

MAKING CITIES RESILIENT

NOVEMBER 14TH, 2019



- 8:15 Registration opens, networking and light breakfast
- 8:55 **Land acknowledgement**
- 9:00 **Opening remarks**
Peter Wyneczuk, OUFC & Celia Johnstone, Tree Canada
- 9:15 ***Minjimendan* Indigenous foods garden**
Mathieu Schvester, rare Charitable Research Reserve
- 9:45 **Urban forestry and human health: developing municipal shade policies**
George Thomas Kapelos, Ryerson University
- 10:15 Break and networking
- 10:35 **Let the trees do it**
Mayor Rob Burton, Town of Oakville
- 11:05 **Keynote Presentation: Building resilient ecosystems for urban sustainability**
Dr. Christian Messier, University of Quebec (Update: Remote presentation)
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:20 **Outdoor presentation - resilient urban ecosystems**
Nomar Jose Rubio Lazo, Certified Arborist
- 13:10 **National Context - Urban forest practices across Canada**
Michael Rosen, Tree Canada
- 13:55 **Special presentation from Tree Canada to the Jorgensen family and the OUFC**
- 14:05 **Introducing Danielle St-Aubin, Tree Canada's new Chief Executive Officer**
- 14:20 Break and networking
- 14:30 **Engaging communities in tree planting and sustainable neighbourhoods**
Tooba Shakeel, Credit Valley Conservation Authority
- 15:00 **Building organizational resiliency - new initiatives of the OUFC**
Janani Sivarajah and Jackie Hamilton, OUFC
- 15:10 **Solution room - Collaborative effort to solving current urban forestry problems**
Sadia Butt and John Barker, OUFC
- 16:00 **Concluding remarks**
Dr. Justin Gaudon, OUFC
- 16:10 OUFC Annual General Meeting. All welcome (only members may vote)

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Speaker Bios

Nomar Jose Rubio Lazo is affectionately known as Jose the arborist. Jose is a Toronto-based specialist in urban arboriculture who consults all over the world. His innovative approach to ravine rejuvenation has developed into a stewardship model that is flexible to what the forest offers and the evolving needs and circumstances that present in the ecosystem during the process. Today he will share his views as an arborist on the challenges and opportunities faced for resilient urban ecosystems.

George Thomas Kapelos FRAIC is an architect and planner and Professor of Architecture at Ryerson University. A native of London Ontario, he studied architecture and urbanism at Princeton University, and received graduate degrees in city planning from Harvard's Graduate School of Design and architecture from Yale University. He has taught in planning, landscape architecture and architecture programs in lecture and studio courses at the graduate and undergraduate levels at Columbia University, the University of Toronto and Ryerson. As the Chair of Ryerson's Department of Architectural Science (2002 – 2007) he oversaw significant revisions to the undergraduate curriculum and the introduction of two new graduate programs, contributing significantly to Ryerson's academic expansion. George has undertaken investigations in architectural history, design pedagogy, urbanism and contemporary issues of environmental design and is widely published in public health, architecture and planning journals. Research extends from health and public design in the built environment to explorations of modernity and national identity in Canadian and global contexts. In 2015, his collaborative studio *An Architecture of Civility* examined ways to create places for civic engagement in Toronto. Canada's professional associations in architecture, landscape and planning jointly awarded this project a national urban design award. He sits on the Board of the Ontario Heritage Trust and is a contributing author to the newly released book *Canadian Modern Architecture 1967 to the Present*. As Chair of the Ultraviolet Radiation Working Group of the Toronto Cancer Prevention Coalition he actively promotes shade design for preventing skin cancer and mitigating global warming.

Dr. Christian Messier is a professor of Forest Ecology and Urban Forestry and scientific director at ISFORT at the University of Quebec, in Canada (UQO and UQAM). He obtained his PhD from the University of British Columbia (UBC) in 1991 and did a Post-doc at the University of Helsinki in Finland in 1991/1992. His research interests are wide, ranging from the basic understanding of tree growth and death, forest community and ecosystem functioning to decision-making tools to better manage and conserve natural and urban forests. In 2005, he started an ambitious research project to manage a large forest unit (850 000 ha) based on the principle of functional zoning (TRIAD) in central Quebec, Canada. He has established a world-wide network of diversity experimental tree plantation (IDENT) to study the relationships between tree diversity and ecosystem functioning with sites in Canada, USA, Germany and Italy. He has published more than 300 referee papers, reports, book chapters and books. He holds an industrial-NSERC research Chair on tree growth since 2010 and a Canada Research Chair on the resilience of managed forest to global change since 2017.


Mathieu Schvester is the Indigenous Gardens Intern at the rare Charitable Research Reserve. Mat works in the Indigenous foods garden, Minjimendan (In a state of remembering - minjimendan.com), founded by Dr. Andrew Judge. Minjimendan is dedicated to helping the community remember their role in restoring the vitality of Earth.



Tooba Shakeel is an ISA certified arborist and holds a Master of Science from University of Toronto where she contributed original research to the fields of urban forestry and urban planning. She's the Sustainable Neighbourhoods Coordinator at Credit Valley Conservation (CVC). She uses best available science and leverages the collective knowledge and expertise of local community members and stakeholders to develop and implement neighbourhood-based climate action plans. Her background includes working in 13 GTA municipalities engaging over 15,000 people from diverse communities to grow urban forests, increase biodiversity, restore natural areas and fight climate change.

Mayor Rob Burton works to control growth, keep debt and taxes low, protect green space and the environment, and develop more community facilities to meet the needs of the community. Before public office, Mayor Burton had a successful career as a director and producer in journalism, film, and television. He is best known for starting YTV, Canada's youth-oriented television network. During his time in office, Mayor Burton has led initiatives that protect the built and natural heritage and environment in Halton and Oakville, as well as the community's health, safety, and wellbeing. These include the municipal greenbelts known as the Oakville and Halton Natural Heritage Systems, the Town Energy Management Plan, the Health Protection Air Quality By-law, the Official Plans Livable Oakville and Sustainable Halton, the Halton Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan, as well as the Emerald Ash Borer Management Program, the Oakville Climate Change Adaptation Plan, and the North Oakville Urban Forest Strategic Management Plan. Mayor Burton chairs the Municipal Leaders for the Greenbelt. Environmental Defence Canada calls Mayor Burton the greenest mayor in Canada. Mayor Burton is also a member of the Compact of Mayors and chairs Halton Region's Police Services Board and Health and Social Services Standing Committee, the Ontario Auto Mayors and the Canadian Nuclear Technology Mayors Association. He serves on the boards of Halton Healthcare Services, Halton Community Housing Corporation, Oakville Enterprises Corporation, Oakville Municipal Development Corporation, and the Oakville Downtown BIA. He is an avid supporter of local sports, arts and charitable organizations across Oakville. Mayor Burton and his wife Wendy have called Oakville home since 1994. They have three grown children.

Michael Rosen is President of Tree Canada leading its transition to private sector support in 2007 and successfully advocating for a National Tree Day for Canada in 2011. With over 30 years of experience, Michael leads Tree Canada in stakeholder relations, securing partnerships, governance and program management. Previously, he was a Stewardship Coordinator and Forester with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources where he assisted landowners, managed the York Regional and Simcoe County Forests and helped revise provincial tree legislation. He serves on the Boards of a number of organizations and presents and writes on urban forests, carbon and trees, and forest history. A Registered Professional Forester (R.P.F.) in Ontario he has a B.A. in History from Trent University, a B.Sc.F. from the University of Toronto, a Diploma from the Ontario Advanced Forestry Program from U of T and Lakehead University and has participated in training programs with the Institute of Corporate Directors and the Canadian Society of Association Executives.



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