



Wednesday, October 3, 2018

## Connect with Ontario's planners from across Ontario in Sudbury for OPPI18

**Greater Sudbury** - Ontario's Registered Professional Planners (RPPs) are gathering at Laurentian University in the City of Greater Sudbury for the Ontario Professional Planners Institute's (OPPI) 2018 Symposium (OPPI18) on the topic of Community Readiness.

Ontario's communities experience, and will continue to experience, challenges that threaten their short and long-term health, whether it's through the effects of climate change, economic uncertainty, and others. OPPI is providing a forum for the planning profession to gather, discuss and highlight the work, case studies and research being done by Ontario's professional planners to ensure communities are ready to face potentially negative challenges and outcomes.

The [OPPI18 program](#) offers attendees over 60 interactive training sessions and mobile workshops relating to the theme of Community Readiness, and focusing on the topics of Infrastructure Resiliency, Economics & Finance and Culture & Diversity. Each day will begin with a keynote address:

- **On October 11**, OPPI will offer a [keynote panel discussion](#) led by the City of Greater Sudbury's Director of Planning and OPPI President, [Jason Ferrigan, RPP](#). The panel discussion will explore the topic of community readiness in contemporary Sudbury through the context of community and infrastructure resiliency, economics and culture and diversity. Confirmed panelists for this discussion include:
  - [Scott Darling](#), Chair of the [Long Lake Stewardship Group](#)
  - [Don Duval](#), Chief Executive Officer of the [Northern Centre for Advanced Technology \(NORCAT\)](#)
  - [Tony Cecutti](#), General Manager of Growth & Infrastructure Services, City of Greater Sudbury
- **On October 12**, OPPI is pleased to offer broadcaster, advocate and pop culture philosopher, [Jesse Wentz](#) as its Keynote Speaker. [Jesse's keynote address](#) will focus on issues of diversity and inclusion that are front and centre today. Jesse will discuss the hurdles towards inclusion and break down barriers and encourage inclusion at all levels, and he will speak to the importance of traditional knowledge in Canadian society.

News media are invited to attend each day of the Symposium to speak with members of Ontario's planning profession. Please visit OPPI's website for more information on our [Day 1](#) and [Day 2](#) programming, [list of speakers](#) and [welcome messages](#) from OPPI President Jason Ferrigan, RPP and Jesse Wentz. Members of the media interested in attending are asked to register through [OPPI's website](#).

### About the Ontario Professional Planners Institute (OPPI)

OPPI is the recognized voice of the Province's planning profession. Our almost 4,500 members work in government, private practice, universities, and not-for-profit agencies in the fields of urban and rural development, community design, environmental planning, transportation, health, social services, heritage conservation, housing, and economic development. Members meet quality practice requirements and are accountable to OPPI and the public to practice ethically and to abide by a Professional Code of Practice. Only Full Members are authorized by the Ontario Professional Planners Institute Act, 1994, to use the title "Registered Professional Planner" (or "RPP").

## Media Advisory

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**For more information, please contact:**

Rob Kirsic, Communications and Marketing Manager

416-668-8469 (mobile) or [communications@ontarioplanners.ca](mailto:communications@ontarioplanners.ca)