

Planners Network Conference 2000



Toronto, June 22-25, 2000

**Insurgent Planning,
Globalization and Local Democracy**

Sponsors

- **Faculty of Environmental Studies,
York University**
- **Geography Department,
University of Toronto**
- **Department of City & Regional Planning,
Ryerson Polytechnical University**
- **City of Toronto, Department of Planning &
Development**
- **Fannie Mae Foundation**
- **Pequod Foundation**
- **International Development Research Centre
(IDRC)**

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Planners Network Statement of Principles

The Planners Network is an association of professionals, activists, academics, and students involved in physical, social, economic, and environmental planning in urban and rural areas, who promote fundamental change in our political and economic system.

We believe that planning should be a tool for allocating resources and developing the environment in order to eliminate the great inequalities of wealth and power in our society, rather than to maintain and justify the status quo. This includes in particular racial injustice and discrimination by gender and sexual orientation. We believe that planning should be used to assure adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care, jobs, safe working conditions, and a healthful environment. We advocate public responsibility for meeting these needs, because the private market has proven incapable of doing so.

We seek to be an effective political and social force, working with other progressive organizations to inform public opinion and public policy and to provide assistance to those seeking to understand, control, and change the forces which affect their lives.



Conference Context

In recent years, the city of Toronto has been buffeted by the adverse effects of globalization, and by the downloading of responsibility for social services onto the municipal government. Local communities are organizing to resist these developments with varied success. This conference will provide an opportunity to meet with some of these communities to share strategies and experiences.

Toronto has been described as the most multicultural city in North America. It is also home to a large and vibrant gay and lesbian community. The conference coincides with a week of festivities culminating in Toronto's Gay Pride parade on Sunday, June 25. Toronto's Pride Festival is one of the oldest and largest on the continent. Some of the conference activities will be integrated with Gay Pride events.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Legend

- ▲ Activities sponsored by the Fannie Mae Foundation
- Interactive Workshops
- RCC Rogers Communications Centre
- PH Pitman Hall

NOTE: Detailed tour descriptions and meeting locations start on page 11.



Thursday, June 22

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 8:15 – 9:15 am | Continental Breakfast and Conference Registration
Rogers Communications Centre (RCC), 2nd Floor. |
| 9:15 – 9:30 am | Welcome
Room: RCC 204
Barbara Rahder, Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University, Toronto |
| 9:30 – 10:15 am | Keynote Address.
Room: RCC 204
Gerda Wekerle, Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University, Toronto. “Planning and Civil Society.” |
| 10:15 – 10:30 am | Coffee Break |



10:30 – noon Concurrent Sessions

■ ***Insurgent Planning and Collaboration.***

Room: PH 200

- James McKenzie, Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University & McKenzie Paris Conflict Management / Collaborative Planning, Toronto.
- John Douglas, Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University, Toronto.

▲ ***Building Community Through Housing.***

Room: RCC 201

Moderator: Iain De Jong

- John van Nostrand, Planning Alliance, Toronto.
“Building Community Through Housing in Africa and Canada.”
- Alison Guyton, Executive Director, Habitat Services, Toronto.
“Community Development in Boarding and Rooming Houses.”
- Iain De Jong, Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University.
“Social Housing in Turmoil (SHIT), What Now?”

Immigration, Ethnicity, and Space.

Room: RCC 203

Moderator: Diana Iorio

- Yasminah Beebeejaun, University of Sheffield, U.K.
“Race and Planning in Britain.”
- Roxanna Ng, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, Toronto.
“Globalization, Recolonization, and Worker Resistance: the Case of Garment Workers in Toronto”
- Diana Iorio, Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University, Toronto
“Making a Case for Multicultural Planning: the Redevelopment of Downsview Airforce Base.”

Globalizing Cities: Partitioned Worlds.

Room: RCC, 204

Moderator: Kanishka Goonewardena

- Peter Marcuse, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Columbia University, New York.
- Pablo Idahosa, African Studies, York University.
- Tom Angotti, Pratt Institute, GCPE, New York.
- Kanishka Goonewardena, Department of Geography, University of Toronto.

▲ ***Mixing it Up: Local Housing Issues in Canada and the US.***

Room: RCC 205

Moderator: Alex Murray, York University

- Sue Bunce, Former Board Member of Kensington Market Action Committee, Toronto.
“The Loft Condo Craze: ‘Yuppification’ in Downtown Toronto Neighbourhoods”
- Mark Guslits, City of Toronto Housing Company.
“Affordable Housing after Government Programs.”
- Cheryl Wilson, Nathalie P. Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement, University of Illinois, Chicago.
“Public Housing ‘Transformation’ in Chicago.”

**Noon – 2:00pm Break for Lunch
Try out one of Toronto's
many fine local eateries!**

Insurgent Planning, Globalization and Local Democracy

2:00 – 5:00 pm Tours of Toronto and Area

1. Accidental Village:

Church and Wellesley (Queer Toronto)

Walking tour.

Capacity: 20

- Guide: Rick Bebout, Canadian Gay and Lesbian Archives (CGLA).

2. Traditional Toronto: A Walk Through Neighbourhoods Built 100 Years Ago.

Walking tour.

Capacity: 20

- Guide: David Gurin. Former Commissioner of Metro Toronto Planning.

3. Rouge River Valley: Watershed Management at the Eastern Edge of the City.

Van tour.

Capacity: 18 (2 vans)

- Guide: Michael Bunce, Department of Geography, University of Toronto.

4. West of Toronto's Downtown:

A walking tour of the Spadina District.

Walking tour.

Capacity: 20

- Guide: Jon Caulfield, Urban Studies Program, York University.

5. ▲ A Cross-section of Toronto, from the Centre to the New Urbanist Suburbs.

Bus tour.

Capacity: 48

- Guide: Ted Relph, Department of Geography, University of Toronto.

6. The Great Indian Bus Tour of Toronto.

Bus tour.

Capacity: 45

- Guide: Rodney Bobiwash, Native Canadian Centre of Toronto

7. ▲ St. Lawrence Neighbourhood:

Downtown Success Story (Mixed Income Post-Urban Renewal).

Walking tour.

Capacity: 20

- Guide: Frank Lewinberg, Urban Strategies, Toronto

8. Garment District

Walking tour.

Capacity: 20

- Guide: Gunter Gad and Norma Rantisi, Department of Geography, University of Toronto.

9. ▲ Co-op Housing Downtown:

Non-profit Resident Managed Communities.

Walking tour.

Capacity: 20

- Guide: Doug Young, Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University.

6:00 – 7:30 pm Buffet Dinner

Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West.

Toronto City Hall Rotunda, Cash Bar

7:30 – 9:30 pm

Views on Planning and Local Democracy in Canada, the USA, and Mexico

Moderator & Discussant: Roger Keil, York University

- Gustavo Romero Fernández, Presidente del Consejo Directivo, Fondo Solidario de la Vivienda, A.C. (FOSOVI), (Chair, Solidarity Fund for Housing), Mexico.
- Winnie Frohn, Département D'études Urbanes et Touristiques, Université de Québec à Montréal.
- Peter Marcuse, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Columbia University, New York.

