MSc or PhD project in urban dendrochronology
Resilient Urban Forests for Canadians
Adapting to Climate Change for Enhanced Tree-Related Benefits

Urban forests (UF) are associated with important ecosystem services (ES), such as heat reduction, improved air quality, and carbon storage, which benefit both environmental and human health. Yet it remains unclear how CC will impact the ability of our UF to provide these ES, how our UF will adapt, and how it could be better managed to maximize the generated benefits.

We have secured significant funding from NSERC to better characterize UF with richer data, and to identify best practices for developing resilient UF that will support ES now and in the future.

To do so, we are seeking excellent candidates for an MSc on the following research question. Extraordinary PhD candidates will also be considered (and project augmented accordingly).

Measure the effects of climate change on urban forests using coring and dendrochronology to investigate the effects of past climatic events, such as drought, on growth.

The selected candidate will integrate and benefit from a larger, interdisciplinary project framework which involves the participation of remote sensing, tree physiology, and human health specialists from both academic and governmental backgrounds, throughout Canada. The project involves travelling across Canada.

Prospective students should contact us with the following information: letter of interest (1 page), CV, unofficial transcripts, and the contact information for three references. Informal inquiries are welcome. Position is based at UQAM in Montreal, Québec, Canada, a busy and lively multicultural city. UQAM is a French speaking university, but knowledge of the French language is not mandatory and Montreal is a friendly place for those hoping to learn a new language. A guaranteed stipend is being offered.

Alain Paquette and Dan Kneeshaw, professors, UQAM and Centre for forest research (CFR)

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