

CPTED Ontario Newsletter

Volume 8, Number 2

Fall, 2009

www.cptedontario.ca

Chair's Letter to the Membership

By now you should have received your copy of the registration form for this year's CPTED Ontario workshop. This year's theme reflects the reality that youth-related complaints represent a disproportionate number of the crime and design problems. By examining the connection between all three elements, the workshop will attempt to provide participants with the answers they need to address youth-related problems within their own communities.

We will draw on the extensive experience and varied backgrounds of our speakers to

- help better understand today's youth;
- recognize and avoid those spaces that support loitering, skateboarding, graffiti, lawless public behavior/disorderly conduct and drug dealing; and
- develop positive environments for youth.



I hope you will join us on Wednesday November 4th at the Holiday Inn in the beautiful southern Ontario city of Guelph and help be part of Crime Prevention week. For further information, please check out the conference flyer in this edition of our newsletter or get your electronic copy by visiting our web-site.

Annual General Meeting

This year's annual general meeting will feature an election of the Board of Directors. The Board is always looking for energetic individuals who have an appreciation for and understanding of CPTED principles. If you are interested in serving on the Board, we are interested in you! To qualify, you must be a current member of CPTED Ontario and have basic CPTED knowledge.

Any interested person is asked to forward their resume to info@cptedontario.ca prior to the workshop.

Tom McKay
Chair, CPTED Ontario



**CPTED
Ontario**

Crime Prevention Through
Environmental Design

From the Inbox

Tom,

To follow up on a previous article (Whatever happened to “if it looks bad, it must be bad”? Is it too late to stop the deterioration of the public realm?) in the CPTED Ontario (Summer 2008) newsletter on weeds in the medians...

I was in Ottawa last week for a family function (two of my brothers and their families live there) and had the opportunity to see first hand the policy of not spraying for weeds in the medians. My brothers told me that it was a provincial wide ruling. As a visitor, I've got to tell you - it looks bad.

It's understandable to be ecologically friendly. However, if they are going to do this province wide, then they need to cut the grass in the medians more often.

That's quite a CPTED challenge to deal with. Good luck!

Bruce Wall
Neighborhood Safety Coordinator
City of Scottsdale
Phone: 480-312-7787, Fax:
480-312-2455
E-mail: bwall@scottsdaleaz.gov
Website: www.scottsdaleaz.gov/safety

Flowers: 1, Burglars: 0

The citizens of Sugunami, Japan (pop. 528,000) are using good, old fashioned “flower power” to help stop residential burglars in their tracks. Plagued by a record 1,710 residential break-in in 2002, a neighbourhood watch group found there were fewer burglaries in buildings on flower-lined streets, hence the inspiration for “Operation Flower”, a program that asks volunteers to plant seeds on side streets and in front of their homes according to National Post/Reuters report. The report went on to quote Kiyotaka Ohyagi, a city official, who said “by planting flowers facing the street, more people will be keeping an eye out while taking care of the flowers or watering them”.

Since its inception, approximately 3 years ago, Burglaries have fallen almost 80% to 390 in 2008. The district also deploys 9,600 volunteer patrollers and 200 security cameras.



West Coast CPTED

A couple of CPTED friendly examples were observed on a recent trip to the west coast. In the first example a trellis was erected around a pillar supporting a new section of the sky-train. The intervention keeps graffiti vandals away from the structure and softens what otherwise would be a very harsh environment.



In this second example, a colourful peacock is symbolically used to adorn an empty store front on Vancouver's main street. The peacock adds interest, a splash of colour and is representative of a stylish unveiling. The net effect is to add, and not take away from the street.

May 8th Zone meeting a success

The May 8th, 2009 zone meeting held at York Memorial Collegiate Institute, 2690 Eglinton Avenue West, Toronto was a big success. The meeting featured a CPTED review of the historic school. The organizer of the meeting was Barbara Spyropoulos (seen standing). Also present CPTED Ontario Board Members Tom McKay, Mike Fenton (seen standing) and Cyndy Skillins. Cst. Jim Lambe (seated right beside Barbara) from 12 Division Toronto Police Service was also present.



CPTED Ontario member Gurmeet Singh from Toronto Community Housing, Tom McKay and Michael Coe, Executive Manager of the Design Out Crime Unit, Office of Crime Prevention, Western Australia Police tour the new Regent Park development in downtown Toronto.



Is there a CPTED lesson to be learned in the “Naked Street” concept?

Ever heard of a “Naked Street”? Well if your first reaction was to think of a nude beach or a cheesy Leslie Nielsen film, chances are you haven’t. The “Naked Street” is a concept whereby some European cities have stripped intersections of traffic lights, curbs and other street signs in an effort to reduce traffic/pedestrian conflicts. The system works by replacing conventional, conscious controls (signage and the like) with no controls (save for the occasional traffic circle to facilitate the flow of traffic) which creates an environment that tends to alter subconscious behavior.

The result is a generally more cautious attitude as drivers and pedestrians know to expect anything and count on nothing! The false sense of security provided by the structured world is gone and so are the

often, bad drivers who are more concerned with following the rules than with being careful. You may have had a similar experience while driving accident free during a blackout. The fact is anything that reduces speed and increases caution, also reduces accidents.

As for the lesson to CPTED practitioners, perhaps what works well for the streets can be extended to people’s property. Certainly the average 20 kilometer reduction in speed registered in the city of Drachten, Holland would facilitate natural surveillance. And the loss of all those distracting signals and controls might help people notice human activity and structures.

Tom McKay
Peel Regional Police

Agreement From Other Sources

Not long after I received Tom’s article on the “Naked Street” concept for this newsletter, Kenneth Kidd, a feature writer for the Toronto Star (Saturday September 5, 2009, page GT1), outlined similar thoughts in his piece “Why traffic signs can make streets more dangerous”. In it, he states: “When our rights are defined, we tend to assert them. Life could be better if rules were less clear and we gave more thought to our obligations to the people around us.”

Since CPTED strives to direct behaviour through modification of the environment, Kidd serves up a CPTED solution from a novel angle. Keeping signage to a minimum is the environmental strategy, but his thoughts on behaviour go deeper than normal in a CPTED analysis.

Frankly, there are currently so many signs in and about our roadways, they tend to be more of a distraction rather

than the helpful directors that they are intended to be. So in addition to answering the cell phone while fiddling with the radio and balancing a cup of Timmy’s in a rather precarious anatomical position, we must look for signs to tell us how fast to go, where we are, what, if any, turns we are allowed to make, and whether or not Big Brother is watching us as we tear through an intersection on a red light. Er, that would be the signal that tells us to stop.

And don’t forget to keep a wary eye out for the ubiquitous garage sale signs at the sight of which you will either speed up if you are male or park your car in mid-intersection if you are a economy-minded female whose religion forbids one to pass up a bargain.

So maybe the point is that we should reduce signage as proposed by Tom and Kenneth and as practiced in

some European countries. After all, what good do they do if they reinforce territoriality in a negative manner. And besides, we ignore them anyway.

It reminds me of the old joke about the guy who was driving south and came to a full stop at intersection where he had a green light. When asked why, he replied that his brother might be approaching from the west and - you guessed it - he *never* stopped for the red lights!

Food for thought.

Barbara Spyropoulos
CPLC 12 Division, Toronto



Mandatory CPTED Training for Designers, Engineers

This summer, 12 Division in Toronto was one of the two areas of the city chosen for an intense crime prevention strategy: the Focused Neighbourhood TAVIS (Toronto Anti Violence Intervention Strategy) Deployment at a cost of several million dollars to the province via the taxpayer. Geographically, the area is the centre of the corridor between downtown Toronto and the northern suburbs that are home to problem areas such as Regent Park and Jane-Finch. Since 2008, 12 Division has experienced increasing violent crime, hence the need for extraordinary policing measures.

The Division is transected by the Georgetown rail line, a major route used by GO, VIA and CN and CP freight trains.

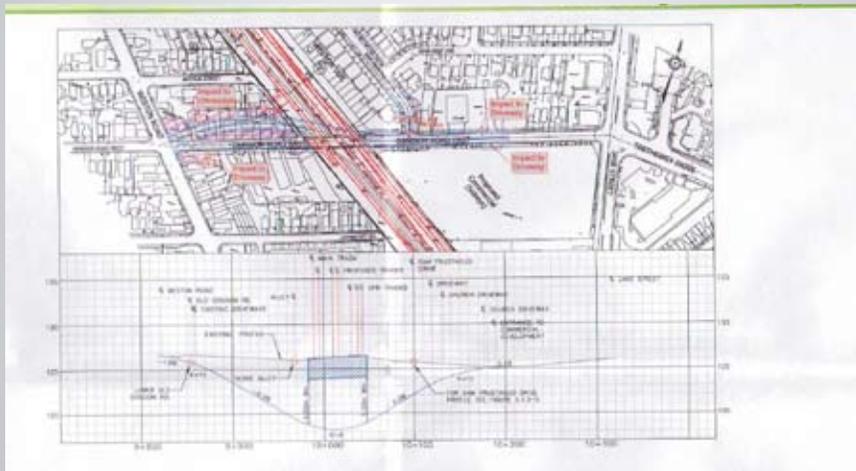
There are currently about 30 trains a day using these tracks but plans are underway to increase this traffic to 450 daily trains within the next 10 years. Traditionally, the rail corridor has been problematic. It has been the site of illicit activity and has served

as an escape route for criminals who cross from one section of the Division to another.

Metrolinx has been mandated by the province to oversee the expansion of the Georgetown corridor to accommodate the proposed increase in rail traffic and have held several public information meetings for residents and interested parties. There has been considerable outcry regarding the proposed design and alterations to the design have been made in a couple of areas (Liberty Village and Weston) where concerned community mem-

bers have drowned the experts in a sea of facts and figures that cannot be refuted even by political babblepeak.

However, in other areas, design features have slipped under the wire that are truly a CPTED nightmare. In one infamous area, the existing two-lane road is to be made into a dead end and a 72 m curved tunnel burrowed under the tracks that will drop 7 m below grade creating a double curve which will preclude sight lines further impeded by necessary support columns. In other areas where tunnels dip below grade to even half this depth, the result has been a nightmare of weather-induced slush, muck and wind-blown debris and many



such tunnels have eventually been closed. Add to this the graffiti potential of the support walls and the lack of natural light and you have an area that is seriously uninviting path even for those who do not have mobility problems. As we all know, reduction in pedestrian and, in this case, likely vehicle traffic leaves the area open to illegitimate activities. Given that this site is dead centre in a high crime area, the proposed construction would be catastrophic.

What makes matters worse is

the attitude of the designers/engineers who in public meetings tell concerned citizens who point out the shortfalls of their proposals to “call police” should anything go awry and that “police have been consulted” regarding the design. If I had not heard this with my own ears, I would have seriously doubted that anyone could have made such irresponsible statements. In this instance the “consultation” with police consisted of a phone call to the crime prevention office the day before the public meeting and an equally short phone conversation with the traffic sergeant. No written proposals. No schematics. No time for deliberation.

It is time that crime prevention practitioners insist that architects and engineers receive proper training in the necessity for consideration of CPTED principles in all structures – whether public or private. It is too costly to expect the police to deal with the fallout of badly designed projects. In addition, care must be taken that the CPTED training is of such depth that an equally dangerous situation is not created – the “expert” who knows

all the “buzz words” but does not appreciate their true meaning. Peel Regional Police has the right idea with its CPTED course in that they invite students of a variety of backgrounds. During the practical sessions, the many points of view that are expressed are an invaluable part of the course.

It is time for CPTED Ontario to take an even more active role in the promotion of CPTED principles among professionals outside of policing.

Barbara Spyropoulos

CPLC 12 Division, Toronto

CPTED Ontario Directors - 2009

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
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
3. 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
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
5. **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
6. **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
7. 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
8. **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
9. **Cyndy A Skillins**
14845-6 Yonge St., Hunters Gate,
Unit 103
Aurora, Ontario
L4G 6H8
cell: 416- 520-1799
skillins_pc@yahoo.ca
also skillins@corporatecare.on.ca
10. Cst. **Melody Tourigny**
Community Services Officer
Ontario Provincial Police
Nottawasaga Detachment
29 Main St. W.,
P.O. Box 220
Beeton, Ontario
L0G 1A0
Ph: 905-729-4004
Cell: 705-434-8824
Fax: 905-729-4007
melody.tourigny@ontario.ca
11. 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

Board Members



**CPTED
Ontario**

Crime Prevention Through
Environmental Design

2009/10 CPTED Ontario Membership Application/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 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:

2009 / 2010 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

2009 / 2010 memberships are valid to December 31, 2010

Please Print

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Occupation: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____

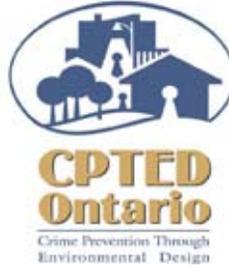
Fax: _____

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 e-mail info@cptedontario.ca

CPTED Ontario is a division of the CPTED Institute





Youth, Crime & Design Workshop

Wednesday, November 4th, 2009

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Holiday Inn - Trillium Room

601 Scottsdale Drive, Guelph, Ontario

On their own, the issues of youth, crime and design can be challenging. Taken together, they can represent a disproportionate demand on Police resources if addressed in isolation. CPTED Ontario is pleased to announce its 2009 Youth, Crime and Design workshop in the “The Royal City” Guelph, Ontario situated in the heart of southern Ontario, just 100 kms west of Toronto. Guelph is consistently rated as one of the country's most livable cities due to its low crime rates, clean environment and generally high standard of living.

This important, don't miss, workshop will examine the connection between Youth, Crime and Design and attempt to provide answers to what are commonly perceived as youth related problems.

Subjects to be addressed include:

- Understanding today's youth
- Recognizing and avoiding those spaces that support loitering, skateboarding, graffiti, lawless public behaviour/disorderly conduct and drug dealing
- Developing positive environments for youth

Speakers will include:

- Dr. Patrick Parnaby, Department of Sociology & Anthropology, University of Guelph
- Constable Tom McKay, Peel Regional Police
- Mike Fenton, Director of Consulting and Client Services for Paragon Protection Ltd.
- Dragan Spasojevic, Security Services, York University
- Randy Jamieson, Senior Project Manager, City of Mississauga

Accommodation Required?

Contact: The Holiday Inn and Conference Centre, Guelph, ON.;
Phone No.: 1-519-836-0231; Rate: \$119.99 plus applicable taxes

2009 CPTED Ontario Workshop Registration Form

Name: _____

Profession: _____

Agency/Firm: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code/Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

**** Don't Delay.....there is a limit of 60 registrants for this event! ****

Registration Fees *(all funds payable in Canadian dollars):*

CPTED Ontario Members: \$90.00

Non-Members: \$110.00

Payment Options: Cash, cheque or money order payable to CPTED Ontario

Please submit with payment to:

CPTED Ontario, Attn: Tom McKay

7750 Hurontario Street, Brampton, ON. L6V 3W6

Fax: 905-456-6106