

2010 Case-in-Point Presentations

case-in-point 2010



‘Bright’ Green Development

The Evolution of the DNV’s Comprehensive Green Building Checklist

**Brock Feenstra
in collaboration
with Doug Allan, MCIP**

Abstract

Drawing from experiences of the District of North Vancouver (DNV), this case-in-point project will focus on Green Building Strategies at the municipal level.

The DNV Vision is, “by 2020 we will be recognized among the most sustainable communities in the world...” Keeping with this vision, the DNV is adopting a Green Building Policy which will make sure new buildings are “the most environmentally friendly and energy efficient in the province”. Green Building Checklists are emerging as a useful tool for municipalities to implement Green Building Policy. The DNV is not the first to implement a Green Building Checklist, but one of the first to develop a Comprehensive Green Building Checklist. The comprehensive checklist is comprised of two separate checklists one for new multi-unit residential and one

for new industrial, commercial, and institutional buildings, each of which include three separate pathways. The DNV strives to be a leader of community sustainability, their Green Building Checklist was developed using best practice and encourages green building best practice. Through the process of developing the checklist challenges were encountered and compromises made.

Collaborating with a senior development planner at the DNV this case study will serve as a useful learning tool for other municipalities. In addition it will explore other best practices from across Canada in developing and establishing a Green Building Checklist. The lessons learned from this work have the potential to inform Canadian municipalities who want to establish their own, or improve on their existing, Green Building Checklist.

The Next Evolution of Participatory Planning:

Engaging the e-Citizen Through SpeakUpWinnipeg.com

John-Paul Harris
in collaboration
with Justin Lee

Abstract Web 2.0, facebook, blogs, open source projects, the wired public has a voice if planners are willing to hear it. The future of urban planning is irretrievably tied to public participation. Public participation, of course, can be very difficult to effectively implement within a project, let alone a master plan for an entire City.

This paper explores the emerging role of social media and crowd sourcing within the planning discipline. Other attempts to harness this new social realm for the purposes of public participation in planning are examined and up

coming trends and techniques identified. The IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation is used to measure these online planning exercises.

In 2009, Winnipeg began the process of creating a new development plan called OurWinnipeg. Part of the engagement process was an experiment in these emerging techniques called SpeakUpWinnipeg.com. Justin Lee, an OurWinnipeg Team Member, and I have conducted an analysis of this experimental engagement tool for the purposes of this paper.



Planning as the Uniting of Multiple Perspectives:

Learning from the transformation of Winnipeg's United Way

Lauren Lange, MCP Candidate
in collaboration
with Jason Granger, MCP

Abstract

Winnipeg, like other urban centres in Canada and across the world, is becoming increasingly more diverse. Communities are more complex than ever before. In order to keep up with our evolving city, governments, non-profit organizations and planners must continuously analyze and refine their techniques. The United Way of Winnipeg is one non-profit organization which has done just that. In the early 1990s, after realizing they were no longer keeping pace with Winnipeg's changing environment and the issues facing communities, they began to implement a complete transformational change. Traditionally, the United Way was an organization which raised money in the community and re-distributed it to a variety of social service agencies. Today, although it continues to raise and

distribute funds, the United Way's vision now focuses on increasing community productivity through citizen involvement. It also works collaboratively with agencies, governments and other funders to tackle specific issues which the community deems important. The United Way's work may not fall within the traditional realm of 'planning'. However, arguably, since its transformational change in the 90s, the organization's vision is quite similar to that of post-conventional planning. The United Way and post-conventional planning provide service to multiple publics and contribute to the interior growth and development of people and communities. Post-conventional planning also actively seeks to unite multiple perspectives, just as the United Way unites over 100 service organizations here in Winnipeg.



Planning Between Worlds

A look at how a Town/Gown partnership created ‘Sustainable Churchill’

Brodie Lister
in collaboration
with **Michael Dudley, MLIS, MCP, MCIP**

Abstract

University-Community partnerships, also known as Town/Gown partnerships, are agreements between a community setting and academic institution to engage in a project with a common interest. While these partnerships strive for a mutually beneficial outcome, the focuses of both sides are often in conflict. University research is primarily theoretical, whereas Governments are usually seeking practical answers to the concerns of the community. In order for Town/Gown partnerships to be successful, both parties must understand what is expected from them, and what they can expect from the process.

In 2008, the Town of Churchill, Manitoba and the Institute of Urban Studies (IUS) at

the University of Winnipeg joined into a partnership to create a comprehensive development plan called “Sustainable Churchill”. This plan would be the first development plan for the region since 1999, focusing on provide a roadmap towards a sustainable future for the town. From this partnership, the Town sought to gain understanding of the needs of its residents, and the IUS hoped to expand its knowledge of the region, and sustainable planning theory.

This case study examines the methods of creating the “Sustainable Churchill” plan, its successes and failures, and the effect that the Town/Gown partnership has had on this process.

The Price of Planning:

Supporting community based planning processes

Lacey Maclean MCP Candidate

Abstract 'It takes money to make money' is a phrase that rings true in many different situations. Unfortunately, several non-profit community groups do not have enough money to complete the projects they propose. Moreover, many do not know how to access external funding which could potentially assist them in their endeavors. Often, non-profit groups rely on government funding and private grants to support their projects. However, locating the origin of these grants, accessing them and applying for them can at times be a complex and frustrating process.

Planners possess the knowledge and skills to help community groups locate and apply for this funding. Unfortunately though, planners do not always have the opportunity to

approach the funding aspect of a project.

The goal of this case-in-point is to identify opportunities and challenges in finding and accessing funding and other supports for community groups for various planning processes. It will also explore the potential role planners can play throughout the funding process. The overall intent is to inspire readers to think critically about how the planning profession can better serve community groups by being involved in the identification of, and application for funding assistance. This project will also examine two case studies related to funding in a community project context. The details of these case studies have been generously shared through collaboration with bridgmancollaborative Architecture.



Which Public?

The Limits and Conflicts of Environmental Responsibility

Scott McCullough
in collaboration with
J. Glen Doney

Abstract The Case-In-Point looks at the challenges and ethical conflicts that arise when planners seek to address environmentally impacted sites. The specific case is the development of a child-care facility adjacent to the historic BARBER house in North Point Douglas by SISTARS community group. The site is impacted with metals and hydrocarbons, remnant of 100 years of industrial use on adjacent properties. The development has exposed some of the problems encountered when redeveloping industrial areas in Winnipeg, problems that continue to grow as areas such as Point Douglas undergo renewal. Problems include the overlapping jurisdictional boundaries of the Province and Municipality, the absence of funds for remediation, and the limits of CIP's Code of Ethics to guide planners in addressing environmental problems. The Case-In-Point concludes by pointing towards two possible lines of solution. With regard to jurisdictions and funding: a precedent solution exists in the recent *Bill 22: The Water Protection Act*. This Act clearly designates water-planning authority and provides funding for water plans. The second solution calls for enhanced clarity for planners regarding environmental ethics. It is insufficient for our Code of Ethics to require that we consider the environment balanced with development, when there is often a trade-off between the two, with development affecting future generations.



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Optimizing the TIF Contribution to Downtown Revitalization:

Learning from Past Challenges and Pertinent Precedents in the Winnipeg Context

Elisabeth Saftiuk
in collaboration
with Jeff Palmer, MCIP

Abstract

This case-in-point project examines tax increment financing (TIF) contributions to successful revitalization projects. In collaboration, my partner and I will research any pattern in failed or stalled revitalization projects in the Winnipeg context. Based on a literature review of successful TIF precedents, together we make projections for the type of TIF scheme that would be most useful in Downtown Winnipeg.

This topic should be of interest to the entire Canadian planning community, and especially that in Manitoba. There are limited Canadian examples where TIF has been used as a financial tool to expedite development. Even though the case study will look at Winnipeg in particular, the information provided in the case-in-point will be applicable in any context.

Collaborative Praxis Statement

Planifesto

We are a group of **young** planners with **diverse** skills and interests. We are **innovative, capable** and **energetic**. We are entering the profession wearing rose-colored glasses, but will **not settle** for the **status quo**. We are **problem solvers** and will face **challenges** head on. **Environmental, economic** and **social imperatives** drive us. **Hope** is our defence against **cynicism**. And we will maintain our **professionalism**, all the while having **fun**.