



By DEREK PUDDICOMBE

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## City sticks out green thumb

The City of Ottawa is going out on a limb and promising to plant 100,000 trees over the next four years.

Mayor Larry O'Brien planted the first tree yesterday outside his Elgin St. office.

It was also the official launch of the city's Tree, Reforestation and Environmental Enhancement (TREE) program.

Alta Vista Coun. Peter Hume said Ottawa's contribution in planting the trees will help to maintain the city's forest cover and combat climate change.

"Every tree planted makes a difference," said Hume. "It's planting a living legacy today that casts hope for the future of our city, country and planet."

The city is taking part in a United Nations challenge to plant 1 billion trees across the world this year alone.

Over the next four years, the city will distribute a variety of small and large trees each spring and fall to city residents.

To receive a tree register at [ottawa.ca/TREE](http://ottawa.ca/TREE) or call 311.