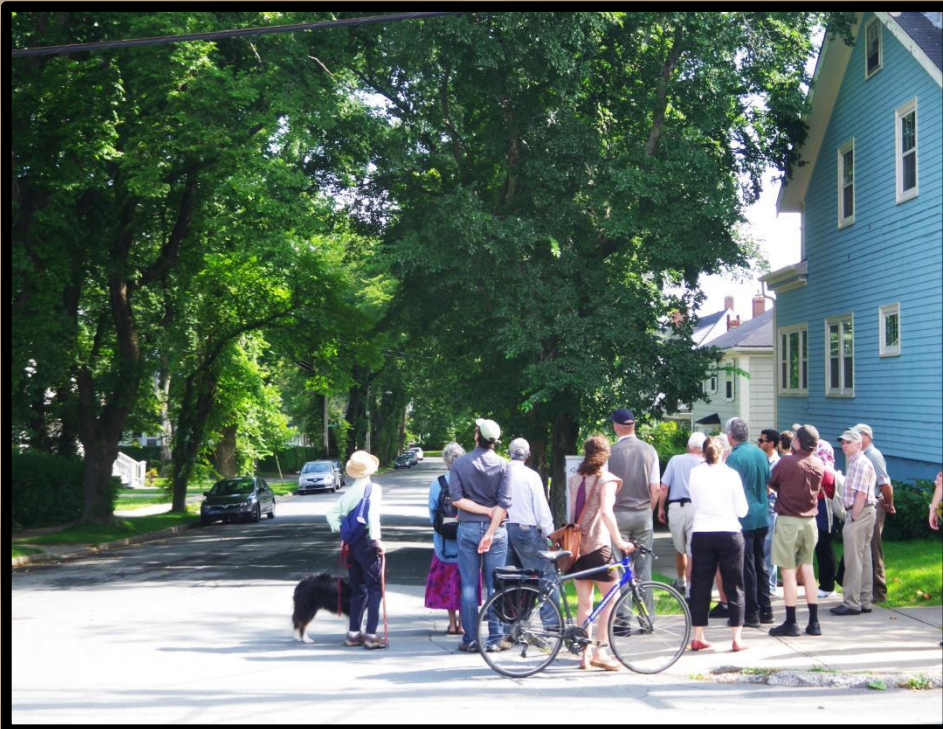


Governance and Urban Forests in Canada: Roles of Non-Government Organisations



**Peter Duinker
Dalhousie University,
Halifax, Canada
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Agenda:

- **Urban forests – a Canadian view**
- **Conceptions of and issues with governance for urban forests**
- **Roles of key players in UF programs**
- **Methods**
- **Cases**
 - LEAF in Toronto
 - Clean NS Foundation in Halifax
 - Dalhousie University in Halifax
- **Roles of NGOs**
- **Conclusions**



Urban Forests: A Canadian View



Urban Forests: A Canadian View



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Urban Forests: A Canadian View



Urban Forests: A Canadian View



What is Governance?

- **Tacconi, 2011:**
 - the formal and informal institutions, rules, mechanisms and processes of collective decision-making that enable stakeholders to influence and coordinate their interdependent needs and interests and their interactions with the environment at the relevant scales
- **George Hoberg, 2008 (pers. comm.)**
 - who makes which decisions about what, and how

Issues with Governance

- **Changing role of government**
 - **Governance by government**
 - **Governance with government**
 - **Governance without government**
- **Openness**
 - **Who has power and influence?**
 - **Old forest-sector model – government, industry, academics, profession**
 - **New forest-sector model – these plus many more**

The Lawrence et al. (2013) descriptive framework

Table 2
The urban forest governance framework as a research tool

Variable	Summary information for comparative table	Further options and details to include in narrative
Case	The name of the case	
Type	A label to distinguish between a single project, a programme, a plan, a network, etc.	The governance model may be described (e.g. community managed woodland; local authority team)
Scale	Neighbourhood, city, region, nation	
Context		
Trees, forests	Street trees, woodlands, parks. Area if possible	Description of landscape, quality and history of woodlands
People	Size of catchment population	Ethnic diversity, culture, and demographics
Institutional framework		
Policies	National, regional or local policies, plans and programmes that affect urban forestry	Relevant detail about the policies, plans and programmes
Planning and regulations	Planning and legal requirements specific to the case, and which affect the implementation of urban forestry in the area	Relevant past policies, plans and programmes The wider context e.g. national forestry regulations, and spatial planning systems, can be described if relevant (e.g. if the purpose is to compare between different national contexts)
Ownership	Of the land; any changes to ownership required to implement the programme and how that is achieved	e.g. historical change; owner types
Access and use rights	Rights to walk/cycle and/or make use of products from the urban forest	e.g. historical context; campaigns to change rights
Actors and coalitions		
Primary stakeholders	List of those who are active in developing and implementing the work	The roles of the primary actors can be described here.
Others stakeholders	List of additional stakeholders with an interest or influence, or who use the outcomes	Additional information on the stakeholders and their role can be added
Partnerships	Formal connections between organisations to help deliver the urban forest	Description of the partnership and the roles of the partners
Power analysis	Amongst the actors and stakeholders, who makes decisions? Who gets what they want, who does not? Is this through influence, democratic processes, campaigning?	This section has potential for detailed theoretical work not easily summarised in few words in the table. The description of conflict for example may require in-depth qualitative research. The decision to include such work will depend on the aims of the study
Resources		
Funding	Grants received, taxes, trading	When appropriate, amount and type of funding can be described
Knowledge and information	How technical information (such as tree species composition) is provided and accessed, whose knowledge is available and used in making management decisions	References to technical guidelines or design/management types can be added. Discuss balance of expert, lay and local knowledge
Delivery mechanisms	Policy tools that support implementation, e.g. incentives, grants offered, projects, staff	Details on tools mobilised can be described
Processes		
Discourses	The main various relevant narratives, perspectives, conflicts, framing in the media, described concisely	Describe narratives, conflicts and framing relevant to the description of the governance process
Participation, engagement and conflict management	Ways in which actors and stakeholders are consulted, engaged, involved and empowered, in decisions and delivery. Conflict management processes	
Monitoring and evaluation	Ways in which the work is monitored: contribution to transparency and accountability?	References to online reports

Main Actors: Governments - Canada

- **Invasive alien species** (Can Food Inspection Agency)
 - Brown spruce longhorned beetle
 - Emerald ash borer
- **Land**
 - Military bases
 - Office complexes
 - National parks and historic sites
 - Experimental farms (e.g., Charlottetown, Ottawa)
- **Disaster assistance**



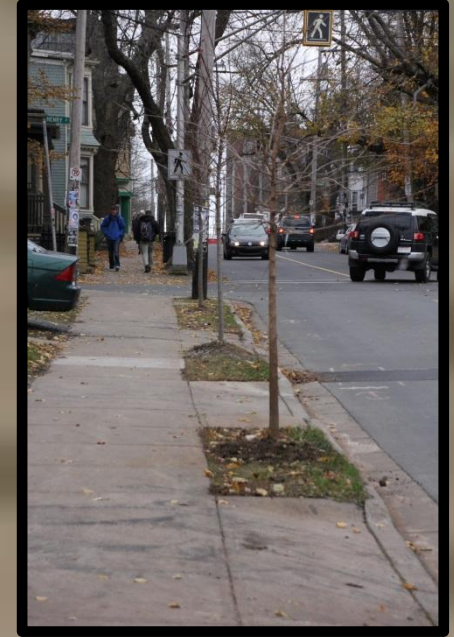
Main Actors: Governments - provs



- Land
 - Office complexes
 - Provincial parks, institutional buildings (museums)
- Enabling legislation for municipal tree bylaws
- Forest health (e.g. Manitoba)
- Disaster assistance

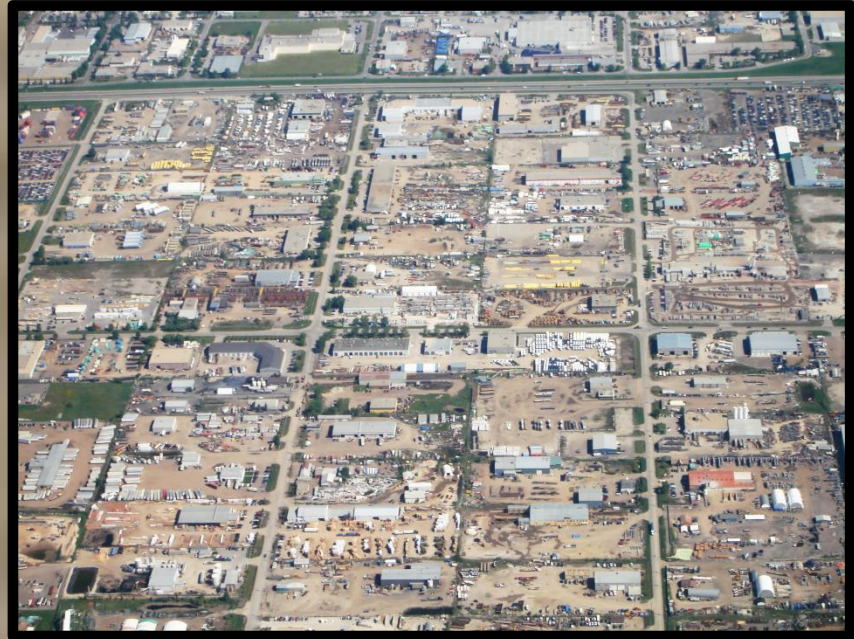
Main Actors: Governments - municipal

- Land
 - Parks
 - Office complexes
 - Streets
- Tree regulation
 - Land use
 - Tree bylaw
 - Development agreements
- Citizen support, education, engagement, etc.



Main Actors: Businesses

- Land
 - Office complexes
 - Commercial parks
 - Industrial parks
 - Subdivision development
- Tree supply
 - Nurseries
- Tree services



Main Actors: citizens



- Land
 - Homes
- Voting in elections
- Advocacy
- Volunteering

Main Actors: NGOs

- Land
 - Universities
- Advocacy
 - Quiet vs. in-your-face
- Education, outreach and stewardship
- Research and other knowledge services
- Fetching philanthropic and other funds
- Volunteer initiatives



Premise of the paper

- . . . “that NGOs are critical players in assisting municipal administrations to engage the citizenry, most notably in education and stewardship programming and implementation”



Methods

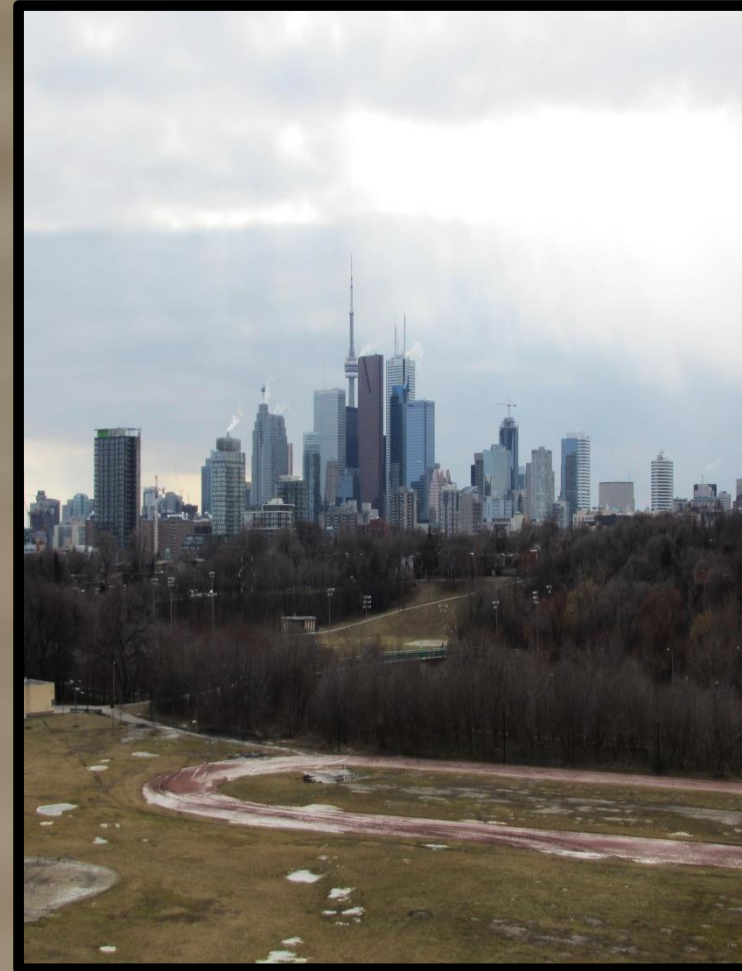
- **Literature review**
- **Personal knowledge and experience**
- **Case accounts**
- **Comparative analysis**

Cases

- **LEAF in Toronto**
- **Clean NS Foundation in Halifax**
- **Dalhousie University in Halifax**
 - Land owner
 - Agent of knowledge

Case - LEAF in Toronto

- **Since 1996**
- **Early Programs**
 - Seedling dist'n for residential properties
- **Present Programs**
 - Same, but expanded reach
 - Outreach, education, capacity-building, EAB
- **Future Programs**
 - Expanded partnerships for continued work
- **Influence on UF Governance**
 - Drawing citizenry into closer relationship with and greater understanding of trees in the city



Case – Clean NS Foundation in Halifax



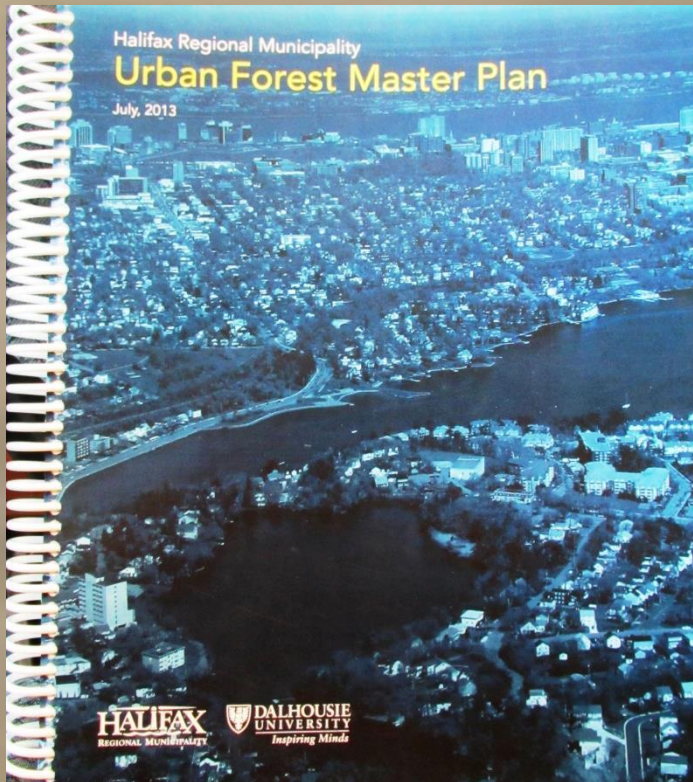
- **Since 1988**
- **Early Programs**
 - waste
- **Present Programs**
 - Climate change, energy, community engagement, water, waste, transportation, youth education
- **Future Programs**
 - Urban forests!
- **Influence on UF Governance**
 - nascent

Case – Dalhousie Univ as Landowner

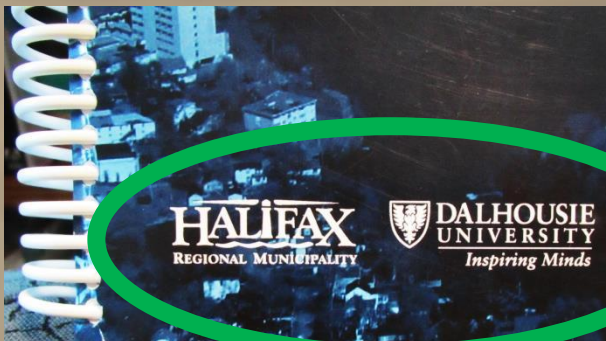
- **Since 1818**
- **Early Programs**
 - Trees around campus, but no plan
- **Present Programs**
 - Campus Environment Plan, trees a key element
- **Future Programs**
 - More trees, naturalization, learning
- **Influence on UF Governance**
 - Little (some negative)



Case – Dalhousie as Knowledge Agent



- Since 2003 on UFs, in earnest
- Early Programs
 - Solo participation, Point Pleasant Park Rehabilitation Task Force
 - Solo participation, PPP Comprehensive Plan
 - Team participation, HRM Urban Forest Master Plan
- Present Programs
 - Team participation, UFMP implementation
- Future Programs
 - More UFMP implementation, research & monitoring
- Influence on UF Governance
 - substantial



Halifax NGOs attentive to Urban Forests

Role	Clean Foundation (CNS)	Dalhousie University
Land	None	30 ha in Halifax; 1000 trees; terrible UF
Advocacy	Mostly quiet but plentiful	Mostly quiet
Education, outreach	Huge amount in practical programs	Huge amount in scholarly programs
Research and knowledge services	Some (could be lots)	Huge amount
Funds for UF work	Huge, for practical work	Substantial, for knowledge-related work
Volunteer initiatives	Huge	Some

Conclusions

- **Governance of natural resources and ecosystems can be extremely complex, the complexity depending on many factors including:**
 - **Ownership patterns – rights and responsibilities**
 - **Fragmentation**
 - **Definition of the resource**
- **NGOs are key participants in UF governance, and key contributors to UF sustainability**
- **If a town or city has no UF NGO(s), the municipal administration should encourage its/their formation**

