



**Press Release
February 4, 2013**

Mole Hill Community Housing Society would like to thank the City of Vancouver for their support of the society's request to replace 9 diseased cherry trees on the 1100 block of Pendrell Street with Big Leaf Maples (*Acer macrophyllum*).

Mole Hill is located in the heart of Vancouver's West End, in the city block directly behind St. Paul's Hospital. The community consists of 28 restored Victorian and Edwardian homes, the oldest, most intact and fully restored square block of heritage houses in the city of Vancouver. The big leaf maples are a very appropriate complement to Mole Hill's heritage character, as these are the type of native species street trees that we would have been planted originally in this historic neighbourhood. When mature, their grand scale will provide a gracious setting for this historic community.

Thank you to Drew Gilchrist, Superintendent of Arboriculture and Bill Stephen, Acting City Arborist, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation for their willingness to make this happen and to long time Mole Hill advocates Donald Luxton, President of the Heritage Vancouver Society, Sean McEwen, Mole Hill Design Architect and Blair Petrie, Mole Hill founding member, for their lobbying efforts on behalf of the society.

"Its a fantastic reversal in attitude and long overdue, as we are concerned about the long-term erosion of Vancouver's historic tree canopy. It is only noticeable over time, and if we don't act now to plant larger trees we could decimate our historic urban forest."

Donald Luxton, President, Vancouver Heritage Society

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