

## **Proclamation**

## **National Forest Week**

September 19 - 25, 2021

**Whereas** covering 66% of the province and 71.1 million hectares, Ontario's forests are an indispensable source of ecological, cultural, health, social and economic benefits; and

**Whereas** its forests are also located on the traditional territory of diverse Indigenous nations and provide nourishment and cultural value to these groups; and

**Whereas** Aurora's vibrant green spaces and tree cover offer valuable recreation to its residents; and

**Whereas** its urban forest is not only a center for physical, mental and social wellbeing but also a contributor of essential ecological services for the town such as pollution reduction, stormwater retention, cooling and wildlife habitat; and

**Whereas** Aurora's urban tree cover acts as a vital tool to build the town's resilience and sustainability in the face of climate change; and

**Whereas** National Forest Week is an annual one-week campaign which recognizes its critical contribution to Canada and its people. This year, National Forest week will be celebrated across the country by individuals and organizations with the theme of "Our Forests – Continually Giving".

Therefore be it resolved that, on behalf of the Corporation of the Town of Aurora, I, Mayor Tom Mrakas, do hereby proclaim the week of **September 19**<sup>th</sup> – **25**<sup>th</sup>, **2021** as **National Forest Week** in the Town of Aurora.

Tom Mrakas Mayor