

CPTED Ontario Newsletter

Volume 2, Number 2

April, 2003

[www:cptedontario.ca](http://www.cptedontario.ca)

CHAIR'S MEMBERSHIP LETTER

Dear Members:

I am pleased to advise that our web-site problems were resolved in March and the site is now being regularly updated. If you haven't made a point to visit it recently, please check it out.

The internal directory will soon be a reality. The internal directory will be posted on a password protected section of the web-site effective July 1st, 2003. The internal network can be used for networking purposes. If you have any concerns with regard to privacy issues or would like to obtain your password, please notify us at info@cptedontario.ca prior to that date. If you don't have e-mail, please send your request to me care of the mailing address. Any person who has not requested a password by December 31st, will be assigned a password at the next membership renewal.

This issue features an article by Cst. Laurel Barnett of the Halton Regional Police. Laurel joined the Board at the annual general

meeting in Ottawa last October and has done a series of articles for the local community paper. The articles are good primers for introducing CPTED into your area.



**CPTED
Ontario**
Crime Prevention Through
Environmental Design

The count down to the conference continues. This year's conference will feature a variety of speakers from across North America. Notable presenters include Dorinda Howe, past Chair of the Florida CPTED Network, who will be

speaking on the behavioural aspects of CPTED; Jonathon Lusher, Chair of the International CPTED Association, who will be speaking on CPTED and shopping malls; and Tim Zehring, Mesa (Arizona) Police Department, who will be speaking on Crime Free Multi Housing. Other highlights will include the regular introduction to CPTED session as well as two sessions dedicated to lighting.

Preliminary plans are in the works for the 2004 conference. If you know of a good venue or would like to become involved the Board of Directors would like to hear from you.

Tom McKay
Chair

CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN

What does that fancy title mean? The CPTED (pronounced sep-ted) premise is “That the proper design and effective use of the built environment can lead to a reduction in the incidence and fear of crime—and to an increase in the quality of life”.

By following the CPTED principles, you can make your home less inviting to criminals and criminal behaviour, which will in turn enhance your quality of life. The strategies can be applied to any built environment, whether it is a residence, business, street, school, mall, park etc.

There are three strategies that are intertwined and overlap. The first is called natural access control. When you go onto a property, you will notice a number of things, such as a fence, pathway, gate, door, locks or a barrier of some sort that controls who is allowed to enter. Sometimes the access control is less structured, such as a store,

and is open to invite public entry.

When the public sees a fence, or a barrier, they know that they are only allowed to enter under the correct circumstances. A home is private, and entry is gained only by invitation. A mall is a semi



public space even though it is private property, and the public is encouraged to enter. Very often in a business, when you do enter, there is a reception area. The public is allowed to enter, but only by certain doors. A business may not want the public to come in via

loading dock, or another dangerous area, so they put up signs, and fences to channel the public in the direction that they want.

When a person has a criminal intent, they may not pay attention to the cues that law abiding citizens would. That is when “target hardening” comes into play.

I will cover the other two principles of CPTED in the weeks to come. If you have any questions about CPTED you can contact me at laurel.barnett@hps.on.ca or 905-878-5511 ext 2120. There are some other web sites that have more information about CPTED, as I have only skimmed the surface. You might try www.cptedontario.ca or www.cpted.net

**Cst. Laurel Barnett
Halton Regional Police**

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BUSINESS COMMON CENTS

In September and October, I wrote about CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) primarily as it relates to residences. The same three principles apply to stores and businesses. Let people know that they are entering your property by having access control. If your business is in a mall, you may want to direct how people enter by the way you set up your displays or your office. If your property

fronts onto a street but has a back door, you may want to keep the back door locked and post a sign instructing them to come in through the front door. If your business has a receptionist, make sure that visitors have to pass by that area first, so that an employee can escort them to their destination. You do not want to have people wandering around.

That brings me to the next

principle, natural surveillance. If you are a merchant, you want to be able to keep an eye on customers to provide better service and also to observe any criminal behavior. Set your cash or customer service area in a place where you can see as many areas of the store as possible and also monitor any points of exit. Many variety stores have raised cash areas which helps to improve the view. If criminals feels that they can leave with merchandise

undetected, they will. When customers enter the store, someone should be there to greet them, even if they do not stay with them for the entire visit. A criminal will hesitate to steal if they know that an employee has seen them and can identify them. Another important reason to have the cash area near the point of exit is to have the employee visible from the street. This will help to deter criminals if they have robbery in mind. They will not want passers by to witness their crime.

The third principle is territorial reinforcement. A well-maintained property is less likely to be a victim of criminal activity. If displays of merchandise are laid out in an orderly fashion, it is easy to see if some stock has been removed. Go to one of the larger department stores and you will see what I mean. It also gives the impression that someone is looking after the area and may be watching. Who wants to steal if there are witnesses?

If you would like to know more about the exciting world of CPTED, or would like a CPTED survey of your business, contact me at 905-878-5511 or laurel.barnett@hrps.on.ca.

Cst. Laurel Barnett
Halton Regional Police

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WHAT'S NEW?

The CPTED Journal is a new publication of the International CPTED Association. It is published once a year with the first issue being published in July 2002. The first issue featured articles on the sustainability of CPTED, Community CPTED, a risk assessment model for CPTED and an advanced model for CPTED evaluation: Space Syntax Theory.

The first article is a synopsis of the workshop presented by Dr. Randall Atlas at the 1999 International CPTED Association Conference in Mississauga. The second article by Sherry Carter should be equally familiar to past attendees of ICA conferences.

The Journal has a professional appearance and is 48 pages long. The Journal is expensive at \$23.00 per issue and those who request an issue should be aware that the ICA will debit your account for future issues based on the experience of one of our members. This effectively results in your purchase becoming a subscription that came as a surprise to our member.

The CPTED journal is not intended to replace the ICA's "quarterly" newsletter that was last published in August 2002. (Editor's note: the last hard copy of the ICA newsletter received was February 2002. I was not able to access the August 2002 newsletter that is posted on their web site.)

Brantford forms a CPTED Committee

The City of Brantford has recently formed a CPTED Committee chaired by Cst. Brad Cotton of the Brantford Police Service. Congratulations to Brad and the City for their dedication and commitment.

Central Zone Meeting Report – Winter 2003

The winter zone meeting for the Central Region was held on February 27, 2003 with representatives from the City of Mississauga, Toronto and Peel Police, York University, Toronto Housing Corporation and private security present.

The poster sessions resulted in three interesting and thought provoking sessions dealing with a traffic calming problem in Pickering, a street planter problem in Toronto and a site plan involving a rear alley in Toronto.

The session also featured an interim report dealing with a traffic problem that had been resolved as a result of feedback received during the fall zone meeting in which a traffic-related problem at a level railway crossing in Toronto was discussed.

The sessions have proved popular. To be part of the poster session, simply come out to the meeting and/or bring a problem with you. If you intend to bring a problem with you, we ask that you let your regional rep know along with any equipment requests.

LEVEL CROSSING REDESIGN USING CPTED

There are many urban sites where rail lines cross city streets which may be problematic for a variety of reasons. In Weston,



BEFORE

one such site was particularly challenging because there were three live tracks with a GO station located in the inter-track zone. In addition, two dormant tracks added to the confusion.

The rail land management team at 12 Division, which included representatives from the Police, Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC), rail Police (CN and CP), Fire Department and Bylaws Enforcement, were faced with problems relating to trespassing on rail lands, illegal dumping, pedestrians and vehicles disobeying track signals, especially around GO train times. In addition, the inter-track zone was used as an impromptu parking lot during a busy Saturday morning Farmers Market located adjacent to the rail crossing. These parked vehicles did not always completely clear the rail line.

The road crossing itself was in serious disrepair and by lobbying the appropriate agencies, the site was approved for upgrading. In order to address the problems associated with the site, a CPTED audit was undertaken and the results dissected at the regional CPTED Ontario meeting. The

recommendations were then taken back to the “street” for discussions with a number of people who used the crossing or worked in the adjacent rail lands. The end result is presented here.

The initial impression of the site was that its boundaries were undefined. The sidewalk did not extend across the rail land and hence neither pedestrians nor vehicles were restricted to a specific area. The solution was obviously to extend the sidewalks on both sides of the street across the rail lines, forming a continuous pedestrian pathway.

To keep vehicles from stopping in the inter-track zone to disembark passengers headed for the GO station, the roadway was narrowed such that

it will take only one vehicle in either direction. (The width will accommodate emergency vehicles.) Splash guards were erected along the sidewalk/road perimeter to reinforce this aim.

Since narrowing the roadway in this manner would have produced a hazard for cyclists, the sidewalk was made extra wide and a cycle lane will be designated by means of markings on the sidewalk. Transitions between the rail, road and sidewalks have been made level to facilitate users of bicycles, carriages and wheelchairs.

A number of other options were explored for the design of this site, but were either rejected or put on hold because of financial considerations or because they need to be “tweaked”. In the meantime, the crossing is vastly improved and at least some of the behavioural problems have been addressed.

Barbara Spyropoulos
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UPCOMING EVENTS

CPTED Ontario Zone Meeting

Thursday, June 19, 2003

9 am - 12 noon

Frank McKechnie Community Centre, 310 Bristol Rd., Mississauga

Contact Tom McKay to RSVP at 905-453-2121, ext. 4025

e-mail:

thomas.mckay@peelpolice.on.ca

Level II CPTED Course

Durham Regional Police

June 9th - 13th

contact Shelly Kluem at 905-721-3111, ext. 2450

e-mail: skluem@drps.ca

Seats available

Level I CPTED Course

York Regional Police

June 23rd - 27th

contact Sgt. Wendy Heaver at 905-830-0303, ext. 7907

e-mail 579@police.york.on.ca

Seats available

2003 CPTED Ontario Conference

"Eyes and Feet on the Street"

Sun. Oct. 19 - Tues. Oct. 21, 2003

Best Western Lamplighter Inn & Conference Centre

London, Ontario

Contact John Periversoff at 519-652-4150

e-mail

john.periversoff@jus.gov.on.ca

CPTED Ontario membership/renewal form

CPTED Ontario is dedicated to reducing the fear and incidence of crime as well as improving the quality of life by promoting the implementation of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles in Canada. CPTED Ontario was conceived and developed to provide a venue for like-minded people to meet, regularly interact and share their CPTED and professional experience. CPTED Ontario members come from a variety of disciplines including law enforcement, government, the planning and design professions, the security industry and the academic world.

Benefits of becoming a CPTED Ontario member include:

- access to our web site and password protection to internal directory of practitioners,
- regular zone meetings
- networking with other professions that share common needs and concerns, and
- an annual Conference where you can learn about the latest CPTED developments and reduced registration costs for taking an introductory session.

To become a member of CPTED Ontario simply fill out the membership form below:

CPTED Ontario Membership Form

I/We wish to become a: (Choose one):

New Application

Renewal

Membership type: Corporate @ \$250.00/year

Individual @ \$25.00/year

Student @ \$10.00/year

Do you wish your information posted on the web site?

yes

no

Name (please print): _____

Organization: _____

Occupation: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Send your cheque or money order payable to CPTED Ontario, c/o 7750 Hurontario Street, Brampton, Ontario L6V 3W6 Canada, or for further information contact Tom McKay at 905-453-2121, ext. 4025, or email info@cptedontario.ca

CPTED Ontario DIRECTORS - 2003

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