



PLANNING A GREAT CITY
TOGETHER

Introducing the Inaugural Toronto Planning Review Panel

“We volunteered for the Toronto Planning Review Panel because we love this city, want to learn, and want to have a voice in the planning process. We aren’t the usual people who get involved in city planning. Yet together, we represent 817 years of Toronto experience.”

Guiding Document | 2016-2017

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Members listen to a presentation on the panel process.

Chair's Letter

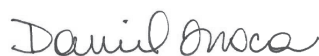
In 2014, City Planning launched *Growing Conversations* with the goal of transforming Toronto into the most engaged city in North America on planning issues. We knew we had a long way to go. We already do a lot of great engagement in City Planning – every year we hear from tens of thousands of Torontonians in person at public meetings and online through our various digital engagement platforms.

As a Division, we are also committed to the idea of continuous improvement, and one thing we know we can improve is the diversity of the stakeholders we engage in our processes. That's because, despite the fact that Toronto is one of the most diverse and youthful cities on the planet, a disproportionate number of the people we engage in city planning processes tend to be white, male, homeowners, and over the age of 55. Obviously, their continued engagement is important to us, but so is the engagement of other demographic groups.

Both the Toronto Planning Review Panel and the new *Youth Engagement Strategy*, completed in late 2015, are important steps we're taking to better engage Toronto's diverse communities in the planning process. For the Planning Review Panel, we took a concept developed and popularized by our partners at MASS LBP—the Citizen Reference Panel selected at random through Civic Lottery— and extended it for a new purpose. Instead of asking residents to volunteer a month or two of their time to provide input on a singular issue, we asked Torontonians to volunteer for two years (16 total Saturdays), to provide input into a variety of planning issues of citywide importance.

As far as we know, this is a world's first, and we're extremely excited to see how it works out. So far, so good: the 28 members of Toronto's inaugural Planning Review Panel are smart, sophisticated people who bring an incredible diversity of experience and perspective to the table. Over the course of their four orientation sessions this fall, I have been inspired by their enthusiasm, curiosity and deep commitment to making a positive contribution to the development of this great city we all love.

I am honoured to be able to work with them over the course of the next two years, and I know I will learn as much from them as they will from our team here at the Planning Division. We greatly look forward to receiving their input and working with them to help shape important decisions for the benefit of all Torontonians.



Daniel Fusca
Chair, Toronto Planning Review Panel
Stakeholder Engagement Lead,
Office of the Chief Planner, City of Toronto



Toronto's Chief Planner, Jennifer Keesmaat, presents 'City Planning 101' to members of the Toronto Planning Review Panel.

Coordinator's Letter

I am pleased to deliver this report to Toronto's City Planning Division and to the people of Toronto. As the Orientation Coordinator for the inaugural Toronto Planning Review Panel, I have had the special privilege of working with 28 randomly selected Torontonians over the course of the autumn as they prepare to launch an important democratic experiment — a first for Toronto and, as far as we know, a first worldwide. This report can be read as an extended letter of introduction, from these 28 Torontonians to you.

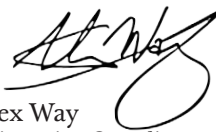
Over the course of the next two years, these 28 panel members will gather for twelve full-day meetings in order to examine specific city planning initiatives, discuss these initiatives with independent experts and impacted parties, and work together to offer shared input on behalf of all Torontonians.

The members will wrestle with many of the most challenging issues facing cities today: In a city faced with worsening congestion, how do we make fair investments in transportation improvements? How should we balance the need for density with the desire to maintain neighbourhood character and ensure liveability? How do we make decent housing affordable for rich and poor alike? How do we manage the use of land so that Toronto continues to generate the employment and prosperity that drives its growth?

To these and other questions there are no easy answers. Instead, the panel will seek to offer thoughtful, considered responses that reflect the values and priorities of all Torontonians.

This is their first report — the first of many. It is an introduction, an update on their journey so far, and a demonstration of the commitment and capacity of Torontonians to play a constructive role shaping the policies and plans that in turn shape their city.

I hope that the City Planning Division and Torontonians alike will join me in applauding the members for their dedication and hard work, and also offer them encouragement in the task that they have taken on as a service to the city they call home.



Alex Way
Orientation Coordinator
Toronto Planning Review Panel

What More We Hope to Learn
We hope to learn more of the processes + more of how decisions are made at the political level at municipal level. We would like to know how zoning + transportation decisions are made @ the neighbourhood level. We would like to understand how different levels of government (provincial, municipal, planning decisions) specifically train how the Official Plan + the Provincial Planning Act relate to each other. ~~we are~~ Finally, we are very eager to learn over the course of our 2 years term how our input will be used to influence + guide City Planning decisions.

- Priorities for the 2017
- As a Panel we will seek to offer input on the following planning priorities:
1. Exploring options and prioritizing the needs of renters and owners, because housing is a priority for all.
 2. Encouraging a mix of incomes, housing types, and inclusion.
 3. Ensuring diversity of housing and diversity of housing in place.
 4. Ensuring...

A rough draft of the Panel's Guiding Document, produced by a small group of panelists during Day 4 of the Orientation Program.

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Jihan Abraham (Etobicoke York District) takes a selfie in front of the mayor's desk during a visit to Toronto City Council Chambers.

1. What You Need to Know About the Toronto Planning Review Panel

The Toronto Planning Review Panel is a new City Planning initiative. In September 2015, 12,000 randomly selected Toronto households received a letter in the mail from Toronto's Chief Planner, Jennifer Keesmaat, inviting them to volunteer to become a member of this new panel. Over 500 Torontonians applied, and 28 were randomly selected to represent the city. Having completed a four-day orientation program this past fall, the Planning Review Panel will now meet six times each year to examine specific city planning initiatives and work together to offer shared input on behalf of all 2.8 million Torontonians. After their two-year term is complete, a new panel of Torontonians will be recruited to serve in their place.

MEET THE MEMBERS OF THE TORONTO PLANNING REVIEW PANEL

The 28 members of the Toronto Planning Review Panel are regular Torontonians, not professional city planners. If you read their biographies, which form **Section 2** of this report, it should, however, become clear that they in fact know a great deal about their city.

They are factory workers, microbiologists, taxi drivers, public servants, engineers, teachers, students and retirees. They live steps from the CN Tower and on the borders of Pickering, Markham, Vaughan, Brampton, and Mississauga. They include refugees, immigrants, descendants of immigrants, and Aboriginal Torontonians. They are new arrivals to the city and 80-year Toronto veterans. They are new fathers, proud great-grandmothers, and young adults supporting parents or getting ready to set off on their own. They bring with them a wealth of experience and perspective about their city.

HOW MEMBERS WERE SELECTED

The members of the panel will meet for a total of sixteen full Saturdays over the course of 26 months and will cumulatively offer over 3500 hours of public service to their city. Their civic dedication is deeply admirable — and surprisingly common, as we have learned from the member recruitment process. In September 2015, 12,000 randomly selected Toronto households received a letter in the mail from Toronto's Chief Planner inviting them to volunteer to become a member of the panel. Six weeks later, 503 people had put their name forward — nearly one in every 20 letter recipients. This level of interest is a testament to the civic spirit of Torontonians.

In October, the panel's 28 members were randomly selected from this pool of 503 volunteers. Members were selected using a civic lottery, a made-in-Toronto method that has now been used on over 30 occasions across Canada to convene Citizen Panels that offer strong demographic diversity and ensure broad representation of the population as a whole. In this case, the civic lottery ensured proportionate representation of Toronto with regard to geography, age, gender, household tenure, and visible minority status, and guaranteed the inclusion of at least one Aboriginal member. Learn more about the selection process in **Section 3** of this report.

THE PURPOSE OF THE TORONTO PLANNING REVIEW PANEL

The Planning Review Panel was created so that a representative group of Torontonians could help the City Planning Division guide growth and change in Toronto. They have been asked by the Chief Planner, Jennifer Keesmaat, to work together over the course of two years to provide City Planning with informed public input on major planning initiatives. Members are tasked, in particular, with helping to ensure that these initiatives are well-aligned with the values and priorities of all Torontonians.

The panel was created to complement, not replace, other methods of public consultation. City Planning undertakes thousands of hours of public engagement, hosting hundreds of community consultations in every corner of Toronto. In public meetings, online forums, and open houses, thousands of residents take time to share their experiences, perspectives, priorities, and concerns about their neighbourhoods and their city, helping the City Planning Division guide growth and change in ways that serve local residents and Toronto as a whole.

Yet City Planning recognizes that their traditional consultation methods don't always hear equally from Toronto's many communities. They also know that consulting the public on major city planning initiatives can prove especially challenging. These major initiatives often seek to address several complicated, intertwined city-building challenges. For those who are unfamiliar with city planning, it can be difficult to find a satisfying way to contribute to the conversation.

The Planning Review Panel has been specially designed to bring a balance of new voices into the planning process, to offer members access to City Planning officials and independent experts over the course of sixteen day-long meetings, and to support members as they work together to produce informed, representative public input on major city planning initiatives shaping Toronto. As this is the panel's first report, members have taken time to restate their task, in their own words. This can be found in **Section 4**. For those interested in the specifics of their mandate, the panel's **Terms of Reference** are included as an Appendix.

The Planning Review Panel is one part of a broader effort to improve public consultation undertaken by the City Planning Division. This initiative, titled *Growing Conversations*, has set out to make Toronto the most engaged city in North America. More information can be found at: www.toronto.ca/growingconversations.

WHAT THE PANEL HAS ACCOMPLISHED SO FAR

This past fall, panel members each dedicated 40 hours to an orientation program that was held over the course of four Saturdays. During that time, they heard from seventeen guest speakers who introduced them not only to the tools of city planning, but also to the trends shaping Toronto's economy, housing stock, demographics, built form, public realm, transportation system, parkland, and natural environment.

This crash course in city building was accompanied by facilitated discussions where members worked together to identify and define principles and priorities that would guide their work over the next two years. For their guiding principles, they selected inclusivity; safety and security; innovation; affordability and prosperity; community wellbeing; and functionality. Their twenty-four planning priorities cover a wide range of city-building issues, from tree canopy protection to mixed-use zoning. **Section 4** of this report is written by members themselves, and describes each of these principles and priorities. For those interested in learning more about the panel's efforts and experiences, a short accompanying video can be found on the Planning Review Panel's webpage, www.toronto.ca/planning/tprp, and **Section 5** of this report describes the orientation program in greater detail.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE TORONTO PLANNING REVIEW PANEL

Each of the next twelve meetings of the Planning Review Panel will examine one or more specific city planning initiatives over the course of a full day. Members will have the opportunity to hear presentations from City of Toronto staff, as well as to discuss these initiatives with independent experts and impacted parties. They will then work together to offer shared input, built from the diverse perspectives and experiences that they bring forward as Torontonians, and to find the points of consensus that unite them. In this task they do not endeavour to speak like city planners, but instead to engage in an enriching dialogue with experts and with each other in order to generate new public insight that benefits Toronto.



Neer Singh (North York District) describes his work at Canada Post during member introductions on the first day of the Toronto Planning Review Panel.

2. Meet the Members of the Inaugural Toronto Planning Review Panel

The twenty-eight randomly selected members of the 2016-2017 Toronto Planning Review Panel broadly match the demographic profile of Toronto. They are volunteers and receive no compensation. You can read about each of them, in their own words.

Mohamed Abdo, Toronto & East York District, 45 - 64 years old: I have lived in Toronto since 1996. I graduated Centennial College in 2003 with a diploma in industrial microbiology. I am married and have three children. In my spare time I like playing chess and reading non-fiction. At the moment, I work as a part-time taxi driver. Being on the road for half the day, I have learnt a great deal about Toronto — how it works and who is here. I believe that my experiences can help me make a valuable contribution to the panel. I am eager to give my input to help this beautiful city.



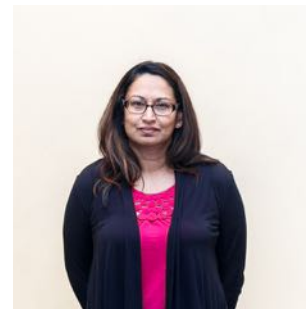
Jihan Abraham, Etobicoke York District, 18 - 29 years old: Nine years ago, when I was 19, my parents moved us to Toronto. I remember the first time I saw raccoons; I thought they were cute and fed them left over bread. Three years and \$500 later we finally got them to move out of our roof. I replaced them with a cat. I grew up in a close knit community in Guyana with a population of 4,300, so Toronto can sometimes feel overwhelming. However, I think I am finally beginning to feel at home. I've been working in customer service for the past eight years and have been exposed to people living all over Ontario, so where many may see what Toronto lacks, I see what we have. I joined the panel to understand how the city works, how we can help keep residents informed and how we can make Toronto the best city in the world to live in.



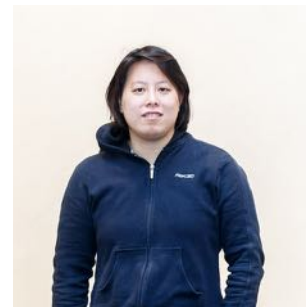
BJ Bejaimal, Etobicoke York District, 45 - 64 years old: I was born in Guyana, which I left in 1983 to live in New York City for eight years before moving to Canada in 1990. Since moving to Canada, I have lived and worked in the city of Toronto. I work for a financial company at Jarvis and Bloor. I have been married for 22 years and I have a daughter in her final year at Ryerson University. When I came to Toronto, the city was very quiet and I soon learned to appreciate its beauty and its wonderful historical buildings. Since moving to my current neighbourhood 20 years ago, I have seen massive developments; two condominium buildings, two sets of townhouses and a third in the development process. The city did nothing noticeable to accommodate the increased traffic, resulting in congestion during business hours. Thankfully, public transport is easily available. I am looking forward to helping improve our city.



Sunita Botha, Scarborough District, 45 - 64 years old: I was born in Trinidad and came to Toronto about 15 years ago. I am a math and science teacher with the Toronto District School Board. I spend my free time reading and, regardless of the season, enjoying the outdoors with my friends. I am very interested in learning about city planning and look forward to collaborating with individuals who feel the same way.



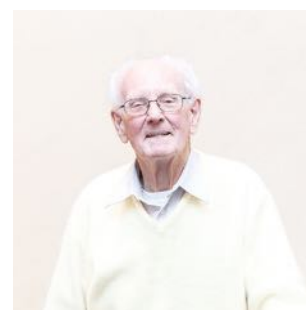
Joyce Chan, North York District, 30 - 44 years old: I have lived in Toronto most of my life with the exception of university. I have a Master's degree in Planning — at school I specialized in planning ski resorts. I am currently a civil servant for the people of Ontario. What interests me in planning is the big 'P' politics of planning. It will be an interesting experience balancing the priorities of the City and the perspectives brought by the participants of the Toronto Planning Review Panel.



Susan Delavigne, Scarborough District, 65+ years old: I grew up in the Beaches and have lived in Toronto my entire life. I have two children who are 27 and 30. I volunteer a lot of my time with many different charitable organizations, including but not limited to Out of the Cold, The Heart and Stroke Foundation, Canadian Blood Services, and Meals on Wheels. I am looking forward to discussing housing in the different neighbourhoods of Toronto, housing for seniors, and parks and recreation. I am excited to learn about the planning process and to become a more informed citizen of Toronto.



Albert Dowell, Etobicoke York District; 65+ years old: I was born December 1931 and have lived in Toronto my entire life. In high school, I didn't get a chance to play sports because I was helping my Dad build our house. After finishing school, I joined the workforce and learned from the school of hard knocks. I started in a metalworking factory before switching careers to servicing radios and televisions around the city. I got to see a lot of Toronto this way and I can barely recognize most parts of the city now. I spend a lot of my time at my cottage in Bracebridge. I haven't been canoeing since last year when I had heart surgery, but I hope to get in the canoe as soon as possible next year. I volunteered on this panel to contribute to the society that took care of me when I needed a new heart. I know I can give something back.



Peta-Gaye Ebanks, Toronto and East York District, 30 - 44 years old: I grew up in the GTA and have lived in Toronto for about seven years now. I graduated from Ryerson University with a MSc in Building Science and have done work as a consultant in building science research. I am very interested in learning about the city planning process and integrating the recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, since establishing and respectfully maintaining nation-to-nation relationships is integral to the planning process. Coming from a multicultural background, my sense of the history here and connection to this city was deeply affected when I attended a First Nations tour of Toronto. Learning about the history



of this city and the literal meaning of "Toronto" changed my perspective. I hope that city planning decision-making processes continue to integrate all stakeholders to create a dynamic and inclusive city.

Al Eslami, North York District, 45 - 64 years old I arrived in Canada from Iran over 40 years ago as a teenager. I received my university degree in Western Philosophy. I own a small translation business. My primary interest, however, is discussion and involvement in political issues, debates and gatherings, particularly from a progressive perspective. Over the past 30 years, The Toronto Star has published several articles and many letters I have written for them on various issues. I follow national and world events fairly regularly, and I am interested in expanding my area of knowledge and involvement by learning more about local issues. I am particularly concerned about the fact that Toronto, in its effort to become "world class," has turned into a place that tends to exclude the lower socioeconomic strata of the population in every arena of social and cultural life.



Dordana Hakimzadah, Scarborough District, 30 - 44 years old: I was born in Kandahar, Afghanistan, and moved with my family to Canada when I was five years old. I have a degree in International Development Studies and Anthropology. I work as a realtor and love my job because I get to meet new people and help guide them through the most important and biggest purchase of their lives. As a member of the panel, I am looking forward to learning more about our city and hearing other points of view about the issues shaping Toronto.



Simone Hodgson, Toronto & East York District; 18 - 29 years old: I grew up in the Riverdale neighbourhood of Toronto until I moved away to attend university in Montreal. At university I studied geography (Urban Studies) and have been passionate about cities ever since. I moved back home this past year and worked for a (now former) MP. I am passionate about a range of urban issues including affordable housing, community building and engagement, urban infrastructure and how to make cities more livable. My favourite thing about Toronto has to be the people who live here. I truly believe we are the most diverse, multicultural and tolerant city there is. While I know change is inevitable, especially in a city as rapidly growing as Toronto, I hope that we are able to preserve the amazing quality that allows us to remain accepting and open to what is initially considered 'different' or 'foreign'. Oh, and besides the people here, our food can't be beat either!



Emily Johnston, North York District, 18 - 29 years old: I am a Toronto native who is passionate about the city I live in. For the better part of my career, I have worked as a marketing professional in the real estate industry in the GTA. As a result of my profession, I am interested in everything that makes a city attractive to its residents. Since Toronto has emerged as a world-class city in recent years, we have had to take on a substantial





Mark Richardson (Toronto & East York District) and Shajeentha Sabaratnam (Scarborough District) listening to a guest presentation about Toronto's economy.

amount of growth that we may not have been prepared for. I look forward to contributing (even in the smallest of ways) to making our city greater!

Sharon Kemp, Scarborough District, 65+ years old: I was born and have lived in Toronto for 56 years. I am an ex-Bell Canada employee, who retired after 30 years of service at age 46. Since my retirement, I have been a personal trainer, worked in a factory, cleaned houses and done market research. In the spring and fall I clean up my community by picking up garbage and recycling around the Rouge Creek area. I keep active & try to eat healthy. As a child in Toronto, I used to sneak into the CNE grounds (to avoid the 10 cent fee) to get the free food inside. Throughout my life, I have seen the erection of some iconic Toronto buildings including the SkyDome and the CN Tower, as well as the conversion of the Post Office to the Air Canada Centre. I stopped working a year ago and am looking forward to meeting new people and learning how our diverse city is planned, especially the transportation system.



Rahim Lalani, Toronto and East York District, 30 - 44 years old: I was born in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania but moved to Canada when I was six months old. I've lived in Toronto for most of my life with brief stints in New York City and Waterloo (I went to the University of Waterloo). I am a professional services manager at a software company near the airport and I live in Bloordale. I love this city (when I'm not stuck in traffic or waiting for a streetcar) and I am looking forward to getting involved in the community and helping out.



Steve Michailidis, Toronto & East York District, 18 - 29 years old: I was born in Oshawa; however, I have lived in Toronto for most of my life. I studied History at York University, and last October I received my Master of Arts at Western University in London. I volunteered for this panel because I want to get an insider's view of the planning process and to help influence and shape the future of my city.



Solomon Mohamed, Toronto & East York District, 45 - 64 years old: I was born in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in 1956. After completing ninth grade in 1971, I went to Malta to complete my high school. I then went to Libya and completed my higher education in geophysics (Master of Science) in 1979. After a brief stay in the Middle East (Sudan and Egypt), I landed in Canada as a refugee in September of 1983. After three years, I became a Canadian citizen. I have worked in Toronto in various capacities as a telecommunication technician over the last 25 years. Currently, I am employed by York University (for 13 years now) as a PBX administrator. I volunteered to be on the panel to learn and contribute to the city I am passionate about.



Ivorie Phillips, Etobicoke York District, 45 - 64 years old: I am a soon-to-be retired resident of Toronto who immigrated from Jamaica 25 years ago with my four children. I now have 15 grandchildren, five great grandchildren, and I adopted and raised two children in Canada. Back when I lived in Jamaica, I was a dressmaker. When I moved to Toronto, I worked as a sewing machine operator for 17 years sewing bed sheets, bed spreads, and comforter sets. In my spare time I love to cook, spend time with family and friends, and attend church. I also attend several groups at my local hospital and have joined several community groups in order to take part in activities, share experiences and encourage other Torontonians to be better citizens. One issue that I care deeply about in planning is housing for seniors.



Irv Rayman, North York District, 65+ years old: I was born and raised in Toronto where I went to Bedford Park Public School, Lawrence Park Collegiate and Bathurst Heights Collegiate before studying architecture and law at the University of Toronto. I received my Bachelor of Architecture in 1966. After university I worked for Jerome Markson Architects, before my wife and I started our own firm, Rayman Architects, in 1973. I became involved in the profession by heading up the Fees and Services Committee of the Ontario Association of Architects (OAA). I became president of the Toronto Society of Architects, and the president of the OAA, Rosedale Moore Park Association and Inter Faith Homes, a large non-profit housing provider. I currently own and run a development corporation. I love Toronto.



Mark Richardson, Toronto & East York District, 30 - 44 years old: Having been born in the UK and raised in Alberta, I chose in 1993 to live and raise my family in Toronto. I run an IT consulting company specializing in big data analytics for public and private sector clients. My wife and I have two children who are in school. In my spare time, I am a volunteer with the Fairmount Park Ice Masters, Out of the Cold, and the Ontario chapter of the SAP software user group. A few objectives I am supportive of include open data and proactive disclosure in government, minimum density requirements along transit routes, and the re-use of underused public sector buildings to better accommodate our aging population. I joined the panel because Toronto has given me a lot over the last 20+ years and this seemed like a good way to give back.



Shajeentha Sabaratnam, Scarborough District, 18 - 29 years old: I came to Canada nine years ago with my family and we have lived in Toronto ever since. I am currently a third-year undergraduate student pursuing a biology major. I love gardening and care deeply about 'being green', as much as I am able. I am looking forward to transforming our city into a more environmentally friendly place. I am also eager to learn about the many different aspects of our city and to explore ways that the city can be improved.



Neer Singh, North York District, 45 - 64 years old: I was born in Guyana and immigrated to Canada in 1977. I have lived in Toronto for the past 35 years. I'm married and have two adult children currently living at home. I've worked for Canada Post for the past 30 years as a lead hand in the maintenance department where I am in charge of overseeing 20 techs charged with maintaining the mail sorting machines. These machines ensure that mail is sorted properly so it can be delivered all over Canada. I have also been involved in federal, provincial, and municipal elections. I am looking forward to everyone on the panel getting to know each other better over the course of our 12 sessions.



Jeannette Thornton, Scarborough District, 65+ years old: I was born in Grand Falls, New Brunswick but as a child I frequently moved around Quebec and Ontario. In total, I attended ten different schools. In 1963, I got married and moved to Europe where I had a baby boy. I moved to Toronto in 1966 where I brought up my son on my own. I worked for Imperial Oil for 26 years in the accounting department dealing primarily with Quebec Esso stations due to my ability to speak both French and English. My eldest granddaughter just graduated from the University of Waterloo, and I have another granddaughter at Western and a grandson at the University of Guelph. I volunteered for the panel to meet others who are passionate about the city and to learn about the planning process.



Stan Tomas, Etobicoke York District, 30 - 44 years old: I grew up in Toronto and my immediate family lives in Toronto as well. Currently I work in the Yonge and Eglinton area and live in Etobicoke. One of my earlier memories is of riding the Bathurst streetcar to Exhibition stadium to watch the Blue Jays. Having rented, owned, lived, worked and played in almost every former borough, I feel a connection to issues that span the entire city. To me, one of Toronto's defining values is that it provides options for an individual to live and work the way they choose. I want to support decisions that keep options open for everyone. Having also lived and worked in Ottawa as well as having traveled to several countries, I bring some non-Toronto perspectives as well. I volunteered for this panel to be a part of city planning decisions. I hope to contribute to these decisions in a meaningful way.



Judy Tran, Etobicoke York District, 18 - 29 years old: I was born and raised in Toronto and I am currently a medical laboratory science student at The Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences. I also work as a research assistant and science outreach instructor at the University of Toronto and volunteer at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute. By volunteering on the Toronto Planning Review Panel, I would like to encourage and empower others to participate in civic engagement and become active, contributing citizens in their own communities. In addition to wanting to learn more about city planning, I am also passionate about providing input on issues related to affordable housing and public transportation in this city.



Delaney Waddell, North York District, 45 - 64 years old: I am Métis from Manitoba and have lived and worked in Toronto for more than 30 years. The majority of those years have been spent working in organizations mandated to improve the quality of life for Aboriginal peoples. My teenage daughter and I love living in the city. We love that Toronto is home to many cultures and lifestyles and offers a diverse choice of food, arts and leisure activities. I volunteered to be on the Toronto Planning Review Panel to offer my experiences and insights from day-to-day life in the city in the hope of helping make Toronto an even better place for my daughter and others to live in.



Jason Wong, Scarborough District, 18 - 29 years old: I was born in Hong Kong and moved to Toronto in 1992. Since then, I have studied Mechanical Engineering, obtained a Bachelor of Applied Science from the University of Toronto, and am working towards a Master's of Applied Science at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology. I am now a Professional Engineer working with the Nuclear Division of Ontario Power Generation. I have lived in Scarborough for the past 23 years and have had stints in North York and the downtown area during school. One of my life goals is to make a positive impact and to make a difference in people's lives. I have witnessed the area surrounding Scarborough change from farmland to budding suburban neighbourhoods that run right up to nearby towns. I look forward to learning more about city planning and using my skills, knowledge, and experience to help improve the city and help guide its development into the future.

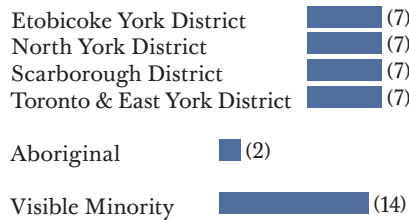
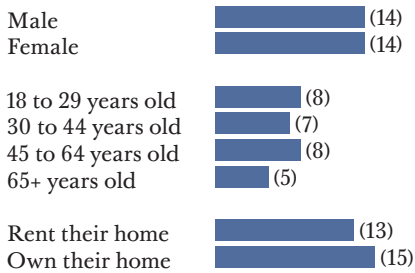
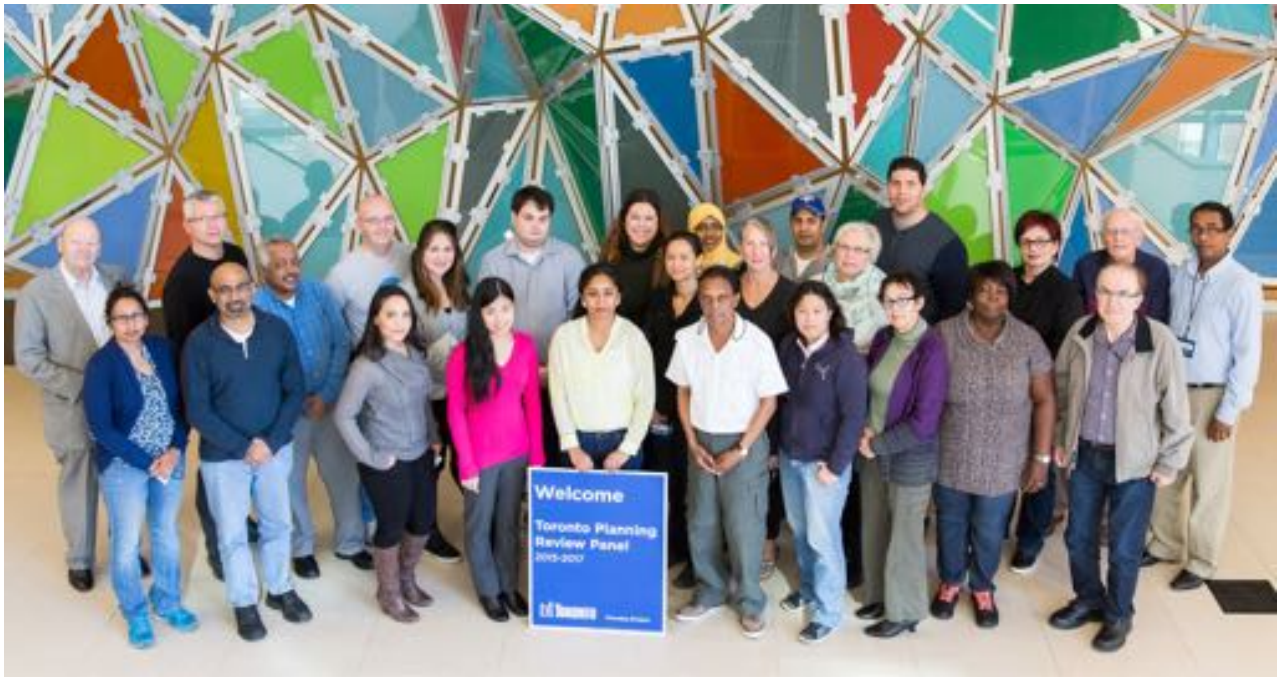


Adnan Zabian, Etobicoke York District, 30 - 44 years old: I moved to Toronto in 2013 and I am currently a partner at Kamlu Engineering Inc. My career path has been an interesting one, split between engineering and business. I am a graduate of Fanshawe College in mechanical engineering and small business management. Shortly after graduating, I worked in the renewable energy industry for seven years where I worked in business development, project coordination and project design. One of the most notable projects I have been involved in was the solar thermal system for the Sick Kids Hospital when I was 22 years old. After working in the renewable energy sector, I shifted to off-site modular constructed buildings where I did business development. I also took a partnership at Kamlu Engineering where my duties are mechanical and plumbing design, business development and project management. I received my C.Tech designation and hope to continue on to earn my professional engineering designation, the P.Eng.



Adam Zhang, North York District, 18 - 29 years old: I have been living in Toronto for three years now and was living on the west coast for five years before that. Currently, I am a second year Human Resources major at York University. I have a passion for city planning and I am hoping I can learn and grow while contributing to the development of our city. I hope to start my own business in the future and build a business empire like Google! I also have a wide range of interests including music, sports, culinary arts, and film.





Top: The Panel on Day #1, Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute;
Middle: The Panel on Day #4, City Council Chambers;
Bottom: Demographic profile of the Panel.



Only 12,000 households in Toronto have been randomly selected to receive this invitation
We need you to volunteer for the City of Toronto's new Planning Review Panel

Sanjay S
#2-143 Y
Toronto,

Return Address

Response required by:
Tuesday, October 6, 2015

Registering online ensures your
response is received by the deadline

www.toronto.ca/plannir



1000071167-M5A1K9-BR01



Candidate Response Card

YES, I would like to volunteer as a member of the Toronto Planning Review Panel
 No, I do not wish to volunteer on the Panel but I would like to receive further information

First name: _____ Last name: _____

Gender: Male | Female | _____ Age: 18 - 29 | 30 - 44 | 45 - 64 | 65+

Primary Phone: _____ Secondary Phone: _____

Email: _____

Sanjay Smith
#2-143 York View Dr
Toronto, ON M5A 1D3



XX123456

Volunteer by
October 6

Please turn over



September 4, 2015

Dear Toronto Resident,

The City's Planning Division needs your help to make sure we are creating a city that is prosperous, livable, equitable, and environmentally responsible.

This letter is a special invitation to apply to be part of the new Planning Review Panel, and to add your voice to Toronto's planning process. If you are 18 years of age or older and live in Toronto, you can apply — no experience is necessary.

Whether you're new to Toronto or a long-time resident, you know the city is changing fast.

New buildings and infrastructure are being constructed to meet the needs of the 20,000 net new residents who each year decide to make Toronto their home. This makes Toronto one of the fastest-growing and most dynamic cities in North America.

The City's Planning Division is responsible for ensuring that this growth enhances the city we share — from Steeles Avenue to the waterfront, and from Rouge River to Etobicoke Creek.

This means thinking about the long-term impacts of growth, while balancing the different interests, needs, and priorities of the city's 2.8 million residents. We need your help to get this balance right.

The Planning Review Panel is a new way for City Planning to hear the perspectives of Torontonians like you. As a member of the Panel, you will learn about your city and provide input and local expertise on important planning issues shaping Toronto. These issues could relate to transportation, zoning for new homes and businesses, neighbourhood density and character, historic buildings, and the locations of libraries, community centres, parks, and other neighbourhood amenities.

Membership on the panel is open to any Toronto resident who receives this letter and is 18 years of age or older. From among the pool of applicants, 20 members will be randomly selected to ensure broad representation from across the city. You do not need to be a Canadian citizen, and there is no cost to participate.

The Planning Review Panel will meet six times each year, following a special orientation program this fall. Each member will serve on the Panel for two years.

Joining the Panel is a great way to:

- Learn first-hand about your city and the planning process;
- Contribute your perspective and learn about the views of other Toronto residents; and
- Provide insight to the Planning Division concerning important issues shaping the city.

You do not need to be an expert to participate. It's your perspective as a Toronto resident that matters most.

Deadline
October 6
Respond Today

Please turn over

Frequently Asked Questions

Toronto Planning Review Panel



What is a Planning Review Panel?

A Planning Review Panel is a group of residents brought together to learn about, discuss, and provide input to City Planning staff on important city planning issues. Twenty-eight randomly selected Torontonians will be appointed to the Panel as volunteers for two years. The Panel will develop its input as a group and will work to reflect the interests of all Torontonians.

Why have a Planning Review Panel in Toronto?

Toronto is changing fast. Each year 20,000 net new residents make Toronto their home, and they all need places to live, work, and play. This means we need to build or upgrade new and existing buildings, public spaces and infrastructure to meet the city's changing needs. The Planning Review Panel will be a new way for residents to share their perspectives on how best to direct this growth and change. The City of Toronto's Planning Division believes the input of residents like you, and the expert knowledge you have about the communities you live in, is essential for good decision-making. The insights and local expertise of the Panel will complement other forms of community consultation and help to ensure that growth occurs in ways that reflect the values and priorities of Toronto's residents.

But I am not an expert — can I still be involved?

Absolutely. We do not expect you to have any specialized knowledge about city planning. Your perspective and experience as a Toronto resident is what matters most. Each member will have enough time to learn everything they need to make an informed contribution to the Planning Review Panel.

What is the City of Toronto's Planning Division?

The City Planning Division provides advice to City Council that helps guide growth in neighbourhoods across Toronto. We shape how the city looks and feels, and develop plans that ensure residents can work, live, play, and move throughout the city. We review applications for new buildings; promote well-designed streets, parks and open spaces; guide how buildings are located, organized, and shaped; plan transportation; work to transform Toronto's waterfront; and undertake in-depth research used by other City Divisions on land use, housing, community services, and the environment.

What would be my role as a member of the Planning Review Panel?

Between October 2015 and November 2017, members of the Planning Review Panel will meet 16 times. As a member of the Panel you will:

- Learn first-hand about the city and its planning process from independent experts as well as City staff;
- Contribute your perspective and learn about the views of others; and
- Provide input to the Planning Division on important issues shaping the city.

The Planning Division will request input from the Planning Review Panel on issues such as transportation plans, the desired density and character of different neighbourhoods, the importance of historic buildings and public art, and the location of new community amenities like parks, libraries, and community centres.

What will be done with the Panel's input?

The Planning Review Panel is intended to be an influential body and an important source of input that will help the Planning Division provide effective advice to City Council. The panel's perspectives, insights, and priorities will be referenced in reports to Council and published on the City of Toronto's website.

How was I selected to receive this invitation?

Your address was one of 12,000 households across Toronto randomly selected by Canada Post to receive this invitation.

Who is eligible to serve on the Planning Review Panel?

To be a member of the Planning Review Panel you must be 18 years of age or older and a current resident of a household that received this letter. You do not need to be a Canadian citizen to participate. Only one volunteer per household will be eligible for membership on the Planning Review Panel. Employees of the City of Toronto, contractors working for the Planning Division, members of other official City of Toronto Advisory Bodies, as well as elected municipal, provincial, and federal officials are ineligible to serve as members of the Planning Review Panel.

Please turn over

Deadline
October 6
Respond Today

A larger and more readable version of the Toronto Planning Review Panel Civic Lottery can also be found in the Appendix.

3. Understanding the Civic Lottery

The 28 members of the 2016-2017 Toronto Planning Review Panel were selected by civic lottery. A total of 12,000 invitations were sent to randomly selected residences across Toronto in early September 2015. The letter, from Toronto's Chief Planner Jennifer Keesmaat, invited recipients to volunteer sixteen Saturdays over the course of two years to learn about the city and its planning process, and to work with others to provide input on behalf of all Torontonians about important planning issues shaping the city. The letter also included a message from Mayor John Tory, encouraging recipients to volunteer. Invitations were distributed across the city in rough proportion to the population living in the different areas of Toronto, and were transferable to anyone aged 18 or over living in the household.

Those who received the letters were asked to donate their time as a form of public service. Volunteers would not be offered payment to participate, but any cost incurred (such as childcare, eldercare, food and travel) would be covered. Certain individuals were ineligible to apply: employees of the City of Toronto or of a contractor currently working for the City Planning Division; members of another official City of Toronto Advisory Body; and elected municipal, provincial, or federal officials along with declared candidates seeking such offices were not eligible to volunteer.

More than 574 people responded to the invitation, with 503 volunteering to be part of the panel and an additional 71 expressing interest in further information but unable to volunteer due to a conflicting event in their schedules. From this pool of eligible volunteers, 28 panelists were randomly selected in a blind draw that balanced six criteria. The selection guaranteed gender parity, matched the age profile of Toronto, ensured equal representation from each of the four Planning Districts of Toronto (with two young people from each), balanced for visible minority status, included a proportionate number of renters and owners, and ensured the inclusion of at least one Aboriginal member. Proportions were established based on the most recent available census profile.

The candidates' income, educational attainment and other attributes were not factored into the selection process. These attributes typically emerge proportionate to the general population during a civic lottery. The civic lottery is a made-in-Toronto method that has now been used on over 30 occasions across Canada to convene randomly selected Citizen Panels that offer strong demographic diversity and ensure broad representation of the population as a whole.



Delaney Waddell (North York District) listening to other members of the panel during a discussion.

4. The Guiding Document of the Toronto Planning Review Panel, 2016-2017

What follows is the Guiding Document of the Toronto Planning Review Panel, 2016-2017. The Guiding Document was drafted by the members of the panel over the course of their four orientation sessions held in Autumn 2015. The guiding document was subsequently circulated to each panel member for their input, revisions, and approval. This process was completed with the assistance of panel staff.

Introducing Ourselves: the Toronto Planning Review Panel

We are a diverse group of Torontonians who volunteered to bring our experience of Toronto to the city planning process. We were randomly selected from over 500 volunteers, and together represent 817 years of Toronto experience. During the twelve day-long meetings of our term, we will collaborate to build non-partisan, unbiased consensus that reflects the interests and concerns of the broader public regarding how our city is planned.

Why we volunteered

We volunteered for the Toronto Planning Review Panel because we love this city, want to learn, and want to have a voice in the planning process. We aren't the usual people who get involved in city planning processes. By becoming members of this panel, we hope to become better informed and more engaged. We want to combine the knowledge we gain from experts with our own experiences, skills, and perspectives in ways that contribute to improving Toronto.

What we've learned so far

Over the course of our first four days together, we have learned about Toronto, about each other, and about the basics of city planning. Subject-area experts have provided a diverse set of perspectives and a wealth of information about Toronto's transit and congestion, housing and housing costs, the city economy and the growing income gap among residents, parks and the environment, built form and urban design, demographic trends and projections, and the overall planning process. From all of this, we have gained a greater appreciation of how city planning has shaped what Toronto is today and the way in which city planning will affect how Toronto continues to change. Finally, we have come to recognize that there

are ways that the City Planning Department can help address obstacles that prevent some members of the public from participating in the city planning processes.

What more we hope to learn

We realize our job is not to be professional city planners, but to provide informed resident input. Even so, there is more to learn if we are going to make our input as valuable as possible. Over the course of our twelve remaining meetings, we hope to find time to learn more about how zoning and transportation planning shape the characteristics of neighbourhoods; how the provincial Planning Act and the municipal Official Plan work together and how different levels of government influence and constrain planning decisions; how planning decisions affect homeless and other under-represented or underserved communities; how we balance short-term demands and long-term plans; and how politics and policy interact when decisions are made at City Hall. Finally, as the inaugural Planning Review Panel, we are very eager to learn how our input ends up influencing and guiding city planning decisions.

What we hope to contribute

We are here to help create a positive future for our city and the Greater Toronto Area. We want to give voice to people's diverse needs, perspectives, and experiences, to help bridge the gap between city government and the general public, and to act as a vehicle for meaningful exchange between these different perspectives. We would like to lead by example by listening, learning, and sharing respectfully —helping to set the stage for future planning review panels and show that community consultations can be valuable and enjoyable. Ultimately, we want to draw on our individual experiences in order to contribute together, in a way that honours and reflects the wisdom of past generations and benefits the Torontonians of today and tomorrow.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR PLANNING TORONTO

As the Toronto Planning Review Panel, we believe the following principles should guide how Toronto is planned. In our work we will seek to apply and advance these guiding principles during our term. They are listed in no particular order.

Inclusivity

We believe our city should be planned so that Toronto promotes active multiculturalism; is open and welcoming to all long-time residents, newcomers, and visitors; accommodates the needs of all; ensures equal opportunity to pursue success; and fairly balances the interests of diverse people.

Safety and Security

We believe our city should be planned so that residents feel free from the dangers that can arise in cities. Toronto should have welcoming and brightly lit public areas and streets, communities should be supported and encouraged to be actively and visibly involved in creating safe spaces, and new developments should improve upon the safety of the surrounding area. Ultimately, a safe community is one where everyone can contribute to safety, and where safety, security and protection are experienced by everyone — including refugees, the homeless, and other vulnerable or marginalized people.

Innovation

We believe city planning efforts should be open to new ideas and strive for higher standards, while still preserving the history, culture, and heritage that makes Toronto unique. For us, innovative planning has many elements. Innovative planning considers past, present and future; balances the short-term and long-term needs of Torontonians (including those of future generations); focuses on how to best use limited resources and new technologies; and includes consultations with all groups to help the City Planning Division develop and implement best practices. We hope these sorts of practices will support a strong local culture of innovation that suits a world-class city like Toronto, helping to generate jobs and protect our environment both now and in the future.

Affordability and Prosperity

We believe our city should be planned so that it is affordable yet prosperous. By this we mean four things. First, we believe our city should create stable and secure employment and business opportunities for long-time residents, newcomers, and commuters. Second, we believe Toronto should be a place that offers the necessary supports so that diverse people can maximize their potential and contributions. Third, we believe



Rahim Lalani (Toronto and East York District) participating in a plenary discussion about the Panel's Terms of Reference

Toronto should be a place where everyone can have a decent quality of life regardless of their economic circumstances. And lastly, we believe Toronto should make smart long-term investments in order to eliminate unnecessary financial burdens and reduce adverse impacts on future generations while not jeopardizing its present economic appeal.

Community Wellbeing

We believe planning efforts should help create communities that encourage people to come together and interact. For us, this means helping to create community spaces that are multi-purpose (with, for example, places for arts, sports, and worship), multicultural, accommodating, pet-friendly, accessible and inclusive of community members from all walks of life — including those of different ages, genders, cultures, ethnicities, religions, and incomes —in all seasons. By doing this, we can create safe, vibrant, complete communities where Torontonians know their neighbours and where local connections drive both community wellbeing and the wellbeing of Toronto as a whole.

Functionality

We believe planning efforts should create a functional city. A functional city is built from interconnected neighbourhoods that meet local needs and are accessible for people of all needs and ages. A functional city has reliable public transit and provides a variety of easy transportation options that reduce our reliance on cars. Finally, a functional city pays attention to the diverse and changing needs of long-time residents, newcomers, and visitors, investing in infrastructure that will address current needs as well as the needs of the future.

PLANNING PRIORITIES FOR THE TORONTO PLANNING REVIEW PANEL: 2016-2017

As a panel, we will seek to offer input during our 2016-17 term that advances the following planning priorities. These priorities are presented in no particular order.

Our Planning Priorities for Parks and the Natural Environment

We hope to encourage:

1. The creation of safe, user-friendly parks that are multi-purpose, all season, accessible, walkable, well-lit, and suitable for the demographics of the surrounding area as well as other Torontonians.
2. The preservation and upgrade of existing parks and natural spaces, with an emphasis on conserving ecosystems and taking into account First Nations traditional knowledge.
3. Active planning that leads to the construction of new parks and facilities that respond to the changing needs of different areas in Toronto.
4. Better connectivity between parks and other natural spaces in order to protect tree canopies, wildlife corridors, and waterways.
5. Greater transparency and awareness about the use of city funds designated for parks and recreation facilities, including funds contributed by developers.

Our Planning Priorities for Housing

We hope to encourage:

1. The investigation and use of tools that have the potential to improve housing affordability and choice for both renters and owners — because we believe housing is a right.
2. A mix of incomes in neighbourhoods and, where possible, in buildings, in order to facilitate diversity and inclusion.
3. A diversification of housing designs, sizes, and layouts in ways that help accommodate different ages, lifestyles, family arrangements, and special needs (including physical disability).
4. Planning that ensures neighbourhoods of residents with diverse needs have relevant and available social services and community facilities. This should include consultation with the local community.
5. Initiatives that lead to more sustainable buildings and that promote and maintain privately owned green spaces. This should include consideration of materials and energy use.

Our Planning Priorities for Design, Heritage, Built Form, and the Public Realm

We hope to encourage:

1. Community engagement that leads to the consideration of current and future local needs in design.
2. The protection, integration and modernization of heritage buildings in ways that consider neighbourhood history, character, and personality.
3. The improvement of streetscapes so they are safe at all times, appealing, maximize natural light, and minimize wind tunnels.
4. Greater accessibility of public and private spaces for people of different abilities, for example those with different levels of mobility, sight, and hearing.
5. Greater emphasis in the design process on ways that long-term infrastructure demands can be minimized (i.e. on the city's power, road, sewage, and natural gas systems), in order to extend the life of current infrastructure in the face of continued growth.
6. Appropriate density, potentially through mandated minimum density and designated intensification areas.

Our Planning Priorities for Transportation

We hope to encourage:

1. Greater alignment of density and growth with transit infrastructure through realistic, evidence-based, long-term planning.
2. The coordination and integration of the different transit systems that connect to Toronto while still valuing local input, insights, and priorities in transit planning.
3. Greater efficiency in our transportation system, with a particular emphasis on shortening commute times and improving access.
4. The consideration of innovative approaches in all aspects of transportation planning.

Our Planning Priorities for the Economy

We hope to encourage:

1. The use of planning tools in ways that support local, community-based businesses — businesses that we believe help mitigate income inequality and provide long-term job stability.
2. Smart investment in public transit and transportation so that investment drives economic growth and advances equitable participation in the economy.
3. The growth of mixed-use neighbourhoods where commercial and



Jeannette Thornton (Scarborough District) describing why she volunteered for the panel during member introductions on the first day of the Panel.

residential activities coexist, in order to create local jobs, improve safety, and spur economic development.

4. Greater consideration during relevant city planning processes for the distinctive needs of, and structural disadvantages faced by, Toronto's youth in today's economy.

ORIENTATION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Day 1

Introductions; Program Orientation; Learning about the City Planning Division, City Hall, and Toronto

9:00	Registration and Coffee
9:30	Welcome and Process Overview
10:00	Member introductions activity
10:30	Intro to the Planning Division: <i>Jennifer Keesmaat</i>
11:00	Break
11:15	A Whirlwind Tour of City Hall: <i>Joy Connelly</i>
11:45	Demographics of Toronto — Past, Present, and Future: <i>Heath Priston</i>
12:15	Lunch
12:45	Activity: What Makes a Great City?
1:15	Toronto's Economy: Trends and Issues Discussion with <i>David Hulchanski</i> and <i>Gillian Smith</i>
2:15	Break
2:30	Guiding Principles Activity: Part 1.
3:15	A Journalist's Perspective on City-building: a Discussion with <i>John Lorinc</i>
3:50	Next steps
4:00	Adjourn

October 17

Day 2

City Planning 201; Trends and Issues Shaping Housing, Design, and Parks in Toronto; Guiding Principles

9:00	Coffee
9:30	Welcome back and Check in
10:00	City Planning 201 — The Planning Framework: <i>Gregg Lintern</i>
11:00	Break
11:15	Design, Built Form and the Public Realm: Trends and Issues Discussion with <i>Harold Madi</i> and <i>Gordon Stratford</i>
12:15	Lunch
12:45	Guiding Principles Activity: Part 2
2:00	Toronto's Housing: Trends and Issues Discussion with <i>Sieve Upton</i> and <i>Niall Haggart</i>
3:00	Break
3:15	Toronto's Transportation: Trends and Issues Discussion with <i>Hilary Holden</i> and <i>Ed Levy</i>
4:15	Next steps
4:30	Adjourn

October 31

Day 3

City Planning 301; Trends and Issues Shaping Parks and the Environment; Planning Priorities, Terms of Reference

9:00	Coffee
9:30	Welcome back and Check in
9:50	City Planning 301 — The Official Plan, Urban Structure, and Land Use: <i>Graig Lens</i>
10:45	Break
11:00	Toronto's Parks and the Environment: Trends and Issues Discussion with <i>Laura Atkins</i> and <i>Jane Weninger</i>
12:00	Activity: Brainstorming Planning Priorities
12:45	Lunch
1:15	Major Planning Division Initiatives for 2016: <i>Daniel Fusca</i>
1:45	Activity: Identifying Planning Priorities for the 2016-17 Planning Review Panel
2:45	Break
3:00	Terms of Reference Discussion
4:15	Next steps
4:30	Adjourn

November 14

Day 4

Approving the Terms of Reference, Finalizing Guiding Principles and Priorities, Presenting the Results

9:00	Coffee
9:30	Welcome back and Check in
9:45	Terms of Reference: Incorporating Feedback
10:30	Break
10:45	Guiding Document Working Groups Session 1: Planning Priorities
12:00	Plenary report back + panel feedback
12:30	Lunch
1:00	Working Group Session 2: Incorporating feedback
1:30	Working Group Session 3: Introductory Remarks and Guiding Principles
2:15	Feedback Session + Final Edits
3:15	Break
3:30	Presentation of the Draft Guiding Document to Directors of City Planning
4:15	Next Steps
4:30	Adjourn

November 28

5. About the Panel's Orientation Program

This past fall, panel members each dedicated 40 hours to an orientation program that was held over the course of four Saturdays. During that time, they met with seventeen guest speakers, who introduced them to the tools of city planning, and to the trends shaping Toronto's demographics, economy, housing stock, built form, public realm, transportation system, parkland, and natural environment.

This crash course in city building was accompanied by a series of facilitated discussions. During these discussions, members worked together to develop a Guiding Document for their term. The result of this work is presented in Section 5 of this report. Members also helped shape the panel's official Terms of Reference, which they reviewed, edited, and approved. An overview of the orientation program and a list of guests who joined the panel can be found on subsequent pages.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE TORONTO PLANNING REVIEW PANEL

In order of appearance

Jennifer Keesmaat	Chief Planner and Executive Director of Toronto City Planning	City Planning 101: Introducing the City Planning Division
Joy Connelly	Independent Municipal Consultant	Municipal Civics 101: A Whirlwind Tour of City Hall
Heath Priston	Planning Analyst, Social Development, Finance & Administration Division, City of Toronto	The Demographics of Toronto: Past, Present, and Future
David Hulchanski	Professor and Dr. Chow Yei Ching Chair in Housing at the Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto	Toronto's Economy: Trends and Issues Discussion
Gillian Smith	Vice President, Membership, Toronto Region Board of Trade	Toronto's Economy: Trends and Issues Discussion
John Lorinc	Freelance Journalist	A Journalist's Perspective on Citybuilding in Toronto

Gregg Lintern	Director of Community Planning for the Toronto and East York District, Toronto City Planning	City Planning 201: The Planning Framework
Harold Madi	Director of Urban Design, Toronto City Planning	Design, Built Form, Heritage, and the Public Realm: Trends and Issues Discussion
Gordon Stratford	Chair of the City of Toronto's Design Review Panel; Architect, Senior VP and Director of Design at HOK	Design, Built Form, Heritage, and the Public Realm: Trends and Issues Discussion
Steve Upton	Vice President of Development Planning, Tridel	Housing in Toronto: Trends and Issues Discussion
Niall Haggart	Executive Vice President, The Daniels Corporation	Housing in Toronto: Trends and Issues Discussion
Hillary Holden	Director of Transit & Sustainable Transportation, Toronto City Planning	Transportation in Toronto: Trends and Issues Discussion
Ed Levy	Co-founder, BA Consulting Group and author, <i>Rapid Transit in Toronto: A Century of Plans, Progress, Politics and Paralysis</i>	Transportation in Toronto: Trends and Issues Discussion
Graig Uens	Community Planner, Toronto and East York District, Toronto City Planning	City Planning 301: The Official Plan and Other Planning Tools
Laura Atkins	Manager of Policy and System Planning, Toronto's Parks and Forestry Division	Parks and the Natural Environment in Toronto: Trends and Issues Discussion
Jane Weninger	Senior Environmental Planner, Policy Unit, Toronto City Planning	Parks and the Natural Environment in Toronto: Trends and Issues Discussion
Daniel Fusca	Stakeholder Engagement & Special Projects Coordinator in the Office of the Chief Planner, City Planning Division	Major City Planning Initiatives for 2016

Appendix 1: Terms of Reference for the Toronto Planning Review Panel

These Terms of Reference were originally drafted by the Panel's organizing team. They were presented to the inaugural Toronto Planning Review Panel during their orientation. Panel members offered substantial feedback which, along with input from the Directors of the City Planning Division, was incorporated into a subsequent draft and then presented back to the Panel for additional input and approval. The final version, presented here, was approved by the Chief Planner on January 12, 2016.

1. Context

Every year, City Planning undertakes thousands of hours of public engagement activities, hosting hundreds of community consultations in every corner of Toronto. In public meetings, online forums, and open houses, thousands of residents share their experiences, perspectives, priorities, and concerns about their neighbourhood and their city, helping the City Planning Division guide growth and change in ways that serve local residents and Toronto as a whole. By using a variety of evolving engagement approaches, City Planning can involve a broader set of Torontonians and receive richer, more nuanced public input. When it comes to issues with clear city-wide implications, at least three things are important to ensure that input is representative of Toronto's diversity, to offer sufficient opportunities for participants to learn about the many related considerations at play, and to create environments where deeper forms of dialogue between experts and residents, and amongst residents themselves, can lead to significant new insights. With these considerations in mind, City Planning has established the Toronto Planning Review Panel as a complement to other mechanisms of public consultation undertaken by the Division.

2. Objective of City Planning

The City Planning Division aims to offer a small group of randomly selected Torontonians who represent Toronto's diversity an unprecedented opportunity to shape planning priorities and policies that impact the city as a whole. City Planning will do so by establishing the Toronto Planning Review Panel — a Panel through which City Planning can receive representative, informed, and consider resident input.

3. Mandate

The Panel is mandated to provide input on City Planning strategies, plans, policies, and initiatives that have city-wide implications. This input should

be provided in order to help ensure City Planning's activities are informed by resident experience and well-aligned with the values and priorities of all Torontonians. To achieve their mandate, panelists are tasked to:

- Learn about Toronto, the ways the city is changing, and the different roles that City Planning plays in guiding growth and change;
- Understand the different values, perspectives, experiences, and priorities of all Toronto residents and commuters — including those who are vulnerable, marginalized, or homeless — concerning their local neighbourhoods and the city as a whole; and
- Work together to provide the City Planning Division with a source for informed residents' perspectives on planning priorities and policies that impact the city as a whole.

4. Membership

The Panel is comprised of 28 randomly selected members who together form a broad, representative cross-section of Toronto residents.

4.1 RECRUITMENT

Panelists are randomly selected by Civic Lottery. Before each Panel term, letters are sent to randomly selected households inviting residents to register as a volunteer. A blind draw selects panelists from the pool of registered volunteers in a way that satisfies the composition described in 4.3.

4.2 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

In order to be eligible to serve on the Panel, an applicant must:

- Reside within Toronto, at a residential address (unit in building) that was selected to receive one of the recruitment letters, or who received a letter via alternative mechanisms aimed at reaching Toronto residents without fixed addresses;
- Be at least 18 years of age as of the final day of the recruitment period;
- Be the only applicant from their residential address (unit in building);
- Not be an employee of the City of Toronto, a contractor currently working for the City Planning Division, a member of another official City of Toronto Advisory Body, an elected municipal, provincial, or federal official, or a declared candidate seeking such offices, a member of the Senate of Canada, or a former member of the Toronto Planning Review Panel;
- Be committed to attending at least the minimum required number of meetings as set out in Section 4.4 (Term and Schedule); and
- Be committed to acting in accordance with the panelist responsibilities as set out in Section 6.2 (Panelist Responsibilities).

4.3 COMPOSITION

At the time of selection, the Panel will be composed so that together members form a broad, representative cross-section of Toronto residents. Panelists are selected to reflect the city's gender balance, age balance, and the proportion of those who self identify as a visible minority. Selection also ensures the participation by at least one individual of indigenous

origin. At the time of selection, the Panel will be composed of seven residents from each Planning district and a proportionate number of renters and owners.

**Proportions will be established based on the most recent available census profile.*

4.4 TERM AND SCHEDULE

Panelists will serve on the Panel for two years, following an orientation program. The orientation program will consist of four meetings. Subsequently, the Panel will meet six times a year during their two-year term. Panelists must commit to attending all four orientation meetings and must attend at least 10 of the 12 subsequent ‘standard’ Panel meetings. The dates of these meetings shall be provided at the time of recruitment.

4.5 TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Panelists effectively terminate their membership on the Panel if they provide written notice of their intent to step down from the Panel due to illness or an unexpected event, if they fail to attend three of the 12 standard meetings of the Panel, if they move to a residence outside the City of Toronto, if they become an employee of the City of Toronto or of a contractor currently working for the City Planning Division, if they become a member of another official City of Toronto Advisory Body, or if they declare their intent to run for office or are elected as a municipal, provincial, or federal representative.

The City Planning Division can also terminate membership on the Panel, at their discretion, if the member does not attend the full orientation program, or if the member contravenes the responsibilities of panelists set out in Section 6.2 (Panelist Responsibilities) in a manner that imperils the effectiveness and legitimacy of the Panel. The member would be notified of the intent to review their membership, the rationale for this review, and be offered an opportunity to prepare a response. City Planning Division staff will make the final decision concerning the termination of the panelist’s membership.

4.6 REPLACEMENT OF PANELISTS

If a panelist’s membership is terminated before the final meeting of the orientation program, a replacement member will be randomly selected from amongst the pool of applicants. If a panelist’s membership is terminated after the final meeting of the orientation program a replacement member may be randomly selected from amongst the pool of applicants, at the discretion of the City Planning Division.

5. Topic Selection Protocol

The Panel will develop guiding principles and priorities for its term during its orientation program. These principles and priorities will be captured and publicized in a Guiding Document. City Planning will seek to reflect the expressed interests of the Panel when selecting topics for review of the panel, and will gather ongoing feedback and advice from the Panel about

topic selection throughout the Panel's mandate. City Planning will also seek to bring forward substantial, appropriate, and timely City Planning topics for the review of the Panel.

Projects presented to the Panel for input may include:

- City-wide Official Plan amendments;
- Studies or other initiatives (such as the development of Design Guidelines or Environmental Assessments) in Growth Areas, including the Downtown, Centres and along Avenues;
- Other strategic initiatives of city-wide importance, including transit projects; and
- Inter-divisional initiatives with a demonstrated city planning focus.

The Panel will not review individual development proposals.

Specific projects will be considered for review by the Panel upon the recommendation of the Director Lead. The final decision regarding which projects are reviewed by the Panel rests with the Chief Planner.

At least 10 days in advance of each standard meeting, City Planning staff will distribute to panelists the topics for review along with any necessary briefing materials.

This protocol should be revisited upon the completion of the first term of the Panel.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

Both panelists and the City Planning Division have distinct roles and responsibilities with respect to the Toronto Planning Review Panel.

6.1 THE ROLE OF PANELISTS

The Panel is comprised of randomly selected members who together form a broad, representative cross-section of residents of the City of Toronto. Panelists are not appointed or excluded due to their professional expertise. Instead, they are appointed in recognition of the value of new voices and the capacity of all residents to consider the needs of others and contribute their own experience and perspective to a shared exploration of city planning issues. As such, the role of panelists is to work together to offer input to the City Planning Division about strategies, plans, policies, and initiatives with city-wide implication. This is in order to help ensure that these strategies, plans, policies, and initiatives are informed by resident experience and well-aligned with the values and priorities of all Torontonians.

The role of panelists is limited to offering input to the City Planning Division and does not allow for input to other City Divisions, committees, or Council. City Planning can share the input of the panel with other City Divisions, committees, or Council. The Panel will have wide latitude in its ability to offer input on those City Planning Division strategies, plans, policies, and initiatives that are brought before them. However, for input to be incorporated into the work of the City Planning Division, it must be broadly consistent with City Planning's role, mission, and legal obligations, as well as responsible professional planning practices.

6.2 THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF PANELISTS

Panelists are responsible for:

- Respecting the Purpose of the Panel: Panelists are expected to treat all persons respectfully, act in a manner that advances the mandate of the Panel, and contribute to an environment that is welcoming to all members and free of discrimination and harassment;
- Considering the needs of all Torontonians: Panelists are expected to work together to understand and represent the varied perspectives of all Torontonians;
- Collaboration: Panelists are expected to take an active role in the work of the Panel and collaborate to achieve, to the greatest extent possible, consensus concerning the Panel's input to the City Planning Division;
- Declaring Conflicts of Interest: Panelists must declare any conflict of interest with respect to any agenda items being reviewed by the Panel, and take direction from the Chair in regards to their participation in the review of any such agenda items. In this regard, the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act will apply. A Conflict of Interest is defined as any panelist having a financial interest in the actions or advice of the City Planning Division with respect to the agenda item being reviewed – a financial interest that is considerably larger than what would reasonably be assumed to exist for an average Torontonian. If panelists are uncertain about the existence of a conflict of interest, panelists are responsible for seeking clarification from the Panel coordinator. When the meeting agenda is adopted, the Chair will ask panelists to declare any conflicts of interest. Any declared conflicts will be recorded in the meeting summary.
- Attendance: Panelists must attend the minimum required number of meetings as set out in Section 4.4 (Term and Schedule);

Panelists are restricted from:

- Replicating, paraphrasing or commenting on the views and contributions of other members in public or private venues outside of the Panel's deliberations. This is understood to be a means of encouraging candour and free exploration of topics during Panel deliberations.
- Speaking on behalf the Panel, or appearing to speak on behalf of the Panel, without explicit permission from the Panel Chair. This is understood to be a means of ensuring that public pronouncements made on behalf of the Panel are accurate and complete. Media requests and other inquiries should be referred to the Panel Coordinator.
- Making false statements about their role or professional expertise. It is understood that membership on the panel does in any way imply professional planning experience or expertise. Panelists must refrain from making undue claims about their role, responsibilities, expertise, or individual influence as a member of the Panel, both during and following their membership.

- Trading in influence. It is understood that panelists must resist and report any potential lobbying from impacted parties and refrain from using their influence on the Panel in order to receive personal or business benefit.

Members are permitted to:

- Share their personal opinions and views, when indicated as such, about any documents made public by the City.
- Seek to engage their communities and networks to obtain useful perspectives concerning the work of the Panel.

6.3 THE ROLE OF THE CITY PLANNING DIVISION

The City Planning Division is asking Torontonians with different backgrounds and experience to volunteer substantial time and effort as members of the Panel. As such, the role of the City Planning Division is to:

- bring forward substantial and appropriate City Planning topics for the review of the Panel;
- support the independence and integrity of the Panel as members work to develop input;
- give careful, serious, and timely consideration to the input received from the Panel; and
- inform, where appropriate, other City Divisions, committees, and council of the input received from the panel.

6.4 THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF CITY PLANNING DIVISION

The City Planning Division is responsible for:

- **Member Selection:** City Planning must oversee a fair and representative member selection process;
- **Learning Opportunities:** City Planning must offer an orientation program, organize additional learning opportunities throughout the Panel's term, and provide expertise and access to current research, in such a way that learning opportunities are balanced, adequate and reflective of a diversity of reasonable perspectives, including a balance of public and private stakeholders and individuals who are 'on the front lines' of city issues and their impact. City Planning will provide opportunities for the panel to suggest topics and speakers;
- **Chairing meetings:** City Planning must appoint a staff member or designate to act as the non-member Chair of Panel meetings. The Chair will preside over meetings of the Panel and provide necessary moderation and facilitation to support respectful dialogue and productive deliberation amongst panelists and ensure unbiased and accurate reporting;
- **Public Reporting and Appointment of Spokespeople:** City Planning must produce and make public member-approved summaries of input received during each meeting, and must act as, appoint, and oversee any capable official spokespeople authorized to speak on behalf of the Panel;
- **Due Consideration of Panel Input:** City Planning must incorporate the

input made by the Panel, wherever appropriate and at the direction of Council, into City Planning initiatives and activities, and must provide panelists with regular updates on how and why the Panel's input has affected the work of the City Planning Division and other divisions, committees and of Council.

- **Logistical and Accessibility Support:** City Planning must provide logistical necessities for Panel activities, including venues and food; reimbursement of reasonable childcare, eldercare, and transportation costs, and provision of additional assistance to those panelists with differing physical or learning abilities.

7. Procedures

7.1 WORKING LANGUAGE

The working language of the Panel is English. Translation services are not provided.

7.2 CHAIR

Meetings will be chaired and moderated by a City Planning staff member or their designate. A staff member or designate of the City Planning Division will also be present to take notes for the meeting summary.

7.3 PARTICIPANTS

Meeting participants are limited to panelists, City Planning staff and their designates, and guests invited by City Planning to provide learning opportunities to the Panel.

7.4 QUORUM

Quorum is at the Chair's discretion. At least three weeks in advance of each standard meeting, staff will confirm that at least 23 members plan to attend. If less than 23 members plan to attend, at the Chair's discretion, the meeting may be rescheduled. Further, if at the meeting the Chair deems the attendance to be too low to proceed, he/she may reschedule.

7.5 MEETING CONDUCT

Common sense and reasonableness will be the primary guides in determining how meetings are conducted. Meetings will be conducted in an organized but informal manner that avoid formal 'rules of order'.

7.6 CONSENSUS AND DIVERGENT VIEWPOINTS

There is no requirement that panelists will reach full consensus. The Panel is not a decision-making body, rather it is an avenue for providing valuable resident perspectives that will be considered by the City Planning Division. However, panelists will seek consensus to the greatest extent possible, while ensuring that divergent conclusions are given voice and noted in the official summaries of input received. Consensus means that, in the opinion of the Chair, a clear majority of members support or 'can live with' the position. When the Chair summarizes a consensus position, members have

the right to question the chair on whether consensus exists and whether their summary of consensus is accurate.

7.7 OPENNESS, IN-CAMERA PROCEEDINGS, AND PUBLIC REPORTING

As a body seeking the trust and confidence of the public, the Panel's work should default be open to observation and review. Due to logistical requirements, the City Planning Division may require pre-registration and may enforce limitations on the number of observers at any one meeting. The Chair and members also reserve the right to take the Panel's deliberations in-camera, in order to encourage candour and free exploration of topics among members. Public summaries of input will be released publicly. City Planning staff will prepare drafts of these summaries for each standard meeting, and circulate those drafts for feedback from members in attendance within 7 days of each meeting. Members will have 7 days to review the draft and suggest changes. A final version will be prepared by City Planning staff and approved by at least 75% of meeting participants before being released publicly.

8. Addendums

Sample Agendas and a Sample Panel Cycle are included as separate addendums.

Sample Agenda A: One-topic Meeting

9:30 a.m.	Welcome, Review of Panel's previous session, and Agenda Review (Chair)
9:45 a.m.	City Planning Updates (City Planning staff)
10:15 a.m.	Technical Presentation (City Planning Staff)
10:45 a.m.	Q+A with City Staff
11:15 a.m.	Break
11:30 a.m.	Independent Expert or Stakeholder Remarks (Invited Guests)
12:00 p.m.	Q+A with City Staff and Independent Experts or Stakeholders
12:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Small Group Deliberation
2:00 p.m.	Break
2:15 p.m.	Small Group Report back
2:45 p.m.	Plenary discussion: Consensus discovery and enumeration of divergent view points (Chair)
4:00 p.m.	Next Steps and discussion of potential topics for future meetings
4:15 p.m.	Adjourn

Sample Agenda B: Two-topic Meeting

9:30 a.m.	Welcome, Review of Panel's previous session, and Agenda Review (Chair)
9:45 a.m.	City Planning Updates (City Planning staff)
10:15 p.m.	Topic 1: Technical Presentation (City Planning Staff)
10:40 a.m.	Topic 1: Q+A with City Staff
11:00 a.m.	Break
11:15 a.m.	Topic 1: Small Group Deliberation
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
12:30 p.m.	Topic 1: Small Group Report back
12:45 p.m.	Topic 1: Plenary discussion: Consensus discovery and enumeration of divergent view points (Chair)
1:30 p.m.	Topic 2: Technical Presentation (City Planning Staff)
1:55 p.m.	Topic 2: Q+A with City Staff
2:15 pm.	Break
2:30 p.m.	Topic 2: Small Group Deliberation
3:15 p.m.	Topic 2: Small Group Report back
3:30 p.m.	Topic 2: Plenary discussion: Consensus discovery and enumeration of divergent view points (Chair)
4:15 p.m.	Next Steps and discussion of potential topics for future meetings
4:30 p.m.	Adjourn

Sample Panel Cycle:

PANELIST RECRUITMENT; SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, YEAR 0

- Invitations sent to randomly selected households, Early September, Year 0
- Volunteer deadline; Panelist Selection, Early October, Year 0

ORIENTATION OCTOBER-DECEMBER, YEAR 0

- Orientation Meeting A, Mid-October, Year 0
- Orientation Meeting B, Early November, Year 0
- Orientation Meeting C, Mid November, Year 0
- Orientation Meeting D, Early December, Year 0

MEETING 1, JANUARY, YEAR 1

- Topic Selection for Meeting 1, Early January, Year 1
- Meeting 1, Late January, Year 1
- Meeting 1 Summary Posted. Mid February, Year 1

MEETING 2, APRIL, YEAR 1

- Topic Selection for Meeting 2, Mid March, Year 1
- Meeting 2, Early April, Year 1
- Meeting 2 Summary Posted, Mid April, Year 1

MEETING 3, MAY, YEAR 1

- Topic Selection for Meeting 3, Late April, Year 1
- Meeting 3, Mid May, Year 1
- Meeting 3 Summary Posted, Early June, Year 1

MEETING 4, SEPTEMBER, YEAR 1

- Topic Selection for Meeting 4, Late August, Year 1
- Meeting 4, Mid September, Year 1
- Meeting 4 Summary Posted, Late September, Year 1

MEETING 5, OCTOBER, YEAR 1

- Topic Selection for Meeting 5, Early October, Year 1
- Meeting 5, Mid October, Year 1
- Meeting 5 Summary Posted, Early November, Year 1

MEETING 6, NOVEMBER, YEAR 1

- Topic Selection for Meeting 6, Mid November, Year 1
- Meeting 6, Late November, Year 1
- Meeting 6 Summary Posted, mid-December, Year 1

MEETING 7, JANUARY, YEAR 2

- Topic Selection for Meeting 7, Early January, Year 2
- Meeting 7, Mid January, Year 2
- Meeting 7 Summary Posted, Early February, Year 2

MEETING 8, MARCH, YEAR 2

- Topic Selection for Meeting 8, Mid February, Year 2
- Meeting 8, Early March, Year 2
- Meeting 8 Summary Posted, Mid March, Year 2

MEETING 9, APRIL, YEAR 2

- Topic Selection for Meeting 9, Early April, Year 2
- Meeting 9, Mid April, Year 2
- Meeting 9 Summary Posted, Early May, Year 2

MEETING 10, JUNE, YEAR 2

- Topic Selection for Meeting 10, Late May, Year 2
- Meeting 10, Mid June, Year 2
- Meeting 10 Summary Posted, Late June, Year 2

MEETING 11, SEPTEMBER, YEAR 2

- Topic Selection for Meeting 11, Late August, Year 2
- Meeting 11, Mid September, Year 2
- Meeting 11 Summary Posted, Late September, Year 2

PANELIST RECRUITMENT FOR TPRP 2, SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, YEAR 2

- Invitations for TPRP 2 sent to randomly selected households, Early September, Year 2
- Volunteer deadline; Panelist Selection for TPRP 2, Early October, Year 2

ORIENTATION FOR TPRP 2, OCTOBER-DECEMBER, YEAR 2

- Orientation Meeting A for TPRP 2, Mid-October, Year 2
- Orientation Meeting B for TPRP 2, Early November, Year 2
- Orientation Meeting C for TPRP 2, Mid November, Year 2
- Orientation Meeting D for TPRP 2, Early December, Year 2

MEETING 12, NOVEMBER, YEAR 2

- Topic Selection for Meeting 12, Early November, Year 2
- Meeting 12, Mid November, Year 2
- Meeting 12 Summary Posted, Early December, Year 2

MEMBER APPRECIATION EVENT, DECEMBER, YEAR 2

Appendix 2: Civic Lottery Invitation Package



Only 12,000 households in Toronto have been randomly selected to receive this invitation

We need you to volunteer for the City of Toronto's new Planning Review Panel

Sanjay Smith
#2-143 York View Dr
Toronto, ON M5A 1D3

**Deadline
October 6
Respond Today**

Outer windows envelop

Return Address

**Response required by:
Tuesday, October 6, 2015**

Registering online **ensures** your
response is received by the deadline

www.toronto.ca/planning/tprp



1000071167-M5A1K9-BR01



TORONTO PLANNING REVIEW PANEL
392A KING ST E
TORONTO ON M5A 9Z9

Return envelop

- YES, I would like to volunteer as a member of the Toronto Planning Review Panel**
- No, I do not wish to volunteer on the Panel but I would like to receive further information

First name:

Last name:

Gender: Male Female

Age: 18 - 29 30 - 44 45 - 64 65+

Primary Phone: - - Secondary Phone: - -

Email:

Sanjay Smith
#2-143 York View Dr
Toronto, ON M5A 1D3



XX123456

**Volunteer by
October 6**

Please turn over →

Lottery Ballot — Front Side

Please complete your candidate card by checking all that apply:



- 1) I own my home I rent my home
- Aboriginal Visible Minority
- 3) I am available to attend all four orientation sessions of the Panel: Yes No
October 17, 2015 October 31, 2015 November 14, 2015 November 28, 2015
- 4) I am available to attend at least 10 of the 12 subsequent meetings of the Panel in 2016 and 2017.
Please refer to the enclosed Frequently Asked Questions sheet for the list of subsequent meeting dates.
- Yes, I've read the list of dates and can attend No, I've read the list of dates and cannot attend

NOTICE OF COLLECTION: The personal information requested here is collected under the legal authority of the City of Toronto Act, S.O. 2006, Chapter 11, Schedule A, s.136 (b) & (c) and the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.13.

Your personal information will be used for the purpose of forming the Toronto Planning Review panel and will not be shared with any other parties or for any other purpose than the creation of this panel. Questions about this collection can be directed to the Coordinator Stakeholder Engagement & Special Projects in the Office of the Chief Planner by calling 416-392-3812, or by e-mail at dfusca@toronto.ca.

**Deadline
October 6
Respond Today**

Please turn over →

Lottery Ballot — Back Side



September 4, 2015

Dear Toronto Resident,

The City's Planning Division needs your help to make sure we are creating a city that is prosperous, livable, equitable, and environmentally responsible.

This letter is a special invitation to apply to be part of the new Planning Review Panel, and to add your voice to Toronto's planning process. If you are 18 years of age or older and live in Toronto, you can apply — no experience is necessary.

Whether you're new to Toronto or a long-time resident, you know the city is changing fast.

New buildings and infrastructure are being constructed to meet the needs of the 20,000 net new residents who each year decide to make Toronto their home. This makes Toronto one of the fastest-growing and most dynamic cities in North America.

The City's Planning Division is responsible for ensuring that this growth enhances the city we share — from Steeles Avenue to the waterfront, and from Rouge River to Etobicoke Creek.

This means thinking about the long-term impacts of growth, while balancing the different interests, needs, and priorities of the city's 2.8 million residents. **We need your help to get this balance right.**

The Planning Review Panel is a new way for City Planning to hear the perspectives of Torontonians like you. As a member of the Panel, you will learn about your city and provide input and local expertise on important planning issues shaping Toronto. These issues could relate to transportation, zoning for new homes and businesses, neighbourhood density and character, historic buildings, and the locations of libraries, community centres, parks, and other neighbourhood amenities.

Membership on the panel is open to any Toronto resident who receives this letter and is 18 years of age or older. From among the pool of applicants, 28 members will be randomly selected to ensure broad representation from across the city. You do not need to be a Canadian citizen, and there is no cost to participate.

The Planning Review Panel will meet six times each year, following a special orientation program this fall. Each member will serve on the Panel for two years.

Joining the Panel is a great way to:

- Learn first-hand about your city and the planning process;
- Contribute your perspective and learn about the views of other Toronto residents; and
- Provide insight to the Planning Division concerning important issues shaping the city.

You do not need to be an expert to participate. It's your perspective as a Toronto resident that matters most.

**Deadline
October 6
Respond Today**

Please turn over 

Members of the Planning Review Panel will meet from 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on the following Saturdays this fall. You must be able to attend each of the sessions, as well as 10 of 12 additional meetings that will occur over the next two years (see the *Frequently Asked Questions* sheet for further details).

Saturday, October 17, 2015

Saturday, November 14, 2015

Saturday, October 31, 2015

Saturday, November 28, 2015

To volunteer for the Planning Review Panel, please phone 1-844-711-8186, mail in the enclosed form, or register online at www.toronto.ca/planning/tprp by Tuesday, October 6, 2015.

I believe our City's planning process will be strengthened by creating new ways for Torontonians to learn and contribute to the decisions that affect them.

Toronto is an exciting place to live, and it's important that we all have a hand in shaping it.

Whether you are new to Toronto or a long-time resident, I sincerely hope you will volunteer to serve on Toronto's first Planning Review Panel.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Keesmaat

Chief Planner and Executive Director
Planning Division
City of Toronto



A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF TORONTO, JOHN TORY:

"We are all passionate about the city we live in and want the best for Toronto. The City is looking at more and better ways of bringing you to the table when making decisions that affect you and your family. The Planning Review Panel is an excellent, thoughtful and direct way for you to give City Hall the advice we need to make good choices about the future of our city. Whether you just moved to the city or have lived here your entire life, I encourage you to volunteer. Let's work together to turn a good city into a truly great one."

How to register as a volunteer for the Toronto Planning Review Panel:

There are three quick and easy ways you can register:

1. Phone 1-844-711-8186 to register by phone (or ask questions about the selection process);
2. Complete the enclosed Candidate Response Card and mail it back using the enclosed envelope; or
3. Register securely online at www.toronto.ca/planning/tprp

Please ensure you register in one of the above ways by Tuesday, October 6, 2015. If you are selected for the Panel, you can expect a phone call on the evening of Wednesday, Oct 7, 2015.

The Planning Review Panel will meet on the following dates between 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.: October 17 and 31, and November 14 and 28. You must be able to attend all of the sessions above and 10 of the 12 additional meetings held from January 23, 2016 to November 18, 2017 (see the *Frequently Asked Questions* sheet for further details). Please check and hold all dates until the evening of Wednesday, October 7, 2015, when the members of the Panel will be notified.

If you are unable to participate, please encourage members of your household 18 years of age or older to volunteer.

Frequently Asked Questions

Toronto Planning Review Panel



What is a Planning Review Panel?

A Planning Review Panel is a group of residents brought together to learn about, discuss, and provide input to City Planning staff on important city planning issues. Twenty-eight randomly selected Torontonians will be appointed to the Panel as volunteers for two years. The Panel will develop its input as a group and will work to reflect the interests of all Torontonians.

Why have a Planning Review Panel in Toronto?

Toronto is changing fast. Each year 20,000 net new residents make Toronto their home, and they all need places to live, work, and play. This means we need to build or upgrade new and existing buildings, public spaces and infrastructure to meet the city's changing needs. The Planning Review Panel will be a new way for residents to share their perspectives on how best to direct this growth and change. The City of Toronto's Planning Division believes the input of residents like you, and the expert knowledge you have about the communities you live in, is essential for good decision-making. The insights and local expertise of the Panel will complement other forms of community consultation and help to ensure that growth occurs in ways that reflect the values and priorities of Toronto's residents.

But I am not an expert — can I still be involved?

Absolutely. We do not expect you to have any specialized knowledge about city planning. Your perspective and experience as a Toronto resident is what matters most. Each member will have enough time to learn everything they need to make an informed contribution to the Planning Review Panel.

What is the City of Toronto's Planning Division?

The City Planning Division provides advice to City Council that helps guide growth in neighbourhoods across Toronto. We shape how the city looks and feels, and develop plans that ensure residents can work, live, play, and move throughout the city. We review applications for new buildings; promote well-designed streets, parks and open spaces; guide how buildings are located, organized, and shaped; plan transportation; work to transform Toronto's waterfront; and undertake in-depth research used by other City Divisions on land use, housing, community services, and the environment.

What would be my role as a member of the Planning Review Panel?

Between October 2015 and November 2017, members of the Planning Review Panel will meet 16 times. As a member of the Panel you will:

- Learn first-hand about the city and its planning process from independent experts as well as City staff;
- Contribute your perspective and learn about the views of others; and
- Provide input to the Planning Division on important issues shaping the city.

The Planning Division will request input from the Planning Review Panel on issues such as transportation plans, the desired density and character of different neighbourhoods, the importance of historic buildings and public art, and the location of new community amenities like parks, libraries, and community centres.

What will be done with the Panel's input?

The Planning Review Panel is intended to be an influential body and an important source of input that will help the Planning Division provide effective advice to City Council. The panel's perspectives, insights, and priorities will be referenced in reports to Council and published on the City of Toronto's website.

How was I selected to receive this invitation?

Your address was one of 12,000 households across Toronto randomly selected by Canada Post to receive this invitation.

Who is eligible to serve on the Planning Review Panel?

To be a member of the Planning Review Panel you must be 18 years of age or older and a current resident of a household that received this letter. You do not need to be a Canadian citizen to participate. Only one volunteer per household will be eligible for membership on the Planning Review Panel. Employees of the City of Toronto, contractors working for the Planning Division, members of other official City of Toronto Advisory Bodies, as well as elected municipal, provincial, and federal officials are ineligible to serve as members of the Planning Review Panel.

Please turn over 

**Deadline
October 6
Respond Today**

Can anyone from my household volunteer?

Yes. This invitation is transferable to anyone living in your household. If you are unavailable, please pass this invitation to any member of your household who is 18 years of age or older.

How will the members of the Planning Review Panel be selected?

Members will be chosen by randomly selecting names from among the pool of volunteers who respond to this letter — a process we call a Civic Lottery. We will make sure the panel is as diverse as Toronto itself, with equal representation of both men and women, as well as people of all ages, homeowners and renters, and people who identify as visible minorities. The Panel will also include at least one Aboriginal member.

How do I become a member of the Planning Review Panel?

First, you must respond to this invitation no later than Tuesday, October 6, 2015. You can register over the phone at 1-844-711-8186, online at toronto.ca/planning/tprp or by using the enclosed prepaid envelope. Then, on Wednesday, October 7, 2015, we will randomly select members of the Planning Review Panel from among those who have registered as volunteers. If you are selected, you will be notified by phone.

I am unsure whether I can attend all sixteen meetings, can I still volunteer?

It is very important that all members of the Planning Review Panel attend each meeting. We realize, however, that this is a significant commitment. At minimum, members must attend the four orientation sessions this fall, and ten of the twelve meetings in 2016 and 2017. Please consider and confirm your ability to participate before volunteering.

The four Saturday orientation sessions will run from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the following dates. You must be able to attend all four of these sessions:

October 17, 2015	November 14, 2015
October 31, 2015	November 28, 2015

The twelve additional meetings of the Planning Review Panel will run from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the following Saturdays.

You must be able to attend, at minimum, ten of the twelve meetings:

2016 Meetings:	2017 Meetings:
January 23, 2016	January 14, 2017
April 2, 2016	March 4, 2017
May 14, 2016	April 22, 2017
September 10, 2016	June 10, 2017
October 15, 2016	September 16, 2017
November 26, 2016	November 18, 2017

Will I get paid to serve on the Planning Review Panel?

We are asking you to donate your time and volunteer as a member of the Panel. Lunches and snacks will be provided, and basic travel costs, including parking, will be reimbursed. Childcare and eldercare will be made available (or an equivalent subsidy) if requested. However, we do not provide an honorarium or any additional compensation. There is no cost to participate.

Will the Planning Review Panel have translation services?

The Panel's meetings will be in English and simultaneous translation will not be available.

I have a physical disability. Can you assist me in participating?

If you would like to be a member of the Planning Review Panel, but are concerned about potential barriers to participating, please call 1-844-711-8186. We are committed to assisting all members of the Planning Review Panel so that they can participate successfully, and will do our best to accommodate your needs.

If I do not get chosen for the Planning Review Panel, can I still be involved in city government?

Absolutely. The City of Toronto hosts a variety of public consultations each year on a range of local and city-wide subjects. A list of upcoming consultations can be found by visiting www.toronto.ca/involved and clicking on "Consultations."

How to register as a volunteer for the Toronto Planning Review Panel:

There are three quick and easy ways you can register:

1. Phone 1-844-711-8186 to register by phone (or ask questions about the selection process);
2. Complete the enclosed Candidate Response Card and mail it back using the enclosed envelope; or
3. Register securely online at www.toronto.ca/planning/tprp

Please ensure you register in one of the above ways by Tuesday, October 6, 2015. If you are selected for the Panel, you can expect a phone call on the evening of Wednesday, Oct 7, 2015.

The Planning Review Panel will meet on the following dates between 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.: October 17 and 31, and November 14 and 28. You must be able to attend all of the sessions above and 10 of the 12 additional meetings held from January 23, 2016 to November 18, 2017 (see the *Frequently Asked Questions* sheet for further details). Please check and hold all dates until the evening of Wednesday, October 7, 2015, when the members of the Panel will be notified.

If you are unable to participate, please encourage members of your household 18 years of age or older to volunteer.

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SELECTION AND ORIENTATION TEAM

Orientation Coordinator: Alex Way, MASS LBP
Civic Lottery Coordinator: Chris Ellis, MASS LBP
Orientation Host: Peter MacLeod, MASS LBP

City Lead: Daniel Fusca, Toronto City Planning

Orientation Facilitators:

Jenna Meguid
Richard Johnson
Joey Reeder
Claire Nelischer
Caitlin Myles
Danielle Johnston

ABOUT MASS LBP

Since 2007, MASS has led some of the country's most original and ambitious efforts to engage citizens in tackling tough policy choices while pioneering the use of Civic Lotteries and Reference Panels on behalf of forward-thinking governments.

To date, MASS has conducted twenty-five major reference panels, citizens' assemblies and commissions for government involving more than 900 Canadians, and reaching 200,000 households. Cumulatively, this represents some 30,000 hours of deliberation on significant public issues, making MASS an internationally recognized and unparalleled leader in the design and delivery of deliberative processes for government.

For more information, please visit masslbp.com

ABOUT THE CITY PLANNING DIVISION

The City Planning Division is helping to build Toronto's future – how it looks, how it feels, how it moves and the opportunities it provides in terms of jobs and services to its residents. City Planning works with stakeholder's and other City Divisions to set goals and policies for responsible development. We provide support and advice to City Council to help ensure that Toronto's growth contributes to the kind of communities, neighbourhoods and city Torontonians want.

For more information, please visit toronto.ca/planning

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There is no logic that can be superimposed on the city; people make it, and it is to them, not buildings, that we must fit our plans.

—Jane Jacobs



WHAT WE'VE LEARNED

- everyone has their own opinion
- there's a lot to planning
- Need equal representation for input into planning → don't want "should plan"
- we don't have no planning
- variety
- we

Handwritten notes in red ink, including the words "planning", "input", and "should plan".



Handwritten notes in black ink, including the words "tools" and "restrictions".



Handwritten notes on a piece of lined paper, including the word "tools".

EARNED

... a lot,
... a lot to learn,
... to be expected in

What We've Learned

future results
planning would
be
at on has were come
to where we are now
other results (youth initiative)
it's almost 100yrs to
get
kind of
ly is +
led in
process

Forms of
References for
Planning
Fund



T
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20

... almost 100yrs to ...

Introducing the Inaugural
Toronto Planning Review Panel

Guiding Document | 2016-2017
Published | January 2016

