

**Urban Development Agreements: Lessons from the West
Tuesday, April 27, 2004**

Speakers' Biographies

**Isobel Donovan – Executive Coordinator
Vancouver Agreement**

Isobel is currently the Executive Co-ordinator of the Vancouver Agreement, a five-year urban development agreement between the governments of Canada, British Columbia and Vancouver to promote and support sustainable economic, social and community development within the City of Vancouver. In this role, Isobel is responsible for all aspects of co-ordination between the three levels of government, including strategic, financial, and operating objectives.

Prior to assuming this role in May, 2002, Isobel spent 30 years with the B.C. Provincial Government, and has an extensive background in social policy initiatives, including income support, labour market analysis, housing, immigration, and family justice issues. She has held a number of strategic planning and leadership roles within the government, and is recognized for her skills in managing change and transition within organizations.

Most recently, Isobel served as Regional Executive Officer for the Ministry of Human Resources in Vancouver, and was responsible for all the income support and labour market attachment programs for the city. It was in this role that she came into contact with the work of the Vancouver Agreement, and with her background knowledge of the chronic and complex issues facing the inner city, decided to join the Vancouver Agreement team.

**Nathan Edelson – Senior Planner
City of Vancouver**

Nathan Edelson is a Senior Planner with the City of Vancouver Planning Department. He has played a leadership role on interdepartmental community planning initiatives for the Joyce SkyTrain Station Area, the Downtown South high density residential community, and the Granville Street revitalization program. He has also developed city-wide policies on liquor licensing, adult retail, and secondary suites and was part of the team which drafted Vancouver's Central Area Plan.

Since 1995 he has worked in the Downtown Eastside and surrounding communities on a wide range of inter-related programs. He was the founding chair of the Downtown Eastside Integrated Services Team that addressed many of the enforcement issues related to the illegal drug trade and the maintenance of SRO hotels. He is the co-manager of the area-wide Housing Plan, SRO Conversion Control Policies and chairs the Vancouver Agreement's Economic Revitalization Plan Task Team. He has also worked on the Victory Square Community Plan, Gastown Heritage Management Program and Chinatown Vision.

Prior to working for the City, he was the founding Executive Director of the Little Mountain Neighbourhood House.

**James Kennedy – Owner/Operator
Food & Service Resource Group Ltd.**

James Kennedy has been the owner of the Food & Service Resource Group (FSRG) since 1990. James is a trained Chef, holding the designation of Certified Chef de Cuisine, which is Canada's highest professional designation in the culinary field. James began his career in Montreal, and then moved to Victoria before settling in Vancouver. James has taken on Executive Chef positions at several high profile Vancouver properties including Christophers Restaurant and the Lonsdale Quay Hotel.

The Food & Service Resource Group training facility and Café is located in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside and specializes in Foodservice and Hospitality training for people with multiple barriers and youth at risk. These programs are partially sponsored through the Provincial and Federal governments and are geared towards finding meaningful employment opportunities for graduates. The beginnings of FSRG as a social enterprise started with its commissary production, which is partially staffed by mental health consumers. The commissary production includes muffins, cookies, biscotti and, most recently, soups and stews for local coffee shops, restaurants and clubs. This job creation concept has expanded to include the youth-staffed Cook Studio Café and the full catering services offered by Cook Studio Food Services. As the business levels grow, FSRG is able to both expand its training profile and offer more in-house employment opportunities to its graduates.

**Doug Kalcsics – President
Kalcsics and Associates Limited**

Doug Kalcsics has over 30 years of progressive experience in urban development, economic development, and municipal program and project delivery.

He is currently President of Kalcsics and Associates Limited which was established in 2001 to offer consulting services focused on urban planning and programming, economic development projects, and strategic governmental policy advice. He is also a Senior Consultant with Royal LePage Stevenson Advisors Ltd. in Winnipeg.

Prior to the establishment of this consultancy, Mr. Kalcsics was Director of the Planning, Property and Development Department of the City of Winnipeg. He was responsible for ensuring the appropriate delivery of community development programs, economic development programs, urban planning and regulatory programs, physical asset management, real property stewardship, a civic accommodations utility, building standards and inspections, and open-space and riverbank planning.

In the past, Mr. Kalcsics has been the lead negotiator of contribution agreements and heritage tax credit agreements, as well as project leader for the Mid Continent Trade Corridor Initiative involving the enhancement of NAFTA trade and investment opportunities for Winnipeg.

Mr. Kalcsics' intergovernmental affairs experience ranges from the development of broad intergovernmental strategies, to representing the interests of the City of Winnipeg on specific intergovernmental management committees regarding the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative, the Winnipeg Development Agreement, the two Winnipeg Core Area Initiatives, and the Forks North Portage Partnership.

Mr. Kalcsics was responsible for ensuring a comprehensive review and final adoption of "Plan Winnipeg", the long-range development plan for Winnipeg. He also co-ordinated the City of Winnipeg's implementation of projects and programs in the Winnipeg Development Agreement, and the Core Area Initiative Agreements including North Portage, The Forks, and the Assiniboine Riverwalk . More recently, he was responsible for ensuring appropriate municipal administrative support to "CentrePlan" and "CentreVenture", a downtown strategic planning and development process.

Mr. Kalcsics obtained a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Political Science from the University of Winnipeg in 1969, and a Master of City Planning from the University of Manitoba in 1976. He is a member of both the Manitoba Professional Planners Institute and the Canadian Institute of Planners.

**Susan Anzolin – Senior Analyst, Cities Secretariat
Privy Council Office**

Susan is a Senior Analyst within the Cities Secretariat in the Government of Canada's Privy Council Office. Susan is currently working with others to develop a framework on the New Deal for Cities and Communities. Susan has spent most of our public service career working on initiatives that involve multiple partners. Before joining the Cities Secretariat, Susan led the Government of Canada's Urban Aboriginal Strategy for five years seeking to better serve the needs of urban Aboriginal people through improved policy and program coordination at the local level.

**Ian Bromley – Director, Urban Economic Development Branch
Ontario Ministry of Economic Development and Trade**

Ian Bromley was hired in 1998 as Special Advisor to the Deputy Minister for Urban Economic Development, Ministry of Economic Development & Trade to lead a new start up initiative at the Ministry aimed at strengthening Ontario's largest urban regional economies. For two years (1999-2000) he served concurrently as Ontario's Director of Economic Development Strategy, and in 2000, UED became a permanent Branch within the Ministry with Ian Bromley as its first Director.

Prior to joining the provincial government, Mr. Bromley was Director of Corporate Communications and Marketing for the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto where he was responsible for all external and internal communication matters, reporting to the Chief Administration Officer of Canada's largest municipal government. For eight years, he was also an economic development official with the Metro government, which he joined after two years with the Canada Consulting Group/Boston Consulting Group of Canada. Through these experiences Mr. Bromley has developed expertise in economic development, government relations, public policy, urban and regional economic analysis, marketing, corporate strategy and corporate communications.

Mr. Bromley was born in Toronto in 1963 and graduated With Distinction from the Ivey Business School at the University of Western Ontario in 1987. He also holds a M.A. in Economics from the University of Toronto and an Executive MBA from Ivey Business School. He serves on the Boards of The Toronto Financial Services Alliance, The Ottawa Partnership, the Greater Toronto Marketing Alliance, and the International Economic Development Council in Washington, D.C. where he serves as Chair, International Committee and Vice Chair - International on IEDC's Executive Board. He is an Associate of Canada's Innovation Systems Research Network, and an OECD LEED Partner. He and his wife Carolyn have three children: Alison, Eric, and David.

**Eric Gam, Commissioner, Community and Neighbourhood Services
City of Toronto**

Eric Gam has been Commissioner, Community and Neighbourhood Services, City of Toronto since June 2002. The Department is an organization of over 10,000 staff responsible for providing social assistance, subsidized child care, Municipal homes for the aged, emergency hostels, social housing administration, and community supports. Through two public boards the Department also provides library services and public health.

Mr. Gam's career includes both private sector experience as an analyst and economist in the investment department of a major financial institution, and Provincial government experience successively as a program and budget analyst, Executive Assistant to two Deputy Ministers and local manager with the Ministry of Community and Social Services. Since joining the former Metro Toronto Community Services Department in 1981, he has been Director of Operational Analysis and Review, Executive Director, Administrative Services, and Executive Director, Social Development and Administration, responsible for social policy research, analysis and planning, community development and support, and management and administrative support services.

**Derek Ballantyne, CEO
Toronto Community Housing Corporation**

On November 14, 2001, Derek Ballantyne was named Chief Executive Officer of the new Toronto Community Housing Corporation. Previously, Mr. Ballantyne served as Chief Executive Officer of the Toronto Housing Company from 1999 – 2001. During that period, he also completed six months as the Acting/General Manager, Shelter, Housing & Support Division, City of Toronto. From 1995 – 1998, Mr. Ballantyne was General Manager, City Living, City of Ottawa Non-profit Housing.

Mr. Ballantyne was a longtime volunteer and Board Chair of a community-based non-profit housing corporation in Ottawa; a founding Board member of the Ontario Non Profit Housing Association and Chair of Raising the Roof, a national charitable organization dedicated to finding solutions to homelessness. He has worked on provincial housing working groups and committees in the design and implementation of social housing programs. Mr. Ballantyne has a background in large capital project delivery, project consulting and manufacturing.

**Naomi Alboim - Expert Advisor
Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council (TRIEC)**

Naomi Alboim is currently a fellow and adjunct professor in the School of Policy Studies at Queen's University, an Associate of the Maytree Foundation and an active public policy consultant.

Prior to this, Naomi worked at senior levels in both the federal and Ontario provincial governments for twenty-five years, including eight years as deputy minister in three different portfolios.

Her areas of responsibility have included labour market training, workplace practices, human rights and equity legislation, immigration, culture, sports and recreation, women's, seniors', disability and aboriginal issues, voluntarism, and community economic development. In all subject areas, she has worked extensively in policy development and in programme design and delivery.

**Derek Burleton - Senior Economist, Canadian Industries and Provinces
TD Bank Financial Group**

Derek Burleton received his Bachelor of Commerce from Queen's University in 1989 and an M.Sc. in Economics from the London School of Economics in 1994.

After joining TD Economics in 1995, Derek was promoted to Senior Economist in May 1999. During his time at TD Economics, he has written extensively on Canada's regional markets, government finances, and public policy issues. Over the few years, Derek has authored a series of reports on Canadian urban issues that have garnered considerable attention across the country, including "A Choice Between Investing in Canada's Cities or Disinvesting in Canada's Future", "Affordable Housing in Canada – In Search of a New Paradigm", and "the Calgary-Edmonton Corridor – Take Action Now to Ensure Tiger's Roar Doesn't Fade". He is frequently called upon to speak to the media on economic issues and he gives numerous presentations to various groups within and outside TD.