COMMEMORATIVE TREE PROGRAM
TREE SPECIES SELECTION

LODGEPOLE PINE
*Pinus contorta var. Latifolia*

The lodgepole pine is Alberta’s provincial tree! Primarily located throughout Western Canada, it is highly adaptable with a tall narrow shape. Used by Aboriginals in many practices, its name is derived from the homes they built from the strong dense wood.

Characteristics:
- **Size:** Mature size of 20m tall and 4m wide with a maximum height of 25m.
- **Needles:** Stiff and twisted in bundles of two, dark-green to yellow-green in colour.
- **Cones:** Vary in shape and may remain on the branches for many years.
- **Habitat:** Highly adaptable tree that grows in a number of different environments.
The bur oak is a majestic beauty! It is a slow growing oak and when planted in an ideal location it has the potential to live a very long life. It is a sun-loving tree with an attractive wide-spreading canopy that provides food for wildlife. Bur oaks are known to have the largest acorns of any oak in North America. Symbolizing strength, a mature bur oak is a truly breathtaking sight.

Characteristics:
- Growth: Mature size of 20m tall and 18m wide, very large canopy spread.
- Leaves: Large leaf lobes, fall bronze colour, may remain on the tree into winter.
- Fruit: Acorns 2-3cm long with a pointed tip with a burr-like fringe.
- Other: Hardy species, drought and salt tolerant.
Colorado spruce trees are easily identifiable by their stunning silver blue-green colour, tall broad pyramidal shape and thick branching system that reaches the ground. This tree is known for its resilience to withstand harsh conditions due to its widespread canopy and relatively deep roots. It is a slow-growing, long-lived tree that provides shelter for a number of different types of wildlife throughout North America.

Characteristics:
- Size: Mature size of 15m tall and 5m wide, widespread canopy amongst spruce.
- Needles: Rigid, stiff and prickly with unique silver blue-green colour year-round.
- Cones: Concentrated high in the canopy, hanging downward.
- Habitat: Cool humid climate, resistant to harsh conditions, hardy drought tolerant.
JAPANESE LILAC (IVORY SILK)
*Syringa reticulata*

- The Japanese lilac tree blooms relatively late compared to other flowering trees, typically in the summer months. With its lush dark green, narrow, oval and sharply tipped leaves, the beautifully fragrant flowers contrast is a spectacular sight. Known as an award winning ornamental tree, it attracts butterflies when in bloom, has a stunning cherry red-brown bark, and barely/rarely changes leaf colour in fall.

- Characteristics:
  - Size: Mature size of 6m tall and 5m wide, oval shaped dense canopy.
  - Leaves: Lanceolate to ovate shaped, dark green rarely changing colour in fall.
  - Flowers: Traditional creamy white fragrant lilac flowers, panicale shaped.
  - Bark: Beautiful reddish-brown to steel-grey coloured bark.
SCOTS (SCOTCH) PINE  
*Pinus sylvestris*

- The Scots pine tree is the most widely distributed pine tree in the world! Ranging from the high Arctic to central Asia, its growth is straight, however, in North America, it has a crooked form. Its most notable feature is its papery orange-red bark which contrasts nicely with its deep green coloured needles. Its sprawling branches and crooked form create drama in any landscape.

- **Characteristics:**
  - **Size:** Mature size of 15m tall and 8m wide with a twisted form in North America.
  - **Needles:** Pointy twisted in bundles of two about 4-8cm in length green in colour.
  - **Cones:** Point backwards with a fairly pointed tip, maturing within 2-3 years.
  - **Bark:** Showy flaky papery distinctive orange-red to scaly grey.
  - **Habitat:** Adaptable, ranging from high Arctic latitudes to central Asian deserts.
AMERICAN BASSWOOD (LINDEN)
*Tilia americana*

- The linden tree is easily identifiable by its strong pyramid shape, large heart shaped leaves, and fragrant clustered yellow flowers. In the summer, when in bloom, a soft humming can be heard from the trees as the bees collect nectar from the flowers. Linden trees are recognized for their medicinal properties and malleable wood, to alleviate a multitude of symptoms, and create elegant basswood carvings.

- **Characteristics:**
  - **Size:** Mature size of 20m tall and 12m wide, pyramidal shape and dense canopy.
  - **Leaves:** Heart shaped coarsely toothed, summer dark green and fall pale yellow.
  - **Flowers:** Buttery yellow star shaped clusters, fragrance of honey and lemon peel.
  - **Wood:** Tough pale brown to nearly white used to make ropes, rugs and carvings.
SWISS STONE PINE
*Pinus cembra*

- The Swiss stone pine is a very slow growing tree predominantly found throughout the mountains of Europe. Its growth pattern is columnar with dense upright branching that tends to hold on to its lower branches. When compared to other pines, its shape and needles are different in appearance and size. Swiss stones can survive in extremely cold and windy conditions and are sun loving.

- Characteristics:
  - Size: Mature size of 10m tall and 5m wide with a pyramidal symmetrical shape.
  - Needles: Soft to the touch, bundles of five, 3” long, blue-green to light green.
  - Cones: Violet brown, do not open on the tree, tight bound 3” long.
  - Habitat: Native to European Mountains and parts of Asia.
SPRING SNOW CRABAPPLE
*Malus x ‘Spring Snow’*

- The spring snow crabapple is a fruitless crabapple tree with a dense oval canopy that produces showy white flowers (snow like) with a sweet fragrance in early spring. When in full bloom, the spring snow is truly breathtaking. The white flowers contrast with the dark green leaves, with hints of pink from the emergent shells, and when the flowers begin to shed their pedals it looks as if it is snowing.

- **Characteristics:**
  - Size: Mature size of 8m tall and 5m wide, round/oval shape and dense canopy.
  - Leaves: Elliptic with a pointy end, summer green and fall yellow.
  - Flowers: White fragrant emerging from a pink shell before the leaves.
THUNDERCHILD CRABAPPLE
*Malus x ‘Thunderchild’*

- The thunderchild crabapple tree is truly a spectacular sight all season long. Its flowers bloom in masses, a striking rich purple-pink that lasts for several days. Once flowering is complete, the rich dark purple leaves begin to emerge, lasting throughout the summer. In fall the leaves start to change to dark reds, bright oranges and brilliant yellows, mimicking colours of a beautiful sunrise or sunset.

- Characteristics:
  - Size: Mature size of 6m tall and 4m wide, upright growth pattern, dense canopy.
  - Leaves: Pointy, dark purple in summer to dark red and bright orange-yellow in fall.
  - Flowers: Dark purple-pink emerging from rich rose coloured shells in bundles.
  - Fruit: Red pome, 1-4cm in size, can be a bit messy.
LITTLE LEAF LINDEN  
*Tilia cordata*

- The little leaf linden has almost identical features to the American basswood. That being said, the little leaf is smaller when fully matured, its leaves are smaller, the seeds can be crushed with your fingers, the bark does not have defined ridges, and has an orange undertone. The littleleaf linden is native to much of Europe, whereas the American linden is native to the central and south-eastern United States.

- Characteristics:
  - Size: Mature size of 15m tall and 10m wide, pyramidal shape and dense canopy.
  - Leaves: Heart shaped coarsely toothed, summer dark green and fall pale yellow.
  - Flowers: Buttery yellow star shaped clusters, fragrance of honey and lemon peel.