

## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Key recommendations from this report have been prioritized for implementation within the next 20 years. Priority A recommendations are to be implemented with the short-term (1 – 5 years), Priority B within the mid-term (6-10 years) and Priority C within the long-term (10-20 years).

Number	Priority A Recommendations	Page
Rec 2	Promote and raise community awareness of the services and benefits provided by the urban forest	5
Rec 4	Review and update the Urban Forest Strategy every five years	8
Rec 5	Evaluate the City's performance based upon accepted ecological, community and management based criteria and performance indicators every five years	13
Rec 8	Identify priority areas for maintaining and establishing tree canopy cover on public land	18
Rec 9	Educate the public on canopy cover targets and encourage tree retention, maintenance and planting on private lands	18
Rec 10	Review targets for cover every five years	18
Rec 11	The current tree inventory must be updated as new trees are planted and following regular street/park tree inspections	22
Rec 12	Promote care, health and longevity of street/park trees	22
Rec 13	Increase the number of street/park trees and species diversity	22
Rec 15	Improve aesthetic values of street/park trees	22
Rec 16	Establish a street tree plan that can adapt to future climate change scenarios	22
Rec 17	Develop a park management plan for each park that considers tree planting and maintenance	22
Rec 18	Adopt a Tree Bylaw to regulate tree cutting on private land	23
Rec 19	Develop policy encouraging land developers to retain existing trees and/or replant new trees	23
Rec 20	Introduce tree replacement guidelines, including a green fund, for developers	23
Rec 21	Raise public awareness of the value and benefits of trees and the urban forest	23
Rec 22	Encourage planting and retention of trees on private land	23
Rec 23	Encourage naturescaping and planting of drought tolerant species	23
Rec 24	Encourage additional planting of ecologically suitable species to address flood risk in appropriate areas	23
Rec 29	Identify Environmentally sensitive areas relating to unique ecosystems, wildlife habitat, riparian habitat to help support tree retention	26
Rec 30	Manage natural areas to maintain ecological integrity and natural processes	26
Rec 31	Develop specific site prescriptions to manage natural stands in areas associated with risk (e.g. floodplains, slope instability, fire hazard, or invasive species)	26
Rec 32	Encourage preservation and restoration of natural forest ecosystems including Garry Oak,	26



Number	Priority A Recommendations	Page
	riparian and upland forest communities	
Rec 36	Educate the public regarding the possibilities for tree planting	31
Rec 38	Implement urban design guidelines to enhance pedestrian environment in commercial districts, including larger sidewalks and boulevards to protect and maintain trees	33
Rec 39	Address business concerns related to planting of new trees, including development of commercial development and enhancement strategies and parking guidelines	33
Rec 40	Require that trees be incorporated into the design of all new parking lots	34
Rec 42	Identify and prioritize natural areas that provide opportunities for planting of native species	36
Rec 43	Rec 43 Implement tree planting strategies that support community planning and sustainability objectives for green neighbourhoods	37
Rec 44	Develop and update neighbourhood street tree plans based upon the expanded preferred and non-preferred tree species selection list	41
Rec 46	Evaluate the feasibility of developing and maintaining a nursery to provide trees for streets and open spaces	44
Rec 48	Adopt the Tree Risk Assessment procedures outlines in the Tree Risk Assessment in Urban Areas and the Urban/Rural Interface Course as the standard of care for the City of Duncan	46
Rec 49	Tree risk inspection should only be conducted by people certified as ‘Tree Risk Assessors’	46
Rec 50	Develop thresholds for each target area over which risk abatement is required	47
Rec 51	Define the targets found throughout the City from 1 to 4 based upon the descriptions provided in the TRAUA	47
Rec 52	Delineate hazard tree polygons across the City with general risk ratings based on the conditions of trees and the targets at risk	47
Rec 53	Develop a schedule for regular hazard tree inspections of the hazard tree polygons	47
Rec 54	All trees of concern identified by the public should be assessed by a certified assessor within a target window of 24 hours for imminent hazards or two weeks in all other cases	47
Rec 55	All trees identified as hazards should be mitigated within two weeks	48
Rec 56	All work should be conducted by an ISA Certified Arborist that is experienced and approved by the City	48
Rec 57	Hazards should be mitigated by pruning if possible. Cabling and bracing are not recommended	48
Rec 60	Develop replacement ratios for street trees based upon their size, condition and cause of mortality	53
Rec 61	Identify opportunities to increase canopy cover as a means of mitigating the impacts of climate change and maximizing carbon absorption	59
Rec 62	Select tree species that are appropriate for the expected changes in climate	59



Number	Priority B Recommendations	Page
Rec 1	Periodically use tools and valuation protocols (STRATUM and UFORE) to quantify the benefits and costs of the urban forest	5
Rec 6	Adopt an average long-term (2050) City wide target of 40% tree cover	13
Rec 7	Establish tree canopy cover targets across the City for each planning area. Specify subtargets for tree cover on public land	18
Rec 25	Identify of all trees that have unique characteristics (size, age, species, rarity, aesthetic value, cultural significance, ecological importance)	24
Rec 26	Develop a public process for citizens to nominate significant trees as part of city-wide inventory	24
Rec 27	Develop policy relating to the management and maintenance of significant trees	24
Rec 28	Raise awareness of significant trees as part of urban forest education strategy	24
Rec 33	Develop an inventory of volunteer trees on public land	26
Rec 34	Remove volunteer trees that are hazardous or not suitable for the growing space	26
Rec 37	Plant species-appropriate street trees in commercial areas according to plantable spots inventory	33
Rec 41	Provide incentives to redesign existing parking areas to incorporate trees and other vegetation	34
Rec 45	Recommend species and spatial locations that will maximize building energy saving throughout the year	42
Rec 47	Develop a long term street tree monitoring schedule using a block management approach	45
Rec 58	Complete a cost-benefit analysis to evaluate the feasibility of establishing and maintaining a City-run composting facility to recycle organic debris	52
Rec 59	Analyze the diameter class distribution of the updated street tree inventory. Develop a long term planting plan to achieve and maintain the recommended size class distribution	52

Number	Priority C Recommendations	Page
Rec 3	Periodically review the vision statement for the Urban Forest Strategy to ensure it is consistent with the community's principals and values	7
Rec 14	Manage the risk of street/park trees to the public, property and infrastructure	22
Rec 35	Initiate a tree planting program to prioritize and plant 75% of plantable spots by 2040	31

