

CPTED Ontario Newsletter

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www.cptedontario.ca

CHAIR'S MEMBERSHIP LETTER

Dear Members:

The results are in and the 2006 CPTED Ontario Conference proved to be yet another successful event. Thanks to all those attendees who took the time to fill out the conference survey and provide us with their valuable input. Your input can be viewed on-line by going to the members' only section of our web-site and clicking on the 2006 conference.

I also wish to thank the many people who contributed to the success of the conference. This includes our Board of Directors, Durham Regional Police who co-hosted the event, our keynote and guest speakers, the volunteers who did such a wonderful job staffing the registration table and each and every one of the more than 100 registrants! Without you there would be no conference.

I would also like to offer special thanks to our conference steering committee. This included Wayne Nishihama who developed the program, Cst. Mark Lawrence of the York Regional Police and, last but not least, Cst. Marten Wind of the Durham Regional Police who tirelessly worked on behalf of both organizations.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge Art Hushen, Chair of the Florida CPTED Network and principal behind the first of what we hope will be an annual CPTED Conference to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada July 30th to August 1st, 2007. Art spoke to our conference attendees on the Tuesday morning and urged them to consider attending the Nevada conference. If you would like further information, please check out www.nicp.net and, hopefully, I will see you there!

I am also excited to tell you about details of our 2007 Conference which will be co-hosted by York Regional Police on Nov. 19th to Nov. 20th 2007. If you have any suggestions for this conference, please go to our website and let us know by clicking on info@cptedontario.ca

Tom McKay
Chair

and now the news...



**CPTED
Ontario**

Crime Prevention Through
Environment Design

ISCPP Membership

This past November, I had the privilege of attending the ISCPP Symposium in Atlanta Georgia. ISCPP is the International Society of Crime Prevention Practitioners and, as far as I can tell so far, membership to this organization is great. I learned so much about this group while in Georgia I thought I should share it with others in Ontario.

I became a member of this organization in 2006. I thought it would be something to try as I manage the crime prevention division at McMaster University. I had heard about this organization from my colleagues at Hamilton Police, so I started to conduct my own research. I quickly learned that membership is only \$35.00 (US) per year. What a deal when your membership includes the following:

- **Membership kit** – includes membership certificate, lapel pin and membership card

prevention news, information, resources, ideas, and news of the ISCPP.

- **Practitioner Newsletter** – quarterly publication emailed out to members. This newsletter is filled with crime prevention articles written by practitioners from all over the world.

I also learned that this organization conducts ICPS testing. ICPS is the International Crime Prevention Specialist designation. ISCPP offers this test several times a year in different locations all over the world. It is always offered the three days prior to the symposium. The test is a comprehensive 200 question multi-choice exam that covers the information in the ICPS curriculum. This curriculum has been compiled by Crime Prevention Specialists and Practitioners from all over the world. Each test is customized to test on the 15 core subjects as well as 5 electives as chosen by the participant.

Since I was already planning on attending the symposium, I elected to take part in the ICPS testing as well. What a great experience! After working in crime prevention for so many years, I was surprised at how much more there was to learn. I was successful in writing the exam, and I have now been awarded the designation of International Crime Prevention Specialist along with about 20 of my classmates.

If you are a Crime Prevention Practitioner, I highly recommend that you join ISCPP and consider taking the ICPS test. Knowledge is a wonderful and useful tool. More information on this organization and ICPS testing can be found on their website: www.iscpp.org.

Sgt. Cathy O'Donnell
McMaster University
Security & Parking Services

Upcoming Events

CPTED Ontario Zone 1 (central) meeting

Friday, Jan. 26th, 2007
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: Toronto Police, 31 Division, 40 Norfinch Dr., Toronto (lots of free parking at neighbouring hotels).

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

e-mail: thomas.

mckay@peelpolice.on.ca

First Annual U.S. National CPTED Conference

Monday July 30th – Wednesday August 1st., 2007

Las Vegas, Nevada

www.nicp.net

CPTED Ontario 2007 Conference

Monday November 19th – Tuesday November 20st, 2007
York Region

Tom McKay with Art Hushen at the 2006 CPTED Ontario Conference in Oshawa



Making Your CPTED Recommendations More Valuable

By: Mike Fenton.

It is often very difficult to know exactly what CPTED recommendations will or will not work at a specific property. For that reason, CPTED practitioners should provide a wide range of solutions to those who have requested the advice. Our recommendations have to be both practical and financially feasible. Provide a wide range of solutions will avoid committing the client to either low cost solutions that may not be completely effective or to high cost solution that may not be affordable. Thus we allow the client to select the solutions that they feel are most appropriate to their situation.

Many reports are based on a single visit to the subject property. How can the CPTED practitioner have an extensive understanding of the properties operational requirements, history, corporate culture, et cetera? In reality, only the client and his or her colleagues have the detailed site knowledge to know what is most likely to work for THEM - another reason to put a broad range of CPTED suggestions in front of the client.

Since not every solution works at every property, we should offer a broad range of possible solutions to avoid having the client move ahead with the only option we put in front of them only to be disappointed if it does not work.

It is also important to give our client some idea as to the potential effectiveness of each recommendation. For example, while playing classical music definitely will help reduce loitering by some but not all “normal” high school students, it will not deter dedicated hard-core drug dealers who are waiting for paying customers. Clients and citizens need to know both the positive and negative aspects of all proposed solutions. If we do not communicate the negative aspects, we risk our credibility. If you have no experience with a specific tactic, either research its effectiveness or exclude that suggestion from your report. Positive and negative examples will add credibility to your report, especially when contact information is given – “Pauline Singh has found this tactic to be very effective at the ACME apartment building. Please contact her at ---” or “Fred Smith at Condo Corporation #999 installed only 2 cameras in their parking lot. Vandalism was reduced but car thefts continued at the same rate”.

All proposed solutions should be rated as to high, medium or low priority. While a broad range of possible solutions lets the client select what they feel is right for their site, your ratings tell the client what you believe is most likely to work there. While cost or other operational considerations may cause the client to select another

option, at least you have been ethically correct by providing a broad range of alternatives to your chosen tactic(s). Offering a variety of solutions also eliminates the possibility of a consultant or police officer being accused of favoring a particular tactic for monetary reasons.

Since budgets vary, recommended solutions should range from low to high cost. If our report includes only expensive, hard to implement suggestions, it may have no value to a client with a small budget. It may also annoy them - “It’s easy for you to say but we do not have \$150,000 to fence our 10-acre truck yard”.

If we anticipate an operational problem, we should mention it in the report. For example, plastic or glass overhead mount convex mirrors are much less expensive than polished stainless steel, but they are very easy to vandalize. Failure to pass that kind of information on to our client can result in complaints if the low cost mirrors have to be replaced shortly after installation.

Reports that include a wide range of possible solutions not only allow the client to select their right solution, they also let us include suggestions that, while not necessarily practical, should nevertheless be in the report so the client can at least consider them. For example, where a mall surface parking lot

lacks natural surveillance, one of the text-book recommendations is to add windows or showcases to the mall perimeter walls. I made that recommendation to 20 or more malls before I realized that shopping centre managers considered it to be far too impractical. I still mention the lack of perimeter windows in mall parking lot CPTED reports but do so in the preamble to other solutions. "There are only two small perimeter windows facing parking in this location. As a result, observation/overlook opportunities, also known as natural surveillance, of parking is very limited. Installation of additional perimeter windows overlooking parking would be desirable. In our experience, additional windows are unlikely to be added in most retrofit situations. As a result, we offer the following alternative suggestions".

Another reason to include a wide range of solutions is to ensure that we are addressing the complete range of threats. Where/when the report only addresses two or three aspects, we risk

the assailants changing tactics and successfully re-attacking the property. "You people are jerks. We spent \$40,000 to do everything in your report. They came back last night and got in through the roof. Your report does not even mention the roof". OOPS !!! If your report is not going to address all the threats at a subject property, then include a "Scope of the Review" section that plainly outlines what will and will not be discussed.

New practitioners are often a source of what can at best be described as 'inappropriate recommendations'. This is often a combination of newly instilled missionary zeal with tunnel vision. For example, at one of the early CPTED Ontario meetings, there was a complaint from an architect that a CPTED practitioner had told her that outward opening doors were not acceptable for a building she was working on. This was because they had exposed hinge pins. Most people with any degree of security experience would know that an outward opening door when equipped with non-removable hinge pins is far more secure than almost

any inward opening door. Also, since the doors in question were legally designated fire exits, why would the CPTED practitioner have even remarked on which way these doors swung? Surely from a CPTED perspective, the location of the doors, the amount of glass in the doors, nearby paths and landscaping, et cetera, would have been far more important. This CPTED practitioner's report must have seemed to be "off the wall" to that architect. If this report had included a wide range of suggestions, with only one or two not very meaningful ones, the architect's reaction would have been much less severe.

Tim Crowe hits the nail on the head when he stated that "It is important to remember that main our job is to get security solutions in front of our clients". The whole process will work better when we supply our clients with a broad range of possible solutions that vary in cost, effectiveness, and operational difficulty.

Comings and Goings...

We are pleased to announce the addition of three new Members of the Board at the Annual General Meeting on November 21st. Joining us are D/Sgt. Donnie MacDonald from the Crime Prevention Section of the OPP; Mike Fenton, CPP, PSP, Director of Consulting & Client Services, Paragon Protection Ltd. and Martin Bass, CFE, Community Safety Consultant, Toronto Community Housing. All individuals have a wealth of experience from a variety of backgrounds which will serve the membership and organization well.

Tom McKay

CPTED Ontario DIRECTORS: 2004 - 2006

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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 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
- * 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 with reduced registration costs for taking an introductory session.

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

2007 - 2008 CPTED Ontario Membership Form

I/We wish to become a: (*Choose one*) New application Renewal
Corporate Member \$350.00/2 years
Individual Member \$40.00/2 years
Student Member \$10.00/2 years

DO YOU WISH YOUR INFORMATION POSTED ON THE WEB? 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 is a division of the CPTED Institute

