

PHOTO BY NIGEL LAING

#6407
White Poplar
Populus alba
Near beach café
49 16′ 18″ N, -123 11′ 32″ W

BEAT A PATH – ALL THE TREES

AN ARTIST PROJECT BY HOLLY SCHMIDT | BEATAPATH.CA/ALL-THE-TREES

EMAIL TO TREE #6407

What kind of species are you, oh great tree? Are you something we can plant for the province's assisted migration program for trees? How old are you? Do you like warm and dry summers?

— ANONYMOUS

RESPONSE FROM TREE #6407

I'm Populus Alba, but my friends call me White or Silver Poplar because of the colour of my bark and the underside of my leaves. I'm an older tree as you can tell by my height. I may reach 20-30 metres at my peak.

I like living on the beach front. Unlike some other trees, I don't mind the salt spray. I'm not so interested in migrating to other areas, I mostly like to stick to the city. But, as the climate changes, I may have to think more about where my fluffy white cottony seeds blow in the spring time. For now, the dry summers suit me fine.

I hope you're enjoying the last bit of summer too. Come visit me when the colour of my leaves change in the fall. Not to be vain, but they turn a beautiful yellow colour.

Kind regards,
Holly Schmidt on behalf of White Poplar

PART OF THE ARTIST IN COMMUNITIES PROGRAM WITH THE VANCOUVER PARK BOARD, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH WEST POINT GREY COMMUNITY CENTRE AND THE JERICHO STEWARDSHIP GROUP. THE LEGACY POSTER PROJECT AND EXHIBITION ARE SUPPORTED BY THE ROUNDHOUSE COMMUNITY ARTS & RECREATION CENTRE.