



International Society of Arboriculture  
Prairie Chapter

# The Prairie Arborist

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## BRONCO BUCKS UP A BIG ONE

*Here's a Saskatoon poplar tree big enough to give Norm's Vancouver trees a run for their money.....*

by Keith Anderson

In April of this year Prairie Chapter member Bronco Skorupan owner operator of Super Pro Tree Experts of Saskatoon, took on the removal of an old poplar in the back yard of a city customer. The 90-100' tree boasted a DBH of 4 ½ ' and a 6' root flare. The tree had been topped 35' up at some point in its life producing sixteen, 12"-18" diameter stems of questionable structural soundness.

With no access for a bucket truck and multiple targets around including two residential power

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## “BUCKING BRONCO” CONT.

*(Continued from page 1)*

lines, fences, sheds, owners house and neighbour's houses, Bronco and his crew consisting of Eric Scott, Norm Croteau, and Jason Andres worked on the piece by piece removal for two days.

***“There was a lot of rigging involved. Each of the sixteen stems had to be climbed, chunked out and rigged, to safely bring them to the ground.”***



The weather was cold and windy making the job more difficult. We had to rig each stem piece to one of the others, which was a risk due to the tree being topped.

***“Weak stem attachment and internal decay were both possibilities”.***

The trunk pieces were so large that in order to get them out of the yard they had to be cut into quarters. The quartered pieces were still heavy enough they required two people to lift and load them.

Bronco praised the crew for their courageous work and climbing abilities both necessary ingredients required to see this nail-biting job to completion.