



JULY 14, 2020

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ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

You are receiving this eblast as OPPI has switched its monthly *The Planner* newsletter to a bi-weekly eblast during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will continue to share the most important information and resources with members. If you have any questions, suggestions and ideas, please contact us at communications@ontarioplanners.ca.

Here's What You Need to Know Right Now

Member Updates for the Weeks of July 14 and 21

Here is what OPPI members need to know this week:

- **Our June Council meeting recap is available.** OPPI held its June Council meeting and invited the planning

program directors from Ontario's accredited schools to discuss strategic issues within the profession. Prior to the meeting, OPPI received an [open letter](#) from over 100+ Black planners, students and academics responding to OPPI's anti-racism [statement](#). Council took some time to discuss this open letter and its several recommendations. A motion was passed that responds to this letter. More information on this meeting and motion can be found in our Other OPPI News section.



- **There are several legislative impacts and announcements members need to know about.** The Ontario Government has introduced Bill 197, the *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020* with several proposed changes to the *Planning Act* around Community Benefits Charges, Development Charges and Minister's Zoning Orders. In addition, there are several new regulations open for comment for members to comment on and fee increases for LPAT effective July 1. More information can be found below in our Legislative Corner Updates section.
- **We have announced OPPI20 dates!** For members who missed our initial save the date eblast, please go to the Other OPPI News section for more information.
- **Join us for our next Forum Friday webinar on July 17th.** OPPI invites members to join us for our sixth Forum Friday webinar focusing on the state of Ontario's planning schools during and post-COVID-19. More information on this webinar can be found below in our CPL section.
- **Our June 24th and July 3rd Forum Friday webinars are available on Digital Learning.** Our June 24th webinar focusing on anti-Black racism and our July 3rd webinar focusing on COVID-19 impacts on community building, intensification and public health are now available on Digital Learning for members to view. We have also posted several resources from the July 3rd webinar for members to access.
- **Check out our July blog posts from two of OPPI's Student Members!** The first post comes from Jamilla Mohamud and focuses on anti-Black racism in the liveable city. The second comes from Taranjeet Grewal and focuses on engaging immigrant and marginalized communities during the planning process.
- **Get a sneak peek at our 2021 Y Magazine issues and advertise with us!** We are pleased to provide members a sneak peek at the issues *Y Magazine* will explore in 2021. More information can be found in the Other OPPI News section below. If you are interested in sending us your ideas, writing in an issue and/or advertising, please contact our Editor, [Carolyn Camilleri](#).

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OPPI Continuous Professional Learning

OPPI Forum Friday: The State of Ontario's Planning Schools (July 17)

On July 17, from 12:15 - 1:15 p.m., OPPI invites members to join us for our sixth Forum Friday webinar conversation on the state of Ontario's planning schools during and post-COVID-19.

FORUM FRIDAY

THE STATE OF ONTARIO'S PLANNING
SCHOOLS

JULY 17, 2020 @ 12:15PM



#OPPIFORUMFRIDAY

Planning schools were forced to redefine themselves during the pandemic and in how they provided quality education and assisted students. Accredited planning programs teach the future of the planning profession, so how will these programs survive and thrive after COVID-19? Join planning program directors and key faculty in a discussion of the challenges faced so far and future opportunities for these programs – for this upcoming year, next year and beyond - and what the impact is on the future of the planning profession as students become planners and RPPs. Guest speakers include:

- Dr. Ryan Gibson, Associate Professor and the Libro Professor of Regional Economic Development in the Rural Planning and Development program at the University of Guelph
- Dr. Markus Moos, RPP, MCIP, Director of the School of Planning in the Faculty of Environment at the University of Waterloo
- Dr. Luisa Sotomayor, RPP, Assistant Professor and the Coordinator of the Graduate Programs in Planning in the Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change at York University

If you haven't already, please register for this free webinar and submit your questions in advance by clicking on the button below. More information on future webinars will be shared with members. Please note: these sessions will be recorded and uploaded to OPPI's [Digital Learning](#) site. In the meantime, you can always [visit our website](#) for information on our Forum Friday sessions.

REGISTER TODAY

Anti-Black Racism in the Liveable City Blog Post



Check out our [July blog post](#) from OPPI Student Member Jamilla Mohamud. Since May 26,

2020, there have been sustained protests in Canada and the United States, in response to the police killing of George Floyd, Regis Korchinski-Paquet and countless other Black lives lost to the structural violence of anti-Black racism. These resounding calls for Black lives to matter should elicit deep concern from the urban planning profession which has yet to adequately confront its own institutionalized anti-Black racism that render cities unlivable for Black lives.

Engaging Immigrant and Racialized Groups in Public Planning Processes Blog Post



Check out our second [July blog post](#) from OPPI Student Member Taranjeet Grewal. The towns, cities and regions we live in are constantly evolving. As per the 2016 Statistics Canada Census data, 29% of Ontario identified as a visible minority. Furthermore, an increase in 13% of Ontarians with a mother tongue other than English or French was noted between 2006-2016. These statistics show our province is changing; however, planning does not appear to be keeping up. Although alternative online engagement methods (such as Zoom) allow people to participate from home, it begs the question whether everyone is equally able to participate. Additionally, the topic of racism has been thrust into the spotlight considering this and the recent events that spurred the Black Lives Matter protests.

ICYMI: Healthy Communities and Planning for the Public Realm OPPI Webinar



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WHAT IS THE PUBLIC REALM?



As members think about what recovery could look like, resiliency and readiness will be the central themes for many communities now and post-pandemic.

OPPI is sharing previous webinars and conference sessions to access during this pandemic period like our [Healthy Communities and Planning for the Public Realm OPPI webinar](#) from 2017 following up from our [call to action](#).

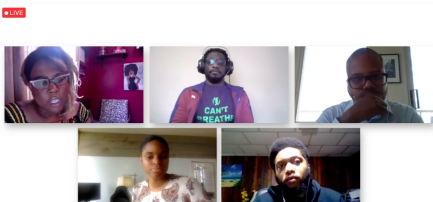
The public realm is crucial in achieving healthy communities across Ontario as it is in this realm that people are encouraged to interact. Too often the public realm is considered an afterthought in community building efforts. It is this, however, that shapes our relationship with our surroundings. In doing so, the public realm establishes a community identity, local character and a sense of place. Investing in the quality of the public realm is vital in creating harmonious and socially inclusive communities. A well-planned public realm can increase physical and mental well-being, enhance public safety, encourage private investment and allow citizens to embrace and celebrate their places and spaces.

Log in to our Digital Learning portal to view this and many other webinars, listen to podcasts...and so much more!

VISIT DIGITAL LEARNING AND WATCH NOW

June 24th Forum Friday Webinar Available on Digital Learning

OPPI Forum Friday Webinar: How Can Planning Respond to Anti-Black Racism in Practice?

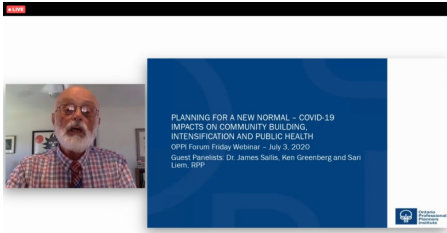


OPPI would like to thank members for attending our third Forum Friday webinar on June 24th. OPPI would also like to thank our moderator Eldon Theodore, RPP, and Paul Bailey, Nicole Hanson, RPP, Shannon Holness and Francis Kwashie for their participation.

If members missed this webinar, or you would like to

review it again, the recording is now available on OPPI's [Digital Learning](#) site. All Forum Friday webinars will be uploaded to Digital Learning for members to access. Please [visit our website](#) to learn more about our Forum Friday sessions.

July 3rd Forum Friday Webinar Available on Digital Learning



OPPI would like to thank members for attending our fifth Forum Friday webinar on July 3rd. OPPI would also like to thank our moderator George McKibbin, RPP, and panelists Ken Greenberg, Sari Liem, RPP, and Dr. James Sallis for their participation.

If members missed this webinar, or you would like to review it again, the recording is now available on OPPI's [Digital Learning](#) site. All Forum Friday webinars will be uploaded to Digital Learning for members to access. Please [visit our website](#) to learn more about our Forum Friday sessions.

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Legislative Corner Updates

Ontario Government Introduces Bill 197, the *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020*



The Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 197, the [COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020](#) as its cornerstone legislation aimed at growth, renewal and economic recovery coming out of the current COVID-19 pandemic. The analysis and summary of the proposed updates in this legislation was developed by OPPI's government relations firm, StrategyCorp.

As a key pillar to restart the economy, the government is focusing on expediting certain public infrastructure projects, streamlining transit-oriented development and providing municipalities with revenue tools to fund growth associated with development.

Some of the planning-related measures in the legislative package include:

- Changes to the *Planning Act* and *Development Charges Act* to enact a three-pronged framework to fund growth in municipalities (MMAH has created a short video outlining the changes which could be viewed [here](#)):
 - Development Charges are expanded to include many of the previous “soft services” and are no longer subject to the 10% discount.
 - Parkland Dedication has been entirely restored with stronger oversight measures (previously proposed to be eliminated when a CBC is used).
 - Community Benefits Charges are now an open-ended revenue tool but can only be applied to high density residential developments.
- Further changes to the *Planning Act* to provide the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing the additional authority to apply inclusionary zoning and address site plan

matters in Minister's Zoning Orders.

- Changes to the *Municipal Act* and the *City of Toronto Act* to allow procedure by-laws to provide for electronic participation in meetings and proxy voting.
- Eliminating the requirement for hearings of necessity for expropriation of property under the *Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act*.
- Creating a *Transit-Oriented Communities Act* to allow cabinet to designate land as “transit-oriented community land” with the *Expropriations Act* not applying to such land.

Many of these measures require additional details to be prescribed through regulations which have yet to be developed. OPPI will continue to monitor the development of these and other land use planning initiatives and keep members up-to-date.

Ontario Government Passes Legislation to Deliver Subways Faster



The Government of Ontario has passed Bill 171, the *Building Transit Faster Act, 2020*. This legislation enables the province to expedite the process of building Ontario's four priority transit projects: the Ontario Line, the Yonge North Subway Extension, Scarborough Subway Extension and the Eglinton Crosstown West Extension. To learn more about this announcement, please visit the [Government of Ontario's](#)

[website](#).

Ontario Government Proposes Made-in-Ontario Plan to Deliver Infrastructure Projects Faster



The Government of Ontario developed a made-in-Ontario plan for growth, renewal and economic recovery. This plan includes measures that would make it easier and faster to build provincial highways, major transit infrastructure projects and quality, affordable housing, while ensuring there are meaningful opportunities for community consultation and input.

The province is proposing to accelerate key provincial highway construction and priority transit projects by establishing an exemption from the Hearing of Necessity process. As part of this plan, the government would also enter into new commercial agreements with partners to build transit-oriented communities. To learn more about this announcement, please visit the [Government of Ontario's website](#).

Ontario Government Announces Additional Housing Funding Supporting Municipalities and Urban Indigenous Partners

The Ontario Government is providing municipalities and urban Indigenous community partners with an additional \$150 million



to continue to protect vulnerable people from COVID-19 by improving homeless shelters and creating opportunities for longer-term housing. To learn more about this announcement, please visit the [Government of Ontario's website](#).

Ontario Government Supporting Restaurants with New and Amended Emergency Orders to Help Expand Patios Faster



The Ontario Government is helping restaurant and bar owners reopen and safely serve more customers by issuing a new emergency order and amending another under s.7.0.2 (4) of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, which will allow municipalities to quickly pass temporary bylaws for the creation and extension of patios and allow covered outdoor dining areas to serve customers. To learn more about this announcement, please visit the [Government of Ontario's website](#).

Fee Increases for LPAT Effective July 1, 2020



Effective July 1, 2020, application fees for the Assessment Review Board (ARB), the Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB), the Licence Appeal Tribunal (LAT) and appeal fees for the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) will increase. Under LPAT's new fee model, different filing fees will be charged based on tribunal time and resources required to resolve different types of appeals. To learn more about this fee increase, please visit the [Ontario Land Tribunals website](#).

Regulations Open for Comment

Ontario's Environmental Registry website has posted an [important notice](#) temporarily exempting ministries from the minimum 30-day consultation requirements to post proposals for acts, regulations, policies and instruments to the Environmental Registry. OPPI will continue to monitor the registry website and provide items open for comment, when available.

We know members are busy working through other priorities, but for those who can provide comments the following regulatory items are open for public comment (deadlines in brackets):

- [Proposals to reduce regulatory burden within the wildlife management program \(July 24, 2020\)](#)
- [Proposed Amendment 1 to A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe \(July 31, 2020\)](#)
- [Proposed Land Needs Assessment Methodology for A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe \(July 31, 2020\)](#)
- [Updating Ontario's Water Quantity Management Framework \(August 2, 2020\)](#)
- [Discussion paper on modernizing hazardous waste reporting in Ontario \(August 18, 2020\)](#)

- [Proposed changes to environmental approvals for municipal sewage collection works \(August 22, 2020\)](#)
- [Proposal to exempt various Ministry of Transportation projects from the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act \(August 22, 2020\)](#)
- [Proposed regulation for a streamlined environmental assessment process for the Ministry of Transportation's Greater Toronto Area West Transportation Corridor project \(August 22, 2020\)](#)
- [Proposal to exempt projects or activities related to land claim settlements and other agreements with Indigenous communities from the Environmental Assessment Act \(August 22, 2020\)](#)
- [Proposed exemption to the Environmental Assessment Act and a new policy under the Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act for projects in provincial parks and conservation reserves \(August 22, 2020\)](#)

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Member Resources

Check Out OPPI's Indigenous Resource List



OPPI's Indigenous Planning Perspectives Task Force Report recommends "that OPPI facilitate access to resources and learning on Indigenous topics." One method OPPI is undertaking to facilitate access is through the creation of a curated list of resources.

The resource list provides suggestions and access to some resources to encourage learning on Indigenous topics. It is not intended to be comprehensive and should be seen as a starting point for planning practitioners and other related professions in their respective learning journeys.

The resource list is revised quarterly, to reflect the availability of new or updated resources and you are encouraged to [provide suggestions](#) for additional resources to include on the list. It can be accessed on the [OPPI website](#).

Featured Resource

The Indian Act (1876) sought to control every aspect of life for Indigenous Peoples in Canada, and although it has been amended over time, the Act still lives on nearly 150 years later. The challenging legacy of this legislation is important to understand for all Canadians, but especially professional planners, given their important role in the development of communities across Canada and Ontario. This month, OPPI is profiling author Bob Joseph's book, [21 Things You May Not Know About The Indian Act: Helping Canadians Make Reconciliation With Indigenous Peoples a Reality](#). By reading this book, you are committing yourself to a better understanding of the intergenerational traumas experienced by Indigenous Peoples as a direct result of the Indian Act.

If you have any additional resources you would like OPPI to share through its Resource List, please contact OPPI's Education Manager, [Ryan Des Roches](#).

Upcoming Member Events

As Ontario begins to recover from COVID-19, and the summer approaches, the opportunity to hold events may grow. OPPI will return to a district eblast format as more events are scheduled. We will notify members about the return to this format and the frequency when we have more information. If you need to contact OPPI about District events, please write to learning@ontarioplanners.ca. For now, we will highlight events in the Planner.

Please see the list below for current upcoming events. Members can always visit [OPPI's events webpage](#) for more information and a complete listing.

- [Western Lake Ontario District Photo Contest \(June 5 - July 31\)](#)
- [Western Lake Ontario District Book Club \(June 22 - August 28\)](#)
- [AM202: Managing Assets for a Sustainable Future in our Changing Climate Online Course \(August 11-12\)](#)
- [Lakeland District Province-Wide Book Club \(ends August 31\)](#)

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Other OPPI News

June Council Meeting Recap



In its June meeting, OPPI Council met with the planning program directors from each of the accredited programs in Ontario for a lively and strategic conversation on a number of topics regarding the current state and future of the planning profession.

This was the first meeting attended by new OPPI Executive Director Susan Wiggins. Members will recall the [announcement](#) that went out at the

beginning of June to announce Susan's arrival. Council received an update and report on OPPI's Resiliency Plan which will guide the Institute over the next 18-24 months as OPPI continues to operate during the COVID-19 pandemic and focus remains on recovery and reopening the province.

A few days before the June Council meeting, OPPI received an [open letter](#) from over 100+ Black planners, students and academics responding to OPPI's anti-racism [statement](#). Council took some time to discuss this open letter and its several recommendations. A motion was passed that states the following:

I move that Justine Giancola, President and Susan Wiggins, Executive Director prepare a response to the authors of the Open Letter indicating the following:

1. *That Council acknowledges the historic and current presence of systemic racism and commits to take action on behalf of the planning profession;*
2. *That Council representatives offer to meet with the authors of the letter as soon as possible to better understand the recommendations identified for OPPI to respond to anti-black systemic racism;*

3. *That Council will seek input from other voices, including those who have lived experience to inform our actions;*
4. *That Council consult with planning program directors, other provincial and territorial associations, the Canadian Institute of Planners and/or allied organizations to determine appropriate course(s) of action; and*
5. *That Council promote and generate broader dialogue with the membership*

As more information is available, OPPI will share it with members regarding this Council motion and direction.

The discussion in the afternoon with the planning program directors focused on the state of the planning programs and students during and after COVID-19, and supporting current and future planners as the profession emerges from COVID-19. Through this generative discussion, several questions were asked of participants to better understand how OPPI and the planning profession can work with the planning programs to strengthen opportunities for future planners and members. OPPI would like to thank the planning program directors and Student Delegate Regan Zink for their attendance at this meeting.

OPPI Council meets four times a year. Council approved agendas and minutes are available upon request to the [OPPI office](#). The goal is to engage members in shaping the direction and initiatives of OPPI and continue to deliver on our INSPIRE OPPI Strategic Plan 2020. Members are encouraged to speak up and get involved and stay in touch throughout the year through OPPI's many communications channels.

Save the Date! OPPI20 is ON

OPPI's Annual Conference is officially scheduled *and it's not just a webinar*. For members who may have missed our initial save the date eblast, we have announced the dates for OPPI20.

Spend a few hours each Wednesday over four weeks exploring the topics of Housing and Demographics at OPPI20:

September 23, September 30, October 7 (+ AGM) and October 14

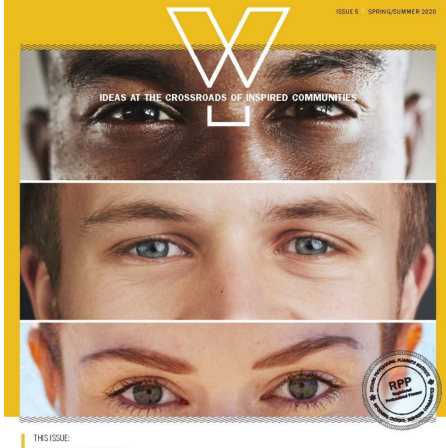
Registration details will follow shortly. Please contact OPPI at oppi@absolutevents.com if you have any questions.

2021 Y Magazine Issue Preview

OPPI would like to thank members and advertisers for your generous support of *Y Magazine* in 2020.

OPPI's 2021 advertising kits will be made available to existing advertisers this summer, so please stay tuned for this. If you have never advertised and are interested in promoting your service or business in *Y Magazine*, please [contact OPPI](#).

As we begin working on the last issue of 2020 on



resiliency and recovery from COVID-19, we are pleased to provide members a sneak peek at the topics *Y Magazine* will explore in 2021, they include:

- Truth and Reconciliation:** Canada is undergoing renewal and change with respect to its relationship with Indigenous communities across the country. Ontario is home to many Indigenous people and communities seeking a greater voice and place. Reconciliation by non-Indigenous Canadians is a multi-generational process and in order to begin that process, hard truths must be exposed, discussed and acknowledged. Many of those truths are directly tied to land use and land policies, which are fundamental to the planning profession as it has developed and evolved in the 400 years since the arrival of Europeans. The winter issue of *Y Magazine* explores these truths and the important role planners can play in working alongside Indigenous Peoples and communities to begin walking down the path of Reconciliation together.
- Economic Development & Sustainability:** One of the most important aspects of planning is the role it has in economic development. Whether a community is urban or rural, high growth or low growth, its planners are vital participants in economic development and work to make their communities sustainable for future generations. But is it enough? How can planning policy pivot to meet always-changing market demands and economic trends, while still maintaining focus on the public interest and sustainability? What is the role of planners in addressing issues such as housing requirements as more people work from home, migration to smaller cities and towns for people who seek to reconnect with outdoor spaces to balance working from home, the influence of changing retail models on Main Streets and neighbourhoods, the development of equitable opportunities to unlock the potential of marginalized communities — all within the scope of economic development and sustainability? The spring/summer issue of *Y Magazine* will look at ways planners are influencing and guiding decision makers to build stronger economies and sustainable communities.
- Technology:** Technology influences every aspect of modern life. In one sense, technology is changing how people work and use office space as they transition from tall skyscrapers to mobile or home offices. But how does this affect transportation and how employment centres are planned and used? Towns and cities that were once declining have embraced tech companies as major employers in a public/private partnership, which, in turn, has led to a renaissance and resurgence that is defining the communities of tomorrow. With data and analytics at their fingertips, planners can remake neighbourhoods, enhance services and engage with residents more efficiently and accurately than ever before. At the same time, there are increasing concerns over data usage and privacy – including how information is collected, shared and secured. How can planners use technology to redevelop communities to benefit the public interest? What policies need to be in place to address privacy and ethical concerns? Our fall issue of *Y Magazine* looks at some of many ways technology has changed how we live and work, or better and for worse.

If you are interested in contributing, being interviewed, or have a project or research that aligns with a specific issue, please contact our Editor, [Carolyn Camilleri](#), expressing your interest.

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OPPI Job Postings

Targeted to planners, search the [OPPI Job Ads](#) to save you time and effort when looking for a new position. Please see the current active postings below:

- Manager of Planning - City of Stratford (full time)
- Manager of Planning - The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward (full time)
- Planner 2 - The Corporation of the City of Niagara Falls (full time)
- Senior Planner - Evans Planning Inc. (full time)
- Planner III - The County of Simcoe (full time)
- Neighbourhood Planner/Urban Designer - Town of Fort Erie (full time)
- Planner - The Corporation of the County of Middlesex (contract)
- Planning Technician - Town of Ajax (full time)
- Senior Planner - Town of Erin (full time)
- Director of Planning - City of Kitchener (full time)
- Manager of Development Review - Municipality of Clarington (full time)
- Intermediate/Senior Level Urban and Rural Planner - Strik, Baldinelli, Moniz Ltd. (full time)
- ...and many more!

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FOLLOW OPPI ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow OPPI for updates and information related to COVID-19.



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