

Working Group External Members - Observations



TRANSFORMING PLANNING WORKING GROUP WORKING GROUP OBSERVATIONS

The following observations represent some of the opinions of the external members of the Working Group regarding the approach and impact of the Transforming Planning program.

The work of the Transforming Planning project over the past year has created the mechanism to solve the issues around role clarity, transparency, judgemental feedback and create safe conversations to solve the prior system dilemmas.

John Uncles, community member

Transforming Planning has created the opportunity, as an industry practitioner and as a citizen, to be able to comprehend, participate in, shape, and be shaped by, a planning process that is predictable, fair, transparent, responsive and responsible.

Bob Stirling, GEC Architecture

What is envisioned is a system that requires accountability, and supports transparency, so that time and effort can be spent on things that matter. There is not a universal solution – but what was created was a framework that better helps us get to an outcome in a more meaningful way, and holds us accountable to those outcomes. It will require the efforts of many to keep it going, to transfer the energy and vision of the group to a multitude.

Grace Lui, Brookfield Residential

The Working Group's collective efforts exemplify how everybody needs to show up in the new system. We sought to understand the different perspectives around the table and worked together to develop the model for the new planning system based on trust, respect, collaboration and accountability. Going forward, ALL of us need to advance the culture shift in order to further develop the new planning system.

Gillian Lawrence, Remington Development Corp.

The Transforming Planning project wasn't about a tactical response to a single issue, it was launching a transformation in culture and process that would touch on all aspects of the operation and more importantly all the players within it. It then begins to fuel others as they come into the process and feel the positive momentum of what's now possible.

Amie Blanchette, Canadian Home Builders Association Calgary Region

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I saw opportunities as stakeholders to find common ground to contribute to the potential of the city. Throughout the process I realized that the idea of transformation was a daunting one, though it would never be possible if no one went out on a limb to affect change. I look forward to building upon what has been achieved and seeing how we can each embody the spirit of Transforming Planning.

Natasha Kuzmak, Federation of Calgary Communities

Regardless of the current policies and guidelines, if we show up as focused on city and community building, we show up as building something that liberates people from being a slave to the policy and the process. This will trickle down to clean up the gunk in the system.

David White, Civic Works