



Canadian Urban Forest Conference

Growing cities while
growing urban forests

An aerial photograph of a city street, likely in Québec City, showing a mix of residential and commercial buildings, lush green trees lining the sidewalks, and a clear blue sky in the background. The street runs diagonally from the bottom left towards the top right.

**Turning
knowledge
into action for
greener cities**

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Individual and Poster Presentations

October 13–16, 2026

Québec City Convention Centre



Tree Canada
Arbres Canada



October 13–16, 2026

Québec City Welcomes You

Growing Cities While Growing Urban Forests

In the heart of beautiful Québec City — a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its charm and cultural richness — the 2026 CUFC will focus on the theme of sustainable urban forest growth and resilient communities.



A Nationwide Event

The [Canadian Urban Forest Conference](#) (CUFC) brings together leading voices in urban forestry from across the country to share knowledge, spark collaboration, and advance the future of Canada's urban forests.

Held every two years in different cities, this national event – an initiative of Tree Canada – serves as a platform for professionals, academics, municipalities, and community groups to explore innovative policies, practices, research and technologies in the field of urban forestry.

As our cities continue to grow and densify in response to shifting demographics and development pressures, the need to protect, expand, and integrate urban forests into our urban environments has never been more urgent.

This conference offers the ideal setting to gather, reflect, and take action. The theme will guide critical discussions on how urban growth can align with ecological integrity, climate adaptation, equity, and community well-being. Participants will engage in interdisciplinary dialogue and practical exchanges that spotlight innovative strategies, policies, and partnerships to support greener, healthier urban futures.

Beyond the sessions, CUFC 2026 is a space to build lasting partnerships, network with new and familiar colleagues, and contribute to the collective advancement of urban forestry in Canada.

Tree Canada and the City of Québec invite proposals from urban forest practitioners, researchers, and policymakers working across cities, towns, and communities. Submissions should address one or more of the conference subthemes and contribute to our shared understanding of how urban forests can thrive amid rapid change.

Conference subthemes

1. Planning, design and urban integration

- Integrating urban forests into land use and city planning
- Green and blue infrastructure in compact and densifying cities
- Urban design strategies that support canopy growth and connectivity
- Sustainable and active transportation systems as part of urban greening networks

2. Climate resilience, ecological integrity, and health

- Urban forests and soils as climate solutions: heat mitigation, stormwater management, carbon sequestration
- Biodiversity in cities
- Species selection and managing invasive threats

3. Equity, access and community engagement

- Tree equity and environmental justice
- Indigenous and community-led greening, consultation, and stewardship
- Ensuring inclusive access to green space and decision-making processes
- Edible forests and food security

4. Policy, governance and funding

- Municipal and regional policies for urban forest growth, planning, and equitable community engagement
- Cross-sector collaboration: public, private, academic, and community partnerships
- Sustainable funding and long-term maintenance strategies

5. Innovation, technology and impact measurement

- Digital and AI tools for urban forest mapping and management
- Smart city integration and data-driven planning
- Monitoring and evaluating social, ecological, and economic outcomes
- Novel approaches and tools for tree management, integration, and preservation in cities

Proposal Submission

Tree Canada and the City of Québec are currently seeking abstracts and proposals for three session types. Submissions should address one or more of the conference subthemes and contribute to our shared understanding of how urban forests can thrive amid rapid change. **Submissions for all presentation types must include a 250-word abstract.**

1. Individual Presentation (20 minutes)

An individual presentation allows a single presenter to share original research, practical or theoretical insights. Presenters have 20 minutes to deliver their talk, followed by a brief Q&A session. This format is best suited for well-developed projects or detailed case studies that benefit from in-depth explanation and audience discussion.

2. Lightning Talk (3–5 minutes)

Lightning talks are short, focused presentations designed to share key ideas, emerging projects, or provocative questions in a concise format. Each presenter has 3-5 minutes with no extended Q&A. This format encourages creativity and clear communication, making it ideal for early-stage work, innovative concepts, or calls for collaboration. These talks will be grouped together at the discretion of the Scientific Program Committee.

3. Poster Presentation

Poster presentations provide an opportunity to visually showcase research, programs, or projects through a printed or digital poster. Presenters display their work during a designated poster session, engaging directly with attendees for discussion and feedback.

Specifications: Posters should be no larger than 91 cm x 122 cm (landscape or portrait), and include a clear title, author information, concise text, visuals/graphs, and contact details. Posters will be displayed in a designated area during the conference.

Important: Authors of selected posters will be expected to attend a designated **poster presentation session on Thursday, October 15th, 2026.**

The deadline for all submissions is Saturday, February 28th, 2026.

Submit your proposal