

From: Julie Tucker <

Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 3:26 PM

To: cityclerks <cityclerks@barrie.ca>

Cc: Kevin Rankin <Kevin.Rankin@barrie.ca>; Matt Logan <

>; Mark Graves

Subject: Written comment submission for April 5th committee Meeting re: Staff report OPR001-23

Good afternoon,

I wish to submit the attached letter addressed to the the honourable Mayor Nuttall & Council members in regards to the Staff Report **OPR001-23** concerning the PRIVATE TREE BY-LAW AND ECOLOGICAL OFFSETTING REVIEW that will be discussed at the General Committee meeting **Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.** and further; formally request to have a representative from each mentioned organization attend as a delegate to speak on behalf of this matter at the upcoming **April 19th** Council meeting.

Please see the attached letter for further details on the matter,

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or the identified representatives in the letter.

Sincerely,

Julie Tucker

Executive Director

ISA Ontario

www.isaontario.com

See attached correspondence



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE ONTARIO (ISAO)
7856 FIFTH LINE SOUTH, MILTON, ON L9T 2X8
1-888-463-2316
www.isaontario.com

April 4th, 2023

RE: Staff Report **OPR001-23** concerning the **PRIVATE TREE BY-LAW AND ECOLOGICAL OFFSETTING REVIEW** that will be discussed at the General Committee meeting **Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.**

Dear Honourable Mayor Nuttall and Council Members,

On behalf of the Ontario Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISAO) and the Ontario Commercial Arborist Association (OCAA), we are reaching out to you to raise awareness and express our collective concern as it relates to the restrictions of some of the language included in the proposed Private Tree Bylaw. The ISAO is an arborist industry organization representing over 1100 arborist in Ontario and manages an international certification program for arborist across the world; and the OCAA is a provincial organization that represents the Commercial Arborists within Ontario. We would like to express our concerns for the current omission of the allowance of Certified Arborist and specifically ISA Certified Arborists to submit the reports accompanied to applications as it is not in alignment with current industry practices and will create loss of income and jobs to local qualified tree care companies. In particular, section 5(c) states:

“Where a permit is required under this bylaw: [...]”

c) Every application shall be accompanied by a report from either:

(i) a Landscape Architect or Registered Professional Forester providing such information with respect to the property as may be specified in Schedule “A” and certifying that the injury or destruction of tree(s) is required to permit the establishment or extension of a use permitted by the Zoning By-law and there is no reasonable alternative to the injury or destruction of the tree(s); OR

(ii) a Registered Professional Forester providing such information with respect to the woodlot as may be specified in Schedule “A” and, if applicable, certifying that the proposed injury to or destruction of the tree(s) is in accordance with good forestry practices.

ISA Certified Arborists have the specific training, knowledge, and experience to complete arborist reports and preservation plans in regard to individual trees or trees within the urban

forest. This is the current practice for most municipalities in Southern Ontario, and it is also in alignment with the Professional Foresters Act, 2000 and its Regulation 145/01 (section 3 (4)).

Not including the term "Certified Arborist" within section 5 (c)(i) will result in the loss of work and income to local, professional, and qualified Arborist companies who manage and complete work on private properties in the urban forest.

Please let us know if you have any questions on this matter and further; ISA Ontario and OCAA would like to **formally request** to each have a representative delegate speak on behalf of this matter at the upcoming **April 19th** Council meeting.

We feel that this is an urgent matter that not only affects the City of Barrie, but it will affect the larger arboriculture industry and would appreciate a response and would be available to answer further questions.

Respectfully,



Matthew Logan
ISA Ontario President



Mark Graves
OCAA President

From: Johnny Corner>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 7:53 PM
To: Wendy Cooke <Wendy.Cooke@barrie.ca>
Subject: Re: City of Barrie Private Tree By Law

Hey Wendy

I also would like to request to speak to council as well upon Amy Courser request.

Hello

I would like to thank you for your time and consideration; this email pertains to the most recent documentation that was sent out in regards to the City of Barrie PRIVATE TREE BY-LAW AND ECOLOGICAL OFFSETTING REVIEW.

There are a few concerns with this by law we would like to bring to your attention, the first you will find within the documentation on pages 16/17 which states....

"(c) Every application shall be accompanied by a report from either: (i) a Landscape Architect or Registered Professional Forester providing such information with respect to the property as may be specified in Schedule "A" and certifying that the injury or destruction of tree(s) is required to permit the establishment or extension of a use permitted by the Zoning By-law and there is no reasonable alternative to the injury or destruction of the tree(s); OR
(ii) a Registered Professional Forester providing such information with respect to the woodlot as may be specified in Schedule "A" and, if applicable, certifying that the proposed injury to or destruction of the tree(s) is in accordance with good forestry practices."

This outlines those who are considered qualified to conduct reports for the tree preservation by law, but it does not include fully educated, ISA Certified Arborists. ISA Certified Arborists set the basic standard for all other tree by laws in the GTA and are considered competent and trained to complete these reports. ISA Certification is not only a standard that should be included in the by law details, but is a standard that has been accepted up to this point by the City of Barrie in situations where an arborist report is needed. (Example, 39 Wilde Place in Barrie had a large silver maple tree on private property. The city was looking to do work beside this large tree that would result in damaging a large amount of its root system. We completed an arborist report for this tree outlining the protection zone and how it would result in significant damage to the tree. The customer filed the arborist report to the city and they suspended the work on the sidewalk as a result of the report protecting the tree.) There needs to be consideration including ISA Certified Arborists as qualified professionals to issue reports for the proposed tree by law.

Along with this amendment I would also encourage the city to consider alternatives to requiring a permit to remove private trees. Though the point is to discourage the unnecessary removal of trees by increasing the cost, it does not actually stop or prevent the removal of trees, it simply makes Barrie residents incur higher costs for the work being done. Even more, it does not promote the planting of more trees to grow our canopy coverage. The largest contributor to tree removals in our area is urban development. Private tree removals are not the main reason for canopy coverage decline. Most trees being removed by private homeowners have some level of risk to them or their property due to dead, diseased, or even poor location of tree & species type that may result in failure. Increasing the costs, especially in the current economic

climate, increased the chances of dangerous trees remaining simply because people cannot afford to have them removed, resulting in property damage or injury. When I write this, I think of my elderly clients who I already discount the work as much as I can - they simply won't do it, and then they'll have a bigger mess on their hands.

Additionally, regulating this tree by law will be very expensive for the city in hiring those who can oversee the program. It will also require the city to pay for new systems to be created in order to start the by law where I believe that it can be controlled within the systems & by laws the city already has. For example the current by law on trees the city states...

"Barrie has had a private tree by-law in place since 1990 that regulates the removal or injury of any tree on private property that is part of a woodlot that is ½ acre (0.2 hectares) in size or larger. Tree removals are regulated through mandatory Tree Removal Permits."

The cheapest and easiest way to save our tree canopy is through this by law and prioritizing the protection of large native trees on lots where it seems fit. For example, if there is a construction project being done and it has trees that are greater than 40 cm dbh, only allow permits to be rewarded if all steps have been taken to protect the large species tree on the lot even if it means that the projected location and so on needs to be adjusted in order to protect the greatest amount of trees, or have a specified level of canopy that needs to be protected for these large construction projects. This would have the greatest ecological impact on our overall tree canopy coverage, and does not create a situation like that of the proposed bylaw that could discourage Barrie residents from removing trees that are unsafe.

Additionally, the city of Barrie proposals are also not inline with those GTA cities that already have by laws from a monetary perspective. The compensation requirement of \$500 is one of the highest compensation requirements in the GTA. City of Toronto is \$398.95, or the city of Newmarket is \$300.

Now with this being said does this mean we do nothing. Absolutely not! But the city can take a more positive position and promote tree plantings.

<https://www.hamilton.ca/home-neighbourhood/house-home/gardens-trees/street-tree-planting-program>

The link attached will take you to the City of Hamilton Planting program. The City of Hamilton does not have tree permit requirements for removals but are growing their canopy coverage by encouraging tree planting through free tree programs (they essentially budget out a certain number of trees, allow residents to apply, pick from the options provided, and pick up their tree to plant themselves, free of charge). These would not only be beneficial by increasing our tree canopy for the short term but for the very long term as well. Our current canopy growth plan involves the city tendering out large tree planting contracts, essentially to the lowest bidder, who then is so pressed financially that they cannot afford to invest the time to properly plant our city trees. We've had our street replanted recently and it was all done improperly; the trees are still inside their basket and wrapped in burlap planted in the ground, with improper mulching techniques and planting depth - these will all die within 5 years. However, if you get residents who want a tree and are willing to go pick one up simply because it's free, you already get people who are willing and invested to take the time to plant it properly and care for it - all you have to pay for are the trees, and provide planting instructions! This would get more trees in the ground that will have longevity and a greater impact and compensation to tree removals then the proposed permitting process.

We have also seen this work. We offer a free tree program through our business. We began with giving every customer that removed a tree another tree to plant on their property to encourage tree planting and educate people on the importance of trees. Currently we donate free trees to local public schools twice a year, encouraging kids to plant trees and showing them how to do it right. We have found from experience with proper education and getting people to participate, we see that not only do people plant more but they also take care of their tree, AND that people are more likely to find a way to care for the existing trees on their property instead of removing them.

At the end of the day if people want to remove their trees it doesn't matter how much you make it cost, people will still remove them - and just be more upset with their city councillors for the added expense! Whereas providing a free tree to someone makes them appreciative of the program. People want to have the freedom to do what they want with their property, so if you truly care about the environment and the city's green space as I believe you do, please consider a different approach that would make a positive difference on our canopy coverage, and that is cheaper for residents as well as the city.

If you have any questions dont hesitate to contact me

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Johnny Corner
ISA Certified Arborist ON-2602A
Owner/Operator
Northshore Tree Experts Inc.

Good Afternoon

I would like to request approval to do a Deputation at the upcoming Wed Apr 19th Council Meeting with regard to Staff Report OPR001-23.

I have a copy of the amendments that were made to the original report, if there are anymore I should be aware of in advance please let me know.

I require anything further let me know.

Sincerely

Cathy Colebatch

From: City of Barrie <no-reply@barrie.ca>
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2023 4:27 PM
To: cityclerks <cityclerks@barrie.ca>
Subject: Webform submission from: Deputation Request

Submitted on Mon, 04/17/2023 - 16:27

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted from: <https://www.barrie.ca/form/deputation-request>

Submitted values are:

Council Meeting Date:

Wed, 04/19/2023 - 00:00

General Committee Motion Number:

Motion 23-G-082

Subject:

Dep 8.1 - Deputations regarding motion 23-G-082, the Private Tree By-law and Ecological Offsetting Review

Name of Person to Appear:

Karen Hansen

Email Address:

Phone:

Name of Group or Person(s) Being Represented (if applicable):

Crisdawn Construction Inc.

Brief Statement of Purpose of Deputation:

1. Crisdawn Construction is the owner of a number of lands in the City of Barrie, including lands known municipally as 1001 Essa Road, a triangular-shaped site, approximately 71 acres in size, and located at the southeast corner of Salem Road and Highway 27 with frontage along Essa Road.
2. The site was operated by the County of Simcoe as a plantation and has continued to be operated as a plantation since its purchase by Crisdawn.
3. The site is zoned Agricultural pursuant to the Innisfil Zoning By-law No. 054-04 (per the City of Barrie's Zoning By-law 2009-141 Map (Full City)).

4. While the lands are contemplated to be developed in the future, Crisdawn seeks to farm the lands for cash crops in the interim.

5. Crisdawn requests the following change to the proposed tree by-law prior to adoption:

A. Add a new exemption to Section 4 of the proposed by-law:

“The injury or destruction of trees on the lands municipally known as 1001 Essa Road [Part 1, 2 & 3 on Plan 51R-35523], being a cultural plantation. For clarity, Ecological Offsetting Fees do not apply to the injury or destruction of trees on these lands.”

B. As a clerical matter, we think the first line under Section 4 of the proposed by-law should refer to “paragraphs 2 and 3”, not “paragraphs 3 and 4”.

6. The requested additional exemption is consistent with the existing LSRCA and NVCA policies on ecological offsetting which exempt plantations from payment of an ecological offsetting fee.

7. In this regard, see s. 3.2.2.1 of LSRCA offsetting policy where it states:

... Ecological offsetting will also not be required for woodlands that are plantations managed for the production of fruits, nuts, Christmas trees, nursery stock or tree products or for woodlands identified smaller than 0.5 ha...

8. See also s. 2.3 of the NVCA offsetting policy.

9. Thank you very much for considering this request. We look forward to the opportunity to address Council. Mr. Paul Neals, Orion Environmental Solutions Inc., will also be available to address Council/answer any questions as required.

Letter Submitted with Request:

No