

Neighbourhood Change Research Partnership

University of Toronto

SSHRC Milestone Report (Partnership Grant), June 2013

Identification			
File Number 895 -2011-1004		Partnership Grant Title: Neighbourhood Inequality, Diversity, and Change: Trends, Processes, Consequences and Policy Options for Canada's Large Metropolitan Areas Brief title: Neighbourhood Change Research Partnership, NCRP	
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1. Partnerships

Research focus of the partnership

The words in the full title of this partnership grant accurately describe the focus of the research. We are examining *inequality*, *diversity*, and *change* at the neighbourhood level in urban Canada, identifying and seeking to explain the *trends* and *processes*, and we will seek to identify the *consequences* and the implications for *policies* and programs.

In year one our large multidisciplinary team of researchers and community partners in six Canadian metropolitan areas began, as is described below, designing and launching specific research initiatives.

- Our research initiatives funded by the NCRP are focused on a better understanding of the connection between *inequality* and *socio-spatial exclusion*.
- Our premise is that there is growing economic inequality in Canada and that it is producing increased and potentially new forms of *social* and *geographic* segregation and exclusion. We define this as *socio-spatial* exclusion.
- There is a great deal of existing research on economic inequality trends at a macro, societal level. We will further document these macro-level inequality trends, but they are not our main research focus.
- Our main research focus is on documenting urban socio-spatial trends over 40 years and analyzing some of the key results (the outcomes, the differential impacts) of the growing economic inequality *within* metropolitan areas: the “on the ground” lived reality of the macro-level trends.

Our hypothesis is that the impact of socio-spatial exclusion produces socio-economic status (SES) and ethno-cultural *segregation* and *disadvantage*. To these fairly well researched issues, that is, segregation and disadvantage, we bring a socio-spatial lens. Our focus is, therefore, on the trends, processes, consequences and implications of socio-spatial *segregation*, and socio-spatial *disadvantage*.

We will investigate how these socio-spatial trends and processes relate to intersecting forms of segregation and disadvantage arising from age, gender, race, ethnicity, Aboriginal identity, and immigration status. We will identify both broad public policies and specific local interventions that have the capacity to mitigate the consequences of socio-spatial segregation and disadvantage.

Work plan of the partnership

Our objectives are as specified in the proposal:

- 1) Insight: to generate new knowledge on neighbourhood inequality, diversity and change in Canada with some international comparisons; and
- 2) Connection: to put this knowledge to work in the world beyond academia, via partner involvement in research, effective knowledge mobilization, and systematic consideration of policy and program options.

At the NCRP inaugural team meeting July 4-6, 2012, about 35 co-investigators, partners and students developed and approved our seven-year work plan. We developed a plan for about six-years to allow for unanticipated delays and opportunities. A copy of this plan is appended (Attachment A).

As outlined in our proposal, our research is divided into three interconnected groups of activities:

- A. Collaborative neighbourhood change studies
- B. Comparative analysis of neighbourhood trends
- C. Mobilizing knowledge to address neighbourhood inequality

Our second team meeting, which will take place on October 18-19, 2013, will provide the opportunity at the 18-month point in the research to share and discuss initial findings and make further modifications to the work plan if necessary.

Activity A. Collaborative neighbourhood change studies.

Activity A is already generating knowledge about “big picture” trends within Canada’s major metropolitan areas with a focus on the six CMA’s where we have, in year one, established research partnership teams: Halifax, Montréal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary, and Vancouver. We have completed the first step in the research, a systematic and comparative analysis of 40-year income trends in the six CMA’s compete with mapping and graphing of the results. These will soon result in local reports and the entire analysis (the maps and graphs) will be posted on our website soon.

This effort draws on the experience and published results of the analysis of Toronto which began with the 2005 Neighbourhood Change CURA grant with St. Christopher House as the lead partner. A successful knowledge mobilization process of our key findings included the 2007 publication of the first *Three Cities Within Toronto* report analyzing 30-year trends (1971-2001) that was then updated in 2010 to incorporate 2006 census data. A 2010

SSHRC Public Outreach grant allowed further high profile and innovative forms of knowledge mobilization, including a well designed website that we are further developing as the NCRP's website (www.NeighbourhoodChange.ca). On that website is an online interactive version of the *Three Cities Within Toronto* report. The 2010 Outreach grant allowed for the public dissemination of similar reports on our key findings about trends in Montréal and Vancouver, with knowledge mobilization events in those two cities that have carried over to year one of the NCRP (see Section 4, Knowledge Mobilization, below).

Halifax, Winnipeg and Calgary are now carrying out similar trend analyses in years one and two. During the first half of year one, our NCRP GIS data analyst Richard Maaranen worked closely with all six CMA teams to develop base maps of their cities for use throughout the project (as he did for the CURA and the Public Outreach grant), and provided each CMA team with detailed maps and data packages with the 1971 to 2006 census data. Trend analyses are well underway in each city, with preliminary reports to be presented at the October 2013 team meeting (see Section 3, Organization of Activities).

Additional Data Sources. As noted in the work plan, a second objective in Activity A is the identification and incorporation of other sources of data. This work has begun in year one with the integration of tax filer data from 2010 into the analysis of income trends for the entire project. The NCRP data committee determined through various statistical tests and comparisons that tax filer data at the census tract level produces results comparable to census income data. This has allowed us to update all of our analysis of income trends to 2010. There will be public release of the updated key income polarization trends in each of the CMAs during the remainder of 2013. We will continue to identify and incorporate additional national data sets.

Teams in each CMA are also actively investigating data sources at the local and provincial level. For example, through a partnership with United Way Toronto (UWT), the Toronto area NCRP team has obtained and analyzed data from a random, representative sample of 3,200 tenant households in high-rise rental buildings. A second project currently in development will seek to analyze administrative data from the Toronto District School Board as well as its unique student census, collected from 103,000 students.

Comparative Analysis of Eight Canadian CMAs. A third objective of Activity A is the comparative analysis of census data among eight Canadian CMAs to identify specific neighbourhood types using sophisticated statistical techniques such as principal components analysis and cluster analysis. This has never been carried out for Canada nor have so many CMAs in any other nation been so systematically compared. This initiative, led by co-investigator Robert Murdie, assisted by data analyst Jennifer Logan, and supervised by a data committee comprised of our co-investigators who have great expertise in these specialized large database statistical techniques, has been a significant activity in year one and will continue during year two. The purpose is to develop a typology of distinct neighbourhood types. This will assist in the design of our planned cross-CMA comparative research initiatives. The CMAs included in the comparative analysis are the NCRP's six (Halifax, Montréal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary and Vancouver) and two others, Ottawa and Hamilton. Though we cannot financially support the emerging research teams in Ottawa (headed by Professor Caroline Andrew) and Hamilton (Professors Richard Harris and Sarah Wakefield) we can provide the census data and trend analysis, as well as GIS mapping assistance, so they can replicate what we are doing.

The results of the development of neighbourhood typologies will be presented and re-viewed at our October 2013 team meeting. It will inform research design decisions for the neighbourhood change case studies planned for years three, four and five. These studies will identify neighbourhoods of interest in each CMA based on the typology, trend analysis, and partner input, for further in-depth qualitative and/or quantitative case study research. These studies will allow the integration of on-the-ground experiences into the larger trend analysis, and provide sites for the development of additional local partnerships to help focus the research in those neighbourhoods, define potential policy and program implications, and help foster effective knowledge mobilization.

Activity B. Comparative analysis of neighbourhood trends

Activity B will generate comparative analysis of neighbourhood trends and identify policies and programs that influence and address them. Work on this objective has begun with the trend analysis being conducted in each CMA. Much of this research will take place in years three, four and five with detailed planning taking place at our October 2013 team meeting.

In its review of our proposal, the Expert Panel raised concerns about the nature and scope of the policy analysis part of this activity. They asked, which policy areas are to be analyzed and compared? And how will the knowledge generated from these analyses be mobilized to influence policy? Our team agrees these are key questions that need to be answered. We had a major discussion of this at our July 2012 team meeting, several team members are working on this, and we will revisit these questions at our October 2013 team meeting as a separate and key agenda item. Our research is in part sequential, as the work plan suggests. Discussion of the findings from the trend analysis during years one and two will help us be much more specific about the policy analysis part of the project.

Activity C: Mobilizing knowledge to address neighbourhood inequality

Activity C consists of cross-disciplinary collaborative studies on the six theme areas listed in the proposal: age-friendly neighbourhoods; youth, schooling and criminalization; immigrant settlement and integration/marginalization; adequate housing and high-rise neighbourhoods; urban Aboriginal issues; and income and access to jobs. They are key contemporary issues facing Canada's cities identified in the research design stage by our partners and research team members. The cross-disciplinary, mixed-method studies, designed on the basis of the quantitative trend analysis, have a focus on the *processes* causing these trends, the *consequences* of the trends, and the *implications* for policies and programs.

The Expert Panel raised questions about how this thematic research will be linked with and support the larger objectives of the project. As with Activity B, much of the work in Activity C will be defined more precisely following the trend and comparative neighbourhood analysis being carried out in the first 18 months of the project. One of the objectives of the October 2013 team meeting is to tackle this issue and further define the thematic research that ought to be carried out.

To help move this process forward a number of thematic areas are being explored by year two research projects that are exploratory in nature, that is, exploring potential methods and the availability of data for answering some of our research questions (funded research initiatives as sub-grants, see Section 3). These initial projects are smaller-scale, explorato-

ry, pilot studies. They will generate literature reviews, preliminary data, and methods that can be incorporated into larger research initiatives.

Role of partners and co-investigators

Community partners have played an active role in shaping the project since its inception and continue to participate at all levels, including expanded participation on the Board of Directors. The extent of their active involvement is signaled in part in the Partner Contribution Report (submitted 30 April 2013) showing the total in-kind value (time allocated) of partner participation for year one is over \$55,000. In addition, the NCRP is well on its way to meeting its 35% matching commitment, with the value of all cash and in-kind contributions from the host institution, partners, and non-partners totaling approximately \$240,000.

Many partners have taken on new roles since the beginning of the project. Our proposal described a Board of Directors with three seats for partners; at the most recent Board meeting in April 2013 it was agreed to invite one partner from each of the six CMAs to sit on the Board, in addition to one national partner, bringing the total number of partner seats to seven. Our teleconference meetings have proved to be helpful in the democratic management of the project. This is one response to the challenge of ensuring transparency and meaningful local partners' connection to the overall work of the NCRP. Several partner representatives have also agreed to become collaborators on the grant, signaling their direct involvement in the intellectual development and research activities of the NCRP.

Levels of partner involvement vary across the CMAs due to differences in the stage of the research. The Toronto team is building on almost a decade of successful research in partnership with community organizations, beginning with the 2005 SSHRC CURA. Montréal and Vancouver have the benefit of trend analysis and some partnership-building that began with the 2010 Public Outreach Grant. The partnerships in Halifax, Winnipeg, and Calgary are developing as expected into very dynamic productive community-university teams.

We consider our partnership model to be a success. We have found that partnerships grow organically when they provide intrinsic benefits for partner organizations and provide opportunities for substantive policy-focused research on areas of mutual interest.

New Partners & Co-Investigators

We started with an excellent group of community partners. In year one two new partners have joined the project: Centraide in Montréal, and the Halifax Regional Municipality. A third partner is awaiting SSHRC confirmation.

Contact Full Name	Organization Name (province or country)	Contributions (in kind value)	Contribution Letter and Form - Attached or Already Provided (date)?
Cécile Poirier	Centraide de Grand Montréal (QC)	\$70,000	Already provided, 9 October 2012
Kasia Tota	Halifax Regional Municipality (NS)	\$14,000	Already provided. 19 December 2012

Several new co-investigators have also joined the grant, and others await confirmation. New NCRP co-investigators are: Shauna Blair, Urban Studies, UofT; Lance McCreedy, Education, UofT; and Daniyal Zuberi, Social Work, UofT. These scholars have been actively involved in NCRP working groups and intend to participate in specific NCRP-funded research initiatives.

Management and Governance

Day-to-day oversight of NCRP activities is provided by the principal investigator and project manager. The NCRP is governed by a Board of Directors of 17 members (not 13 as proposed), including the principal investigator, the six CMA coordinators (academics), a partner representative from each of the six CMAs and one from a national partner, and three activity area co-ordinators (academics).

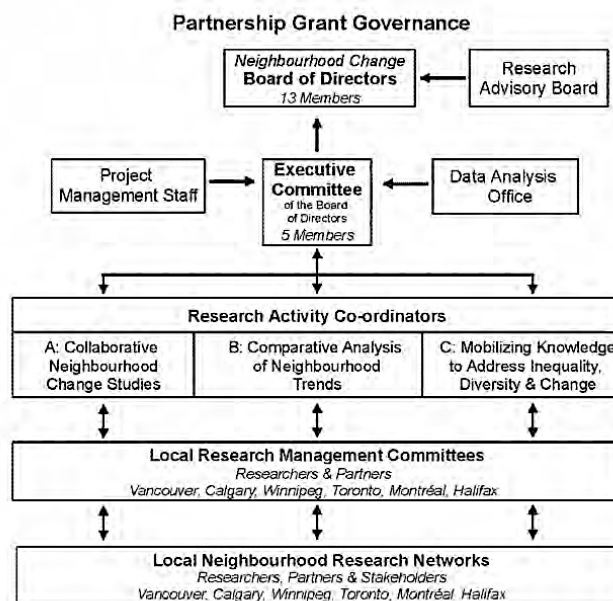
The Board has met in person at our initial team meeting in July 2012, and by teleconference in October 2012, January 2013, and April 2013. All NCRP team members are informed of upcoming Board meetings and welcome to join by phone. Minutes of the meetings are posted on the project website in a password-protected area accessible to team members. A Research Advisory Board of senior scholars provides peer review and intellectual guidance to the NCRP.

The Toronto Neighbourhoods Research Network is a large network with over 75 members including academics, representatives of City departments, students, and a broad range of community-based organizations in fields including health, housing, food security, and education. Started during the SSHRC-funded Neighbourhoods CURA, the TNRN continues to provide a venue for sharing knowledge on neighbourhood studies and initiatives, and for integrated knowledge translation between the NCRP, stakeholders, and end users. The open meetings, conducted 2 to 4 times per year, regularly draw an average of 30 participants. One NCRP objective described in our proposal is to initiate, or participate in, similar networks in each of the five other CMAs, as appropriate to the local context. This will come later in the project, once local studies and partnership building have yielded a critical mass of community stakeholders.

NCRP Governance Agreement

At the July 2012 meeting, the team agreed in principle to the NCRP Governance Agreement. This document outlines the roles of team members, the processes for administering the grant, partner and co-investigator responsibilities, SSHRC regulations for the use of grant funds, and the process for funding NCRP research projects. As a living document, it can be modified as we learn what works best. A copy is submitted with this report.

A key area of project governance is the process for approving research projects within the NCRP. As outlined in the Governance Agreement, this process ensures that all research initiatives respond to the NCRP research questions and objectives, and that they fit with the NCRP work plan. This process requires transparency in the allocation of funds and its democratic nature helps maintain cohesion in the overall project.



Research initiatives funded by the NCRP are developed first at the local level with the input of co-investigators, partners, the NCRP principal investigator, and others. Once approved at the local level, a brief project summary on the NCRP research proposal template is forwarded to the Research Advisory Board for review. The proposal (sometimes with amendments recommended by the RAB) is then forwarded to the Board of Directors for review and the funding decision. All comments on the proposal are collected and forwarded to the project's PI. This process serves both as our internal peer review for all research activity and as part of our open democratic governance. The review process is conducted by email unless a Board discussion by teleconference is deemed necessary. The NCRP proposal format as used in a recently approved project is appended as an example.

Partnership Grant funds are also subject to institutional administrative oversight via contractual agreements. Institutional financial governance of the NCRP Partnership Grant is provided by the host institution, the University of Toronto. This includes the administrative oversight of the individual sub-grants that are issued for funded research initiatives. For ease of administration within this national project, funds are transferred as a sub-grant to the lead investigator's home university. The Canadian Association of University Research Administrators has also recently developed a template for an institutional Research Collaboration Agreement that will act as a common memorandum of understanding for all Partnership Grants. This agreement, to be rolled out in the coming year, will be signed by NCRP institutional and community partners, indicating their agreement to participate in the NCRP, and their commitment to abide by SSHRC requirements.

2. Participation and Training of Research and Support Staff

The NCRP offers rich opportunities for students, partners, support staff, and others to develop and enhance skills in all facets of research and knowledge mobilization.

Student participation

During year one the NCRP has benefitted from the contributions of 5 PhD students, 5 master's students, and 2 undergraduates paid directly by the NCRP grant (and, in some cases, co-funded by co-investigators' other grants). A further 2 postdoctoral scholars, 6 PhD students, and 2 master's students have contributed to NCRP working groups and other activities on a volunteer basis or have been paid out of co-investigators' other grants. These numbers will increase considerably in the coming two years as more research initiatives are funded in the six CMAs. The multidisciplinary nature of the NCRP is demonstrated by the fact that these students come from various disciplines including geography, social work, sociology, education, kinesiology, and criminology.

Our host faculty, the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, contributes one annual RBC (Royal Bank of Canada) endowed graduate research fellowship in Applied Social Work Research to the NCRP. These \$10,000 research fellowships are awarded to doctoral students in the early years of their program on the basis of academic excellence and financial need.

STUDENTS		
Paid	# Canadian	# Foreign
Undergraduate	20	No decision has been made yet on the nature of our
Masters	84	
Doctoral	32	
Postdoctoral		
Unpaid	# Canadian	# Foreign
Undergraduate	12	international comparative research.
Masters	12	
Doctoral	6	
Postdoctoral		

The RBC fellow works directly with the principal investigator and project manager, gaining valuable experience in the management of large research projects, while also providing scholarly support to a research initiative in the student's area of interest. An added benefit for the project is the intensive training of new doctoral candidates, which makes them ideal research assistants for NCRP research initiatives in the years to come. In year one, the fellowship was awarded to Ruth Wilson. For year two the fellowship has been awarded to Jessica Carrière, whose research is on place-based policies in the UK and Canada.

Our proposal projected that the NCRP would provide opportunities to many students over the life of the project. We are on track to meet or exceed these targets. This projection does not, however, include the four postdoctoral positions mentioned in the proposal. The Board of Directors has decided that it will consider funding one or more if an ideal candidate(s) are identified, but feels the funds can be better used supporting students and recent graduates through specific research projects.

Research support staff

In addition to students, NCRP has engaged five research support staff in year one. All have had the opportunity to develop new skills and expand their networks through the NCRP. Project Manager Dr. Emily Paradis, (PhD 2009, Adult Education, OISE/UT) had a lead role in drafting the Partnership Grant proposal and manages the day-to-day activities of the partnership, including the coordination of, and scholarly contributions to, the Toronto working groups (see below). She also prepared a successful HRSDC funding proposal for NCRP's first externally funded project. It is a study of the risk of family homelessness in inner-suburb low-income high-rise neighbourhoods, with Dr. Paradis as the research lead.

RESEARCH SUPPORT STAFF			
Organization Name & Type	Paid, Unpaid, In kind	Research Role(s)	#
University of Toronto	Paid (90% by NCRP; 10% by UofT)	NCRP Project Manager	1
University of Toronto	Paid (50% by NCRP; 50% by UofT)	NCRP Data Analyst, GIS Specialist	1
University of Toronto	Paid by UofT endowment	NCRP/HRSDC Research Coordinator	1
University of Toronto	Paid by NCRP	Data Analyst	1
United Way Toronto	In-Kind (UWT)	Co-investigator	1
Other partner organizations	Paid and In-Kind	Researchers, coordinators, managers, technicians, data analysts, interviewers, language interpreters, facilitators, co-investigators and co-authors	15 projected

Data analyst and GIS specialist Richard Maaranen (MA 2001, Spatial Analysis, UofT) is responsible for the project's database development, management, updating, data analysis, and GIS mapping and graphing. He regularly updates the NCRP data inventory to inform team members of changes in available data resources. He provides mentorship and training to students, partners, and project support staff on high-level statistical analysis and on the production of accurate and clear maps and graphs. He also liaises with partner organizations, offering advice and occasionally providing data analysis and GIS support.

Research Coordinator Ruth Wilson (MSW, PhD candidate, Social Work) is the 2012-2013 RBC Research Fellow. Ms. Wilson has extensive experience in community-based participatory research with immigrant and refugee communities. She is coordinating the HRSDC funded family homelessness project, including partnership development, data gathering, data analysis, and dissemination of findings. She will continue in this role after the RBC fellowship ends in August 2013 with funding from the HRSDC research contract.

Data analyst Jennifer Logan (MA 2010, Geography, York) has led the development of NCRP's first database using a large data set from non-Statistics Canada sources. This database merges data from a United Way Toronto survey of 2,800 tenant households in inner suburban high-rises with data collected in the inner city by the 2005 Neighbourhoods CURA. It is the foundation for the HRSDC funded family homelessness project, and is soon to be in used in another NCRP research project. In addition Ms. Logan has carried out data analysis for the comparative census tract analysis of eight Canadian CMA's working with Prof. Bob Murdie in developing neighbourhood typologies.

Mihaela Dinca-Panaitescu, United Way Toronto's Manager of Research, Public Policy and Evaluation, (MA 2004, Applied Sciences Management, Ryerson) is a co-investigator on the Building Opportunities partnership the NCRP is participating in with United Way Toronto. She also participates in and advises the NCRP's data analysis team.

Building skills and knowledge

The broad array of NCRP activities offers students, staff, partners and others diverse opportunities to contribute directly to all phases of the research and knowledge mobilization process. Students have already been directly involved in a number of activities, including designing projects, analyzing data, facilitating focus groups, liaising with partners, and disseminating research through academic and community venues.

The first two NCRP funded research initiatives have research designs that were developed in collaboration with students and will lead to Masters' theses. Students have co-authored two major reports published by the NCRP (from Montréal and Vancouver), and have produced summary versions and French-language translations of reports. A single-authored literature review prepared by a student is under consideration for publication through NCRP. The RBC doctoral fellow and data analyst with the family homelessness project have co-authored a poster presented at an international research conference, and a presentation accepted to a second conference to take place in October 2013. Publication opportunities will increase as the project continues. As outlined in our proposal, NCRP team meetings and workshops will also offer students the opportunity to present their work. Postgraduate and postdoctoral students will lead the peer review of these presentations and gain experience chairing panels.

The NCRP team also includes a number of early-career scholars who benefit from the opportunity to shape a large research partnership. Junior faculty are principal investigators on several of the research projects currently being developed. The NCRP has placed a priority on encouraging and assisting junior faculty participation as PI's and co-investigators.

The Toronto working groups provide one example of how NCRP cultivates such opportunities. The working groups bring together co-investigators, students, partners, and staff from non-partner organizations including government around shared areas of interest (a list of these groups is included in Section 3). Groups may be initiated and led by NCRP co-

investigators or partners. Most groups have met three or four times in year one. At meetings, participants share knowledge about existing studies, useful data sets, policy opportunities, and gaps in the research in a specific area. Through these discussions, working groups generate project ideas which co-investigators craft into NCRP proposals. Working groups review and provide input to these proposals, and the community and government participants have the opportunity to partner in the research. Students at all levels are welcome to participate in working groups, and thereby gain valuable experience in research design. Once projects are funded, these students are in an advantageous position to join projects as research assistants, and the study benefits greatly from their prior knowledge of the topic and project. Many of these groups are close to submitting NCRP project proposals, and year two will show us how the working groups continue to support the research as it is carried out.

Skills	Students				Partners & Other Participants
	Under-graduate	Masters	Doctoral	Postdoctoral	
Research Design					
Participate in designing project	X	X	X	Note: a decision to offer post- doctoral	X
Write grant proposals	X	X	X		X
Design methodology	X	X	X		X
Data Collection & Analyses					
Collect data or information	X	X	X	fellowships is under review.	X
Analyse research results or content	X	X	X		X
Manage databases		X	X		X
Presenting Results					
Present research at conferences	X	X	X		X
Publish articles/books		X	X		X
Produce performance/exhibit	X	X	X		X
Administrative Tasks					
Develop/monitor budgets			X		X
Provide admin support	X	X			
Application of Specific Skills					
Design websites / programming	X	X	X		X
Specific skills (language, software)	X	X	X		X
Translate/edit/proofread	X	X	X		X
Mapping	X	X	X		
Interactions					
Organise conferences, workshops	X	X	X		X
Mentor/supervise other students			X		X
Liaise with community stakeholders	X	X	X		X
Participate in mtgs. co-researchers	X	X	X		X
Participate in mtgs. partners	X	X	X		X
Work in interdisciplinary environment	X	X	X		X
Others: Knowledge Mobilization					
Draft press release, op-ed, news article		X	X		X
Develop bulletin / poster / newsletter	X	X	X		X
Organize community meeting / forum	X	X	X		X
Meet with policy makers / depute	X	X	X		X
Develop online / multimedia product	X	X	X		X

3. Organization of Activities and Contributions

As summarized in the table below, the NCRP is organized into six CMA teams, each led by a co-investigator. These teams develop, propose, and carry out NCRP research that may be local or may be comparative (among two or more CMAs, Canadian or international). Some activities are also carried out by the central project for the benefit of all CMA teams.

In year one the CMA teams began meeting and adding new participants: co-investigators, partners, students, and others. In the case of Toronto, where prior SSHRC-funded projects have built a broad network of scholars and community organizations, NCRP activities are further divided into the working groups described above in Section 2.

NCRP Unit, Cluster	Title of Activity	Activity Lead, Affiliation	Research Objectives of the Activity	Expected Deliverables	Delivery date
NCRP Core Activities for the entire project Principal Investigator: J. David Hulchanski , University of Toronto	Database management, Data analysis, GIS mapping	J. David Hulchanski, University of Toronto & Richard Maaranen, UofT, with advice from team members	To produce, update and maintain a 40-year census database on Canada's major CMAs, with related databases added as required; to analyze the data to create common sets of outputs for the CMAs; to map and chart the data	1) Cross-sectional and longitudinal maps and data sets for 6 project CMAs 2) Other data, and map and graph series, as required for funded NCRP projects	1) Jan 2013 (completed) 2) Ongoing
	Comparative analysis of neighbourhood types in eight Canadian CMAs	Robert Murdie, York University	To identify distinct neighbourhood clusters and types through a comparative analysis of all census tracts in eight CMAs	1) Report on neighbourhood types and clusters 2) Literature synthesis on neighbourhood typologies 3) Journal article, book chapter	1) Sept 2013 2) Winter 2014 3) To be determined
Toronto (Team) CMA Lead: Alan Walks , University of Toronto	Toronto Neighbourhoods Research Network (TNRN) (network)	J. David Hulchanski, UofT	To exchange and mobilize knowledge with a large network of City, community and academic stakeholders	2 – 4 meetings per year	Ongoing (next meeting fall 2013)
	Urban youth (working group)	Scot Wortley & Kathleen Gallagher, UofT	To develop and carry out research projects on youth, schooling and criminalization	1) Project proposals 2) For each NCRP funded project – 1 academic & 1 community deliverable	1) Fall 2013 & ongoing 2) To be determined

	Age-friendly neighbourhoods (working group)	Sheila Neysmith, University of Toronto	To develop and carry out research projects examining social aspects of aging in the city	1) Project proposals 2) For each NCRP funded project – 1 academic & 1 community deliverable	1) Summer 2013 & ongoing 2) To be determined
	Neighbourhood collective efficacy (working group)	Rob Howarth, Canadian Association of Neighbourhood Services	Research examining the relationship between community-based organizations and collective efficacy in neighbourhoods	1) Project proposals 2) For each NCRP funded project – 1 academic & 1 community deliverable	1) Summer 2013 & ongoing 2) To be determined
	Tower neighbourhoods & immigrant settlement (working group)	Sutama Ghosh, Ryerson U	Research examining highrise tower neighbourhoods and immigrant settlement	1) Project proposals 2) For each NCRP funded project – 1 academic & 1 community deliverable	1) Summer 2013 & ongoing 2) To be determined
	“905” – GTA outside City of Toronto (working group)	Shalini Sharma, UofT, and Alan Walks, UofT	Research examining labour market change in the “905” area of Toronto	1) Project proposals 2) For each NCRP funded project – 1 academic & 1 community deliverable	1) Fall 2013 & ongoing 2) To be determined
	Family Homelessness in Toronto’s Inner Suburbs (project) Co-funded by Homelessness Partnering Strategy, HRSDC	Emily Paradis, UofT	To examine the prevalence, location, characteristics and correlates of inadequate housing, precarious housing, and hidden homelessness among families with children in Toronto’s inner suburbs	1) Neighbourhood presentations of findings (service provider audience) 2) Poster presentation at international conference (academic) 3) bulletin 4) Community forum (general audience) 5) Final report 6) Journal article	1) May – July 2013 (underway) 2) June 2013 (done) 3) Sept 2013 4) Mar 2014 5) Mar 2014 6) May 2014
	Building Opportunity (project) in partnership with United Way Toronto	Alan Walks, UofT and Mihaela Dinca-Panaitescu, United Way Toronto	To explore how income inequality affects opportunity among Toronto neighbourhoods and residents	1) Paper measuring income inequality in Cdn cities (academic) 2) Back-grounder on income inequality (general audience) 3) Report on income inequality in Toronto (general audience) 4) Policy Briefs (general audience)	1) July 2013 (in press) 2) July 2013 3) December 2013 4) February 2014
	Other local and cross-CMA comparative projects to be determined	Co-applicants and community partners	To examine aspects of neighbourhood inequality, diversity and change in the Toronto CMA	For each funded NCRP project – at least 1 academic product and 1 community deliverable	To be determined

Vancouver (team) CMA Lead: David Ley , University of British Columbia	Neighbourhood trends analysis (project)	David Ley, University of British Columbia	To examine economic and demographic trends at the neighbourhood level in Greater Vancouver, 1970-2005	1) NCRP Research Paper, "Divisions and disparities in lotusland: Income polarization in Greater Vancouver 1970-2005" (academic) 2) Report summary (general audience) 3) Book chapter	1) Published Oct 2012 2) Published Oct 2012 3) To be determined
	The Emerging Skytrain Poverty Corridor in Vancouver (project)	David Ley and Nicholas Lynch, University of British Columbia	To investigate new zones of suburban poverty along the Skytrain corridor in Vancouver	1) Report to community partners 2) Master's thesis 3) Journal article / book chapter	1) Sept 2013 2) May 2014 3) To be determined
	Other local and cross-CMA comparative projects to be determined	Co-applicants and community partners	To examine aspects of neighbourhood inequality, diversity and change in the Vancouver CMA	For each funded NCRP project – at least 1 academic product and 1 community deliverable	To be determined
Montréal (Team) CMA Lead: Damaris Rose , INRS	Neighbourhood trends analysis (project)	Damaris Rose and Amy Twigge-Molecey, INRS	To examine economic and demographic trends at the neighbourhood level in Greater Montreal, 1970-2005	1) "A city-region growing apart? Income disparity in Greater Montreal, 1970-2005" in <i>English and French</i> (academic) 2) Report summary (general audience) 3) review and synthesis of French-language literature on inequality in Montreal (academic) 4) Book chapter	1) Published February 2013 2) Published February 2013 3) Submitted June 2013 4) To be determined
	Other local and cross-CMA comparative projects	Co-applicants and community partners	To examine neighbourhood inequality, diversity and change in Montréal	For each funded NCRP project – at least 1 academic product and 1 community deliverable	To be determined
Calgary (Team) CMA Lead: Ivan Townshend , University of Lethbridge	Neighbourhood trends analysis (project)	Ivan Townshend, University of Lethbridge	To examine economic and demographic trends at the neighbourhood level in Calgary CMA, 1970-2010	1) Workshop on trends 2) NCRP Research Paper (academic) 3) Report summary (general audience) 4) Book chapter	1) Summer 2013 2, 3, 4) To be determined
	Other local and cross-CMA comparative projects to be determined	Co-applicants and community partners	To examine neighbourhood inequality, diversity and change in the Calgary CMA	For each funded NCRP project – at least 1 academic product and 1 community deliverable	To be determined

Winnipeg (Team) CMA Lead: Jino Distasio , University of Winnipeg	Neighbourhood trends analysis (project)	Jino Distasio, University of Winnipeg	Analysis of economic and demographic trends at the neighbourhood level in Winnipeg CMA, 1970-2010	1) NCRP Research Paper (academic) 2) Report summary (general audience) 3) Book chapter	To be determined
	Other local and cross-CMA comparative projects to be determined	Co-applicants and community partners	To examine aspects of neighbourhood inequality, diversity and change in the Winnipeg CMA	For each funded NCRP project – at least 1 academic product and 1 community deliverable	To be determined
Halifax (Team) CMA Lead: Jill Grant , Dalhousie University	Neighbourhood change in Greater Halifax, 1970 to 2010: Exploring relevant data & analyzing trends (project)	Jill Grant, Dalhousie University	To examine economic and demographic trends at the neighbourhood level in Halifax CMA, 1970-2010	1) Report on policy context (academic) 2) Report on trends (academic) 3) Community forum (general audience) 4) 2 Master's research papers (academic) 5) Journal article	1) July 2013 2) July 2013 3) August 2013 4) December 2013 5) May 2014
	Other local and cross-CMA comparative projects to be determined	Co-applicants and community partners	To examine aspects of neighbourhood inequality, diversity and change in the Halifax CMA	For each funded NCRP project – at least 1 academic product and 1 community deliverable	To be determined

4. Knowledge Mobilization, Exchange & Dissemination of Research Results

As outlined above, the NCRP employs an integrated knowledge transfer approach where partners, stakeholders and other end-users are directly involved at every stage of the research. NCRP projects are driven by dialogue among scholars, students, community organizations, government, and neighbourhood residents, through which research questions are defined, available data sources are identified, appropriate research designs are developed, findings are analyzed, results are published, and knowledge is mobilized into action. Thanks to the experience gained in Toronto, Montréal and Vancouver from the CURA and the outreach grant, the NCRP already has an impressive year one record of dissemination. Academic publications include two major research papers published, a third in press and a fourth under consideration, as well as a poster for an international conference. To improve accessibility, research papers are also made available as plain-language summaries or research bulletins. All project publications can be viewed and downloaded for free from our website, www.neighbourhoodchange.ca.

All NCRP funded research initiatives must have a knowledge mobilization plan incorporating at least two outputs: one scholarly (such as a thesis, chapter, research paper, or journal article), the other community-based (such as a research summary or community forum).

Dissemination mechanisms, tools, vehicles <i>*AUDIENCE TYPES: Academic, Professional, Community, NGO, Government, Business</i>	# Developed Audience Type*	# Planned Release date
Research tools (e.g. database, dataset, bibliography, etc.)	3 (A, NGO, P, G)	6 by 2018
Online (website, blogs, forums, etc.)	1 (all)	
Written Presentations (non-academic)	<i>See below in "Other"</i>	
Conference proceedings (academic)		18 by 2018
Journal Articles (academic)		18 by 2018
Books (academic)		3 by 2018
Public lectures or address	5	12 by 2018
TV/Radio interviews	5 (C)	
Media products		
TV Broadcast (e.g. documentary, series, etc.)		
Audio-visual material (e.g. video, sound, etc.)		
Newspaper/Magazine article(s)	1	6 by 2018
Textbook/Educational Aid		
New course(s)		
New program(s) of study		
Advisory services (e.g. participation in task forces, advisory committees, etc.)	3 (C, NGO)	12 by 2018
Consultancy (e.g. research contracts)		
Other(s): Please specify:		
Conference poster presentation	1 (A, G, NGO)	12 by 2018
e-Book		1 by 2016
Press release	2 (C)	14 by 2018
Submission to Government Committee	2 (G)	6 by 2018
Policy Brief	2 (A, P, NGO, G)	6 by 2018
Research paper	3 (A, P)	12 by 2018
Research bulletin / summary	2 (A, P, C, NGO)	12 by 2018

Mobilizing policy-relevant evidence

The SSHRC Expert Committee's review of our proposal raised the question of how knowledge generated by NCRP would be mobilized to influence policy. Many factors influence policy. Research results, sadly, are sometimes ignored by elected decision makers who already have prescribed "answers" to society's problems and trends. The broader the reach of dissemination activities targeted at end users, such as policy advisors and key planning staff in NGOs, governments, and community service providers, and the better we interest media outlets in what we are learning, the greater the likelihood of having an impact, i.e., informing the policy and program development process.

The NCRP places great emphasis on disseminating and mobilizing what we learn. This is ongoing activity that permeates the project, not a set activity in a particular year or at the end of the project. We actively seek opportunities to inform current policy and program discussions with research evidence by, for example, submitting briefs and participating in public meetings. This means that our CMA team leaders and the PI, as well as all team members, need to be aware of current policy debates and opportunities to contribute to these debates at the local as well as national levels. It also requires us to be ready to produce relevant summaries of available evidence on short notice and in plain language.

Launch of the NCRP Policy Briefs publication series

To incorporate the ability of the NCRP to address current issues quickly we initiated in year one a policy briefs publication series (with a home page link to the new policy briefs on our website).

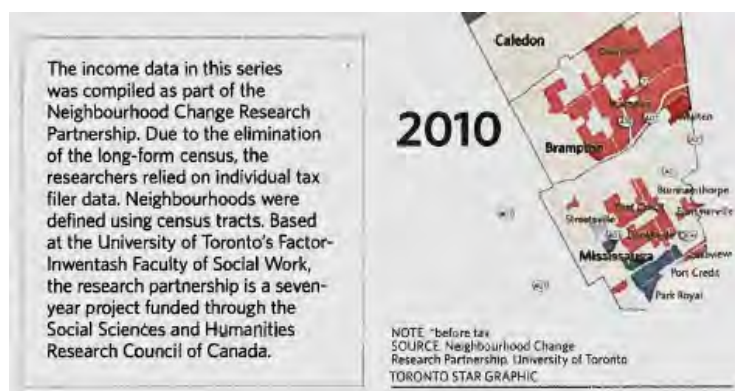
The first two policy briefs were publications that addressed two related highly contentious social housing debates in the City of Toronto. These briefs (by Bob Murdie and Alan Walks, August 2012) provided policy recommendations backed up by evidence in a timely manner to the municipal committee charged with making the decisions and were also disseminated widely. In addition to these two policy briefs the NCRP with the City's Affordable Housing Office co-hosted a day-long invitational meeting on the UofT campus (as a "neutral" place for a friendly discussion of the contentious issues) in which city councilors, key municipal staff, active citizens, and academics (including students) discussed alternative policy options. In the end, the decision by the City was consistent with the recommendations of the authors of our policy briefs and their evidence was cited in the decisions.

In March 2013 the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance announced that it will begin a study of income inequality in Canada. There was a very short time provided for submission of briefs to the committee. The NCRP submitted two briefs, one by David Hulchanski and Bob Murdie, the other by Alan Walks, drawing on recent analysis from the NCRP. These were posted on the committee's website (and on our project's website). In addition, the secretary to the House of Commons committee followed-up by asking for a copy of one of our key graphs in a particular format so that they can include it in their report.

Cultivating informal partnerships with the media

The NCRP has the benefit of broad public and media interest in the focus of our research: income inequality trends. This general interest has enabled us to effectively link new publications with media coverage. For example, a press release announcing the publication of the Montréal report generated three articles in online news outlets, and one television interview.

The NCRP seeks to establish and maintain relationships with key journalists and media outlets, local and national. For example, when the Toronto CMA team completed its first round of income trend analysis for the Region of Peel (Mississauga, Brampton, Caledon; 1.3 million population), we provided exclusive first access to the findings to the *Toronto Star* and its reporter experienced in covering income issues. The *Toronto Star* published a series of three articles (April 6, 8, 9, 2013) about the findings, interviewing a wide variety of people about their significance. All government, social agency and relevant NGOs in the region now know about and have access to our initial set of findings, which feature 40-year trends in clear maps and graphs. These findings in much greater detail will even-



tually be published in both an accessible report and as an academic paper. The key findings have, however, been quickly and widely disseminated and discussed without waiting for the final report. The NCRP and SSHRC were explicitly acknowledged in the articles. A further benefit of this method is that it put the NCRP in contact with interested organizations in Peel Region who did not previously know about the research. Some may become formal partners in the near future. There is also agreement that a “905” research working group should be established to help define further research needs. A first meeting is scheduled for August 2013.

This process was repeated with the *Toronto Star* when we completed our analysis of York Region. A feature article similar to the series on Peel was published about York Region on June 29, 2013. When our initial analyses of Halton and Durham regions are complete (the remainder of the “905” part of the Toronto CMA), we anticipate a similar initial dissemination process in partnership with the *Toronto Star*.

Knowledge mobilization plan

The Knowledge Mobilization plan from our proposal is appended. We expect this plan to proceed as indicated and we will be reviewing, revising and updating it as the project proceeds.

At the July 2012 team meeting a decision was made to allocate time and funds to further develop this plan. We have included the major planned deliverables (e.g., the e-Book and Oxford University Press books, as well as the international conference) in our work plan. At the October 2013 meeting the team will review a proposed chapter outline for the first edited volume and set a target dates for manuscripts and publication.

Events

The table below (from SSHRC) does not lend itself to the NCRP’s integrated knowledge transfer strategy, which generally aims to address multiple stakeholders as a group rather than separately. We have indicated some of our projected events on the modified table below, keeping in mind that this is only a rough estimate and mainly a minimum for the project’s likely outputs.

As indicated in our proposal, we plan to host an international research conference on neighbourhood inequality near the culmination of the project in 2018. We expect this conference to be co-hosted by an international scholarly association and to be mainly self-funding through registration fees and other forms of sponsorship.

Event Type	Audiences									
	Academic, Professional		Community, NGO, Government, Active Citizens, Policy advisors		General Interest		Government		Business	
	H	P	H	P	H	P	H	P	H	P
Workshop		6								
Conference		1								
Symposium										
Meeting	25	75+	25	75+						
Public lecture, panel			3	20+						
Community forum			4	20+						

When more of the NCRP research gets underway, the team will hold occasional workshops to discuss research designs, present findings, and generate scholarly and community outputs. Graduate student presentations, refereed and chaired by doctoral and post-doctoral team members, will be an important component of these workshops. They will take place at in-person team meetings, as well as at other venues where NCRP team members expect to meet. One upcoming example is the International Federation of Settlements conference to be held in Vancouver in May 2014. The organization hosting the conference, the Association of Neighbourhood Houses of British Columbia, is an NCRP partner. Plans are underway for NCRP to co-host a research workshop in connection with this practitioners' conference.

The community-based research framework described above means that many NCRP projects are guided by local teams, working groups, networks, or community advisory boards that include a mix of academics, professionals, community members, and representatives from NGOs and government departments. Approximately 25 meetings of such bodies have taken place this year.

NCRP has hosted or co-hosted three major public events in year one. The project's public launch event, titled *Addressing urban injustice: The growing gap and what to do about it*, was held July 4, 2012 at the Innis Town Hall in Toronto. A full house of about 150, including students, professionals, city councilors, journalists, and the interested public, came to hear a panel of NCRP co-investigators from Montréal, Vancouver, Chicago and the Netherlands, chaired by the PI.

Two subsequent major public events have been co-hosted by the NCRP, one with the City of Toronto's Tower Renewal Office (December 2012) and the other with our partner United Way Toronto (April 2013), both also drawing large audiences. In addition, the Principal Investigator receives frequent invitations to address public meetings, community gatherings, workshops, NGO events, and conferences about NCRP research (averaging about one per week).

Finally, some NCRP researchers aim to deliver their findings directly to neighbourhood residents and organizations through community forums. A recent example is the HSRDC funded family homelessness project in which preliminary findings are being presented to service providers in each of the study's seven neighbourhood clusters.

5. Performance Measurement and Evaluation

Evaluation and monitoring of performance is built into key NCRP activities.

Detailed review of all NCRP research initiatives

The internal peer review process used before any research is initiated with NCRP funds, as discussed above in Section 1, helps ensure that our research initiatives respond to NCRP objectives and research questions, have appropriate research designs and budgets, and contribute in a coherent fashion to the overall program of research. The process includes review by a Research Advisory Board (an external review, i.e., they are not co-investigators). Five senior scholars comprise the Research Advisory Board. These five plus the 17-member Board of Directors (the decision makers) all have the opportunity to offer advice and make a recommendation on research proposals. This process promotes coordination and collaboration across the geographically dispersed team and helps avoid duplica-

tion and redundancy. The research proposal template also requires applicants to describe partner involvement and knowledge mobilization. A timeline linked to project deliverables is required.

Periodic progress reports about all research initiatives will be distributed to the entire team and posted on the website once more research is underway. The NCRP's project manager monitors all research activities funded by the project. The PI and Board have the responsibility and mandate to react quickly to any emerging problems or complications that may arise.

Review of research reports, articles, chapters, and knowledge mobilization publications

All scholarly publication of research is subject to external peer review.

It is the publication of reports by the NCRP itself that require careful internal review. Nothing is published or distributed under the NCRP's name without review by other team members. For purely local publications (i.e., in and about a CMA) it is the responsibility of the CMA team leader to ensure the quality of publications; for the NCRP in general it is the PI's responsibility.

Annual partner evaluation

A brief partner evaluation has been developed and is circulated annually to partners at the time they fill in the cash and in-kind contribution report for SSHRC. The first round of these evaluations, in April 2013, found that partners are generally satisfied with their roles and that they look forward to more opportunities for involvement as the project progresses. Some partners indicated concerns and made recommendations; these have been noted and have been incorporated into ongoing project management and planning.

Internal use of this year one milestone report

This report will be circulated to the entire team and posted on the team members protected webpage as a means of further informing our large team about activities, initiatives and plans. Discussion of this report will be an early item on the October 2013 team meeting providing an opportunity for the team to discuss year one and suggest further ideas for improved management, additional or alternative activities, and future evaluation processes. During year three many team members will be called upon to contribute to the mid-term report, serving as another opportunity to self-evaluate and consider improvements.

External evaluation of progress and the quality of the partnership and outputs

We will explore improved options for performance measures and evaluation methods. This will be on the agenda at our October 2013 team meeting. Our project manager has been asked to network with other large projects to look for advice and examples. SSHRC will also be asked about any "best practices" it might recommend.

Attachments

- A. Work Plan
- B. Research proposal format (Ley & Jones example)
- C. Knowledge Mobilization Plan

NEIGHBOURHOOD CHANGE RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP WORK PLAN, 2012

RESEARCH & DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES (Years begin July 1)		YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
Activity A - Collaborative Neighbourhood Change Studies							
1. “Three Cities” analysis of 1971-2010 income data (Review M/T/V and Complete H/W/C)							
2. Identify and integrate other local data sources (6 CMAs)							
3. Comparative statistical analysis of CMA CT-level data to identify neighbourhood typologies in Canada							
4. Neighbourhood change case studies using comparable methodology							
Activity B - Comparative Analysis of Neighbourhood Trends							
5. Comparative analysis of the results from Activity A							
6. Comparative reviews of existing policies, programs, & local interventions - Canadian and international							
Activity C - Mobilizing Knowledge to Address Neighbourhood Inequality							
7. Cross-disciplinary collaborative studies on theme areas (Canadian & International)							
Dissemination, Meetings & Conferences							
In-person meetings of the research team		July 2012	Oct 2013		May 2016		May 2018
Symposia & workshops (to present & plan studies)			May 2014		May 2016		
International conference							May 2018
Divided Cities e-book - launch				May 2015			
Oxford University Press collections (Trends, Consequences, Interventions) – chapters due					Sept 2015		Sept 2017

Research Activities: Notes & Questions

1. **Three Cities Analysis** (done for MTV, still needed for CWH)
- CMA-specific trend analysis, replicating Toronto Three Cities method, with variations appropriate to the CMA, using 1971-2006 census data
 - Includes a review of important local literature on income inequality, and overview of local & provincial policy context for trends observed

2. **Other Data Sources**
 - CMA-specific and cross-Canada identification of additional data sources, and merging of these with Three Cities analysis
 - Examples: Tax filer data, education / school board data, police and criminal court data, social housing provider data, social assistance data, child welfare agency data
 - Begin all 6 CMAs in Years One and Two in tandem with local literature reviews. Continuing throughout project as new data sources / needs identified.
 - When we say “merging with census data” do we mean at the neighbourhood level? Mapping? Multivariate analyses?
3. **Joint Analysis**
 - Entering a comprehensive set of census variables (age, income, employment, ethnicity etc.) into a single combined analysis of all census tracts in the six CMAs.
 - Could be undertaken for just 2006 and / or for a set of variables measuring change, 1971-2006, analyzed using multivariate statistics (factor analysis, cluster analysis etc.).
 - To identify comparable neighbourhood types across CMAs for the neighbourhood change case studies.
 - Would form the basis of more detailed analysis in Activity B.
4. **Collaborative Neighbourhood Change Case Studies**
 - Neighbourhood selection and case study methodology to be determined on the basis of reports and discussions at October 2013 meeting and May 2014 workshop. Case studies to begin in Year Three.
 - In-depth case studies would employ qualitative and participatory methods, planned and carried out with partners, and ideally co-funded by partners & co-investigator grants
 - On what basis are neighbourhoods selected? To what extent is methodology consistent across sites?
5. **Comparative Analysis**
 - Comparing neighbourhood inequality across 6 CMAs – building on the Joint Analysis.
 - Review Canadian findings in the context of US and European research.
6. **Existing Interventions**
 - Comparative reviews of local, provincial, federal and international policies, programs, and interventions affecting neighbourhood inequality.
 - Reviews of existing interventions can form the basis for thematic studies (see below).
 - Which interventions? How do we decide which to examine? On what basis can we compare interventions?
7. **Cross-disciplinary collaborative studies on theme areas (Canadian & International)**
 - Single-CMA or comparative interdisciplinary studies focused on the theme areas identified in proposal.
 - Themes include: age-friendly neighbourhoods; youth, schooling & criminal justice; immigrant settlement, immigration status, and integration / marginalization; adequate housing and high-rise neighbourhoods; urban Aboriginal issues; income and access to jobs.
 - Ideally projects will be co-funded by partners and other co-investigator grants
 - Can be carried out across project, beginning with reviews of existing interventions (6). Primary research to be defined later in the project.
 - How do we determine where to focus thematic studies?
 - Can CMAs that are “farther ahead” begin to define these earlier, or should we wait until all Three Cities analyses are complete for all CMAs?
 - These will lead to identifying consequences of neighbourhood inequality, and interventions that can make a difference.

Neighbourhood Change Research Partnership

www.NeighbourhoodChange.ca

The Emerging Skytrain Poverty Corridor

March 2013

Principal Investigator with email address	David Ley , david.ley@geog.ubc.ca
Co-investigator/s	Craig Eugene Jones , craig.e.jones@geog.ubc.ca
Community Partner/s	Association of Neighbourhood Houses BC

1. Rationale & Potential Policy Relevance

Recent research into urban income inequality has revealed a transition in Canadian cities over the last 40 years (see Hulchanski et al. 2007, Brzozowski 2010, Ades et al. 2012, Chen et al. 2012, Ley & Lynch 2012). Traditional inner-city areas of poverty have become revalorized in post-industrial cities while some middle-income suburban districts have transitioned into low-income areas, reversing our traditional understanding of the geography of urban income distributions. In Greater Vancouver, a distinctive zone of districts along the rapid transit Skytrain corridor have moved into low income status in the past 40 years, a trend that has accelerated since 2000. What factors have led to the development of this new low-income (and in several neighbourhoods, very-low income) region in formerly middle-income neighbourhoods, straddling four municipalities from inner city Vancouver through the suburbs of (South) Burnaby, New Westminster and (North) Surrey? What have been the relative roles of public policies and private housing and labour market changes? How secure is this affordable housing region in light of public intensification strategies? What types of socio-cultural groups live in this corridor, how significant is this location to them, and what social services are most urgently needed?

2. Research Questions (number list)

1. Why has this corridor of low-income households developed, and what needs does the location serve for its population?
2. What are the demographic characteristics of households along this corridor, and how do they change with increasing distance from Vancouver? What particular challenges to poverty mitigation does suburban poverty present?
3. What share of the population do new immigrants represent? Have co-ethnic clusters formed? Is there evidence of shared social capital expressed in mutual aid around extended families or religious places of worship? What specific policies best address the needs of diverse groups of new immigrants, including refugees?
4. What services are currently available to low-income people living in or near the Skytrain corridor?
5. What has been the role of public policy in the development of this low-income region? How might future policies – eg the redevelopment of sites near Skytrain stations -- affect the stability of affordable housing in this district?

3. Specific Fit with the NCRP Objectives & Research Questions (see our SSHRC Proposal)

Building on the findings of Ley and Lynch (2012) on socio-economic polarisation in the Vancouver CMA, this research will provide a finer-grained level of analysis of neighbourhoods that are located long the transit corridor of Metro Vancouver's Skytrain line, where median income has dropped over a broadening area over the last 30-40 years. Focus groups with residents and semi-structured interviews with service providers will provide insight into the efficacy of current policy and program options that address inequality in suburban areas of Metro Vancouver.

4. Research Design & Methods (specific tasks)

Semi-structured interviews with service providers and community leaders.
 Three focus groups of 6 to 10 participants, drawn from service agency lists.
 Construction of a list of services available in study areas.
 Fine-grained (dissemination area) analysis of research area, drawing upon the 2001, 2006, 2011 censuses.
 Review of newspaper accounts, planning reports and other public documents.

5. Role of Community Partner/s

There are six Neighbourhood Houses within this corridor, 4 in Vancouver and one each in South Burnaby and North Surrey. We anticipate interviews with program staff in these neighbourhood centres, and working with focus groups in 3 of them.

6. Role of Students / Research Assistants and Contributions to Training

Craig Jones is an MA student in UBC Geography who will be carrying out the fieldwork for this research, supervised and mentored by Dr. David Ley.

7. Schedule (timeline of research tasks, including deliverables submission dates)

May 1 st to May 27 th :	Seek ethics approval from UBC Research Services. Make contact with service providers and community leaders. Make contact with potential focus group participants. List of services available in the study areas.
June 3 rd to June 30 th :	Semi-structured interviews with service providers and community leaders. First focus group conducted.
July 1 st to July 31 st :	Database analysis of study areas. Second focus group conducted.
August 1 st to 31 st :	Review of planning reports and municipal documents. Third focus group conducted. Preliminary findings submitted in a written report to community partners.
Jan 1 st 2014 to May 30	Writing of Master's thesis, informed by preceding research.

8. Outcomes / Deliverables

An accessible document will be distributed at a community forum. At least one academic article will be written.

9. Budget Explanation [and fill in separate budget worksheet page below]

The primary budget item is to support the MA student conducting the field research: 12 weeks x 35 hrs x \$25. We include also \$3000 for expenses accruing to community partners (eg interview time, organising focus groups, room rental). \$500 is allocated for newsletter printing & field costs.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sent to the NCRP's Research Advisory Board for comment: date _____ reviewed by RAB _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Funding approved by the NCRP's Board: \$ <u>14,000</u> date <u>11 April 2013</u>
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SSHRC Budget Worksheet

	Amount requested from NCRP	Contributions (In-Kind / Cash)	Contribution source	Total Project Cost
Personnel costs				
Student salaries and benefits/Stipends				
Undergraduate *				
Masters *	10,500			
Doctorate *				
Non-student salaries and benefits/Stipends				
Postdoctoral				
Other				
Travel and subsistence costs				
Applicant/Team member(s)				
Canadian travel				
Foreign travel				
Students				
Canadian travel				
Foreign travel				
Other expenses				
Non-disposable equipment (specify)				
Professional / technical services (specify: includes partner staff time contributed to or paid for by project, translation, editing, etc.)				
	3,000			
Other expenses (specify: includes honoraria, data purchase, field costs, printing, supplies, etc.)				
	500			
Total	14,000			

* Please indicate hourly rates for students and estimated number of students:

Knowledge Mobilization Plan

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

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

Scholarly Dissemination

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

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

Dissemination to wider audiences

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

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

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

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

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

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