

Ottawa Bonsai Society Annual Survey Results

October 2022

Overview

- ▶ Goal: To understand better understand the requirements of the OBS members to allow the steering committee to optimize services for the members.
- ▶ Results: 54 members responded to the survey roughly 60% of the active members

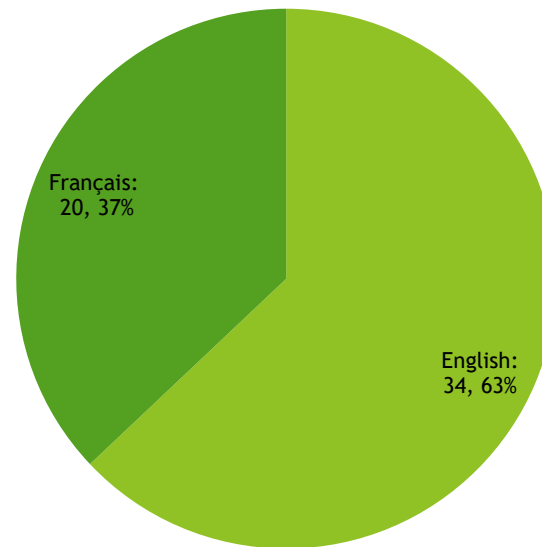
Personal Bonsai Experience



Question 1

▶ Preferred Language

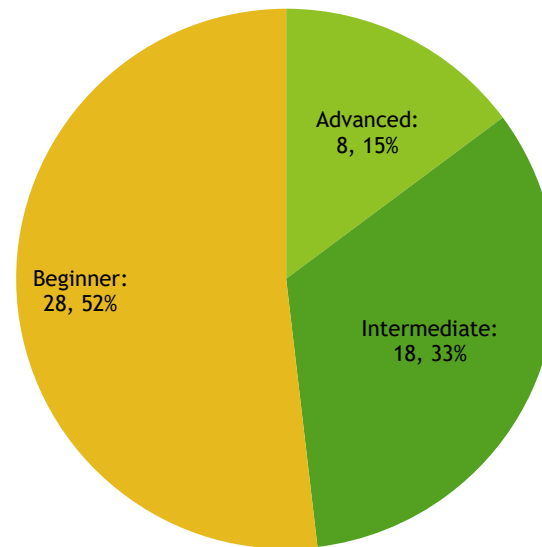
- ▶ English
- ▶ French



Question 2

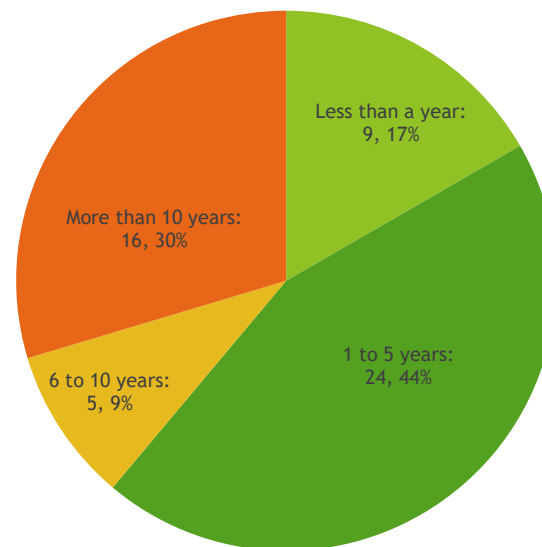
▶ Experience Level

- ▶ Beginner (minimal experience working on bonsai trees)
- ▶ Intermediate (actively working on bonsai trees over several years)
- ▶ Advanced (extensively working on bonsai trees with additional related external-training)



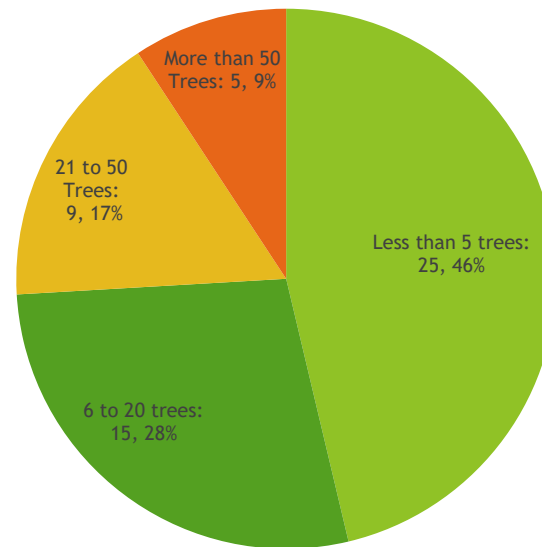
Question 3

- ▶ How many years have you been doing bonsai for?
 - ▶ Less than a year
 - ▶ 1 to 5 years
 - ▶ 6 to 10 years
 - ▶ More than 10 years



Question 4

- ▶ How many Bonsai do you have?
 - ▶ Less than 5 trees
 - ▶ 6 to 20 trees
 - ▶ 21 to 50 Trees
 - ▶ More than 50 Trees



Question 5

▶ What is your favourite species for Bonsai?

- ▶ Larch - 13
- ▶ Juniper - 13
- ▶ Pine - 10
- ▶ Thuja - 5
- ▶ Maple - 4
- ▶ Conifers - 3
- ▶ Bougainvillea, Azalea, Yew, Hemlock, Willow Leaf Ficus, Native Trees, cotoneaster, Jade, Spruce - 1

Ottawa Bonsai Society Experience

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the page, with some extending towards the center. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

Question 6

- ▶ How Satisfied are you with the Ottawa Bonsai Society?
 - ▶ 1 – Very-Dissatisfied
 - ▶ 2
 - ▶ 3
 - ▶ 4
 - ▶ 5 - Very-Satisfied

- ▶ Average value = 4.2

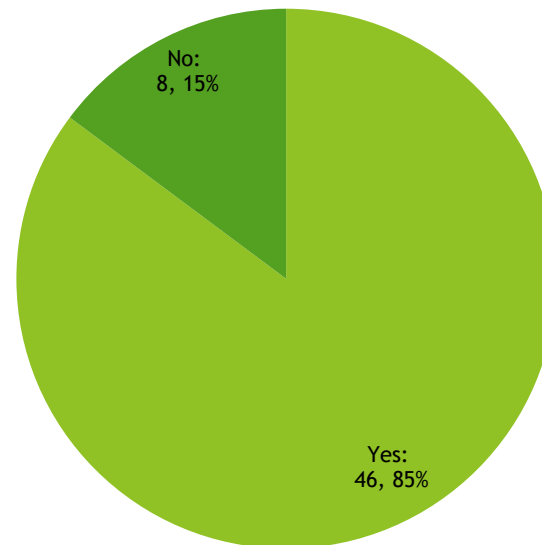
- ▶ Break Down by Skill Level:

Skill level	Averaging Rating of the Society
Beginner	4.6
Intermediate	4
Advanced	3.1

Question 7

- ▶ Would you be interested in the January and February being online? These months are the lowest attendance meetings and having these meetings online allows us to focus funding on other activities. This would also allow for the society to invite external guest speakers to present at these meetings.

- ▶ Yes
- ▶ No



Question 8

- ▶ What species, bonsai topics or techniques would you like to see discussed at our meetings?
- ▶ Species
 - ▶ Tropical Species (Jade, Ficus, Natal plum)
 - ▶ Juniper
 - ▶ Pines
 - ▶ Native Species
- ▶ Techniques
 - ▶ Overwintering
 - ▶ Wiring
 - ▶ Troubleshooting the health of trees
 - ▶ Collecting
 - ▶ Deadwood
 - ▶ Seasonal work

Question 9

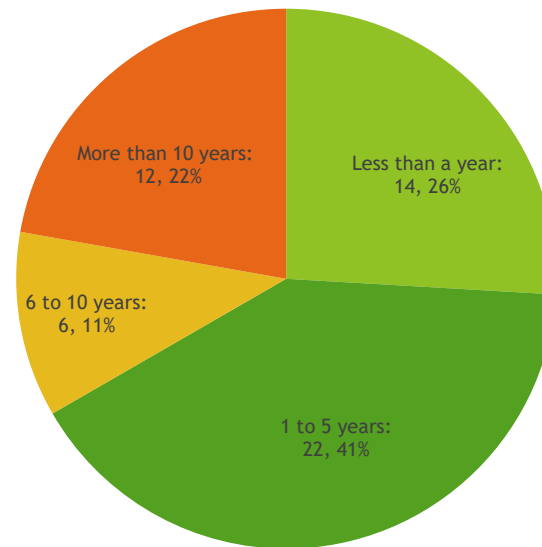
- ▶ Rank the top 3 activities that you would like to see added to the Ottawa Bonsai Society's calendar with 1 being the event with the highest priority.
 - ▶ Free form workshops
 - ▶ Beginner workshops
 - ▶ Intermediate workshops
 - ▶ Long form workshops
 - ▶ External guest speakers
 - ▶ Local activities
 - ▶ Day trips
 - ▶ Weekend trips
 - ▶ Social activities
 - ▶ Non-bonsai social activities
 - ▶ Visiting private collections

Weighted Rankings (Rank 1 has a weight of 3, rank 2 has a weight of 2, rank 3 has a weight of 1)

1. External Guest speakers - 40
2. Free form workshops - 40
3. Long form workshops - 38
4. Workshops with a provided tree - 35
5. Beginner workshops - 34
6. Day trips - 32
7. Intermediate workshops - 31
8. Local Activities - 23
9. Visiting Private collections - 21
10. Weekend Trips - 14
11. Non-Bonsai Social Activities - 5

Question 10

- ▶ How many years have you been in the society?
 - ▶ Less than a year
 - ▶ 1 to 5 years
 - ▶ 6 to 10 years
 - ▶ More than 10 years



Question 11

- ▶ Any Other Comments or Suggestions?
 - ▶ More challenging materials for the experienced members
 - ▶ More external speakers
 - ▶ More opportunities for Sales of supplies and trees
 - ▶ More workshops and meetings in the summer
 - ▶ Collecting trips would be interesting

Summary

- ▶ We had 54 Members respond to the survey
- ▶ Overall, the members are happy with how the society is run
- ▶ Members would like to see more external guest speakers, and have more workshops
- ▶ Members are okay with our January and February meetings moving online

Additional Activities for 2023

- ▶ An additional Freeform workshop in July for Tropical bonsai
- ▶ An additional guest speaker for the Online meeting in January/February
- ▶ Long form workshop starting April collecting the societies larches

Questions?

