HERITAGE CANADA FOUNDATION
40th Anniversary Conference
A Bird’s-Eye View: Heritage in a Changing Context
Glenn Miller, FCIP, RPP – Canadian Urban Institute
Seismic Shifts in Canadian Urban Development
Saturday, November 2, 2013
8.30 a.m.- 10.00 a.m.
Fairmont Chateau Laurier Hotel, Ottawa, ON
Canada is a vast country....
...held together with vibrant downtowns

Edmonton
Fredericton
Halifax
London
Ottawa
Saskatoon
Vancouver
Victoria
Winnipeg
Toronto

Charlottetown
Kingston
Hamilton
St. Catharines
Windsor
Regina
North Vancouver
17 downtown case studies

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Saskatoon
Vancouver
Victoria
Winnipeg
Toronto

Charlottetown
Kingston
Hamilton
St. Catharines
Windsor
Regina
North Vancouver

+ Five Northern Ontario downtowns
• Timmins
• Thunder Bay
• Sault Ste Marie
• Sudbury
• North Bay
‘The Value of Investing in Canadian Downtowns’

- The first study of its kind
- Raises awareness and creates a conversation about downtown issues
- Brings downtown stakeholders together across the nation
- Develops a body of high quality ‘downtown specific’ data
- Highlights the level of effort applied to downtown revitalization across Canada
a framework for measuring downtown performance.....
Indicators and a range of metrics are used to measure downtown performance against the principles

Heritage an important factor when viewed through each of these lenses
The Role of Heritage in Maintaining a Competitive Edge

- Victoria
- Winnipeg
- St Catharines
- Sudbury
- Charlottetown
Downtown Victoria

Victoria Heritage Trust created 1989
Downtown Victoria has 65% of all heritage buildings in B.C.
Downtown includes Chinatown, Old Town and the Design District
“Custodians not curators”

Heritage central to the Official City Plan strategies for downtown
Downtown Winnipeg

Declared National Historic Site 1997
80 designated, 52 listed

Red River College home to
200+ students
Fort Garry Hotel
1903 and today
CIBC a durable icon
St Catharines bets the farm on a heritage play
Downtown Sudbury – Heritage Lost?
CPR Telegraph building dates from 1914 – Laurentian School of Architecture
Downtown Charlottetown
Banking on Heritage
The Resurgence of Canadian Downtowns:

• Developing a clear and unifying vision built around an appreciation for heritage

• Engaging in downtown-specific planning processes where the role of heritage is well defined

• Investing in heritage grants but also risking capital

• Building strategic partnerships that assume a major role for the private sector

• Tracking and monitoring downtown achievements
Contact

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Data Request

Municipal Finance Data
- Total property tax revenue
- Assessment base

Census Data
- Total Population
- Private dwellings occupied by usual residents
- Average value of owned dwellings ($)
- Age characteristics/structure
- Median income - All census families
- Median income - All private households
- Immigration – Population born overseas
- Educational attainment
- Employment rate
- Unemployment rate
- Labour force by occupation
- Labour force by industry
- Journey to work – Mode of travel to work (car, passenger, walk, cycle etc)

Downtown Economy
- Value Residential Construction/Building Permits
- Value Non-Residential Construction/Building Permits
- Number of newly constructed dwellings
- Total office floor space (sq. ft.)
- Jobs

GIS Information (shapefile format)
- Downtown Boundary and Municipal Boundary
- Parcel boundaries
- Roads (Major and Minor roads)
- Land Use
- Building Footprints
- Street addresses (point file)

Capital Projects
- A list of major capital projects (name, address, and value invested by municipality)
- % of municipal capital budget spent on downtown projects.