

BACKGROUNDER – 2018 OPPI Symposium



What is OPPI?

- The Ontario Professional Planners Institute (OPPI) is the recognized voice of the province's planning profession.
- Our almost 4,500 members (4,000 professional planners and 500 students) work in government, private practice, universities and academia, and not-for-profit organizations in the fields of urban and rural development, urban 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").

What is our 2018 Symposium (OPPI18) about?

- This year's event is being held at Laurentian University in the City of Greater Sudbury from October 11-12, 2018. OPPI holds an annual event each year to bring together members of the planning profession to discuss a specific theme/topic – the theme for our 2018 event is Community Readiness.
- Ontario's communities experience, and will experience, challenges that threaten their short and long-term health, whether it's through the effects of climate change or more local like economic uncertainty, and much more.
- We are asking our members to think about these challenges, and provide a forum to showcase 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.
- We are exploring the theme of Community Readiness through the lens of:
 - Infrastructure Resiliency
 - Economics & Finance
 - Culture & Diversity
- On October 11, we will be featuring a keynote panel discussion led by Director of Planning for the City of Greater Sudbury and OPPI President, Jason Ferrigan, RPP. On October 12, OPPI is pleased to offer broadcaster, advocate and pop culture philosopher, Jesse Wentz as our Keynote Speaker.
- Over 60 interactive training workshops are available for members to participate in, including:
 - **Interactive breakout sessions** – 30 or 60 minute sessions designed to teach specific skills or concepts, and addressing specific planning-related issues.
 - **Ignite sessions** – 15-minute, rapid-fire presentations that come in groupings of 2 or 3.

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- **Fishbowl sessions** – Designed to be a conversation, seats are arranged in a circular fashion, with 5 seats being left in the middle. These five seats are the “fishbowl” and anyone sitting in these seats is considered a speaker.
- **Mobile workshops** – the most popular sessions each year. Attendees are able to learn by going outside to experience our host city. This year’s mobile workshops include:
 - *Day 1:*
 - [Cycle Greater Sudbury – Tour and Discussion of Infrastructure Implementation](#)
 - [Regreening the Moon – 40 years of regenerative landscape design](#)
 - [Up Here Mural Tour](#)
 - [Copper Cliff History Hike](#)
 - *Day 2:*
 - [Living with Lakes – Challenges and Opportunities](#)
 - [Sudbury – The Emerging Downtown](#)
 - [Planning to Create Public Realm Improvements](#)
- The following organizations are represented by speakers and members providing presentations at OPPI18:
 - **Government (29):** Accessibility Directorate of Ontario, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), City of Greater Sudbury, City of Hamilton, City of Kitchener, City of Oshawa, City of Sault Ste. Marie, City of Thunder Bay, City of Timmins, City of Toronto, City of Waterloo, Conseil des écoles publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario (CEPEO), County of Prince Edward, District Municipality of Muskoka, Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), Infrastructure Ontario, Metrolinx, National Capital Commission (NCC-CCN), Ontario Growth Secretariat, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO), Regional Municipality of York, Town of Innisfil, Town of Newmarket and the Town of Oakville
 - **Academic (3):** Laurentian University, Ryerson University, School of Urban and Regional Planning and the University of Guelph
 - **Private/consultant (19):** Alectra Utilities, Bousfields Inc., DeLoyde Development Solutions, DIALOG, Dillon Consulting Limited, ERA Architects, Evergreen, First Nations Engineering Services Ltd., The MBTW group, N. Barry Lyon Consultants, Nimkii Communications, SGL Planning & Design, Limited, Skelton, Brumwell and Associates, Stantec, TULLOCH Engineering, Urban Strategies Inc., Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., WeirFoulds LLP and WSP Group
 - **Not-for-Profit/Association (7):** Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA), Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (OSSGA), Rainbow Routes Association, rethink Green, Toronto Centre for Active Transportation, Tourism Excellence North and We Live Up Here

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