



TACKLING CIVIC CHALLENGES WITH COMMUNITY JOY

SOCIAL CAPITAL FRIDAY JANUARY 27, 2023

As a Toronto Region based organization, we acknowledge the land we are meeting on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

We are all Treaty people. Many of us of have come here as settlers, immigrants, and newcomers in this generation or generations past. We'd like to also acknowledge and honour those who came here involuntarily, particularly those who are descended from those brought here through enslavement.

TEAM 3 - SOCIAL CAPITAL

January 27th, 2023

Shawna Bowen, Adam Santos, Leah Dow, Robert Mckaye, Joyce Lau





Curtner Urban Leadership Program



Leah Dow Urban Planner - Real Estate Economics, and Planning IBI Group



Shawna Ginsberg Bowen
Project Manager, Urban Design,
City Planning
City of Toronto



Joyce Lau
Development Manager,
Dream



Robert McKaye
Senior Manager,
Planning and Design
The Bentway Conservancy



Adam Santos Senior Planner, Weston Consulting









9:00	Coffee, Networking			
9:30	Introduction, Recap of Short Activity, Team #3 Presentation			
10:20	Break			
10:30	 Moderated Panel Discussion & Q&A Astrid Greaves (Arcadis IBI Group) Kelsey Carriere (Park People) Phyllis Novak (SKETCH) Sinead Moran (Dream) 			
11:45	Video & Introduction to Activity			
12:00	Lunch			
12:30	Activity			
1:30	Regroup and Debrief			
2:00	Integration Team Presentation			
2:20	February Team – Introduce Topic			
2:50	Team Collaboration			



What is social capital?

Described as the benefits gained from being social. The idea of social capital is that 'relationships matter' and that social networks are a valuable asset. That being social and working together is important and valuable.

Some examples of social capital?

Opening a door for someone; returning a lost item to a stranger; Giving someone directions; any other beneficial interaction between people, even if they don't know each other.



Recap of December 9th Activity

- Some observations
 - Most shared a positive interaction
 - Informal activities
- Locations could generally be grouped under 5 categories:
 - Leisure
 - Work / Professional Setting
 - Commercial/Retail
 - Transit
 - Personal



Group Number	Description	Activity	When did it occur?	Who was invloved?	Location of event	Positive/ Negative
4	Everyone in NS waves when you pass by, I am not used to this! Was fun to experience this + wave back during the week that I visited.	running	evening	Katy and passer-by	Nova Scotia/ vacation.	Positive
4	Seeing colleagues at work potluck. Celebration of successes and plan for next year.	Work potluck	afternoon (weekday)	28 colleagues on two teams	Work (Union Station offices)	Positive
5	Watching the World Cup Quarter Finals during break.	Watching a sport in a communal setting.	afternoon (weekday)	Peers attending curtner in- person session at CSI Spadina	CSI Spadina	Positive
	Grabbing coffe from a regular spot and them knowing my usual order and having conversations.	Going to coffee shop	morning (weekday)	Barrista (staff)	Coffee Shop	Positive
1	Exchanging pleasantries in process of ordering coffee + saying goodbye.	Going to coffee shop	morning (weekday)	Barrista (staff)	Coffee Shop	Positive
3	Attending the funeral of a friend's mother. Offering support. Eating and drinking together.	Attending a funeral	afternoon (weekday)	Family and friends of the deceased.	Funeral home and private residence.	Positive

Leisure	Work / professional setting	Commercial/ Retail	Transit	Personal
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"Social capital is about the value of social networks, bonding similar people and bridging between diverse people, with norms of reciprocity"

(Dekker and Uslaner 2001)





Three Types of Social Capital





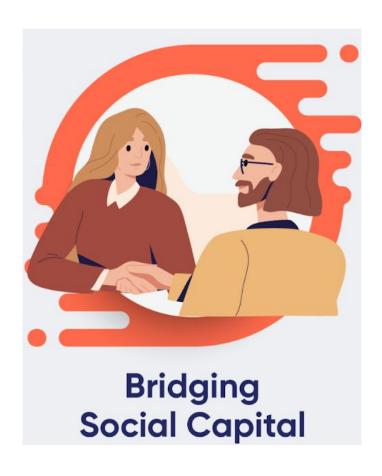
Bonding



- Connections within a group or community, high levels of similarity in demographic characteristics, attitudes, etc.
- Inward looking in a social group, with strong trust and ties. Can be based on location, demographics.
- Potential for negative outcomes i.e., limiting social relationships between different social classes and stereotyping



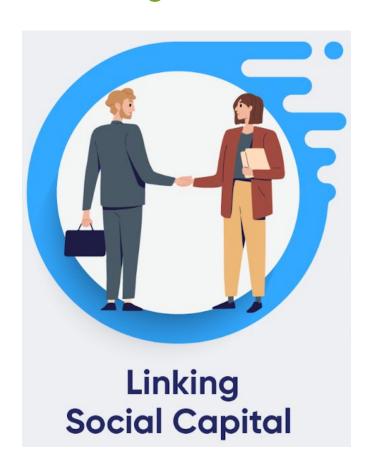
Bridging



- Connections of people across aspects that typically divides society (race, or class, or religion)
- Result of networking outside normal social groupings, that might transfer/ transform or eliminate social divide
- Third type of social capital is needed to capture the power dynamics i.e...



Linking

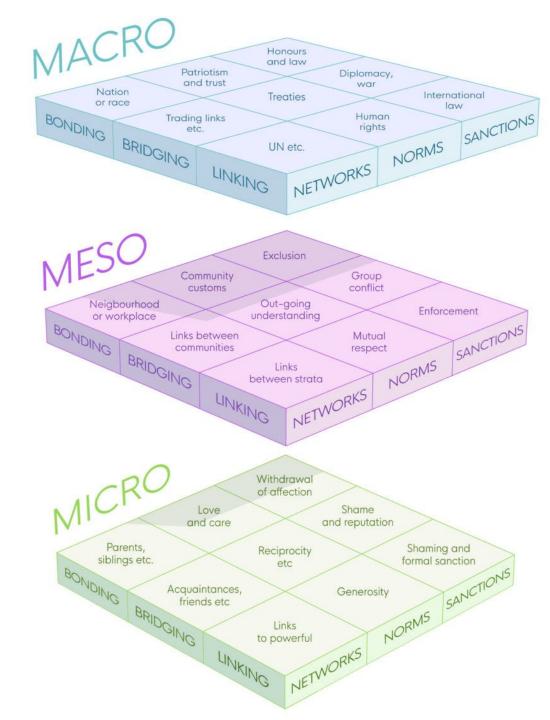


- Networks and ties with individuals, groups or corporate actors represented in public agencies, schools, business interests, legal institutions and religious/political groups
- Creating social relationships to leverage multiple sources and expertise from various power, social and wealth statuses



Multidimensional

Social capital is multidimensional, operating on individual (micro), community (meso) and national (macro) levels.





Social Capital, Sequenced

1 - Social Capital & Urban Design

2 - Social Capital in Practice

3 - Social Capital & Policy

4 - Measuring Social Capital





Social Capital & Physical Space

- Social infrastructure is the <u>physical</u> <u>spaces</u> & <u>organizations</u> that allow for social interaction
- Social infrastructure and civic spaces are the physical support for the expression and mobilization of social capital
- Informal social contact can be enabled (or inhibited) by physical spaces





"In public spaces, we learn to be citizens" (Kaufman & Tepper, 1999), and therefore, we can say good citizens are made in good places

 Social capital is beneficial to individuals and communities in many ways, including political engagement, the economic prosperity of individuals and communities, and the safety and security of the community (Putnam, 1995)



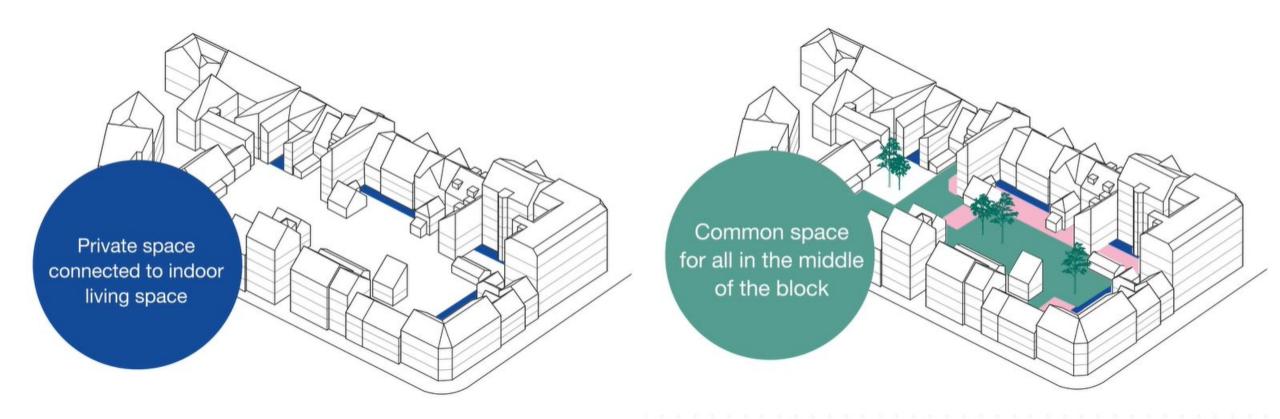


- . Suburban vs urban
- Opportunities through intensification and tall building typologies
- Focus on underutilized spaces, and gaps in the urban fabric



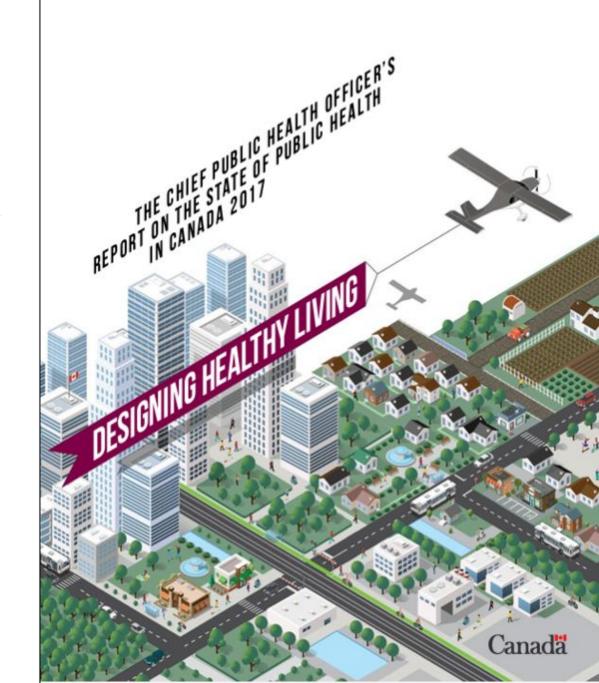


- . Transitional spaces public \rightarrow semi-public/private \rightarrow private
- . Diversity of spaces



"Without being aware of it, our neighbourhoods and how they are built influence how healthy we are"

- Renewed interest in connections between community development and public health
- Role of technology and innovation, including in community development





- Stores that sell healthy food nearby
- · Farmers' markets
- Community gardens

Create a supportive environment

- Places to gather
- Front porches, front yards
- Good sidewalks
- Access to attractive and green spaces
- Cultural spaces, architecture, public art

Connectivity

- Movement
- Mixed Use
- Local Facilities

Safety

- Definition of space
- NaturalSurveillance
- Access

Character

- Context
- Personalization
- PublicSpace

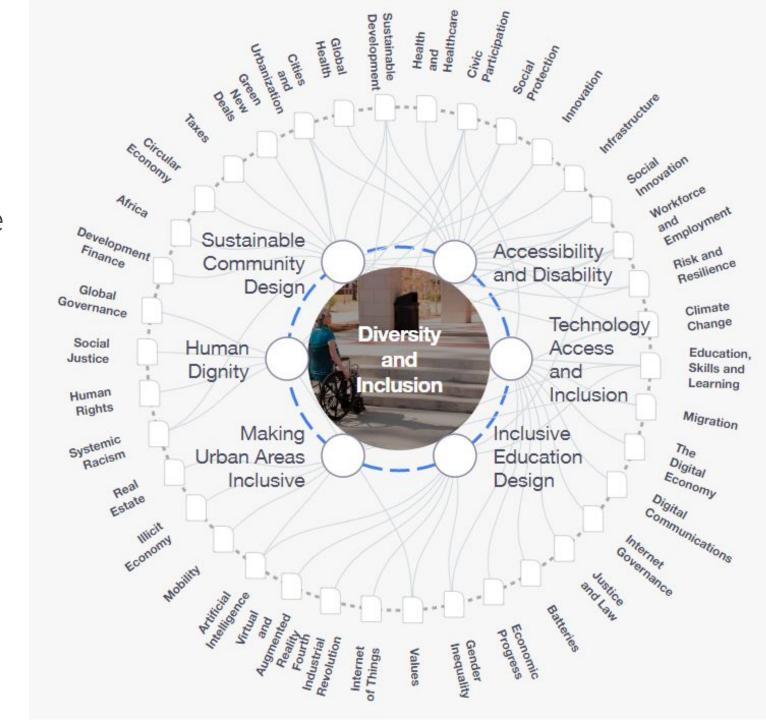
Diversity

- All Ages
- MixedTenure
- All Families



Challenges

- How to bring vulnerable communities to the centre of city-building
- Designing for the majority, or those with the most social capital, doesn't centre vulnerable or communities with less social capital
- Excluding a variety of communities





Opportunities

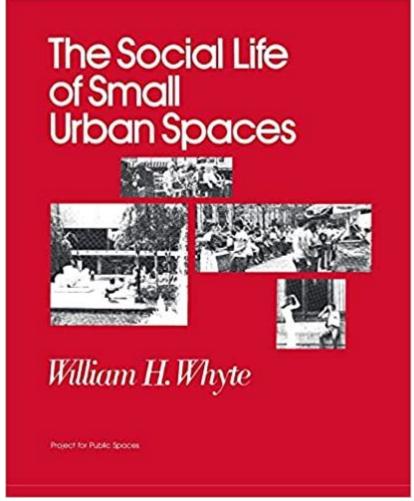
- Meaningful engagement
- Multi-sector, collaborative approach
- Context-driven
- More data and monitoring





Social Life of Small Urban Spaces









Planning for

Collaboration	Catharsis	Disruption	Exploration	Fun	Joy	Curiosity
Surprise	Senses	Reflection	Conversation	Nostalgia	Dance	Delight
Destination	Glee	Fantasy	Freedom	Gathering	Gratitude	Memories
Scavenger	Hunt	Transformation	Rediscovery	Relationships		
Meditation	Physical	Inspiration	Inclusion	Healing	Play	

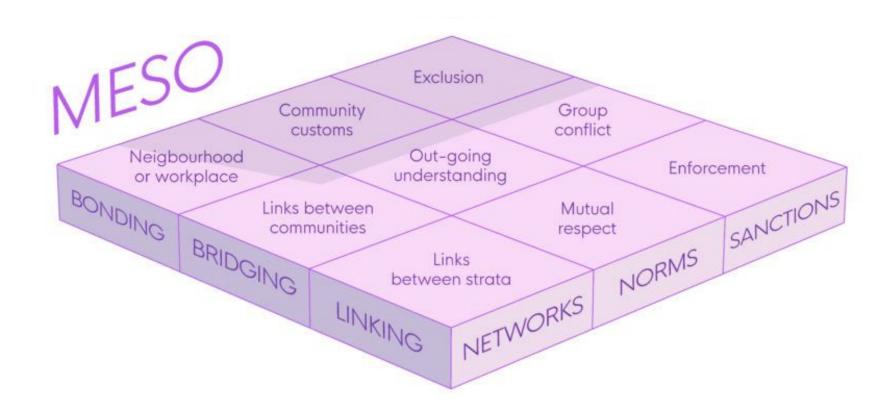


In Practice, there are 3 components of social capital:

- 1. networks (the interconnecting relationships between people),
- 2. norms (the rules, values and expectancies that govern social interaction), and
- 3. sanctions (the punishments and rewards that enforce the norms).

These three components interact, influence and reinforce each other. This emergent self-organization informs what is successful or unsuccessful in the producing Social Capital







In order to build bottom-up systems that embrace the presence of Social Capital, we must:

- Include accessibility as a default
- De-emphasize the prioritization of some groups over others
- Build systems that are able to learn, evolve and change over time
- Allow for multiple interpretations and use cases in our built environment





Pop-Up













Pop-Ups







Pop-Ups



How they work:

- Exercise a local community's Social Capital
- Excite, inspire, and disrupt the status-quo
- Are participatory, with low barriers to access & experience
- Indicate change or desired changes of a local population
- De-emphasize car-based urbanism, in favour of movement of people
- Are cost-effective and ephemeral (temporary) in nature





Pro Tip: Have Fun!!

Conditions for an effective Pop-up:



STREETSCAPES

Streets that are lined with buildings and (ideally) sidewalks are the type of defined, often pedestrian-friendly spaces that make a good pop-up demonstration setting.



AVAILABILITY

Buildings with street-level vacancies are perfect spots for launching temporary shops and eateries. If the businesses prove popular, they might turn into permanent tenants.



ADJACENCY

A location that's accessible from nearby neighborhoods and is near public buildings and spaces has the potential to become a popular destination.



RESIDENT SUPPORT

Pop-ups really pop when local leaders, neighborhood groups and a range of community supporters participate and brainstorm about opportunities for change.



CHARACTER

People like to spend time in places that are unique and appealing. Locations that feature eye-catching buildings or meaningful landmarks are super spots for pop-ups.



BUSINESS BUY-IN

Pop-up projects and permanent changes are most successful when local stakeholders, such as business owners, support and contribute to community improvement efforts.





2019 - Le Fashion Truck



2022 - Bodies in Urban Spaces Willi Dorner



2018 - *Derive*, Noemie Lafrance





Stuart Semple - Happy Clouds





2009, Bloom Alisa Andresek











It's a very transformative time. Pluto is in Capricoin right now, so some revolutionary energy is hitting my chart.



"The downtime is tough. It can be stressful when you go two weeks without work, and there's nothing ahead on the schedule, and you log onto Farcebook and see all the stuff other people are doing. And a lot of times it feels like I in not building anything permenent. It's relatively easy to get gigs when you're thirty-something, but you don't see too many old guys in other people's bands. But being on stage is the happiest I ever feel. It feels great to have all those eyes on you and ears on you. There's a jubilation to being up there and working together as a unit to vibrate the air and make people dance. I was pre-law during my first two years of college. In sure if I d been a lawyer, I d feel a lot more secure. But then I d be battling an even heavier type of depression.



"I in trying to find a way to be happy without being the best."



"I want to be a doctor, but I can't pay fullion at the moment because I support my parents back in Egypt. But in six months, I will have my license to work for a car service, which should give me enough money to also go to school."



"I wanted to combine my love of acting with my love of baking, so I m making a web series about a Pie Lady who bake things and go on quirky adventures. Think Pee Wee's Big Adventure meets a baking show, with a 1950's twist."

Actually quite an accurate description: http://guitu.he/nGRn9i.htm/



"She's really hungover right now."

"It's true."

"I didn't become a lawyer until the age of 37. I was the manager of a power plant and decided I needed a change."

What has been your greatest moment of glory as a lawyer?



"I want to be a porn star but I think it would embarrass my mom too much."





"I wouldn't even have gone outside today if there had been something in my paintry."













How they work:

- Durational, lasting 8months to multi-year
- Take steps to formalize recommendations that emerge through community consensus
- Address critical issues of our time, including environmental, economic, and socio-economic realities experienced by city-dwellers
- Validate theoretical enhancements to civic life
- Represent consorted effort between city planners and elected officials to respond to the growing needs of their residents.







2018, Dana Claxton's Forest of Canoes

2021, *Double Dribble*, Esmaa Mohamoud

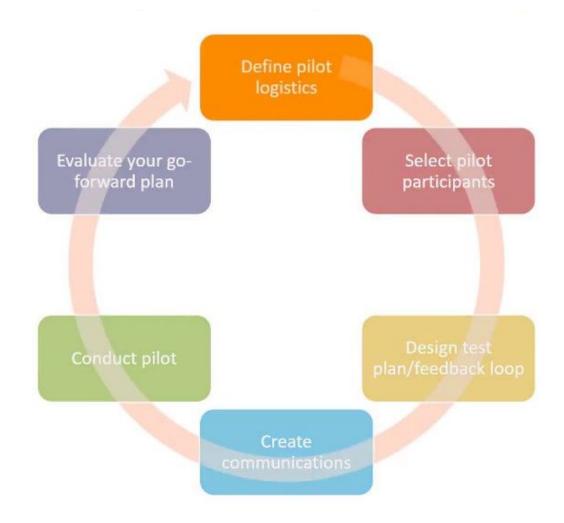


Conditions for an effective Pop-up:

- 1. Define Logistics & Time
- 2. Select Participants
- 3. Design Feedback Loop
- 4. Create Communications
- 5. Conduct Pilot
- 6. Evaluate & Address Challenges



Pro Tip: Be comfortable with Trial & Error!!







2022 - HEAR US, SKETCH Working Arts







2021 - *Queering Space*, SKETCH Working Arts Artist: milen



2009 - Times Square Lounger Pilot



2021 - Times Square Patio Pilot







2017 - Times Square Transformation project



2018 - The Benwtay, Reconfigurable and Moveable Public Furnishing

Transitioning from Pilot to Permanent is possible if the conditions set out for the program are met, including:

- Positive benefit (economic, social, environmental, etc.)
- Community members are galvanized in the process
- Maintenance and operational considerations are realities are
- Political will/buy-in is achieved





2022 - Cimbalom Circle, Budapest



2019 - Superbloc, Barcelona



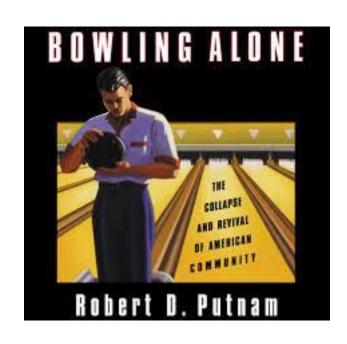








Social Capital & Governance



"Effective democratic governance depends on social capital. That is, the connections between individuals and their social networks and the reciprocity and trustworthiness that arise from those connections."



Social Capital & Equitable Communities





Social Planning

SPACES AND PLACES OF EXCLUSION

MAPPING RENTAL HOUSING DISPARITIES FOR TORONTO'S RACIALIZED AND IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES

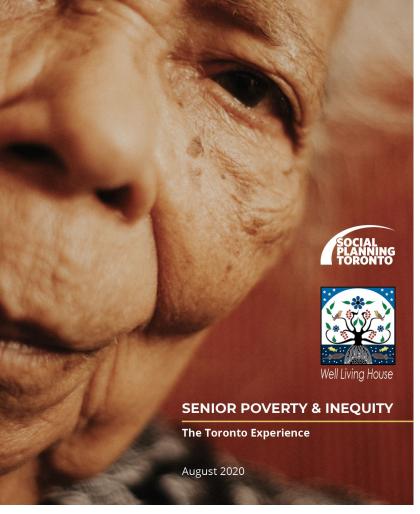
November 2020





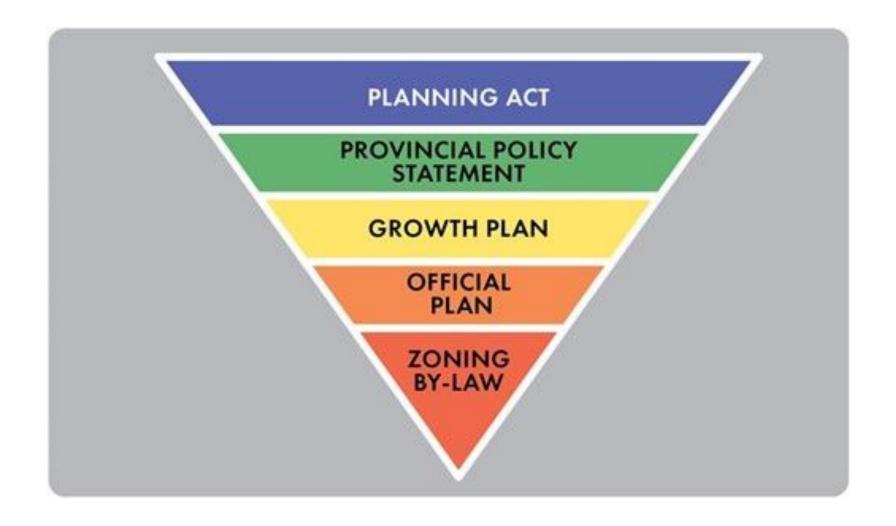




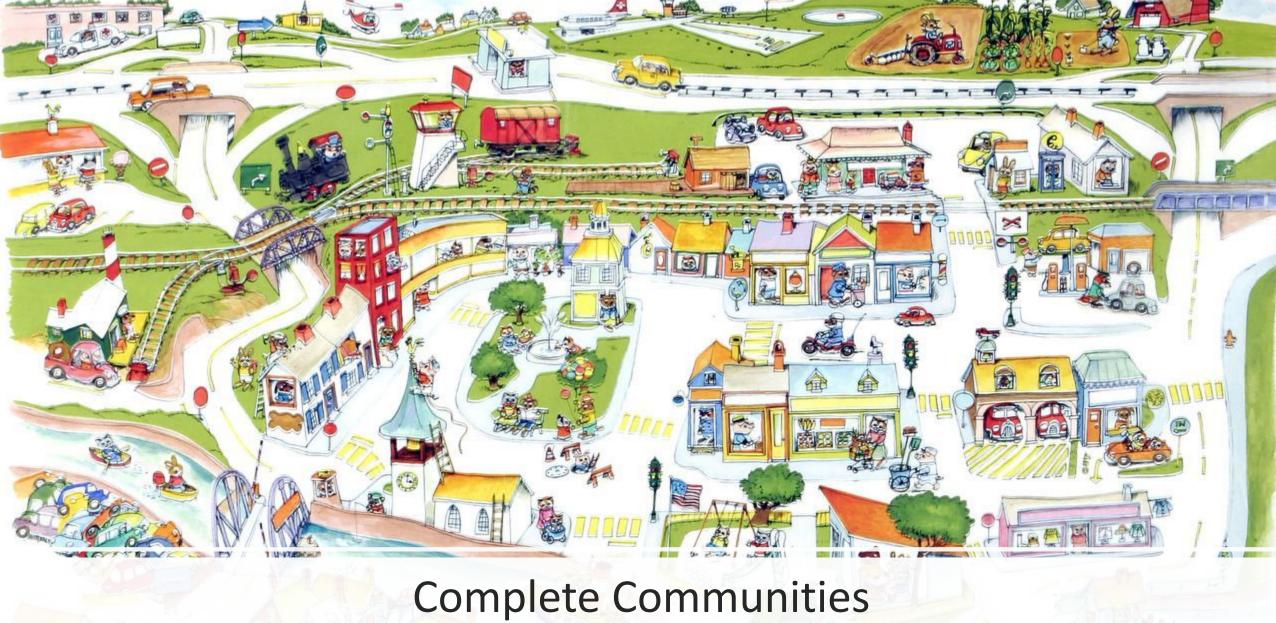




Social Capital and Provincial Planning Policy







Growth Plan Definition of Complete Communities

"Places such as mixed-use neighbourhoods or other areas within cities, towns, and settlement areas that offer and support opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to conveniently access most of the necessities for daily living, including an appropriate mix of jobs, local stores, and services, a full range of housing, transportation options and public service facilities. Complete communities are age-friendly and may take different shapes and forms appropriate to their contexts"



The Limits of the Complete Communities Policy





Alternative Approach to Complete Communities







How do we Measure Social Capital?





The Toronto Social Capital Study Who is Toronto Foundation and Environics?

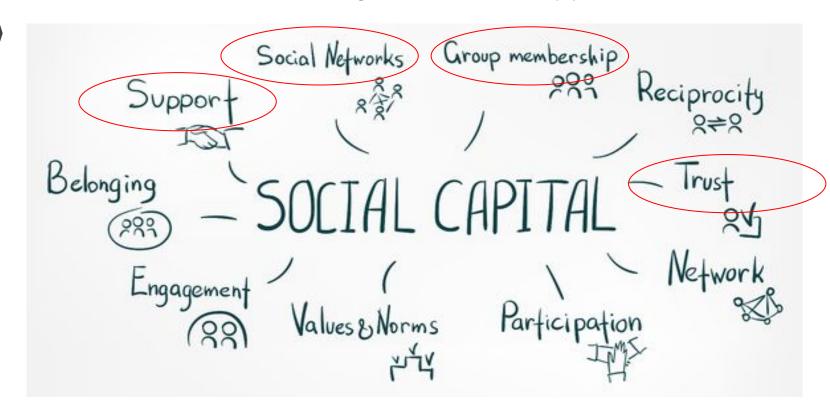






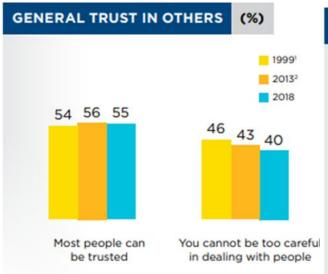
The Toronto Social Capital Study

- Social Trust
- Social Network
- Civic Connection
- Neighbourhood Support

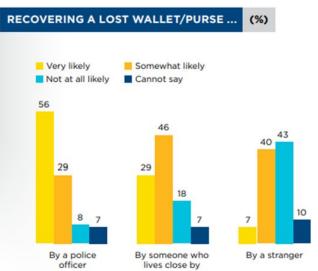


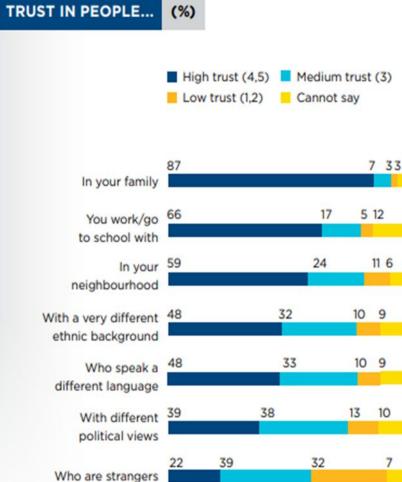


Findings on Social Trust



1 Equality, Security, and Community Survey (1999) 2 General Social Survey (2013)

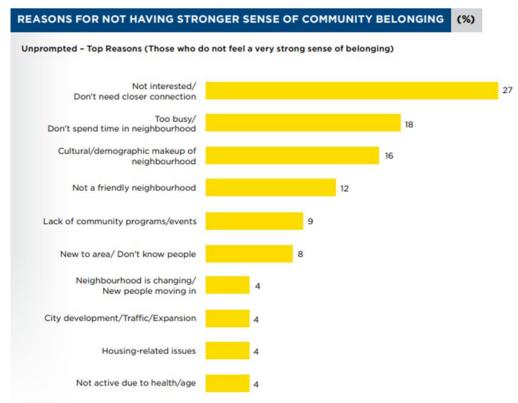




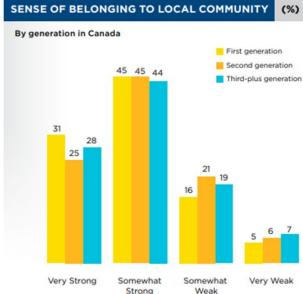
Q.12.a-h. Using a scale of 1 to 5 (where 1 means "cannot be trusted at all" and 5 means "can be trusted a lot", how much do you trust each of the following groups of people?



Findings on Social Trust





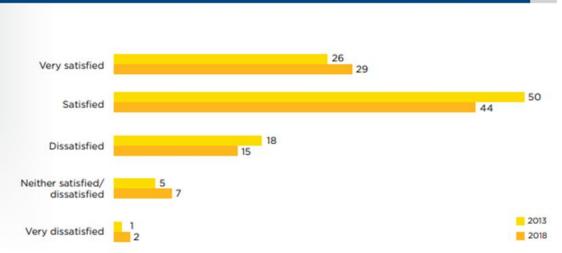


Q.2. How would you describe your sense of belonging to your local community? Would you say it is...?

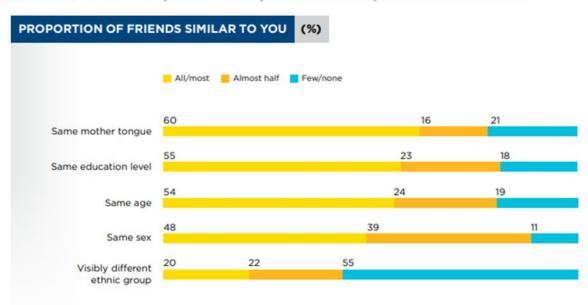


Findings on Social Network





Q.23. Overall, how satisfied are you with how often you communicate with your close friends and relatives?





Findings on Civic Connection





Findings on Neighbourhood Support



unsafe to go on walks at night



Reflection

- Has your perception of social capital changed?
- What grading would you give your neighbourhood?
- As City Builders how can we better encourage and promote and promote civic engagement and activity in our neighbourhoods?









Curtner

Urban Leadership Program



Astrid Greaves
Senior Urban Designer
Arcadis IBI Group



Kelsey Carriere
Senior Project Manager at
Park People



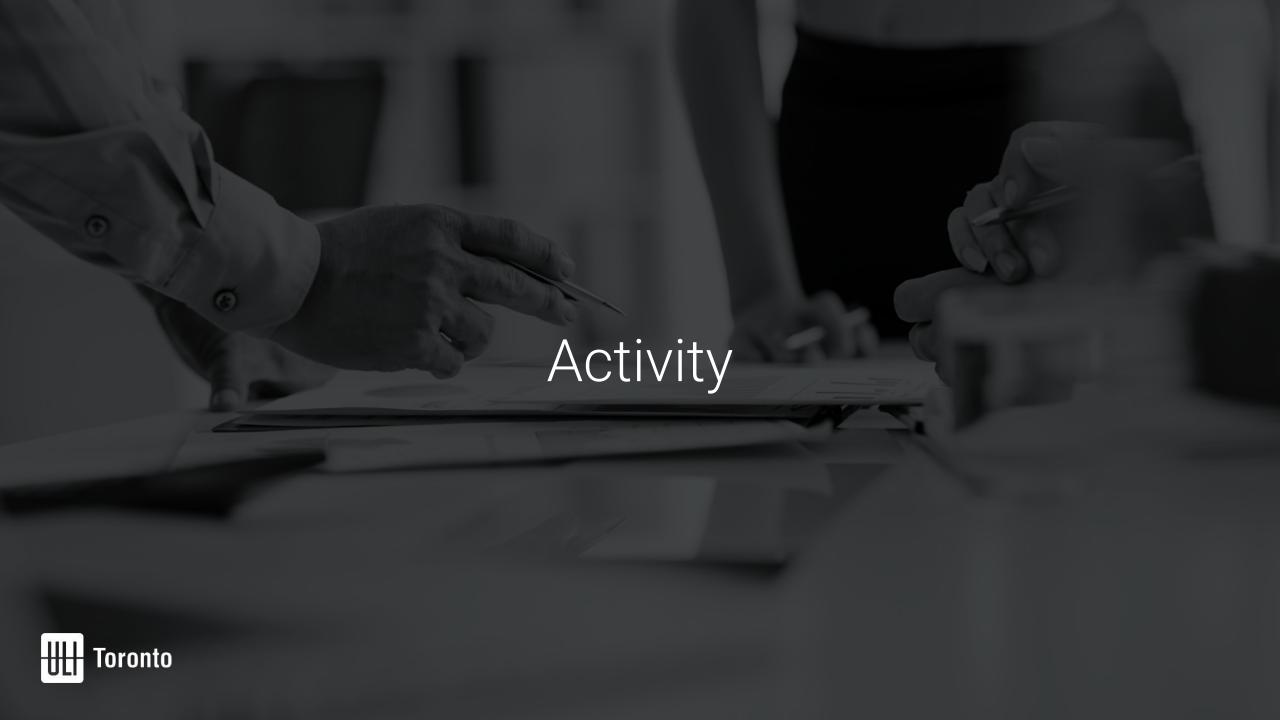
Sinéad Moran
Community Ambassador
of Dream Community
Foundation (DCF)



Phyllis Novak Playwright, Director, Storyteller, Educator







Teams

1	Russell Pollard	Framework Leadership
	Lawrence Yip	City of Markham
	Nadine Oliver	Toronto Global
	Daniel Woolfson	CreateTO
	Yasmin Afshar	Urban Strategies Inc
	Tahereh GranpayehVaghei	StrategyCorp
	Ryan Love	ERA Architect
	Evan Perlman	Tenblock
	Brandon Umpherville	Halifax Regional Municipality
7	Anna Sebert	Yonge Dundas Square
~	Micaela Butron	Paradigm Transportation Solutions Limited
	Rose Barcarse	Park People
	Lingping (Lyndsy) You	Metrolinx
	Dhruv Dhawan	Schulich School of Business
	Joyce Lau	DREAM
3	Robert McKaye	The Bentway
	Leah Dow	IBI Group
	Adam Santos	Weston Consulting
	Shawna Bowen	City of Toronto
	Mark Francis	Toronto Metropolitan University
	Becky Katz	City of Toronto
	Yasir Amr	BDP Quadrangle
Δ	Jessa Agilo	ArtsPond
	Katy Belshaw	Arts, Culture & Creative Industry Development Agency, City of Brampton
	Denis Belov	Colliers
5	Arleigh Hack	Northcrest Development
	Carly Forrester	Kindred Works
	Matthew Firestone	Zeidler Architecture Inc.
	Derek Davies	Metrolinx
	Gagan Nijjar	Toronto Community Benefits Network
	Kayly Robbins	Weston Consulting



Leisure Work / professional setting Commercial/ Retail Transit Personal





Social Life of Small Urban Spaces - William Whyte https://vimeo.com/520024110



Public Space - Public Life

- Measure social interactions
- Does the design of a space or place impact this?
- Test, measure, and observe



Protection

Protection against traffic & accidents — feeling safe

- · Protection for pedestrians and cyclists
- Safe crossings and streets

Protection against crime & violence — feeling secure

- Lively public realm
- Passive surveillance
- . Diversity of functions 24/7/365
- · Well lit, human scale, lighting

Protection against unpleasant sensory experiences

- Wind/draft
- · Rain/snow
- Cold/heat Pollution
- · Dust, noise, glare

Comfort

Opportunities to walk/cycle

- · Room for walking
- Interesting facades
- No obstacles
- Good surfaces
- · Accessibility for everyone

Opportunities to stop & stay

- · Attractive & functional
- · Objects to lean against or stand next to
- · Facades with good details that invite staving

Opportunities to sit

- · Defined sitting zones
- Pleasant views. people watching
- · Good mix of public
- and café seating • Resting/waiting opportunities

Opportunities to see

- Reasonable
- viewing distances
- Unhindered views
- · Interesting views
- Easy orientation
- Lighting (when dark)

Opportunities to talk & listen

- · Low noise levels
- Public seating arrangements conducive to communicating, 'talkscapes'

Opportunities for play & exercise

- · Allow for physical activity, exercise, play & street entertainment
- Temporary activities (markets, festivals, etc)
- · By day and night
- . In summer and winter

Enjoyment

Dimensioned at human scale

• Buildings & spaces relate to human dimension - to our senses, movements, size and behavior

Opportunities to enjoy the positive aspects of climate

- · Sun/shade
- Heat/coolness
- Shelter from wind/ breeze

Aesthetic qualities + positive sensory experience

- · Good design & detailing · Quality materials
- Views/vistas
- · Rich sensory experiences: trees, plants, water





Activity Locations

Teams to select their selection over lunch A member of Team #3 will join you

Leisure Team #1	Work Setting Team #2	Commercial Team #3	Transit Team #4
St. Andrews Playground	BDP/Quadrangle lunch room	Ace Hotel Lobby	Osgoode Station
Clarence Square	CSI Lobby space	Kensington Market	St. Andrew Station
		TIFF Bell Lightbox	Queen & Spadina Streetcar stop
			Ride the Spadina streetcar!



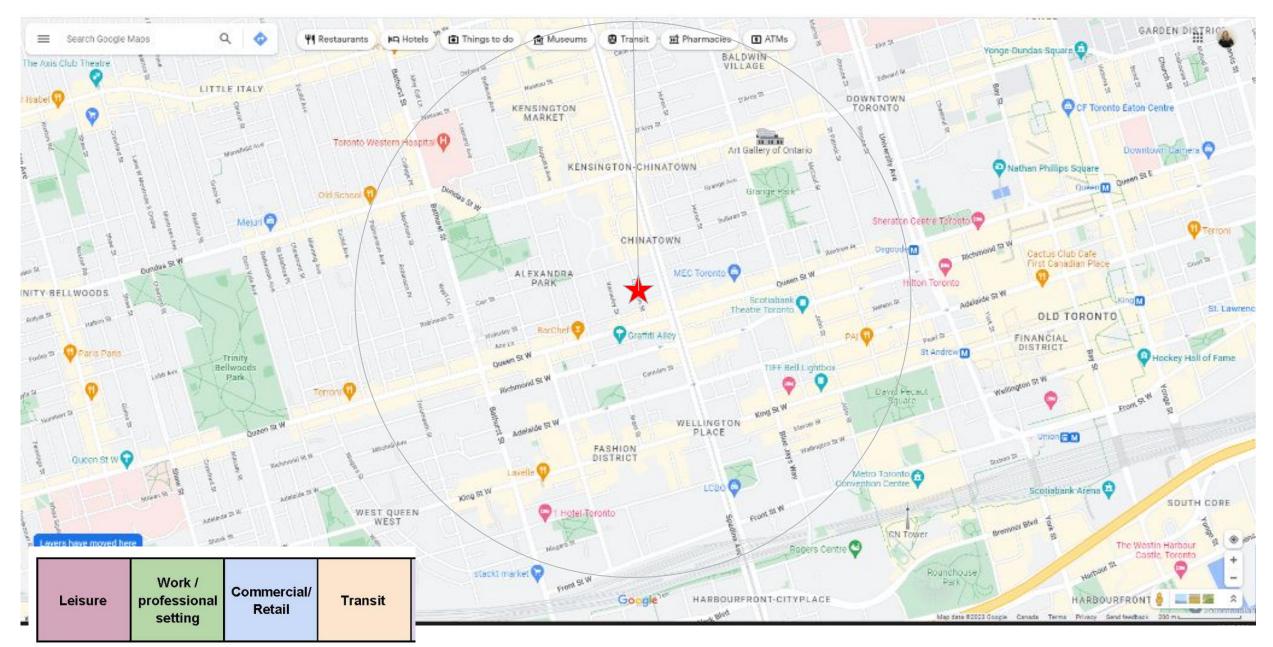


PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT!

<u>Instructions:</u> Within each group (TRANSIT, LEISURE, PROFESSIONAL, COMMERCIAL) and take a photo of the scavenger hunt items with your phone and send them to the dropbox address below.

- 1. Waiting for transport
- 2. Protection against traffic
- 3. Consumption of food/beverage
- 4. Beauty
- 5. Commercial activity
- 6. Weather (built form or activity)
- 7. Options for mobility
- 8. Cultural Activity
- 9. Human scale
- 10. Recreation (play/exercise)

Send your photos to this address: http://bitly.ws/znUt



PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT!

As a larger group we will sort the photographs into the Quality Criteria categories....

Protection	Comfort	Enjoyment





Resources

Gehl Studios https://gehlpeople.com/projects/

Projects for Public Spaces https://www.pps.org/article/wwhyte

The Chief Public Health Officer's Report on the State of Public Health in Canada 2017 <a href="https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/phac-aspc/documents/services/publications/chief-public-health-officer-reports-state-public-health-canada/2017-designing-healthy-living/PHAC_CPHO-2017_Report_E.pdf

Social capital in action in urban environments
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/233448799 Social capital in action in urban environments An intersection of theory research and practice literaturen intersection of theory, research and practice literature

World Economic Forum, Sustainable Cities & Communities https://intelligence.weforum.org/topics/a1G0X0000057IniUAE

