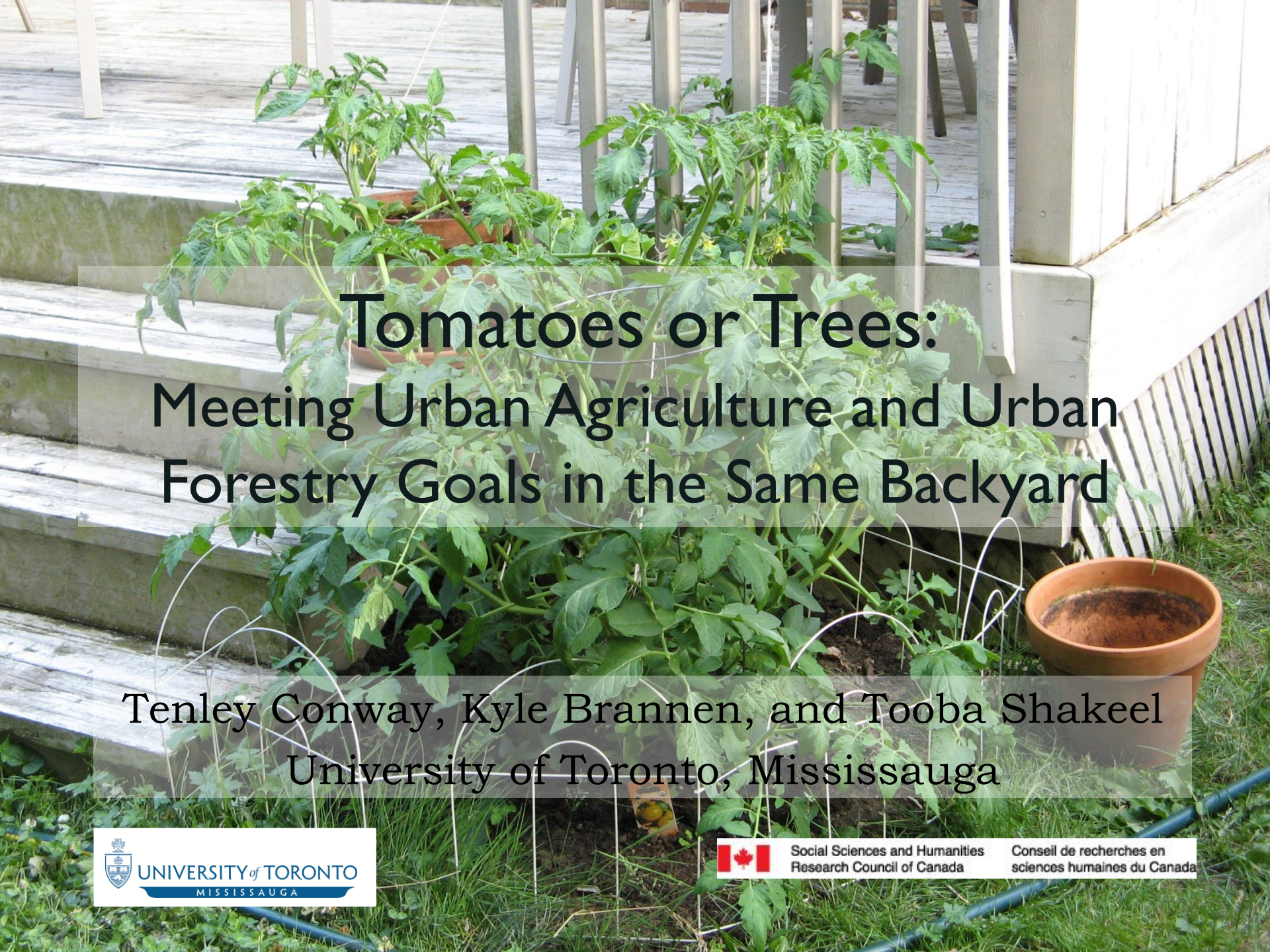

Tomatoes or Trees:
Meeting Urban Agriculture and Urban Forestry Goals in the Same Backyard

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Residential Land

- Increasing interest in both urban agriculture and urban forests
- Local residents (and their yards) can play a big role in achieving broader goals
- Basic conflicts between trees and many sun loving edible plants

Residential Landscaping

- Urban agricultural often focuses on community gardens
- Urban forestry explores tree on public land or at neighborhood scale
- Property-level research focused on species inventories; lawn grass behaviour; use of water and other inputs

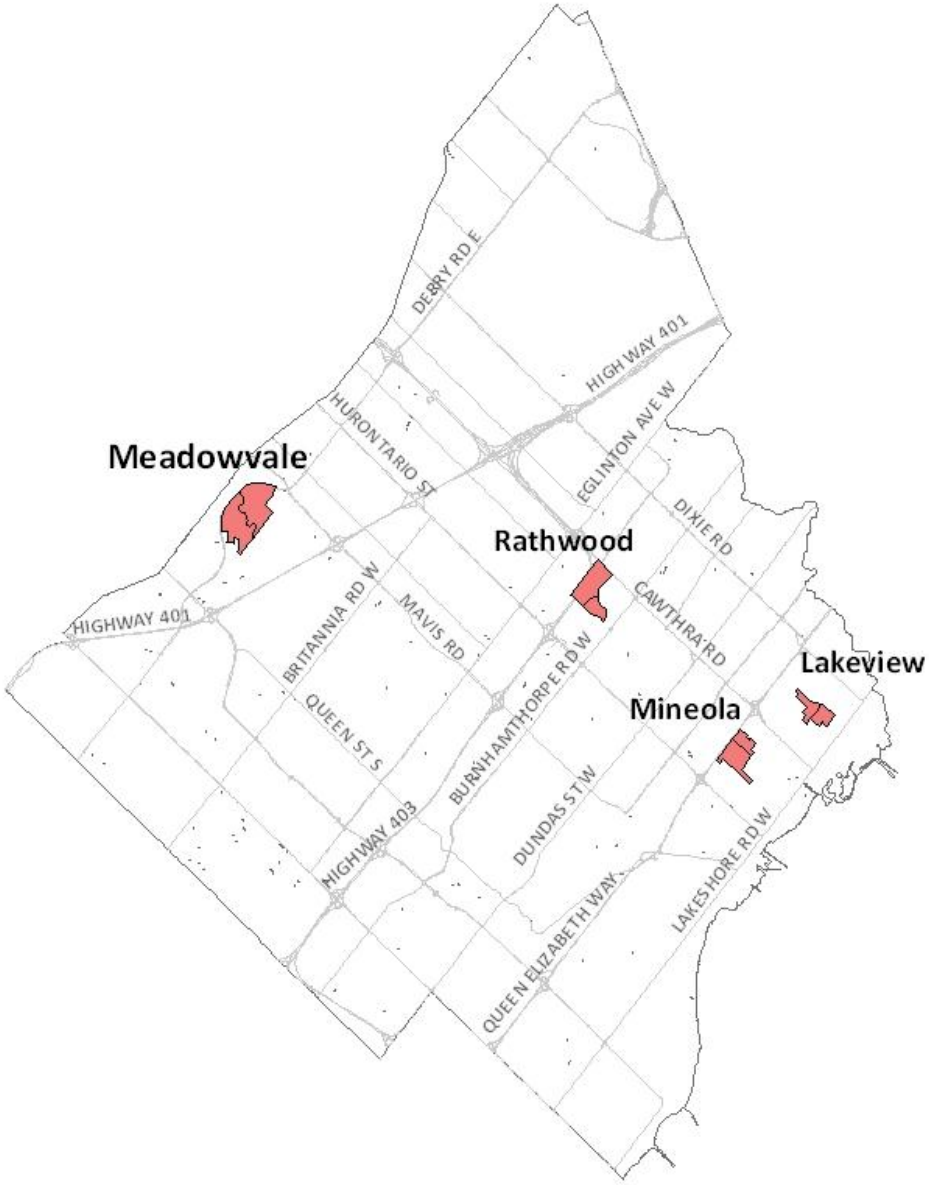
Research Questions

1. What are the basic characteristics of home-based edible gardens?

2. Which households are more likely to have edible gardens?

3. Is there a conflict between edible gardens and trees?
   - Actual tree presence, tree preferences, and urban forestry policy attitudes

Study Area: Mississauga, Ontario



Neighborhood Characteristics

	Median House Value (CAD)	Average Household Income (CAD)	Houses Constructed Prior to 1971	Tree Canopy Extent and Age
Lakeview	350,366	66,447	87%	Mature
Rathwood	303,707	63,520	9%	Sparse, Young
Mineola	581,419	138,103	80%	Plentiful, Mature
Meadowvale	433,798	152,765	6%	Very Sparse, Young

Methods: Survey

- Mailed to all households in on-the-ground homes within four target neighbourhoods
  - Summer 2011
- Asked about edible gardening activities; attitudes, activities related to trees; and household demographics
- Response rate of 48%
  - 647 returned surveys
- Follow-up interviews with 43 respondents

Methods: Analysis

Q1. Basic survey summary

Q2. Cross-tabulations comparing presence of edible gardens and household characteristics

Q3. Cross-tabulations comparing presence of edible gardens and actual tree presence, preferences for trees, and attitudes towards urban forestry policy

Households Variables: Q2

Name	Description
Neighborhood	4 target neighborhoods
House Type	detached, semi-detached, townhome
Yard Responsibility	resident, landlord, condo association
Time in House	years
Income	Canadian Dollars (CAD)
University Degree	Yes/No
Children Present in Household	Yes/No
Seniors Present in Household	Yes/No
British	Yes/No
European	Yes/No

1. What are the basic characteristics of home-based edible gardens?

	Households with Edible Garden	Average Years w/ Edible Garden	Location of Edible Plants	
			In the Ground	In Containers
Lakeview	61%	22	95%	19%
Rathwood	44%	12	84%	33%
Mineola	57%	20	82%	39%
Meadowvale	48%	8	86%	35%

2. Which households are more likely to have edible gardens?

Variable	Cramer's V	Description
Neighborhood	0.128	Lakeview, Mineola
House Type	**0.154**	Detached
Yard Responsibility	**0.169**	Resident
Years in House		
Income		
University Degree		
Children in Household		
Seniors in Household		
British		
European	0.087	Yes

All significant at p = 0.05, bold indicates significant at p =0.01

2. Which households are more likely to have edible gardens?

Variable	Lakeview	Rathwood	Mineola	Meadowvale
House Type		**Detached**		
Yard Responsibility				
Income		Higher		Lower
University Degree	Yes			
Children Present in Household				Yes

All significant at p = 0.05, bold indicates significant at p =0.01

3. Is there a conflict between edible gardens and trees?

No relationship between presence of edible gardens and

- Actual number of trees in yard
- Desire for trees or sunlight in yard

Policy	Lakeview	Rathwood	Mineola	Meadwovale
Municipality plant more trees	++		++	++
Municipality provide trees at low costs	+	+	++	++
Private tree by-law: No cutting		-	++	++

+ indicates positive relationship with edible gardening; - indicates negative relationship

Conclusions

- Approximately half of respondents have edible gardens
  - Long-time gardeners

- More likely to have edible gardens:
  - Older neighbourhood
  - Detached Hour
  - Resident responsible for yard

  - Presence of seniors not significant
  - Income relationships mixed

Conclusions

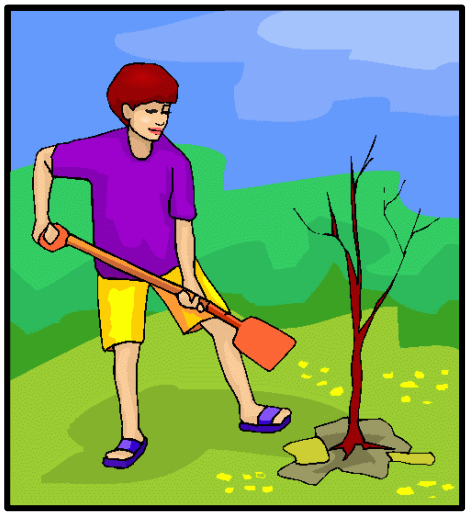
Those with edible gardens:

- No difference in actual number of trees
- Have same preferences for backyard trees and sun
- Are more supportive of tree planting and protection policies

- Suggests that some residents are more interested in gardening and landscaping activities in general

Next Steps: Digging deeper

- Look at relationship between yard size, tree density, and canopy cover on presence of edible gardens



- Follow-up interviews
  - motivations; sources of information
  - perceptions of planting space
  - Is choice between default land cover (grass) and other vegetation?

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