

## **FOREST BOARD REPORT**

January 2018

The Forest Board has hired a gardener to address the Audubon west entrance garden, two gardens in Robin, and multiple beds around the electrical boxes and a shrub garden in Wren. At this time volunteers are still addressing the flower bed in Crossbill, the traffic island at the west entrance, and the traffic circle at Oriole. The gardener will be mulching the flower beds, but the Forest Board and community volunteers will continue to apply mulch to the trees as needed.

We have also met with BC Plumbing, who is in the process of obtaining the permit to submit to the Water Company for a water supply in Wren Park. We will be meeting with the Mayor and Clerk to finalize the paperwork that will be submitted to the Water Company.

We have been very busy doing the structural pruning of the approximately 160 right-of-way trees that have been planted within the past decade or so throughout the City. The good news is that most of the trees are growing very quickly. The bad news is that it is taking us much longer to prune each tree. We have also had two work days this month in the parks devoted to pruning those recently planted trees while they are dormant. Our City Forester has been working with our Board to develop a program to address structural pruning for the larger right-of-way trees. Some of these are trees that were planted before the Forest Board was pruning young trees, and some are our trees which have grown beyond our reach. With Council consent, this program was budgeted for this year and will require the homeowner to pay a small fee, while the City pays the other half of the bulk rate price. This program is not for general pruning or maintenance. The Forester will be contacting qualifying owners based on his surveys.

Leah Netherland  
Chair