# ONTARIO PLANNING

### ONTARIO PROFESSIONAL PLANNERS INSTITUTE

New

Road

**Rules** 

Ahead

**Newly Published** 

**Regional Road Corridor** 

Design Guidelines, Page 3 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

2000

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Integrating the role of the entire road corridor as a public space to facilitate walking, cycling and transit use

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The OPPI and the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) Forum are jointly sponsoring a session on "Options for Affordable Housing: The Market and the State" on October 26, 2000. The meeting will take place in Room 308 at Metro Hall, 55 John Street, Toronto, from 4 to 7 p.m.

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### 3 / COVER

## Design Guidelines Aim to Bring New Life To Arterial Streetscapes

### By Sylvie Grenier

everal municipalities, including the Region of Ottawa-Carleton (ROC), have recently adopted land use objectives to achieve a better balanced transportation system and more liveable communities. New official plan goals recognize that transportation corridors aren't just there to move vehicles. Roads serve many functions, and are the pre-eminent turn these policies into daily decision making and professional practice.

The ROC, in collaboration with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and Go for Green, has just published design guidelines for arterial streetscapes, entitled "Regional Road Corridor Design Guidelines." The guidelines focus on the func-

form of public space. They also provide a setting for social interaction that can promote neighbourhood cohesion and development. The degree to which roads work successfully as public space affects the quality of life in communities.

Current regional road design guidelines largely reflect a model for road planning that emerged across North America in the 1950s and 1960s. This model has been focused primarily on traffic volume, movement and safety; roads are rarely measured for their capacity to enhance the life of the communities around them. But, thanks to the intervention of urban designers and other planners, this is slowly changing.

Roads can no longer be considered as predominantly traffic-carrying facilities moving vehicles and goods as efficiently and safely as possible. While



This suburban commercial demonstration plan is one of many in the Regional Road Corridor Design Guidelines

these remain primary objectives, particularly for regional roads that have an arterial function, road designers and planners are beginning to consider the role of the entire road corridor as public space. Properly designed roads can shape the character, function and liveability of adjacent land uses and communities. A new generation of official plans is setting out specific objectives and policies that relate to reviewing road and streetscape design to facilitate walking, cycling and transit use. The next step is to guidelines; 3) demonstration plans and sections for various road corridor types; and 4) implementation tools. With the input of a working group of key stakeholders and professionals, design guidelines were developed for various individual road corridor components. These include elements located on adjacent lands, the road edge, and the roadway, as well as intersections, driveways, pedestrian crossings and linear services. These components can then be assembled to form complete road cross-sections and plans. The

tion and design of arterial road corridors in urban areas. Their intent is to balance the need for an arterial corridor to function simultaneously as a public space, an access provider, a multi-modal route, and a service and utility route. The guidelines also reinforce a preference for walking, cycling and transit use.

The document crosses traditional boundaries between land use and transportation planning. The term "regional road corridor" refers to both the road right-of-way (ROW) and its interface with adjacent land uses. In a builtup area, the road corridor includes the face-to-face building separation across a road, which includes property outside of the ROW.

### Guidelines offer flexibility

The document is divided into four chapters: 1) first principles; 2) design process involves mixing and matching those component designs that best achieve the desired road character and corridor width.

For example, one of the elements of the roadway is cycling lanes. The document indicates that on-road cycling routes can be provided either as a dedicated cycling lane, or as a wider shared curb lane. It outlines the desired width and location of the cycling lanes according to the roadway corridor function.

Demonstration plans are illustrated for six basic road types, but the document acknowledges that other corridor designs are possible. The six road corridor types are: urban core, urban residential, urban main street, suburban commercial, suburban residential and suburban business/institutional.

As an example of a basic road type, roads in the urban core have historically narrow rights-of-way and are found in denser urban areas. They are often flanked by mid-rise and highrise buildings, with minimal building setbacks and a mix of uses. Where existing urban core roads are being retrofitted, the intent of redesign is to better distribute the space among the road functions, maximizing pedestrian comfort on the sidewalk and cyclist safety. The Regional Road Corridor Design Guidelines provide several potential cross sections and indicate that the road corridors in the urban core could be improved by:

- providing trees and vegetation in raised planting beds along the curb in-lieu of wider sidewalks;
- locating trees on adjacent lands;
- adding pedestrian-level lighting;
- using curb lanes either as a shared vehicle-bike lane, or a parking lane, or both, depending on peak-hour requirements;
- securing an additional 4m-high-by-1.5mwide pedestrian easement from adjacent

lands, where cantilevered buildings overhang the easement. If the overhang is supported by columns, the easement may be 2.5m plus the width of the columns:

· deleting a parking lane on one side of



The creative use of building setbacks and overhangs, outside the ROW, can provide more space for pedestrians and trees (Regional Road Corridor Design Guidelines)

the street to create wider sidewalks; and,

 using additional ROW if available, to create (in order of priority): wider sidewalks, more cycling space and street trees.

#### How will the guidelines be used?

In June 2000, the Regional Council of Ottawa-Carleton endorsed the Regional Road Corridor Design Guidelines. The guidelines are now used to design new roads, road widenings, and road rehabilitation projects throughout the region. The document is a practical tool that puts into practice the high level official plan objectives of giving preference to walking,



cycling and transit use over the use of the automobile.

The guidelines have general applicability to municipalities across Canada. They are intended to be used by municipal staff, citizens and elected officials, private developers,

architects, landscape architects, planners and engineers involved in road design and land use planning.

Because the guidelines also deal with lands outside the ROW, they can also be used when designing new urban areas, as well as in the development of official plan policies, zoning by-law regulations, and site plan control guidelines. The document provides information and background to assist the road corridor planner or designer in choosing the appropriate combination of road corridor elements. For example, when using the Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads (Transportation Association of Canada, September 1999), this document can contribute to the development of the "design domain," a basic concept in roadway design.

The design guidelines complement existing guidelines and regulations for the design of new and reconstructed roads and of adjacent land uses. The intent is to respect traditional design objectives for safety, efficiency, capacity, and maintenance, while integrating objectives relating to compatibility, liveability, community building, urban design, cost and environmental impacts. The guidelines will help to implement the vision of a more sustainable transportation system and healthy, vibrant communities as expressed in such documents as the Transportation Association of Canada's "New Vision for Urban Transportation," published in 1993.

Sylvie Grenier, MCIP, RPP, is a Regional Planner working for the Region of Ottawa-Carleton.

Regional Road Corridor Design Guidelines is available in both official languages on the RMOC Web page www.rmoc.on.ca. The document is linked to the web page of its national partner–Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Transportation Association of Canada and Go for Green. The document is also available for \$10.00

by contacting the ROC Planning and Development Approvals Department (Phone: 613-560-2053 or Fax: 613-560-6006). The Planning Partnership was the consultant on this project.

### 5 / FEATURES

#### Mentoring makes a difference

### Members Helping Members: The OPPI Mentoring Program

### By Hugh Handy

n 1997, a group of members met at the OPPI office to discuss a growing issue. How can OPPI better serve its new members and attract planning students to join once they have graduated? That discussion was the start of the OPPI Mentoring Program. The program was set up to encourage members of OPPI to share their professional experience with upcoming planners, as well as those who are in transition in their careers and are looking for people with whom to share ideas

Although there have been many successful mentor/protégé matches, wouldbe protégés currently outnumber available mentors. We are looking for more members to act as mentors. In this article, mentors and protégés talk about the success of the program. Read on: we are



Lee Anne Doyle and Tracey Pillon-Abbs

sure you will see the benefits of being involved.

Tracey Pillon-Abbs, protégé (Planner, Essex Region Conservation Authority) and Lee Anne Doyle, mentor (Planning Advisor, County of Essex)

Lee Anne and Tracev have been meeting monthly over the past 18 months to talk about planning and career directions. Tracev Pillon-Abbs writes: "Being a protégé has given me the opportunity to have a sounding board available to share experiences and help guide career directions." Lee Anne Doyle responds: "Mentoring is a wonderful opportunity to give back to your profession. I have enjoyed the feeling of empowerment

through sharing ideas and strategies over lunch with my protégé. As a 'sounding board,' I have the opportunity to provide feedback to my protégé in a non-threatening and confidential way."

Robin Bennett, protégé (Contractor, Environment and Transportation



Department, Region of Ottawa-Carleton) and Pamela Sweet, mentor (Policy and Infrastructure Planning, Region of Ottawa-Carleton)

Robin and Pamela have been meeting over the past year in the Ottawa area. Robin Bennett writes: "When OPPI/CIP announced it was developing a program that would give planners an opportunity to meet established professionals who could provide career guidance, I thought, 'Great, that would be a useful service for me!' Although not exactly new to planning, I had been encountering a great deal of diffi-

culty in obtaining work in the planning field. I felt under considerable pressure to abandon the career goals I had set for myself and was within a hair's breadth of leaving the profession. Applying as a protégé and then being connected to a mentor through OPPI's special program has been a very positive experience and has invigorated my determination to remain in the profession.

"I have been a member of CIP since student days with OUQ in the late 1980s and a full member since

1996. At planning school I focused my studies in the area of integration of transportation infrastructure and land use planning and always felt that I could (and should) work in either field of planning. After graduation in 1989, I was employed in the private sector as a transportation planner, but my career did not flourish. After the recession of 1992 I was back looking for work, but was unable to obtain even a job interview in land use planningjob experience that I knew would be crucial if I was going to be effective working to combat transportation problems stem-



109 Grange St., Guelph, Ontario N1E 2V3 T (519) 837-8082 F (519) 837-2268 ming from past land use practices. My inability to gain working experience in the land use field-the 'bread and butter' of professional planning—left me feeling marginalized and somewhat out of touch with my colleagues. This feeling of isolation can be hard to overcome, and cannot be dealt with solely by networking and attending professional functions.

"That is where the mentoring program can be of great help to those qualified planning professionals who feel they are working on the edge of the profession, or worse, are not working in planning at all.

- a better understanding and appreciation of higher-level planning practice;
- increased knowledge of and confidence in one's own merits;
- an opportunity to discuss the place within the planning profession of the work one is undertaking;
- helpful hints about future employment opportunities; and
- suggestions on useful professional readings.

"In conclusion, I would like to point out that the only way for this program to enjoy continued success is for established planning

professionals to offer their time and expertise to less-established colleagues, to help them develop to their fullest potential. As one who has benefited from the program as a protégé, I cannot offer commentary on the benefits of mentoring except to say that is not a large commitment of time and effort. I imagine the reward of helping others outweighs

the effort expended and

secure professional situation I would be pleased

Pamela Sweet writes:

"I never felt that I was an

'old planner' until one of

when I am in a more

to act as a mentor



Pamela Sweet (mentor) with Robin Bennett (protégé)

It is often acknowledged that planning is a diverse profession, and many planners, particularly those not working in the land use core area, often work in isolation from other planners. This program has the potential to get OPPI people back in touch with the professional environment in a easy-going and rewarding way for both protégé and mentors. My own mentor has assisted my professional development in the following areas:

• networking and introductions to other planning professionals;



our co-op students reminded me that he wasn't even born yet when I started my first planning job. Viewing myself instead as an 'experienced planner,' I realized that I had a certain responsibility to those 'young planners' and that I could learn from them as well. So I agreed to be a mentor.

myself."

"Being a mentor is not a one-way street, and it doesn't have to take a lot of time. My experience with my protégé is that I've gained something too. We have regular lunches together, exchange e-mails and talk about more than just planning. It's an opportunity for me to discuss the profession and not worry about the impact on a working relationship; and I can get feedback from someone who has a different perspective.

"Here are some practical tips if you agree to be a mentor. It helps if you work in the same place as your protégé and even better if you are close enough to get together for lunch on a regular basis. However, don't give up on the idea if geography is a problem, e-mail is a great way to communicate. Think about OPPI events that you might do together, and if there are opportunities to be involved as a volunteer, suggest that your protégé try it along with you. Make an effort to talk about other professionals who may be good contacts. If you read some interesting planning articles, pass them along. Think about future job or training possibilities and pass them along.

"The bottom line is that we do owe some of our time and experience to younger members of the profession. The OPPI Mentoring Program provides that opportunity."

### Lorne Berg, mentor (LSB Consulting)

Lorne is a consultant in the Toronto area and is currently a mentor to Nicole Young. Lorne Berg writes: "I was just starting my own community planning firm in 1997 and had just successfully completed Exams A and B. Many things were running through my head at the time. Where and who can I go to for advice on matters that may arise from my practice? Which other members were involved in the area of activity I was undertaking? Was there someone I could speak with to mull different ideas over with? But most of all, what the heck was I starting?

"I approached Susan Smith, OPPI Executive Director at that time, to discuss these questions. Susan told me about the mentor program. Would I be interested in sitting in on the committee? Sure, why not? This seemed like a good place to start. That first meeting happened to be my biggest fear come true. Sitting at the table was a local planning commissioner, an OPPI Council member and an assortment of established planners whose reputations I was well aware of. This was an impressive group to be sitting down with for my first formal contact as a working member of OPPI. Needless to say, my fears were unfounded and quickly disappeared. If I had had a mentor back then, I would have had someone to talk this situation through with ahead of time. As it stands, I was fortunate enough to have a few former professors who took the time to steer me through many of my questions. My needs were changing. I needed someone in the private sector to talk with. This was also

when I discovered just how helpful a mentor could have been."

### It's Your Turn

OPPI has created a valuable program and more and more members are capitalizing on it. Members submit an application to the OPPI office to join the program as either a mentor or protégé. The Mentoring Committee members review the applications, recommend matches and arrange an initial contact for the two. Members of the committee include representation from the private and public sectors as well as students and staff.

We hope the comments above have given you the encouragement to become involved in the program. Please contact the OPPI office at 1-800-668-1448 or 416-483-1873 or check out the OPPI website for more information.

Hugh Handy, MCIP, RPP, is chair of the OPPI mentoring committee and recently moved to Zelinka Priamo Ltd. in Guelph. He can be reached by e-mail at hugh.zpplan@home.com.

### Administrative changes inspire a new approach

### The New Face of the Ontario Municipal Board

he Ontario Municipal Board is changing the way it operates. The amalgamation of the OMB with the Board of Negotiation (Expropriation) and the elimination of the right of appeal of Assessment Review Board decisions to the OMB were the impetus for many of these changes. At the same time, the OMB has faced:

- an expansion of the use of mediation and case-management techniques before and during hearings;
- an increase in the complexity of many of the appeals before the Board;
- an increase in the number of lengthy cases being adjudicated.

By Alan Binks



Euken Lei (extreme left) and Alan Binks (extreme right) run the planning division

Helen Hayward, chief executive officer of both the Ontario Municipal Board and the Assessment Review Board, has spearheaded the organizational restructuring. Hayward is a land use planner by profession, and a former CAO in the justice sector with the Ministry of the Attorney General.

### Jurisdiction

The Board retains its broad range of jurisdiction, dealing with:

- appeals under the Development Charges Act, the Aggregate Resources Act, and the Municipal Act;
- questions of compensation under the Expropriations Act;
- environmental and development appeals, which are determined jointly with the Environmental

Assessment and Appeal Board under the Consolidated Hearings Act.

However, about 70 percent of its current

caseload is made up of Planning Act matters.

### The New Structure

The Ontario Municipal Board currently has 31 full-time members, drawn from a variety of professional backgrounds, who preside over hearings in communities throughout Ontario. About half the members live in the Toronto area; the other half live elsewhere in the province.

Douglas Colbourne, the chair of the OMB and the Assessment Review Board, is assisted by four OMB vice chairs, three of whom are also cross-appointed to the ARB. Legal counsel to both boards is provided by Gillian Burton, who also holds the statutory position of OMB secretary, and by Imants Abols, who joined the Board in February.

Under the CEO's leadership, the new management structure at the OMB includes two senior managers, Carolyn Fenn is Senior Case Manager, Planning, and oversees both the Planning Division and the Hearings Division. Fenn is a political scientist and a full member of the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario, Patrick Hennessy, Senior Manager, Business Planning and Information Management, joined the OMB in August from the Town of Ancaster, where he was director of planning and building. He has worked both at the local and regional government levels for more than 17 years. He is a Registered Professional Planner, and maintains memberships in CIP and OPPI. Hennessy will lead the Board's 2001 integrated business and information technology planning, and will provide effective business support to the Board's case management efforts.



ic lines. Alan Binks joined the Board in June, and has responsibility for the "East Team." His professional planning experience includes work in both the private and public sectors; he is also a long-time OPPI member. The "West Team" is managed by Euken Lui. Also a professional planner, Lui joined the Board from the City of Toronto, where his experience included working with the former City of Scarborough.

In addition to overseeing the day-to-day case management activities of the Division, Binks and Lui monitor performance targets and report to

### 🖁 🕘 Mark L. Dorfman, Planner Inc.

West Team

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Environmental Policy and Analysis Urban and Regional Planning Community Planning and Development Mediation of Planning Issues senior management and the chair on the planning staff's success in meeting case management timelines.

Planning staff at the OMB include planners Elizabeth Corazzola, Lino Trombino, David MacLeod, Corwin Cambray and Steve May. They have recently been joined by new planners Louis Bitonti, Mark Christie, Jennifer Kelly, John Lyon and Sybelle von Kursell. Planning assistants include Frances Rowe, David Gilmore, Scott Morrison, Nazma Ramjaun and Andy Dawang.

### **Hearings Division**

Eya Greenland joined the OMB in April as manager of Hearings and Decisions. Her professional background is in court administration; she has worked at the Ministry of the Attorney General, where she was responsible for managing both the court reporting and the judicial administration portfolios at the Superior Court

East Team

of Justice. The Hearings Division schedules OMB hearings throughout the province and provides administrative support to Board members, including scheduling, accommodation and travel arrangements, and preparing and issuing written decisions.

#### Information Technology

Since much of the work of Board members takes them away from the OMB offices, they rely heavily on electronic means for communication and decision writing. CMIS (Case Management Information System) is constantly being modified to serve



#### Ruth Ferguson Aulthouse MCIP, RPP, Principal

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(705) 384-0838 FAX (705) 384-0840 changing business needs. The OMB is exploring ways of using Internet and Intranet technologies to enhance its operations.

### **Stakeholder Consultation**

The OMB continues to hold regular sessions with key stakeholders to ensure its operations are efficient, responsive and client-focused. The Board accepts invitations from ratepayers' associations and other community groups to speak about the role of the Ontario Municipal Board, its practices and operations, and to strengthen communication between the Board and the citizens of Ontario's communities.

Alan Binks, MCIP, RPP is a manager with the OMB's East team. More information is available on the web (www.omb.gov.on.ca) or from the Information Office, Ontario Municipal Board, 655 Bay Street, 15th floor, Toronto, Ontario M5G 1E5, 416-326-6800, fax 416-326-5370.

See page 12 for information on OPPI's policy initiative.—Ed.





### Urban Task Force Not Going Away

### Stillborn Rebirth: England's Leading Urbanist Turns up the Heat

A notable anniversary passed unnoticed recently, and like a delinquent spouse, the British government probably has some explaining to do.

June 30, 2000, marked the first anniversary of the publication of "Towards an Urban Renaissance," the sweeping report of the U.K. government's Urban Task Force (UTF), chaired by architect Lord Richard Rogers. A press release issued to mark the occasion, however, was less than celebratory.

The leading architect and Chairman of the Government's Urban Task Force is

### By Jeff Lehman

nomic decline, has not yet drawn much more than lip service from the governments charged with leading the "renaissance." Although some of its central principles such as integrated transportation planning and the promotion of mixed-use developments—have begun to appear more frequently in new developments, the central government has made few attempts to implement the more fundamental recommendations.

Rogers and other leading members of the UTF are turning up the heat on Whitehall through lobbying efforts that now reach furMoreover, the U.K. Treasury has yet to close tax loopholes that give preferential treatment to new development on greenfield (rather than brownfield) lands.

The government appears to be unable to address the central argument of the Rogers report: that issues of social exclusion and economic decline are directly linked to physical dereliction in urban areas, and that responses to these problems must occur simultaneously. Lord Rogers has privately indicated his disgust that England remains decades behind its continental neighbours in addressing urban decline, and

> has mused darkly about England's cities becoming the sites of the worst urban decline in Europe.

At present, conditions in the property sector are ripe for change. The U.K., especially London, is experiencing a sustained building boom driven both by high prices and the optimism surrounding a number of large-scale regeneration projects. Large multi-use complexes are breaking ground on brownfield sites at King's Cross and Tower Bridge rail stations. Even Canary Wharf, the ultimate white elephant of the 1980s, is adding 3.2 million square feet of space to accommodate



Brownfield development is core of U.K. urban strategy

frustrated by what he sees as a lack of progress toward the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report.

This is a wake-up call to the Government," Lord Rogers said. "Despite being a wealthy nation, our cities are among the most deprived in Europe. The Government needs to move much further and faster than they have done to date. It is time that they recognized that urban poverty and social exclusion are inseparable from physical dereliction and therefore have to be dealt with simultaneously.

But Lord Rogers's report, which took the relatively novel step of proposing physical solutions to social exclusion and ecother and higher into government than ever before. Frustrated by what he sees as an inability of individual departments to address the issues in the UTF report, Rogers is now calling directly on Prime Minister Tony Blair to make urban issues a government-wide priority.

The UTF is undoubtedly frustrated by the glacial pace of progress of Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott's Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions in turning the recommendations of the UTF report into public policy. The publication of an Urban White Paper has been repeatedly delayed by Department, despite increasing calls for government action on urban policy. overwhelming demand for residential and office uses.

Despite the pace of growth, if an "urban renaissance" is to occur in England, political winds will need to shift in favour of an integrated approach to urban policy. At the moment, in the U.K., just as in Canada and the United States, jurisdictional squabbling continues to preclude local, regional and national governments acting together on the critical issues of urban regeneration.

Jeff Lehman is a policy analyst and planning consultant in Canada and the U.K. He can be reached via email at J.R.Lehman@lse.ac.uk.

### 11 / OPPI NOTEBOOK



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### Member Service Award

### Hugh Handy and Brenton Toderian Recognized for Contributions to the Institute

ugh Handy, who recently joined Zelinka Priamo Ltd. as a senior planner, has been awarded OPPI's Member Service Award for his "exemplary participation and commitment in every role played in OPPI." Joining Hugh on the "podium" is Brenton Toderian, whose multiple roles for the Institute include stints as editorial coordinator for the Ontario

Planning Journal and as a contributing editor on commercial issues.

Hugh Handy graduated with a BES (Honours Co-Opl in Urban and Regional Planning from Waterloo in 1990, becoming a full member of OPPI two years later. His involvement began with the Southwest District program committee, and in 1995 he joined Council for

two terms. During this time he was involved in the 10th anniversary celebrations, implemented the Excellence in Planning Awards and spearheaded the Mentoring program (see Features, pg. 5). Brenton Toderian has also contributed a lot of

### Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing **Development Permit** System On Trial

he Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has undertaken two initiatives this spring and summer related to the Development Permit



Hugh Handy, MCIP RPP

time and energy to the Southwest District, serving in several positions before taking on the roles of vice chair and later chair of the District Committee. One of his innovations was to redefine the job description of vice chair, which now provides a direct service link to the Ontario Planning Journal, recognizing that communica-

tions is a fundamental part of providing feedback to the membership

Also a graduate of Waterloo, Brenton has taught at the university, organized charrettes, workshops and done a great deal of public speaking on behalf of the Institute. The "Rural By Design" lectures attracted the biggest turnout ever in the Southwest. His "bia picture" view of the world is also evident in a number of initia-



Brenton Toderian, MCIP. RPP

tives that promote improved coordination across the province, resulting in cross-province district and boards of management meetings at the OPPI conference.

System. They include creating a committee of stakeholders to assist the Minister's office in advancing the system, and retaining Bousfield, Dale-Harris, Cutler & Smith to prepare a Demonstration Project regarding the proposed new system.

The demonstration project looked at three municipalities and provided the needed official plan policies, development permit by-law and a

#### Municipal and Land Use Goodman and Carr LLP **Planning Law** Lawyers: Patrick Devine **Yvonne** Hamlin Mary Flynn-Guglietti Douglas Ouick Kara Sutherland Stephen Longo Land Use Planners: Barbara Gosse Andrea Paterson

Robert Blunt

For information, please contact pdevine@goodmancarr.com or phone: 416/595-2404

draft evaluation system for the proposed development permit areas of each municipality. The demonstration areas included an historic district in downtown Hamilton known as the Gore, the shoreline area of the Township of Lake of Bays in Muskoka, and the Winston Park West Industrial Park in the Town of Oakville

Various issues and barriers were explored by the report's author, Peter Smith, MCIP, RPP and discussed by the Minister's Committee.

The Ministry has now released the Demonstration Project Document to the stakeholder groups and OPPI has struck a committee, chaired by Kris Menzies, MCIP, RPP, to respond to OPPI Council on the document. The **Development Permit** Committee is expected to report to Council in October.

Land Development

### **OPPI Policy Development** Committee OMB. Planners to Identify Their Views

The Ontario Municipal Board has traditionally played an integral role in the Ontario planning process by providing stakeholders with a final opportunity for review and decision-making. **OPPI's Policy Development** Committee will be striking a subcommittee to prepare a position paper on the role and function of the Ontario Municipal Board in the current millennium. Is the Board still relevant? What improvements can be made? Is the public interest adequately considered in the Board's decision-making process? These are some of the matters that the subcommittee will consider.

If you are interested in participating on the sub-committee or have any comments, please con-

tact Loretta Ryan at policy@ontarioplanners.on.ca.

> Marshall Macklin

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Recreational Community Planning

### Diana Santo **Returns to Ministry Roots**

ew members of the Institute have had opportunities to shape planning in Ontario like Diana Santo. As the first planner appointed to the OMB in the early 1980s, Diana brought experi-

ence as director of both Official Plans Branch and Subdivisions Branch at the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. She later rose to become Vice Chair, where she reviewed all decisions issued by the Board over a 10 year period.

Her decisions were often precedentsetting and established the test of "reasonableness" for subsequent hearings on issues such as commercial competition, affordable housing, and the role of Boards of Education in the approval process. Dealing with the "Bayview Ghost"

was a memorable decision early in her



Diana Santo. MCIP. RPP

OMB career. In recent years, "her skills in mediation have advanced many land use issues without the need for a hearing," according to one veteran practitioner who has appeared before her on many occasions.

After 18 remarkable years at the OMB, Diana was recently appointed as a Special Advisor in the office of Deputy Minister Michael Fenn. Look for more insights into Diana's high profile career in a future issue of the Ontario Planning Journal.

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### **13 / DISTRICTS & PEOPLE**

### Central

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### Spring Reception at the AGO for Ryerson Planning Alumni

By Anthony Biglieri

On Wednesday May 31, 2000, the Ryerson Planning Alumni Association (RPA) held the annual Spring Reception at the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto. The sounds of a grand piano filled the atrium of the Tanenbaum Room as close to 150 planning alumni, students, faculty and others from the development community mingled. Proceeds from the networking event and buffet helped raise



Ryerson Alumni reception a hit

money for two \$500 scholarships that will be awarded later this year.

The RPA would like to thank the generosity of this year's sponsors that includ-



511 Davenport Road Toronto, Ontario M4V 1B8 Tel: (416) 923-6630 Fax: (416) 923-6916 ed: Aird and Berlis, First Professional Management, Ryerson School of Urban and Regional Planning, Urban Development Institute, Bousfield, Dale-Harris, Cutler & Smith, Plantactics, Thomson Rogers, Walker Nott Dragicevic Associates, Weir and Foulds, Hemson Consulting, Urbancorp and Scott Joyce / David Samis. Without their generous support, these scholarships would not be possible. Prize and cash donations were also greatly appreciated. Special thanks to Rory Baksh, Caroline Boone, Chris Dunn and Kathy Kleiboer for helping make this year's reception a great success.

> Anthony Biglieri is Chair of RPA. He can be reached at (416) 693-9155.

### Obituaries

### A.S.M (Murray) Pound, MCIP, RPP

July 31, 1927—May 13, 2000

By Philip J. Stewart

"Murray was a beacon of light in the planning profession . . ."

Arthur Sydney Murray Pound, MCIP, RPP, President of Pound Stewart and Stein Planning Consultants, passed away suddenly on May 13, 2000, while on a sailing vacation in Greece.

Murray embodied a true zest for life both personally and professionally. Many of us were fortunate to have enjoyed the benefit of Murray's vast professional expertise in the field of planning and related disciplines and were inspired by his sense of purpose, enthusiasm and reason. Over many years Murray touched many of us on a personal and professional level and his legacy will continue as a guiding force to all that knew him well.

In the reconciliation period following World War II, Murray served in the British Army and conducted survey work for road building and servicing in Egypt and Kenya. He was a member of the Royal Corp. of Engineers and was fond of recalling these experiences with different cultures.

Murray was formally educated in England at the College of Estate Management, Planning Division, London, receiving his Planning Diploma. He articled to a professional planner and engineer for six years. Murray emigrated in 1956 from England with his wife Barbara, baby daughter Catherine and a Border collie named Moss. His solid background in survey methods assisted him in many ways in his early days in Canada.

Murray's new life in Canada began with the Department of Highways, where he received an award for introducing an innovative survey system to lay out complex increasing/decreasing radii highway ramps.

Murray later joined the City of Etobicoke and became head of the Roads Design Section. He decided his true vocation was in professional planning, and he became Chief Planner for Etobicoke in 1960, joining the Institute in October 1969.

In the mid-1960s Murray accepted the new position of the Director of Planning and Secretary-Treasurer of the Hamilton/Wentworth Planning Area. In

(See photo, page 32.)



1971 Murray was chosen to become the first Commissioner of Planning for the fledging Regional Municipality of York and earned the respect of his fellow workers and professional colleagues in those early complex days of regional government.

In 1976 Murray ventured into private practice with Montague Pound Associates and shortly thereafter became President of the firm, which some ten years later evolved into Pound Welch Associates Limited. In 1990 a new firm of Pound Stewart and Stein Planning Consultants was formed. During this period Murray was also President of the Association of Consulting Planners.

In over 40 years of professional planning service, Murray's professional accomplishments included among others:

- Producing some of the earliest planning documents recognizing the significant role of the Oak Ridges Moraine;
- Negotiating with the Province regarding the sizing of the York Durham Trunk Sewer System;
- Providing input to the Ontario Cabinet on the need and basis for Highway 407;
- Providing expert testimony at the OMB and at Ontario Land Expropriation Hearings.

Murray was a Registered Professional Planner and strong advocate of well-reasoned, pragmatic plans. He felt that in order to advance the public acceptance of our profession we need to break free of an attitude of simply expressing what can't be done, and inserting a more helpful attitude of what can be done. Murray was a planner's planner who brought his well rounded skills in the fields of survey and engineering to support planning in the public interest.

Over the past 11 years I have been fortunate to have the pleasure of Murray's companionship as a friend, mentor and planning colleague. The loss of Murray has been a significant one to me personally and to our planning profession.

It is an honour to propose a scholarship in Murray's name to be awarded by Pound & Stewart Services Planning Consultants to The School of Urban and Regional Planning, Ryerson Polytechnic University. This scholarship will be awarded to a fourth-year student demonstrating strong leadership qualities and an appreciation of visionary planning.

Murray is survived by his wife Barbara of 46 years, children Catherine, David and Stuart, six grandchildren, and two great grandchildren; also his brother Geoffrey Pound, P. Eng.

### MURRAY POUND 1927–2000

"Murray was a beacon of light in the planning profession for so many years and he will be sorely missed." John R. Bousfield, FCIP, RPP.

"Murray was a solid highly respected professional with a kind sense of humour." John W. Livey, FCIP, RPP.

"Murray was one of those people who had an obvious delight in shaping future environments for new communities . . . his ability to provide solutions and personal affability made him a pleasure to work with." N. Jane Pepino, Q.C.

"Murray had a deep understanding of the city and its relation to the surrounding country. It was a pleasure to work with him and understand his concerns. We will miss his insights." Eberhard H. Zeidler, Architect.

"... Murray was always a gentleman and truly a professional worthy of every ounce of respect he was awarded by those who worked with him." Velvet L. Ross, MCIP, RPP.

"I consider myself lucky to have known Murray as a colleague and as a friend. His zest for life permeated everything he did and everyone he touched. He was ahead of his time in creating visionary plans for such areas as the Oak Ridges Moraine. His contributions and affectionate human qualities will long be remembered. I learned much from Murray and will not forget him." Donald F. McQuay, Earth Scientist.

Philip J. Stewart, MCIP, RPP, Pound & Stewart Services Planning Consultants, a division of Pound & Stewart Associates Limited

### Thomas D. Kent

Thomas Kent, Senior Planner and Manager, Northern Developments with J. L. Richards & Associates Ltd., died earlier this summer. According to Daphne Wretham, who worked with Thomas, he had more than 25 years experience as an environmental and resource planner. Before joining Richards, Thomas was an environmental consultant in Ottawa, a researcher with Environment Canada and a teaching assistant with the Department of Geography at the University of Ottawa, where he earned his B.A. (Honours) and M.A. in Geography. Fluent in French and English, Thomas previously worked with the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and as a resource manager with Natural Resources in Thunder Bay.

### Don Logan

Don Logan died on September 14, 2000 in his 51st year, of a rare form of liver cancer, which was diagnosed in July. His family's strong faith allowed them to accept this unfortunate fate and help his friends and colleagues through a very difficult time. His wife, Elaine, and son, Michael, who just graduated from Queen's University and has begun a career in coastal engineering, should be very proud of a good friend and father who gave so much to his community and profession.

Don was a member of the first graduating class of Planning at Ryerson in 1973. Born and raised in Mount Hope, Don lived in Hamilton and practised out of the Philips Office in Burlington for 27 years. He had a long-standing relationship with many in the Muskoka area, including his good friend, Ross Raymond. Two years ago, Don became a Principal in the firm of BLS Planning Associates with Tom Smart and Glen Barker, with offices in Burlington and St. Catharines.

As a member of the Private Sector Committee of OPPI, he was passionate about the need for consultants to give the best competent service at all times. To do otherwise, reflected badly on the entire profession and "the lowest bid had better be prepared to complete the job competently."

Excellence comes from passion and truth. The profession has gained respect through the efforts of such a dedicated member. Those of us who were fortunate to know Don remember his words of praise for those he admired. On behalf of his friends and colleagues, we wish to express our praise and thanks to Don Logan.

A bursary has been established by BLS Planning Associates, the Class of 73, Don's Colleagues and Friends. Donations can be made to:

Don Logan – Class of '73 Bursary Awards Office, 3rd Floor Ryerson Polytechnic University 350 Victoria Street Toronto, ON M5B 2K3

### People

## Robert Shipley Brings His Expertise to Plan Canada

**Robert Shipley**, contributing editor for the In Print column in the Ontario Planning Journal and a lecturer at the University of Waterloo and

Oxford Brooks in the U.K., has been appointed to the Editorial Board of Plan Canada, a publication going through some challenging times. Plan Canada hopes to benefit from Robert's practical experience with the Ontario Planning



**Robert Shipley** 

Journal as well as his broad academic and consulting reach. Robert can be reached at rshipley@fes.uwaterloo.ca

Glenn Miller, editor of the Ontario



- F: (416) 960-0172
- E: adminwnd@wndplan.com

Planning Journal and director of applied research with the Canadian Urban Institute in Toronto, has been appointed to the Editorial Advisory Board of the Canadian Journal of Urban Research, a publication of the Institute of Urban Studies at the University of Winnipeg. The CJUR wants to expand its coverage of professional prac-

tice issues and more Ontario content, and is looking to Glenn's experience with the Ontario Planning Journal to meet these objectives. This appointment will also complement Miller's work at The Canadian Urban Institute, which is launching a program to build "Canada's Urban Agenda." This initiative is intended to involve institutions, cities and individuals across the country in a broad program that

includes redefining the relationship cities have with senior levels of government. He can be reached at ontarioplanning@home.com or gmiller@canurb.com for Canadian Urban Institute business.

Jeff Willmer has accepted a position as



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22 Fisher Street, P.O. Box 280 King City, Ontario, L7B 1A6 phone: 905 833-1244 fax: 905 833-1255 e-mail: kingcity@lgl.com Senior Planner with Planning and Engineering Initiatives Ltd. in Kitchener. Jeff was with the City of Kitchener for the past 11 years, most recently as Manager of Design & Development. He brings to the private sector a wide range of experience including site planning, subdivision and community planning. Jeff can be reached at (519) 745-



Glenn Miller

9455 or at jwillmer@peil.net. Brad Kaye left his position as a development supervisor/senior planner with the Regional Municipality of Haldimand-Norfolk in July to take a position as a community planner with the planning, engineering and surveying firm of Gourdie/Fraser & Associates Inc. in Traverse City, Michigan. He can be reached by e-mail at

bkaye@gourdiefraser.com. The City of Kingston has

hired two senior planners to work in the Development Review Unit. **Mark Gladysz** joined Kingston from the City of London; he previously worked for the City of Toronto and the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture. **Marni Venditti** was with Cumming Cockburn Ltd before joining the City; before that she worked for Kingston 2000



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Peter Nikolakakos has joined Urban Intelligence Inc. as a planner, following a six-month stint with the Canadian Urban Institute researching city regions and Smart Growth concepts. A Ryerson graduate, Peter notes that a high proportion of his classmates have had success in breaking into the planning field. He promises an article on the subject soon. Other Ryerson graduates on the move include **Sophie McKenna**, who has joined the CUI where she is carrying out research assignments and



organizing conferences. **Paul Laruccia**, who returned to Canada following work experience in New York, has joined the Toronto Board of Trade as a policy analyst, filling the vacancy left when **Loretta Ryan** joined OPPI. Before going to the Board, Paul was researching the impact of Bill 35 on municipal electric utilities for the Canadian Urban Institute.

Garry Wood currently holds the position of President—Bell Distribution Inc./Bell World, the retail division of Bell family products and services. The concept for the Bell World stores was launched last



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2 DUNCAN MILL ROAD • DON MILLS ONTARIO • M3B 1Z4 TEL: (416) 445-4360 FAX: (416) 445-4809 rval@yesic.com year when Bell Canada and Bell Mobility merged their sales operations under the name of Bell Distribution Inc.(BDI). The 160 plus

stores operate as Bell World in Ontario and Espace Bell in Quebec, providing a world-class retail presence. Prior to joining BDI in May 2000, Garry held the position of



Garry Wood

Group Vice President and General Manager of Budget Car and Rentals for four years. Garry can be reached at (905) 212-1999 or garry.wood.@bellworld.ca

The contributing editors for People are Lorelei Jones, MCIP, RPP (lja@home.com) and Thomas Hardacre, MCIP, RPP (thardacre@peinitiatives.on.ca). Lorelei is a principal of her own firm, while Thomas is with Planning and Engineering Initiatives.



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### 17 / COMMENTARY

Editorial

### Do Brownfield Announcements Herald Urban Strategy for Ontario?

By Glenn Miller

ife is a series of cycles, and the history of provincial interest in urban planning has waxed and waned so many times in the past four decades we could be forgiven for believing that the pendulum was never going to swing back.

But following a long period of a hands-off attitude to urban issues. there are signs that the government is rediscovering the potential hidden in Ontario's cities and towns. At a joint news conference on September 20, Municipal Affairs Minister Tony Clement and Environment Minister Dan Newman laid the first plank in what could become a solid platform on urban redevelopment. They announced the formation of an advisory panel of brownfield experts "to assist the government in identifying policy improvements and

new approaches for rejuvenating brownfield sites." Brownfield development has long been a

thorny issue. But thanks to some solid staff work at Municipal Affairs & Housing (that produced a summary of successful brownfield projects); a bold initiative by the Regional Planning Commissioners that resulted in a Standard Process Model for site clean-up (see previous two issues of Ontario Planning

Journal); and behind the scenes cooperation between Environment, Municipal Affairs, and Economic Development & Trade, the two ministers were able to step forward with some confidence that progress can be made. It also helps that municipalities such as Hamilton, Cobourg, Cornwall, Brantford, Windsor and Kitchener (to mention just some) have been making headway on brownfield development on their own initiative.

At the Understanding Brownfields Conference the next day (at which four members of the newly appointed Advisory Panel spoke), both ministers expanded on their earlier statements, citing the strategic benefits of getting on with brownfield development. Brownfields typically have ready access to infrastructure because they tend to be located in prime areas close to downtown, so it makes sense to develop these sites first, they both noted. Or as Clement put it, "Before that extra acre of farmland is chewed up, let's develop brownfields."

The Minister of the Environment was no less forthright, stating categorically that policy and practice enhancements that remove barriers to brownfield development will not dilute environmental

standards. Given the shaky performance around water quality earlier this summer, signs of stability and a commitment to following through on basic principles are welcome. "At the end of the day," Newman noted, "it is the environment that will take priority." Developer Mitchell Fasken, a conference panelist appointed to the Advisory Panel to represent the Urban Development Institute, summed up the challenge: Make brownfields

Following a long period of a hands-off attitude to urban issues, there are signs that the government is rediscovering the potential hidden in Ontario's cities and towns

more attractive to develop than greenfields.

Making the direct link between strategic site development and the need to get a handle on growth management is a constructive step towards creating an urban strategy. More than one speaker at the conference referred to the precedent being set in the United States where brownfield development is a cornerstone of Smart Growth policies (watch for detailed coverage of Smart Growth in upcoming issues of the Ontario Planning Journal).

Other promising moves mentioned include a commitment (made at the AMO conference earlier in the summer) to remake the Municipal Act. The government's interest in getting on with reform may be linked to the popularity of municipal legislation passed

> recently in B.C., Alberta and Newfoundland that gives cities much more power and recognition. If Alberta can get behind municipal reform, suggest some pundits, so must Ontario. The government is also making noises about rethinking its approach to funding transit. Ontario is currently unique among major urban jurisdictions by requiring public transit to be funded exclusively from the fare box and the property tax.

On the economic development front, much of the inter-ministerial support for brownfield development comes from MEDT. Thanks to a move made by former deputy minister Dan Burns before his move to Health, the MEDT's Urban Economic Development office is giving its undivided attention to the six or seven largest urban centres in Ontario. Other signs that planning is making a comeback within the government bureaucracy is the high-profile appointment of Diana Santo as an advisor to the Minister and the commitment to a performance-based process through development permit trials.

Glenn Miller, MCIP, RPP is editor of the Ontario Planning Journal and Director of Applied Research with the Canadian

Urban Institute in Toronto. He can be reached at ontarioplanning@ home.com.



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### Towards a Greater Toronto Charter

In spring 1999, Toronto businessman and philanthropist Alan Broadbent, chair of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs and former chair of the Canadian Urban Institute, began a process to consider how greater autonomy might affect Toronto's ability to plan for its future and address more effectively the challenges before it. The results of a twoday meeting of academics, planners, former mayors and activists have been collected in a book: *Toronto: Considering Self*government.

The process continued as a small working group met regularly to explore options that would give the Toronto Region more autonomy. The group decided that a charter—a medieval device that gives cities special, case-specific authority—would give Toronto greater control over its destiny.

Over the last eight months municipalities across the Greater Toronto Area have debated and in many cases endorsed the document *Towards a Greater Toronto Charter.* Others have tabled it for future consideration.

Charters are not new. Some Canadian cities already have one (St. John's, Vancouver), as do some American cities (Philadelphia), although the content of each varies, depending on the requirements of each area. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario have also explored charters.

Towards a Greater Toronto Charter has generated interest across the country. Not long after the public release of the report, the City of Toronto announced its intention to seek a charter. However the Broadbent version insists upon a regional vision, one that allows municipalities to devolve certain powers to local municipalities, but provides for regionally coherent policies and practices.

At the heart of the Charter is the notion that cities or metropolitan regions should be responsible for governing those aspects of urban life that can be implemented locally, but that need the requisite resources and authority. The Charter calls on metropolitan regions to demonstrate their capacity to govern better than more remote, senior governments. At the same time, senior levels of government must rec-

### By Mary Rowe

ognize that cities are the engines of prosperity, and that it is in their best interest to unfetter the cities and equip them financially to exercise their responsibilities to govern.

Elements of the Charter could apply to all Canadian cities able to demonstrate that they have reached a critical threshold of capability and need. Here are some highlights from *Towards a Greater Toronto Charter*.

### **Democratic Principles**

Two fundamental democratic principles ensure that governments are effective and responsive. The first principle is subsidiarity. This means that to the greatest extent possible, governmental activity (such as policy development, program and service

At the heart of the Charter is the notion that cities or metropolitan regions should be responsible for governing those aspects of urban life that can be implemented locally, but that need the requisite resources and authority

management and delivery) should be exercised by the administration that is closest to the people.

The second is fiscal accountability. This means that the government that spends taxpayers' money on goods and services is the same government that sets the policies and raises the requisite money, as directly as possible.

Subsidiarity and fiscal accountability enable citizens to hold their elected representatives accountable. Governments must be able to manage both sides of the ledger (revenue and expenditure) in areas for which they have primary responsibility. If it is essential to ensure a minimum standard across a province or across the country, the principles of subsidiarity or fiscal accountability may be set aside in favour of policies, delivery responsibilities, and fiscal resources that have been cooperatively developed.

#### The Greater Toronto Region

The Greater Toronto Region accounts for more than 20 percent of Canada's Gross Domestic Product and an even higher proportion of its economic growth. The region has grown so large and complex that its present form of government, which was devised when the present scale, intricacy and economic importance of Canadian urban regions were unimaginable, is outdated. The Greater Toronto Region must meet the needs of a diverse, expanding population. The urban vitality of other world cities has been preserved and enhanced when they have been given a degree of self-government. Self-government helps ensure that local priorities are respected within strategies that unleash the collective assets of a region.

### Urban Metropolitan Regions in Canada

Canada's urban regions, particularly the metropolitan areas, are critical to Canada's continued prosperity and vitality and, as such, are obliged to share their wealth, innovation and other assets with the rest of Canada. These regions need governance arrangements that allow them to continue to share their prosperity and vitality with the rest of the country, as well as compete with other urban areas around the world, for the benefit of all Canadians.

At the time of Confederation in 1867, the population of Canada was just under four million. The Constitution Act allocates to the provinces the right to determine the structure and powers of municipal institutions. In the world of the mid-19th century, when cities were small and relatively uncomplicated, this made sense. In the 21st century, local administrations within the Greater Toronto Region, as indeed across the country, continue to be bound by constitutional rules that were designed for a primarily agrarian society.

### Devolution of Responsibilities, Powers and Authority

In recent years, there has been a considerable devolution of power from the national to the provincial levels of government in Canada. Some provincial governments, in keeping with the principle of subsidiarity, have devolved to municipalities responsibility for certain services, including providing and maintaining infrastructure.

Although responsibility for implementation and service delivery were devolved, policy setting was not. In fact, there has been a decrease in the share of spending allotted to municipalities. This devolution of responsibility without the requisite authority to set policy and secure resources to funds runs counter to the principles of subsidiarity and fiscal accountability. Canada's largest urban region is unable to exercise its full governance responsibilities.

### **Call to Action**

In jurisdictions around the world, constitutional, administrative and financing arrangements increasingly reflect the central role of metropolitan regions that, having achieved a requisite level of resources and experience, can now manage their own destinies. Senior governments in Canada must devolve to urban regions a broader ability to tax or obtain additional revenue sources, so that these regions can effectively exercise their responsibility to identify needs, supply services, pay the bills and provide accessible, democratic government.

Such devolution will enable Canada's economic, social and cultural engines to keep pace with the other urban jurisdictions that are their main competitors in the urbanized world of the 21st century.

Mary Rowe is a consultant based in Owen Sound. She organized "Ideas That Matter," a conference focusing on the work of Jane Jacobs and has edited many books and articles, including Toronto: Considering Self-government (Ginger Press, 2000, available by calling 1-800-463-9937). This was also the subject of CBC Ideas program that has been rebroadcast several times on Radio One. Mary can be reached at murowe@bmts.com. For the full text of the Charter, go to www.torontocharter.com

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send your letters to the editor to: OPPI, 234 Eglinton Ave. E., #201 Toronto, Ontario M4P 1K5 **ontarioplanning@home.com** Or fax us at: (416) 483-7830

## These are the Principles of the Greater Toronto Charter

### Article One

The Greater Toronto Region form an order of government that is a full partner of the Federal and Provincial Governments of Canada.

Article Two

The Greater Toronto Region, and its municipalities, be empowered to govern and exercise responsibility over a broad range of issues, including:

- child and family services; cultural institutions; economic development and marketing;
- education; environmental protection; health care; housing; immigrant and refugee settlement; land-use planning; law enforcement and emergency services; recreation; revenue generation, taxation and assessment; transportation; sewage treatment; social assistance; waste and natural resource management; and water supply and quality management; with the exception of those matters as are mutually agreed upon with other levels of government that are best assigned to another level.

### Article Three

The Greater Toronto Region have the fiscal authority to raise revenues and allocate expenditures with respect to those responsibilities outlined in Article Two.

### Article Four

The Greater Toronto Region be governed by accessible, democratic governments, created by their citizens and accountable to them for the exercise of the governments' full duties and responsibilities.

### Article Five

The Greater Toronto Region continue to fulfill its obligation to share its wealth, innovation, and other assets with the rest of Canada, through appropriate mechanisms developed in concert with other levels of government.

### Letters

### Can We Learn From The U.S.?

Editor Glenn Miller correctly identifies some of the advantages of the American Planning Association has over our planning associations ("Why American Planners Get to Play in the Big Leagues," vol. 15, no. 3). In addition to active participation and strong leadership by nonprofessional members, professional members are found working in more diverse environments.

I had the opportunity of working with a New York firm specializing in the planning and design of justice and health facilities, alongside planners who developed operational and security policies, programmed space needs, staffing projections as well as more traditional site and land use analyses. The New York chapter of the APA sponsored an ongoing committee for health planning, of which the largest representation (and often, the most insightful opinions) came from non-professional members.

Having just returned to Canada to work, I am encouraged but skeptical as to whether Canadian planning associations are truly engaging participation by nonprofessional members, or whether the professional planner has strayed very far from something involving the use of land. Maybe it's just growing pains that our cousins to the south have already experienced.

> Andrew Brouwer, Election and Committee Consultant, Oakville



### 20 / DEPARTMENTS

**Urban Design** 

### Toronto's Architecture and Urban Design Awards Compete Successfully with Film Festival for Media Attention

t takes a brave organizer to take on the Toronto Film Festival but Robert Glover and his team of urban design professionals at the City of Toronto successfully grabbed some media coverage in mid-September for the City's first design awards presentation of the new century. The Globe and Mail newspaper acted as media sponsor, which helped. "A great city has the power to astonish with its looks," urban design director Glover noted. "The awards are dedicated to the City's continuing tradition for creating streetscapes, parks and squares that are inviting and that make you pause to admire."

.....

The jury of Janna Levitt, Dan Hanganu, William Greer and Bruce Corban picked 15 projects that in their view contribute to the city's quality of life. Although praising the winners, the jury was critical of "the poor quality" of many submissions, particularly in the "Theoretical" category. "We encourage individual practitioners . . . and graduate students . . . and hope that a greater range of projects and entries will be forthcoming," the jury stated.

The winners were chosen from over 90 entries. Visit toronto@city.on.ca for a full exposition or send for the smart brochure produced to honour the winners.

The City of Mississauga will be presenting its 19th annual urban design awards on November 20 at Mississauga City Hall. Contact David Harrold for more details.

The Urban Design Working Group comprises professionals across Ontario with an interest in furthering the understanding of urban design in the profession. The group is chaired by Anne McIlroy, MCIP, RPP, a senior urban designer with Cochrane Brook Ltd in Toronto. She can be reached at (416) 504-9755.

### Large place award



The National Trade Centre (designed by Zeidler Roberts with Dunlop Farrow Inc.) promotes a "free flow of pedestrian movement and supports functions on this grand ceremonial street."

Small place award



Courthouse Square is "a well-mannered transformation of a vacant midblock site tucked away downtown." Landscape architect was Janet Rosenberg, Curruthers Shaw were the architects. The City is the owner.



### Building award



McKinsey & Company's new headquarters was praised for meeting zoning and University design criteria. "An especially fine response, in scale and material use, to the academic architecture of Victoria College and the University of Toronto." Architects: Taylor Hairiri Pantarini Architects

### Building adaptation honourable mention



The John Street Roundhouse. "This project is a valuable example of careful physical reinterpretation of a major heritage building adapted to accommodate new occupancies and incorporating associated railway heritage elements in the surrounding park." Architect: Hotson Bakker Architects.

### Small place honourable mention



"Tree City is strategic as a phased development for parkland rather than the design of a set piece, considering the substantial funding and length of time required to finally develop the Downsview site as a whole. Owner: Parc Downsview Park Inc.

Honourable mention



The Kensington Market lofts were awarded an Honourable Mention for a "community driven" project for "the visual benefit of the neighbourhood." Robert Barnett and Paul Oberst were the joint venture architects.

### Small place honourable mention



"A pleasant amenity operating on the relationship set up between elemental qualities of a dramatic lakeshore, installation of a large natural stone monoliths and the vastness of water and sky viewed beyond." Owner: City of Toronto & David and Silvia Sheldon.

### Large place or street



Don Valley Brickworks. "This is a brilliant environmental restoration of an industrial scar forming an important part of the city's linking network of ravine lands." Master plan: Hough Woodland Naylor Dance Leinster and Baird Sampson Architects.

### **Economic Development**

## Community Economic Analysis in Small Town Strategic Planning

By Pat Parent and Clare Wasteneys



Madawaska River (foreground) meets the Ottawa River

In strategic planning, we often find that part of a community's vision for the future includes a strong, diversified local economy that will provide secure employment, thriving businesses and a better quality of life for community members. To get there, communities need a good understanding of local businesses, markets, demographics and available resources (land, labour, and money). They need to identify local strengths and weaknesses and anticipate emerging opportunities or challenges in the larger regional or global economy that could affect local markets and industries.

How does a community figure out its comparative strengths and weaknesses? Community Economic Analysis (CEA) is a systematic assessment of the composition and performance of the economy of a community. This information can be used to guide decisions about marketing to attract investment, supporting local businesses, or developing human resources for targeted sectors. By identifying which sectors are growing or declining locally and nationally, CEA can help a community decide how much effort to focus on retaining and expanding existing businesses versus attracting new businesses.

CEA is not a single method, but a mix of analytical methods using primary and secondary data and varying levels of analytical complexity. CEA includes economic impact analysis, shift share analysis, trade area analysis and input-output analysis. The actual mix of methods used depend on local issues and resources. Where resources permit, studies can be commissioned that use primary data collection and provide "expert" recommendations for the community. Such studies can provide timely, in-depth information for local decision-makers.

### **CEA and Small Towns**

The cost of a complete CEA may, however, be prohibitive for smaller communities with limited budgets. Other challenges faced by small towns and rural areas in carrying out CEAs include the lack of dedicated expert staff and the lack of available data. Yet small communities need to understand local and regional economic trends, given the tremendous impact that plant closures or technological changes can have on the local labour market.

For the past year or so, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs has been exploring lower-cost CEA approaches to help rural communities with



strategic planning. We are interested mainly in methods that use readily available data and do not require advanced statistical analysis programs. To ensure wide

community participation, we have tried to identify economic analysis concepts that do not require an economics degree to understand. To reduce the analytical burden on the communities, we gather the relevant data into spreadsheets that do all the necessary calculations down to the village level, and can be transformed into full-colour maps or graphs.

We have used CEA methods for a variety of purposes. In Arnprior and Meaford,

it was strategic planning, while in Brant County, it was used for the development of the County Official Plan. Although only Arnprior has been fully evaluated, we have learned a few things about the challenges and usefulness of CEA for small communities. Economic Analysis has yielded these insights:

A community should not rely on any single

piece of information or number generated by the analysis.

Relving on one statistic or indicator gives only one perspective on the local economy. A high level of local employment in manufacturing may indicate a comparative local advantage in that sector. However, there may be a lack of retail and other services. which has led to an outflow of dollars as residents drive to neighbouring centres to shop. A high level of employment could also mean a low level



The museum is Arnprior's most identifiable building

What to Consider in a Community Economic Analysis Our experience with Community

of efficiency in local firms.

Results for a community should be com-

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The Exchange Tower, Suite 1600 P.O. Box 480, 130 King Street West Toronto, Ontario M5X 1J5 Tel: (416) 365-1110 Fax: (416) 365-1876 Internet: www.weirfoulds.com E-mail: lordi@weirfoulds.com pared with similar communities.

Comparison with other communities provides a measure of comparative strengths and weaknesses. Indicators like median household income, unemployment, age of housing, and employment growth by sector, are not particularly useful unless they can be measured against the performance of other communities or against a standard, such as a provincial average.

Local economic trends over time should be measured to determine the direction of community change.

Measuring trends can reinforce or challenge local perceptions of how the community is changing. People may know that the population has been aging, but analysis of population data will show more accurately to what extent the population is aging. This information can then be used to plan for seniors' services.

A variety of information sources should be used, including hard data from government agencies as well as the knowledge of local citizens.

Although technical information from economic analysis can provide useful insights, local residents are



Many merchants in the downtown core are making significant efforts to restore their buildings to their original beauty

still the best source of information about local changes, such as plant or school closures or recent developments. This is especially critical if the analysis relies on data from the census, which occurs every five years and may not reflect changes in the intervening years.

Pat Parent and Clare Wasteneys work for the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. Clare can be reached at 519-826-3157 or clare.wasteneys@omafra.gov.on.ca. In the next issue, the authors will describe the advantages and disadvantages of CEA methods and give an example of the results from an assessment of Arnprior.

This series marks the return of the Economic Development column, which is being coordinated by Nicola Mitchinson. Nicola is the Journal's contributing editor for economic development. She is the principal of the firm Mitchinson Planning & Development Consultants and Chair of the City of Barrie Economic Development Advisory Committee. Please contact Nicola with any article suggestions (705) 739-7175, fax (705) 739-8118.

### Transportation

### Managing Technology and Human Behaviour Key to Coping with Gridlock

By Glenn Miller

The ways that the world's major cities battle traffic congestion are as diverse as the character of the places themselves. The outcome is important, because congestion affects the attractiveness of these cities as places to live and work. This in turn affects cities' economic competitiveness. Having had the rare opportunity to pay working visits to Tokyo, London and New York within the past year, I wondered how their approaches to managing traffic compared to the situation in Toronto.

### Tokyo, Crowded But Under Control

Tokyo is an ancient city with a dense network of commuter rail, subways and light rail transit. But as the metropolitan area expands outwards, so Tokyo's reliance on cars increases. Without the flexibility to use rail for goods movement (nearly all rail capacity is devoted to passenger use), and a population of 12 million, Tokyo must cope with a daily influx of thousands of trucks and light vans in addition to cars. Congestion reached critical levels in the mid-1990s. An unexpected benefit of the recent recession was that traffic growth stalled, giving the beleaguered Metropolitan government a chance to take action.

With funding from the national government, the Metropolitan government built a sophisticated traffic control centre, which is now operated by the police. Equipped with a giant computer screen that shows the entire metro area and environs, the screen can pinpoint trouble spots and congestion on major routes as an "aerial view" in real time. It can also switch to a conceptual "system view" suitable for analysis. Using a variety of media including sensors, monitors and cameras at more than 14,000 intersections, the centre staff broadcast up-to-the-second information on traffic conditions through local radio stations and on roadside display boards.

Drivers willing to invest in on-board Global Positioning Systems and dashboard screens can get warnings of congestion and routing alternatives, along with predicted travel time savings. Couriers, taxis and business executives use this service. Local police estimate that the system has paid for itself in less than two years in benefits to the economy because of travel time saved. The Advanced Traffic Information Service, which leases the on-board systems, is run by the Metropolitan Expressway Public Corporation.

The successful implementation of this system may have something to do with the fact that the Japanese are fundamentally polite and more likely than their North American counterparts to stick to the rules of the road.

### London Looking at Road Pricing

Even though London is served by the equivalent of half a dozen Union Stations, about a dozen subway lines and hundreds of surface bus routes, the city seems to be losing its battle with traffic congestion. Average bus speeds in central London are now lower than they were 150 years ago when vehicles were horsedrawn. Today only the rich or the foolhardy try to drive in downtown London. Parking is at such a premium that corporate chauffeurs cruise the streets until called into action by cell phone.

But help is at hand. London's new mayor, "Red Ken" Livingstone, has seen the future and it is called road pricing. He would get both the money and the political credit if road pricing lowers traffic congestion. With gasoline at about \$2 a litre, the motoring public has until recently seemed immune to fuel price hikes, but road pricing could reduce volumes by 15 percent, some observers predict.

One of the firms working on intelligent systems that will pave the way for the introduction of these road pricing systems is Canada's IBI Group. IBI has installed smart signage systems that direct drivers to parking locations with available space and have also developed a process that transmits closedcircuit TV images to the BBC's London Live site (www.bbc.co.uk./londonlive/travel andweather) to give people up-to-date traffic information.

With the introduction of a new wireless standard for transmitting information (the WAP wireless application protocol), drivers will be able to log on to the Internet from a cell phone and get local travel information. There are now 26 million cell phone users in the UK—more than half the population—so the availability of technology and content seem to be in synch.

### New Yorkers Obey Giuliani

There is nowhere quite like the Big Apple. When Gotham teetered into bankruptcy in the 1970s, the numbers had nine zeros. When Mayor Rudi Giuliani engineered New York's "comeback" in the 1990s by sweeping away the dirt and cracking down on crime, the pace of the city's rehabilitation outpaced the Dow Jones index. Now, in the city that coined the term gridlock, Giuliani is winning the fight against traffic congestion by combining the latest in traffic control technology with the ancient art of skilful public relations.

With a modal split of 80 percent transit, Giuliani is clearly working at the margin but, even so, handling the travel demands of 13 million people is no mean feat. In the 1990s, MTA introduced smart cards (such as Metrocard) with different pricing options for transit users, and passes (EZPass) for motorists. The two systems are credited with making the commuter's life more bearable, according to William Wheeler, MTA's Director of Planning.

"We finally figured out that there is no such thing as an average commuter," says Wheeler. "The needs of potential transit users are actually very diverse."

The stereotype of the New York driver is the aggressive truck driver or the jaded taxi driver. Visitors to Manhattan scratch their heads when they see vehicles obediently stopping on yellow lights and keeping intersections clear. The answer lies in a brilliant blend of technology and common sense. A "Don't Block the Box" program was initiated almost a year ago. White lines have been painted on intersections; it is against the law to stop on the lines, that is, in the "box," when the traffic signals are red. Behind the scenes, the Vehicle Traffic Control Center



continuously calibrates 11,000 computerized traffic signals, helped by 55 closed-circuit cameras.

But backing up technology is Mayor Giuliani's personal guarantee that violators will be prosecuted. "Blocking the box" carries the threat of a \$500 fine. Besides, "when you block the box you're not really getting yourself to your destination any faster," the Mayor points out.

### Toronto's Gains Go Unnoticed

A small irony amid concerns about traffic congestion in Toronto is that the city has a worldwide reputation for its sophisticated Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). According to Ramesh Jagannathan, a senior project engineer with D. S. Lea & Associates who is familiar with the City of Toronto's Road Emergency Services Communications Unit

(RESCU) system, "There is a constant flow of technical experts from Europe, China and cities in the U.S. who visit RESCU to see how we do it. The problem is that Torontonians don't know how good a system we have."

RESCU is one of four similar traffic systems in the Greater Toronto Area. "Timely, accurate and useful information on traffic



London's traffic congestion drives some people to extremes

conditions helps motorists choose an appropriate route," says Scott Brammer, Team Leader with the Ministry of Transportation's COMPASS, the most extensive of the four

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> updating message signs on the highway and by broadcasting information to the news media."

COMPASS relies on data from hundreds of detection loops embedded in the roadway. The data are confirmed and interpreted by skilled operators using closed-circuit cameras from the Traffic Operations Centre in Downsview. RESCU is a similar but separate system, operated by the City of Toronto, which focuses on the Gardiner Expressway, Lakeshore Boulevard and part of the Don Valley Parkway.

Visitors to the websites of COM-PASS and RESCU can select views from any camera noted on the site maps. Visit www.city.toronto.on.ca /RESCU and www.mto.gov.on.ca/

English/COMPASS.

### Looking for Lessons

What lessons can we learn from the experience of Tokyo, London and New York? The first is to continuously improve transit service levels by investing in capital improvements and promoting innovative fare-collection systems to attract new riders. The second is to invest in sophisticated ITS equipment to manage traffic. This prepares the ground for riskier strategies such as road pricing and encouraging road users to benefit from traffic intelligence. Finally, we need to figure out how to improve human behaviour so that available road space is used efficiently and responsibly. That may be the toughest challenge of all.

Glenn Miller, MCIP, RPP is Director of Applied Research with the Canadian Urban Institute and editor of the Ontario Planning Journal. He can be reached at gmiller@canurb.com or ontarioplanning@home.com. This is an abbreviated version of a recent four-part series written for Novae Res Urbis, Toronto's leading newsletter on planning and development issues. Visit their website for full details (www.urbanintelligence.com). The author would like to thank Ian Graham, MCIP, RPP, President of Urban Intelligence, for making it possible to visit New York to conduct research for this series. Additional research was carried out by Peter Nikolakakos, who has recently joined Urban Intelligence as a planner. David Kriger's column will return.

### Housing

## Municipality Leads By Example on Affordable Seniors' Housing

By Dennis Jacobs



The Meridian under construction in Nepean

Leading by example best sums up the idea behind the City of Nepean's strategy to create life-lease housing for seniors. When the Ottawa-area municipality saw a need for affordable seniors' housing, it decided to begin a life-lease project. As far as Nepean is concerned, this was a one-shot effort.

"We did what we set out to do, which was to show how you could build this type of housing at no cost to the sponsor. That was our prime objective. We see no need for the City to do it again," said Dennis Jacobs, Director of Policy for the City of Nepean.

The product of Nepean's undertaking is a \$10-million, 66-unit life-lease project for

seniors, called the Meridian, located in the City's Centrepointe community. Construction was completed in December 1999. Units, which were priced between \$120,000 and \$200,000, were quickly occupied.

The stimulus for the project was the familiar municipal need to encourage affordable housing that local ratepayers can afford. Life-lease seemed to be a good fit for the type of project Nepean had in mind. It was, however, not the type of housing covered by the mandate of the non-profit Nepean Housing Corporation. So the city had to create Centrepointe Life Lease Non-Profit Residence Inc., an arm's-length corporation, to manage the design, construction



and sales for the project.

The new non-profit corporation was run by an interim board composed of senior municipal staff. Jacobs was president and board chair. Nepean's commissioner of finance, Lloyd Russell, was treasurer and City Clerk John LeMaistre was secretary. On February 3, 2000, responsibility for the corporation transferred to a board elected by residents of the Meridian.

"This project may be unique," Jacobs commented. "As far as I am aware, this is the only municipally sponsored life-lease project that has been turned over to the residents to run. In most life-lease projects, the sponsoring organization retains ownership and control."

#### How the City Contributed

The City of Nepean provided the following support:

- \$35,000 in start-up funds to facilitate the engagement of Life Lease Associates of Canada as a consultant;
- a \$100,000 loan to help with marketing and sales;
- its services as an agent to purchase the land from CMHC;
- staff time to manage the project. On its own, the Centrepointe non-profit corporation obtained a \$45,000 proposal development loan from CMHC and negotiated a



CMHC-insured \$7.5 million mortgage loan to help finance the land purchase and construction. Deposits for units covered the remaining costs. With brisk unit sales and full occupancy, all borrowed funds have been repaid in full

"We demonstrated that there is a demand for seniors' housing, particularly apartmentoriented housing, and we showed how to make it self-financing," said Jacobs. "This project provides a model that other groups can follow. I have already been approached by organizations who are in various stages of trying to get life-lease projects off the ground or are exploring the idea.

"The one piece of advice I would give them is to bring a development consultant on board early to do some preliminary marketing. You want to be sure that you really do have a client group out there. That can be done at a fairly low cost. Once that is determined, word of mouth and a bit of advertising will do the rest," he concluded.

Linda Lapointe, MCIP, RPP, is president of Lapointe Consulting, a private firm specializing in housing, demographic and residential planing. She can be reached at 311markham@ sympatico.ca. For more information on the Nepean project, contact Dennis Jacobs MCIP, RPP, City of Nepean, 613-580-4751, ext. 5521, or dennis.jacobs@ottawatransition.on.ca.

### Environment

### Update on Walkerton, Water and Protecting Brand Ontario

In response to the editorial on the Walkerton situation in the previous issue, the Canadian Environment Industry Association provided this information to the Ontario Planning Journal.

Together with Premier Mike Harris, Ministers Tony Clement and Dan Newman recently announced the details of Operation Clean Water, an action plan to ensure that Ontario's drinking water remains among the safest in the world.

Under the auspices of Operation Clean Water, inspections are being undertaken of every municipal water treatment facility in the province. In addition, the government announced details of a new regulation that will help to protect Ontario's drinking water in future. The Drinking Water Protection Regulation will apply to water treatment and distribution systems that require approval under the Ontario Water Resources Act, including municipal waterworks and other large systems. The regulation will make Ontario's standards for the protection of drinking water quality among the toughest in Canada. Complete details on the regulation are available on the ministry's website at www.ene.gov.on.ca.

The regulation also identifies who is accountable for drinking water safety, and supports the public's right to timely and accurate information on drinking water quality. The regulation will be posted on the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry for a 30-day comment period, even though it will be in force as soon as it is gazetted. The regulation will apply to large waterworks that serve most Ontario residents. The government will also hold consultations to identify what small waterworks can do to better protect the drinking water they offer to members of the public.

The regulation applies to all waterworks that:

- use more than 50,000 litres of water on any day; or
- have the capacity to supply 250,000 or

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BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS SUITE 3100, 390 BAY STREET, TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA M5H IW2 FAX 416-868-3134 TEL. 416-868-3258 more litres of water per day; or

serve six or more residences.

The major requirements for these waterworks are sampling and testing. The Drinking Water Protection Regulation contains comprehensive requirements for the sampling and testing of drinking water. Waterworks must take regular and frequent samples of their treated water and have the samples tested for microbiological parameters (for example, total coliforms, fecal coliforms/E. coli), chlorine residuals, turbidity, volatile organics (for example, benzene, carbon tetrachloride) and other health-related parameters (for example, lead, arsenic).

Tests for health-related parameters must be conducted by an accredited laboratory. Tests for operational parameters can be performed by licensed operators at the waterworks. Laboratories are also required to provide the Ministry of the Environment with analytical data.

### **Minimum Level of Treatment**

Disinfection of water to eliminate diseasecausing organisms is the most important step in the drinking water treatment process. As of December 31, 2002, all drinking water that enters a water distribution system or

plumbing must be disinfected through chlorination or an equivalent process that persists as effectively as chlorination in the distribution system or plumbing. This is consistent with the most stringent practices in other parts of the world.

Disinfection is the minimum treatment for drinking water from a groundwater source. An exemption from this requirement will only be considered if a waterworks meets certain rigorous conditions. These include approval from the local municipal council (for municipal waterworks only), approval from the Medical Officer of Health, two years of exemplary water quality test results, public meetings and installation of stand-by equipment in disinfection.

The minimum treatment for drinking water from a surface water source is chemically assisted filtration and disinfection, or an equivalent treatment process. There are no exemptions. Waterworks must have an approved treatment process in place by December 31, 2002.

### **Keeping the Public Informed**

Since Ontarians are entitled to know about the quality of the water they consume, waterworks owners are now required to pro-

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duce and make readily available a free, quarterly report for the people to whom they supply drinking water. The report must provide basic system and water source information, outline the measures taken to comply with the regulation and summarize water testing results. First reports must be received by the Ministry of the Environment and made available to the public no later than October 30, 2000. Waterworks that serve more than 10,000 people must also post their reports on the Internet.

The public can ask to see test results, certificates of approval and copies of the Drinking Water Protection Regulation and the Ontario Drinking Water Standards. In all cases where drinking water has not been tested, or where the drinking water does not meet acceptable standards and corrective action has not been taken, waterworks owners must post public notices in prominent locations where they are clearly visible to the public. The Ministry of the Environment can also post these notices.

### Accreditation of Laboratories and Notification

All laboratories that test drinking water must be accredited for the tests they perform



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by the Standards Council of Canada or its equivalent. Accreditation involves performance testing and auditing to ensure that laboratories follow appropriate procedures using acceptable methods.

Notification requirements about when, how and to whom reports must be made when water does not meet acceptable standards are made absolutely clear in the new regulation, and apply 24 hours a day, seven days a week. All notifications must be made to a "live" person and followed up in writing within 24 hours. When test results exceed health-related parameters or indicate adverse water quality, the following procedures must be followed:

- The laboratory that conducted the tests must immediately inform the Ministry of the Environment, the local Medical Officer of Health and the owner of the waterworks.
- Upon being notified by the laboratory, the waterworks owner must immediately inform the Ministry of the Environment and the local Medical Officer of Health, even though the laboratory has already done so.
- If the tests have been conducted onsite, the waterworks owner must immediately inform the Ministry of the Environment and the local



Water quality cannot be taken for granted

Medical Officer of Health.

The local Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of the Environment share responsibility for protecting the public. The Medical Officer is responsible for declaring that drinking water is unsafe and advising the public of any precautions that should be taken, such as boiling water. The ministry is



618-555 Richmond St. W. Toronto M5V 3B1 tel 416.504.5576 fax 416.504.9755 www.cochrane-group.ca responsible for ensuring that the waterworks owner takes corrective action.

The regulation also sets out procedures for licensing waterworks staff responsible for testing.

### **Review of Municipal Waterworks**

Municipal waterworks or waterworks that supply water to municipalities must submit an engineer's report about their facilities to the Ministry of the Environment. Reports must be submitted between November 2000 and May 2001, according to a schedule set out by the ministry. Subsequent reports will be required every three years thereafter.

The ministry will set the terms of reference for the engineer's report, based on compliance with the Drinking Water Protection Regulation and the Ontario Drinking Water Standards. The report will be reviewed by the ministry, which will then issue new certificates of approval specifying the terms and conditions for each waterworks. The ministry can also require waterworks owners to upgrade their facilities.

Further information on the Drinking Water Protection Regulation and Operation Clean Water is available on the Ministry of the Environment Web site www.ene.gov.on.ca or from the Ministry's Public Information Centre, at 1-800-565-4923; in Toronto call 416-325-4000.

The Canadian Environment Industry Association can be reached at 350 Sparks Street, Suite 208, Ottawa K1R 7S8, or by e-mail: info@ceia-acie.ca.

### Maximum impact

### Book Pix Returns

### By Robert Shipley

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE IS THE SECOND OF OUR series on Book Pix, hot titles in the planning field as selected by our panel of planning librarians. That panel includes Margaret Aquan-Yuen of the University of Waterloo, Suzette Giles of Ryerson University and Sarah Holden of the Intergovernmental Committee on Urban and Regional Research (ICURR). As well, Bill Fitzpatrick, a planner with the City of Toronto, discusses Andrew Sancton's new book on the phenomena of municipal amalgamations. We hope you enjoy both these items.

At this time we have an interesting selection of books to be reviewed and invite any members or readers who would like to volunteer to get in touch. You get a free book, the admiration of your colleagues and province-wide exposure.

## Merger Mania: the assault on local government

Author: Andrew Sancton Date: 2000 Publisher: Price Patterson Ltd.: Westmount Quebec. Pages: 168

### Reviewed by Bill Fitzpatrick

As debate over the merits of the Toronto megacity continues and the Province pursues more single-tier amalgamations in Ottawa, Hamilton, and Sudbury, this short study offers a valuable contribution to the most significant restructuring of local government in Ontario since the early 1970s. Andrew Sancton, director of the University of Western Ontario's Local Government Program for over 15 years and President of the Canadian Association of Programs in Public Administration, is suitably qualified to address this complex subject.

The book was commissioned by the City of Westmount, Quebec "during a time of considerable controversy about municipal boundaries in the Montreal area . . ." Sancton reviews amalgamations from about 1850 to the present in the US, Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand as well as in Canada where he looks at Ontario, Halifax, Laval and Winnipeg. The scope is ambitious and his conclusions are perhaps drawn and advanced without a lot of supporting analysis and argument. But timing was important if the work was to influence the Montreal amalgamation and boundary debate.

The less than subtitled "the assault on local government," summarizes the author's position. He bluntly asserts at the outset that "merger mania is wrong" and that he is "more interested in the quality of government institutions than efficiencies in service delivery." Acknowledging the vast differences in the cities he examines, the author concludes there is no one ideal size of city region or form of governance despite the fact this debate has been ongoing since the 19th century. He contends that "few serious thinkers" in contemporary times have considered the reduction of municipalities in city regions as desirable and there is little public support for forced consolidations and amalgamations.

So why do governments in most western democracies continue to pursue amalgamations as a public policy option to address a wide range of urban problems and issues? In Professor Sancton's terms "not all public policy decisions are made on the basis of careful and rational evaluation of alternative courses of action or inaction. Prime examples in the 1990s are amalgamations like Toronto's," which he suggests the Harris government stumbled onto "as a result a lack of research and preparation." The standard reasons offered are to reduce the cost of government, improve the quality and efficiency of service delivery and achieve economic development goals like job creation, now broadened to reflect the new

economy and termed maintaining global competitiveness.

It is Sancton's conclusion that amalgamations do not contribute to these objectives or solve any of these problems, do not save the taxpayer money, and produce an inferior quality of local government in general. The estimates of the potential savings from amalgamation have been continually reduced by the Province of Ontario and will fall further due to additional downloading of major services like social housing and transit. Sancton says we will soon be esti-



Look for the current issue of Alternatives—spectacular review of urban sprawl. Contact Michael Torreiter at: alternat@fes.uwaterloo.ca.

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mating the costs of amalgamation rather than savings.

Nevertheless, he acknowledges that for most residents it is now a non-issue and polls taken in 1999 suggest general satisfaction with the new City. Despite the financial challenges there have been positive developments that suggest the exercise of the enhanced political and economic mus-



cle of an amalgamated city. The mayor of Toronto successfully lobbied with Ottawa on the homeless issue, and has been able to gain support from the senior levels of government for water-

front redevelopment. In addition, the City Charter proposal is a community-based initiative that has been gaining support in Toronto. It calls for a new relationship with the Provincial and Federal governments including more political autonomy and increased financial independence to deal with the issues and problems that the new City region is now facing.

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In the end it is Sancton's view that the problems that are supposed to be resolved by amalgamations can be addressed within more complex governmental structures and that these tend to yield better public access and stronger civic cultures.

Bill Fitzpatrick, MCIP, RPP, works with the City of Toronto's Corporate Services division. He is a regular contributor.

Robert Shipley, MCIP, RPP, is contributing editor for In Print. He is also a consultant, teaches at University of Waterloo and can be reached at rshipley@cousteau.uwaterloo.ca



Murray Pound, 1927–2000. See obituary, page 13.

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#### The Charter of the New Urbanism/ Essays by Randall Arendt...[et al]

Editor: Leccese, Michael and Kathleen McCormack. Publisher: New York: McGraw Hill Date: 2000 Description: 194 p.; ill ISBN: 0071355537

#### The Impact of Big-Box Development on Toronto's Retail Structure

Author: Jones, Kenneth George Publisher: Toronto: Ryerson Polytechnic University, Centre for the Study of Commercial Activity Date: 1999 Description: 50 p.; ill., maps ISBN: 0919351735

### Cities in Civilization: Culture, Innovation, and Urban Order

Author: Hall, Peter Publisher: London : Phoenix Giant Date: 1998 Description: xiii, 1169 p., [48] p. of plates; ill. ISBN: 0-75380-815-3

#### Ecology of a Managed Terrestrial Landscape: Patterns and Processes of Forest Landscapes in Ontario Author: Perera, Ajith and David Eler and Ian D. Thompson eds. Publisher: Vancouver: UBC Press Date: 2000 Description: 336 p.

The Nature of Economies

Author: Jacobs, Jane Publisher: Toronto : Random House Canada Date: 2000 Description: 190 p.

The Woodland Heritage of Southern Ontario: A study of Ecological Change, Distribution and Significance Author: Larson, Brendon M Publisher: Don Mills, Ontario: Federation of Ontario Naturalists Date: 1999 Description: 262 p.

Postmetropolis: Critical Studies of Cities and Regions Author: Soja, Edward W. Publisher: Oxford: Blackwell Date: 2000 Description: 440p REPORT PIX

#### Parking Requirements for Shopping Centers

Author: Walker Parking Consultants, Urban Land Institute and the International Council of Shopping Centers Publisher: Washington: Urban Land Institute Descption: 88 pages, diagrams, tables, maps, photos, appendix

ISBN: 0-87420-828-9

Our Book Pix experts are Margaret Aquan-Yuen (maquanyu@library.uwaterloo.ca) of the University of Waterloo, Sarah Holden of the Intergovernmental Committee on Urban and Regional Research (ICURR) and Suzette Giles (sgiles@acs.ryerson.ca) of Ryerson Polytechnic University.



