

Ottawa Forests and Greenspace Advisory Committee
Presentation to Planning and Environment Committee

13 June 2006

Agenda item 3: Harmonization – Municipal Trees and Natural Areas Bylaw

The Trees and Municipal Natural Areas Bylaw signifies important progress towards the protection of the City of Ottawa's trees. It is an excellent step forward.

The bylaw is aimed specifically at the protection of trees that are on City property – giving the city the tool it needs to protect its trees from vandalism, misuse and abuse. It also protects the City's own greenspaces. For instance, it regulates the lighting of fires and other negative activities on City land.

This is an important step towards saving our forests and greenspaces. Several of the former municipalities had bylaws that protected municipal trees and it is not welcome that all municipal trees in the new city will be protected. We will look to you to ensure that sufficient resources are directed to enforcement where it is needed.

OFGAC strongly recommends to Planning and Environment Committee members that they support this bylaw. We will be carrying the same message to Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee on June 22

Iola Price
Chair
Ottawa Forests and Greenspace Advisory Committee