



IN THE NEWS

Krista Sylvester, As appeared in the Carstairs Courier, March 8, 2005

Gerard Fournier of the For Trees Company Ltd., was honoured with an Executive Council award for his tremendous work in getting tree trimming recognized as an industry.

Fournier was given the award from the Landscape Board of Landscape and Trades Association (LANTA) on February 4th, to recognize his work with the Calgary Civic Arbor Day, and especially for his work in getting the industry of tree trimming into the Occupational Health and Safety as an industry standard.

"As I speak to you right now I am mingling with a safety rope and equipment on a tree, and I wouldn't be where I am today if the act wasn't in the book," Fournier said. "It's a fairly important thing because if we didn't have our section, we wouldn't be able to work now."

Fournier has been involved in promoting Arbor Day for the past 16 years and would like to stress the importance of the tree industry in society and the world.

"I am a firm believer in the planting of more trees. Now is the time to do it. Arbor Day is really important in getting people to be aware of the importance of trees in our society," Fournier said.

His wife, Joelle Fournier, says she is very proud of her husband.

"It was very exciting. Gerard is so passionate about his career, to him it's not just a job. He goes above and beyond to get the industry safe so people who love to work with trees can," she said.

"He has so much passion and he is so committed!"

Fournier had also received a similar award in 1999 for his hard work in the industry.

Regarding the Health and Safety Code, Fournier says, "Somebody had to do it. We'd all be in the dark now if not. It would have been a terrible thing."

