

# Canadian Society for Organic Urban Land Care Annual General Meeting March 3, 2020



## Executive Director Annual Report for 2020 AGM

### Since the last AGM, on October 22, 2019, the Canadian Society of Organic Urban Land Care has:

- Prepared a case study on the Use of Organic Land Care Practices in a City Park, specifically, Corktown Commons in Toronto that looked at both the process of developing a park based on organic land care principles and on how this process has influenced practices in other Toronto parks. <https://organiclandcare.ca/Corktown>
- Identified an Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant that staff will be submitting an application for. The project that the application will be developed for is the creation of an ecological land care hub in Ottawa, as a pilot project for creating similar hubs across Canada.

From the draft application:

“Through this pilot, we intend to develop a framework for connecting individuals together for networking, peer support and mentoring with the goal to increase the use of ecological land care practices, the availability of native and locally-propagated plants, and the provision of services that improve ecological health in our city.”

### Staff:

Christine Earnshaw has joined SOUL at our Proposal Writer and Special Project Leader

Sundaura Alford-Purvis remains as Executive Director

### Member Events and Presentations:

- SOUL presented on soil and land regeneration at the Canadian Organic Growers, Ottawa, St. Lawrence, Outaouais Chapter AGM on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The presentation is posted here: <https://organiclandcare.ca/resources/Presentations/SOUL%20Presentation%20for%20COG%20AGM.pdf>
- SOUL participated in the first local native plant working group in Ottawa, alongside growers, representatives from the local conservation authority, city of Ottawa and conservation groups. The intention is to identify and develop plans for overcoming challenges in sourcing bulk locally native plant seeds and to foster a stronger supply and distribution network for locally native herbaceous plants.

SOUL representatives are now confirmed participants at:

- Eco-Farm Days in Cornwall on February 22<sup>nd</sup>
- The Living Soils Symposium in Montreal on March 20<sup>th</sup>

**Throughout all of our work, our goals remain the same:**

- To foster and promote the practice of organic land care
- To provide opportunities for education in all aspects of organic land care
- To establish and promote guidelines, standards and specifications for all aspects of organic land care
- To establish procedures for certification of organic land care practitioners
- To establish and develop a means for the exchange of information and ideas between the public and the organic land care industry.

SOUL relies heavily of the support of our members and volunteers and we are grateful for all of your ongoing work and support in the promotion and application of organic land care practices.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Alford-Purvis', written in a cursive style.

Sundaura Alford-Purvis, CLD, BCIN  
Executive Director  
Canadian Society for Organic Urban Land Care (SOUL)