

CPTED Ontario Newsletter

Volume 16, Number 2

Summer 2017

President's Letter to the Membership

The Road Ahead

It's August and by now you're wondering where this year's CPTED Ontario conference is going to be held? Well the short answer is the conference has been pushed off to the late spring of 2018 as we reposition our conference to minimize the potential for overlap with two other crime prevention conferences to be held in southern Ontario during the fall of 2018.

In the meantime, we are working on plans to schedule a joint meeting with the Central Ontario Crime Prevention Association (COCPA). COCPA is a wonderful organization co-chaired by long-time CPTED Ontario Secretary Cyndy Skillins that, similar to CPTED Ontario, organizes regular educational and networking opportunities across a variety of crime prevention topics.

As for what's been happening since our last newsletter, on April

18th, the Board held a strategic planning session entitled 'CPTED Ontario Challenging Limits'. The meeting resulted in a number of outcomes, the most fundamental one of which was revamping our somewhat unwieldy Vision statement. As a result, I am proud to announce that our "Being a leading partner in the development of safe communities by promoting CPTED principles and facilitating networking and educational opportunities to all" statement has been replaced with a much more to the point "Promoting Safer Community Design". I would like to thank all of our Board members who participated in developing the statement along with Eric Solowka, who facilitated the meeting and challenged us to improve it.

Another outcome of the meeting has been the reorganization of the Board which will be introduced at the Annual General Meeting to be held at the conclusion of the Joint CPTED Ontario/COCPA meeting in the fall. Suffice to say that a struc-

ture has been developed to not only streamline the Board but delegate responsibilities. In this spirit, I would challenge all members of the organization, to consider becoming more involved whether it is by suggesting venues and/or topics for zone meetings or writing a newsletter article.

I wish you all a wonderful summer and hope to see you in the fall.



Tom McKay
President, CPTED Ontario

NEW ADDRESS!

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New Vision Statement update

Our new "Promoting Safer Community Design" Vision Statement was developed and adopted at our July 25th board meeting and will soon be appearing on our web-site and written material. Our vision statement conveys a succinct message which serves to guide our organization.

Virtual CPTED

I recently had the opportunity to correspond with a Finnish Security Consultant who had selected CPTED as the topic for his Bachelor degree's thesis. As part of the paper, he was curious about my thoughts on CPTED in the "cyber age" and where might CPTED "evolve" in the future.

While this is not the first time that I have been asked such a question—I developed and wrote an article about Behavioural Based Design in response to the same question approximately ten years ago—I found the question to be thought provoking given the many recent developments in the field of remotely monitored devices, particularly for the homeowner.

In this regard, I noted that devices such as Ring offer you the ability to remotely monitor and "answer" your door by integrating a camera with a "two-way talk" voice communication system into your doorbell and/or "floodlight cam". These devices are readily available through on-line retailers, big box stores and have been regularly showcased on a variety of TV commercials.

While aspects of this concept have been commercially available through alarm companies for a number of years, the mar-

keting of these devices directly to homeowners has effectively commoditized the product paving the way for their proliferation. This is exactly what the company tried to do as part of their Ring Neighbourhood concept in a burglary-plagued neighbourhood in Los Angeles. They sent company representatives into the half square mile neighbourhood with the intent to have "a large percentage of the homes here to actually have a Ring system" with the ultimate goal being that they reduce the number of crimes.

While the percentage of homes that had this device installed was never divulged, the founder of the company and Los Angeles Police reported a 55% reduction in burglaries at a Los Angeles Police news conference a half a year later. So what is the broader implication for CPTED going forward?

Well, it seems clear that despite some limitations associated with the devices, the product is generally well received by homeowners who like the idea of being able to answer their doorbell or otherwise remotely monitor motion from their phones or other networked devices. This must be considered a worthwhile development from a CPTED point of view. Not only has this device dramatically extended the capability of the homeowner where natural

surveillance is involved, it also has vastly increased a homeowner's territorial capabilities. It is perhaps this latter aspect that is its greatest achievement as the homeowner is ideally suited to perform this task. I also like the development of a solar-powered illuminated alarm lawn sign. These signs are visually remarkable and literally project territoriality.

In the final analysis, it seems that consumer demand for "smart" homes and/or remotely monitored security devices have become the latest rage. Let's hope that the early promise shown by these devices are sustainable in an increasingly virtual CPTED world.

By Tom McKay

Concepts, Strategies and Principles, oh my!

I was recently involved in a discussion where the proper use of the terms 'concepts' and 'strategies' was questioned. I frankly didn't think that there was much to discuss as I had always referred to natural surveillance, natural access control and territorial reinforcement as 'concepts' while I reserved the term 'strategies' for decrees such as provide clear border definition and clearly marked transitional zones.

I was therefore quite surprised when I referenced Timothy Crowe's book and found that there was, in fact, considerable room for confusion. In a section entitled 'CPTED STRATEGIES', Crowe noted that "There are three overlapping strategies in CPTED:

- Natural access control
- Natural surveillance
- Territorial Reinforcement"

He then went on to refer to each of

them as 'design concepts' and produced definitions which specifically referred to them as such. The confusion continued when he produced a flow chart again referring to them



as 'concepts' as opposed to CPTED 'strategies' which is what he originally called them in the title.

If this was not confusing enough, the term 'strategies' was later used in the book to refer to a series of nine strategies he later listed in a chapter called 'Examples of CPTED Strategies

and Applications'.

So where does this leave us? Well if it were up to me, I would suggest that the term 'concept' should be reserved for natural surveillance, natural access control and territorial reinforcement while the term 'strategies' be used for decrees such as 'provide clear border definition' or 'clearly marked transitional zones'. In this way, we can avoid needless confusion and instead focus on their application.

As for the word 'principles', I tend to reserve this term for foundational statements such as the **CPTED definition. By being consistent with our terminology, we can help to avoid confusion.**

by Tom McKay

Crowe, Timothy D., Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, Pg. 50, 1991

What Else Should We Know?

When discussing *Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)* amongst ourselves, it is easy to forget where CPTED fits into the grand scheme of things. CPTED practitioners would do well to remember that CPTED really fits into the "security" category which comes with written standards.

A grounding in security basics can be achieved through Community Colleges and Universities. Further study is available through ASIS

International which publishes a book known as The Protection of Assets Manual. This manual outlines a number of standards that CPTED practitioners will routinely come across when putting CPTED principles into practice. This can prove to be very important in the event that you make a recommendation that is subject to litigation. Just ask the expert witness for the plaintiff after he quotes from the manual in any court proceeding.

In order to broaden your horizons and reduce your risk, I urge my fellow CPTED Ontario members to do their best to develop a basic understanding of the security field while keeping abreast of developments. You can expect it to make your life easier when doing CPTED assessments as well as help to avoid conflicts when developing ideas and recommendations.

By Samuel Louis Bandy, Jr. C.P.P.

Traffic Speed Strategies?



Mike Fenton spotted this somewhat controversial traffic control strategy.

Unfortunately in some of our cities, this is not a virtual strategy but a very real one.

Perhaps this is why The Association of Garage Mechanics does not want more road maintenance.



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**CPTED
Ontario**

Crime Prevention Through
Environmental Design

2017/18 CPTED Ontario Membership Application/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
- ✓ \$25.00 off registration costs for the annual CPTED Ontario Conference .

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

2017/18 CPTED Ontario Membership Form

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

Corporate Member \$450.00

Individual Member \$60.00

Student Member \$10.00

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



2017/18 memberships are valid to December 31, 2018

Please Print

Name: _____

Organization: _____




Occupation: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ **Cell:** _____

E-mail: _____

Credit Issuer: _____ Expiry: _____

Credit Card #: _____ Credit Card Holder: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Send your cheque or money order to CPTED Ontario, c/o 225 The East Mall, Suite 1263, Toronto, Ontario M9B 0A9 Canada or fax 905-456-5910. For further information, contact Tom McKay at 905-453-2121, ext. 4025, or email info@cptedontario.ca

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