favour. None Opposed. -Carried

ISA International Report Council of Representatives (CoR) (Pg 23): ISA Ontario continues to be represented at the meetings, with the change in name and position.
Committee Reports (Pg 24-31)
Canadian Tree Fund Report (Pg 32-33)

MOTION to accept all reports as presented;
Moved by Mandy Vandenberg. Seconded by Johnny Corner.... All in Favour. None Opposed. -Carried

g) Elections

President-Elect

The Board endorses the nomination of the following for the position of President-Elect:

Nomination of Ryan St. Pierre

Nominated by Rhoda deJonge. Nomination seconded by Mandy Vandenberg.

The nominee, Ryan St. Pierre, accepted the nomination.

There were no other nominees. Position declared by acclamation.

Directors: Three positions are available

Nomination of Andrew Smit:

Nominated by Matt Logan. Nomination Seconded by Mandy Vandenberg

Nomination of Nick Maule

Nominated by Robert Bell. Nomination Seconded by Serena Soucy.

Nomination of Johnny Corner:

Nominated by Trent Meyers. Nomination Seconded by Coleson Jefferies.

Nomination of Hannah Winters.

Nominated by Serena Soucy. Nomination Seconded by Stephen McQuigge.

Nomination of Trent Meyers.

Nominated by Ciara Condon. Nomination Seconded by Coleson Jefferies.

There were no other nominations. Nominations closed

Acceptance of the Nominations:

Andrew Smit accepted the nomination in person.

Nick Maule accepted the nomination in person.

Johnny Corner accepted the nomination in person.

Hannah Winters accepted the nomination in person.

Trent Meyers accepted the nomination in person.

iv. The five nominees spoke in support of their nomination.

v. A vote was held and ballots counted.

vi. New members to the ISA Ontario Board: Andrew Smit; Hannah Winters; Trent Meyers

h) Special Business

Due to changes of the name and position requirements of our ISAO chapter representative on the ISA council of representatives, the following change is proposed to the ISAO Policies and Procedures:

The name of Section III to be changed from current wording of the ISA Council of Representative's to the ISA Component Council Representative with the following description. (changes to the description italicized, items proposed for removal have a strikethrough)

III. ISA International ~~Council of Representatives~~ *Component Council Representative*

The ISAO Chapter representative of the ISA International ~~Council of Representatives~~ *Component Council* shall be appointed by the ISAO Board for a ~~three~~ *two-year term, and for no more than 2 consecutive terms (total 4 years)*. The ISAO representative shall be a current or former ISAO Board member, and a current member of ISAO, *and a current member of ISA.*

~~The ISAO chapter representative may participate in all meetings of the Board of Directors but may not vote unless that representative is a current Director.~~

MOTION to amend the name and description of Section III of the ISAO Policies and Procedures document as presented

Moved by Matt Logan. Seconded by Mandy Vandenberg. All in favour. None Opposed.... Carried

i) New Business

There was no new business submitted.
Thank you to our board and members.

j) Announcements

None

k) Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn the Annual Meeting of Members;

Moved by Stephen McQuigge. Seconded by Matt Logan..... All in Favour. None Opposed. -Carried

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Presidents Report

It is with a sense of pride and a touch of bittersweet reflection that I share this message. As my second term as President of the International Society of Arboriculture Ontario (ISAO) draws to a close, I find myself looking back at what we have achieved together over the last year.

A Year of Purpose and Progress

This past year has been particularly rewarding as it marked our first full year of implementing the **ISAO Strategic Plan**. I am incredibly pleased with the progress we have made. We have successfully maintained our high levels of service to you, our members, while building a more resilient and forward-thinking organization. The momentum we have built is a testament to the stability and health of our chapter.

Celebrating Our Successes

Our events this past year were vibrant reminders of why we do what we do. Some of the highlights included:

- **WAO 10th Anniversary:** It was truly inspiring to see the massive turnout for TreeFest this year celebrating this milestone. Seeing so many dedicated participants and volunteers come together for the community was a highlight of my term.
- **OTCC in Kingston:** The Ontario Tree Climbing Championship in Kingston was a masterclass in skill and camaraderie. Congratulations once again to our winners, Krista Strating and Joel Driese, your talent continues to raise the bar for the industry.
- **2025 Conference:** It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces and welcome new ones last year. The energy in the room proved that our community is stronger than ever.

A Note of Gratitude

I want to extend a heartfelt **thank you** to the organizing team and volunteers who put the 2026 Conference together. These events are the lifeblood of our organization, and they would not be possible without your tireless work behind the scenes.

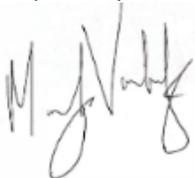
To our committee members: Thank you for your vision and for keeping our initiatives moving forward. And to all ISAO arborists and members, thank you for your continued support, your professionalism, and your passion for the trees and landscapes of Ontario. You are the reason ISAO exists.

Looking Ahead

As I pass the gavel, I do so with complete confidence in the future of this organization. I wish all the best to our incoming President, **Ryan St. Pierre**. I know Ryan's dedication and insight will lead ISAO to even greater heights.

It has been an absolute pleasure and a privilege to serve as your President. I look forward to seeing you all in the field and at our future gatherings.

Respectfully submitted by,



Mandy Vandenberg
ISAO President

Treasurers Report

The ISAO continues to operate in a viable and sustainable financial position as reflected in the 2025 Financial Statement. The Net income at year end was approximately \$51,400 favourable.

Throughout 2025, the ISAO Board of Directors continues to work hard to implement the annual budgeting system as a means of being fiscally responsible. The Board remained diligent in reducing as many expenditures as possible and continued to work on initiatives that would directly benefit its membership.

Revenue Streams

Total annual revenue for the Association in 2025 was approximately \$876,500, down 7.5% from 2024.

Membership

ISAO membership revenue for 2025 totaled \$128,362 which was down slightly (1%) from last year.

Annual Conference

The ISAO conference committee ran a successful conference in Windsor for 2025. Although the conference realized a net income approximately 15% lower than 2024, the annual event still contributed positively to our financial position with revenues of \$358,000 and yielding a net income of nearly \$85,000.

Member Events

ISAO members enjoyed two very successful public events this year with the Ontario Tree Climbing Competition (OTCC) and TreeFest (WAO). Both events contributed a combined \$46,700 in revenues for the organization.

Certification & Workshops

A number of certification exams and tree climber evaluations were administered in 2025. In addition, several workshops including TRAQ and the last of the Re-TRAQ courses were delivered. These programs yielded revenues in excess of \$207,000 with a combined net income of approximately \$114,000.

Investments

In 2025, the ISAO continued to invest responsibly through RBC Dominion Securities. This diversified investment portfolio yielded a net income of approximately \$22,000 at year end.

Expenses

The Association reported a small decrease in expenses over last year of 4.6%. Total annual expenses for the Association in 2025 were approximately \$830,300.

Summary

Your board continues in the fine ISAO tradition of responsible and conservative stewardship of funds. In 2025, the board will continue to investigate diversification of revenue streams to minimize risk to the Association.

Respectfully submitted by,
Andrew Smit, Treasurer

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE-ONTARIO
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025



*Smith
Chappell
Marsh
Vilander LLP*

*H. Howard Smith, FCPA (Retired)
Richard A. Chappell, CPA, CA (Retired)
Deborah L. Marsh, CPA, CA
Vesa K. Vilander, CPA, CA*

INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONERS' REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE-ONTARIO

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of International Society of Arboriculture-Ontario that comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2025 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Practitioner's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

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Email: Accounting@SCMV.ca Website: www.scmv.ca*

Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of International Society of Arboriculture-Ontario as at December 31, 2025 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations.

Smith Chappell Mawer Vilander LLP

January 29, 2026
Oshawa, Ontario

Chartered Professional Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants

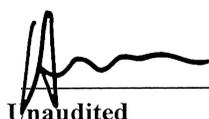
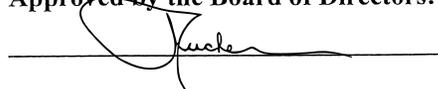
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE-ONTARIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2025

			<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Current				
Cash			\$ 276,262	\$ 593,108
Temporary investments (Note 3)			599,428	287,161
Accounts receivable			43,777	16,883
Special projects receivable			79,445	-
Inventory (Note 4)			8,173	12,001
Prepaid expenses and deposits			66,523	87,229
			<u>1,073,608</u>	<u>996,382</u>
Capital Assets				
	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated Amortization</u>		
Leasehold improvements	\$ 27,565	\$ 16,539	11,026	13,782
Computers and technical equipment	4,015	4,015	-	1,339
	<u>\$ 31,580</u>	<u>\$ 20,554</u>	<u>11,026</u>	<u>15,121</u>
			<u>\$ 1,084,634</u>	<u>\$ 1,011,503</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
Current				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities			\$ 44,350	\$ 58,577
Government remittances			5,721	12,928
Deferred revenue			118,054	74,892
			<u>168,125</u>	<u>146,397</u>
<u>NET ASSETS</u>				
Internally restricted (Note 2(g))			200,000	200,000
Unrestricted			716,509	665,106
			<u>916,509</u>	<u>865,106</u>
			<u>\$ 1,084,634</u>	<u>\$ 1,011,503</u>

Approved by the Board of Directors:



Unaudited

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE-ONTARIO

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Revenue		
Books and merchandise	\$ 43,496	\$ 44,989
Memberships	128,362	129,657
Publications	36,380	37,664
Annual conference	358,411	426,222
Certification	78,238	78,060
Workshops	129,604	138,426
Women in Arboriculture	8,131	8,394
Ontario Tree Climbing Championship	43,845	43,879
Special projects revenue	109,538	241,552
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	936,005	1,148,843
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Expenses		
Books and merchandise	37,339	34,392
Publications	57,419	63,031
Annual conference	273,682	327,227
Certification	100	748
Workshops	93,483	100,025
Women in Arboriculture	6,379	7,481
Ontario Tree Climbing Championship	36,383	23,116
Special projects expenses	109,538	241,552
Administration		
- office support services	201,892	192,165
- other operating expenses - Schedule 1	116,919	123,796
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	933,134	1,113,533
	<hr/>	<hr/>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES BEFORE THE FOLLOWING:	2,871	35,310
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Amortization of assets	(4,095)	(4,095)
Gain on foreign exchange	(2,449)	5,225
Investment income (loss) and miscellaneous	55,076	41,822
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	48,532	42,952
	<hr/>	<hr/>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ 51,403	\$ 78,262
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Unaudited

SCHEDULE 1

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE-ONTARIO

SCHEDULE OF OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Bank charges	\$ 23,501	\$ 23,509
Donations and sponsorship	9,067	12,593
Insurance	9,740	9,915
Member benefits program	5,000	5,000
Office and general	17,955	16,557
Office rent and storage	22,551	21,573
Professional fees	6,030	4,825
Promotion	14,417	18,947
Travel	8,658	10,877
	<u>\$ 116,919</u>	<u>\$ 123,796</u>

Unaudited

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE-ONTARIO

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
<u>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</u>		
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 665,106	\$ 586,844
Transfer to internally restricted	-	-
Excess of revenue over expenses	<u>51,403</u>	<u>78,262</u>
Balance, end of year	<u><u>\$ 716,509</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 665,106</u></u>

INTERNALLY RESTRICTED FUNDS

Balance, beginning of year	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
Transfer from unrestricted	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Closing balance	<u><u>\$ 200,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 200,000</u></u>

Unaudited

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE-ONTARIO

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Operating Activities		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 51,403	\$ 78,262
Amortization of capital assets	4,095	4,095
Cash provided from (used for) working capital (Note 7)	(60,077)	143,699
	<u>(4,579)</u>	<u>226,056</u>
Investing Activities		
Decrease (increase) in temporary investments	(312,267)	(15,024)
	<u>(316,846)</u>	<u>211,032</u>
Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents During the Year	(316,846)	211,032
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year	593,108	382,076
	<u>593,108</u>	<u>382,076</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	\$ 276,262	\$ 593,108
	<u><u>276,262</u></u>	<u><u>593,108</u></u>

Unaudited

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE-ONTARIO

NOTES TO UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2025

1. Status and Nature of Activities

International Society of Arboriculture-Ontario was incorporated by letters patent issued under the Canada Corporations Act on July 26, 1971 as a corporation without share capital. The mission of the Organization is to enhance and promote the care and benefit of trees for present and future generations in Ontario through education, research and awareness. The Organization is exempt from income taxes under the Income Tax Act.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit organizations and include the following significant accounting policies:

(a) Inventory

Inventory is valued at the lower of cost and net realizable value with cost being determined generally on a first-in, first-out basis.

(b) Capital Assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost based on the organization's capitalization policy.

Amortization charges are calculated on straight-line basis as follows:

Leasehold improvements	10 years
Office furniture	10 years
Vehicles and equipment	10 years
Computers and technical equipment	3 years

Unaudited

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE-ONTARIO

NOTES TO UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2025

2. Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(c) Revenue Recognition

Revenue from membership fees and conferences is deferred and recognized in the year for which the fees were paid or the conference is held, provided the payment of fees is reasonably assured.

Revenue from the sale of books, merchandise and publications is recognized on a point-of-sale basis.

Revenue from advertising sales is recognized when the issue it appears in is published.

Revenue from other services is recognized at the time the services are provided.

(d) Measurement Uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingencies at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Such estimates include the allowance for doubtful accounts. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

(e) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on deposit in bank accounts.

Unaudited

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE-ONTARIO

NOTES TO UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2025

2. Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(f) Financial Instruments

Measurement of financial instruments

The Organization initially measures its financial assets at fair value, except for certain non-arm's length transactions.

The Organization subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost, except for investments in equity instruments that are quoted in an active market, which are measured at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognized in net income.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash, temporary investments, accounts receivable and sales tax recoverable.

Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

The Organization measures investments in preferred and common shares at fair value.

Impairment

Financial assets measured at cost are reviewed annually to determine whether there are indicators of possible impairment. When there is an indication of impairment the amount of the write-down is recognized in net income. The previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement, directly or by adjusting the allowance account, provided it is no greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of the reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously. The amount of the reversal is recognized in net income.

Transaction costs

The Organization recognizes its transaction costs in net income in the period incurred. However, financial instruments that will not be subsequently measured at fair value are adjusted by the transaction costs that are directly attributable to their origination, issuance or assumption.

(g) Internally Restricted Fund

The Board of Directors has set up the Operational Expenses Reserve Fund and this balance represents funds set aside for operating costs and has been accumulated from prior years' surpluses. The fund is to be used at the discretion of the board.

Unaudited

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE-ONTARIO

NOTES TO UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2025

3. Temporary Investments

Temporary investments consist of the following:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Brookfield Preference shares	\$ 195,210	\$ -
Non-redeemable Guaranteed Investment Certificates	22,862	24,125
Cash position	4,167	28
Res Bank of Montreal due June 17, 2025 (maturity value \$91,653 and yielding 5.68%)	-	89,392
Res Bank of Montreal due October 27, 2027 (maturity value \$134,173 and yielding 6.06%)	120,567	113,678
Res CIBC due January 20, 2028 (maturity value \$70,649 and yielding 5.54%)	63,258	59,938
Res Royal Bank due April 3, 2029 (maturity value \$104,172 and yielding 3.49%)	93,181	-
Cpn Province of Manitoba due March 5, 2031 (maturity value \$117,884 and yielding 3.19%)	100,183	-
	<u>\$ 599,428</u>	<u>\$ 287,161</u>

Guaranteed Investment Certificates are issued by The Bank of Nova Scotia.

The Guaranteed Investment Certificates have interest rates and maturities as follows:

Amount	Interest rate	Maturity
\$ 22,862	4.22%	June 24, 2027

4. Inventory

Inventory consists of books and merchandise for sale. The amount of inventory charged to expense in 2025 was \$37,339 (2024 - \$34,392).

Unaudited

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE-ONTARIO

NOTES TO UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2025

5. Financial Instruments

Risks and concentrations

The organization is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides a measure of the organization's risk exposure and concentration's risk exposure and concentrations at December 31, 2025.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge that obligation. The Organization provides credit to certain of its customers on a continuing basis and maintains provisions for contingent credit losses. The losses which have materialized in the last three years have been consistent with management forecasts. The Organization does not normally require a guarantor.

The Organization maintains its bank accounts and temporary investments with a single financial institution. Although this constitutes a concentration of credit risk, management assess the risk of loss from this concentration as negligible.

Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The Organization collects fees for the International Society of Arboriculture - (U.S.) and remits these in U.S. funds as invoiced. To support this activity, the Organization maintains the following balances denominated in U.S. dollars:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Cash	\$ 45,734	\$ 54,476
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 2,565	\$ 2,475

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in the market interest rates. With respect to the Guaranteed Investment Certificates described in Note 3, the Organization is not exposed to cash flow risk with respect to changes in the market interest rates but is exposed to price risk due to fluctuations in those rates.

Unaudited

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE-ONTARIO

NOTES TO UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2025

5. Financial Instruments (continued)

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Organization will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Organization has ample cash reserves to meet these obligations if funds generated by operations are insufficient.

Market risk

Market risk arises as a result of trading in equity securities and fixed income securities. Fluctuations in the market expose the organization to a risk of loss. The organization has formal policies and procedures that establish target asset mix.

6. Commitments

The organization has committed to the renting of facilities for the 2026 conference (estimated costs of \$270,000) and 2027 annual conference at a guaranteed amount of \$123,000 (as of the date of the financial statements).

The organization has committed to leasing office and storage space beginning November 1, 2019 and ending October 31, 2024 at an annual rate of \$18,210 per year. There will be an annual 3% increase in rent beginning November 1, 2020. A new agreement has not been signed and the organization is currently leasing month to month.

7. Cash Provided From (Used For) Working Capital

Cash otherwise available from operating activities is influenced by increases or decreases in the following items:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Accounts receivable	\$ (26,894)	\$ (9,051)
Special projects receivable	(79,445)	32,098
Sales tax recoverable	(7,207)	7,802
Inventory	3,828	(199)
Prepaid expenses and deposits	20,706	153,272
Accounts payable and accrued charges	(14,227)	(13,680)
Deferred revenue	43,162	(26,543)
	<u>\$ (60,077)</u>	<u>\$ 143,699</u>

Unaudited

ISAO COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES (CoR) update

In January 2025, the Component Council met to review the development and delivery of new MOUs. Following a period of transition, the Council was revitalized in December under the leadership of ISA International Board member Mike Watson (Ontario) with support from ISA International President Dr. Sharon Jean-Philippe. This restart included a refocusing session and the scheduling of frequent meetings through early 2026 to foster better cross-component collaboration and idea sharing.

As my term concludes, I am optimistic about this new direction and the opportunities it brings to our chapter. I wish our new representative, Mandy Vandenberg, much success in her new role.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Michael LaPorte, Component Council Representative

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee

The Education committee championed our annual 'Experience Arboriculture' conference and trade show in 2025 at Caesar's Windsor. The facility offered many opportunities and allowed for a fresh look to the event. The event was well attended and received despite the travel challenges due to the weather.

The Education committee expanded CEU opportunities, notably a sold-out program featuring Frank Rinn and Dr. Chris Luley. This was made possible through cost-sharing partnerships with neighbouring components. Both the WAO Tree Fest and the OTCC continued offering formal education within their event, successfully engaging both professionals and the public. All opportunities were well attended and will look to be further developed in 2026.

To align with our Strategic Plan, we are exploring the development of an Ambassador Program. Engagement in a review of the Strat Plan and conversations with other organizations for their experiences and ideas have helped confirm the benefits of such a program. This initiative will ensure consistent messaging at regional events across the province, allowing us to reach more people and spread our messages of career opportunities and the benefits of trees in our communities.

Thank you to all the members for being engaged in our events and I would like to thank the staff and all the volunteers for their commitment.

Respectfully submitted by,
Committee Co-Chairs, Michael LaPorte & Kyle McLaughlin



Arborist Ground Worker Training Program Committee Report

We are delighted to announce the continuation of our funding, marking our 7th year and following a one-year hiatus. We extend our sincere gratitude to the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development for their ongoing commitment and financial support. This year, we are excited to introduce upskilling training, a valuable addition to our traditional programming, to help current workers advance their careers in arboriculture.



Thank you to all our dedicated committee members and the broader arborist community for your support of the Arborist Ground Worker Training Program over the years.

About the Program

The Arborist Ground Worker Training Program is a dynamic, 6-week, work-based industry training initiative. It is designed to equip students with the essential skills and knowledge required for a successful career as an Arborist Ground Worker.

- **Training Locations:** Training is held annually in Toronto and biannually in both London and Ottawa.
- **Employment:** Graduates are successfully matched with employment opportunities across Ontario.
- **Cost & Recruitment:** The program is entirely free to participants. Each year, we proudly recruit 48 participants, many of whom secure long-term employment within the industry.

New Current Worker Upskilling Courses

To support employed workers advancing their careers and increasing their skill set, we have developed the following two courses:

- Advanced Pruning for Storm Damage Mitigation & Tree Preservation
- Worksite Safety & Management

Partners and Program Advisory Committee

- **The Career Foundation:** Jessie Shapansky, Rachael Kowaleski, Lance Barrett
- **OCAA:** Trish Thomson, Kevin Schiek, Tina Wu
- **ISAO:** Courtney McCann, Michael LaPorte, Julie Tucker
- **Technical Training Coordinator:** Tracy Logan

Program Contact Details

- **Program Coordinator:** Jessie Shapansky, jshapansky@careerfoundation.org
- **Telephone:** 416-642-2406, ext. 226
- **Website:** www.thecareerfoundation.com/trees

Hiring Opportunity

If you are looking to hire, we encourage you to consider a qualified graduate from our upcoming Toronto or London cohorts!

Respectfully submitted by,
Courtney McCann, Delivery Partner

Communications Committee

2025 was another successful year for the communications committee. Our committee grew, with the addition of two new committee members, Nicole Nolan and Kristen Grittani, and we continue to receive excellent feedback on our social media posts and Ontario Arborists content. Some highlights of the year include:



- Successful publication and delivery of 6 issues of the Ontario Arborist Magazine, even throughout a challenging postal strike, which caused a slight delay of our Oct/Nov issue but otherwise did not impact distribution.
- Content for OA continues to excel! Articles included a new ‘fundamentals’ series by Kyle McLoughlin, Tree of Interest by Rick Harper, Business advice from Carly Bailey and Tracy Logan, Legends of Arboriculture by a few excellent authors, as well as excellent general interest articles and colourful reviews of key ISAO events.
- Continued dedication of our amazing staff (Julie Tucker, Bridget Dilauro, Ciara Wilson and Christine Bennis), as well as the many volunteers assure this excellent content is vetted, edited and formatted and set to print on time.
- We tested out a slightly lower weight paper stock this year to address cost challenges. Given the responses received, we will continue with this stock type, to assure we deliver an excellent magazine without compromising our quality standards.
- We updated our ‘outward’ facing ISAO materials, with a new version of our ‘hire an arborist’ brochure, and updated presentation slides for speaking invitations. The update of these materials are in-line with the implementation of our 2024-approved Strategic Plan.
- We continue to have a very active presence on social media, with an increase in our Facebook and Instagram followers. Instagram appears to be our most-popular and growing platform with good interaction from our followers.
- We completed a website review to improve messaging and content for all ISAO committees.

The Communications Committee continues to assure implementation of key aspects of the ISAO Strategic Plan that had been approved early in 2024, with an eye to growing our member base and serving all our members better with the information they need.

In 2026, we aim to continue to deliver the highest quality magazine we can for our members, with an increasing diversity of content, and a goal for greater participation by general ISAO members. We will seek out additional funding support to sustain the delivery of the Ontario Arborist while saving on costs. We are proud of how our communications committee has grown, and will continue to ensure staff have the support needed for our communications initiatives.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rhoda deJonge, Committee Chair
Vice President, ISA Ontario Board

Women in Arboriculture Ontario Committee Report

In 2025, Women in Arboriculture celebrated 10 Years since it’s inauguration in 2015 at the ISAO Conference and Tradeshow in Windsor. To help celebrate this special milestone, we set out to recreate the “look” of the WAO logo and had the big reveal at our annual WAO Tree Fest. We celebrated growth by remembering our roots by taking on the original W.A.O call with a modern feel.



We held our annual lunch at the conference with special guest Nicole 'Carni' Benjamin and 65 of our amazing friends and members of WAO. Nicole also presented at the conference talking about building good habits and how it correlates to the health and well-being of an arborist on a daily basis. At the awards banquet, WAO elected to honor Joey Reed and Nick Maule for the WAO Award of Recognition for their amazing contribution to not only the female arborists in their lives but also their contributions to WAO events for many years. In another award, WAO's chair Carolyn Dares took home the Outstanding Volunteer Award for her efforts within WAO, OTCC, Fleming College, Seneca College and Durham College. Congratulations to our award winners.

We also said our farewells to Kari Hansen and Jessica Van Vliet from the committee. Both Kari and Jess were part of the original committee members. Their efforts as our site coordinator and safety coordinator were invaluable to our committee over the years for the success of TreeFest. We wish Kari and Jess well in their future endeavors.

In June, we continued our milestone celebration at TreeFest in Kitchener's Victoria Park for our 7th Annual event. This year's event took place on an island within the park, and we could not have asked for better weather. With the sun shining and smiling faces everywhere, we welcomed over 100 people throughout the day. Special thanks to the City of Kitchener for hosting us this year, we would not hesitate to return in the coming years. Another special thank you to Linda Hawkins, Lauren McLaughlin and Krista Strating for their seminars on Integrated Plant Management and Aerial Rescue demonstration. As we celebrated with balloons, cake, new and continued friendships, our committee thanks everyone who came out to participate, sponsor, volunteer or hang out! We look forward to seeing you in 2026.

September brought another amazing event at the Ontario Tree Climbing Championship in Kingston. Lake Ontario Park hosted the 2025 championship, and we were very lucky with the weather again. WAO set up our incredible Fun Climb again this year, as well as the Alligator pit. We were able to host over 65 people (kids and adults), and everyone had a wonderful time. Thanks to Eco Tree and the City of Kingston for coming together and helping us set this up. We would also like to thank our volunteers who helped us over the three days; we could not have done this without you. WAO congratulates Hannah Winters and Mark Gaudet for winning this year's OTCC Championship!!

In the final months of the year, WAO excitedly brought on Kelly Clancy to the committee. We congratulate Kelly on her debut with the committee, and we are very excited to work with her over the coming years.

As our 10-year celebrations come to a close, WAO would like to thank all of our supporters over the years. We have met so many great people, and we have created a network community that is invaluable to the present and future arborists in our industry.

If you are interested in more information, joining our group, or becoming a volunteer, email wao@isaontario.com and join our Facebook page. You can also follow us on Instagram, @womeninarboricultureontario

Respectfully submitted by:
Carolyn Dares, WAO Committee, Chair

Awards

The ISAO Awards Committee reviews nominations and recommends annual award recipients to the Board of Directors. The committee is chaired by the Past President.

This committee relies on nominations provided by our members. Building on the work of last year's chair, we continued to utilize various avenues to draw awareness to the annual awards program and the need for member involvement. Although the banquet is held at the conference in February, nominations are accepted throughout the entire year. With an easier online nomination process, please take advantage and nominate those who are deserving of such recognition.

It is essential to continue recognizing and celebrating those within our industry and beyond who have contributed to the development and promotion of arboriculture in Ontario, and who inspire the next group of champions.

Respectfully submitted by,
Michael LaPorte, Committee Chair

Governance

Over the past year, the Governance Committee focused on strengthening ISAO's foundation by reviewing and improving our core policies. The committee clarified roles and responsibilities, updated key governance policies that better align with ISAO best practices, and established a more consistent and transparent process for future policy, reviews and updates. This committee helps ensure ISAO continues to operate effectively, responsibly and in the best interests of its members as the association continues to grow.

The Governance Committee members include Ryan St. Pierre (President Elect), the current chair of the committee, Courtney McCann (Board Member), and Julie Tucker (Executive Director for ISAO).

Respectfully submitted by,
Ryan St. Pierre, Governance Committee Chair

Strategic Planning

We are in our second year of the strategic plan and have focused on continuing to build momentum throughout our second year. This has included advancing priority initiatives, strengthening internal processes and ensuring committee and board efforts remain aligned with the long-term direction of the association. We have also continued to assess progress and make adjustments where needed to ensure the plan remains relevant and responsive to member needs.

The strategic plan continues to focus on our three core principles for our membership: Educate, Advocate, and Research. As we move into the third year of this strategic plan, these principles will remain our primary focus as we continue to strengthen our efforts and give back to our membership through meaningful programs, advocacy, and research initiatives.

Respectfully submitted by,
Ryan St. Pierre, Committee Chair

Ontario Tree Climbing Championship

The Ontario Tree Climbing Championship (OTCC) had another great year! The 2025 competition was held at Lake Ontario Park in the historic City of Kingston, Ontario. The same park that Rick Mercer did a segment about our competition 12 years ago. Kingston was an amazing host and helped to make everything run smoothly. We can't thank Marty Mayberry enough, as well as the other city staff who worked tirelessly to keep the park in peak shape.



This year's event was our biggest ever. We were able to accommodate 53 competitors, and, for the first time in decades, we exhausted our waitlist. We were able to do this for a couple of reasons. Firstly, we switched to a two-day event a few years ago and have found our rhythm, and secondly, Ciara Wilson built a climber rotation schedule

that allowed us to manage our time efficiently. Additionally, contributing to the growth is that our trade show, continues expand. This year we had the most vendors to date. Increasing the number of vendors and sponsorship opportunities is definitely an area we want to continue to grow. Also, the workshops offered throughout the event, which earn participants CEUs, have demonstrated constant growth. The ArborChallenge, a fun team event based on day-to-day techniques that arborists use, has also thrived.

It is amazing to see what a large group of arborists can accomplish over a few days. I love watching the transition as the trees for the events are set up, and the excitement of the climbers as they arrive to see the challenges that await them. Friday morning, when the vendors arrive, there is a new energy brought to the park as the show begins. At the end of the day, we are all there to support our competitors and crown our champions. During the event, it always amazes me how supportive arborists are towards one another and how talented they are. I always walk away with a few new techniques and tricks. This year, we had two regulars take the title. Congratulations to: **Krista Strating and Cody Menken!**

How can you help? It's simple really. **Volunteer.** It is one of the most positive and rewarding ways to advance your professional and social networks while giving back to your community. I attribute a lot of my success in arboriculture to the fact that I volunteer. This has increased my network and knowledge substantially.

If you are a vendor, volunteer or competitor please fill out the survey after the event. Most of our decisions are based on the survey and the Virtual Forum. **OTCC Virtual Forum will be March 25, 2026 at 7:30pm.** We will present the feedback from the survey at the forum, give updates on the event, and receive feedback from participants. Please come and have your voice heard. Details will be posted after this conference.

Respectfully submitted by,
Ken Gillies, Committee Chair

Safety Committee

The focus of the Safety Committee in 2025 has been continuing to provide relevant, useful & current resources to the ISAO membership.

Highlights

- Q&A article about the upcoming release of the 4th edition of the Arborist Safe Work Practices
- Participated in the ISA Ontario's Big Survey
- Safety Committee members have continued to produce six (6) safety talks for the Ontario Arborist publication in 2025. Topics include: Storm Preparedness, Fire Extinguishers, Caffeine, Dehydration, Tree Felling Plan, Chainsaw Safety and Slips, Trips and Falls.
- Succession planning in 2025 saw a new member join the safety committee – Welcome Trent Meyers.

Respectfully submitted by,
Drew Deitner, Committee Chair

Regional Plant Appraisal Committee

The Regional Plant Appraisal Committee (RPAC) is a committee of industry professionals who provide guidance on regional concerns with regard to plant appraisals. The committee was formed and met for the first time in December 2019. The committee released a revised and related Supplemental Guide to the CTLA 10th Edition



Guide for Plant Appraisal in 2022 to aid industry professionals in determining consistent tree and plant appraisal results based on pricing data compiled from different Ontario wholesale nurseries. The committee continues to monitor and compile tree pricing data from the same Ontario wholesale nurseries that the document is based on will issue revisions as needed in order to maintain a current and relevant Supplemental Guide.

Respectfully submitted by,
Andrew Smit, Committee Chair

Certification

It has been a busy year for credentialing within ISA Ontario. We held four certification exams and two tree climber evaluations as well as four TRAQ and three reTRAQ events over the course of the year. All events were well attended and a huge success. The following report was created on January 12, 2026 and summarizes the number ISA credential holders within Ontario for the 2025 year (as of July).

Number of Credential Holders	Count in 2023	Count in 2024	Count in 2025
Certified Arborist	1693	1822	1786
Board Certified Master Arborist	33	34	35
Certified Urban Forest Professional	52	47	44
Utility Specialist	33	34	32
Certified Tree Climber	95	94	89
Tree Rick Assessment Qualified (TRAQ)			743

Continuing education events made available to the Chapter were abundant this past year creating some remarkable learning opportunities for the membership through both in-person and online events. The recent implementation of ISA International's new CEU management system has made it difficult to report on the overall CEUs issued across the chapter for the year, but we can report that the number of pre-approval applications processed by ISAO generated an impressive 7,732 CEUs over the course of 2025, well done!

It is great to see industry leaders across the Chapter answering the call for an increased demand for professional development opportunities covering all facets of Arboriculture!

Respectfully submitted by,
Andrew Smit, Certification Liaison

Membership

The Committee's primary focus this year was the development and administration of a comprehensive membership survey. This survey is designed to gather vital insights on industry needs, satisfaction levels, and areas for association improvement. It will be repeated every 3–4 years to allow for comparison of results, which will, in turn, guide our future initiatives and help foster a strong, engaged community within the association.

The Membership Committee focuses on the following goals: increasing membership engagement and promoting awareness and utilization of membership services. To achieve greater engagement, we are hoping to enhance strategies and networking opportunities to foster a stronger sense of community.

To ensure better representation of all sectors within the province, we are actively seeking additional committee members. Expanding our group will enhance our ability to incorporate diverse perspectives and address a broader range of industry needs.

Membership Statistics

Our membership base continues to grow, a testament to the value the association provides. As of December 31, 2025, we have 1,055 Chapter members.

Respectfully submitted by,
Courtney McCann

MAUF

MAUF's mission is to collaborate and coordinate Ontario municipal arborists and urban foresters for the sustainability, health and benefit of the urban forests and its residents. Our MAUF Committee members include co-chairs Angie Hutnick and Gaspar Horvath, Drew Deitner, Steve Robinson, Mandy Vandenberg, and ISAO Staff. MAUF currently maintains a membership email list of 145 members.



In 2025 MAUF held the following events:

- **MAUF Affiliate Meeting** Feb 19, 2025 at the ISA Ontario Conference in Windsor. 30 members attended and we had a guest presentation from Marina Dimitriadis, Trees for Life.
- **MAUF Virtual Spring Forum** on June 4, 2025. 42 members attended, and we had two presentations from the Invasive Species Centre on current invasives in Ontario; and City of Toronto's Diane Leal and Matey Matov presented on soil cells. A roundtable discussion followed.
- **MAUF Virtual Fall Forum** on November 18, 2025. 60 members attended, and we had a number of presentations on the topic of storm response & support. These included City of Barrie's Kevin Rankin and Jamie Rodgers; City of Ottawa's Adam Palmer and Jason Pollard; City of Peterborough's Leighanne Howard; York Region's Angie Hutnick; and City of Burlington's Drew Deitner. A roundtable discussion followed.

2026 Events will include:

- The MAUF Committee will continue to hold monthly committee virtual meetings.
- MAUF Affiliate Meeting at the ISA Ontario Conference on Feb 18, 2026
- MAUF Virtual Spring Forum: date TBD
- MAUF Virtual Fall Forum: date TBD

Check out the MAUF section of the ISAO website <https://www.isaontario.com/mauf/>
Email MAUF with any questions, suggestions or to join MAUF mauf@isaontario.com

Respectfully submitted by,
Gaspar Horvath and Angie Hutnick, MAUF co-chairs

Canadian Tree Fund 2025 Year in Review

I am happy to report that 2025 will be remembered as a significant year for the Canadian TREE Fund, marked by several noteworthy achievements. On behalf of our entire Board of Trustees, I extend our deepest gratitude to the many individuals who understand and appreciate how our work supports the ISA mission and who contributed through financial donations, positive word-of-mouth, and in-kind volunteer efforts.



This year marks our 30th fiscal year. Since our inception in 1995, the Canadian TREE Fund has raised over **\$1,030,000**, supported more than **125 research and education projects**, and assisted **over 40 students** pursuing careers in urban forestry. These accomplishments strengthen the benefits of urban trees, enhance our communities, and help arborists work more effectively and safely.



2025 Grant Allocations

In the 2025 fiscal year, we allocated close to **\$25,000** to support **two Canadian projects** and **one international research project**.

In December, the CTF Jack Kimmel Grant Selection Committee reviewed five submissions and selected one education project and one research project, with a combined funding commitment of over **\$12,000**:

- 1. New Edition of Professor Elwood Pricklethorn's Activity Book: *All About Urban Trees – Sapling Edition***
Designed for Junior Kindergarten to Grade 2 audiences, this edition will include 3,000 printed copies and be available digitally, with 10% of proceeds returning to the CTF. The book features 12 pages of fun facts, puzzles, and colourful illustrations to engage young learners.
- 2. Genetic Diversity and Disease Tolerance in the American Elm Gene Bank**
Lead Researcher: Dr. Aron Fazekas, University of Guelph Arboretum
Building on the long-running Elm Recovery Project, this study investigates deeper questions about Dutch elm disease tolerance. The insights gained will support breeding and restoration strategies aimed at re-establishing resilient American elm populations across Ontario.

In October, the International TREE Fund Grant Selection Committee—where Cathy Bentley represented the Canadian TREE Fund—reviewed four submissions and selected the following project for a **\$10,000 Jack Kimmel Grant**:

- Dr. Huade Guan, Flinders University, Australia:**
A pumping-test analogue for characterizing root-zone and plant-integrated hydraulic systems based on above-ground measurements

Student Support in 2025

In 2025, we continued our tradition of supporting future leaders in arboriculture through bursaries and scholarships:

- Harold Van Dyke Memorial Bursary:**
Alondra Tiderman — \$1,000
Avery Dolderman --- \$1,000
- Gerry Micsinszki Apprenticeship Bursary:**
Andrew Webb — \$1,000

- **Randy Lidkea Scholarship:**
Ben Joy — \$500
- **Wenda Li Tree Climbing Championship Bursary:**
Gloria Lakor — \$500
(Made possible through generous donations from Wenda Li, Warren Hoselton, and John Wilson.)

Tour des Trees — September 2025

The 33rd annual Tour des Trees took place in the beautiful state of Michigan, with 60 riders raising **over \$260,000**. Since 1992, Tour des Trees riders have planted trees, educated the public, and showcased the crucial work of arboriculture professionals. It remains the largest urban forest fundraising event in the world, engaging hundreds of thousands of people and providing **\$5.4 million** in research grants and scholarships since 2002.

Congratulations to Team Canada’s dedicated riders, **Warren Hoselton** (also known as Professor Elwood Pricklethorn) and **Jim Urbanowski** of New Brunswick, who together raised nearly **\$10,000** this year. Over their many years of participation, they have collectively contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to Canadian TREE Fund initiatives.

A special highlight of this year’s event was the presentation of the prestigious **Ken Ottman Tree Fund Volunteer of the Year Award** to **Joanna Nakeff**, a long-time support-team member whose dedication has been invaluable.

Board of Trustees

Co-Chairs: Cathy Bentley, Catherine Dowdell

Trustees: Warren Hoselton, John Wilson, Serena Soucy, Rachel Bowery, Kait Simpson, Kyle Berwick, Maureen Sexsmith West, and Simone Ouimet

Looking ahead to 20226

We remain optimistic about ongoing support from the individuals and organizations who have brought us this far. To those who have not yet joined us, we extend a heartfelt invitation: **add your name to our growing community of supporters**. Together, we can say **YES** to more research, more education, and more TREEMENDOUS urban forests.

For more information about our work, please visit our website: www.canadiantreefund.org

Respectfully submitted by,
John Wilson, Trustee, Canadian TREE Fund

Thank you to our 2025 Committee Volunteers

Executive Committee

Mandy Vandenberg
Ryan St. Pierre
Rhoda deJonge
Andrew Smit
Michael LaPorte

Board of Directors

Mandy Vandenberg
Ryan St. Pierre
Rhoda deJonge
Andrew Smit
Courtney McCann
Hannah Winters
Kim Statham
Michael LaPorte
Robin Shaw-Lukavsky
Serena Soucy
Trent Meyers

Communications

Rhoda deJonge
Rob Shaw-Lukavsky
Kim Statham
Stephen McQuigge
Nicole Nolan
Kristin Grittani

Education

Michael LaPorte
Kyle McLoughlin
Ken Gillies
Mark Graves
Linda Hawkins
Warren Hoselton
Alice Power
Trent Meyers

WAO

Carolyn Dares
Krista Strating
Serena Soucy
Jessica Schlagheck
Jenna DeAbreu

OTCC

Ken Gillies
Devin Terris
Rob Shaw-Lukavsky
Jess Matson
Ciara Wilson
Adam Chamberlain
Carla Oliveira
Steve Lang
Michael LaPorte
Peter Devries
Nich Spino

Safety

Drew Deitner
Trent Meyers
Kevin Schieck
Rachel Bowery
Sean Hopper
Ken Gillies
Andy Jeffries
Jolene Kostick

Membership

Courtney McCann
Warren Hoselton
Mark Mastantuono
Tina Wu
Michael LaPorte

Awards

Michael LaPorte & Board

Treasury

Andrew Smit

Governance

Ryan St. Pierre – Chair
Courtney McCann

GWTP

Deliver Partners
ISAO: Michael LaPorte, Courtney
McCann, Julie Tucker
OCAA: Kevin Schieck, Patricia
Thomson, Tina Wu
CF: Jessie Shapansky, Lance
Barrett, Rachael Kowaleski

MAUF

Gaspar Horvath
Angie Hutnick
Mandy Vandenberg
Steve Robinson
Drew Deitner

There are many more volunteers not listed and a special and sincere **“Thank you”**
goes out to all of ISA Ontario's Volunteers!
An extra special Thank You goes out to the staff and the President who sit on almost all Committees!