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Ref: 129520

December 4, 2008

Her Worship Mayor Pamela Goldsmith-Jones
and Members of Council
District of West Vancouver
750 17th Street
West Vancouver, BC V7V 3T3

Dear Mayor Goldsmith-Jones and Councillors:

On September 25, 2008, Honourable Gordon Campbell, Premier, announced a new province-wide initiative to help you manage and enhance your urban forests.

The Trees for Tomorrow initiative is an exciting five-year, \$13 million program aimed at planting four million trees in schoolyards, hospital grounds, civic parks and other public spaces throughout British Columbia. Evergreen, a not-for-profit organization, is assisting in the delivery of this initiative.

Through the Trees for Tomorrow initiative, local governments, regional districts, institutions and First Nations can apply for funding to plant trees in parks, boulevards and parking lots, hospital grounds, school grounds and post secondary campuses. In addition to funding, the Trees for Tomorrow initiative provides you with an opportunity to learn about your urban forest through educational workshops held across the province.

Urban forests are an intrinsic part of every city, town, village, regional district and community, and a valuable part of the community infrastructure. Urban forests create safer, more liveable communities. They are good for business, attracting tourists and shoppers. They reduce noise and energy bills while increasing property values. They provide air to breathe, improve water quality, support biodiversity, provide recreational opportunities and beautify your community.

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Ministry of Community
Development

Office of the Minister

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and Members of Council
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I strongly encourage you to visit the website at: www.treesfortomorrow.gov.bc.ca to learn more about the Trees for Tomorrow initiative and apply for funding to support your urban forest. The first application intake deadline is January 16, 2009. To discuss your application, please call the toll free telephone line at: 1 866-T4T-9034 (1 866 848-9034).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Blair Lekstrom". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Blair Lekstrom
Minister

pc: Mr. Geoffery Cape
Executive Director
Evergreen