

TREES & FORESTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Comments on the current draft of the Tree Protection By-Law

Amber Cantell
Vice-Chair, TFAC

Size of Tree Protected

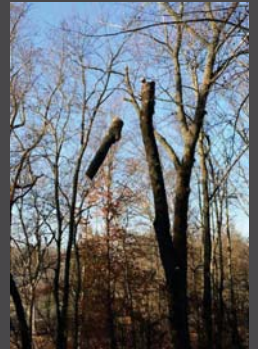
- Protecting only “large” trees:
 - Reduces **# of species** protected
 - Means “**the next generation**” of forest is not necessarily protected
 - Important that concern for these trees does not get lost in drive to save iconic trees
 - Any strategy to protect urban forest must protect trees of ALL ages
 - Best available tools to do so?
 - Also: Consideration for, education around “snags”

Size of Tree Protected

- However:
 - **# of trees protected** by bylaw increases exponentially as size limit decreases
 - Staff estimate going from **50 cm -> 20-25 cm** would equate to a **four-fold increase** in workload
 - An incremental increase may be preferable (40 cm?)
 - Increases must be met with additional resources so staff are not pulled from other important work solely to enforce by-law

Justification for Cutting

- Define: what constitutes a **hazardous tree**
- **Photos** should be provided as a part of the permit application
- Provide **checklist of what constitutes “best practice”** as part of justifying removal



Golf Courses & Cemeteries

- Question of exemption
 - Unfair competition argument
 - Trees are a valued asset argument
- Rather than providing an exemption, the **City should hold itself to the same standard as private landowners**

