NCRP TEAM MEETING AGENDA   DRAFT for discussion

246 Bloor St West, 7th Floor, Toronto, 2-3 May 2014

Thursday May 1, 7pm, Public Forum, Sanford Fleming Building [an option to be confirmed]

topic to be confirmed; relating to deteriorating rental neighbourhoods?

Friday May 2, 246 Bloor St West, 7th Floor

9am   Introductions; general project update

9:30   6 CMA Team updates
        (note 5 minutes each = 30 minutes, plus some additional Q&A time; discussion of rental housing & future
        research initiatives by each CMA is already on the agenda as the next items)

10:15   Rental neighbourhoods: Defining a research agenda
        • go-round on issues with rental in each CMA
        • Planning NCRP project - local interests, local investigators and partners, next steps

Noon   Lunch

1pm   NCRP research agenda & objectives for coming years
        • evaluative discussion: what is going well, what is not
        • briefly review what we proposed
        • discuss options for focus and priorities for the next 2-3 years
        • publications agenda
        • partnership & research team development; for the NCRP in general; for each CMA

??   Dinner, L'Espresso, Bloor & St George St. SE corner)

Saturday May 3, 246 Bloor St West, 7th Floor

9am   NCRP administration, budget, other issues (e.g., SSHRC reporting & mid-term report)

11am   Knowledge Mobilization Workshop (with lunch): building a knowledge mobilization
        strategy for NCRP

2pm   Wrap-up and next steps (end by 3pm)

The option for joining in by teleconference and/or Skype is being investigated for those who cannot be in
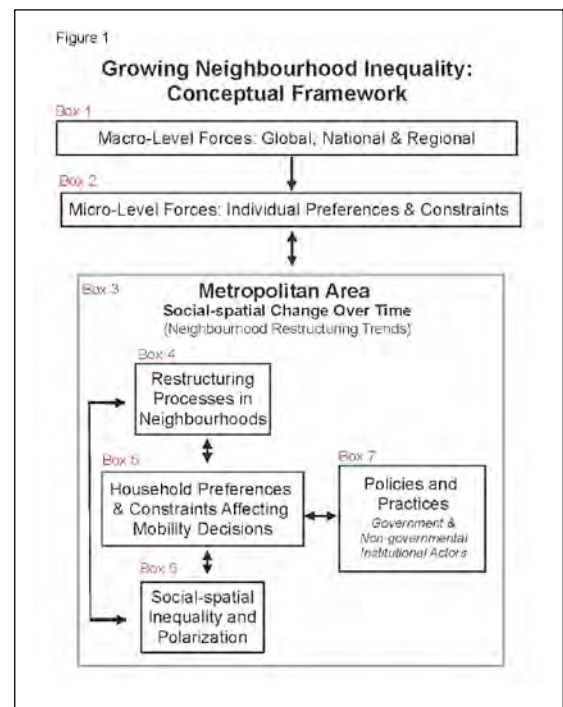Toronto.

Attached pages for reference: key parts of our research proposal (research questions & themes)

Research Partnership: Trends, Processes, Consequences, Interventions

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

Selections from PROPOSAL for discussion of
Questions 2 & 3 and Themes

Figure 1
Growing Neighbourhood Inequality: Conceptual Framework

1   The core of this project is in the ***divided cities*** literature

2   *Neighbourhoods are becoming the new fault line of social*
3   *isolation and spatial separation. Can neighbourhood*
4   *interventions help achieve greater social inclusion?*

5   Marcuse & van Kempen (2000a) warn that we can expect to
6   see: *"strengthened structural spatial divisions among the*
7   *quarters of the city, with increased inequality and sharper*
8   *lines of division among them; wealthy quarters, housing*
9   *those directly benefiting from increased globalization, and*
10 *the quarters of the professionals, managers, and technicians*
11 *that serve them, growing in size; ... quarters of those*
12 *excluded from the globalizing economy, with their residents*
13 *more and more isolated and walled in; ... continuing*
14 *formation of immigrant enclaves of lower-paid workers; ...*
15 *ghettoization of the excluded"* (p. 272).

16 This project takes up the challenge of
17 • analyzing neighbourhood restructuring trends and
18 processes in large Canadian cities,
19 • analyzing and evaluating explanations for the trends,
20 and
21 • proposing programs and policies that can address
22 growing socio-spatial inequalities among urban
23 neighbourhood
24
25 **Figure 2** identifies the three major questions that will
26 guide the research.
27 *Hypothesis*: Drawing on the conceptual framework in
28 Figure 1, research hypotheses might
29 include: Neighbourhood socio-spatial inequality and polarization (Box 6) is a function of (a) macro-
30 level factors (Box 1) + (b) micro-level forces (Box 2) + (c) neighbourhood effects (Box 4) + (d) local

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

31 housing/labour/market/ policy effects (Box 7) + (e) place-specific (CMA) effects. The latter are hard
32 to incorporate visually into Figure 1, although we might expect to find differences by size of city,
33 local area growth rates, provincial policy context, political culture, demographic characteristics, and
34 the economic structure and geography of the metropolitan areas. Our comparative analysis is
35 designed to evaluate these CMA effects.

Research Questions

36   **Q #1: Neighbourhood Restructuring Trends and Processes:** What changes have occurred in
37 Canadian urban neighbourhoods in the last 40 years. What are the differences between
38 neighbourhoods within specific cities and between cities? How do we explain neighbourhood
39 changes and trends, and the similarities and differences within and between CMAs?
40

41 **Q #2: Consequences of Socio-spatial Inequality and Polarization:**

42 a) How do neighbourhood changes in Canada's large cities affect people's life chances,
43   educational outcomes, employment opportunities, mobility, access to resources, and social
44   attitudes?

45 b) What are the consequences of neighbourhood trends for issues such as immigrant settlement,
46   urban schooling, youth involvement in the criminal justice system, the well-being of
47   Aboriginal people, and the development of age-friendly neighbourhoods?

48 c) What impacts have interventions at the neighbourhood level had on these trends?

49 d) What factors promote resilience among residents and neighbourhoods? What examples of
50   community intervention have yielded positive results?

51

52 **Q #3 Policies and Programs:**

53 a) What neighbourhood-level interventions are most effective in mitigating the effects of socio-
54   spatial inequalities?

55 b) How can we ensure that youth, newcomers, low-income households, ethno-cultural minorities,
56   Aboriginal people, and the elderly are successfully included in the mainstream of society?

57 c) How do policies and programs in housing, education, immigration, criminal justice, and
58   income security moderate or exacerbate the impacts of socio-spatial inequality?

59 d) What roles can different levels of government, NGOs, and the private sector play in reducing
60   inequalities?

61 e) How can we develop support for public policy measures to reduce inequality?

Research Activities

62   ***Our approach & methods***. Figure 3 shows the three major activities of our proposed research.
63 For *Activity A* (collaborative neighbour-hood change studies), we draw upon a longitudinal
64 analysis of census tract data, including variables such as age, household structure, immigration,
65 ethnicity, income, employment, and housing, to map cross-sectional patterns for each CMA at each

66 census year from 1971 to 2006, updating to
67 add 2011 census results, recognizing that not
68 all of these variables will be available for
69 2011.

70

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

84

Figure 3: **Organization of Research Activities** Coordinators		
Activity A	**COLLABORATIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD CHANGE STUDIES:** local teams using similar mixed-methods approaches, with partners guiding the issues to be explored and informing the analysis of the data; a designated team manager: Vancouver (Ley), Calgary (Townshend), Winnipeg (Distasio), Toronto (Walks), Montreal (Rose), Halifax (Grant).	Grant Walks
Activity B	**COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF NEIGHBOUR-HOOD TRENDS (Canada & selected international):** collaborative groups focused on specific research questions comparing similarities and differences among the CMAs and international comparators; evaluating physical and social processes that may explain similarities/differences.	Hiebert Murdie
Activity C	**MOBILIZING KNOWLEDGE TO ADDRESS NEIGHBOURHOOD INEQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND CHANGE**: team members mobilize knowledge on key themes across different disciplines to bring an improved understanding of the issues and to evaluate policies and programs.	Gallagher Preston

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

General Research Themes

93 While the Activities bring structure to our task, the purpose is to better understand what is happening
94 in key policy areas. The themes are distinct, yet intersect. They not only emerge from a close reading
95 of the existing literature, but also represent the interests and expertise of our research team. Their
96 exact specifications will be defined as we learn more about socio-spatial trends. New themes may be
97 added. All will be examined through multidisciplinary perspectives with guidance from and the
98 participation of our partners.
99

100 *Youth, criminal justice, urban schooling*: We will investigate the relationships between
101 neighbourhood safety and educational outcomes, particularly in disadvantaged neighbourhoods,
102 given well-documented evidence of achievement gaps in education based on socio-economic
103 disparity and ethnic affiliation, and growing concerns over school safety. The research will then
104 examine the implications for policy to address these issues for ever-more-diverse populations of
105 students in communities often subject to increased forms of school surveillance and security.
106

107 *Age-friendly neighbourhoods***:** We will study the social service and social isolation issues
108 that emerge as the population of a neighbourhood ages, and the issues of diverse neighbourhoods that

Figure 4: Cross-disciplinary Thematic Teams	
Theme	*Initial Team*
Youth, Criminal Justice, & Urban Schooling	K. Gallagher, Education; S. Wortley, Criminology; D. Cowen, Geography; C. Fusco, Physical Education & Health
Age Friendly Neighbourhoods	S. Neysmith, Social Work; J. Grant, Planning; V. Preston, Geography; I. Townshend, Geography; C. Fusco, Physical Education & Health
Immigrant Settlement & Integration / Marginalization	R. Bhuyan, Social Work; A. Germain, Sociology; S. Ghosh, Geography; D. Hiebert, Geography; D. Ley, Geography; R. Murdie, Geography; V. Preston, Geography; D. Rose, Geography
Adequate Housing & Highrise Neighbourhoods	L. Bourne, Geography/Planning; D. Hulchanski, Social Work; D. Ley, Geography
Urban Aboriginal Issues	J. Distasio, Urban Studies; C. Leo, Political Science
Income & Access to Jobs	L. Bourne, Geography/Planning; A. Walks, Geography; P. Hess, Geography; J. Myles, Sociology; B. Miller, Social Sciences

109 include many older persons. These themes
110 intersect with the changing ethno-cultural profile
111 of older persons as either established residents or
112 recent immigrants and with transportation
113 problems in neighbourhoods built since the
114 1950s. These questions, common to all Canadian
115 cities, are important for governments and social
116 agencies. This work will be linked to that of the
117 World Health Organization's Age Friendly
118 Cities movement.
119

120 ***Immigrant settlement, immigration***
121 ***status, and integration/marginalization***:
122 We will investigate the increased vulnerability
123 of new immigrants and refugees, including
124 those with precarious status (refugee claimants,
125 temporary foreign workers, non-status
126 immigrants), as they locate in large numbers in
127 neighbourhoods that have few social and ethno-
128 specific services and poor access to transit. The
129 research will identify housing- and
130 neighbourhood-level policies and programs to
131 enhance immigrants' prospects for successful
132 integration.
133

134 ***Adequate housing and highrise neighbourhoods:*** We will investigate the increasing
135 concentration of low-income households in highrise apartments built in the 1960s and 1970s, and
136 assess programs developed in some locations to address the deteriorating housing stock,
137 geographical isolation, and limited access to social and other services that typify many highrise
138 developments (Smith and Ley 2008).
139

140 ***Urban Aboriginal issues:*** Despite the migration of Aboriginal peoples to major urban
141 centres from First Nation communities, barriers prevent them from participating in and
142 contributing to their neighbourhoods. We will investigate housing, homelessness, access to
143 services, employment, and discrimination, with a view to developing neighbourhood-level
144 interventions.
145

146 ***Income and access to jobs:*** We will investigate how changes in the location of
147 employment and the mix of occupations in Canadian metropolitan areas affect the incomes of
148 vulnerable workers, particularly women, immigrants, youth, and people with disabilities. The
149 research will evaluate how the relocation of jobs has contributed to an uneven landscape of
150 geographical access to employment for people with various occupations and educational
151 attainments. Where possible, the studies will also investigate how transit initiatives and place-
152 based policies designed to attract employers affect the employment and income prospects of
153 different social groups.