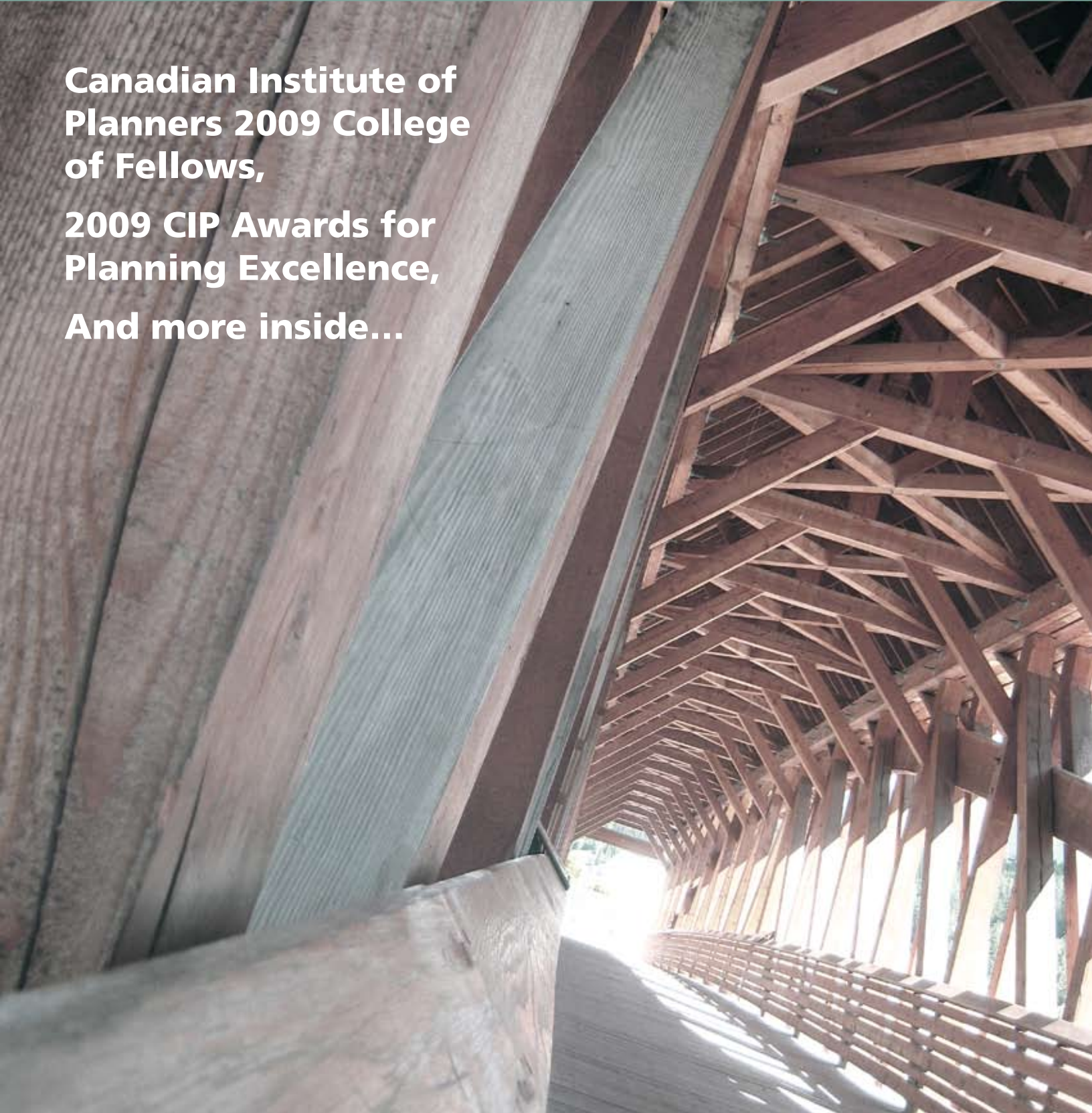


Planning West

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**Canadian Institute of
Planners 2009 College
of Fellows,
2009 CIP Awards for
Planning Excellence,
And more inside...**



President's Message

by *Lindsay Chase, MCIP*

Greetings fellow Planners! I'm sitting here in chilly Victoria reflecting upon my involvement with PIBC and the early years of my career. I think back to my very first PIBC Conference in Nanaimo in 2002, when my mentor John Winsor introduced me to my future employer and the cascade of events and connections that have been made since then. What I really recall though was thinking that all that schooling had been worth it, and that I had found my "tribe" of fellow professionals. I can honestly say that I haven't met a planner that I didn't like.

And reflecting upon more recent and turbulent times, your Council was in the same position most local governments and private businesses are in: facing a series of difficult budget choices. Prudent financial management by past Councils with respect to building some healthy reserves for these "rainy days" means that we continue to be able to offer a high level of service to our members without requiring a dramatic or sudden membership fee increase. While these difficult times will draw down some of our reserves in the short term, the Institute's long-term stability will be sustained. We are focused on implementing the Institute's communications plan and related initiatives, completing the new website, and developing Continuing Professional Development opportunities that can be offered throughout BC and the Yukon through local PIBC Chapters. If you have suggestions of topics that you'd like to learn about, or even better are willing to teach, please contact the PIBC offices.

We continue to focus on raising the profile of the profession within BC, and to that end we hosted the second-ever gala dinner on November 7th to celebrate the planning profession and to mark World Town Planning Day. At that event, we recognized the SFU City Program's Gordon Price as a friend and

ally of planning, welcoming him to Honourary membership in PIBC. We also recognized those members who have recently achieved Full membership, as well as those who have achieved 25 years of membership. We were thrilled that many of our allied professions sent representatives and that our longest serving and founding member, Dr. Ira Robinson FCIP, was also in attendance. It was a lovely evening, and many thanks to everyone who attended, and to PIBC staff members Dave and Ryan for their superb event orchestration skills. See you all there next year. I also know that there were other local events that celebrated the achievements of the profession across BC and the Yukon, and beyond, and I hope that a good time was had by all.

Finally I want to wish all of you a joyous holiday season. May the end of the year find you surrounded with friends and family celebrating all that you accomplished in 2009.

Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for 2010!

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Editor's Note

by *Laura Lee Richard, MCIP*

Dear PIBC Members –

This is your final issue for 2009. Once again, I am pleased to report that I was challenged by having more content submitted for publishing than we have room to print. I'd like to thank all our contributing authors who have taken time to submit material throughout the year—it would not be possible to continue a volunteer publication without you. Thanks too to the guidance of the Communications Committee and in 2010 you will see Planning West moving forward as we work together to ensure it is relevant and timely to practicing planners in the BC and Yukon.

You may find this issue a bit “wordy”—true, but there are so many good and meaningful words contained herein for you to appreciate. There are good stories to read, especially the submission from Chris Marshall describing the experience of being at the LivCom awards in the Czech Republic and the reprinted article from the Kicking Horse Magazine describing Cleo Corbett's creative OCP consultation. There is good advice in Emilie K. Adin's lessons learned from artist communities and in Erica Crawford Boettcher's description of the PlanTalk event re Bill 27. Planners have what might be considered good challenges as described in Dennis Carlsen's prediction that crisis management will be the next planning paradigm and complemented by Don Alexander's reviews of Resilient Cities: Responding to Peak Oil and Climate Change and Cities as Sustainable Ecosystems. There are also very good people to acknowledge in this issue, especially those who have been honoured including our new honorary member, Gordon Price, and our new FCIP members Gordon Harris, Tom Becker and Rob Buchan as well as two good people we will greatly miss—Art Cowie and Jack Poole. In keeping with my 'good' theme—there was also a good party held on World Planning Day. The pictures may be a bit grainy but they illustrate a well attended event at which we welcomed new members, expressed our appreciation to long serving members, and we heard well-spoken good words of wisdom from Gordon Price.

Meanwhile, as I am writing this editorial past 8 p.m. on the Thursday night the week before Christmas—I really should not be at the office any longer but I should be at home packing. The movers will be arriving in less than 12 hours and I have the monumental task of packing up all the accumulations one gains from living 23 years in a very large home as I am down-sizing to a centrally located, ground-oriented attached home. I had hoped I'd be ahead of the tsunami of baby boomers soon to be looking to move into smaller, centrally located ground-oriented accommodation, but if my experience is typical—they are already here. Are we planners ready?

So best wishes for Happy Holidays and I look forward to hearing from you in the 2010.

Thanks,

Laura Lee

2009 World Town Planning Day: Celebrating the Profession



Canadian Institute of Planners 2009 College of Fellows

The following PIBC Members were inducted into the CIP College of Fellows at the 2009 CIP Conference in Niagara Falls.



Tom Becker, FCIP

Tom Becker was nominated for his outstanding professional work and his commitment to community service. Over his 30-year career as a consultant, Tom has been especially influential in the creation of official community plans and zoning bylaws for dozens of local governments in BC and Yukon, and in working collaboratively with First Nations communities on community plans and other consultations. He is manager of planning for the BC region at AECOM, and an active member of PIBC, as well as a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, the Urban Development Institute, and the Urban Land Institute. Through his work, he has influenced the shape of development across the Province while supporting younger planners, encouraging colleagues, and mentoring councils and communities.



Robert Buchan, FCIP

Robert Buchan was nominated for high achievement in professional practice, teaching, research, and community service. Rob is credited with helping the City of Langford, make its mark in the areas of downtown revitalization, affordable housing, trail planning and greenways, his award-winning work on interface fire hazards, and for translating LEED® green building requirements to a Canadian context. Rob has published and presented planning papers, mentored planning students, and conducted research in understanding urban and rural sprawl. As an active member of the PIBC, he chaired the conference committee for the Institute's 2005 conference in Victoria. He also has helped develop the Municipal Administration Training Institute's training program outlining the planning profession for local government officials.



Gordon Harris, FCIP

With his wide-ranging interests and experience, Gordon Harris was nominated for leadership in all aspects of the planning profession. He is currently President and Chief Executive Officer of the Simon Fraser University Community Land Trust and has worked both in the public sector and as a private consultant specializing in strategic planning services and market analysis. Gordon has lectured to students at UBC's School of Community and Regional Planning, at SFU's City Program, and at Capilano University's Business Administration program. He has also carried out many research projects, working with researchers at the Urban Futures Institute, the Centre for the Study of Commercial Activity, and the Canadian Urban Institute. Gordon has long been involved with PIBC, particularly its membership and professional practice committees. He is also a leader in the Metro Vancouver community, where he has served on many community boards and organizations.

*New Fellows from PIBC appearing with
CIP President Blake Hudema MCIP.
Photos submitted by CIP*

2009 CIP Awards for Planning Excellence

The following work by PIBC Members was recently recognized as part of the CIP Awards for Excellence in Planning.

Category: City Planning

EcoDensity

City of Vancouver

Team Members: Brent Toderian, MCIP, Director of Planning, City of Vancouver; Ronda Howard, MCIP, Assistant Director of City-Wide & Regional Planning, City of Vancouver; EcoDensity Steering Committee; EcoDensity Technical Team.

This project resulted in an EcoDensity Charter adopted by Vancouver City Council in 2008, making environmental sustainability a primary goal in all city-building decisions. For more information, see www.vancouver-ecodensity.ca

Category: International Development
District Strategic Development Planning in occupied Palestinian territory

EcoPlan International Inc.

Team Members: Gerrit J. McGowan and William Trousdale, MCIP, on behalf of EcoPlan International, Inc. (Vancouver, BC), UNDP Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (Jerusalem, Israel), and Palestinian National Authority, Ministry of Planning.

This project, completed in partnership with the United Nations' Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People, resulted in

guidelines in support of participatory democracy by strengthening the capacity of organizations to undertake strategic development planning.

Category: Neighbourhood Planning
North Shore Neighbourhood Plan

City of Kamloops

Team Members: Carla Stewart, MCIP, MCAHP; Randy Lambright, MCIP; John Popoff, MCIP, PMP. Consultant Support: MMM Group Limited.

The result of an intensive planning process spanning more than three years, this comprehensive land use plan will direct and guide the growth and evolution of the North Shore incorporating performance-based policies and regulations and using incentives to drive creativity. For more information, see www.city.kamloops.bc.ca/communityplanning/northshore.shtml

Category: Rural/Small Town Planning
The Town of Ladysmith Sustainable Community Visioning Project

HB Lanarc Consultants and the Town of Ladysmith

In response to residents' concerns about recent development, Ladysmith the community undertook this exercise to articulate the community's preferences for future development. For more information, see www.ladysmith.ca/upload/dcd813_Visioning_Final_Summary_Report_Feb_2_2009.pdf

Planning Student Trust Fund

BC students were awarded 2009 CIP Scholarships as follows.

CIP President's Scholarship awarded to Brook Land-Murphy, SFU for, "Aboriginal Participation in Environmental Assessments: The Case of the Joint Review Panel Proceedings for the Mackenzie Gas Project"

Thomas Adam – Past President Scholarship awarded to Andrew Devlin, UBC for, "The effects of local urban form

and regional accessibility on travel-related greenhouse gas emissions in Metro Vancouver: Positioning the role of land use planning in local climate change mitigation strategies"

Horace Seymour – Past President Scholarship awarded to Christine Wenman, UBC for, "Costs, sources and quantity of water in a context of poverty: a case study of Tlmacazapa, Guerrero, Mexico"

The Town of Gibsons: The Most Liveable Community in the World

by Chris Marshall, MCIP, Director of Planning

At this year's Liveable Community Awards held in the Czech Republic, the Town of Gibsons was awarded first prize as The Most Livable Community (population <20,000) and it received the "Planning for the Future" award.

The intent of the UN sponsored LivCom Awards is to bring communities together from around the globe to share in best management practices. These awards focus "... on Best Practice regarding the management of the local environment. The objective of LivCom is to improve the quality of life of individual citizens through the creation of 'liveable communities'."

LivCom is non-political, embracing all nations and cultures, and over 50 countries are represented within the Awards" (From the LivCom Website).

Participation in the LivCom awards by the Town of Gibsons began in January 2009 when the Director of Parks, Wendy Gilbertson, submitted an expression of interest to the competition. In May, we were notified we could submit a 4000-2ord report summarizing the ways in which the Town addressed the following criteria:

1. Enhancement of the Landscape;
2. Heritage Management;
3. Environmentally Sensitive Practices;
4. Community Involvement;
5. Healthy Lifestyles; and
6. Planning for the Future.

In August we were notified that Gibsons had been shortlisted as one of seven communities from around the world to compete in Pilsen in the Czech Republic for the title of most liveable community in the world.

Council was excited, but due to the downturn in the economy, the Councillors were reluctant to spend money to send staff to Europe. The Council compromised by passing a motion that two staff members could go as long as no taxpayer dollars were used to fund the trip and Council volunteered to raise the funds in the community.

The funds were raised by late September leaving only three weeks to prepare for the awards. Shortlisted communities are required to present a 40 minute speech to a panel of international judges. The presentation can include a video of a maximum of 12 minutes. The Town hired a professional video maker



Mayor of Gibsons Barry Janyk, Director of Parks Wendy Gilbertson and the Director of Planning Chris Marshall receiving the award.
Submitted by Chris Marshall.

who in one week was able to put together enough footage to create a 6 minute video that spoke to the 6 criteria. Fortunately, the one week we had to film the video was a perfect week of sunny weather and there happened to be a festival in one of the parks, a soccer tournament in another park, a large open house for a Harbour Plan that I was working on and the salmon were running up Gibsons Creek.

I left a week ahead of the start of the competition so that I could do some sight seeing in Prague. Prague is probably the most beautiful city I have ever visited as it is a completely intact 12th Century city that is pedestrian-oriented. The streets are all narrow and cobble stoned and pedestrians own the streets and the squares.

On the evening of October 7, 2009, I met up with my the Mayor and Director of Parks at the Prague airport and we took a taxi to Pilsen with some other delegates from Australia and Japan. The next day the LivCom officials did a draw to determine the order of the presentations. We were scheduled for noon the next day. At this point we had worked on our own presentations but

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Gibsons (cont'd)

now had to combine the two power point presentations into one and start practicing the presentation for the first time. We practiced the presentation about 6 times over the next 24 hours until we had our timing down pat. The judges are very strict about the time each delegation gets and if you go over your 40 minutes they cut you off.

We gave our presentation to an audience of about 50 delegates and three judges from Sweden, Japan and New Zealand. The presentations were streamed live on the internet on the LivCom website. My wife actually set her alarm for 3:00 am and watched our presentation live and said the picture and sound were great. After the presentation the judges asked a number of questions relating to the six criteria. We felt good about our presentation and were given a lot of positive feedback from the audience. The great thing was that since we were one of the first to present we could now relax and enjoy the other presentations.

Over the next two days we witnessed presentations from towns and cities from all over the world and were able to meet with and discuss the policies and practices of various communities. Every delegate was asked to attend at least 10 other presentations and judge them. We were obviously not permitted to judge the communities in our category. Each community was also given a space in the main lobby of the conference to present pictures and information from their community.

The LivCom organizers did an amazing job of organizing tours and lavish dinners around the presentations. We were given a tour and dinner at the Pilsener Urquell Brewery, treated to an Opera at the historic Pilsen Opera House and on the last night we attended the awards dinner which was a formal affair in an old palace with chandeliers and a high painted ceiling. The awards dinner was much like the music and movie awards

you see on TV and in between presentations of the awards we were entertained with local Czech musicians and dancers. We had no expectations of winning an award: being a town of 4,200 with limited staff and resources, we felt like underdogs compared to the larger European towns in the <20,000 category.

At the awards dinner we were presented with two awards. The first award was called the "Planning for the Future" award. This award identified the Town of Gibsons as having the best future planning ideas and policies of any of the other 50 towns and cities that presented at the awards. We also won our under 20,000 person category as the most liveable community in the World. Shortly after we received the awards, the Mayor was on the phone with CBC radio and over the next few days the story was picked up by many of the BC newspapers and TV News.

We returned to Gibsons to a hero's welcome and we are still riding a wave of local TV spots, invitations to speak about our experience and news reports. Shortly after returning, we booked the local playhouse and repeated the 40 minute presentation to a full house. At the end of the presentation we were given a standing ovation.

As planners, we have to endure a great deal of negative energy as there is no way to please everyone when it comes to change and development. Standing in front of your community and getting a standing ovation makes it all worthwhile and will help me to get through some of those dark days that I am bound to experience in the future.

The awards that the Town of Gibsons



*Sunrise over the Prague.
Submitted by Chris Marshall.*

won highlights not just the work we are doing in Gibsons but how progressive and leading edge planning in BC is. In sitting through presentations from various sized communities from around the world, I felt we as planners in BC have much to teach the world on how to plan and develop sustainable liveable communities.

For any of you who are planning on participating in next year's LivCom awards they are being held in Chicago. You should also be aware that you can submit projects that your community is undertaking as there is a separate set of awards for things like neighbourhood plans or new sustainable technologies or policies you are implementing.

I firmly believe that participating in this competition and receiving international recognition for the work the Town of Gibsons has done will make our citizens that much more willing to buy in to more progressive and forward thinking plans and policies because that is what is expected of the most liveable community in the world. 🏡

Since Chris began working for the Town of Gibsons in 1998, awards have also been given to Gibsons for its OCP by PIBC and SmartGrowth BC.

In The Cards: Golden's Official Community Plan Is the Real Deal

by Heather Caverhill

The Town of Golden undertook a creative and inclusive public consultation process for its Official Community Plan, utilizing photographs on cards. The text of the following article, written by Heather Caverhill, Publisher / Editor in Chief, is reprinted from the Second Issue 2009 *Kicking Horse Magazine* with permission. The issue sets the tone for the article by asking a question:

“Question: What do you need to create an innovative new strategy for growth and development in Kicking Horse Country?”

Answer: Over 1000 residents, a deck of 69 cards and one rock and roll town planner.”



“We want people to pick out the cards and be creative,” Town Planner Cleopatra Corbett explains. The cards she refers to make up a deck of 69 snapshots, created as part of the Form and Character Guidelines for development in Golden. Each card presents a distinctive feature of the community from CPR rail cars to the stunning Dog Tooth Mountain Range to timber frame facades, retro hotel signs, aluminum siding and lumber stacks at the local mill.

Photographed by Kris Kelly of AKA Andrew King Architecture (Calgary AB) the varied images capture the diverse rudiments of Golden's identity—past and present. Builders and architects are asked to take inspiration for their development proposals from three of the identity cards and use the Form and Function Guidelines as a framework. “We don't want to limit creativity with a specific set of building rules or codes.” Corbett states, “We are encouraging people to be innovative.”

The guidelines document illustrates the direction that the community plans to take in terms of growth and development in relation to architecture and design. It describes a dense commu-

nity with a thriving downtown centre as its focal point. It positions Golden as an evolving town, flourishing with industry while taking advantage of its natural setting as an adventure tourism destination. Using the identity cards as a stepping off point, developers are given freedom to innovate using elements from Golden's unique history.

The community's unconventional approach to its design guidelines and Andrew King Architecture's thoughtful examination of the visual and historic elements of the community have received attention in municipal planning and architecture circles. Canadian Architect describes AKA's work in Golden as a “set of fluid development guidelines ... that ask architects, developers and builders to respond to the pressure of tourism while respecting the working history of the community.” It is not surprising that Corbett, who can be seen riding her tassled townie bike to work or wielding an electric guitar at local jam nights, values a creative approach. The inventively considered Form and Character Guidelines is just one ingredient in a larger document that Corbett spent almost two years developing—Golden's Official Community Plan.

A comprehensive strategy for community growth and development, the OCP was created with input from over 1000 Golden and Area residents. Corbett is still amazed by the tremendous

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Golden (cont'd)

support and public involvement that went into creating the plan. "In the writing of any community plan public participation has to be mandatory, but Golden's Town Council approved a process that went way beyond that."

Local participation was achieved through scores of public discussions and open houses. The Town of Golden hired two students from the College of the Rockies to survey community members and organize and host OCP information events and activities throughout the community. "We wanted responses from all age groups, income levels, backgrounds and interests so we had to locate ways to reach them," Corbett recalls. Going beyond Town Hall, OCP information sessions were held in a host of unexpected locations such as the local grocery stores, public skate night at the municipal arena, jam night at a local pub and the Golden Secondary School (almost 300 survey responses were received from area


youth due to the great efforts of a pair of high school students who collected surveys from their classmates). Additional surveys were circulated throughout the community via mail and email asking Golden residents to articulate their hopes and concerns for the future of their community.

The OCP process also invited residents to take part in a 20-person steering committee, chosen by Town Council to represent a wide range of ages, sexes, jobs, backgrounds, and education. A completely volunteer venture, the committee met over the course of a year and a few months—eventually breaking into sub-groups to write specific recommendations on issues such as housing, downtown development and social health. 90% of those recommendations were included in the Official Community Plan.

"A great amount of volunteer effort went into defining the goals for the OCP. I know of one volunteer who attended 34 meetings altogether!" Corbett recalls. "In the end we have a plan that is a product of

the community which is exactly what we set out to do—we asked people what they wanted to see happen in their community and endeavored to make it happen."

The residents of Golden asked for a community plan that preserved and improved on their current way of life. Providing affordable housing, a diverse economy, creating jobs, and striving for sustainability are just a few of the values highlighted by the OCP. Corbett, whose planning dossier includes the award winning OCP for Ucluelet (Vancouver Island), is aware of the challenges faced by a community that wants to balance tourism with their traditional industry.

"We are not ashamed of being Golden," Corbett clarifies. "We are not ashamed of being a logging and rail town. We want to build on what is here, make some improvements and sustain what we already have." She sums up the vision for Golden's future with the phrase that has become the slogan for the Official Community Plan: "We're keeping it real!" 

Planning in Action - Transforming Community

is the theme of the PIBC 2010 conference to be held at Sun Peaks Resort, June 1-4, 2010. The sub-themes of the conference include:

going green ♦ building strong community capital
shifting cultures and demographics
getting active and healthy ♦ growing relationships

We want your ideas!

The 2010 Conference Program Committee is developing a weblog where PIBC Members can put forward their ideas regarding the conference program. Keep your eyes on the PIBC website for the link to the weblog.

We will soon invite submissions for presentations at the conference and for sessions to provide planners with hands on learning opportunities to strengthen our toolkit.

Mark your calendars for this innovative event!



June 1 - 4, 2010
Sun Peaks Resort, British Columbia



Crisis Management: The Next Planning Paradigm

by Dennis Carlsen, MCIP

Climate change and peak oil continue to be a major topics for policy makers, planning conferences and the media despite the global economic recession. While experts debate the timing and severity, the major impact of climate change is project to occur in the next 30 to 40 yearsⁱ with the impact of peak oil weighing in within the next 10 years. Despite the warnings from various organizations and individuals regarding their potential impact, the indications of a tangible response from the public and business community has been varied.

Various survey polls and research by analysts offer possible explanations as to why there has not been a more concerted response. People are aware of the issues associated with climate change and peak oil but are often skeptical regarding the magnitude of the problem or alternatively resist any suggestion that they may have to alter their lifestyle. Businesses also recognize the issues but are concerned regarding the potential economic cost of responding to climate change. The resistance of residents and businesses will ultimately create a situation where instead of planned mitigation and adaption strategies, communities will be forced into crisis management as they deal with a prolonged period of economic, environmental and social upheaval.

Planners will be called upon to provide crisis management but in order to be effective they will need the skills to deal with strained resources, failing infrastructure and polarized interests.

In 2007 the International Panel on Climate Change published the *Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability Report*ⁱ that described the potential impact of climate change over the next century. North America was projected to experience higher sea levels, increased water shortages and more extreme weather events.

The IPCC report also pointed out that more extensive adaption methods would be required but that even these could be potentially be undermined by regional disparities as well as institutional, political and financial constraints.

The BC Climate Action Plan refers to a report prepared by Natural Resources Canada that warns of similar impacts that could impact British Columbia with potentially wide ranging impacts on the economy, infrastructure and coastal communities.

The Association for the Study of Peak Oil estimated that the production of oil peaked in 2008 and that economies are not prepared for the transition that will be necessary. Diminishing reserves of oil will translate to increase prices which will impact transportation and manufactured products ranging from food to fabrics.

A report by the BC Progress Board in 2005ⁱⁱⁱ points out that BC historically had the luxury of secure supply of energy which led to complacency. The report warns that BC now faces some real challenges because has become a net importer of oil and electricity. The reliance on external sources of energy has put BC in weak position in respect to protecting the economy.

There are many individuals and businesses that are responding by altering their lifestyles or their business practices but surprisingly, they are in the minority.

The Climate Confidence Monitor developed by HSBC has conducted an annual survey in a number of countries including Canada. The results indicated that only 26% of Canadians surveyed identified climate change as the major issue (this is down from 34% in 2008). Only 11% of those surveyed believed that organizations responsible for dealing with climate change were doing everything they could. A more positive result was that 33% indicated they were making personal lifestyle changes in an effort to mitigate climate change.

In British Columbia a survey undertaken by Robbins Research in 2008^{iv} provides in interesting perspective on public opinion regarding climate change:

- Most surprisingly, 41% thought that climate change was the result of the natural events as compared to 38% who thought is due to human production of carbon dioxide.

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Crisis Management (cont'd)

- 35% were of the opinion that climate change was a reoccurring phenomenon and could be dealt with through changes in lifestyle.
- 34% were of the opinion that the best way to deal with climate change was to concentrate on developing a strong economy and providing incentives for businesses and individuals to help fight pollution.
- Only 21% thought it required swift action on the part of government.

The response from the BC business community indicates somewhat similar results. The Canadian Federation of Independent Businesses conducted a survey in 2008 in response to the BC Climate Action Plan.^v 46% of the business surveyed identified climate change as an important issue but it ranked fourth in importance behind recycling, energy conservation and clean water. Only 17% of the respondents indicated that the environment should be protected even at the expense of economic growth. The CFIB argued that while small business supports the Climate Action Plan there were concerns regarding the underlying costs including investments in new technology and the time cost associated with new environmental regulations.

The survey results pose an interesting question as to why in the face of so much media and experts talking about climate change and peak oil there is so little positive response.

Part of the answer may lie with how humans deal with a crisis. Humans are conditioned to react to a crisis with a fight or flight response. That innate reaction breaks down when faced with a global crisis that may take place over decades. In fact part of our neurological circuitry is designed to ignore threats that are not immediate, even if they may be more dangerous later. When an article on the greenhouse effect does appear, the response of an average, informed person is akin to seeing a disaster movie—people

become very upset for a little while, then they forget about it.

The other key aspect is that most people by nature are possessive, territorial and acquisitive. The result is that people generally will not give up a comfortable lifestyle no matter how unsustainable unless they think they are going to receive something of equal or better value in return. (W.R. Prescott)^{vi}

In many respects issues around lifestyle is the “elephant in the room” regarding the response of developed countries such as Canada to the demands of climate change. At a presentation to the Gaining Ground conference in 2009, Professor Bill Rees pointed out that North Americans should be taking steps to reduce their ecological footprint by at least 80%. His comment was “there will be lifestyle changes—get used to it”.

The difficulty of achieving this is illustrated in a book written by Robyn Harding^{vii} that describes the struggles of a woman to raise a “green” family. Her family is and friends are constantly opposed to her attempts to live a sustainable life style. Even she herself struggles at times to stay true to the cause. Although the book is amusing it underscores the difficulty of making a major lifestyle change.

The result of ignoring the problems associated with climate change and peak oil which could have been solved, have now manifested into a situation where civilization is now faced with a predicament which has no solution. Crisis management will not be based on a cataclysmic event but rather, the real future that is now unfolding is one of crisis heaped upon crisis (Rifkin)

Crisis management in the face of economic, environmental and social upheaval will present its own set of challenges. Governments at all levels will find it difficult to cope because of economic pressures and structural obstacles. Local governments in particular will struggle due to a lack of resources and the experience to deal with major long term impacts

from climate change. For any community that may be experiencing pressures on a limited tax-base or facing significant core infrastructure costs, it is questionable whether it would have the financial means or will to address climate change impacts as a priority.

In a crisis brought on by climate change or peak oil there will be competing viewpoints regarding the best response, accusations between various interest groups and political leaders struggling to formulate a response.

Richard Heinberg^{viii} has developed a crisis management strategy that takes these challenges into account. His strategy, “resilient communities”, was developed on the premise that proactive mitigation or adaption strategies have failed and the community is now faced with a crisis. The community resilience plan outlines a series of steps that begins with identifying organizations, businesses, and individuals that have some skill or capacity that will be needed in the event of a crisis brought on by climate change or post peak oil. This would include mainstream organizations (government agencies as well as private companies) currently responsible for food, water, transport, and energy. It would also include alternative organizations with skills or resources relating to food production, health and transportation. Heinberg warns that there is likely to be resistance from established organizations as well as various alternative environmental organizations because they view this as a threat to their authority or in the case of environmental organizations they have harboured frustration with the business as usual approaches. He stresses the need to work with these groups and individuals to develop a contingency plan and to have the plan endorsed at the political level.

When shortages develop and the economy comes unhinged, then groups and local officials must work together to implement the plan. Heinberg concedes that this will entail the hardest and most


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Crisis Management (cont'd)

demanding work.

Planners will have a key role as crisis managers. In order to perform in very stressful situations that will need to be capable of taking responsibility and exercising leadership in often chaotic and confusing situations. This will require strong organization and communication skills. It is encouraging to note that a major focus of the *CIP Policy on Climate Change* is a series of actions that will en-

sure that planners will have the skills and knowledge to increase planners' capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

"If mitigation isn't fast enough, the left-over gap has to be filled by rapid response, ad-hoc solutions" Bryn Davidson Director, Dynamic Cities Project. 

Dennis Carlsen MCIP is a planning consultant with a focus on sustainable development in small communities

i D. Rodenhuis et al, Hydro-climatology and Future Climate Impacts in British Columbia, Climate Overview, 2007

ii Contribution of Working Group II to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

iii BC Progress Board, Strategic Imperatives for British Columbia's Energy Future, 2005

iv A targeted sample of 820 British Columbians who voted in the last provincial general election

v CFIB Small Business feedback on the BC Climate Action Secretariat's report, Meeting British Columbia's Targets, 2008

vi WR Prescott is the Director of Public Information for the Climate Protection Institute (CPI)

vii Mom, Will this Chicken Give Me Man Boobs? My Confused, Guilt-Ridden, and Stressful Struggle to Raise a Green Family, Greystone Book, 2009

viii Richard Heinberg, Resilient Communities: A Guide to Disaster Management, 2008

Book Review

Resilient Cities: Responding to Peak Oil and Climate Change
by Peter Newman, Timothy Beatley, and Heather Boyer, Island Press, 2009, \$35.95

Cities as Sustainable Ecosystems: Principles and Practices
by Peter Newman and Isabella Jennings, Island Press, 2008, \$41.95

by Don Alexander, MCIP, Vancouver Island University

Yogi Berra once said that "the future ain't what it used to be," and that's certainly true for planners. In the past, planners' activities were aimed at facilitating economic growth, disciplining and directing development, creating transportation infrastructure, and building needed community facilities. Although we have begun to pay lip service to the 'new issues' looming on the horizon, in large measure we have been acting as if the future will be a linear projection of present trends.

However, as these books show, the future will throw everything that has become familiar—all of business as usual—out the window. In particular, peak oil and climate change—or so the authors argue—will mean that we will have to abandon urban sprawl, transportation systems organized around personal motor vehicles, overweening dependence on global trade (especially food), and will no longer be able to rely on dependable weather and stable ecosystems.

There is considerable overlap between the two books. *Cities as Sustainable Ecosystems* is organized around the excellent Mel-

bourne Principles that were conceived at a charrette in Australia in 2002 and endorsed by local governments that same year at The Earth Summit + 10 in Johannesburg, South Africa. The ten principles (and chapters) deal with vision; economy and society; biodiversity; ecological footprints; modeling cities on ecosystems; building on sense of place; empowerment; partnerships; sustainable production and consumption, and governance and hope.

Resilient Cities is more focused on what cities can do to pre-

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Book Review (cont'd)

pare themselves to survive and thrive in a post-oil era of modified climate. It begins by sketching out four possible future scenarios: *collapse of urban systems*, *re-ruralization* of urban areas, *divided cities*, and the *resilient city*.

The 'collapse' scenario has much in common with the historical episodes discussed by Jared Diamond in his book of the same name where societies exceed the limits of their resource base, suffer a decline in organized systems of production and governance, and then a correspondingly massive shrinkage in population.

Re-ruralization envisions that city dwellers will be required to become more self-provisioning as supply regions contract. The proponents of this vision advocate that vast open swathes of suburbia will need to be converted to food production. The problem with this scenario, as the authors point out, is that it ignores the millions of inner city dwellers who will have to be deconcentrated somewhere (thereby contributing to sprawl), who currently have little access to food-growing land and who will have few means of making a living.

The divided cities (and, by extension, divided countries) scenario is one where the rich and powerful look after themselves and kick the less fortunate out of the life raft, sealing themselves into fortress communities with whatever resources they can sequester.

Finally, the resilient city is one in which urban communities become more adaptable to change and more in balance with

their respective bioregions and with the biosphere as a whole. The authors draw their definition of resilience from ecology where the term refers to "the capacity of a system to absorb disturbance and still retain its basic function and structure." The degree of resilience "may be measured by the magnitude of the disturbance the system can tolerate and still persist" (p. 6). To reinforce the point, they give the example of Atlanta and Barcelona. Atlantans consume 782 gallons of gasoline per year, the residents of Barcelona 64. Which city will best be able to cope with inevitable oil shortages?

After articulating the threats associated with what they call the "double whammy" of peak oil and climate change, and the benefits of cities becoming resilient, they describe a vision for revitalized cities built around: renewable energy, carbon neutrality, distributed infrastructure, harnessed photosynthesis for food and fibre, closed-loop systems for raw materials and wastes, an emphasizing and reinforcing of sense of place, and sustainable transport systems. This latter point is also addressed in a separate chapter. The book ends with what the authors describe as "ten strategic steps towards a resilient city."

The authors of these books definitely have their fingers on the pulse of something. In recent years, the notion of the resilient city has moved closer to the mainstream. Not only is it manifesting itself in the *transitional towns* movement, Metro Vancouver made it part of the structure of its winning entry into the 2001 international competition for a 100-year sustainability plan, where considerable attention was given to how the

region could prepare itself to withstand a variety of shocks.

And, more recently, it was the theme of a major conference in Vancouver attended by over 600 delegates from a broad cross-section of industry, government, and civil society who came together to discuss ideas and applications for healing our beleaguered cities—focusing not only on threats, but the enormous opportunities that await those with vision.

The strength of both books is that the authors provide an abundance of case studies and examples of their proposed principles and strategies. Weaknesses include being heavy on the rhetoric, not always dotting 'i's and crossing 't's in terms of explaining concepts or implementation problems, and allowing some ideas to sound more straightforward than they are. For instance, they make frequent reference to organizing within bioregions—a worthy concept—but, as I have shown elsewhere, bioregions can be challenging to define.

While short and sweet, these books are not elegantly written. They feel like first drafts and could have been more tightly edited; they also need more comprehensive indices. Nonetheless, they are wonderful resource books on urban sustainability, especially because they synthesize a wide range of theory and practice and provide a strong overview of the directions we need to go if cities worthy of the name are to persist. In addition to being useful for practicing planners, *Resilient Cities* and *Cities as Sustainable Ecosystems* would make good textbooks for university-level courses in planning. 🏠

PlanGirl Travels: Lessons to Bring Home

Installment #4: Artists and Planning

by Emilie K. Adin, MCIP

Artists have long participated in designing the built environment. Contradictorily, artists also have a long history of consciously embracing unregulated and unplanned spaces. How can we as contemporary planners learn from the traditions of chaos, libertarianism and anarchism at the heart of many artist communities? And how can we ensure that artists continue to contribute to the economic development and vibrancy of neighbourhoods and cities in BC?

Lessons from Europe

European artists have always had a role in urban planning. Michelangelo, for example, was a skilled urban designer and architect, despite being best known as a painter and sculptor. In the late 18th century, a Commission of Artists was hired and the resulting Artists Plan of 1780 is largely what influenced Haussmann's grand re-design of Paris, and the appearance of this "City of Lights" to this day. Planning theories outlining the artist's influence on planned space were developed in early influential works such as Camillo Sitte's *City Planning According to Artistic Principles* (1889).

Hellerau, Germany

Not only do artists share in the history of shaping the built environment, but artists have historically been attracted to certain kinds of urban environments, and have influenced how these environments have evolved over time. Eight kilometers out of Dresden is Hellerau, which was designed by Heinrich Tressenow in 1908. Hellerau represented Germany's left-wing take on the Garden City movement. One hundred years ago, this community was largely being populated by nudists and artists who came not only in response to the low-density cottage-style housing, but also to the cooperative model of local employment and the utopian ideals of the community.

Christiana, Denmark

Denmark's Christiania has been a utopian artist commune in Copenhagen. Since 1971, when former military barracks were squatted, this neighbourhood of roughly 34 hectares (85 acres) in size has been a self-proclaimed autonomous city within a city. It was originally "settled" by homeless people seeking affordable housing, as well as by neighbouring residents seeking to create a playground for their children. Over time, several hundred residents came to live there. Arts and soft drugs came

to be celebrated within the culture, and idiosyncratic buildings exemplifying modern "architecture without architects" proliferated over time. The people developed their own set of rules, independent of the Danish government. Through negotiations, however, residents have paid taxes and fees for water, electricity, trash disposal, and other municipal services since 1994. Auto-free (except for a parking lot that accommodates 14 cars), there is a high profusion of art galleries, shops and pubs as well as a high proportion of public art pieces along every street. Most Danes (including even Conservative politicians) seem to be proud of Christiania's successful espousal of libertarian, unregulated, and unplanned community living.

Ruigoord, Netherlands

The Netherlands' Ruigoord is a village of artists and squatters that can easily be accessed from Amsterdam by bicycle, and represents "a perfect example of a more or less socially harmonious community." Populated by self-described "spiritual peaceful anarchists" and "60s hippies," inhabitants have dubbed their village a "planning-free community." At one time evacuated in order to extend Amsterdam's harbour zone, and with two-thirds of the buildings already demolished, squatters moved in alongside some of the original Ruigoord villagers who had refused to leave. This rag-tag group realized they had "a physical place where [they] could live [their] ideals"—without paying taxes and without participating in the edicts of government. "When I look at [the one streetlight leaning sideways], and it's still leaning over, I feel we have not yet lost our country," said one the original squatters, who brings curious foreigners on free tours of the village. With public art making sudden appearances at every turn, the roughly 50 artists-in-residence say they are "fighting for beauty." Inhabitants see themselves as a semi-nomadic people, building close relationships with other squatter communities around the world, and sharing in exchanges, festivals and special events.

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PlanGirl (cont'd)

This artist community may soon disappear, and it is worth taking a look at Ruigoord before it is gone (if only to marvel as residents' pride in their defiant tradition of 'wild pissing'.) After several decades in suspended animation and having successfully rallied support for many years among the general public and key officials, it is again being dismantled and redeveloped as an industrial site. The area has been declared "industrial" in regional planning documents and a dreary grey Starbucks factory has been erected near the entrance to the village. With Ruigoord's residents being given first priority for social housing rental units in Amsterdam, ahead of all others on the City's 12-year Wait List, the local government is now working to enforce its decades-old decree that villagers and squatters not live in or near an industrial area.

Lessons from British Columbia

BC does not have the same history of purpose-built artist communes and squatter communities, although American artists and draft dodgers of the Vietnam War did populate the Gulf Islands and BC's Slocan Valley during the '60s and '70s and these rural havens were highly influenced as a result. Before the broad application of the BC Building Code, and over the course of several decades, experimental and unconventional architecture was utilized to build homes that suited the tastes and values of the artists and protestors who populated these areas; a great many remnants still exist of these early efforts to change the way human beings relate to each other and the built environment.

BC artists have also formed communities of identity in neighbourhoods or towns where the cost of the building stock (both to rent or to buy) has been low. Artists have long been instrumental in the reformulation of communities that are down and out, sometimes even acting (uninten-

tionally) as the early vanguard of gentrification. The East Side of Vancouver and, in an earlier era, Kitsilano, were once primarily artist neighbourhoods but are slowly being vacated of artists as prices for housing have slowly climbed. Even as former artist neighbourhoods are transforming, new ones are being created.

The small northern mining town of Wells, which had its heyday in the 1930s, is found in the Cariboo Mountains near Barkerville. After the last of the big mines closed down in 1967, the population and the price of real estate crashed. Wells has slowly been repopulated as an artist community by individuals who were attracted to the low prices, the natural beauty, and Wells' proximity to the nearby tourist attractions, Barkerville and Bowron Lake Provincial Park. Artists have been able to buy dilapidated buildings, including purpose-built theatres, hotels and even churches, and to re-furbish them as homes and art galleries.

While there are not many anarchism-dedicated, unplanned communities for artists, nor any urban havens for artists in BC, artists continue to assert influence on the province's built environment and economic development but their value is not well recognized. If Richard Florida's prognostications are correct (*The Rise of the Creative Class*, 2002), any loss will have wide effects on BC's economic vibrancy. Despite the Province's calculations that it reaps \$1.38 in tax revenue for every dollar it spends on the arts, the BC arts community has faced staggering cuts of late with a decline in core funding of more than 88% in the past two years.

Conclusion

The artist as designer—the artist as anarchist.

The artist as citizen—the artist as recluse.

These dichotomies epitomize the two faces that artists bring to the profession of planning. Our challenge as planners is to be inspired by the principles and passion of artists when designing neighbour-



Top: Window of Home in Ruigoord Village, Netherlands. Bottom: Ruigoord eclectic home. Photos submitted by author.

hoods, while reflecting on our penchant to impose order on the built environment, to the detriment of random design, creative expression, and artistic vibrancy. 🏠

Emilie K. Adin, MCIP, is the City Planner for the City of North Vancouver. She is enjoying her little old house on her little old lot on Vancouver's east side.

PlanTalk, South Coast Chapter

Responses to Bill 27: Next Steps for Climate Action in BC

*Erica Crawford Boettcher, Masters of Arts (Planning) Candidate,
School of Community and Regional Planning, UBC*

From October 20 – 22, 2009, around 2000 delegates converged on the Vancouver Convention Centre to discuss “Resilient Cities: Urban strategies for transition times.” PlanTalk was there to add to the conversation and Erica Crawford Boettcher, MA Masters of Arts (Planning) Candidate at SCARP, was there to provide this account.

In 2008, the *Local Government (Green Communities) Statutes Amendment Act* (Bill 27) was passed, requiring local governments to set targets and outline policies and actions for achieving them. With the deadline for local governments only months away, PlanTalk decided to find out how BC is faring and what communities can do, and are doing, to address this new policy challenge.

Dr. Maged Senbel, professor of design at SCARP, compared emissions for the high-density False Creek North, the smaller (but still high density) Coquitlam Centre and Surrey’s East Clayton village taking into account embodied energy, operating costs and transportation. Although overall emissions were lowest in False Creek, Dr. Senbel stressed it is a combination of higher density development together with suitable transportation infrastructure that holds the highest potential for reduced emissions—the glass and steel towers of downtown Vancouver are not the only, nor even the best, way to address climate mitigation goals in the context of other community priorities.

Ron MacDonald, Senior Environmental Engineer with The Sheltair Group (now Stantec), appealed to communities to build emissions reduction considerations into their planning process, rather than sacrificing other community goals such as public involvement at the altar of carbon neutrality. It is important to acknowledge what is already being done right, and take steps to engage in a longer-term transition and process of learning.

Dale Littlejohn, Manager of Community Outreach and Strategy with the Community Energy Association, tipped his hat to planners for navigating uncharted territory and for ongoing investment in capacity building. He stressed municipalities can exert the greatest influence through reducing demand by developing systems to re-use waste heat, harness renewable heating sources, expand renewable electricity production and develop

district energy systems (multiple buildings connected to one local energy source)—and to not overlook their potential as an ongoing revenue source.

Alex Boston, Director of Climate Protection & Sustainable Energy for HB Lanarc, rounded out the assault by using war imagery. With local government decisions influencing around 50% of greenhouse gas emissions, Mr. Boston asserts municipalities must communicate the risks of not taking action, bring climate action into the fold of broader planning directions and community priorities and highlight the energy and financial savings possible through reductions and switching to renewable energy sources.

The good and bad news is that investing in new directions is not really an option: the climate is changing and even if GHG emissions stopped today, carbon dioxide that is already in the atmosphere would persist in driving climate change for hundreds of years (Solomon et al 2009). The other good and bad news is that planners are uniquely positioned to facilitate the transition. As Narissa Chadwick, moderator of the session suggested, the shift to including emissions reduction, energy planning and climate change in decision-making is simply good planning in this new reality.

A strong message from the panel was the need to build these new directions into a foundation of existing community priorities and actions. Recognize local strengths, what is already in motion in your own community and how your emissions, energy and climate aspirations can be designed to create co-benefits and opportunities.


At the same time, there is a need to act strategically with a view to the longer-term. Climate and energy planning is a cross-cutting issue that requires involvement across all departments.

(continued page 17)

PlanTalk (cont'd)

Organizational changes that enable horizontal coordination will be an important step in building capacity for effective management long-term.

Planning in the 21st century is taking on a new character due to the complexity, uncertainty and change that we are faced with. For many communities, new demands for climate and energy actions will stress limited resources and feel like yet another burdensome dictate from the provincial government. But the PlanTalk panelists provide another perspective to consider: what if? What if this challenge is just the opportunity you needed to kick start a new approach to local economic development? What if it leads to partnerships that open new possibilities for regional development? It's a shift in perspective from reactive problem-solving towards proactively imagining and creating a future we want to arrive at, which is already happening in many places around BC. The change necessary to carry the transition will have to happen on at least two levels: on the one hand,

through our collective decisions about the physical structures of land use and urban form, transportation, energy and water systems; and on the other hand, the cultural and psychological dimension of values, lifestyle and consumption choices (Robinson et al 2008). These set the parameters for our future opportunities and restraints—and planning is, for better or worse, right there in the middle of it all. 

References

Robinson J., T. Berkhout, S. Burch, E. J. Davis, N. Dusyk, A. Shaw, S. Sheppard and J. Tansey (2008). *Infrastructure & Communities: The Path to Sustainable Communities*. Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions, Victoria, 20 pp.

Solomon, Susan, et al. 2009. Irreversible Climate Change Due to Carbon Dioxide Emissions. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 106.6: 1704–09.

Swart R, Robinson J, Cohen S. 2003. Climate change and sustainable development: expanding the options. *Climate Policy, Special Issue on Climate Change and Sustainable Development* 3: S19–S40.

Resources

Resilient Cities conference website
www.gaininggroundsummit.com

BC Climate Action Toolkit
www.toolkit.bc.ca

Power Smart Sustainable Communities Program
www.bchydro.com/powersmart/ps_communities/local_government/program_overview.html

Smart Planning For Communities: Sustainability Facilitators
www.fraserbasin.bc.ca/programs/spc_sustainability_facilitators.html

Ministry of Community and Rural Development
www.cd.gov.bc.ca/lgd/greencommunities/targets.htm

Community Energy Association
www.communityenergy.bc.ca

Planning Institute of British Columbia: 2010 Awards for Excellence in Planning

Give the gift of recognition this coming year and celebrate the work of your team and planning colleagues by giving a nomination for the **2010 Awards for Excellence**.

Nomination details will be available in the new year. Members can start thinking ahead to preparing a submission for either the **Awards for Excellence in Planning** or for the **Planner of the Year**.

Nominations will normally include a short summary and presentation details. Watch for more details online at www.pibc.bc.ca or in the PIBC eNews in early 2010.



In Memoriam

Arthur Robert Cowie, MCIP, FCSLA September 17, 1934 – November 21, 2009

by Michael Geller MAIBC, FCIP

A renaissance man. Persistent. Publicly spirited. Passionate. Visionary. Stubborn. Sweet. A great British Columbian.

These are just a few of the words spoken by friends, colleagues and the Premier of British Columbia upon learning of the sudden passing of Arthur Robert Cowie on Saturday November 21 at the age of 75.

Art was born in Halifax and served as a Commissioned Officer in the Royal Canadian Navy prior to obtaining a degree from the University of New Brunswick and Certificate in Landscape architecture from London England.

After moving to Vancouver in the late '60s, Art took an interest in community affairs and politics. He was elected a member of the Park Board and then a City Alderman as a member of TEAM.

As founder of Eikos Planning Inc., Art was an early proponent of environmental planning. He worked on a wide range of land use, environmental and urban design assignments throughout British Columbia and in England, Scotland, Australia and Nigeria.

Art was widely revered as an ideas person who was interested in a broad range of activities including innovative landscapes, alternative forms of affordable housing, integration of transit and development and memorial park planning and design.

His company prepared over 35 official regional, community and neighbourhood area plans and worked with many regional districts, municipalities and provincial agencies on a variety of land use planning and landscape design assignments.

For over two decades, Eikos acted as the planner for a number of smaller municipalities including White Rock, Port Moody, Oak Bay, Lillooet, Prince Rupert and others. At one point, Eikos had branch offices in Kelowna and Edmonton and undertook a considerable range of planning and landscape consulting assignments.

In 1984, Art accepted an offer to work as consultant and Director of Planning for the Municipality of Delta. His major assignments were to prepare an Official Community Plan for the municipality and restructure the planning department. During

this period he introduced me to George Spetifore resulting in a relationship that ultimately led to the longest Public Hearing in Canadian history—lasting 24 nights!


Art left Delta in 1988 to return to private practice and was elected to the Vancouver Park Board. He served as Chair until 1991 when he was elected as a BC Liberal Member of the Provincial Legislature, representing Vancouver-Quilchena. He served as Caucus Chair and Official Critic of Municipal Affairs, Housing and Transportation. In 1993, Art stepped aside to ensure that Gordon Campbell, the Leader of the BC Liberal Party, could be elected. After a couple of years working and advising the BC Liberal Party, Art returned again to private practice and re-established Eikos mainly as an advisory planning service to government, corporate and private clients.

After developing a number of small successful housing projects over the years, in 2004 Art decided it was time to get involved with the design and development of fee-simple row housing in Vancouver. It took him a while to find the right site and obtain approvals but eventually he began a demonstration project on Cambie Street at West 33rd Avenue. His development comprised three rowhouses, each with a laneway suite over the garage. He and his wife Cathy were preparing to move into one of the homes early in the new year.

Art's ideas were vital, his interests many and diverse and his persistence admirable. He was motivated entirely by a desire to do good deeds, to be innovative and to serve, because he cared about this place we call our community.

Art leaves behind his wife Cathy, daughters Lisa and Sharon, step-daughter Corrie and their families.

Donations in Art's memory can be made to The ALS Society of Canada. www.als.ca/donations/. Online condolences may be offered to the family at www.kearneyfs.com.

An avid communicator, Art's ideas and influence were shared through his website, www.remembernow.com. Thanks Art. We will remember. 

Planners on the Move

Kathleen Callow, MCIP has joined Squamish Nation's Project Negotiation and Development Department, after 15 years as a planning consultant with UMA Engineering Ltd. (now AECOM). Kathleen will be leading community planning projects on reserve lands and other lands under the jurisdiction of the Nation.

As reported in the Saanich News, esteemed and long time planner Russ Fuoco, MCIP has retired. The News credits Russ with helping "Saanich become one of B.C.'s first carbon-neutral municipalities—a personal point of pride for a man who treats climate change as the signal issue of the time".

In October, there was another sad loss in BC: the passing of Jack

Poole. Maureen Enser, UDI Executive Director notes: "We have lost a true Olympian—a man who saw beyond the ordinary and aimed for the extraordinary—whether it be through the creation of a company that is known for its commitment not only to quality development but also for its contributions to the social well-being of the communities across Canada in which it builds; or whether it be because of his relentless commitment to British Columbia and his willingness to take bold steps and to make gutsy decisions to help make this Province 'the best place on earth'". Jack personally inspired not only many a young developer, but also many a young planner (including your editor). 🏠

Hugh Kellas Retires from Metro Vancouver

by Christina DeMarco, MCIP Metro Vancouver

In September 2009, Hugh Kellas, FCIP retired as a Co-Manager of the Policy and Planning Department at Metro Vancouver. Not many planners can boast working on three regional plans for the same region. But that is what Hugh Kellas did through his three decades of commitment to regional planning at Metro Vancouver.

Hugh graduated from the University of Toronto School of Urban and Regional Planning in 1973 and then joined the City of Toronto. By 1978 he was program manager supervising neighbourhood planning staff in Central Toronto. Johnny Carline, MCIP and Steve Nichols were also on staff at the City of Toronto at that time. He joined the then GVRD in 1979 and began working on the Official Regional Plan for the Lower Mainland. This plan unfortunately died a quick death when the provincial government revoked the regional planning powers of regional districts. Not to be discouraged, Hugh (and Ken Cameron, FCIP of course) slowly began rebuilding the case for regional planning and in 1996 the Livable Region Strategic Plan became the first regional plan completed under the provincial regional growth strategies legislation. For the last few years, Hugh led the Regional Development team and member municipalities through what we are all hoping is the penultimate draft of Metro Vancouver 2040.

While preparing this short note on Hugh's many accomplishments, I decided to do a Google search and got 104,000 hits for

"Hugh Kellas". I sifted through several hundred and many even thousands of actual hits referring to Hugh until I reached a place where I was learning more than I really wanted to about Scottish history. Browsing the hits demonstrated the incredible breadth of his work over the years both in regional planning and air quality planning, the hundreds of committee reports he wrote, the many times he provided a regional perspective on current planning issues in the press, the countless initiatives in which he contributed, etc. His role in helping keep Barnston Island in the Agricultural Land Reserve was documented in hit number 36! His retirement was even acknowledged in the September 17 minutes of the Wreck Beach Preservation Society—not for his involvement on that committee—but because he was a big defender of regional parks throughout his career.

Hugh always found time for volunteer activities as well. He was a past president of CIP and on the editorial board of Plan Canada. He was inducted as a fellow of the Institute in 1998. He was also on the Board of Directors for the United Way

for several years. I met up with Hugh for lunch in early December and I can report he is looking even younger than his normal youthful self! He is helping write case studies at the Centre for Human Settlements at UBC, doing some travelling, solving the leaks in his house, and finally getting a bit of extra time to enjoy the ocean and mountains on the North Shore. 🏠

PIBC Council Notes

by Ryan Noakes, Administrative & Member Services Coordinator

September 2009

On September 18, 2009 the PIBC Council met at the UBC campus in Vancouver.

UBC Delegation

Council heard from Dr. Penny Gurstein, MCIP, Director of SCARP at UBC, and Tony Dorcey, FCIP, about new developments at the School, including recent developments with their Strategic Plan in cooperation with various stakeholders; a teaching, learning and curriculum review; professional development opportunities for students and upcoming PAB and CIP re-accreditation.

2009 – 2011 Strategic Plan

Council discussed the draft Strategic Plan, with the final version to be adopted at the November 2009 meeting.

CIP Report

Council discussed a report from the Institute's representatives regarding the CIP Climate Action for Planners Workshop held in July 2009.

Education Committee

Council appointed two additional members to sit on the Education Committee for the current two-year term. Council also discussed the program update from UNBC regarding its CIP re-accreditation.

Membership Committee Report

Council approved a number of new membership applications and a number of membership transfers and changes. Council also reviewed the final list of members revoked for non-payment of membership fees.

Communication Committee Report

Council discussed the recent developments of the Committee and approved the final version of the Communications Implementation Plan. Council also appointed one additional member to sit on the Communications Committee for the current two-year term.

Finances

Chris Marshall presented the Institute's finances. The institute continues to remain in healthy financial shape. Council approved the schedule of membership fees and other fees and charges for 2010. Council also discussed a legal/financial matter *in camera*.

Administrative Director's Report

Dave Crossley reported on ongoing and key activities at the PIBC Office, including: the search for new office space, various member services, redesign of the website, the BC Land Summit conference and planning for future conferences.

Students Affairs

UBC: The joint PIBC/UBC Student Social was held at the UBC Farm and was a success, with many students and Council members in attendance.

UNBC: Curriculum changes for new students has been approved, a student orientation dinner will be held later in the month, a new adjunct professor has been hired and various professional development events are being planned for the coming academic year.

Local Chapter Reports

Vancouver Island-South Chapter: A couple speaker events are being planned for later in the year, a Covenants 101 workshop will also be held soon.

South Coast Chapter: A funding request for a shoulder event at the Resilient Cities 2009 Gaining Ground Summit was reviewed and discussed. Council approved the request.

Okanagan/Interior Chapter: Members are busy organizing for the 2010 conference.

Fraser Valley Chapter: A tour of affordable housing in Abbotsford was held earlier in the month and was a success.

Conferences & Events

Dave Crossley discussed recent developments for upcoming conferences, including: a call for papers will be sent out for the 2010 conference in the fall, a contract proposal is being reviewed for the 2011 Nanaimo Conference and further site visits need to be made for the 2012 Fraser Valley Conference.

Other New Business

Council approved the nominations of three members to sit as Institute representatives on the Provincial Health Services Authority "Health 201 Planners" project. Council also approved holding another gala dinner event in conjunction with World Town Planning Day, to honour new and long-serving Full Members and to award an honorary membership.

November 2009

On November 6, 2009 the PIBC Council met in Vancouver.

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2010 Budget Workshop

Prior to the regular Council meeting Council held a morning workshop to develop the draft 2010 Budget for the Institute, discussing key budget priorities for the coming year. It was noted that due to the economic climate revenues were expected to be down. As a result Council reduced projected expenditures in some areas, and anticipates drawing on financial reserves for some ongoing projects & initiatives—including continued communications projects, and a new legislative task force initiative.

CIP Report

The Membership Continuous Improvement Project (MCIP) process is continuing. Governance and conflict of interest policies for CIP have been adopted, as have terms of reference for various committees.

President's Report

President Lindsay Chase reported that the PIBC Communications Implementation Plan is being rolled out, and the upcoming World Town Planning Day event is looking to be another success.

Education Committee

The Education Committee has not yet had a meeting this Council term, but is expected to move forward on CPD audits and bringing Provisional members under mandatory CPD reporting. The UBC Program Recognition Review is also pending.

Membership Committee Report

Council approved a number of new membership applications and a number of membership transfers and changes. A revised position paper on the CIP Planning for the Future/MCIP project is to be developed in accordance with discussions held.

Communication Committee Report

The Communications Committee is continuing to work on major ongoing communications projects including the Communications Implementation Plan and completing work on the revised website.

Finances

Chris Marshall presented the Institute's finances. The institute continues to remain in a generally healthy financial position, given the current economic climate and budgetary challenges, though recent revenues are being impacted and will affect the Institute's short-term financial circumstances. Council approved the 2010 Budget for the Institute, as was discussed and developed at an earlier workshop session. Council further agreed to undertake a review an analysis of Institute revenue sources, activities, and business operations in early 2010.

Administrative Director's Report

Dave Crossley reported on ongoing and key activities at the PIBC Office, including: work on communications projects, the second annual World Town Planning Day celebration, the upcoming Membership Course, membership fee invoicing and administrative policy work.

Students Affairs

UBC: The US Planning Accreditation Board is conducting a re-accreditation review of the UBC School of Community & Regional Planning (SCARP), two field schools are being planned, an international conference is being organized between SCARP and planning schools in Australia, Germany and the Philippines.

UNBC: The Student Planners Association has redeveloped and formalized its Constitution, various student social and charitable events have been organized, a World Town Planning Day event is being organized with the local Chapter, and a search firm will be hired to take the lead

in finding a program Chair for the School of Environmental Planning at UNBC.

SFU: PIBC staff met with students for an orientation meeting about the Institute last month, approximately 60% of REM students are in the planning stream, a panel discussion forum is being planned for next year.

Local Chapter Reports

Vancouver Island-North Chapter: The Chapter has been busy organizing itself to host the 2011 Annual Conference and AGM, and a World Town Planning Day event was recently held in the Cowichan Valley.

Vancouver Island-South Chapter: It was reported that a World Town Planning Day event was held earlier in the month, and a fall CPD event is being planned.

South Coast Chapter: The Chapter recently held two PlanTalk events that were well attended, and a winter social event is being planned for December.

Central-North Chapter: President-Elect, Joan Chess-Woollacott, attended a UNBC Donor Appreciation event on behalf of the Institute, and an event about affordable housing is being planned for later in the month.

Fraser Valley Chapter: It was reported the Chapter has been working on finding venues for the 2012 Annual Conference & AGM.

Sunshine Coast: A talk about the United Nations-endorsed award the Town of Gibsons recently won was held and well attended by the local community.

Conferences & Events

Council discussed that the Call for Proposals for the 2010 conference is now out, a draft conference budget has been finalized and keynote speakers are still being organized.

Council also discussed that a contract with the Vancouver Island Conference Centre is close to being signed for the

(continued next page)

Council Notes (cont'd)

2011 conference, and members for the 2011 conference committee were ratified.

Miscellaneous Other New Business


Council reviewed and discussed the list of PIBC representatives, appointments

and nominees for various internal and external committees, for information.

A Professional Legislation & Certification Task Force was created, with President-Elect, Joan Chess-Woollacott, as Chair to further Council's strategic goal of exploring obtaining legislation governing the planning profession.

Council also discussed a request from the

Provincial Health Services Authority for a PIBC representative for their Obesity Reduction Strategy initiative.

A request for a meeting with visiting representatives in February/March 2010 from Bayanaoer Municipality in China was also discussed, and it was decided to refer them to CIP at the national level as a more appropriate avenue for international outreach. 

Membership Committee Report

Congratulations and welcome to all the new PIBC Members!

November 6, 2009

At its meeting of November 6, it was recommended and approved that Council admit the following individuals to membership in the Institute in the appropriate categories as noted:

Full

Nirmal Bhattacharya
Carolynn Renée de St. Croix
John Guenther
Joanna Mazzardis
Andrew Merrill
Maria Odete Da Silva Pinho
Alexander Warrender

Provisional

Zorica Andjelic
Iain Bourhill
Andrew Bruce (Reinstate)
Keltie Craig
Sally Elford
Gulam Firdos (Reinstate)
Lily Ford
Alison Garnett
Alexander Ho

Casey Peters
Mark Spence

Student

Jesse Ahtiainen
David Angus
Karen Brady
Elysia Brunet
Lana Cortese
Derek de Candole
Courtney Druce
Erin Ellis
Marie Jensen
Shannon Jones
Ani Kaltcheva
Adam King
Patrick Kitchen
Jody Kliffer
Colby Knox
David Kyobe

Luke Mari
Henry McQueen
Massimo Morellato
Roy Neilson
Nadia Nowak
Mercedes Ortiz
James Prince
Josianne Séguin
Philip Stoker
Jessica Stronghill
Daniel Sturgeon
Alex Wallace
Rachel White
John Wilson
Winnie (Wing Yan) Yip

Associate

J. Grant Fletcher
Faaiza Lalji

It was further recommended and approved that Council approve and or acknowledge the following membership transfers and changes in membership status for the following individuals as noted:

Kyle Sharpe	From AACIP	To Provisional
Anthio Yuen	From OPPI	To Student
Gordon Morley	From Full	To Retired
Cristina Rucci	From Inactive/Non-Practicing	Reinstate to Full
Kristiina Watt	From Inactive/Non-Practicing	Reinstate to Provisional
Heike Schmidt	From Full	To Inactive/Non-Practicing
Chloe Fox	From Provisional	To Inactive/Non-Practicing
Carole Jolly	From Provisional	To Inactive/Non-Practicing
Alan Pattison	Cancel	
Dale Rintoul	Cancel	

Membership Committee Report

Congratulations and welcome to all the new PIBC Members!

September 18, 2009

At its meeting of September 18, it was recommended and approved that Council admit the following individuals to membership in the Institute in the appropriate categories as noted:

Full

Dominica Babicki
Vinod Bhardwaj
David Carlson (Reinstate)
Carla Connolly
Liliana Dragowska
Meeri Durand
Brent Elliott
Elizabeth FitzZaland
Carol Mak
Jaspal Marwah
Alastair Moore
Jodi-Lyn Newnham
Jason Niles
Noha Sedky
Tegan Smith

Provisional

Kristin Aasen (Reinstate)
Carolyn Bell
Mark Crowe
Jordan Fisher
Wendy LeBreton
Tamsin Mills

Colin Moore
Julia Reimer
Jennifer Sham
Deanna Wasnik
Allison Williams

Student

Maggie Baynham
Jennifer Bedore
Erin Bett
Ellen Bird
Breanna Bishop
Heather Britton
Metha Brown
Jose Fernandez
Tanya Fink
ZsuZsi Fodor
Theresa Fresco
Karen Fung
Christopher Gallop
Sarah Gillett
Jane Koh
Yu Kuki
Jill Lance

Julien Landry
Murray McKenzie
Benita Menezes
Robin Mills
Najmeh Mirzaie
Alisha Mody
Thien Phan
Amanda Procter
Jessica Shoubridge
Nicola Szibbo
Nick Thorp
Wendy Tse
Qiunng Wang
Yu Wang
Tate White
Kasel Yamashita

Associate

Jaimie Boutilier
Savannah Kuchera
Chelsea Lupton
Patrick O'Shaughnessy
Shannon Renault
Janelle Taylor

It was further recommended and approved that Council approve and or acknowledge the following membership transfers and changes in membership status for the following individuals as noted:

Christopher Ulmer	From AACIP	To Provisional
Jagdev Dhillon	From Inactive/Non-Practicing	To Full
Eve Hou	From Inactive/Non-Practicing	To Full
Jean Porteous	From Inactive/Non-Practicing	To Full
David Carlson	From Full	To Retired
Kirsten Behler	From Full	To Inactive/Non-Practicing
Virgina Cosgrove	From Provisional	To Inactive/Non-Practicing
Thomas Cheney	Cancel	
Robert Haveruk	Cancel	
Lauren Ilich	Cancel	
Stella Lee	Cancel	
Bradley Lucas	Cancel	
James Masterton	Cancel	
Desmond Parker	Cancel	
Lucia Scodanibbio	Cancel	
Etsuko Yasui	Cancel	



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