

# CPTED Ontario Newsletter

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

## Chair's Letter to the Membership

This year's annual general meeting will be held at the Mississauga Valley Community Centre at 1275 Mississauga Valley Blvd., in the City of Mississauga on Friday, October 24th, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the conclusion of a zone meeting scheduled for the same day and location starting at 9:00 a.m.

We invite our central members to attend the meeting, bring a problem and share your successes. All other members are invited to attend if they happen to be in the Toronto area.

**Tom McKay**  
*Peel Regional Police*



**CPTED  
Ontario**

Crime Prevention Through  
Environmental Design

## Comings ...

Cyndy Skillins joined the Board in February having extensive experience as a community volunteer with York Regional Police where she has been involved in the following crime prevention initiatives and Committees:

- Neighbourhood Watch,
- P.A.C.T. (Police & Community Working Together),
- Crime Prevention subcommittee,
- 2007 CPTED Ontario conference, and
- Traffic Safety Advisory Committee.

Cyndy is also a member of the Central Ontario Crime Prevention Association (C.O.C.P.A.) and sits on the Board of P.A.C.T. and the Ontario Community Watch Associations. Cyndy received her basic level CPTED training in September 2007 and owns her own business known as Corporate Care

## Planning Outreach

CPTED Ontario recently launched a series of three ads in the Ontario Provincial Planning Institute Magazine. The initiative, which was the idea of CPTED Ontario Director Terrence Glover, CPT, MCIP, RPP, resulted in a significant jump in the transfer rate of past conference information.



# Stop in the name of CPTED!

By: Tom McKay

There is an old saying that a little knowledge is a dangerous thing. Over the years, I have certainly found this to be true with CPTED. Unfortunately, this can have a negative result when CPTED ideas are too dogmatically applied or the CPTED name is liberally used to suggest that a dubious site plan condition is in fact a standard CPTED practice.

I recently came across two examples of this. The first involved a call from a CPTED trained landscape architect and member of CPTED Ontario who advised that a Town planner had requested that he remove all coniferous trees from a park that he was designing, the “three and six” rule being used as justification for the demand.

The three and six rule, in case you don’t know, is generally accepted by CPTED practitioners and advocated by CPTED instructors. It refers to the maximum height of shrubs and other ground cover and the minimum height for tree

canopies. Taken as a general rule of thumb, it is a useful guideline to follow. Taken literally as a hard and fast rule, it pits CPTED at odds with an entire design profession and belies a fundamental misunderstanding of the situational nature of most CPTED applications.

It is for precisely for these reasons that I hesitate to promote this “rule”, as its very name invokes literal interpretation. Instead, I prefer to promote the concept of view corridors. View corridors are a much more flexible concept that can be achieved horizontally, vertically or by using a combination of both. In this way they are not limited to a specific type of vegetation.

The second example came from a planner who was attempting to validate that low shrubs around a playground situated in the middle of a parking area was in fact a “CPTED requirement”. The use of the term “requirement”, suggests a level of codification that simply doesn’t exist. When used frivolously or in dubi-

ous circumstances such as above, long term damage can be caused to CPTED’s reputation and credibility. While it may be impossible to stop the unscrupulous and/or uninformed use of these terms, it is important that bona fide CPTED practitioners do not contribute to the problem by leaving a wrong impression or overstating their case.

For everyone who uses or abuses the CPTED name or its principles in either a ham fisted or inappropriate fashion, I say “stop, in the name of CPTED!” for the sake of everyone’s credibility.



*A very secure entrance - but is it good CPTED?*

## From the inbox

Has anyone made a comment on the fact that two different people can do an audit on one location and come up with two different sets of recommendations? Does this make one audit better than the other? Is one right and one wrong?

I would like to think that all practitioners would be on the same

page with the same recommendations being made although worded slightly different.....or am I out to lunch?

### ....and the response

You raise an interesting question. There are many factors which could account for such a thing. Experience, creativity, vocational background and individual charac-

teristics. While it does seem problematic, I am not surprised as it is relatively easy to miss something (usually by focusing on something else). In some regards it could be viewed as a strength in the event that more than one recommendation was forthcoming to deal with a specific problem assuming that each one was sound.

*If you got a minute, what are your thoughts?*



## What's new????

### Update to Graffiti Crisis Averted along Provincial Highway corridors story

It has been a year since the Ministry of Transportation undertook a clean-up of the Highway 427 corridor south of Highway 401 and the QEW west of the 427 at the prompting of CPTED Ontario Chair Tom McKay and CPTED Ontario Director Mike Fenton. I am pleased to say that not a single piece of graffiti has been seen along the Highway 427 corridor since that time and the QEW corridor experienced only one incident, which was quickly cleaned, during the past summer.

### Upcoming Events

#### CPTED Ontario Zone and Annual General Meeting

Oct. 24th, 2008  
9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Mississauga Valley Community Centre  
1275 Mississauga Valley Blvd.  
Mississauga, Ontario

### Have you heard about the Garage Butler?

According to the company's web-site, it was created as a new security device that will automatically close your garage door when you forget and re-tails for approximately \$60.00. The garage butler is designed to work with automatic garage door openers. It sounds like an improvement in residential access control.

See <http://www.garagebutler.com/>



### Something to relate to ...

Three-year old Caitlin was learning the Lord's Prayer. Finally came the night she was ready to solo. Carefully, she enunciated each word right up to the end of the prayer: "Lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us from e-mail. Amen."

### New Urbanism, Crime and the Suburbs: A Review of the Evidence

*Paul Michael Cozens*

Paul Cozens, from the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Division of Humanities, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Australia, has published an article in Urban Policy and Research in which he reviews the criminological research relating to New Urbanism associated with the three key issues of permeability, rear lane-way car parking and mixed-use development. Cozens discusses these key issues "from an environmental criminology perspective and challenges New Urbanist assumptions concerning crime".

The article proposes that CPTED and its crime risk assessment model represents a valuable tool for New Urbanists to utilize to reduce opportunities for crime and tackle fear of crime in the community. Recommendations for future research and collaboration are discussed.

# CPTED Ontario Directors - 2008

## Executive

1. Cst. **Tom McKay**, B. Comm.  
*Chair*  
Peel Regional Police  
Crime Prevention Services  
7750 Hurontario St.,  
Brampton, Ontario  
L6V 3W6  
Ph: 905-453-2121, ext. 4025  
Fax: 905-456-6106  
[Thomas.McKay@peelpolice.ca](mailto:Thomas.McKay@peelpolice.ca)
2. **Wayne Nishihama**, OALA, CSLA  
*Treasurer*  
City of Mississauga, Design  
300 City Centre Dr.,  
Mississauga, Ontario  
L5B 3C1  
Ph: 905-615-3200 ext. 5540 fax: 905-896-5553  
[wayne.nishihama@mississauga.ca](mailto:wayne.nishihama@mississauga.ca)
3. **Martin Bass**, CFE, CPP, CRM  
Risk Management / Business  
Continuity Advisor  
The Co-operators  
130 Macdonell Street,  
Guelph, Ontario N1H 6P8  
Ph: 519-767-3925 Ext. 2394  
Fax: 519-824-0599  
[martin\\_bass@cooperators.ca](mailto:martin_bass@cooperators.ca)
4. **Mike Fenton**, CPP, PSP, Vice-Chair  
Director of Consulting & Client  
Services  
Paragon Protection Ltd.  
1210 Sheppard Ave. E., Suite 488  
North York, Ontario  
M2K 1E3  
Ph: 416-498-2507  
Fax: 416-498-9694  
[mfenton@pplguard.com](mailto:mfenton@pplguard.com)
5. **Terrence Glover**, CPT, MCIP, RPP  
City of Brantford  
Senior Planner, Current Development.  
100 Wellington Square,  
Brantford, Ontario  
N3T 2M3  
Ph: 519-759-4150, ext. 2379  
Fax: 519-7520-6977  
[tglover@brantford.ca](mailto:tglover@brantford.ca)
6. Sgt. **Mark Lawrence**  
York Regional Police  
17250 Yonge St.,  
Newmarket, Ontario  
L3Y 4W5  
Ph: 905-830-0303, ext. 7189  
Fax: 905-895-4030  
[231@police.york.on.ca](mailto:231@police.york.on.ca)
7. **Robert Metail**  
Architectural Security Consultant  
Royal Canadian Mounted Police  
1426 St. Joseph Blvd.  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0R2  
Ph: 613-993-7977  
Fax: 613-993-5512  
[Robert.metail@rcmp-tsb.ca](mailto:Robert.metail@rcmp-tsb.ca)
8. **Cyndy A Skillins**  
14845-6 Yonge St., Hunters Gate,  
Unit 103  
Aurora, Ontario  
L4G 6H8  
cell: 416- 520-1799  
[skillins\\_pc@yahoo.ca](mailto:skillins_pc@yahoo.ca)  
also [skillins@corporatecare.on.ca](mailto:skillins@corporatecare.on.ca)
9. Cst. **Melody Tourigny**  
Community Services Officer  
Ontario Provincial Police  
Nottawasaga Detachment  
29 Main St. W.,  
P.O. Box 220  
Beeton, Ontario  
LOG 1A0  
Ph: 905-729-4004  
Cell: 705-434-8824  
Fax: 905-729-4007  
[melody.tourigny@ontario.ca](mailto:melody.tourigny@ontario.ca)
10. Sgt. **David J. Thomas**  
Provincial Coordinator  
Community Issues  
Crime Prevention Section  
Field Support Bureau  
Ontario Provincial Police  
777 Memorial Ave.,  
Orillia, Ontario  
L3V 7V3  
Ph: 705-329-6272  
Fax: 705-329-7698  
[david.j.thomas@ontario.ca](mailto:david.j.thomas@ontario.ca)
11. Cst. **Marten Wind**, President  
Durham Regional Police  
77 Centre St. N.,  
Oshawa, Ontario  
L1G 4B7  
Ph: 1-888-579-1520/  
905-579-1520, ext. 1741  
[mwind@drps.ca](mailto:mwind@drps.ca)

## Board Members



**CPTED  
Ontario**

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Environment a Design

# CPTED Ontario 2008/9 MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM

CPTED Ontario is dedicated to reducing the fear and incidence 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 included:

- ✓ access to our web site and password protection to internal directory of practitioners,
- ✓ regular zone meetings,
- ✓ quarterly newsletters,
- ✓ networking with other professions that share common needs and concerns, and
- ✓ bi-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:

## 2008 — 2009 CPTED Ontario Membership Form

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

Corporate Member \$350.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Member \$40.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Student Member \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish your information posted on the web site?  Yes  No

**2008—2009 memberships are valid to December 31, 2009**

### Please Print

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Occupation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

Send your cheque or money order 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](mailto:info@cptedontario.ca)

CPTED Ontario is a division of the CPTED Institute

