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THE PLANNER

IN THIS ISSUE

MARCH 2017

- Join OPPI President for a Twitter Chat
- Webinar: Second Units in Ontario
- OPPI Onboards New Communications Firm
- OPPI District Forum
- A Message from OPPI Council
- Hire a Student Member for the Summer
- PSC Five-Year Cycle Review
- What Causes Parking Spillover?
- Public Realm Charrette Resource
- Policy: Thanks to Our Volunteers!
- What You Need To Know
- Featured Video
- Career Opportunities
- Upcoming Events
- Upcoming Courses



The Planner is your one-stop for everything about the planning profession in Ontario. We have reformatted our monthly updates to make them mobile friendly as well as to highlight the Institute's key strategic areas. [Let us know](#) what you think!

BUILDING RPP

#OPPIFUTURE: JOIN OPPI PRESIDENT FOR A

TWITTER CHAT



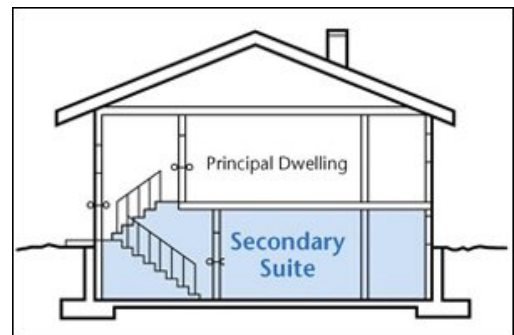
Join host Andrea Bourrie, RPP, President of The Ontario Professional Planners Institute, on March 7th at 12 p.m. on Twitter to discuss the key issues impacting the future of planning in Ontario.

Can't send us your question via Twitter?

Email us your question in advance to: InspireOPPI@ontarioplanners.ca with the subject line: March 7 Twitter chat. We want to hear from you! Registered Professional Planners (RPPs) create and manage change in the built, natural and social environments for the common good. By continuing the conversation from [INSPIRE OPPI](#), we gain insight on how to better serve the public interest in the future. Visit [our website](#) for more details. See you on Twitter!

FREE WEBINAR: WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH SECOND UNITS IN ONTARIO?

In 2011, the Province of Ontario amended the Planning Act to improve the supply of affordable housing in Ontario by requiring municipalities to allow second units in detached, semi-detached, row houses and ancillary structures. Fast forward to 2017 - what is the state of implementation, what are the barriers and what are the solutions? Join us on March 8th from 12 to 1 p.m. EST to hear more from staff at [CMHC](#) (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation) and the [Ministry of Municipal Affairs](#) to learn more about the state of second units in Ontario.



There is no registration required but there are a limited number of spaces. Spots are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. In order to allow as many people as possible to participate, we are asking participants to group together to conserve the number of lines needed for each location. The webinar is being recorded and will be available on the [OPPI YouTube channel](#) within a week of the event. Participants are asked to log in ten minutes early to ensure that they are ready at noon. Questions may be asked throughout the webinar. Answers will be provided once presentation of the slides are completed.

OPPI values its long-standing, strategic partnerships with CMHC, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and others who contribute to the advancement of the profession. Learn more today on OPPI's event [webpage](#).

OPPI ONBOARDS NEW COMMUNICATIONS FIRM



Last December, OPPI sought out a skilled and experienced firm to develop a communications strategy to implement OPPI's new strategic plan - INSPIRE OPPI that will define its direction and actions, including resource decisions, through to 2020. We received many exceptional applications. After vetting several candidates, the Institute is excited to announce it will move forward with Tenzing. With more than 28 years of experience, Tenzing is poised to bring a wealth of skills and expertise to OPPI's branding

and communications strategy development. The purpose of the new firm is to help us build RPP as the recognized brand to planners, decision makers and key stakeholders. If you're interested in being a part of the RPP Brand Strategy Group to help build our brand, please visit our website.

[Back To Top](#) ▲

WE ARE OPPI

BUILDING AN ACTION PLAN FOR YOUR DISTRICT



OPPI District Leadership Team Chairs and Vice-Chairs meet annually with Strategy Group Chairs, OPPI President and President-Elect at the District Forum on to share experiences, exchange and explore ideas to ensure Districts can establish actionable priorities for the year.

This year's Forum on March 23rd will build on discussions last year around the evolution of OPPI Districts and how they can help implement the strategic directions in INSPIRE OPPI towards a realistic and measurable action plan for the Districts that support our shared interest to provide relevant and meaningful services to our members. We encourage you to be involved with your District!

A MESSAGE FROM OPPI COUNCIL

On March 24th, OPPI Council will engage in a regularly scheduled meeting to guide OPPI through policy decisions and strategic directions. Here are some of the topics listed under INSPIRE OPPI headings that we will be discussing at our upcoming meeting.



Promote and Safeguard Professionalism

- Professional Regulation - Status and next steps for OPPI's Private Members Public Bill
- Professional Standards Committee reports on the Scope of Practice definition and 5-year review of Professional Standards
- Discipline policy and procedures for initiating a discipline complaint filed by OPPI

Building the RPP Brand

- Proposal for adopting an Ontario Government sanctioned system for electronic signatures and seals on official documents
- Status of the work underway by OPPI's Stakeholder Engagement Task Force

Exchange of Knowledge and Expertise for the Betterment of Planning in Ontario

- Continued collaboration with the Planning Program Directors

We are OPPI

- The role of the Districts and their 2017-18 plans to foster District-level activities for members

Our goal is to engage you in shaping our direction and initiatives; putting INSPIRE OPPI into action. We encourage you to be involved and to stay informed through OPPI's many communication channels. OPPI Council meets four times a year. Council approved agendas and minutes are available, upon request to the OPPI office.

Back To Top ▲

YOUR PROFESSIONAL JOURNEY

HIRE A STUDENT MEMBER FOR THE SUMMER



Spring is almost upon us and we urge you to consider hiring a student member planner this summer. Here is a testimonial from the Municipality of Meaford:

"The Municipality of Meaford had the pleasure of employing an OPPI student member from May to August 2016. The position was project-based, focusing around the research and preparation of a brand new Economic Community Improvement Plan for the commercial and agricultural areas

of the Municipality. In addition to the successful completion of her project for the summer, our student made a concise and confident presentation to Council, participated in inter-agency networking meetings, contributed to municipal social and outreach events and was even interviewed by the local news media about her experiences - she made the front page! We were very pleased with our OPPI student member and would happily hire another."

Contribute to the future of the planning profession by supporting student planners along their professional journey!

PSC FIVE-YEAR CYCLE REVIEW

The Professional Standards Committee for the Planning Profession in Canada (PSC) is a national body created in 2012 by agreement between the Provincial and Territorial Planning Institutes and Associations (PTIAs), flowing out of the Planning for the Future (PFF) initiative. OPPI's current representative on the PSC is Chris Tyrrell, RPP, who also sits on OPPI's Professional Standards & Registration Committee.

The PFF reviewed and updated the standards and certification process for the planning profession in Canada. As contemplated at that time, there should be a review every five years to see if further updating is required. The PSC is now embarking on its first five-year review. Stay tuned for future details.



[Back To Top ▲](#)

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

WHAT REALLY CAUSES PARKING SPILLOVER?

Vehicles parking where they aren't wanted is a phenomenon generally referred to as parking spillover. Can parking spillover be mitigated in urban cores? Before answering that question, it is important to understand what causes parking spillover in the first place. This month in the [Planning Exchange blog](#), contributor Tim Moerman, RPP, explains what really causes parking spillover.

Have an interesting story, or planning issue you'd like to discuss? [Become a contributor](#) for the Planning Exchange Blog today!



NEW RESOURCE: PUBLIC REALM CHARRETTE TIP SHEET



What is the public realm and why invest in it? Learn how to conduct a charrette around the public realm with this new tip sheet resource. This handy document will help you select the site for your charrette, identify stakeholders, develop a toolkit, establish a communications strategy, implement and report, and much more. Visit [our website](#) to download the tip sheet.

Public Realm Call to Action Webinar - April 5th from 12 to 1 p.m. EST. OPPI is encouraging members and stakeholders to continue discussions on topics related to the public realm, and how they can help to create healthy communities. This webinar will help familiarize those interested in the [Call to Action](#) with a helpful overview to spread the word about the importance of the public realm in planning. Stay tuned for more details!

POLICY: THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!



OPPI couldn't do what we do without the many professional planners who step forward and volunteer their time. One of our key volunteer groups is the Planning Issues Strategy Group (PISG) and its many Working Groups that provide leadership on key planning issues and work on OPPI's many [public policy submissions](#) . This month, we are recognizing and thanking volunteers from two of these Working Groups.

Transportation Working Group: Darryl Young (Chair), Al Witzig, Alex Legrain, Asher Mercer, Claire O'Donnell, Dan Woolfson, David McLaughlin, David Lukezic, Dick Gordon, Erica Duque, Joel Swagerman, James Jarrett, Jana Neumann, Katie Bright, Keri Hyde, Liora Freedman, Matthew Lee, Nick Poulos, Robert Voigt, Ryan Wong, Sandra McEleney, Sean Nix, Steven Farquharson, Tina Detaramani, Travis Macbeth and Wayne Chan.

Agricultural and Rural Affairs Working Group: Sandra Weber (Chair), Dave Smith, Heather Sadler, Andrew Redden, Bryce Sharpe, Caroline Baker, Dave Postliff, Nancy Rutherford, Paul Hicks, and Paul Michaels.

Thank you to our dedicated volunteers! Being on one of these working groups is a great way to be involved in the Institute and to give back to your profession. Interested in getting involved? Please send an email to: submissions@ontarioplanners.ca

Back To Top ▲

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

2017 Conference

Early-bird registration opens March 15th for #OPPI17 at Blue Mountain Resort! Learn more on our [Conference webpage](#) .

Last Call: Student Delegate and Scholarship Nominations

Nominations of candidates for the [Student Delegate election](#) and [OPPI Scholarship applications](#) are due March 1st!

OPPI Districts: You Don't Need a Passport!

Live in one District but work in another? When you log in to your [OPPI Member Profile](#) be sure to mark the Districts you'd like to receive event notices from.

Nominate an OPPI Council Director!

OPPI's Governance & Nominating Committee is [calling for nominations](#) for Directors for a two-year term. Deadline is April 3rd.

Have Your Planning Projects Recognized

[Submit an entry](#) for the 2017 Excellence in Planning Awards! Deadline is April 15th.

OPPI Group Insurance

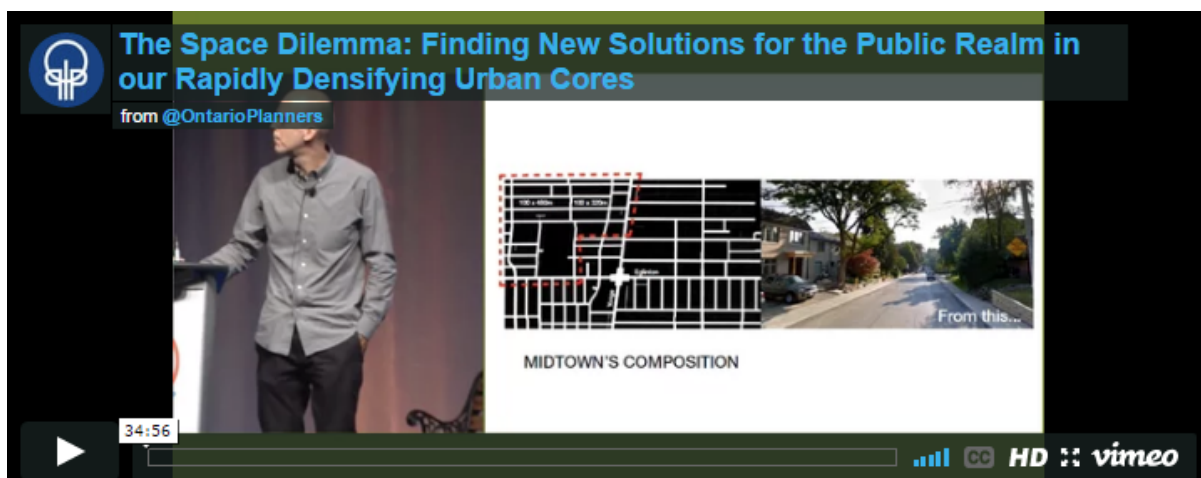
OPPI is pleased to offer a suite of insurance options for its members. Visit the OPPI [website](#) for details.

Updating Your OPPI Profile

Log in to your [OPPI Member Profile](#) and your information and help us continue to provide you with the best programs and services.

FEATURED VIDEO

Why not take some time to look back at an existing entry in our ever-expanding Digital Learning library while earning CPL Learning Units! This month, OPPI is proud to feature *[The Space Dilemma: Finding New Solutions for the Public Realm in our Rapidly Densifying Urban Cores](#)*. In this video, OPPI member & keynote speaker Adam Nicklin discusses how major world cities are finding creative solutions to make new, unconventional and connected public spaces. **Click on the image below and watch today!**



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES



Searching for a Job?

Targeted to planners, search the [OPPI Job Ads](#) to save you time and effort when looking for a new position.

SEARCH NOW

Are you an Employer?

Advertise your available planning positions with OPPI's Job Postings. There is no better way to reach qualified planning professionals.

LEARN MORE



UPCOMING EVENTS

- [Toronto District Book Club - Winter 2017 edition - Feb 1-Apr. 1](#)
- [Plannerisms: A Toronto District Networking Event - Mar.6](#)
- [LandPRO Conference 2017 - March 7](#)
- [What is the Future of Professional Planning? - Mar.7](#)
- [Lakeland Planners Celebrate International Women's Day - Mar.8](#)
- [Webinar: What's Happening with Second Units in Ontario? - Mar.8](#)
- [Eastern District NCC Capital Urbanism Lab: Parks Planning, Inside and Out - Mar.9](#)
- [Northern District MMA|MHO Annual Planning Workshop - Mar.22-23](#)
- [The Future of Farming & Farmland Protection in Ontario - Mar.30](#)
- [Public Health and Planning 101: An Online Course for Public Health and Planning Professionals to Create Healthier Built Environment - June 14, 2016-June 14, 2018](#)

UPCOMING COURSES

- [Project Management for Planners - Apr.24-25](#)
- [Understanding Legislation for Planners Course - May 5](#)
- [Managing Skills for Professional Planners - May 8-9](#)
- [Applied Project Management - May 29-30](#)
- [Planner at the Ontario Municipal Board Course - June 2](#)
- [Project Management for Planners - June 19-20](#)

[Back To Top ▲](#)

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