

Community Development

including
Social Planning, Social Change, the Social Economy, Social Infrastructure
&
Astroturfing

Housing and Community Development
GGR 357, Session 9, 2021, David Hulchanski

“HOUSING” is ...

HOUSE:
the physical
structure

HOME:
the social,
psychological
space

**NEIGHBOUR-
HOOD:** the
physical area

COMMUNITY:
the social area

Community Development

There is no common or universally agreed upon definition.

Reason:

- CD is both a process & product
- No two communities or processes are exactly alike
- CD is sometimes *top-down* but should be *bottom-up*

Community Development

“Community” in the context of CD is defined as

- a discrete collection of persons about which a common interest is shared.
- a “community of interest,” more than merely a physical place.
- often a diversity of perspectives but on a common issue.

Community Development

“Development” in the context of CD is defined by processes, concepts, such as

- advancement
- betterment
- capacity building
- empowerment
- enhancement

Community Development is ... [1]

- “the capacity of people to work collectively in addressing their common interests” (Maser, 1997)
- “The involvement of people and the coordination and integration of all efforts directed at bettering conditions.” (Lotz, 1970)

Community Development is ... [2]

- “The active involvement of people at the level of the local community in resisting or supporting some cause or issue that interest them.” (Ravitz, 1982)
- “efforts to help community residents understand what is happening and recognize some of the choices they face in order to achieve the future community they desire.” (Shaffer, 1990)

Community Development is ... [3]

- "a process that increases the assets and attributes which a community is able to draw upon in order to improve their lives" (Gibbon, Labonte, & Laverack, 2002)
- "the capacity of local populations to respond collectively to events and issues that affect them" (Gilchrist, 2003)

Community Development is ... [4]

- "working with people at a local level to promote active participation in identifying local needs and organizing to meet those needs" (Wright, 2004)
- emphasizes self-help and mutual support, enhances local capacity for problem solving, and promotes collective action to bring matters to political decision makers. (Brown & Hannis, 2012)

Summary: Community Development is

- a) change
- b) in the social, economic, organizational or physical structures
- c) of a community
- d) which improves welfare, and
- e) enhances the community's ability to control its future.

Factors that **Weaken** Communities

- Lack of a sense of collective history
- Stigma
- High mobility
- Fragmentation
- Lack of services
- Lack of local decision making authority
- Lack of boundaries

Brown & Hannis, 2012

Factors that **Strengthen** Communities

- Active voluntary organizations
- Identity
- Community centre
- Common need or enemy
- Good transportation
- Balanced land-use
- A democratic land-use planning process

Brown & Hannis, 2012

Key Characteristics of CD (1)

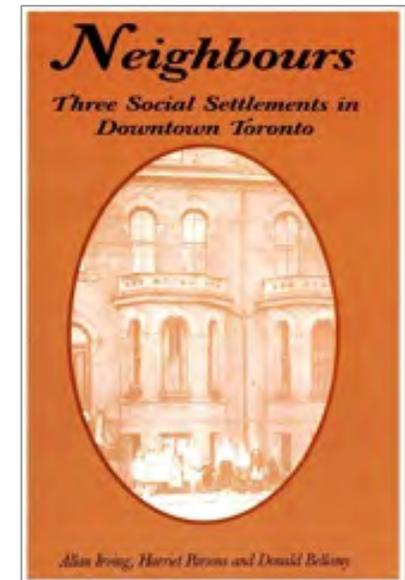
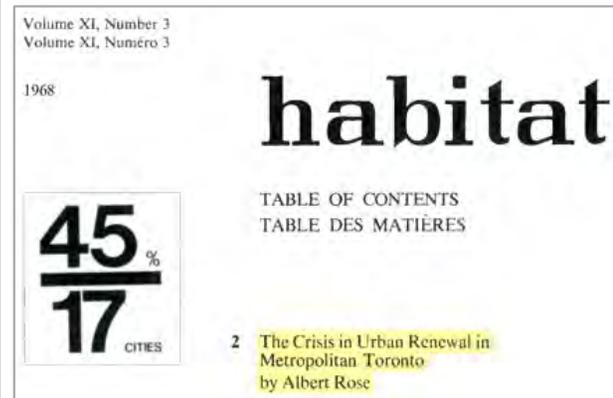
- Participation comes from a broad cross section of the community.
- Deliberations are made on the basis of well-informed participation.
- Decisions are the result of consensus or democratic majority rule decision-making.

Key Characteristics of CD (2)

- Unique process: purposefully fosters group building, leadership development and capacity building
- Community issues or problems are investigated holistically, linking issues
- Flexible processes, not rigidly structured to only deal with an initial concern.

1960s: St Christopher House / West Neighbourhood House, Community Development

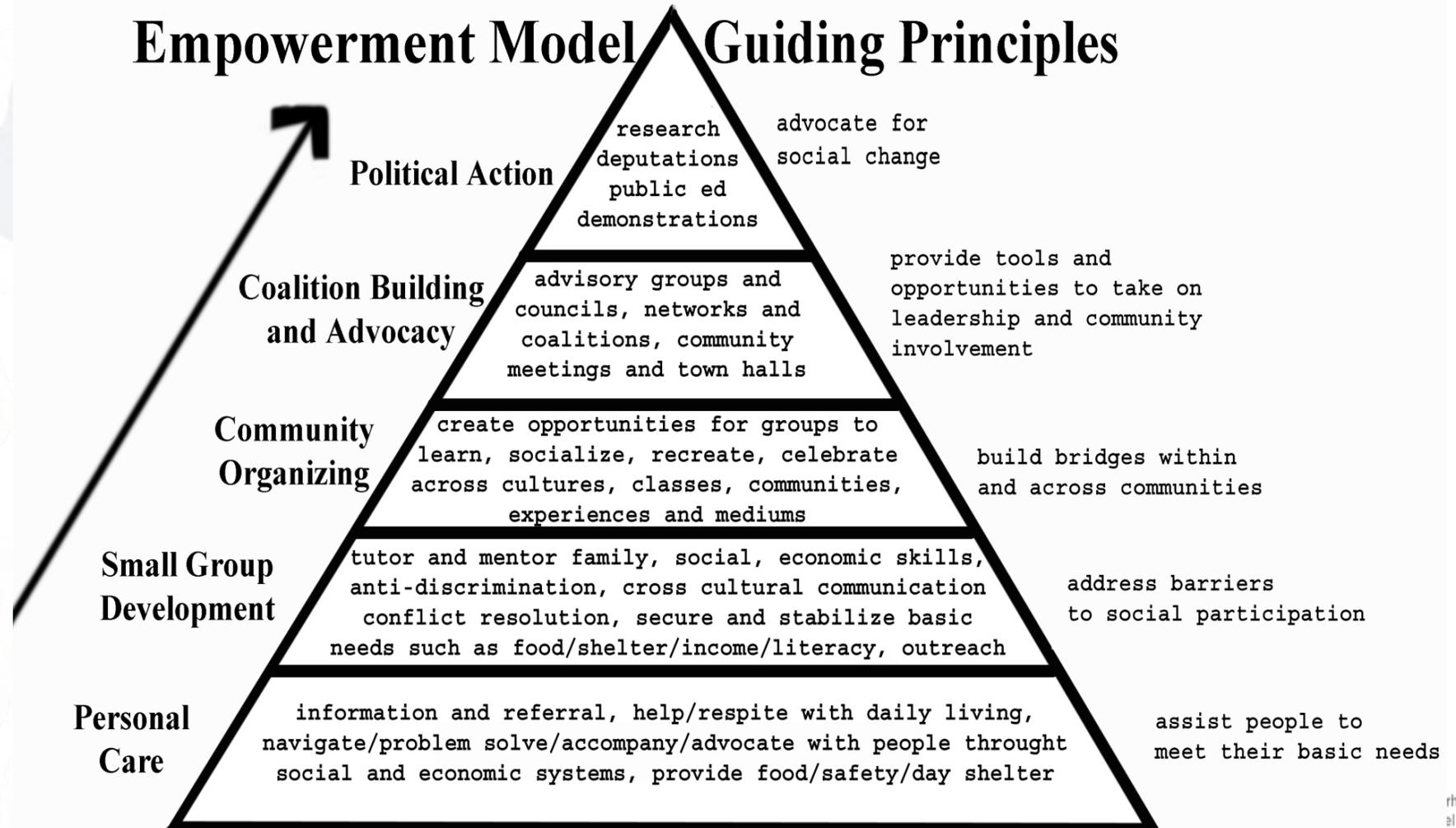
The most significant factor in the Alexandra Park situation has been the presence, throughout the entire decade, of the St. Christopher Neighbourhood House on Wales Avenue, a short distance from the project. St. Christopher House has played a classic role in the evolution of the Alexandra Park project, serving in almost any and every capacity that would prove useful to the residents and the city planners alike. The residents of the neighbourhood wanted to organize a committee — it was St. Christopher House that helped them to understand the requirements of committee organization, procedure and democratic participation. The residents of Alexandra Park wanted accurate information from city officials, appointed and elected — it was the staff of St. Christopher House who attempted to secure this information and to transmit it to the entire neighbourhood through the duly elected committee of residents. The residents wanted explanations of various plans and information concerning their personal future as homeowners and as tenants — it was St. Christopher House, together with civic officials, that arranged one or more public meetings and attempted, more or less successfully, to have accurate information transmitted. The most important element was the fact that a social welfare service, with various kinds of skills inherent among its staff members and with access to many resources, was constantly present to help the worried and often frustrated residents of the neighbourhood in their long wait for concerted public action. At the



Community development work at St. Christopher House came of age in the 1960s. Community development is almost synonymous with settlement work; the emphasis is on the immediate neighbourhood and its people and how their civic consciousness-raising could ameliorate slums and grinding poverty. St. Christopher House brought this tradition forward when Charlyn Howze was hired in 1961 as the first designated community worker in Toronto. During the 1960s and the 1970s Howze, who died in 1968, and others inspired by her, encouraged and helped the community to organize

St. Christopher House

Empowerment Model Guiding Principles



Rick Eagan, 2014



St Christopher House / West Neighbourhood House, Community Development

The Board establishes and monitors the Strategic Plan and annual priorities based on annual feedback loops.

The Operating Plan in conjunction with the budget process identifies actions and activities by unit to advance the strategic plan and annual priorities in relation to the resources that are available or can be secured.

Senior Staff plan the Board Planning Session.

They organize the information and analysis from staff and other stakeholders so that the Board is able to understand and set direction from an organizational and policy perspective

The All Staff Assembly explores and consolidates Mission related organizational and sectorial dynamics over the year. Trends, challenges, knowledge building, strategic priorities, skills development, new developments are brought together to build our collective capacity to respond to community needs and challenges.

Programs sweeps are program focussed discussions with staff and/or program participants. The focus will vary. Sometimes based on the community sweep, sometimes a program environment scan, and sometimes program planning related to Mission or strategic priorities.

The Community Sweep engages local residents in outreach as well as identifying needs, trends, changes in the community. Often a key issue is explored through the sweep to get a reading on the community's awareness or perspective on a topical issue.



Rick Eagan, 2014

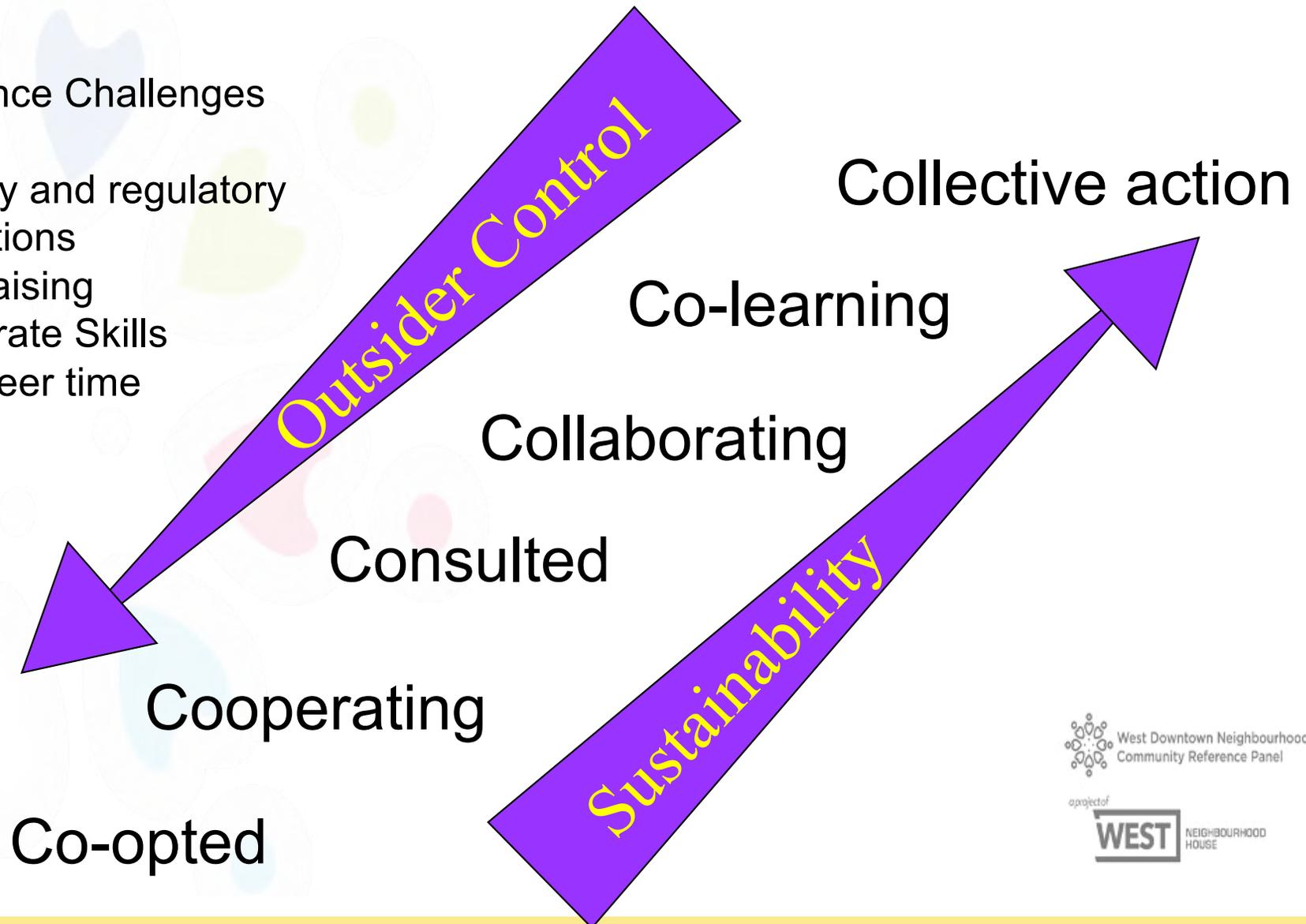


n Neighbourhoods
erence Panel

Dimensions of Community Participation

Governance Challenges

- Liability and regulatory obligations
- Fundraising
- Corporate Skills
- Volunteer time



Can Community Development be used as ...

- a NIMBY process: Not in My Backyard
- a YIMBY process: Yes in My Backyard
- a YIYBY process: Yes in Your Backyard
 - Astroturfing

Astroturf Lobbying: Technically Legal, Ethically Dubious

The hidden tactics that subvert democracy

 Cleo Dan Sep 26, 2018 · 4 min read



Photo by [Randy Colas](#) on [Unsplash](#)

A self-described “national grassroots campaign” by the name of [Save Our Species Alliance \(SOSA\)](#) materialized in 2004. Despite the environmentally conscious moniker, SOSA turned out to be neither a grassroots crusade nor a group concerned with protecting endangered animals. In reality, SOSA was an anti-environment coalition of organizations with vested interest in [weakening the Endangered Species Act](#). Due to SOSA’s deceitful public image as a group of concerned citizens, this “alliance” is an archetype of an astroturf campaign. As the term “astroturf” implies, campaigns of this variety are artificial grassroots efforts that raise serious ethical issues. Nearly a decade and a half later, astroturf campaigns still beset the

"Astroturfing," first coined by U.S. Senator Lloyd Bentsen of Texas in 1985, is when companies or even individuals mask their motives by putting it under the guise of a grassroots movement.

10 Fake Grassroots Movements Started By Corporations To Sway Your Opinion

Eric Goldschein
Sep 30, 2011, 4:26 PM



Grassroots movements are so powerful because they reflect the will of the people. There's no filter, and no ulterior motive: just a natural, independent effort to force change.



taberandrew via flickr

In the last few years, politicians and businessmen have recognized this, and have tried to harness that power by any means — even if it's fabricated.

Astroturfing: what is it and why does it matter?

Adam Bienkov

Creating the illusion of widespread support for a policy used to take place in papers - now it's online and even more powerful

Wed 8 Feb 2012 15:17 GMT



▲ Astroturfing is the attempt to create an impression of widespread support where little exists. Photograph: Al

Claims that a pro-Kremlin group **funded a vast network of online activists** to create the illusion of widespread support for Vladimir Putin may seem like a bizarre tale restricted to an authoritarian state. However the use of so-called "**astroturf**" groups is widespread across all nations and walks of life, from China to Britain, from book reviews to online surveys, and from big business to local politics.

What is astroturfing?

Astroturfing is the attempt to create an impression of widespread grassroots support for a policy, individual, or product, where little such support exists. Multiple online identities and fake pressure groups are used to mislead the public into believing that the position of the astroturfer is the commonly held view.

Although usually associated with the internet, the practice has been widespread ever since newspaper editors first invented the letters page. Pick up any local paper around the time of an election and you will find multiple letters from "concerned residents of X" objecting to the disastrous policies of Y. Similarly, concerned residents often **turn up on talk radio shows** and even in campaign literature, although the latter can prove more dangerous, as Labour party activists **posing as residents** in Greenwich discovered a few years back.

To overcome these dangers, most astroturfing now takes place on the forums and comment sections of blogs and newspaper websites. Here, individual astroturfers can leave comments under numerous identities with little fear of discovery. Discovery does occur, however, and in 2008 one member of Boris Johnson's campaign team was caught posting comments on blogs critical of his boss **without sufficiently concealing their identity**. A few years later, another member of Johnson's campaign was **found posing as a concerned Labour supporter** trying to prevent Ken Livingstone from being the party's candidate for mayor.



More housing for more people

More housing for more people

We are a pro-housing group that supports more homes of all types in Metro Vancouver. To learn more, [please visit our FAQ](#) or [check out the projects we've advocated for](#). 86% of the correspondence we've mobilized as of November 2018, has been for rental homes, and 56% for below-market homes.

 Sign in with
Facebook

 Sign in with Twitter

 Sign in with Email



Talking to your friends about the housing problems we are all facing can be cathartic. It's something we do all the time. We've decided to take some of those conversations to actual decision-makers.

We think that building more housing is part of the solution to the housing crisis in our City. This is based on a common-sense idea: if there is more housing for people, more people will have more housing in Vancouver.

However, apartments are illegal on [76% of Vancouver's residential land](#), severely restricting where relatively affordable, multi-family units can be built. We do not believe that supply is the only solution, and [most of our advocacy has been for rental and non-market homes](#) – but we do believe that zoning for expensive, low-density housing is part of the problem.

If you'd like to help, give us a shout at info@abundanthousingvancouver.com and someone will reach out to you!



Abundant Housing Vancouver is a non-profit volunteer-run organization, and a registered BC society. The directors of Abundant Housing Vancouver are:

- Daniel Oleksiuk
- Jennifer Bradshaw
- Albert Huang
- Stuart Smith
- Owen Brady
- Scott de Lange Boom

Sign in with Twitter

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First name

Last name

Email address

Postal code

Phone number (op

JOIN



THE SPECULATION TAX

As British Columbians we need to make housing more affordable, but that can't be done by piling on taxes. The new government campaigned on stopping the real speculators but instead they ended up targeting the taxpayers of British Columbia and Canada.

TAKE ACTION

SHARE

Demand Premier Horgan scrap the Speculation Tax.

Brought to you by a coalition of British Columbians: Kelowna Chamber of Commerce |
 UDI Capital Region | UDI Okanagan | UDI Pacific Region |
 Canadian Home Builders Association – Central Okanagan |
 Independent Contractors of British Columbia | Stop the Speculation Tax Petition (#StoptheSpecTax) |
 Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce | Peachland Chamber of Commerce | Tourism Victoria |
 Business Council of British Columbia | Okanagan Mainline Real Estate Board |
 Canadian Taxpayers Federation



CONTACT PRIVACY POLICY



scrapthespeculationtax.ca

DOMAIN INFORMATION

Domain: scrapthespeculationtax.ca
 Registrar: Webnames.ca Inc.
 Registration Date: 2018-04-02
 Expiration Date: 2019-04-02
 Updated Date: 2018-04-07
 Status: registered
 Name Servers: ns1.digitalocean.com
 ns2.digitalocean.com
 ns3.digitalocean.com

REGISTRANT CONTACT

Name: Hill+Knowlton Strategies Canada Ltd

ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACT

Name: Webnames Private
 Address: ATTN: WN80e886, Suite 333 - 333 Terminal Ave.
 Vancouver BC V6A4C1 Canada
 Phone: +1.6046331142
 Fax: +1.6046333174
 Email: WN80e886@webnamesprivacy.ca

The website does not name any humans responsible for the website itself.

The "Contact" option only creates an email to: contact@scrapthespeculationtax.ca

The website domain registration identifies the Ottawa lobbying firm Hill+Knowlton Strategies as purchasing the domain name.

The Vancouver-based actual administrative contact is kept secret.

= classic astroturf 'popular movement'



**DO YOU KNOW
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE PUT
POLITICS AHEAD OF GOOD
PLANNING AND BUILD FEWER
HOMES?**

Find out

View examples

New housing has proven to bolster our economy, creating **liveable and vibrant** communities for Ontario residents.

More homes, not politics
BUILDINGCOMMUNITIES.CA #morehomesnotpolitics

Share on Facebook

Share on Twitter



City building doesn't put politics before good planning

More homes, not politics
BUILDINGCOMMUNITIES.CA #morehomesnotpolitics

Share on Facebook

Share on Twitter



Good planning makes buying my home more affordable

More homes, not politics
BUILDINGCOMMUNITIES.CA #morehomesnotpolitics

Share on Facebook

Share on Twitter



Denying me my housing is denying me of opportunity and choice.

More homes, not politics
BUILDINGCOMMUNITIES.CA #morehomesnotpolitics

Share on Facebook

Share on Twitter

ADVOCATE → MOBILIZE → ORGANIZE

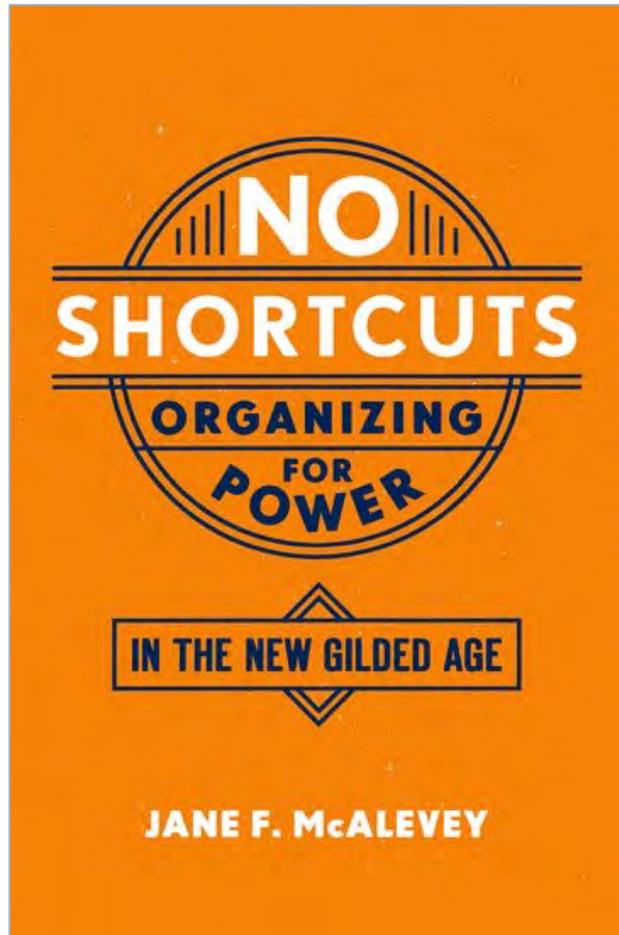
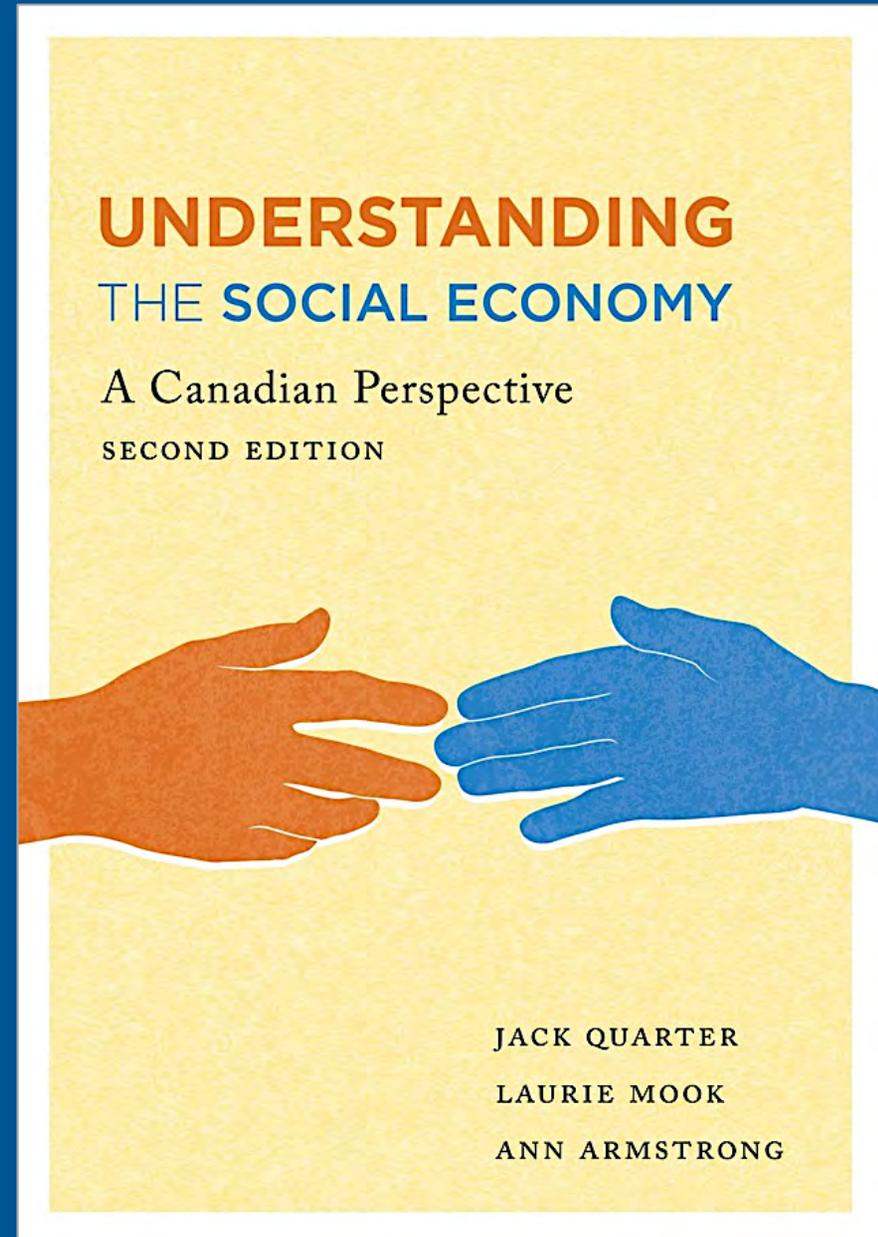


TABLE 1.1 Options for Change

	Advocacy	Mobilizing	Organizing
Theory of Power	Elite. Advocacy groups tend to seek one-time wins or narrow policy changes, often through courts or back-room negotiations that do not permanently alter the relations of power.	Primarily elite. Staff or activists set goals with low to medium concession costs or, more typically, set an ambitious goal and declare a win, even when the "win" has no, or only weak, enforcement provisions. Back-room, secret deal making by paid professionals is common.	Mass, inclusive, and collective. Organizing groups transform the power structure to favor constituents and diminish the power of their opposition. Specific campaigns fit into a larger power-building strategy. They prioritize power analysis, involve ordinary people in it, and decipher the often hidden relationship between economic, social, and political power. Settlement typically comes from mass negotiations with large numbers involved.
Strategy	Litigation; heavy spending on polling, advertising, and other paid media.	Campaigns, run by professional staff, or volunteer activists with no base of actual, measurable supporters, that prioritize frames and messaging over base power. Staff-selected "authentic	Recruitment and involvement of specific, large numbers of people whose power is derived from their ability to withdraw labor or other cooperation from those who rely on them. Majority strikes, sustained and strategic nonviolent direct action, electoral majorities. Frames matter,

Canada's Social Sector

Nonprofits,
Co-operatives,
and the
Social Economy



Definition: Nonprofit

- a self-governing organization, and may be a corporation without share capital,
- a society, trust, or an unincorporated association, formed not for private gain but for public or mutual benefit purposes.

-- Understanding the Social Economy: A Canadian Perspective

from Jack Quarter, 2018

Definition: Co-operative

"A co-operative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise."

– International Co-operative Alliance

from Jack Quarter, 2018

Co-operative (Rochdale) Principles

1. voluntary and open membership;
2. democratic member control;
3. member economic participation;
4. autonomy and independence;
5. education, training, and information;
6. co-operation among co-operatives;
7. concern for community.

from Jack Quarter, 2018

Definition: Social Economy

Social economy bridges the many different types of self-governing organizations that are guided by their social objectives (a social mission) in the goods and services that they offer.

-- Understanding the Social Economy: A Canadian Perspective

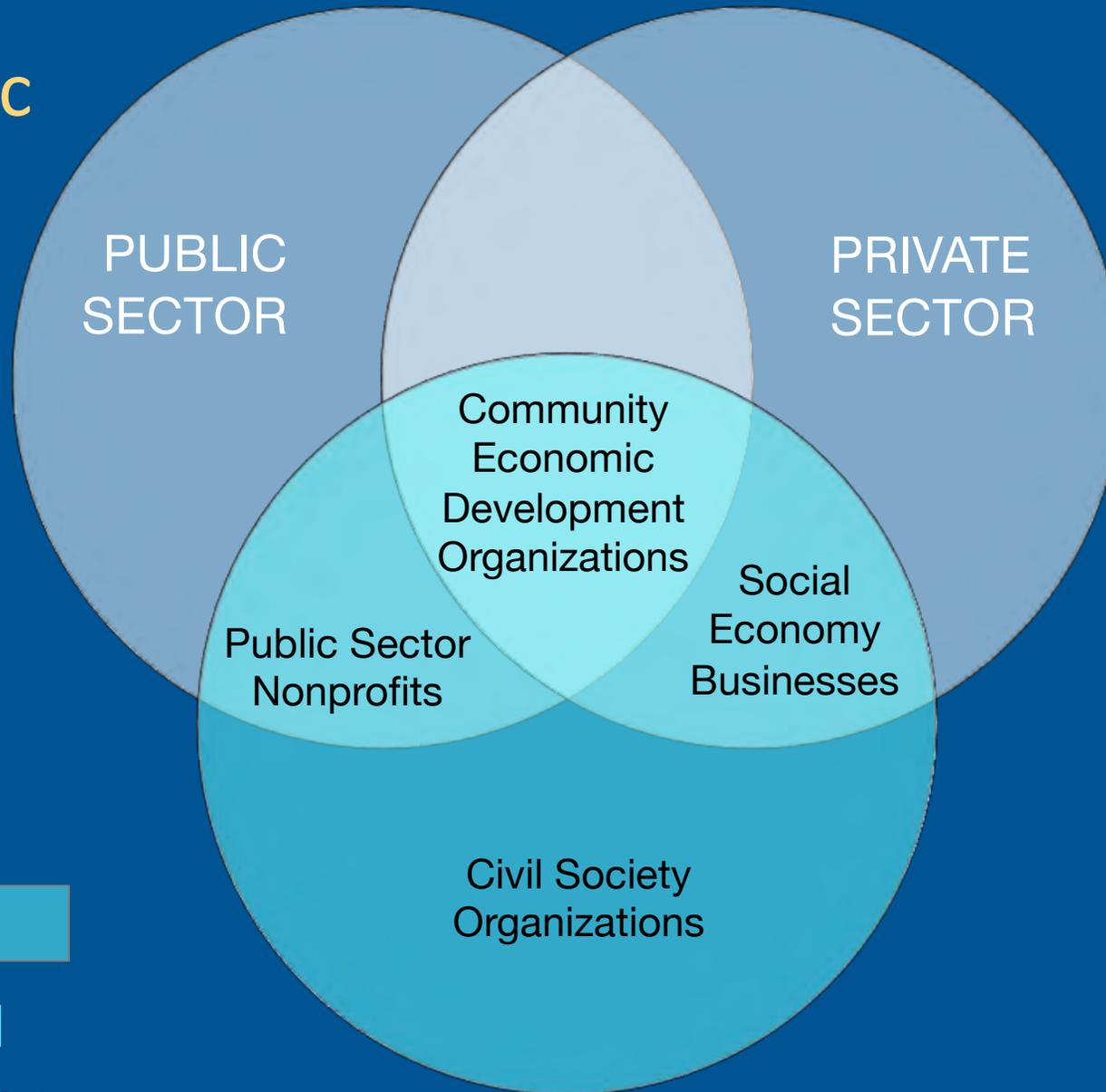
from Jack Quarter, 2018

Social Mission of the Social Economy

- **Social objectives** written into the charter—e.g., charitable objectives or mutual aid
- **Social ownership:** their assets belong to no one other than the organization
- **Volunteers/social participation:** important for services to the community and members
- **Civic engagement:** a space for people to engage with each other constructively, including democratic decision making.

from Jack Quarter, 2018

Three Economic Sectors



**Social
Economy**

© Copyright J. Quarter, L. Mook, A. Armstrong
from Jack Quarter, 2018

Social Economy interactions with government & market sectors

Social economy organizations interact with the public and private sectors in many ways:

- participants & members may earn their living in private or public sectors
- members & participants working in other sectors donate money and time
- social economy is a social infrastructure for other sectors and essential to society's quality of life

Without it, there would not be a complete society

from Jack Quarter, 2018

Four Broad Fields of Social Economy Interaction

- Social Economy Businesses
- Community Economic Development Organizations, including social enterprises
- Public Sector Nonprofits
- Civil Society Organizations: nonprofit mutual associations, civil society organizations serving the public, and foundations

from Jack Quarter, 2018

Conclusions about the Social Economy

- There are many different forms of social economy organizations
- They serve many different functions and interact with the rest of society in different ways
- Some are an extension of business interests; others are an extension of government interests; some operate independently from business and government and attempt to influence policy in different ways: to transform, to conserve, etc.

from Jack Quarter, 2018

OPPORTUNITY EQUATION

Effort + Opportunity = Success



from Rick Eagan, West Neighbourhood House, Toronto

PUBLIC NOTICE

**DUE TO RECENT BUDGET CUTS,
THE RISING COST OF ELECTRICITY,
GAS AND OIL, PLUS THE CURRENT
STATE OF THE ECONOMY, THE
LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL
HAS BEEN TURNED OFF**

————— *“Have a Nice Day!”* —————

from Rick Eagan, West Neighbourhood House, Toronto

Social Planning: A key CD activity

The process by which a group or community decides its goals and strategies relating to social issues, such as aspects of the quality of life and the circumstances of living in society.

It focuses on

- social externalities,
- redistribution, and the
- equitable distribution of social benefits.

An activity that includes government, the private sector, social movements, professions, and other organizations focused specifically on social objectives.

About Social Planning Toronto

Social Planning Toronto is a non-profit, charitable community organization that works to improve equity, social justice and quality of life in Toronto through community capacity building, community education and advocacy, policy research and analysis, and social reporting.

**READ ABOUT OUR
STAFF**

**READ ABOUT OUR
BOARD**

Our Mission

Social Planning Toronto is committed to building a "Civic Society" one in which diversity, equity, social and economic justice, interdependence and active civic participation are central to all aspects of our lives - in our families, neighbourhoods, voluntary and recreational activities, and in our politics.

**READ ABOUT OUR
HISTORY**

**DONATE TO SOCIAL
PLANNING
TORONTO**

Our Program Priorities

Each year, Social Planning Toronto focuses its work in primary programs mandated by the Board of Directors and developed by staff:

Community Capacity Building

We increase skills, knowledge, and resource development in local communities through our planners, researchers, and communications staff.

READ MORE ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WORK

Social Research and Policy Analysis

Our research focuses on three key areas:

- Income Security and Labour Markets
- Public Education and Human Development
- Community Infrastructure, Public Finance and Resource Allocation

Building Partnerships

Social Planning Toronto uses its community planning, research, and communications capacities to support responses to critical challenges facing Toronto residents.

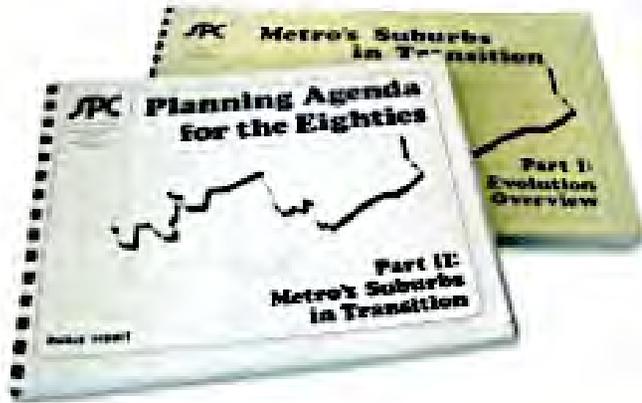
READ MORE ABOUT OUR WORK WITH OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

A WARNING IGNORED: THE METRO'S SUBURBS IN TRANSITION REPORT

In the late 1970s, the Social Planning Council of Metropolitan Toronto (now called Social Planning Toronto) launched a detailed study of change in Toronto's "inner suburbs" — the suburban areas within the City of Toronto (then Metro Toronto). It was the first research organization to recognize and document the changing nature of the suburban neighbourhoods in the city. The suburbs that were in transition at that time are mainly the areas of the city that are shown in brown on Map 1.

That study, titled *Metro's Suburbs in Transition*, included this comment:

The post-war suburbs assumed one set of family conditions for child-rearing, and the physical environment incorporated these assumptions. The prototype suburban family — father in the labour force, mother at home full-time, ownership of a ground level home with private open space, two to four children, homogeneous neighbours — is no longer the dominant reality of suburban life in the seventies. It is now an image that belongs to the social history of the post-war period of rapid growth. (p. 236)

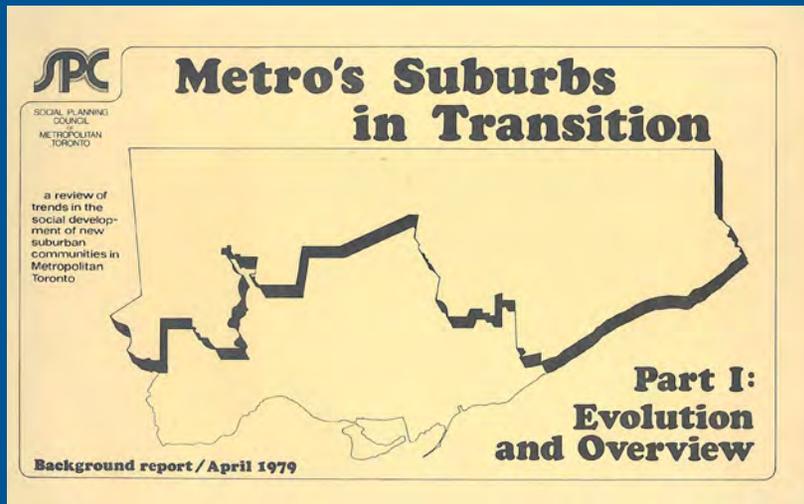


1979

Metro Suburbs in Transition

Social Planning
Toronto

1979-80 Social Planning Research Social Planning Toronto



PART I, April 1979

- 301 pages
- 11 chapters
- 116 figures, maps, tables



PART II, Sept. 1980

- 270 pages, 8 chapters
- 69 figures, maps, tables
- 65 recommendations

Review of social development patterns in the newer suburbs.

How far has the community building process proceeded?

What remains to be achieved?

Suburban youth ripe for crime: Report

By Peter Goodspeed Toronto Star

Suburban Metro's young people are threatening to shatter the peace of these neighborhoods with the kind of violence and unrest that rocked some American cities in the 1960s, says the Metro Toronto Social Planning Council.

Ignored, disoriented and isolated, young people live frustratingly unproductive lives, plagued by unemployment and lack the community resources needed to meet

their needs. The result, the council warns, is an atmosphere of "tension and tension."

"There is a pattern emerging . . . of disoriented groups of suburban youth with little sense of immediate direction and prospects for an uncertain future," the council says in a report called Metro's Suburbs in Transition, released today.

Youth consistently represents 40 to 50 per cent of the recorded unemployed and in Metro's suburbs unemployment among

the young is reaching critically high rates, the study says.

It says that in 1974 almost two thirds of Metro's newer suburban districts had unemployment rates for 15- to 19-year-old males that were far above provincial percentages.

"It is hard to assess the mood of unemployed youth and young adults at present," the study says. "What appears to be apathy and resignation can conceal

deeper feelings which are taking hold and which would erupt quite suddenly.

"Metro's suburbs could experience serious forms of disruption in the 80s similar in some ways to what took place in many North American cities in the 60s."

The report notes that in June 1976 high unemployment was recorded among young people in a multi-racial and multi-racial neighborhood in North Etobicoke.

"One month later serious inter-racial

conflict broke out among youth in the area," the study says. Stability was restored when funds were made available to hire local youth to operate a neighborhood centre.

"There is an urgent need for stable job-creation programs to restore a sense of the work ethic among unemployed suburban youth," the report says. "It is clearly

See YOUTH/page A13

- Breakdown of nuclear family leads to singles revolution/A12
- Metro suburbs unprepared for influx of immigrants/A13
- Suburban planners slammed for ignoring rapid changes/A12
- Lack of employment has some unsettling results/A13

Metro's 'dream' suburbs called nightmare of social problems

The suburban dream has turned into a nightmare of social problems in Metro in the past 10 years, states a startling report released today by the Metro Social Planning Council.

The boroughs have inherited all the problems normally associated with the inner city — poverty, unemployment, racial tension, drug and alcohol abuse, and juvenile crime — and are woefully ill-equipped to deal with them, it says.

Suburban planners have taken the need for roads, water, sewers and schools very seriously, but have neglected human and social services, the report says.

Star exclusive by Janice Dineen

No longer are the communities that make up North York, Etobicoke and Scarborough filled with young families in detached houses with big backyards — two parents, two children and two cars.

The facts of life today in the suburbs include heavy concentrations of public housing, dramatically increasing numbers of people on welfare, almost half the population made up of tenants, and large numbers of elderly people, recent immigrants, single-parent families and alienated youth.

The suburban concentration of welfare, unemployed youth could result in violence similar to that which rocked United States cities in the 1960s, the report warns.

"Social minorities, taken as a whole, now constitute the new social majority in Metro's post-war suburbs."

Few differences

The study shows many of the historic differences between residents in the City of Toronto and the suburban municipalities have disappeared. Metro is now a diverse population scattered throughout one large municipality.

While the politicians haven't admitted Metro, the people have.

In many borough municipalities, the old image of suburban sprawl is overshadowed by tight concentrations of high-density development.

Edition ★★ ★

Toronto Star

Monday
April 9, 1979
15 cents

METRO WEATHER

Mostly sunny tomorrow.
High 1 Celsius, 33F. Low tonight -6C, 22F. Details, A2.

60,000 graduates soon to spill into glutted job market

By Leslie Scribner Toronto Star

When some 60,000 new university and college graduates spill on to the job market next month, they'll be joining thousands of unemployed graduates

THE LOST GENERATION

Report called 'bull'

A council report released on Wednesday that claimed a worker earning Canada's average industrial wage of \$21,229 does not make enough to adequately support a spouse and two children, was promptly attacked as "bullshit" by those

earning the average wage. The report, in circumstances addressed by the council,

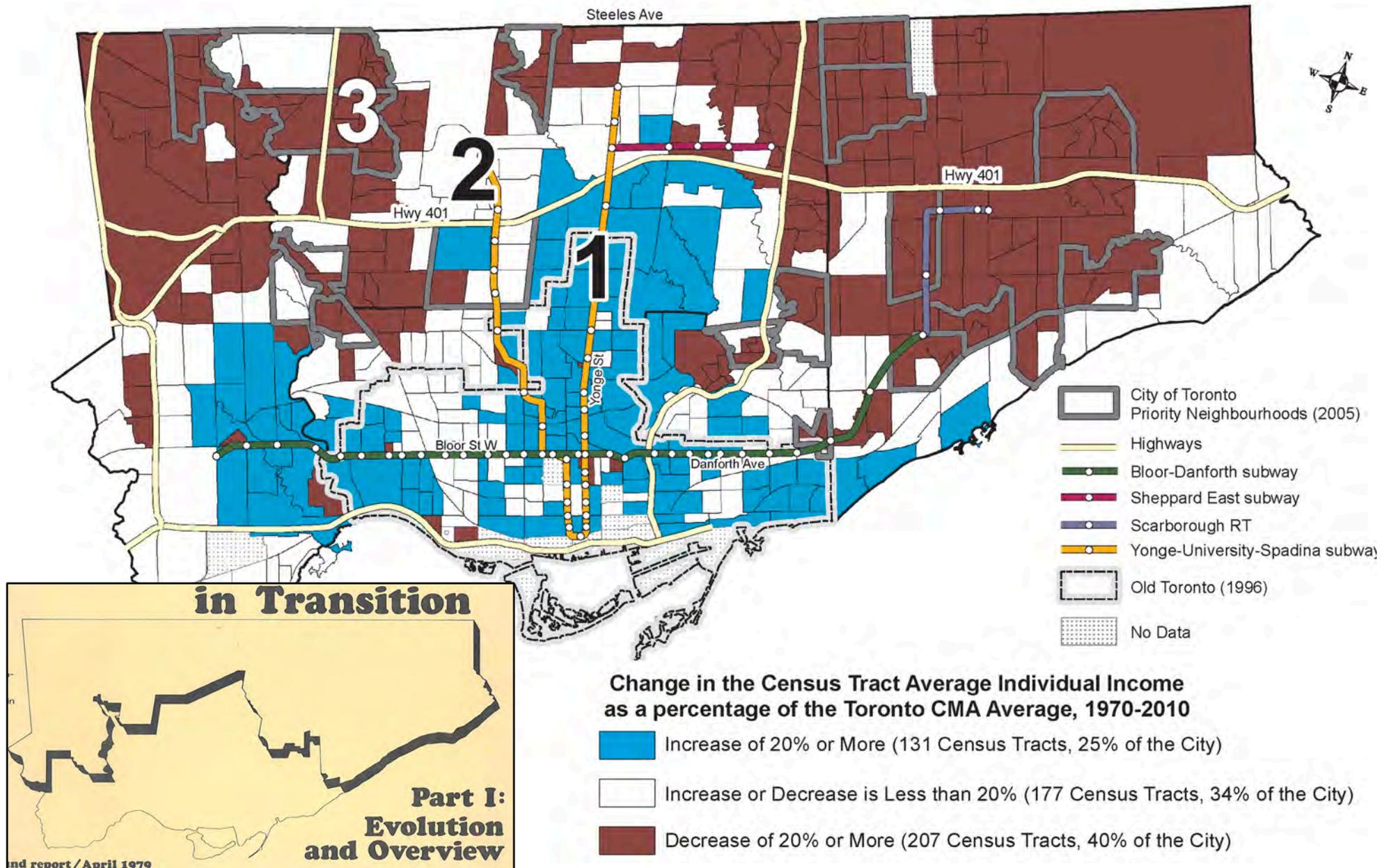
The Metro Social Planning Council's two major reports in 1981 sent shock waves through the city, alarming many municipalities. They felt they knew, better than anyone else, the problems of their communities.

The reports, Metro's Suburbs in Transition, challenged the comfortable suburban dream. They revealed that the suburbs — long considered safe havens from city problems — were filled with angry and alienated teenagers, impoverished elderly people, isolated immigrants and single parents raising children alone.

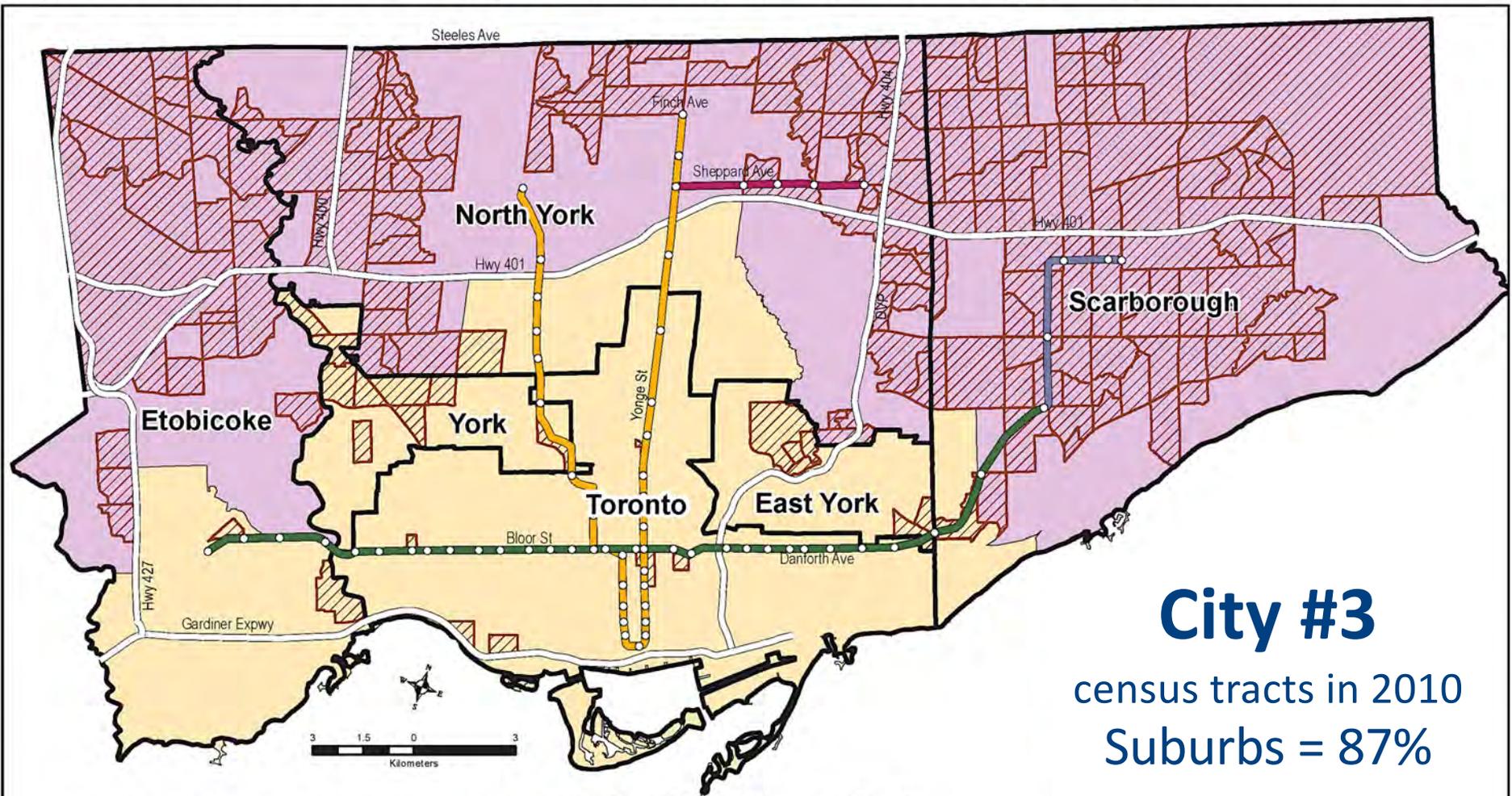
The three-year study of Scarborough, North York and Etobicoke by the council found widespread poverty, high unemployment and growing numbers of people with a multitude of social problems, trying to survive in communities design-

Change in Average Individual Income, City of Toronto, 1970 to 2010

Average Individual Income from all sources, 15 Years and Over, Census Tracts



Metro's Suburbs in Transition 1979 Map & the 2010 City #3 Census Tracts



City #3

census tracts in 2010
Suburbs = 87%

Source: 1. Social Planning Council of Metropolitan Toronto (1979) Metro's Suburbs in Transition, Part I. The designation of "rapid growth suburbs" generally corresponds to Census Canada's 1976 Zone IV, "new suburbs" for Metropolitan Toronto, with variations at the periphery. (1979, p.19)

2. Statistics Canada, Census Profile Series 1971.
3. Canada Revenue Agency Taxfiler data, 2010.

 City #3, 1970-2010 Income Trend (Income Decreased 20% or More)
87% of City #3's census tracts are located in the 1979 Rapid Growth Suburbs
68% of the 1979 Rapid Growth Suburbs census tracts are located in City #3

 Central Urban Area
2011: 264 census tracts (49%), 1.23 million population (47%)

 Rapid Growth Suburbs
2011: 280 census tracts (51%), 1.39 million population (53%)

Note: City #3 income change measured as the difference in census tract average individual income relative to the Toronto census metropolitan area average income in 1970 for persons 15 and over from all sources before tax. Income in 2010 is from all taxfilers. Based on constant 2001 census tract boundaries.

NEIGHBOURHOOD CHANGE Research Partnership

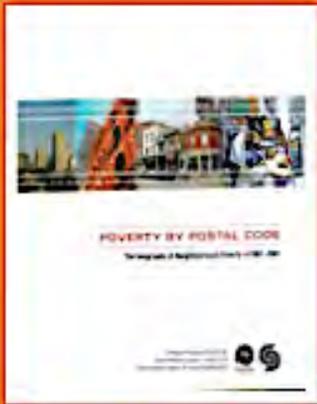
Factor-Investash Faculty of Social Work and Cities Centre University of Toronto www.neighbourhoodchange.ca

April 2014

Since 2004 **Strong Neighbourhoods** United Way Toronto

Research conducted by United Way Toronto

Leading up to the release of *Poverty by Postal Code 2: Vertical Poverty* United Way Toronto has invested in research to build evidence-based strategies that have helped change community conditions. By sharing our ideas and findings, we work to raise the understanding of the diverse civic, social and economic fabric of our city, and how we can affect real, lasting change in areas of our community where it's needed most. Here, in the order of release, are the reports that have led us up to our new report and its findings and recommendations that are so important to the continued health and success of our city.



Poverty By Postal Code
(April 2004)

Download 

More Info 



**Strong Neighbourhoods:
A Call to Action**
(June 2005)

Download 

More Info 



Losing Ground
(December 2007)

Download 

More Info 



Vertical Poverty
(January 2011)

Download 

More Info 

Our inner suburban neighbourhoods are falling further behind

The number of high poverty neighbourhoods in Toronto has more than quadrupled over the last 30 years, from 30 in 1981 to 136 in 2006.

In 2006, almost half (46.3%) of the low-income families in Toronto were living in high-poverty neighbourhoods—up from 17.8% in 1981.

Scarborough has experienced a ten-fold increase in high-poverty neighbourhoods, from 4 to 40 between 1981 and 2006.

Poverty is becoming increasingly concentrated in high-rise buildings

In 1981, one out of every three low-income families in the City of Toronto (34%) rented a unit in a high-rise building. By 2006, this had increased to 43%.

By 2006, nearly 40% of all the families in high-rise buildings in the City of Toronto were 'poor'—up from 25% in 1981—giving proof to the idea of 'vertical poverty'.

Between 1981 and 2006, family poverty in the City of Toronto rose significantly, from 13% to 21%. In actual numbers, there were nearly twice as many low-income families in 2006 as there were in 1981.

There is a strong connection between poverty and poor housing conditions

Today, 70% of the city's high-rise apartment buildings are over 40 years old, and 60% of Toronto's high-rise apartment buildings are located in the inner suburbs.

Inside their units, 40% of people experienced problems with washroom plumbing in the past year, 33% had problems with kitchen plumbing, and close to 25% had broken fridges and stoves.

Over a third of all tenants live in buildings where the elevators break down at least once a month.



Despite their challenges, high-rise apartment buildings are a tremendous asset to our city

Almost half of all housing in Toronto is rented. Three-quarters of rental housing is in the private market and nearly two-thirds is made up of buildings of five storeys and more.

76% of residents consider their neighbourhood to be a good place to live and 61% say it's a good place to raise children.

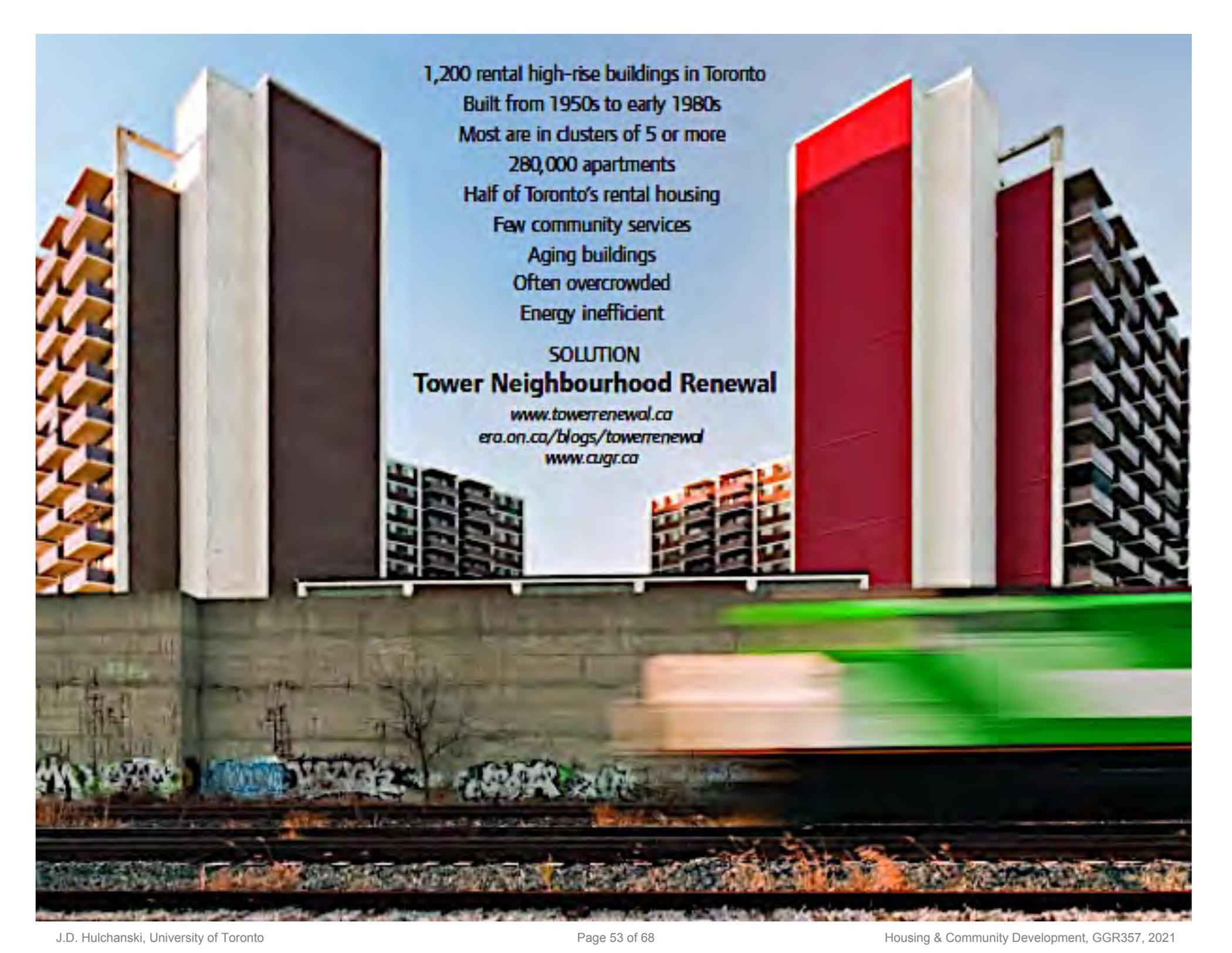
Tenants generally consider their apartment buildings to be 'cohesive' communities—around 80% say that people in their building get along well with each other and that neighbours make them feel welcome.

vertical poverty
POVERTY BY
POSTAL CODE 2

**Yet despite their challenges,
high-rise apartment buildings
are an asset to Toronto**

ENTER
to learn about the Report





1,200 rental high-rise buildings in Toronto
Built from 1950s to early 1980s
Most are in clusters of 5 or more
280,000 apartments
Half of Toronto's rental housing
Few community services
Aging buildings
Often overcrowded
Energy inefficient

SOLUTION
Tower Neighbourhood Renewal

www.towerrenewal.ca
era.on.ca/blogs/towerrenewal
www.cugr.ca

TOWER RENEWAL

Tower Renewal

- [About](#)
- [Pilot Sites](#)
- [STEP](#)
- [Reports](#)
- [Contact us](#)

About Tower Renewal

Toronto is a city of towers. There are over 1,000 residential apartment towers found all across Toronto. Between the 1950s and the 1980s, concrete apartment towers were the most popular building type.

Thousands of units were mixed in with single-family homes, industry, shopping, and vast open spaces.

Today these concrete slab towers are aging and inefficient, while the open spaces that surround them are underused and poorly maintained. Tower Renewal will combine green technology with neighbourhood revitalization projects to make stronger, greener communities across the city.

- [Green Retrofits](#)
- [Green Infrastructure](#)
- [Urban Agriculture](#)
- [Better Transportation Options](#)
- [Community Improvements](#)
- [New Housing](#)
- [External Cladding](#)



Tower Neighbourhood Renewal in the Greater Golden Horseshoe

An Analysis of High-Rise Apartment Tower Neighbourhoods
Developed in the Post-War Boom (1945-1984)

Prepared by
E.R.A. Architects,
planningAlliance, and the
Cities Centre at the University of Toronto

for the
Ontario Growth Secretariat
Ministry of Infrastructure
November 2010

E.R.A. pA Cities Centre
Architects Inc. UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

A Healthy Toronto By Design Report

Toward Healthier Apartment Neighbourhoods

September 2012

1. Natural Environment
2. Built Environment
3. Transportation
4. Housing
5. Income and Employment
6. Education and Learning
7. Food Security
8. Community Health



Toward Healthier Apartment Neighbourhoods

September 2012

Theme 1: Natural Environment:

- 1.1 Improve Microclimate and Outdoor Comfort
- 1.2 Provide Access to Green Space, Parks and Recreation
- 1.3 Reduce Negative Impacts to Air and Water

Theme 2: Built Environment

- 2.1 Improve Opportunities for Gathering
- 2.2 Improve Sense of Security and Lighting
- 2.3 Reduce Hazards such as Traffic Blind Spots
- 2.4 Animate Spaces

Theme 3: Transportation

- 3.1 Remove Physical Barriers to Active Transportation
- 3.2 Integrate Transit stops and Stations with Neighbourhoods
- 3.3 Improve Cycling Networks and Infrastructure
- 3.4 Enable Access to 'Green Fleet' Carshare Programs
- 3.5 Reduce Parking Requirements to Allow for More Space

Theme 4: Housing

- 4.1 Provide Amenities to Support Diverse Housing Needs
- 4.2 Adapt units for Growing Families and Children
- 4.3 Build Resident Social Capital through Organized Activities
- 4.4 Expand Housing Choice, New Tenure Options
- 4.5 Expand Housing Choice, Infill Housing

Theme 5: Income, Employment and Opportunities

- 5.1 Introduce Outdoor Vending in Apartment Neighbourhood Open Spaces
- 5.2 Allow for Home-Based Businesses
- 5.3 Incubate Local Enterprise Through Support and Training Services
- 5.4 Introduce or Expand Ground Floor Retail

Theme 6: Education and Learning

- 6.1 Introduce extra-curricular and education for children and youth
- 6.2 Introduce Newcomer Settlement Support and Adult Education Programs
- 6.3 Introduce Preschool and Family Resource Services

Theme 7: Food Security

- 7.1 Provide Facilities for Collective Cooking
- 7.2 Introduce Outdoor Fresh Food Markets
- 7.3 Expand or Introduce Green Grocers
- 7.4 Introduce Community Gardens / Urban Agriculture

Theme 8: Community Health

- 8.1 Promote Public Health Education
- 8.2 Provide Multi-Purpose Health Services Clinics
- 8.3 Provide Programs and Facilities for Physical Fitness

Toward Healthier Apartment Neighbourhoods

September 2012

Theme 4: Housing

- 4.1 Provide Amenities to Support Diverse Households in High-rise Living
- 4.2 Adapt units for Growing Families and Changing Households
- 4.3 Build Resident Social Capital through Organizations and Associations
- 4.4 Expand Housing Choice, New Tenure Options
- 4.5 Expand Housing Choice, Infill Housing

ROLE OF HOUSING SECURITY IN Community Development

Theme 4: Housing

4.3 Build Resident Social Capital

Context

Studies have found that security of housing is highly linked to a sense of connectedness and social capital in a neighbourhood. (United Way 2011)

Across Toronto, many neighbourhoods have residents' groups that represent the needs and interest of local communities. They can promote community events, community identity, and engagement in local planning issues. Yet, while apartment neighbourhoods are well-established communities that include hundreds of people, with a few exceptions, these neighbourhoods rarely form residents' groups and social capital is often weak.

Making it Happen

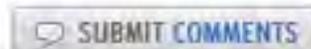
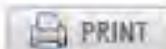
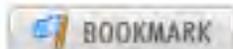
The following describes the extent to which the current planning framework in apartment neighbourhoods would be supportive, limiting, or neutral, should a community or building owner propose solutions such as these at a particular site.

Official Plan: Supportive

The functioning of community organizations is beyond the purview of the Official Plan.

Zoning by-laws: Supportive

Organizing a community group would not be affected by zoning by-laws. In limited cases, use of



Tracking Status

- This item will be considered by [Community Development and Recreation Committee](#) on March 17, 2014. It will be considered by City Council on April 1, 2014, subject to the actions of the Community Development and Recreation Committee.

Community Development and Recreation Committee consideration on March 17, 2014

CD27.5	ACTION	11:00 AM		Ward:All
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Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy 2020 - Recommended Neighbourhood Improvement Areas

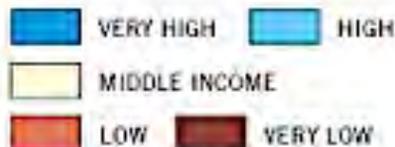
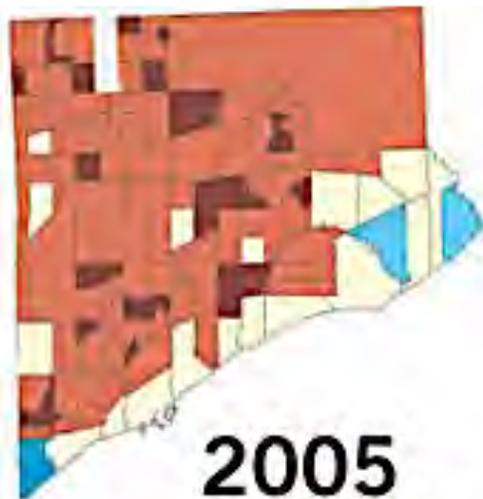
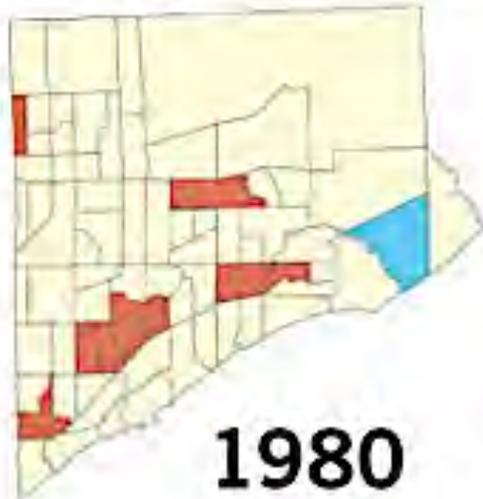
Origin

(March 4, 2014) Report from from the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration

Recommendations

The Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration recommends that:

SCARBOROUGH INCOMES AS COMPARED TO THE CITY OF TORONTO AVERAGE:



INNER SUBURBS AT STAKE:

Investing in Scarborough's Communities

Toronto is a divided city. Social polarization and spatial segregation are clearly visible in the landscape, and our inner suburbs are home to more and more concentrated and racialized poverty. Investment in these suburbs is a key part of the solution, and yet its future is in question. How can we enhance investment in Scarborough when budgets everywhere are being cut? How do we unite across different issues and diverse communities? This forum provides an opportunity for community members to come together to learn from research about the big picture of urban change, and to take action for the future of Scarborough's communities.

June 16, 2011 / 6–9 PM

**Scarborough Civic Centre Council Chambers
150 Borough Drive**

Snacks, refreshments and TTC tokens provided





TORONTO'S INNER SUBURBS

Investing in Social Infrastructure in Scarborough

BY DEBORAH COWEN & VANESSA PARLETTE, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



Community Development & Social Infrastructure

Social infrastructure is not just the social services or programs available to residents of a neighbourhood, but the area's resources and relationships, such as spaces for gathering, opportunities for learning, as well as partnerships and networks within and beyond the community level. Social infrastructure exists at the local scale, but relies on public policy, capital investment, and social networks that are not necessarily local.

physical and social services, programs, and ... the area's resources and relationships, such as spaces for gathering, opportunities for learning, as well as partnerships and networks within and beyond the community

Community Development & Social Infrastructure

There needs to be a conscious recognition of the need to be working on multiple levels... Many of the issues we are dealing with are structural and you are actually not going to change them on the neighbourhood level... Unless we are working on changes to education systems, Safe Schools Act, or you know, people's access to income security, or quality of work.

— COMMUNITY PROGRAM FUNDER

Community Development & Social Infrastructure

Nevertheless, investment in underserviced neighbourhoods is needed to reverse the effects of decades of underinvestment and the effects of population change. Targeted investment enhances the social and physical infrastructure of neighbourhoods that need it most. Strengthening social infrastructure connects residents to a range of skills, knowledge, and networks that are typically beyond reach in communities that experience persistent underinvestment and marginalization.

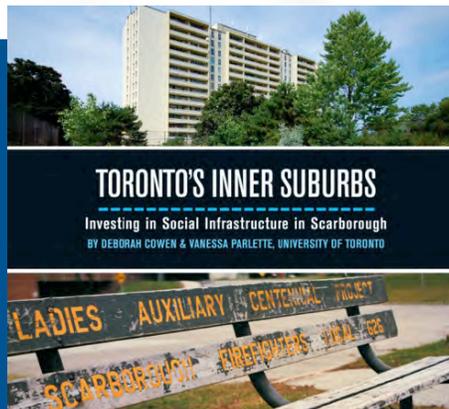


Place-based Policies and Programs

Community Development & Social Infrastructure

3. Create social infrastructure that supports resident leadership

Despite unanimous support for resident engagement in local community development work, some engagement models may exploit residents' time and energy. Clear lines of accountability are needed, along with opportunities for residents to participate in policy and program design and for diverse participation in community and organizational governance, as well as the use of multiple forms of participation.



In some ways, people living in poverty get fed up and walk away from volunteering... They feel abused. They get trotted out and put in front of microphones: “Yes, I live in poverty, I’m on disability...” Then it’s just, “Go away now, we’ll call you next time we have a press conference.” It’s just so, so wrong.

— SERVICE PROVIDER IN KINGSTON-GALLOWAY/ORTON PARK

Key takeaways

What you should know from Session 9

- Community development is ...
- Factors that strengthen or weaken communities are ...
- The Social Economy is ...
- Social infrastructure is ...
- Social Planning is ...
- The Tower Neighbourhood Renewal program is ...

Summary: Community Development is

- a) change
- b) in the social, economic, organizational or physical structures
- c) of a community
- d) which improves welfare, and
- e) enhances the community's ability to control its future.