



11TH ANNUAL

MEET THE CHIEF PLANNERS

APRIL 2, 2025

AGENDA

Networking Cocktail Reception

Fairmont Royal York

5:30pm - 6:30pm

Welcome Remarks

Salima Rawji, Chair, *ULI Toronto*

6:30pm - 6:35pm

Traditional Welcome

Chief Claire Sault, *Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation*

6:35pm - 6:40pm

Meeting the Moment Keynote

6:40pm - 6:50pm

ULI Americas Awards for Excellence



6:50pm - 6:55pm

Dinner Discussions

Roundtable Discussion with Public Officials

6:55pm - 8:00pm

Public Officials Panel

8:00pm - 8:30pm

ULI URBAN LAND INSTITUTE TORONTO

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Welcome to the 11th Annual Meet the Chief Planners Dinner!

It's an honour to welcome you to this milestone event — our eleventh annual Meet the Chief Planners dinner — my first as Chair of ULI Toronto.

We gather at a critical moment for our industry and our region. Together, we are navigating the deepest economic slowdown in a quarter century, alongside growing instability from two escalating global trade wars — between the United States and China. Closer to home, a worsening affordability crisis is challenging our ability to build the housing and communities we need.

But if history has taught us anything, it's that resilience is in our DNA. The Urban Land Institute was founded during the Great Depression to help our industry respond to profound challenges — and it's in moments like these that our mission matters most.

Tonight, we celebrate the leadership of our Chief Planners and public sector partners — those we count on to help steer our urban region through shifting political and economic landscapes. Together, we will get through this moment and emerge stronger.

I want to express my gratitude for all who make ULI Toronto such a vital force. Special thanks to the Executive Team, the Management Committee, the ULI Toronto staff, and hundreds of volunteers who continue to shape ULI Toronto into a beacon of leadership and impact.

Lastly, tonight and everything we do at ULI Toronto would not be possible but for the enormous financial support of our sponsors, both annual and dinner sponsors this evening. We simply cannot thank you enough for this.

Enjoy the evening,

Salima Rawji
Chair, ULI Toronto District Council
President and Chief Executive Officer
York University Development Corporation

FY24 Annual Impact Report



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IMPACT INITIATIVES

Most recently, your support has facilitated such initiatives as:



Accelerating Accessibility Coalition:

a growing voluntary movement challenging home builders to make physical accessibility a greater priority as they build the millions of new homes needed across Canada in the next decade.



Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Reconciliation Council:

supporting a myriad of programs and initiatives, including:

- o **Pathways to Inclusion:** to increase the participation of equity-deserving communities who are currently underrepresented in the real estate development, land use, and city-building fields.

- o **Truth and Reconciliation** leadership cohort



Curtner Urban Leadership Program: challenging multi-disciplinary mid-career industry leaders to work with communities to advance responsible, transformative, and positive city-building.



Technical Assistance Panels: offering the public-sector low-cost access to the brightest talent of ULI's diverse membership — developers, planners, financiers, market analysts, economists, architects, designers, and public officials — to provide practical solutions and objective advice not available from any other source.



Women's Leadership Initiative: committed to increasing the number and visibility of women in leadership roles at ULI Toronto and the industry in general.



UrbanPlan: UrbanPlan is a project-based curriculum for public officials and students (from high school to university). ULI Toronto members volunteer to mentor and serve on a "City Council" to evaluate team proposals.

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Sean Baird - Toronto Community Housing Corporation
Michelle Banfield - City of Barrie
Abi Bond - City of Toronto
Carly Bowman - City of Toronto
Christina Bruce - City of Vaughan
Marcy Burchfield - Metrolinx
Rosa Bustamante - City of Kitchener
Barbara Carou - Toronto Lands Corporation
Gabe Charles - Town of Oakville
Domenica D'Amico - Town of Caledon
Meg Davis - Waterfront Toronto
Stéphan Déry - Canada Lands Company
Anita Fabac - City of Hamilton
Valesa Faria - City of Toronto
Michael Fedchyshyn - Building Ontario Fund
Steve Ganesh - City of Brampton
Kamal Gogna - City of Toronto
Colleen Goodchild - Region of Durham
Barbara Gray - City of Toronto
Heather Grey-Wolf - Infrastructure Ontario
Vic Gupta - CreateTO
Jessica Hawes - Toronto Community Housing Corporation
Jill Hogan - Town of Milton
Paul Jankowski - York Region Rapid Transit Corporation
Tami Kitay - City of St. Catharines

PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Kyle Knoeck - City of Toronto
Jack Krubnik - Town of East Gwillimbury
Andria Leigh - Town of Innisfil
Eric Lucic - Town of Caledon
Darryl Lyons - Municipality of Clarington
John MacKenzie - Toronto and Region Conversation Authority
Michael Mizzi - Town of Oakville
Diana Morreale - Niagara Region
Grant Munday - City of Welland
Michael Norton - CreateTO
Gord Perks - City of Toronto
Arvin Prasad - City of Markham
Marco Ramunno - Town of Aurora
Catherine Rose - City of Pickering
Chris Rouse - City of Mississauga
Alex Ryan - Canada Infrastructure Bank
Jag Sharma - City of Toronto
David Sit - City of Toronto
David Stonehouse - City of Toronto
Kathy Suggitt - Town of New Tecumseth
Jason Thorne - City of Toronto
Christian Ventresca - City of Toronto
Andrew Whittemore - City of Mississauga
Selina Young - City of Toronto

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Sean Baird

President and CEO
Toronto Community Housing Corporation

Sean Baird is a dedicated public service executive with a passion for providing high-quality services to vulnerable populations. He joined Toronto Community Housing on April 2, 2024, taking on the role of President and CEO for Canada's largest social housing provider. Prior to becoming the President and CEO of TCHC, Sean was the Commissioner of Human Services at the Region of Peel. In this role, he oversaw all social services functions for over 1.5 million residents across Mississauga, Brampton, and Caledon.



Michelle Banfield

Executive Director of Development Services
City of Barrie

Michelle Banfield is currently the Executive Director of Development Services at the City of Barrie, overseeing all land use planning for a municipality in a rapid growth phase. She is a Registered Professional Planner with over 25 years of public and private experience, and a big picture thinker and strategic leader with expertise in policy development, project management and community building. Michelle has worked for municipalities across Canada and for the Government of Bermuda, focusing on a wide range of issues such as conservation, intensification and growth management. She has a degree in Urban & Regional Planning from the University of Waterloo and a Masters of Arts from Athabasca University.



Abi Bond

Executive Director, Housing Secretariat
City of Toronto

Abi Bond leads the City of Toronto's Housing Secretariat. She moved to Canada in 2007 and has worked on affordable housing policy and delivery for both the City of Calgary and the City of Vancouver. She took up her current position early in 2020 and leads the HousingTO 2020-2030 Action Plan, which includes policies, programs and projects, delivered in partnership with private and community housing partners. She believes that having a home is vital to our individual and collective health and well-being, and is an essential part of the solution to broader inequities in Toronto and Canada.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Carly Bowman

Director, Community Planning, Toronto & East York District
City of Toronto

Carly is a Community Planning Director in the City of Toronto, in the Toronto and East York District. She is solution-oriented, prioritizing high-quality development with a generous and comfortable public realm. Carly aims to harness change energy around development in the City to deliver complete communities, supporting resiliency and housing options for all. Carly is a graduate of the University of Toronto's Master of Science in Planning program, as well as a Registered Professional Planner and Member of the Canadian Institute of Planners.



Christina Bruce

Director of Policy Planning and Special Programs
City of Vaughan

Christina Bruce, MCIP, RPP, is currently the Director of the Policy Planning and Special Programs Department in the Planning, Growth Management and Housing Delivery Portfolio at the City of Vaughan. This includes leading the policy planning and sustainability team and a collection of capital works, development projects and strategic initiatives that together shape the form, identity and experience of the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre. She leads a team of staff that promotes the creation of quality communities in the City by providing Council with Planning Act based policy tools to guide the growth and physical development of the City. She is an innovative and energetic strategy development professional with over 25 years of experience in designing, implementing, managing, and leading planning projects for municipalities and organizations across Canada.



Marcy Burchfield

VP Planning
Metrolinx

Marcy has over two decades of experience in regional planning, shaping transportation, land use, environmental, and economic policy with a data-driven, place-based approach. She champions regional collaboration and excels at uniting cross-sector stakeholders. At Metrolinx, she leads Planning, overseeing the Regional Transit Plan, business case evaluations, and fare and service integration policies. Previously, she was VP at the Economic Blueprint Institute and led the Neptis Foundation, driving impactful research and innovative tools like the Neptis Geoweb. Marcy holds a graduate degree in Geography from the University of Toronto, is a published author, and actively contributes to nonprofit and government boards.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Rosa Bustamante

Director of Planning
City of Kitchener

Rosa Bustamante, MCIP RPP, is the Director of Planning & Housing Policy at the City of Kitchener, one of the fastest growing cities in Canada. Her portfolio includes policy planning, realty services and various housing-related initiatives. Rosa has led transformative projects in Kitchener including the new downtown policy and zoning framework with inclusionary zoning (Growing Together); the comprehensive review of the zoning by-law; district energy feasibility and emerging housing initiatives. She holds an Honours Co-op Bachelor's degree from the School of Planning at the University of Waterloo and an Urban Design Certificate from Simon Fraser University. Rosa is a Registered Professional Planner and a WLI Champion. Prior to joining the City of Kitchener, Rosa was the Manager of Mobility Hubs at the City of Burlington and led her team's work on secondary plans for the rapid development occurring around Burlington's GO Stations. Known as an innovative and strategic leader, Rosa brings a solutions-focused approach to her team's work advancing light rail transit-oriented development, growth management and affordable housing.



Barbara Carou

Director, Development & Strategic Partnerships
Toronto Lands Corporation

Barbara is the Director of Development and Strategic Partnerships at the Toronto Lands Corporation, where she leads efforts to modernize Toronto District School Board lands. She specializes in developing strategies to optimize a vast portfolio of public land, facilitating the delivery of new schools and community infrastructure through strategic collaborations with both public and private sector partners. Before joining TLC, Barbara served as the Director of Client Relationship Management at CreateTO where she played a key role in advancing city-building initiatives. Barbara also spent many years working in various roles within the City of Toronto's Parks, Forestry & Recreation, City Planning, and Real Estate divisions. A registered professional planner, she holds an Honours Bachelor of Science from the University of Toronto and a Master of Planning from Queen's University.



Gabe Charles

Director, Planning Services
Town of Oakville

Gabe Charles, MCIP, RPP has over 25 years of professional experience in the fields of Urban Design and Planning, entirely in the public sector working on various urban design, development review, and policy projects. As a team lead, he has guided Official Plan Reviews, Secondary Plans, Master Plans and major policy studies. He works with a highly-talented team in promoting design excellence through city building. Gabe has been an active member of OPPI and CIP, former vice-chair of London's design review panel, a Fellow with the Urban Design Forum (NY) and a Board member of the Council for Canadian Urbanism (CanU).

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Domenica D'Amico

*Commissioner of Engineering, Public Works, and Transportation
Town of Caledon*

Domenica D'Amico, P.Eng. is a civil engineer with over 26 years of experience in the transportation field. She currently serves as the Commissioner of Engineering, Public Works, and Transportation for the Town of Caledon, Ontario - a role she assumed in June 2024. Domenica earned her Bachelor of Applied Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Toronto. Before joining the Town of Caledon, she was the Director of the Ontario Roads team at WSP, a global engineering and professional services firm. In addition to her professional achievements, Domenica is an active member of the Toronto Metropolitan University Civil Engineering Advisory Council and has served on the Board of Directors for the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies of Ontario.



Meg Davis

*Chief Development Officer
Waterfront Toronto*

Meg Davis is the Chief Development Officer for Waterfront Toronto and is responsible for leading the strategic development of its lands as part of its revitalization efforts. This includes overseeing creation of the public infrastructure and coordinating the planning, design and construction phases of these significant developments. In addition, she leads the selection processes and on-going relationships with development partners to ensure development contributes to meeting the corporate objectives of high design and complete sustainable and inclusive neighbourhoods.



Stéphan Déry

*President and CEO
Canada Lands Company*

Stéphan Déry, President and CEO of Canada Lands Company. In this role, Mr. Déry leads a national organization of hundreds of employees responsible for the development and management of major real estate holdings and the operation of some of Canada's most cherished attractions. Canada Lands Company's attractions include the CN Tower and Downsview Park in Toronto, the Montreal Science Centre and the Old Port of Montreal. He is a seasoned real estate professional having served in the Government of Canada as Assistant Deputy Minister of Real Property Services at Public Services and Procurement Canada, an organization with over 4,000 employees. In this role, Stéphan was responsible for the delivery of the entire suite of real property services to federal departments and agencies. Over his 30-year career in the public service, he also held several other executive positions in the areas of acquisitions and corporate services. Stéphan is a chartered professional accountant and holds a master's degree in public administration.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Anita Fabac

Acting Director of Planning and Chief Planner
City of Hamilton

Anita Fabac is a planner specializing in land use planning, design, and heritage. She has a Bachelor of Environmental Studies from the School of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Waterloo. A Registered Professional Planner with over 25 years of experience, Anita is currently the Acting Director of Planning and Chief Planner with the City of Hamilton leading a multidisciplinary team of planners, designers, and heritage professionals.



Valesa Faria

Executive Director, Development Review
City of Toronto

Valesa Faria is the inaugural Executive Director, Development Review at the City of Toronto since April 2024. In this new role, Valesa oversees a multidisciplinary team of professionals who are involved in the development review process including Community Planning (all five districts), Engineering Review (including Transportation Review) and Business Process and Strategy. Valesa and her team are responsible for streamlining the development review process, improving consistency and transparency for all stakeholders, expediting the review of development applications and ultimately, getting more affordable homes within well-planned, complete communities built faster. Valesa has over two decades of experience working in both the private and public sectors and overseeing diverse portfolios including residential and commercial leasing, asset management, development, and policy. Valesa describes herself as an avid city-builder and problem-solver who is focused on creating a more equitable, inclusive, and sustainable Toronto where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.



Michael Fedchyshyn

CEO
Building Ontario Fund

Michael Fedchyshyn brings more than 20 years of leadership experience in strategic corporate development, infrastructure investing, structured finance, and public-private contracting. He joins the Building Ontario Fund from Invest Ontario, where he served as Interim CEO, driving high-impact investments in alignment with the province's long-term economic priorities. Prior to his time at Invest Ontario, Michael held senior leadership positions at Infrastructure Ontario where he led the creation of the Transit Oriented Communities program and other priority initiatives. Prior to joining the public sector, Michael's career spanned private equity, renewable energy development, project finance, and management consulting. He holds a doctorate in Neuroscience from the University of Toronto.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Steve Ganesh

*Commissioner, Planning, Building & Growth Management
City of Brampton*

Steve is a Registered Professional Planner and Member of the Canadian Institute of Planners, holding 28 years of experience in various aspects of city building. In his role as Commissioner, Steve provides leadership and oversight to over 200 staff charged with the implementation and delivery of key Council priorities and projects in Canada's ninth largest City. Prior to joining the City, Steve worked at the Region of Peel, Ministry of Transportation and City of Mississauga in areas of strategic policy and transportation planning. Steve has been a resident of Brampton for 48 years and his passion for his city comes through in his leadership and decision-making. He has played an integral role in the community serving as Chair of the City's 2022 United Way Campaign and a past board member of Volunteer MBC. When he is not at City Hall, Steve enjoys cooking and spending time outdoors with his wife, three daughters and puppy.



Kamal Gogna

*Interim Chief Building Official and Executive Director
City of Toronto*

Kamal Gogna is a registered professional engineer and currently the Interim Executive Director & Chief Building Official for the City of Toronto, overseeing the administration and enforcement of the Ontario Building Code and municipal by-laws to ensure safe, sustainable, and compliant buildings in Toronto. With over 36 years of building regulatory experience, Kamal has led significant organizational transformations within Toronto Building, including the recent shift to a client-centric, function-based service model aimed at improving operational efficiency, divisional resiliency, and expediting permit approvals to get shovels in the ground sooner. He also spearheaded the development of Toronto's first Rental Renovation Licensing Bylaw ("Renoviction Bylaw") in 2024, strengthening tenant protections and preserving affordable rental housing. Kamal continues to drive innovative solutions in an effort to building housing faster.



Colleen Goodchild

*Director, Planning
Regional Municipality of Durham*

Colleen Goodchild is the Director of Community Growth at the Region of Durham and is currently the Vice-Chair of the Regional and Single Tier Planning Leaders of Ontario. She's been in municipal government between the Region and the City of Oshawa since 2005. Colleen has been leading her team through the extraordinary transition as a result of Bill 23's proclamation and the change in planning approval responsibilities and is looking forward to focussing on how the Region can support community planning and growth through integrated growth management, policy and infrastructure/service planning. She started her career at Totten Sims Hubicki Whitby (now AECOM), honing her skills in environmental assessments, transit projects and consultation and engagement on various infrastructure projects.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Barbara Gray

GM Transportation Services

City of Toronto

As General Manager of Transportation Services, Barbara Gray is the first woman to ever lead the division in Toronto. She is driven by her commitment to innovation, equity and leadership. She joined the City in late 2016 and has since successfully led her team to improve neighbourhoods through complete streets investment, has improved service delivery and renewed key delivery plans focused on managing congestion, improving safety for all road users and completing an overhaul of Winter Service delivery. Barbara is also the Executive Sponsor for the Toronto Network of Women (TOnow), inspiring and empowering over 2,000 members to enhance their personal and professional development through mentorship and engagement. Prior to joining the City of Toronto, Barbara had numerous leadership roles at the Seattle Department of Transportation and is most proud of her work with elected and public sector leaders to change the culture of the public service centred on the powerful mission of supporting equity, diversity and inclusion.



Heather Grey-Wolf

Chief Development Officer

Infrastructure Ontario

As Chief Development Officer, Heather Grey-Wolf oversees IO's work on transit-oriented communities, leveraging surplus lands for government priorities such as long-term care and attainable/affordable housing, as well as leading master development exercises for landmark projects like the redevelopment of Ontario Place. As a senior development leader with the Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) for seven years, Heather led the revitalization of the 69-acre Regent Park, the largest urban renewal project in Canada. Heather's team was responsible for the relocation of 2,000 families, the demolition of 54 buildings, and the delivery of roads, parks, community infrastructure, 300,000 square feet of commercial space, and 7,500 units of multi-family housing. Heather is passionate about the outdoors and spends her spare time swimming, running, biking, and hiking with her family. Heather has an MBA from the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto, a B.Arch and B.Sc from McGill University, and is a licensed architect with the Ontario Association of Architects.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Vic Gupta

*President & Chief Executive Officer
CreateTO*

Vic Gupta is CEO of CreateTO, which is shaping Toronto's future through bold and impactful real estate solutions. A City of Toronto agency, CreateTO applies a strategic, city-wide lens to increasing the social, cultural and economic value of Toronto's \$27 billion dollar real estate portfolio. Under Vic's leadership, CreateTO has demonstrated huge impact and developed a strong, collaborative and high performing culture. Vic aspires to set the bar for public real estate solutions and public service, creating new models and impactful approaches in collaboration with elected officials, external partners and the public. A respected city builder and advocate for the cultural sector, Vic serves as Vice Chair of the Board of Governors for Massey Hall & Roy Thompson Hall. Prior to joining CreateTO, Vic was Principal Secretary to the Mayor of Toronto from 2014-2018. He lives in Toronto with his wife and two kids.



Jessica Hawes

*Acting Chief Development Officer
Toronto Community Housing Corporation*

Jessica Hawes is the Acting Chief Development Officer with Toronto Community Housing. She is an architect, planner and urban designer with more than 20 years of experience in the sustainable planning, design and construction of urban spaces and cities. Jessica's planning and architectural expertise has focused on the design, approval and construction of buildings and public spaces that promote healthy cities. Her experience extends internationally to residential developments, public spaces, art centres, retail centres, waterfronts, and office/ commercial spaces. Prior to her appointment as Acting Chief Development Officer, Jessica was Senior Development Director responsible for leading Toronto Community Housing's revitalization projects in Lawrence Heights, 250 Davenport and Firgrove.



Jill Hogan

*Commissioner of Development Services
Town of Milton*

Jill Hogan is the Commissioner of Development Services for the Town of Milton. Over the course of 25 years, Jill has worked in the municipal land use planning field and has successfully led teams at the City of Brampton, City of Toronto and most recently at the Town of Milton. Jill has built a reputation based on her ability and drive to formulate innovative approaches to achieve high quality urban development through creative collaborations with Council, community stakeholders and developers. She holds the designation of Registered Professional Planner (RPP) through the Ontario Professional Planners Institute and is a full member of the Canadian Institute of Planners.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Paul Jankowski

President

York Region Rapid Transit Corporation

Paul Jankowski is President of York Region Rapid Transit Corporation (YRRTC), a wholly-owned subsidiary and share capital corporation of The Regional Municipality of York. With over 25 years of senior leadership experience in transit and transportation, he brings a wealth of expertise to his role. Prior to joining YRRTC, Paul served as Commissioner of Transportation Services at York Region and held senior roles at the City of Vaughan and in the Edmonton region, having started his career at the Ontario Ministry of Transportation. Paul is dedicated to advancing rapid transit projects that align with York Region's strategic priorities, including YRRTC's pursuit of funding for two priority Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) projects along Jane Street in Vaughan and Highway 7 East in Markham that will support housing and economic growth within these urban areas. Paul also oversees YRRTC's support on the continued advancement of the Metrolinx-led Yonge North Subway Extension, including oversight of the Region's capital investment.



Tami Kitay

Director, Planning and Building Services

City of St. Catharines

Tami Kitay, MCIP RPP, is the Director of Planning and Building Services for the City of St. Catharines in Niagara Region. Her portfolio includes Planning, Heritage, Urban Design, Building, By-law Enforcement, and Development Engineering. She holds an Honours Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Waterloo and a Masters of Public Administration degree from the University of Western Ontario. Tami is a Registered Professional Planner with over 24 years of experience in progressive planning roles at the Cities of Burlington, Barrie, Hamilton, the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, and the former Ontario Municipal Board. Known for bringing public realm vision to the forefront of her planning work, she promotes a collaborative approach to community development.



Kyle Knoeck

Director, Zoning and Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment

City of Toronto

Kyle Knoeck is City of Toronto's Director of Zoning and Secretary-Treasurer of Committee of Adjustment. He provides leadership to Toronto's zoning regime and to service delivery and service improvement in the Committee of Adjustment. Kyle has overseen the development of the policy framework to permit multi-tenant houses, updated zoning for Employment Lands, improved practices for site-specific zoning by-laws, and the review of zoning to permit "missing middle" housing types. Kyle's career began at the City of Toronto in 1999 as a community planner. He has since led the original Regent Park revitalization planning review, was the planner on the Lawrence Heights Revitalization Project and the Community Planning Manager for the Unilever Precinct Plan, the Port Lands Planning Framework and many more. Kyle is a Member of the Canadian Institute of Planners and a Registered Professional Planner, and holds a Master of Science in Planning from the University of Toronto.

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Jack Krubnik

*Acting General Manager, Development Services
Town of East Gwillimbury*

As the Acting General Manager of Development Services, Jack brings more than 17 years of planning experience in the municipal and private sectors. Prior to joining East Gwillimbury as the Director of Planning Policy & Growth Management, Jack was the Director of Planning and Development at the Town of Erin. Jack holds a degree in Architectural Studies and Business Management, and a Master of Landscape Architecture. Jack is a Registered Professional Planner with OPPI, a Landscape Architect (OALA), and a Professional Land Economist (PLE).



Andria Leigh

*Director of Planning & Growth
Town of Innisfil*

As Director, Planning and Growth at the Town of Innisfil, Andria Leigh, leads an innovative and dynamic team in responsibly and deliberately planning for a rapidly growing community. Previously Andria was the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)/Director Development Services for the Township of Oro-Medonte a rural municipality in Simcoe County. Andria is a Registered Professional Planner (RPP) and is a member of the Ontario Professional Planners Institute (OPPI) and Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP). Over the years, Andria has served in a variety of roles with OPPI including sponsoring and mentoring to new planners, OPPI Council Director and Secretary-Treasurer and is currently the Chair Elect. She is a graduate from Wilfrid Laurier University; and continues her lifelong learning through a variety of programs; obtaining her Black Belt Certification in Lean Six Sigma in 2021 and completing her Executive Diploma in Municipal Management in 2023.



Eric Lucic

*Commissioner and Chief Planner of Planning and Development
Town of Caledon*

Eric Lucic is the Commissioner of Planning and Development and Chief Planner for the Town of Caledon and a Registered Professional Planner. Before his role with Caledon, Eric held roles as the Director of Strategic Projects and Director of Regional Planning with Halifax Regional Municipality. Eric has also held leadership or planning roles previously with the City of Mississauga and City of Brampton. In addition to leading planning in one of the fastest growing communities in Canada, Eric sits as a Board of Director with the Council for Canadian Urbanism and on the City of Hamilton's Design Review Panel. Eric's planning career is focused on strategic thinking, city building and relationship development.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Darryl Lyons

*Deputy CAO
Municipality of Clarington*

Darryl Lyons is the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer of Planning and Infrastructure Services at the Municipality of Clarington. He proudly leads the team responsible for community and development planning, engineering and infrastructure, parks planning and development, as well as building services. Darryl is passionate about mentoring and supporting his team, collaborating with stakeholders and finding innovative solutions to build vibrant, sustainable and complete communities. Darryl holds a Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Queen's University and is a Registered Professional Planner and Member of the Canadian Institute of Planners with over 24 years of progressive experience. Prior to joining Clarington, Darryl was the Deputy Director of Planning and Urban Design at the City of Markham and spent more than 19 years at the Province of Ontario developing and implementing land use policy, provincial plans and legislation.



John MacKenzie

*Chief Executive Officer
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)*

John MacKenzie is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and a Director on the Board of the Toronto and Region Conservation Foundation (TRCF). John and his team work in partnership with all levels of government, community and environmental organizations, and industry partners to facilitate and mitigate impacts of development in regulated areas, and successfully deliver programs and projects including flood protection, climate change mitigation, restoration and green infrastructure undertakings across TRCA's jurisdiction. John holds a Master's of Science Degree in Planning from the University of Toronto and an Honours Bachelor of Arts Degree in Geography and Urban and Environmental Studies from Brock University. John serves on senior government working groups including bi-national Great Lakes committees, is a member of the Urban Land Institute, Ontario Association of Impact Assessment, and the Ontario Professional Planners Institute and Canadian Institute of Planners.



Michael Mizzi

*Commissioner of Community Development
Town of Oakville*

Michael Mizzi is the Commissioner of Community Development for the Town of Oakville, overseeing planning and development, building services, economic development, and municipal enforcement. Prior to this role, he served as Director of Community Planning for the Etobicoke York District at the City of Toronto from October 2021 to January 2025. He previously held the position of Director of Zoning and Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment for the City of Toronto. From 2013 to 2016, he was Chief of Development Review Services for the City of Ottawa, later stepping into the role of Acting General Manager of Planning and Growth Management.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Diana Morreale

*Director, Growth Management and Planning
Niagara Region*

Diana Morreale, MCIP, RPP, is a seasoned professional planner with over 20 years of experience in municipal planning. Currently, she serves as the Director of Growth Management and Planning at Niagara Region, where she leads diverse initiatives, including growth management, infrastructure planning, development review, urban design, natural heritage and incentive programs. Diana played a key role in overseeing the completion of the Region's new Official Plan (2022) and the development of strategic secondary plans. With a robust background in strategic planning, stakeholder engagement, and policy development, Diana is dedicated to fostering sustainable growth and enhancing community planning at both local and regional levels.



Grant Munday

*Director of Planning and Development Services
City of Welland*

Grant Munday is the Director of Development Services with the City of Welland. He is a professional planner that leads a team of staff that have and continue to streamline development approvals, create new and innovative policies and deliver excellence in customer service.



Michael Norton

*Chief Development Officer
CreateTO*

Michael Norton is the Chief Development Officer at CreateTO where he is responsible for identifying and leading redevelopment opportunities for City owned real estate, and providing real estate solutions to City divisions, agencies and corporations. Previously, Michael was Chief Development Officer at Metrolinx, where he oversaw the Transit-Oriented Communities (TOC) Program for the GO Heavy Rail and LRT portfolios and managed the agency's real estate portfolio and adjacent development reviews. Michael holds a bachelor's degree in Architectural Studies from the University of Waterloo and a Master of Science in Real Estate Development from Columbia University in New York.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Gord Perks

*Chair of the Planning and Housing Committee
City of Toronto*

In his work as Toronto City Councillor, Gord is an advocate for affordable housing, childcare, public transit, vibrant public spaces, responsible development, and safer streets for pedestrians and cyclists. Gord has been a member of the City's Budget, Parks and Environment, Planning and Growth Management, Public Works and Infrastructure, Planning and Housing, Affordable Housing and Tenants Issues Committees and has chaired the Subcommittee on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaption and Toronto & East York Community Council. He has also sat on the Special Committee on Governance, Tribunal Nominating Panel, Toronto Atmospheric Fund, Board of Health, Toronto Drug Strategy, Board of Governors for Exhibition Place, Toronto Public Library Board, Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance, and the Greater Toronto Area Agricultural Action Committee. Gord Perks was first elected to represent Parkdale-High Park in 2006. Prior to becoming a Councillor, Gord worked in the environmental movement from 1987 to 2005 with Pollution Probe, Greenpeace Canada, the Better Transportation Coalition, and the Toronto Environmental Alliance. His work was fundamental to Toronto's blue and grey box program, smog plan, and pesticide by-law. He led the campaign for better transit that helped usher in the Ridership Growth Strategy and Transit City. Gord has also been a childcare worker, a janitor, a newspaper delivery kid, a Zamboni driver, and (briefly) a coal miner. Gord is the principal author of the Canadian Green Consumer Guide, one of Canada's bestselling non-fiction books. He has previously worked as an Environment columnist for Eye Weekly and was an Adjunct Professor with the University of Toronto's Environmental Studies Department.



Arvin Prasad

*Commissioner of Development Services
City of Markham*

Arvin Prasad is the Commissioner, Development Services for the City of Markham. His portfolio includes Planning and Urban Design, Engineering, Building Standards, Economic Growth, Culture and Entrepreneurship, Destination Markham, and Strategy & Innovation. Arvin holds a Bachelor of Applied Arts in Urban and Region Planning and a Masters of Public Administration in local government. He is a Registered Professional Planner with over 30 years of progressive experience in policy and development planning. Arvin has been a long-time proponent for complete and well-planned communities. Arvin is leading the development and implementation of plans to ensure the City of Markham's growth and development is planned and managed to achieve a vibrant, healthy, and sustainable community. He has experience in conflict resolution, project management and experienced in various leadership topics.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Marco Ramunno

*Director of Planning and Building Services
Town of Aurora*

Marco is responsible for the Town's Development Planning, Policy Planning, Economic Development, Engineering and Capital Delivery, Heritage Planning and Building Divisions. Before joining the Town of Aurora, Marco was the General Manager, Development Services for the Town of East Gwillimbury and Director of Planning for the City of Vaughan. Marco began his planning career with York Region. Marco has spent over 30 years in planning communities in York Region as a municipal land use planner.



Catherine Rose

*Chief Planner
City of Pickering*

Catherine Rose, RPP, MCIP, is a graduate of the University of Waterloo with a Bachelor of Environmental Studies (Honours Geography). Catherine became the Chief Planner for the City of Pickering in January 2013, after twenty years as the Manager of Policy. Catherine oversees a portfolio that includes Policy & Geomatics, Development Review & Urban Design, and Zoning & Administration. In addition to the review of intensification and greenfield development applications, key activities in 2023 included completion of a GIS Strategic Plan, the on-going preparation of a secondary plan for Northeast Pickering, release of the first draft of a consolidated zoning by-law, initiation of a streamlining review of the City's planning and development processes, and initiation of the City's Official Plan Review.



Chris Rouse

*Director, Development and Design Division
City of Mississauga*

Chris Rouse is the Director of the Development and Design Division in the Planning and Building Department at the City of Mississauga. He is a registered Professional Planner and Member of the Canadian Institute of Planners with undergraduate degrees from the University of Guelph and Toronto Metropolitan University. Chris began his career with the City of Mississauga (over 30 years ago) as a volunteer planner, holding many different roles, working in several different geographies and undertaking many planning studies before becoming a Director. In his current role, he collaborates with planners, landscape architects, urban designers and administrators that process development applications and are also involved in many City-wide projects and initiatives.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Alex Ryan

*Director of Investments
Canada Infrastructure Bank*

Alex is an Investment Director at the Canada Infrastructure Bank, a crown corporation and impact investor supporting projects in the public interest. Alex leads projects in the CIB's Clean Power priority sector, which have included projects in power generation, transmission, storage, and district energy. Alex also led the development of the CIB's Infrastructure for Housing Initiative, which focuses on enabling public infrastructure for housing development by working with the public sector, communities, and private sector developers. Before joining CIB, Alex led project finance teams at Graham and Operis (founding its Toronto office). Within project finance, he has authored sustainable financing frameworks, conducted project finance advisory, financial modelling, equity investing, and Project Company board director roles. Within corporate finance and development, he has also conducted credit and competition analysis, economic/industry analysis, and M&A and capital raise processes. Alex is a CFA charterholder and holds a First Class Honours in Mathematics and Economics from Warwick University. In his spare time, Alex serves as Treasurer of the Thames Valley Education Foundation.



Jag Sharma

*Deputy City Manager, Development & Growth Services
City of Toronto*

Jag Sharma is the Deputy City Manager for Development and Growth Services at the City of Toronto which brings City staff engaged in planning and development review together in one service area, helping the City meet its strategic goals to deliver housing faster with a focus on affordable housing. A passionate leader, Jag possesses exceptional public and private sector experience such as Toronto Community Housing, City of Oshawa, Canada Post Corporation, Ford Motor Company and Maple Leaf Foods. Jag holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering and a Master's degree in business administration from Queen's University.



David Sit

*Director, Community Planning, North York District
City of Toronto*

David Sit is the Director of Community Planning in North York, City of Toronto. Since joining the City in 2015, he has worked in the waterfront area of Scarborough and in the Downtown as a Community Planning Manager. In 2021, he was promoted to the Director role in North York where he has been overseeing a range of development applications, new secondary plans, and ongoing studies. He is a strong advocate of local decision making and public engagement as a means to create better, livable communities. David continues to support and promote the Ontario Professional Planners Institute and uses some of his spare time mentoring new staff and provisional members. He is formerly a graduate of the Urban and Regional Planning program at the University of Waterloo.

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David Stonehouse

*Waterfront Secretariat
City of Toronto*

David Stonehouse is the Director of the City of Toronto's Waterfront Secretariat, part of the City Planning Division. David is the City's lead on waterfront revitalization activities in Toronto's central waterfront. David is an urban planner and a Member of the Canadian Institute of Planners. In previous phases of his career, David worked on Bring Back the Don (a citizen-led initiative focused on the restoration of Toronto's Don River) and Evergreen Brick Works (the redevelopment of an historic brick factory into an environmental education and community centre). David has been a sessional lecturer in Urban Studies at the University of Toronto (Innis College).



Kathy Suggitt

*Director, Planning and Building
Town of New Tecumseth*

Kathy joined the Town of New Tecumseth in November 2024 as Director, Planning and Building. Kathy is helping to lead the Town through their growth management work and official plan update to prepare the Town for significant growth in the coming years. Kathy has over 30 years of experience in both the public and private sectors including 20 years in senior leadership positions at the County of Simcoe, and the Cities of Barrie and Orillia. With a strong background in policy, growth management and strategic planning, she is solutions-oriented and leads her team with vision, promoting a culture of collaboration. Kathy has lived and worked in Ontario, BC, Alberta and Manitoba over her career. She has been a registered professional planner for 23 years. She has a master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Queen's University. She was a Council Director of OPPI and Chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee. Kathy enjoys mentoring early career planners and helping to build the skills and competencies in the next generation of planners.



Jason Thorne

*Chief Planner & Executive Director
City of Toronto*

Jason Thorne is the Chief Planner and Executive Director of City Planning at the City of Toronto, where he leads a team of more than 350 urban planning, urban design, heritage, and technical professionals. An accomplished city builder with more than 25 years of private and public professional experience, Jason provides expertise and leadership on policies, plans and strategies that support building complete communities and promoting a sustainable, healthy and economically vibrant Toronto. Jason is a registered Professional Planner and a full member of the Canadian Institute of Planners and the Ontario Professional Planners Institute. His public sector experience includes 10 years as the General Manager of the Planning and Economic Development Department at the City of Hamilton, Director of Policy and Planning at Metrolinx, and Senior Associate and Manager with the Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal. Jason also has extensive experience working with non-governmental organizations, having started his career working as a community organizer and activist for a variety of not-for-profit environmental organizations. A proud urbanist, Jason's passion is to solve complex urban issues and create great urban places for everyone.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Christian Ventresca

*Director, Community Planning, Scarborough District
City of Toronto*

Christian Ventresca is the Director of Community Planning for Scarborough District, in the City of Toronto's Development Review Division. Since joining the City in 2005, Christian has held a number of policy and development review positions focused on the City's "inner suburbs" of North York, Etobicoke, York and Scarborough. Whether leading master plans or implementing them through development review, his practice has focused on bringing a practical, resilient and place-based approach to parts of the City transitioning through a second wave of urbanization. A keen strategist and an unapologetic generalist, he's comfortable speaking a range of languages from architecture to infrastructure, learning from all manners of professionals to deliver outcomes at the varied scales of city building. Christian is a graduate of the University of Toronto's Master of Science in Planning program, as well as a Registered Professional Planner and Member of the Canadian Institute of Planners.



Andrew Whittemore

*Commissioner, Planning & Building Department
City of Mississauga*

Andrew Whittemore has been the Commissioner of Mississauga's Planning & Building Department since 2018, and has over 25 years of experience in urban planning. Andrew's career began in Halifax, pioneering the city's inaugural Regional Plan post-amalgamation. In Mississauga, Andrew has spearheaded multiple award-winning projects, including the city's first Affordable Housing strategy and a robust Infill strategy. Andrew's been a vanguard for planning reform, stakeholder engagement, advancing electronic applications, LEAN principles, and most recently leading the integration of regional planning services from the Region of Peel. One of Andrew's greatest honours was to participate in the Governor General of Canada's Leadership Conference where he travelled the North West Territories with other national leaders. Andrew holds a B.Sc. from Acadia University and a Master's in Urban and Rural Planning from the Technical University of Nova Scotia.



Selina Young

*Director, Indigenous Affairs Office
City of Toronto*

Selina is committed to city-building and change making with and for communities as an active volunteer with many organizations including Park People, the Urban Land Institute and 880 Cities. Selina has decades of experience trying to influence change within the public sector, having worked for governments in Ontario, Canada, and Scotland, and is currently the Director of the Indigenous Affairs Office at the City of Toronto.

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Monday June 16: Toronto delegation tours led by Arup, Arcadis & BDP and Canadian Delegation Dinner

Tuesday June 17: ULI Europe Conference AM & PM Project Tours

Wednesday June 18: ULI Europe Conference @ The Royal Lancaster

Thursday June 19 AM: C-Change Forum + ULI and PwC Emerging Trends in Real Estate



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