

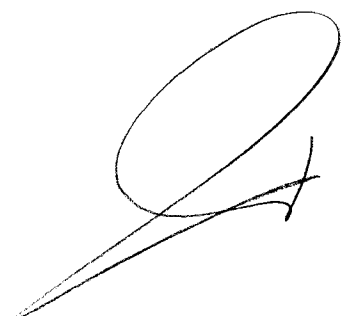
## **Black Cherry**

I will be talking about the Black Cherry component of the Beaver Pond Forest. The Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) is a species of cherry, native to eastern North America from southern Quebec and Ontario south to Texas and central Florida. The Black Cherries in the Beaver Pond forest are at the northern fringe of its habitat.

The Beaver Pond forest is within the Eastern Ontario Model Forest. Not many people realize that together with Red Oak and Hard Maple it is among the most valuable species in the Eastern Model Forest. Its commercial value is almost 1.7 times that of Yellow Birch, Soft Maple, Ash, White Oak, Basswood and Butternut.

Commercial pressure is bound to result in the unsustainable harvest of Black Cherry within eastern Ontario. The City of Ottawa is a partner in the Eastern Ontario Urban Forest Network. Who are the partners of the network? They are the University of Toronto, the Tree Canada Foundation, the Eastern Model Forest, Natural Resources Canada, and the City of Ottawa. The Network's mandate lists five important urban forestry issues. One of these is the promotion of municipal planning that recognizes and enhances sustainable urban forests in eastern Ontario.

Ottawa is the capital of a forest nation. As such it should play a significant and leading role in the development and implementation of urban forestry in Canada. Perhaps the plans for the forested area north of the Beaver pond should be revisited by both the City and the developer.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a shorter, more complex stroke.