
President's Report: Outcomes Summary & Recommendations United Nations World Urban Forum 9, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia February 7-13, 2018

Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP) Forum Goals:

1. Target new and established connections that can assist the Institute, the International Committee, and the New Urban Agenda Committee in leveraging future programs and opportunities for CIP members;
 2. Understand the actions, steps, and progress on the New Urban Agenda since Habitat III in 2016; and
 3. Support and liaise with CIP members and other international professional planners in attendance at the conference.
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About the World Urban Forum:

The World Urban Forum is a non-legislative technical forum convened by the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat) every two years. Since 2002, the Forum has gathered a wide range of experts from every walk of life, including national, regional and local governments, non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, professionals, research institutions and academies, professionals, private sector, development finance institutions, foundations, media, United Nations organizations, and other international agencies. It is recognized as the foremost global arena for interaction among policymakers, local government leaders, non-governmental organizations, and expert practitioners in the field of sustainable urban development and human settlements. (Source: <http://wuf9.org/about-wuf/>).

It is estimated that 20,000 attendees participated in the 9th World Urban Forum (WUF9).

CIP's Presentations and Formal Participation at the Conference:

Session/Event & Method of CIP's Participation	Speakers & Panelists
Good Governance and Good Planning: Examples to Implement the New Urban Agenda (Networking Event) <i>Presentation Made: A Canadian Perspective by the Canadian Institute of Planners on implementing the New Urban Agenda</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eleanor Mohammed, President, Canadian Institute of Planners• John Acres, President, Royal Town Planning Institute• Jeff Soule, Director of Outreach, American Planning Association• Dy Currie, President, Commonwealth Association of Planners
WUF Professional Stakeholders' Roundtables Professionals Event)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brigitte bariol-Mathias, French Federation of Planning Agencies

Session/Event & Method of CIP's Participation	Speakers & Panelists
<p><i>Stakeholder input from the Canadian Institute of Planners and the Global Planners Network: The challenges that professional planners face with implementing the New Urban Agenda</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christine Musisi, Director International Relations, UN-Habitat • Danielle Grossenbacher, Co-Chair GAP Business and Industries Constituent Group, The International Real Estate Federation. • Esther Mwaura, Groots • Trudi Elliot, Executive Director, Royal Town Planning Institute
<p>The Urban Dimensions of Climate Change: Lessons from the Commonwealth (Side Event)</p> <p><i>Presentation Made: Canadian Perspective by the Canadian Institute of Planners – Case Studies and work completed by the Institute.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eleanor Mohammed, President, Canadian Institute of Planners • Trudi Elliot, Executive Director, Royal Town Planning Institute • Barbara Norman, Professor, University of Canberra • Noraida Saludin, Vice President, Malaysia Institute of Planners • Peter Head, Ecological Sequestration Trust
<p>Smart Cities 2030, How to Build Smart Cities for All (Training Event)</p> <p><i>Panelist</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eleanor Mohammed, President, Canadian Institute of Planners • Dr. Victor Pineda, President, World Enabled & President, Global Alliance for Accessible Technologies and Environments • Ming Zhang, Practice Manager, Urban and Disaster Risk Management, Latin America and the Caribbean, World Bank • Mark Capper, Founding Principal, Kompas • Jasmine Begum, Director, Legal, Corporate and Government Affairs, Microsoft • Filiep Decorte, Officer in Charge, New York Liaison Office, UN Habitat
<p>Smart Sustainable Cities (Networking Event)</p> <p><i>Speaker: Invited to provide summary/key learning points from earlier session - Smart Cities 2030, How to Build Smart Cities for All</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eleanor Mohammed, President, Canadian Institute of Planners • Ric Stephens, President, International Society of City & Regional Planners (ISOCARP) • Datin TPr. Hjh Mazrina Dato' Abdul Khalid, Honorary Secretary, Malaysia Institute of Planners • Morten Nielson, Strategic Director, International Federation for Housing & Planning (IFHP)

Meetings:

Global Planners Network:

The Canadian Institute of Planners is a Signatory Partner of the Global Planners Network. This was an informal meeting that took place at the beginning of the Forum. Representatives in attendance were from: the International Society of City and Regional Planners; the International Federation of Housing and Planning; the Royal Town Planning Institute; the New Zealand Planning Institute; Institute for Urban Planning and Development (France); the American Planning Association; and the Commonwealth Association of Planners.

Members provided updates on their respective organizations. Time was also spent comparing schedules, coordinating presentations, and looking for opportunities for the Global Planner Network to have meaningful input and a strong presence during the Forum.



Planners for Climate Action (P4CA):

Planners for Climate Action is a new cooperative initiative coming together under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Marrakesh Partnership for Global Climate Action. It was publicly launched on Human Settlements Day (November 11, 2017) at the 23rd Conference of Parties (COP-23) to the UNFCCC in Bonn (Source: <http://www.globalplannersnetwork.org/>).

At WUF9, I represented the Global Planners Network at the Planners for Climate Action meeting. The meeting focused on the development and the delivery of key outputs to get the initiative off the ground in 2018. Part of this includes obtaining needed approvals/funding from the United Nations. Working groups were created with intention that they would continue with the mandate after the Forum. The working groups are addressing communications, a *state of planning* report/matrix, the development of a repository of relevant syllabi, and outreach initiatives. I am a member of the Outreach Working Group, along with Jeff Soule from the American Planning Association, Didier Vanscutsem of the International Society of City and Region Planners, and Cerin Kizhakkethottam of UN-Habitat.

Update on the Montreal Design Summit & Montreal Design Declaration:

On October 24th, 2017, the Montreal Design Declaration was signed by 22 international organizations. Representing the Global Planners Network, the Canadian Institute of Planners participated in the Summit and is a Signatory to the Declaration.

The WUF9 meeting was with David Grossman of the International Council of Design, and a member of the Montreal Design Summit Steering Committee, who provided an update on what has been happening since fall. The Steering Committee is expanding and will soon be sending out a survey to the Signatory Parties to looking for future project support. There is also another summit being planned to occur in 2-3 years.

MCIP-International Planner Practicing in Singapore – Jonathan Jacob:

I had the opportunity to have coffee with a Canadian planner who is practicing in Singapore. We discussed the benefits of international membership and shared stories about our planning experiences.

Organized Social Events Attended:

Reception: High Commissioner of Canada - Malaysia, H.E. Julia G. Bentley:

There was a smaller number of Canadians who attended the WUF9, compared to the Canadian delegation at Habitat III in Quito, Ecuador. This event was at the start of the Forum and it was a great opportunity to meet the Canadians who are moving the New Urban Agenda forward in Canada. I was the only member of CIP who attended the reception, but other attendees included consultants, academics, municipal government, and other non-governmental organizations, such as *Women Transforming Cities*.



Malaysian Institute of Planners Partners Dinner

The Malaysian Institute Planners graciously hosted a dinner with all of the organizations that partnered with them for various initiatives during the Forum. Below is a photo with (from the left to right) the Secretarial General of the International Society of City and Regional Planners, and the Presidents of the Commonwealth Association of Planners, Malaysian Institute, Royal Town Planning Institute, CIP, and the New Zealand Institute of Planners.



Social Media Summary:

Twitter Activity:

- 51 Tweets – 6 of them live video feed
- 179 Likes
- 47 Re-tweets
- 24 replies
- During the duration of the Forum, 3.4K impression were earned per day

LinkedIn

- 5 posts relevant to WUF9
- 4 replies
- 165 likes
- 7,332 views of the 5 posts

Discussion:

Since CIP's re-emergence on the international scene in 2016 at the United Nations Habitat III conference in Quito, Ecuador, the Institute has seen some amazing results. Leading up to the WUF9, CIP and our partners had two presentations accepted by UN-Habitat for the Forum. Upon arriving in Malaysia, and thanks to our recently renewed connections, in addition to CIP's ability to represent the Global Planners Network, this expanded to 4 events. What's most exciting was the invite to participate as a panelist in a 5th session, *Smart Cities 2030, How to Build Smart Cities for All*, by the Global Alliance for Accessible Technologies and Environments - a group the Institute had no previous relationship with. CIP's reputation continues to positively build as the voice of Canadian professional planning and the Institute is being called upon for expertise in all things planning.

With a focus on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda (NUA), there were many presentations on success stories, challenges, and obstacles. Since the Forum there have been a number of reports released that summarize what took place. From my perspective, and for planning in particular, an interesting and larger discussion occurred around cities, where we are today, and where we need to go. Historically health, safety, and aesthetic have been key considerations and drivers of planning, in recent time trends have moved toward Smart Cities (being technology driven); however, now it appears that there truly is a push to focus back on humans, social equity, and accessibility for all. The notion that if a 'Smart City' isn't accessible to all - regardless of demographic, ability, or income - then that city isn't very smart at all.

The most successful implementation of the NUA is occurring when national, provincial, and local governments work together, in addition to developing partnerships with non-governmental organizations. From a planning perspective, the largest obstacle for implementation is general knowledge of its importance and the struggle of taking such a high-level international document and implementing it on the ground. Many planners have not read the NUA, which is an obvious and necessary first step to implementation.

In preparing for the WUF9, it appears that Canadian cities are only starting to explore the New Urban Agenda and I could not find any provincial activity. CIP does have contacts within the federal government, who have indicated that a plan for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2030 is forthcoming. Even without having a comprehensive plan for Agenda 2030, the Canadian Government already has initiatives underway that align with the Sustainable Development Goals, including:

- striving to reduce inequality by growing the middle class;
- investing \$120 billion in infrastructure over the next decade – the infrastructure policy;
- renewing our relationships with Indigenous Peoples; and
- promoting gender equality and women's empowerment.

(Source: <http://www.international.gc.ca/prmny-mponu/statements-declarations/2017/07/19b.aspx?lang=eng>)

Planners are key to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. I believe CIP can and should help our members in this regard.