# PLANTS OF THE MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE GROUNDS

# TREES OF THE MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE BUILDING

The Manitoba Legislative Grounds boasts a diverse array of trees and shrubs. Here are some of the varieties that you will find around the grounds.



#### **OHIO BUCKEYE** Aesculus glabra

- Several of these trees are found on the west side of the Manitoba Legislative Building, flanking the sidewalk leading to Osborne Street.
- The nut of this tree resembles the eye of a deer, which is how the tree got it's name.
- It is both the state tree and state symbol of Ohio.



#### 2 AMERICAN ELM Ulmus Americana

- There are 167 Elm trees on the Legislative Building Grounds.
- One of the most ornamental of all shade trees, it is very hardy and adaptable but susceptible to Dutch Elm Disease, a terminal disease caused by a fungus spread mainly by the Elm Bark Beetle.
- The Elms of the Manitoba Legislative Grounds are cared for using a 3-year program of fertilization, Dutch Elm Disease prevention, and pruning to keep them healthy.



#### **3 NORTHERN CATALPA** *Catalpa speciosa*

- Although classified for a warmer climate zone than Winnipeg offers, several are found in the south gardens by the river.
- They have dangling, bean-like seed pods, huge heart-shaped leaves, and white flowers.



#### **REGAL CELEBRATION MAPLE** Acer x freemanii 'Regal Celebration'

- This species of Maple was developed over two decades, crossing the hardiness of western maples with the bright red fall foliage of eastern maples.
- It was chosen by Lieutenant Governor Janice Filmon for the Lieutenant Governors Tree Project to be a living tribute to Manitoba award winners and volunteers.
- The first one planted can be found on the north side of Government House.





**AMBER NINEBARK JUBILEE** *Physocarpus opulifolius 'Jefam'* 

- This variety was designed in 2010 in anticipation of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee (the 60th anniversary of her reign) in 2012.
- Ninebark is a wonderful, hardy shrub that comes in a many varieties that can grow in zones even colder than Winnipeg's.
- The specimen located next to Government House was planted by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II herself when she made an official visit in 2010.



# DID YOU KNOW?

- The Legislative Grounds are made up of a total of 32.8 acres, which includes Memorial Park and the areas surrounding the Norquay Building, the Law Courts, and the Winnipeg Remand Centre.
- The entire 32.8 acres of the Legislative Grounds is irrigated with an underground system that draws water from the Assiniboine River.
- The entire grounds are a pesticide and herbicide-free zone. Only natural methods of insect and weed control are used to protect the environment.
- There are 73 park benches on the Manitoba Legislative Grounds.
- There are 41 statues and monuments on the grounds surrounding the Manitoba Legislative Building, Government House, and Memorial Park.
- Every year from February to April, 35,000 annual flowering plants are started from seed in one 3,000 square foot greenhouse and four 1,000 square foot cold storage greenhouses run by the Grounds Team. These flowers are used for planting on the grounds and are also distributed to Manitoba Government properties around the province.



# FLOWERS AND GRASSES OF THE MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE BUILDING

The grounds surrounding the Manitoba Legislative Building feature a selection of beautiful, easy care, and drought tolerant grasses and flowering plants. There are two main gardens; one in front of the Manitoba Legislative Building, marked on the map on the first page with an **A**, and the Queen Elizabeth II Gardens, located on the north side of Government House, east of the Legislative Building, which is marked by a **B** on the same map. Here are some of the varieties that you will find!

# CLEOME

- Native to the southwest United States, the West Indies, and parts of South America where it has traditionally been used as a food and medicinal plant.
- Often called a "spider flower" these are popular with pollinators because of their generous amount of nectar.
- There are over 170 species of Cleome in existence.
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# SILVER RAGWORT

- Also known as Dusty Miller.
  This annual features small yellow flowers but is usually grown for its attractive silver foliage.
- There are over 1,000 different species that have been identified.

#### KING TUT GRASS

- Actually an aquatic reed or sedge but once established is surprisingly tolerant of dry conditions.
- A great "thriller" choice for your garden that adds low maintenance dimension.
- In ancient Egypt, the stems were used to create a paper-like writing material called papyrus, which accounts for its Latin name —*Cyperus papyrus*.

## PURPLE FOUNTAIN GRASS

- A beautiful decorative grass features burgundy foliage and fuzzy purple-hued seed heads.
- Grows to 4ft (1m) tall and 4ft (1m) wide, so allow lots of space when planting.
- Can be propagated by seed or root division.

# 10 CANNA LILY

- This quick-growing bulb adds tropical-looking foliage and lots of height to a garden.
- The bulbs can be pulled up in the fall, stored in a cool, dry location over winter,
- and replanted for the next season.Some of the wild species can grow
- to at least 2-3 m (6.6-9.8 ft.) tall. • The roots are used as a source
- of starch for humans and animals.

# 11 SWEET POTATO VINE

- Comes by its name honestly as it is related to the edible sweet potato plant.
- Grown for its attractive leaves and vining.
  - Can be overwintered as houseplants from tubers or cut-tings.
  - The tubers can be pulled in the fall and stored in a cool and dry location for replanting in the spring.

## SALVIA

- A part of the mint (Lamiaceae) family, Salvia is related to the common sage and many other herbs used in cooking!
- Very attractive to pollinator insects while being resistant to garden pests.

## Z PETUNIA

- You will find petunias planted extensively in hanging baskets around the grounds.
- Petunias tolerate extreme heat very well.
- They come in a variety of solid and variegated colours.
- Petunias get their name from "petun", which stands for "tobacco" in Brazil and are genetically related.







The Manitoba Legislative Assembly acknowledges that the Manitoba Legislative Building is located on ancestral lands, on Treaty One territory, traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene Peoples, and on the homeland of the Metis Nation.