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## Application for a Grant

<b>Identification</b>			
This page will be made available to selection committee members and external assessors.			
Funding opportunity Partnership Grants			
Program name 1 - Insight 2 - Connection		Type of partnership New	
Supplementary Funding			
Application title Neighbourhood Inequality, Diversity, and Change: Trends, Processes, Consequences, and Policy Options for Canada's Large Metropolitan Areas			
Org. code 1350911	Full name of lead organization University of Toronto		
Applicant family name Hulchanski		Applicant given name J. David	Initials
Org. code 1350911	Full organization name University of Toronto		
Department/Division name Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work			
Does your proposal involve human beings as research subjects? If "Yes", consult the <i>Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans</i> and submit your proposal to your organization's Research Ethics Board.		Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/>	No <input type="radio"/>
Does your proposal involve activity that requires a permit, licence, or approval under any federal statute; or physical interaction with the environment? If 'Yes', complete Appendices A and B.		Yes <input type="radio"/>	No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
			Total
Total funds requested from SSHRC			<u>2,500,000</u>

Family name, Given name  
Hulchanski, J. David**Activity Details**

The information provided in this section refers to your research proposal.

**Keywords**

List keywords that best describe your proposed research or research activity. Separate keywords with a semicolon.

neighbourhood change; divided cities; socio-spatial inequality; concentrated poverty; housing; gentrification; labour market restructuring; immigrant settlement; Aboriginal issues; urban schooling; crime &amp; safety; urban policy; Canada

**Priority Areas** - Priority area(s) most relevant to your proposal.**Partnership Approaches**

One or more possible formal partnership approaches.

Cross-sector co-creation of knowledge &amp; understanding; Disciplinary and interdisciplinary research partnerships; Networks for research and/or related activities; Partnered knowledge mobilization

If "Other", specify

**Disciplines** - Indicate and rank up to 5 disciplines that best correspond to your proposal.

Rank	Code	Discipline	If "Other", specify
1	61402	Community Development	
2	63406	Social Processes	
3	61816	Urban Geography	
4	63208	Social Policy, Planning and Social Prevention	
5	61400	Urban and Regional Studies, Environmental Studies	

**Areas of Research**

Indicate and rank up to 3 areas of research related to your proposal.

Rank	Code	Area
1	000	Not Subject to Research Classification
2		
3		

**Temporal Periods**

If applicable, indicate up to 2 historical periods covered by your proposal.

From	To
<div>Year</div> <div>1945</div> <div>BC AD</div> <div><input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/></div> <div><input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/></div>	<div>Year</div> <div>2020</div> <div>BC AD</div> <div><input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/></div> <div><input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/></div>

Personal information will be stored in the Personal Information Bank for the appropriate program.

Application WEB



Family name, Given name

Hulchanski, J. David

## Summary of Proposed Partnership and Activity

The summary of your proposal should indicate the challenges or issues to be addressed; the overall goal and objectives of the proposed partnership; and the breadth of the partnership, and the meaningful engagement of the partners involved.

Affluent societies have become polarized by income and wealth. The many "Occupy Wall Street" demonstrations are but one indicator of an emerging crisis stemming from these disparities. The riots in a number of English neighbourhoods this summer, and in Paris six years ago, are clear signs that urban inequalities need to be better understood.

Social and spatial polarization undermine social cohesion, economic productivity and political stability. We are seeing some of the short-term effects; the potential for long-term civil conflicts are even more disturbing. In many cities, wealth and poverty are increasingly concentrated in disparate neighbourhoods that have unequal access to the benefits of urban life. In others, such inequalities are less stark. Can local or national policies and programs disrupt what seems to be an international trend in urban disparities?

This research project represents the first attempt to study these trends on a Canada-wide and comparative basis. Using a unique longitudinal and community-based design we will trace and analyze urban trends over four decades. We will accomplish this through three activities:

(1) We will map and analyse the concentration of wealth and poverty in six Canadian metropolitan areas -- Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto (including Hamilton and Oshawa), Montréal, and Halifax -- using Geographic Information Systems and related spatial techniques. We will investigate how these trends relate to intersecting forms of social exclusion arising from age, gender, race, ethnicity, Aboriginal identity, and immigration status. This analysis will then provide the basis for selecting specific neighbourhoods and specific issues and trends for in-depth qualitative studies using community-based participatory research approaches.

(2) We will compare similarities and differences in neighbourhood trends among the six CMAs, juxtaposing them to international examples. This will provide us with a basis for evaluating different forms and consequences of neighbourhood change in the local contexts.

(3) We will identify both broad public policies and specific local interventions that have the capacity to mitigate the effects of polarization and exclusion. Researchers in the six cities, with our partners, will work closely with local stakeholders, not only to gather information, but more importantly to develop and articulate the dimensions of effective responses to social polarization at the neighbourhood level.

This project has several unique aspects. First, the research will compile systematic and comparable knowledge on neighbourhood restructuring in major cities in Canada -- a country not previously included in comparative studies of neighbourhood change. Second, it will fill a gap in knowledge of how moderating factors explain different neighbourhood outcomes in Canada and other Western nations. Third, identifying the causes and consequences of neighbourhood change will be essential in evaluating current and proposed policies and programs to address social inequality. Fourth, whereas most studies of neighbourhood change have been confined to the past 10 or 15 years, this research will cover a 40-year time span (1970-present) allowing for a deeper understanding of the forces at work and their impacts. Fifth, we will engage in national and international knowledge exchange and local capacity-building. Our focus will be on policy responses and program options that the data from this project show have the capability, the power, to address the consequences of urban inequality.

This is both an Insight and Connections proposal. Our local partners in the six CMAs and our national partners will participate in the governance, the research and with dissemination.



UNIVERSITY OF  
TORONTO

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT, RESEARCH

Professor R. Paul Young, Ph.D., FRSC  
*Vice President, Research*

October 26, 2011

Éric Bastien,  
Acting Director, Partnerships Portfolio  
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada  
Constitution Square, 350 Albert Street  
Ottawa, ON K1P 6G4

Dear M. Bastien:

**Re: Full Proposal to the Partnership Grant Program, Professor J. David Hulchanski**

On behalf of the University of Toronto, I am pleased to offer an exciting Partnership Grant proposal that uses a neighbourhood perspective to explore alarming shifts in our national urban centres. Neighbourhood-level analysis for six metropolitan areas in one country is a first for Canada and the world. The partners will offer insights of domestic and international relevance to communities, local governments, provincial and national policymakers and, indeed, the wider public. This project is particularly important as Canada and other post-industrialized nations grapple with challenges as a result of the growth in income and wealth polarization in our cities.

I affirm the University of Toronto's role as the host institution. We support the partnership's strategies to achieve the proposal's goals and outcomes. Further, the work envisioned succinctly fits three of the priority themes identified in the University's Strategic Research Plan: Urban Environment, Public Policy, and Groups, Networks and Localities. I also note the successful CURA project led by Prof. Hulchanski which provided important new insights that continue to grow in relevance beyond the City of Toronto, to both the public and the academy overall.

I am also pleased to confirm that the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, the Cities Centre, and the Office of Provost, the University of Toronto have committed \$310,000 in total cash and in-kind resources. The partnership is also well on its way to achieving the 35% minimum match required by SSHRC. We believe that the partners will be successful and we look forward to learning the outcome of the adjudication process.

Yours sincerely,

R. Paul Young, Ph.D., FRSC  
Vice-President, Research

**Peter N. Lewis, Ph.D.**  
**Associate Vice-President, Research**  
**University of Toronto**



Social Sciences and Humanities  
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en  
sciences humaines du Canada

Family name, Given name  
Hulchanski, J. David

## Partner's Contributions

A partner is an organization that participates actively in a formal partnership and contributes in a meaningful way to the success of the endeavour.

	Cash	In-kind
	Amount	Amount
<b>Personnel costs</b>		
<b>Student salaries and benefits/Stipends</b>		
Undergraduate	0	0
Masters	0	0
Doctorate	0	0
<b>Non-student salaries and benefits/Stipends</b>		
Postdoctoral	0	0
Other	0	0
<b>Travel and subsistence costs</b>		
<b>Applicant/Team member(s)</b>		
Canadian travel	0	2,000
Foreign travel	0	0
<b>Students</b>		
Canadian travel	0	0
Foreign travel	0	0
<b>Other expenses</b>		
<b>Professional/Technical services</b>	0	473,400
<b>Supplies</b>	0	0
<b>Non-disposable equipment</b>		
Computer hardware	0	0
Other	0	0
<b>Other expenses (specify)</b>		
	0	40,000
<b>Total of all partners' contributions</b>	0	515,400
<b>A. Total of all partners' contributions (cash + in-kind)</b>		515,400
<b>B. Total funds from other sources</b> (University of Toronto)		310,000
<b>C. Total funds requested from SSHRC</b>		2,500,000
<b>Total cost of project (A + B + C)</b>		3,325,400



## Previous SSHRC Funding

This proposed partnership grows out of a SSHRC CURA that was focused on the catchment area of St. Christopher House (our lead community partner on the CURA initiative) in west-central Toronto, and from a related SSHRC Public Outreach Grant that focused on dissemination of our team's findings relating to income trends in the Montréal, Toronto and Vancouver census metropolitan areas (CMAs). We have studied some aspects of the City of Toronto in great depth and we have a few very general findings about the Toronto, Montréal, and Vancouver CMAs. The work that led to the findings, the methodological lessons learned during the CURA grant's tenure, as well as the important issues that remain to be studied in depth, has led to the decision to submit this Partnership Grant proposal with the deeper and wider perspectives herein proposed.

***The SSHRC CURA:*** Several of the members of the proposed research team studied the general trends in Toronto as participants in the "Neighbourhood Change" CURA project (2005–2011, [www.NeighbourhoodChange.ca](http://www.NeighbourhoodChange.ca)). This research not only tested quantitative and qualitative methods for identifying important trends in large and small projects (see Hulchanski, 2007, 2009; Murdie, 2008, 2011; Murdie & Ghosh, 2010; Murdie & Teixeira, 2011; Walks, 2010a; Walks & August, 2008; Walks & Maaranen, 2008a, 2008b), but also developed policy and program options (see Hulchanski & Fair, 2008) and effectively communicated both to a broad public in the Toronto area (including large front-page articles in *The Globe and Mail*, 20 Dec. 2007 and 15 Dec. 2010, and major 1½- and 2½-page articles in *The Toronto Star*, on 2 May 2008 and 8 Feb. 2009, and a 2/3rds page op-ed with tables and map on 25 October 2011). Building upon this base, this proposed partnership grant, systematically analyzing and comparing six Canadian CMAs with the advice and assistance of important community partners, has the potential not only to contribute new knowledge about neighbourhood-scale restructuring to a Canadian and a global audience, but also to act as a template for future international and comparative research. The SSHRC CURA demonstrated what could be learned about one city within the Toronto metropolitan area and in turn, generated curiosity for next steps in a larger, collaborative, partner-based initiative.

***The SSHRC Public Outreach Grant:*** Professors Rose (INRS, Montréal) and Ley (UBC, Vancouver) were key members of the Toronto SSHRC CURA who offered guidance to the research, and who engaged in exploratory comparative analysis among Canada's largest three cities – though the budget for this was limited. The findings proved significant enough to warrant application for, and successfully obtaining, a SSHRC Outreach Grant which facilitated dissemination of the findings from this initial exploratory research on socio-spatial trends over the 1970 to 2005 period. The Partnership Grant will allow us to move from the exploratory stage to a full research agenda, as articulated in this proposal. The impact, therefore, of SSHRC funding is that it has facilitated the research, the dissemination, and indeed, the generation of an even wider opportunity to propose examining inequality, diversity, and change in Canada's large metropolitan areas from the perspective of 'neighbourhood' for the first time.

Neighbourhood Inequality, Diversity, and Change:  
Trends, Processes, Consequences, and Policy Options for Canada's Large Metropolitan Areas

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## 1. Aim, importance, originality, and expected contribution of the research partnership

*Neighbourhoods are becoming the new fault line of social isolation and spatial separation.*

*Can neighbourhood interventions help achieve greater social inclusion?*

Cities are becoming increasingly segregated spatially on the basis of socio-economic and ethno-cultural divisions (Bunting & Filion, 2010; Caldeira, 2000; Glasze et al., 2006; Marcuse & van Kempen, 2000a). In their book on urban trends in globalizing cities, Marcuse & van Kempen (2000a) warn that we can expect to see: *“strengthened structural spatial divisions among the quarters of the city, with increased inequality and sharper lines of division among them; wealthy quarters, housing those directly benefiting from increased globalization, and the quarters of the professionals, managers, and technicians that serve them, growing in size; ... quarters of those excluded from the globalizing economy, with their residents more and more isolated and walled in; ... continuing formation of immigrant enclaves of lower-paid workers; ... ghettoization of the excluded”* (p. 272).

We are starting to see some of the effects of these trends. Recent urban riots in England and France have illustrated what happens when poor households concentrate in certain districts where social, educational, and job opportunities are scarce. Such riots and looting may not be isolated local events, but rather signs of wider societal failures that impact on local neighbourhoods. These failures have been highlighted recently by the rapid spread of Occupy Wall Street-like demonstrations in cities around the world. It is becoming clear that the pattern of concentrated urban advantage and disadvantage can affect the life chances of urban residents in terms of health, education, and employment and contribute to political and economic instability (Anyon, 1997, 2005; Galster, 2008; van Ham & Manley, 2010).

Little is known about how these trends fit the Canadian context, although recent long-term analysis of neighbourhoods in Toronto (Hulchanski, 2010) has established that Canada is not immune to growing socio-spatial inequalities. Systematic quantitative and qualitative research on inequalities in Canada's major cities in comparison with selected cities in other countries is needed to expand and deepen this analysis to include the diversity of the Canadian urban experience, especially at the neighbourhood level.

We intend to examine the nature, causes, and consequences of socio-spatial inequality and polarization in six major Canadian census metropolitan areas (CMAs), using longitudinal data on their neighbourhoods spanning 40 years: Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto (including Hamilton and Oshawa), Montréal, and Halifax. In 2006 these urban regions had a combined population of 14 million (44% of Canada). Between 2001 and 2006, they received 80% of Canada's immigrants and accounted for 70% of Canada's population growth. Our research, however, requires that we break down these aggregate statistics to identify local processes, variations, and responses.

Working with local community partners, we aim to identify and analyse changes in the socioeconomic status, ethno-cultural composition, and spatial outcomes of neighbourhoods in the six urban areas. We will identify similarities and differences among neighbourhoods; seek explanations for the observed changes, and identify implications for economic integration, social cohesion, equity, and quality of life that will contribute to the international literature on divided cities. Finally, we will propose policy and program responses to address and overcome inequalities. Taking a participatory and community-based approach to the research will not only contribute valuable insights, but will also help develop community capacity to address and perhaps reduce future socio-spatial inequities.

Spatial analysis makes it possible to analyse social trends and emerging issues at the neighbourhood level, and isolate factors and interactions that contribute to change. Community-university collaborations also offer a way to address the impacts of socio-spatial inequality. Our research partnership brings together a team to tackle two major substantive and policy challenges: a research challenge about identifying the trajectories, causes, and consequences of neighbourhood trends and a policy challenge about responding to social change at the neighbourhood level. A number of research questions associated with these challenges

are identified in Section 4. Projects such as this one also face a number of methodological challenges about how to best undertake the research. For example, what are the most appropriate and insightful methods of research on neighbourhood trends, processes, consequences, and policies? Which variables are the most useful in identifying trends? How can we engage local partners and neighbourhood residents in the research? These will be addressed at the beginning of the project and reconsidered throughout.

The research will enhance our understanding of contemporary inequalities in Canadian cities, thereby improving the potential for effective policy development and program implementation by civil society actors and all levels of government. The 40-year study period will provide a foundation for research and policy analysis long into the future. This research will position Canadian researchers as global leaders in identifying, understanding, and addressing issues of inequality, diversity, and change in our urbanized world. More broadly, the research will contribute to a public debate about social and economic inequalities in Canadian cities and their implications, and how public policies and decisions affect spatial inequalities.

**Context.** Decades of post-industrial economic restructuring have eliminated jobs in primary and secondary sectors and created a polarized labour market (Chen, Myles and Picot, 2011). The global economy has also increased immigration to large “magnet” cities in Canada and other countries, a trend that has in some cases led to the concentration of certain ethnic groups in certain neighbourhoods. Further, for the last three decades, political, economic, and social policy has reflected the philosophy of neoliberalism, facilitating the operation of market forces, principles, and practices (Brown, 2006; Gray, 2007; Hackworth, 2007; Harvey, 2005; McBride & McNutt, 2007). The retreat from the welfare state philosophy of the mid-20th century produced major policy shifts that have redistributed poverty and affluence across the urban fabric.

**Bringing Canada in: becoming a global leader.** International comparative research on urban change in specific metropolitan areas has largely focused on European and American cities. Moreover, little of the research on trends in major cities has identified how these changes affect specific urban districts and neighbourhoods. Our research will seek quantitative and qualitative explanations for the trends we identify; compare the Canadian situation to other countries; explore the successes and failures of policy responses in Canada and elsewhere; energize the process of meaningful engagement by governments, NGOs, and communities; and identify effective ways to reduce socio-spatial inequities and enhance social, economic, and political justice. The research will position Canadian scholars and practitioners as global leaders in identifying, understanding, and addressing inequality, diversity, and change in our urbanized world.

## 2. Literature

Recent decades have witnessed a vigorous scholarly debate about increased social divisions within society, the way in which these divisions manifest themselves at the neighbourhood level, and their significance for social sustainability (Friskén et al., 2000; Séguin and Germain, 2000). Cities have long been divided into many different kinds of neighbourhoods. *What is different from previous periods, and has yet to be thoroughly studied in Canada, is the nature and extent of the changes in these social and spatial divisions, and their causes, consequences, and policy implications.*

**The global trend: divided cities.** The primary rationale for our research derives from the divided cities literature (Hulchanski, 2010; Kazemipur & Halli, 2000; Marcuse, 1989, 1997, 2002; Marcuse & van Kempen, 2000a; van Kempen, 2007; van Kempen & Murie, 2009; Walks, 2001, 2010a). These authors argue that contemporary cities exhibit increasing social and spatial divides that undermine social and economic opportunities for disadvantaged communities and may foster political and economic instability.

Cities with a particularly sharp socio-spatial dichotomy have been called divided cities (Fainstein et al., 1992), dual cities (Mollenkopf & Castells, 1991), polarized or fragmented cities (Burgers & Musterd, 2002; Walks, 2001), partitioned cities (Marcuse, 2002; Marcuse & van Kempen, 2002), and unequal or unfairly structured cities (Badcock, 1984; Hamnett, 2003). Urban case studies of divided cities are beginning to appear (e.g., Hanlon & Vicino, 2007; Musterd & Ostendorf, 1998; O’Loughlin & Friedrichs,



1996), as are nation-wide typologies of different metropolitan areas (e.g., Hanlon, 2009). Less is known, however, about how moderating factors explain different outcomes in different countries; most scholars offer hypotheses for empirical testing rather than authoritative conclusions. Robust empirical work such as that proposed here can provide the necessary basis for both theoretical development and policy proposals.

Our research initiative is timely. Ample evidence reveals a general increase of income and wealth inequalities in many Western nations, including Canada (OECD, 2008). The growth of private and gated communities in Canada (Grant et al., 2004; Townshend, 2006; Walks, 2010b) suggests the retreat of the affluent and the elderly. Meanwhile, spaces in the central city previously occupied by the marginalized face the threat of gentrification (Ley & Dobson, 2008; Skaburskis, 2010; Slater, 2006; Walks and Maaranen, 2008a). After a century of immigrant integration in Canada, new patterns of ethno-cultural segregation are emerging in the postwar suburbs and in social housing (Grant & Perrott, 2009; Murdie, 1994, 2008; Walks and Bourne, 2006). These patterns raise important questions about the advantages and disadvantages of ethnic segregation as a means of achieving social integration and the challenge of building multi-ethnic communities (Phillips, 2010; Phillips, Simpson & Ahmed, 2008).

Even slow-growing cities are experiencing socio-spatial inequalities. In Winnipeg, some areas have experienced tremendous residential turnover as indigenous populations move into and out of neighbourhoods and to and from remote communities or reserves. In Halifax, limited job opportunities mean that young people who migrate to the city may not stay there (Grant & Kronstal, 2010; Greater Halifax Partnership 2005). And given the popularity of downtown living, neighbourhoods in some cities that traditionally housed poorly paid cultural workers and other low-income households are ripe for gentrification, displacement, and redevelopment.

***From analysis to public policy:*** Our focus on neighbourhoods is in line with the increasing awareness of both researchers and policy makers of neighbourhoods' importance in people's lives. Neighbourhoods offer context to the routines of daily life, provide access to important supports and services (Murdie & Ghosh, 2010), and can contribute to perceived well-being (Ellaway et al., 2001). They serve as consumption niches for marketers and developers (Forrest, 2000; Forrest & Kearns, 2001) and spaces that play vital specialized social roles (Bourne, 2007; Forrest, 2000; Hulchanski, 2009). A large and growing literature investigates so-called "neighbourhood effects": that is, living in a poor and marginalized neighbourhood has a negative effect on residents' life chances over and above the effect of individual characteristics (see Dietz, 2002; Ellen and Turner, 1997; Galster, 2002). Scholars, however, debate the significance, strength and causal direction of neighbourhood effects (Andersson and Musterd, 2010; Durlauf, 2004; Galster, Andersson and Musterd, 2010). There is no question that inequality is concentrated in certain neighbourhoods, but it is less certain that living in disadvantaged neighbourhoods causes inequality (Oreopoulos, 2003; van Ham and Manley, 2010). Nevertheless, a better understanding of how neighbourhoods affect people's lives and how public policies foster, reinforce, or mitigate neighbourhood inequalities will be useful in developing urban policies.

The required policies must be based on a clearer understanding of local and global trends. Moreover, a better-informed public could contribute to debates on policy options for each city. For example, educational policy discourses have for too long blamed educational underachievement on communities, homes, and young people (see Gallagher, 2007), rather than on the concentration of particular problems in certain schools. Policy makers and researchers are also starting to question what the aging of the population means for disadvantaged neighbourhoods in the context of ethno-cultural diversity (Aronson & Neysmith, 2001; Clarke, Ailshire & Lantz, 2009; Hiebert, Schuurman, & Smith, 2007; Michelson and Tepperman, 2003; Patterson & Chapman, 2004; WHO, 2007).

***The Toronto project:*** The proposed project builds on previous work (Hulchanski 2007, 2011) that identified and mapped trends in neighbourhood inequality in Toronto over 35 years, using census tracts as a proxy for neighbourhoods. This ground-breaking work has been extensively analyzed and widely taken up in the mass media, teaching, public policy discussions, and community programs. Bringing to bear

additional data sources, expertise from multiple policy areas, and qualitative case study data, this multidisciplinary, six-city partnership offers the opportunity to consolidate and build upon current neighbourhood-focused research and interventions by municipalities and non-governmental organizations across Canada.

This proposed project takes up the challenge of analyzing neighbourhood restructuring trends and processes in large Canadian cities, analyzing and evaluating explanations for the trends, and proposing programs and policies that can address growing socio-spatial inequalities among urban neighbourhoods.

### 3. Conceptual framework

Figure 1 summarizes the conceptual framework of the proposed research. It depicts the major factors affecting neighbourhood change, indicates how they are related, and links these factors to our research questions and to contextual forces that help explain neighbourhood change.

Global, national, and regional economic, social, political and cultural forces (Box 1, macro level forces) and individual household preferences and constraints (Box 2, micro-level forces) affect the social geography of metropolitan areas (Box 3). It is the *socio-spatial change over time in metropolitan areas* (all of Box 3) that we seek to better understand. Urban residential environments (neighbourhoods) are continually changing socially and physically due to neighbourhood restructuring processes (Box 4), household decisions, including decisions about where to live (Box 5), and the existing pattern of socio-spatial inequality within each metropolitan area (Box 6). The change in a metropolitan area is shaped not only by macro and micro forces (Boxes 1 and 2), but also by government and non-governmental policies and programs (Box 7). Urban spatial inequality and ethno-cultural spatial segregation are always in flux (there are strong and weak feedback loops), further influencing households' mobility decisions. Such decisions produce the trends in socio-spatial change that can be analyzed and better understood if studied over several decades in a comparative framework.

Each household's socioeconomic and ethno-cultural characteristics confer advantage or disadvantage. Some households can choose *when* and *where* to move; others are severely constrained. These differences in the degree of freedom to choose relate to individual and household characteristics: income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, immigration status, Aboriginal identity, and disability, and to the nature of local housing markets. Policies and programs (Box 7) affect neighbourhood restructuring (Box 4), household mobility decisions (Box 5), and the urban spatial outcomes of increasing or decreasing inequality and polarization (Box 6). Some policies are causal; others are reactive (but may in turn become causal).

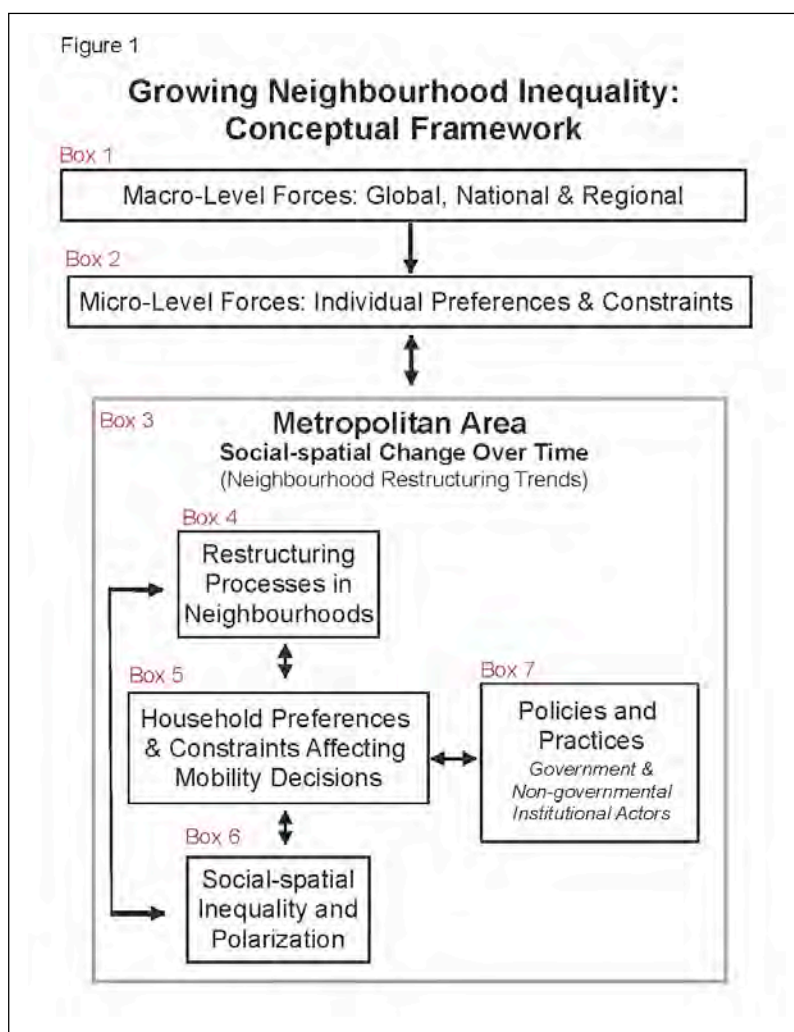


Figure 2 identifies the three major questions that will guide the research. Proceeding from our analysis of socio-spatial changes over four decades in selected metropolitan areas, we will examine the nature of the social and physical neighbourhood restructuring trends and processes at play (Question 1), the consequences of socio-spatial inequality and polarization (Question 2), and the policy and program responses (or lack thereof), including the development of alternative policies and programs (Question 3).

*Hypothesis:* Drawing on the conceptual framework in Figure 1, research hypotheses might

include: Neighbourhood socio-spatial inequality and polarization (Box 6) is a function of (a) macro-level factors (Box 1) + (b) micro-level forces (Box 2) + (c) neighbourhood effects (Box 4) + (d) local housing/labour/market/ policy effects (Box 7) + (e) place-specific (CMA) effects. The latter are hard to incorporate visually into Figure 1, although we might expect to find differences by size of city, local area growth rates, provincial policy context, political culture, demographic characteristics, and the economic structure and geography of the metropolitan areas. Our comparative analysis is designed to evaluate these CMA effects.

#### 4. Research Questions

Figure 2: Major Research Questions		
Q 1	<b>Neighbourhood Restructuring Trends &amp; Processes</b> <i>How are neighbourhoods changing and what processes explain the trends?</i>	Box 1, 2, 4 & 5
Q 2	<b>Consequences of Socio-spatial Inequality and Polarization</b> <i>What are the implications of these processes for economic integration, social cohesion, equity, and quality of life?</i>	Box 6
Q 3	<b>Policies and Programs</b> <i>What policy responses and program options are capable of addressing the consequences of socio-spatial inequality at the neighbourhood, community, and city-wide levels?</i>	Box 7

**Q #1: Neighbourhood Restructuring Trends and Processes:** What changes have occurred in Canadian urban neighbourhoods in the last 40 years. What are the differences between neighbourhoods within specific cities and between cities? How do we explain neighbourhood changes and trends, and the similarities and differences within and between CMAs? What is the extent and spatial distribution of economic inequality, ethno-cultural differentiation, and concentration of characteristics such as Aboriginal identity, youth, ethnicity, immigration status, and poverty in different areas? What are the similarities and differences among the CMAs with respect to changes in the socio-economic character and ethno-cultural composition of their neighbourhoods? What variables are specific to Canadian urban neighbourhood change? Which neighbourhoods can yield a deeper understanding of these phenomena? How does increasing neighbourhood inequality observed in Toronto, and presumably other Canadian cities, compare with inequalities in the cities of other nations? Why has Canada, which is similar in many ways to the other Western nations, not (yet) experienced urban riots, anti-immigrant backlash, rising crime levels, severely deteriorated neighbourhoods, and the like?

**Q #2: Consequences of Socio-spatial Inequality and Polarization:** How do neighbourhood changes in Canada's large cities affect people's life chances, educational outcomes, employment opportunities, mobility, access to resources, and social attitudes? What are the consequences of neighbourhood trends for issues such as immigrant settlement, urban schooling, youth involvement in the criminal justice system, the well-being of Aboriginal people, and the development of age-friendly neighbourhoods? What impacts have interventions at the neighbourhood level had on these trends? What factors promote resilience among residents and neighbourhoods? What examples of community intervention have yielded positive results?

**Q #3 Policies and Programs:** What neighbourhood-level interventions are most effective in mitigating the effects of socio-spatial inequalities? How can we ensure that youth, newcomers, low-income households, ethno-cultural minorities, Aboriginal people, and the elderly are successfully included in the mainstream of society? How do policies and programs in housing, education, immigration, criminal justice, and income security moderate or exacerbate the impacts of socio-spatial inequality? What roles can different levels of government, NGOs, and the private sector play in reducing inequalities? How can we develop support for public policy measures to reduce inequality?

## 5. Research Activities

**Our approach & methods.** Figure 3 shows the three major activities of our proposed research: **(A)** collaborative neighbourhood change studies; **(B)** comparative analysis of neighbourhood trends; and **(C)** mobilizing knowledge to address neighbourhood inequality, diversity and change.

For the purposes of data analysis, we consider a neighbourhood as an area defined statistically as a census tract (an average of about 4,500 people in the Canadian Census). Data available at the census tract level allow us to make appropriate statistical and qualitative comparisons to track how change is occurring in each of the cities being studied. At the same time, we acknowledge the limitations of this proxy: in many ways, a statistical unit does not always approximate a meaningful social and spatial unit for local residents. However, our community-based case studies of neighbourhood change will be carried out in “neighbourhoods” as they are defined by local organizations and residents.

For **Activity A** (collaborative neighbourhood change studies), we draw upon a longitudinal analysis of census tract data, including variables such as age, household structure, immigration, ethnicity, income, employment, and housing, to map cross-sectional patterns for each CMA at each census year from 1971 to 2006, updating to add 2011 census results, recognizing that not all of these variables will be available for 2011. Information for each CMA will be enhanced with data from other sources such as school board, policing, and tax records, as well as findings from local research, particularly studies conducted by our partners. Working collaboratively with academic and community-based partners across Canada, we will identify neighbourhood types, select specific neighbourhoods for in-depth study, and develop a common research protocol to enable comparisons across CMAs while allowing for local iterations (similar to the approach taken by the Mental Health Commission of Canada in its At Home / Chez Soi project). For our in-depth neighbourhood case studies, we will employ community-based methods through which residents and students will be hired and trained to gather and analyze data through key informant interviews, focus groups, and innovative methods such as participatory mapping and photo-voice.

For **Activity B** (comparative analysis of neighbourhood trends among CMAs, both Canadian and international), we will bring together the quantitative and qualitative data gathered in Activity A to draw comparisons between the six CMAs. Using local analyses as well as international examples, we will place the different forms and consequences of neighbourhood change in their local and provincial policy contexts. In collaboration with our international co-investigators, we will compare neighbourhood inequality in Canadian CMAs with comparator cities in the US and Europe.

For **Activity C** (mobilizing knowledge to address neighbourhood inequality), we will work closely with our partners and relevant community organizations and agencies to evaluate policies and programs in education, immigration, youth, aging, criminal justice, housing, employment, and income security that influence trends, positively or negatively, at both the macro and local levels. In dialogue with partners, policy-makers, and other stakeholders, we will work to define options, large and small, that can make a difference. While social change is a slow process, our contribution will be to better inform residents and stakeholders, leading to enhanced debate and decision-making.

**Figure 3: Organization of Research Activities** Coordinators

<b>Activity A</b>	<b>COLLABORATIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD CHANGE STUDIES:</b> local teams using similar mixed-methods approaches, with partners guiding the issues to be explored and informing the analysis of the data; a designated team manager: Vancouver (Ley), Calgary (Townshend), Winnipeg (Distasio), Toronto (Walks), Montreal (Rose), Halifax (Grant).	Grant Walks
<b>Activity B</b>	<b>COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD TRENDS (Canada &amp; selected international):</b> collaborative groups focused on specific research questions comparing similarities and differences among the CMAs and international comparators; evaluating physical and social processes that may explain similarities/differences.	Hiebert Murdie
<b>Activity C</b>	<b>MOBILIZING KNOWLEDGE TO ADDRESS NEIGHBOURHOOD INEQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND CHANGE:</b> team members mobilize knowledge on key themes across different disciplines to bring an improved understanding of the issues and to evaluate policies and programs.	Gallagher Preston



## 6. General Research Themes

While the Activities bring structure to our task, the purpose is to better understand what is happening in key policy areas. The themes are distinct, yet intersect. They not only emerge from a close reading of the existing literature, but also represent the interests and expertise of our research team. Their exact specifications will be defined as we learn more about socio-spatial trends. New themes may be added. All will be examined through multidisciplinary perspectives with guidance from and the participation of our partners.

### ***Youth, criminal justice, urban schooling:***

We will investigate the relationships between neighbourhood safety and educational outcomes, particularly in disadvantaged neighbourhoods, given well-documented evidence of achievement gaps in education based on socio-economic disparity and ethnic affiliation, and growing concerns over school safety. The research will then examine the implications for policy to address these issues for ever-more-diverse populations of students in communities often subject to increased forms of school surveillance and security.

***Age-friendly neighbourhoods:*** We will study the social service and social isolation issues that emerge as the population of a neighbourhood ages, and the issues of diverse neighbourhoods that include many older persons. These themes intersect with the changing ethno-cultural profile of older persons as either established residents or recent immigrants and with transportation problems in neighbourhoods built since the 1950s. These questions, common to all Canadian cities, are important for governments and social agencies. This work will be linked to that of the World Health Organization's Age Friendly Cities movement.

***Immigrant settlement, immigration status, and integration/marginalization:*** We will investigate the increased vulnerability of new immigrants and refugees, including those with precarious status (refugee claimants, temporary foreign workers, non-status immigrants), as they locate in large numbers in neighbourhoods that have few social and ethno-specific services and poor access to transit. The research will identify housing- and neighbourhood-level policies and programs to enhance immigrants' prospects for successful integration.

***Adequate housing and highrise neighbourhoods:*** We will investigate the increasing concentration of low-income households in highrise apartments built in the 1960s and 1970s, and assess programs developed in some locations to address the deteriorating housing stock, geographical isolation, and limited access to social and other services that typify many highrise developments (Smith and Ley 2008).

***Urban Aboriginal issues:*** Despite the migration of Aboriginal peoples to major urban centres from First Nation communities, barriers prevent them from participating in and contributing to their neighbourhoods. We will investigate housing, homelessness, access to services, employment, and discrimination, with a view to developing neighbourhood-level interventions.

***Income and access to jobs:*** We will investigate how changes in the location of employment and the mix of occupations in Canadian metropolitan areas affect the incomes of vulnerable workers, particularly women, immigrants, youth, and people with disabilities. The research will evaluate how the relocation of jobs has contributed to an uneven landscape of geographical access to employment for people with various occupations and educational attainments. Where possible, the studies will also investigate how transit

Figure 4: Cross-disciplinary Thematic Teams

Theme	Initial Team
<b>Youth, Criminal Justice, &amp; Urban Schooling</b>	K. Gallagher, Education; S. Wortley, Criminology; D. Cowen, Geography; C. Fusco, Physical Education & Health
<b>Age Friendly Neighbourhoods</b>	S. Neysmith, Social Work; J. Grant, Planning; V. Preston, Geography; I. Townshend, Geography; C. Fusco, Physical Education & Health
<b>Immigrant Settlement &amp; Integration / Marginalization</b>	R. Bhuyan, Social Work; A. Germain, Sociology; S. Ghosh, Geography; D. Hiebert, Geography; D. Ley, Geography; R. Murdie, Geography; V. Preston, Geography; D. Rose, Geography
<b>Adequate Housing &amp; Highrise Neighbourhoods</b>	L. Bourne, Geography/Planning; D. Hulchanski, Social Work; D. Ley, Geography
<b>Urban Aboriginal Issues</b>	J. Distasio, Urban Studies; C. Leo, Political Science
<b>Income &amp; Access to Jobs</b>	L. Bourne, Geography/Planning; A. Walks, Geography; P. Hess, Geography; J. Myles, Sociology; B. Miller, Social Sciences



initiatives and place-based policies designed to attract employers affect the employment and income prospects of different social groups.

## **7. Potential Contribution and Impact**

***Potential for long-term viability & future contributions.*** This research, with its first-ever thorough documentation and analysis of long-term socio-spatial trends, provides the basis for future scholars, government policy analysts, and local and national NGOs and social agencies to build upon and explore related issues in greater depth. This partnership will establish meaningful and long-lasting regional and national connections between the research teams and government departments at all levels, as well as NGOs, social agencies, and communities, as we build a knowledge base and identify important trends and issues. This knowledge will contribute to better-informed policies and programs aimed at reducing socio-spatial inequalities, thereby enhancing social and economic inclusiveness. This research will provide the broader context for those issues and test hypotheses about causal factors.

***Likelihood of influence and impact within or beyond the social sciences community.*** In each of the CMAs, with our partners, we will establish *Local Neighbourhood Research Networks* to allow community stakeholders to participate in the research. This structure reflects a lesson learned in the Toronto Neighbourhood Change CURA, which established the Toronto Neighbourhoods Research Network (see [www.TNRN.ca](http://www.TNRN.ca)). This network is an effective forum for two-way communication: researchers share project findings, and community partners share their research and related activities. We will also host scholarly symposia with international researchers to further this exchange, always providing community-oriented forums and sessions as part of the agenda. The CURA project also provides a model for disseminating findings to non-academics through maps, newsletters, magazine-format publications, and the web.

Many neighbourhood studies in Canada employ community-based participatory research (CBPR) methods to gather rich data and build local capacity. In the health sciences, CBPR is increasingly used not only in small local studies but also in ambitious comparative research across multiple cities (such as the Mental Health Commission of Canada's At Home / Chez Soi project). By taking a CBPR approach, we will help those working with and living in the neighbourhoods adversely affected by socio-spatial polarization to develop skills and insights they can use to advance their interests in future.

***Meeting the program objectives of Insight and Connections.*** The research team is drawn mainly from five disciplines: geography, sociology, social work, education, and urban planning. With our partners in the public, private, and non-profit sectors, we will expand understanding of key Canadian urban trends from cross-disciplinary and cross-sectoral perspectives, and support new approaches to research on the complex and important topic of neighbourhood inequality, diversity and change. This unprecedented cross-Canada collaboration will provide a platform for new insights and position Canada as a global leader in cross-disciplinary analysis of urban trends.



Family name, Given name

Hulchanski, J. David

## Expected Outcomes Summary

Describe the potential benefits/outcomes (e.g., evolution, effects, potential learning, implications) that could emerge from the proposed research and/or other partnership activities.

The research will enhance our understanding of contemporary inequalities in Canadian cities, thereby improving the potential for policy development and action within the cities studied and at higher levels of government. The 40-year study period will provide a foundation for research and policy analysis by other scholars. The research will include interdisciplinary work, team projects, research partnerships with community groups and governments, and mentoring graduate students. More broadly, the research will contribute to a public debate about social and economic inequalities in Canadian cities and their implications. This research will position Canadian researchers as global leaders in identifying, understanding, and addressing inequality, diversity, and change in our urbanized world.

### SCHOLARLY BENEFITS

1. The research will enhance understanding of social trends at the neighbourhood level through a national, interdisciplinary, comparative study that will provide mechanisms for collaboration across disciplines to enhance the depths of insight on social trends.
2. The research will use new mixed-methods of spatial analysis to analyse social trends at the neighbourhood level, and isolate the factors and interactions that contribute to change.
3. The research will produce comparable databases for six Canadian cities that will allow for multiple forms of analysis by scholars in Canada and elsewhere.

### SOCIAL BENEFITS

1. The ultimate goal is to develop neighbourhood-level interventions to mitigate the effects of socio-spatial inequalities, developed in conjunction with and tested by community participants through community-based participatory research methods.
2. We are looking for ways to ensure that youth, newcomers, low-income households, ethnocultural minorities, and the elderly are successfully integrated into the mainstream of society, since socio-economic status continues to be the single-most powerful predictor of outcomes in education, health, longevity, citizenship and other important areas of life.
3. In our research dissemination efforts, we intend to focus public attention on how the pattern of concentrated urban advantage and disadvantage contributes to political and economic instability and develop support for public policy measures to reduce inequality.

### AUDIENCES

1. Policy makers: the scale of this research will draw attention to countrywide trends and issues that require policy responses at all levels of government.
2. The general public, facilitated by the media: these issues need to be part of public discourse; only with public support will policy makers develop appropriate responses to the trends.
3. Researchers: the methods we use and the databases we build will be shared with others so that this research will be a foundation for other projects, including graduate student research.
4. Students at all levels: social inequalities and the way they affect social cohesion should be part of the curriculum of social science programs from middle school to university.
5. Community-based NGOs: Though they already know and understand many of the issues at the grassroots level, they need the support and additional tools research and analysis provides.

**SUMMARY:** The ultimate purpose of this research is to understand, and thereby change the trajectory of Canadian society, from inequality and the isolation of certain social groups to a more inclusive society in which youth have hope for the future, newcomers are welcomed, the elderly have support in their communities, Aboriginal people are not isolated from mainstream society, and those on low incomes can be contributing members of a community.

## **Description of Formal Partnership**

### **1. Why a partnership approach is appropriate**

The impact of various forms of neighbourhood change on the social fabric of metropolitan areas is of increasing concern throughout affluent Western nations. Moreover, there is an ever increasing burden on municipalities and local organizations and social agencies in meeting the many challenges of large and dynamic cities. With socio-spatial polarization, increased inequality, intensifying poverty, homelessness, the expansion of precarious employment, and the ever-increasing devolution of financial and administrative responsibility from upper tiers of government, the fiscal burden on Canadian municipalities is tremendous.

A few years ago, St. Christopher House and Social Planning Toronto brought together a group of Toronto's social agencies to discuss their research priorities. At that meeting, the representatives of these agencies made the case that socio-economic, socio-spatial, and ethno-cultural neighbourhood change in big cities like Toronto needed to be better understood. Partnering with the University of Toronto and other stakeholders, this led to the successful SSHRC CURA proposal funded in 2005. That research partnership defined a research agenda and a host of specific research projects over five years that no one group acting alone would likely have developed. Community-university research partnerships bring together a unique combination of ideas and resources. On the one hand, for many academic researchers, a community-based approach to defining a research agenda is an essential part of their epistemology and methodology and provides particular insights into the reality of city life that would otherwise not be available. On the other hand, community researchers who partner with academics obtain research expertise well beyond that normally available to them. They know the issues in general but they also know that their knowledge, though first hand, is not necessarily in a context or framework that can lead to proper explanation and interventions. This symbiotic relationship between academic and community researchers is important in the successful carrying out of the research proposed in this application. For example, researchers may need access to specialized databases, specific population groups, and other forms of resources that only partners who know and trust the researchers can and will supply. In contrast, partners may not always have research staff with the right expertise to successfully undertake the research. Put succinctly, the interaction between academic and community researchers is mutually beneficial and in this case is essential to for achieving the goals of the research. There is a two-way learning and sharing dynamic as challenges are tackled between the university-based and community-based researchers, with many benefits for students and the more junior research staff.

### **2. How the partners will participate in the intellectual leadership of the partnership**

The large 7-year agenda that we will undertake must be based on an explicitly stated theoretical and conceptual framework that is continuously reviewed and improved as our work proceeds. A brief outline of our research plan, including a conceptual diagram, is presented elsewhere in this proposal (see section entitled "Goal and Project Description".) Our plan was refined and revised during a two-day workshop that was also focused on preparing our full proposal to SSHRC. The workshop was a purposeful mix of almost equal numbers of academics (professors and students) and community partners. The intellectual framing of the task grew out of the SSHRC CURA and last year's MCRI proposal. Thus, we were able to capitalize on our prior discussions. All partners offered a great deal of intellectual input as they have over the past few years with the previous CURA project, and our collective efforts at finessing the MCRI and this current Partnership Grant submissions.

This proposal and its conceptual framework are, of course, very broad. If funded, there will be a three-day team meeting of all partners to further refine our research action plan. In addition, there is a

local team of partners in each of the six CMAs that will begin meeting following the initial overall team meeting. Many of our partners have research staff and either engage in, or fund research. They will continue to be party to the intellectual leadership of this partnership. As noted elsewhere, there have already been various forms of research partnering between the university team and the partner organizations and their staff. Knowledge of one another and a history of on-going communication have built respect and trust, as may be evident in the letters submitted by partners.

In addition, staff from some of the partner organizations will at times be deeply engaged in the direction, implementation and analysis of specific research projects. Some will already be highly experienced, others not, which provides opportunity for synergy. Among the additional professors and students we bring into this current Partnership Grant proposal, some will have experience working with partners, others not. This is another excellent opportunity for synergy within the team and across the wider partnership. An objective of our training and mentoring throughout this proposed project is to be inclusive: to actively learn from one another.

### **3. The anticipated challenges in building the partnership, and how these will be addressed**

Our governance document explains how we will manage the project. This management is based on a great deal of experience. Partners sit on the Board of Directors but, more importantly, all our key meetings are open to all partners and team members who wish to participate. Technology allows this participation to take place efficiently. Consensus decision-making is the objective (our 5-year CURA Steering Committee never needed to vote on any matter).

The challenge is maintaining the appropriate level of central management over the governance process. Too cumbersome a process, too many meetings, meetings without good agendas, for example, all serve to discourage and alienate partners and participants alike. Here, again, experience counts. What some may see as details to be delegated elsewhere are in many cases central to effective partnership and must be given priority by the project's leadership.

The full time project manager will be tasked with ensuring effective communication with researchers, partners and stakeholders. They will be the point of contact for the research teams and will circulate the eBulletin series and updates to the stakeholders. The website will be integral for information sharing with the research project teams, partners and broader audiences.

The development of defined activities and timelines will ensure that deliverables and activities are carried out in a clear and transparent fashion. Researchers and partners can work collaboratively as their roles, responsibilities and goals have been defined and there is consultative process to mitigate problem issues as they arise.

### **4. How partners will benefit from their participation in the partnership**

Our partners know first hand that our proposed research initiative is timely. Ample evidence reveals a general increase of income and wealth inequalities that affect the spatial pattern of who lives where on the basis of socio-economic status in metropolitan areas. New and more intense spatial divisions based on ethno-cultural, demographic, and lifestyle factors, along with developer-led commodification of neighbourhoods, are changing Canadian cities in ways that are only beginning to be identified and studied. Most of our partners have as part of their mandates to either provide services and/or carry out research on pressing local issues. There is an extremely good match between what we propose to research and the practical information and critical insight that our partners need in order to better fulfill their mandates.

## **5. How your application integrates the expertise of all partners in order to conduct the activities**

Our academic team has vast experience in education and mentoring. Our partners have a great deal of experience with the services they provide and/or research they undertake. We know of no problems integrating the expertise of our entire team. While it seems to be a very larger undertaking, and it indeed is in many ways, it is comprised of many components. Integration, successful working together, will most easily take place in the many individual specific research projects. These comprise much of our workplan. The governance structure provides the overall co-ordination. But it is the specific research projects that will generate the new knowledge.

In addition, the partners will together provide meaningful and valued roles for students and for junior research staff from partner organizations and academic institutions, maximizing opportunities for strong mutual support among researchers and students.

## **6. How the partnership has evolved since the LOI stage**

We have taken the opportunity to focus even deeper on the goals of the project. While recognizing the work involved, and the benefits of seeing the outcomes of our work unfold, the partnership has, indeed, crystallized our vision, our objectives, and our plan. The time spent over the summer months provided opportunity for a great deal of collaboration, refining details, and consideration of points of view that, at times, were not always unanimous. The partnership itself is stronger as a result of the refining exercises and our goal to not only achieve what we wish to do, but to articulate a proposal that is even more compelling for SSHRC and the adjudication process than the LOI was.

Our efforts towards completing this proposal gained traction during a two-day team meeting in June. As we defined the initiative more specifically, we made decisions, and invited several additional partners and scholars. The partnership between university professors and the partner organizations took place both centrally – out of Toronto for the national partners – and also locally – in each of the six metropolitan areas in the case of the local partners. The team leader in each of the six metropolitan areas has been in discussion with potential partners, many of whom have agreed to engage with the project. The various drafts have been circulated for advice after the June meeting by phone and email. At this point, the partnership is anxious to proceed with our work.

In summary, the process of preparing the proposal has been evidence of solid partnerships and strong collaborations with researchers and partners. This team is well situated to train, mentor new researchers and community leaders as well as be an international leader in knowledge mobilization and local capacity building.



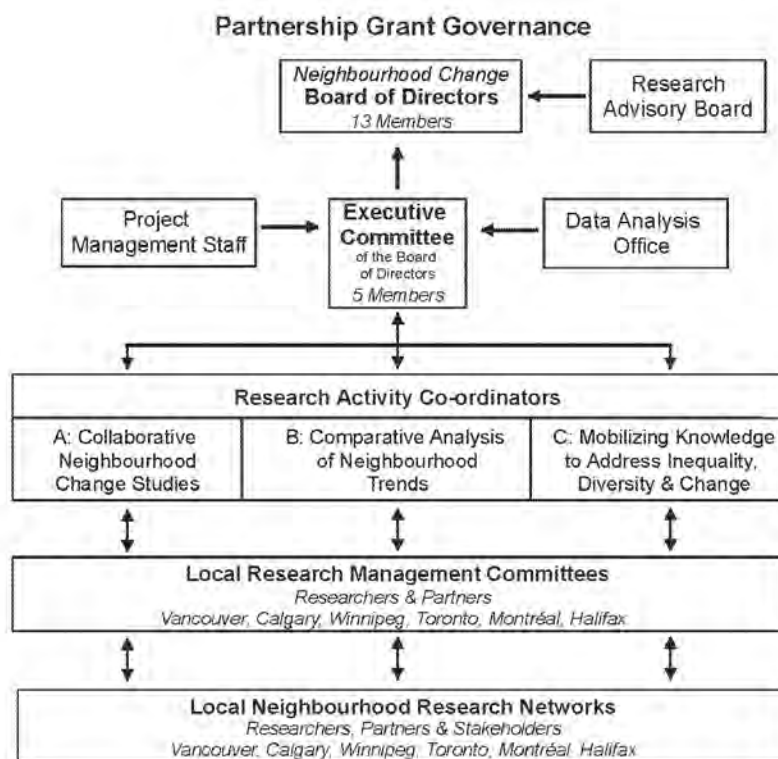
## Governance: Project Management

The Principal Investigator, David Hulchanski, will provide overall leadership, direction, and coordination of the project. The PI ensures that deadlines are met, financial policies are observed, and responsibilities completed. He proposes an annual project budget and consults committees on management and policy matters. The PI will supervise and work closely with the project manager and staff hired by the team to ensure effective daily management and accountability.

Conceptual development and budget oversight of the project will be carried out by an **Executive Committee** chaired by the PI. The five members, drawn from the **Board of Directors**, will meet as required, to regularly review project progress in all activity areas, receive bi-annual reports from each CMA team leader and from the Activity leaders, approve sub-project funding, and organize research network workshops. The Executive Committee will report to the Board of Directors and consult the **Research Advisory Board** (RAB) to solicit feedback on the progress of the project. The RAB, comprising senior, internationally respected researchers from a mix of disciplines and regions, will review and offer advice on the design, implementation, analysis, and dissemination of the research. They will participate in the team's research symposia to offer feedback and challenges and help us conduct a formal assessment at the mid-point of the research program. The RAB members are: Professors C. Andrew, Ottawa (Chair); T. Carter, Winnipeg; W. Michaelson, Toronto; D. MacLennan, St. Andrews; and J.L. Smith, Chicago. We will suggest to the RAB that they consider adding two more members once they have a sense of the range of expertise that would be helpful to the project. The RAB will be very important to the quality of the entire project.

Overall research policy direction will be provided by a Board of Directors made up of 13 voting members: the PI (chair), the six local CMA team coordinators, the three activity team coordinators, and three partners. The Board will meet quarterly (or more frequently if required), usually by tele- or video-conference. While the Board will seek consensus on decisions, in case of disagreement, a majority vote by the Board of Directors will be final. Other team members (academics and partners) are welcome to participate in Board meeting discussions (i.e., meetings will be open to the entire team). In the unlikely case of a major ongoing policy difference dividing project members, two agreed-upon independent outsiders (one an experienced university administrator, the other an experienced social agency administrator) will decide the matter.

The **coordinators of Research Activities A, B, and C** will act as a link between the Local Research Management Committees and the Executive Committee and, where appropriate, will seek advice from the Research Advisory Board. They will receive and review workplans, sub-project proposals, and outputs related to their activity areas, and make progress reports and funding recommendations to the Executive Committee.



In the each of the six Canadian CMAs, one co-investigator will be the team leader responsible for the funding for that city, and for providing progress reports to the activity leaders and Executive Committee. **Local Research Management Committees** will be responsible for oversight of research specific to each city. Each committee will be headed by the team leader: that individual also sits on the Board of Directors for the whole project to ensure communication between local and overall networks. Local committees will include other researchers involved in the project in that locale and project partners. The local committees will ensure that community-based approaches are appropriate to the city, help ensure that local stakeholders can influence decisions, and they will help guide and coordinate the comparative research across the six CMAs.

**Local Neighbourhood Research Networks** (the bottom box in the governance diagram) will allow community partners and stakeholders in each of the six CMAs to participate in the research in an advisory capacity. The networks will meet periodically to learn about project findings and to suggest new directions. Participants will be encouraged to share their own research and related activities. This structure reflects lessons learned in the Toronto Neighbourhoods CURA. The Toronto Neighbourhoods Research Network ([www.TNRN.ca](http://www.TNRN.ca)) enlarged the CURA's research advisory committee of community stakeholders. The TNRN meets four times a year (now in its fifth year), bringing together government, social agency, and university researchers (including students) engaged in neighbourhood-level studies. While it serves as an advisory group and as a dissemination mechanism for research findings, its focus and mandate is much broader. Ninety people belong to the network and about 30 to 40 attend each meeting. This format has proven to be mutually beneficial to participants. Based on the success of the Toronto experience, we will establish similar networks in each of the other sites. There may be local differences in terms of existing networks and slightly different models may be appropriate. However, an ongoing, easy-to-maintain, open forum for two-way communication between academic and non-university-based researchers and stakeholders will be established in each of the six CMAs. These will also likely be a legacy of the Partnership Grant.

**Inclusive Decision Making.** Based on our experience with large multi-year research initiatives, the governance of our project will incorporate the principle of inclusive decision-making on major decisions. This is achieved by welcoming the project's co-investigators, collaborators, and partners to join in the discussion at meetings of the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, and the local committees and networks. While this process may sound cumbersome, we have found that it is not. Only those with the time and interest to participate do so. If there is disagreement (rather than consensus), the voting procedure takes over. Decisions are better with more voices at the table, but efficient and effective governance is maintained because there is a defined decision-making structure. This approach was used during the five-year CURA and there was never a need for a vote.

**Host institution support:** The project's physical home will be at the University of Toronto, the working home of the PI. Office space will be provided for the project manager, the data analyst, post-docs, visiting scholars, and other team members as required from time to time. The University of Toronto is providing financial assistance for part of the salary of the full-time project manager, for part of the salary of the data analyst, and for an annual research fellowship for a Ph.D. candidate to gain experience in implementing research. This is in addition to the office space. Financial matters will be handled by the UofT's central administration, including assistance with the occasional allocation of sub-grants to CMA teams and to researcher projects based outside Toronto.

**In summary,** although this is a large team of scholars and partners, the senior members have previously worked together on other projects, including some very large national and international projects. All have research management experience. Key members of the team have worked with our partners in the past. This proposed partnership builds upon the management experience and lessons learned from a successful CURA based in Toronto that involved some of the same partners and about one-fifth of the academic team.

## **Training and Mentoring: Capacity Building & the Role of Students**

Capacity building through the training of future researchers and policy advisors is a major objective of this project. Our academic team has vast experience in mentoring students. We will provide a meaningful and valued role for students and for research staff from our partner organizations in the research, maximizing opportunities for strong mutual support among researchers and students. This includes opportunities for students from different disciplines to interact regularly and informally, including formal inter-institutional movement of students across different settings.

***For students:*** Mixed-method research will allow students to be co-ordinators, interviewers, and analysts in the case study cities. Students will also participate in research team meetings, assist in research design and ethics protocols, and interact with stakeholders and research partners. Training for students will include data gathering, interviewing, fieldwork, organization, analysis, and academic writing. Summer Research Assistantships or exchanges will allow students from one city to work in another location. The majority of the research funds will be for graduate and some undergraduate student research assistants working with the co-investigators. The research requires sophisticated analysis of quantitative and qualitative data: students with appropriate qualifications will assist with this work. The research team will provide opportunities for cross-country and international collaboration among graduate students. We will encourage the creation of a student/postdoc caucus and hold special student-focused forums at our symposia and major team meetings. Graduate students engaged in this project with several co-investigators will participate in monthly web-based meetings at which they share progress in their various projects, review selected literature, and review or edit manuscripts as they are being developed. In addition, a range of opportunities for students to author and co-author publications will be available. They may also contribute to, and take responsibility for, the development of interactive, web-based forms of dissemination. Our national symposia will include panels for student-authored presentations, to be refereed by the postdoctoral fellows and several co-investigators. Students will have opportunities to present their work at conferences, as well as at community forums and other non-academic venues. Where appropriate, students may be included as co-authors on chapters in the planned edited volumes.

***Postdoctoral Fellowships:*** We will offer four postdoctoral positions from the SSHRC funds, starting in year 2. The postdoctoral fellows will work as integral members of CMA research teams and the cross-disciplinary thematic research teams. Each will have opportunities to contribute to the design, implementation, and dissemination of the research. The postdoctoral fellows will be encouraged to initiate publications as first authors. With this valuable research experience, the postdoctoral students will be exceptionally well prepared to compete for academic positions and to lead urban research initiatives. In addition, our partnership has been allocated seven University of Toronto Faculty of Social Work endowed Royal Bank Doctoral Research Fellowships. These annually \$10,000 fellowships link a PhD student to a professor for one-year to gain experience in implementing research.

***Mentorship of New Scholars:*** Though the research team comprises primarily senior scholars at this proposal stage, early-career scholars will be recruited to collaborate on various research projects. We also recognize that professors, at whatever stage in their careers, will benefit from working in this research partnership, helping them to better work with and communicate to diverse audiences, and, in the future, to foster their own research partnerships.

***Staff of Partner Organizations:*** There will be a two-way learning exchange between the university-based and community-based researchers. Some staff of our partners will at times be deeply engaged in the direction, implementation and analysis of the research. Some will already be highly experienced, others not. Among the academics (professors and students), some will have experience working with partners, others not. An objective of our training and mentoring throughout this proposed project is to be inclusive: to actively learn from one another.

## Knowledge Mobilization Plan

Knowledge mobilization begins in year one and will continue throughout the research with a wide range of strategies to reach multiple audiences, including ongoing community-based dissemination strategies such as presentations to agencies and participation in events. In addition to community materials and scholarly articles, we plan to produce four books: an edited e-book of readings on neighbourhood change and polarization, and three scholarly edited books on components of the research program.

In addition to the essential but traditional academic dissemination outlets (conferences, journals, books), we will build upon the success of the Neighbourhoods CURA in broadcasting key findings through local and national media, submitting op-eds to newspapers (e.g., Hulchanski, 2008a, 2008b), seeking invitations for presenting our work to government and non-government organizations and agencies, hosting community research days and forums, establishing local neighbourhood research networks, and preparing plain-language summaries of our findings for targeted audiences. With our partners we will seek joint and multi-sectoral forms of local, regional and national dissemination of the more policy relevant findings. Most team members, academics and partners, have excellent track records in successfully communicating their research results.

## Scholarly Dissemination

It is essential that our research reach the relevant academic audiences, Canadian and international. This will, in part, take the form of four peer-reviewed scholarly edited volumes, three with a focus on Canada, and one with a Canada-international comparative focus (one volume from each of the four project activities). We have built into the research design mandatory points at which team members are required to prepare and present papers on their findings. In addition, all participating researchers (including students) will jointly and individually pursue particular issues and themes for publication in journals and other scholarly outlets. We anticipate several special issues of journals.

**Oxford University Press Canada** has agreed to be the university press partner and, subject to all traditional peer review and related expectations about quality, will publish the four edited volumes (a partner letter is attached). OUP was approached because, in addition to its reputation as publisher and effective global distributor of scholarly books, it has initiated a series of short scholarly books sold at modest cost and aimed at a broader audience, called *Issues in Canada* (UofT sociologist Lorne Tepperman is the academic editor of the series). We will encourage our colleagues to contribute to the series. David Hulchanski is currently writing *Housing and Homelessness in Canada* as part of that series.

## Dissemination to wider audiences

We will add to and implement interactive forms of communication via the **website** established by the Neighbourhoods CURA and a related SSHRC dissemination grant: [www.NeighbourhoodChange.ca](http://www.NeighbourhoodChange.ca). This website is currently focused on Toronto, with some of our Vancouver and Montreal research results. Under this partnership grant it will become the national website with subpages for each of the six CMAs.

On the website we will launch a free-access **eBook of edited readings** on neighbourhood issues drawn from the best published research. This will be similar to the successful eBook *Finding Home: Policy Options for Addressing Homelessness in Canada* ([www.homelesshub.ca/FindingHome](http://www.homelesshub.ca/FindingHome)), the product of a recent SSHRC homelessness research dissemination grant (D. Hulchanski, PI). The research team will be asked to nominate items (journal articles, book chapters, reports), and a small editorial team will make recommendations to the project's Research Advisory Board, which will serve as the editorial board for the eBook. With permission of the author(s) and copyright owner, a professional editor will produce a substantial summary (about 4,000 words). These will become chapters in the eBook available as individual PDFs and in the now standard ePub format. This format makes



existing knowledge more widely available and provides a base upon which the project's analysis is built.

We will also launch a **research bulletin series** in which we will provide summaries of the project's own publications. These are 6- to 10-page substantive summaries in plain language made available for free download as PDFs or ePubs. They will be similar to the Centre for Urban and Community Studies (now Cities Centre) research bulletin series initiated by D. Hulchanski in 2001 ([www.urbancentre.utoronto.ca/researchbulletin.html](http://www.urbancentre.utoronto.ca/researchbulletin.html)).

In addition, we will reach new and broader Canadian audiences beyond the academic and policy research communities with the help of **Spacing Media** as a partner (<http://spacing.ca/>). Spacing Media publishes *Spacing Magazine*, a publication aimed at "understanding the urban landscape" and hosts major urban affairs websites in Toronto, Ottawa, Montréal, Vancouver, and the Atlantic Provinces. Spacing Media is a leader in the innovative use of "Web 2.0" and new forms of digital communication and networking. It will advise and assist the research team in developing innovative ways of reaching a wide variety of audiences, such as through blogs, microblogs, wikis, discussion forums, and other social networking tools. Spacing Media is currently the media partner with the recently funded SSHRC neighbourhoods research Public Outreach Grant, which is focused on Toronto, Montréal, and Vancouver.

**Local Neighbourhood Research Networks.** As described in the Governance section of this proposal, we will establish local neighbourhood research networks in each of the project's CMAs modeled on the experience and lessons learned in the Toronto Neighbourhoods CURA. The Toronto Neighbourhoods Research Network ([www.TNRN.ca](http://www.TNRN.ca)) enlarged the original CURA research advisory committee of community stakeholders. Now in its fifth year the TNRN meets four times a year bringing together government, social agency, and university researchers (including students) engaged in neighbourhood-level studies. While it serves as an advisory group and as a dissemination mechanism for research findings, its focus and mandate is much broader. Ninety people belong to the network and about 30 to 40 attend each meeting. This format has proven to be mutually beneficial to participants. It serves as an ongoing, easy-to-maintain, open forum for two-way communication between academic and non-university-based researchers and stakeholders.



## Neighbourhood Change SSHRC Partnership Grant Proposal Academic Team List, Nov. 2011

**Neighbourhood Inequality, Diversity, and Change:  
Trends, Processes, Consequences, and Policy Options for Canada's Large Metropolitan Areas**
**Co-Investigators from University of Toronto**


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- 1) Rupaleem Bhuyan, Social Work
- 2) Larry Bourne, Geography/Planning/Cities Centre
- 3) Deborah Cowen, Geography/Cities Centre
- 4) Caroline Fusco, Physical Education & Health
- 5) Kathleen Gallagher, Centre for Urban Schooling, OISE
- 6) Paul Hess, Geography/Planning/Cities Centre
- 7) J David Hulchanski, Cities Centre/Social Work (Principal Investigator)
- 8) John Myles, Sociology
- 9) Sheila Neysmith, Social Work
- 10) Shalini Sharma, Economics, UTM
- 11) Alan Walks, Geography/Planning/Cities Centre (Toronto Team Leader)
- 12) Scot Wortley, Centre for Criminology

**Co-Investigators from other universities**


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- 13) Sean Lauer, Sociology, UBC
- 14) David Ley, Geography, UBC (Vancouver Team Leader)
- 15) Dan Hiebert, Geography, UBC
- 16) Ivan J. Townshend, Geography, Lethbridge (Calgary Team Leader)
- 17) Byron Miller, Geography, Calgary
- 18) Jino Distasio, Director, Institute of Urban Studies, Winnipeg (Winnipeg Team Leader)
- 19) Christopher Leo, Political Science, Winnipeg
- 20) Sutama Ghosh, Geography, Ryerson
- 21) Bob Murdie, Geography, York U.
- 22) Valerie Preston, Geography, York U.
- 23) Annick Germain, Sociology, INRS, Montréal
- 24) Damaris Rose, Geography, Centre Urbanisation Culture Société, INRS (Montréal Team Leader)
- 25) Jill Grant, Planning, Dalhousie (Halifax Team Leader)
- 26) Martha Radice, Sociology & Social Anthropology, Dalhousie
- 27) NL: Maarten van Ham, Centre for Housing Research, University of St Andrews
- 28) US: Peter Marcuse, Planning, Columbia
- 29) NL: Ronald van Kempen, Urban Geography, Utrecht University

**Research Advisory Board (Collaborators)**


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- 1) Caroline Andrew, Political Science, Ottawa (Chair)
- 2) Tom Carter, Geography, Winnipeg
- 3) Duncan MacLennan, Geography, University of St. Andrews, Scotland
- 4) Bill Michelson, Sociology, Toronto
- 5) Janet L Smith, Planning, U of Illinois Chicago

**Research Team Members** (no SSHRC CV required)

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Emily Paradis, Priya Kissoon, Sylvia Novac, Garnet Picot, Dominique Riviere

## Memorandum of Partnership Engagement

For the Partnership Project: ***Neighbourhood Inequality, Diversity, and Change: Trends, Processes, Consequences, and Policy Options for Canada's Large Metropolitan Areas***

The purpose of this Memorandum of Partnership Engagement is to confirm the mutual interest and desire on the part of each partner organization to formally participate in the proposed project entitled: *Neighbourhood Inequality, Diversity, and Change: Trends, Processes, Consequences, and Policy Options for Canada's Large Metropolitan Areas* (*the Project*)

This document also confirms agreement by the partners with *the Project's* goals, anticipated outcomes, methodology, management structure, and a desire to foster an environment of open communication and information exchange.

### **Principles of Respect and Open Dialogue**

All partners shall be respected for the inputs and outputs they offer to *the Project*. Commitment to this principle was the basis for crafting *the Project* collaboratively, and is the premise upon which our work will proceed.

Partners acknowledge that each bring skills that are beneficial to *the Project* and complimentary to the skills offered by other partners.

### **Governance and involvement in decision-making**

The partners have all read the "Governance" section of the proposal and concur with the content of that document, the plan for governance, and the means by which partners will contribute to the decision-making process affecting the research, outcomes, and related activities. Partners recognize there is a management structure in place where final determinations will be made after consideration has been duly given to partner views.

### **Knowledge Outputs and Mobilization**

All partners with *the Project* share the desire to produce high quality outputs.

Further, each partner and participant will share, promote, engage, and disseminate outcomes to the widest possible audiences that include, but are not limited to, academic organizations, private for-profit and not-for-profit entities, educational institutions, and any other interested stakeholder, following the agreed-upon plan established by *the Project's* management. Ultimately, our collective goal is that the knowledge created is accessible for the benefit of all those who wish to access it.

Accessibility of the outcomes, therefore, is of vital importance and the means by which the outcomes are to be shared as articulated in the proposal have been accepted and agreed to by all partners. The partners remain open to new mechanisms for knowledge mobilization (e.g. new technologies, social networking mediums, etc.) as they are likely to evolve over the course of *the Project*.

### **Engagement in the conduct of research, dissemination, and related activities**

While the partnership proposal reflects the team as a whole, each partner acknowledges their respective roles and responsibilities in conducting various components of *the Project's* work, either solely or in collaboration with other partners and participants. The partners are committed to conducting the work involved in *the Project* for which they have taken responsibility. The partners also agree to notify *the Project's* leadership of challenges or delays as soon as they become aware of them.

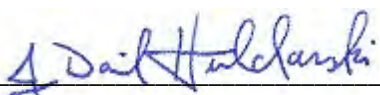
## Endorsement of the Proposal

The partners agree with the proposal as presented in its various sections and we wish to emphasize, in particular, our agreement with the following sections:

- Knowledge Mobilization Plan
- Governance
- Goal and Project Description
- Description of Formal Partnership
- Intended Outcomes of Proposed Activity

We also wish to note that our individual commitments to the project are captured in the Partner Letters of Support included with the proposal.

## PARTNERS:

  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 24 October 2011 (date)  
 J. David Hulchanski, Principal Investigator  
 (on behalf of the university-based co-investigators)  
**Factor Inwentash Faculty of Social Work & Cities Centre, University of Toronto**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Michael Buda  
 Director, Policy and Research  
**Federation of Canadian Municipalities**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Rob Howarth  
 Vice President  
**Canadian Association of Neighbourhood Services**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Paul Shakotko  
 Director, Neighbourhood Change  
**United Way of Halifax Region**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Leslie Evans  
 Executive Director  
**Federation of Calgary Communities**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Jennie Rubio  
**Oxford University Press**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Memorandum of Partnership Engagement  
*Neighbourhood Inequality, Diversity, and Change*

\_\_\_\_\_(date)  
John Campey  
Executive Director  
**Social Planning Toronto**

\_\_\_\_\_(date)  
Scott Graham  
Manager, Research and Consulting  
**SPARC BC (Social Planning and Research Council of BC)**

\_\_\_\_\_(date)  
Colette Murphy  
Community Program Director  
**Metcalfe Foundation**

\_\_\_\_\_(date)  
Michelynne Laflèche  
Director, Research, Public Policy and Evaluation  
**United Way Toronto**

\_\_\_\_\_(date)  
Matthew Blackett  
President  
**Spacing Media**

\_\_\_\_\_(date)  
Mamie Hutt-Temoana  
CEO  
**Association of Neighbourhood Houses of BC**

\_\_\_\_\_(date)  
Connie Walker  
Vice-President, Community Relations & Capacity Building  
**United Way Winnipeg**