



# Uphold Ottawa's by-law to protect trees on public land

**OUR PROPOSITION: FORESTRY SERVICES NEEDS TO DO A BETTER JOB OF ENSURING THAT CONTRACTORS WORKING ON CITY PROJECTS, AS WELL AS BUILDERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS, PROTECT PUBLIC TREES DURING HOME CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATIONS, INFILL DEVELOPMENTS, AND ROAD REPAIRS.**

Ottawa's builders and property owners routinely ignore or are unaware of the conditions for protection of trees outlined in the by-law.

The City of Ottawa's website has information for contractors doing city jobs, and for utilities digging to install new services.

Even so, crews often wrap yellow tape around a tree trunk to show they have "protected" it. Too often, the public has to call 3-1-1 to report that a tree on City property is being damaged due to poor practices. The City, through Forestry Services, needs to provide training and information that actually has an impact on day-to-day practices.

In Saskatoon, SK, this tree on city land has a fence around it. The poster on the tree shows how the root zone must be protected from debris or machinery and how fencing must extend to the drip line of the tree's crown. The poster also provides space to note the tree's dollar value. It is a tree on public land.

