

# Brock-Lincoln Living Lab Year in Review 2021

## A Message from BL-LL Partnership Director, Dr. Marilyne Jollineau

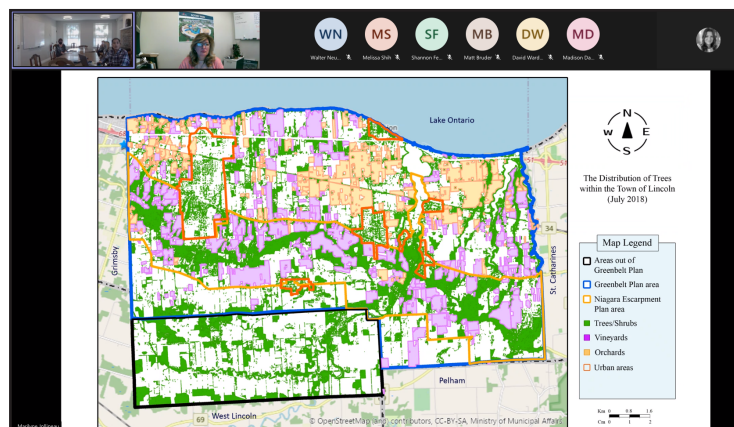
In spite of the challenges created by the ongoing pandemic, undertaking an assessment of the urban tree canopy was a major priority for the work of the Brock Lincoln Living Lab (BL-LL) this year! The Town of Lincoln is making important evidence-based decisions to realizing its goal of becoming a sustainable community. The Town has worked closely with the Brock team to achieve a number of other actionable items as identified as priorities by the Town's Senior Management Team. We are looking forward to another productive year in 2022!

## Master of Sustainability Thesis Research

Baharak Razaghirad, a Master of Sustainability student at Brock University, and her thesis supervisor Dr. Marilyne Jollineau have recently completed an assessment of the Town's urban tree canopy (UTC). UTC assessment is essential for the management of urban trees, especially in the context of climate change. However, quantifying the canopy remains a challenge, given that tree crowns are difficult to assess from the ground. Geospatial technologies provide a timely and accurate alternative to costly, ground-based assessments.

On December 14, Brock hosted a virtual meeting to present the results of Baharak's research study on the UTC assessment in Lincoln. A demonstration of the different geospatial technologies used in this study was also provided to the Town and a discussion of possible future projects took place.

Savannah Stuart, a Master of Sustainability student under the supervision of Dr. Ryan Plummer has been conducting her research in the Town of Lincoln. Savannah's research is assessing if individuals believe their valuing of assets has changed after experiencing the COVID-19 pandemic, why this is and what assets contributed most to their place attachment and subjective wellbeing. Methods including the recent circulation of two surveys related to this topic to residents of the Town of Lincoln.



### Has the pandemic changed how you value Lincoln's community amenities?

In 2019, The Town of Lincoln completed an extensive community engagement process to develop the Town's Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan.

Now the Town, in partnership with researchers from Brock University's Environmental Sustainability Research Centre (ESRC) are conducting a survey to determine whether the community responses that were collected through this process have changed in any way due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent events.

**Upon completion of this survey, participants will have the chance to enter a draw for one of three \$150 gift cards to a local business of their choosing!**

Scan for Survey

**Visit [SpeakUpLincoln.ca](https://SpeakUpLincoln.ca) to participate.**

Environmental Sustainability Research Centre

For more information visit: [brocku.ca/esrc/brock-lincoln-living-lab](https://brocku.ca/esrc/brock-lincoln-living-lab)

# Experiential Education Opportunities for Brock Students

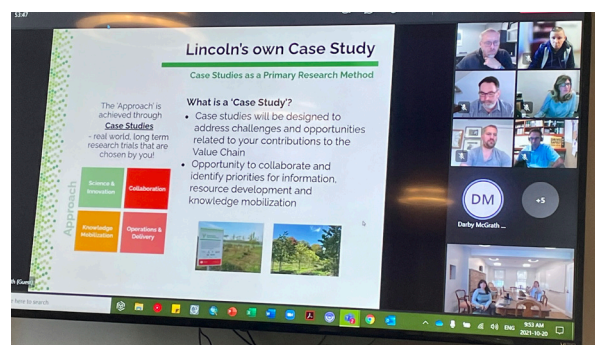
In Winter 2021, students enrolled in ENSU 2P02: Environmental Sustainability in Practice, an undergraduate-level course at Brock University, worked in groups to complete case studies relating to the development of a sustainable Community Hub. Students were challenged with the task of creating a planning process for the sustainable Community Hub while taking many factors into account, including securing a building in an accessible location, services for residents, and return on investment. For more information please see [the blog post](#) that was published.

Additionally, the partnership hosted a Research Assistantship placement during the summer of 2021, which focused on completing a special climate change project for the town. The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to pose challenges, but Brock students have managed to engage in important projects and initiatives within the Town over the past year.

## Knowledge Mobilization Activities

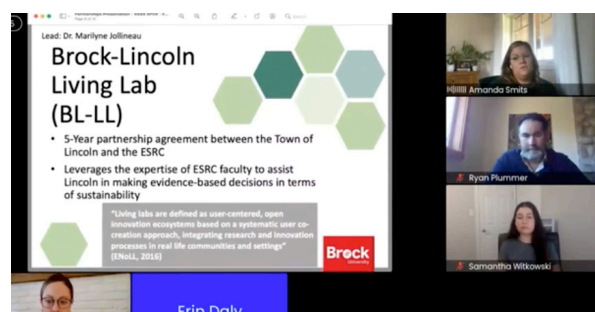
### Partnership Update Presentation

On October 20, Dr. Marilyne Jollineau and Ryan Plummer presented a series of partnership updates to the Lincoln's Senior Management team. Updates were provided on several student research related projects, the [Niagara Adapts](#) partnership, as well as the work undertaken as part of the [Prudhommes project](#). Lastly, the team shared information on an important [recent publication](#) focused on measuring the performance of higher education institutions and community partnerships, such as the BL-LL, with the Town!



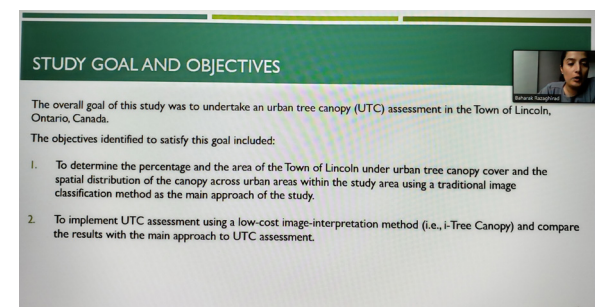
### Sustainability Seminar Series

In November 2021 members from the ESRC provided a presentation entitled, [Community Partnerships for Sustainability at Brock University](#) through the Sustainability Seminar Series. The presentation focused on partnership impacts and how you go about measuring the performance of partnerships and included a focus on the Brock-Lincoln Living Lab.



### GIS Days Presentation

On November 17, Master of Sustainability Student Baharak Razaghirad presented a seven-minute lightning talk entitled "Using Geospatial Technologies: A Case Study of the Town of Lincoln, Ontario" as part of GIS Days 2021. Results of this research were shared at a virtual event hosted by Western University from November 15th-19th.



### Upcoming Initiatives in 2022

- This coming winter, current Master of Sustainability student, Tyler Thomson will begin work on his research, "Exploring Best Practices in Irrigation for Agricultural Producers" in the Town of Lincoln, Ontario and will also be taking on a Research Assistantship role to work on priority projects for the partnership from January to April 2022.
- We are currently working with the Town to define a co-op position for Spring 2022 to continue working on priority actions for addressing issues related to the Town's urban tree canopy.

For more information visit: [brocku.ca/esrc/brock-lincoln-living-lab](https://brocku.ca/esrc/brock-lincoln-living-lab)