

# Planners and Health Professionals: Working Together for Community Wellness



## The Municipal Planning and Development Process

HOSTED BY  
ATLANTIC PLANNERS INSTITUTE  
FORAN ROOM, ST. JOHN'S CITY HALL  
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# Presentation Overview



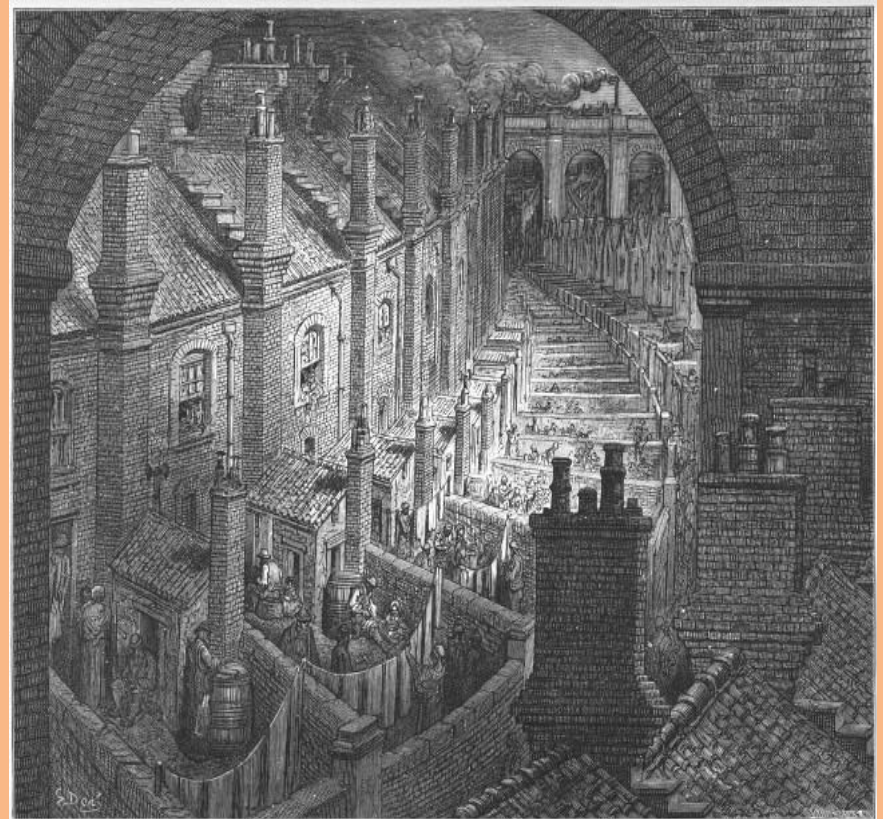
- **Roots of Modern Day Planning**
- **Newfoundland and Labrador**
- **Municipal Planning Process**
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- **Implementing The Plan**
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# Roots of Modern Day Planning



- Industrial Revolution (1760-1870's)
  - cramped poorly-built housing
  - lack of clean drinking water
  - improper disposal of sewage

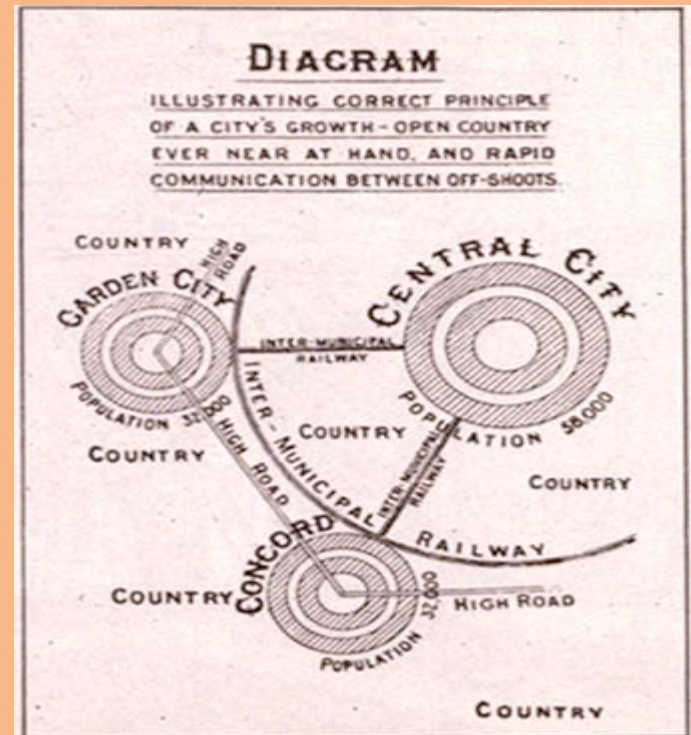


OVER LONDON - BY RAIL.

# Roots of Modern Day Planning



- Modern Land Use Planning
  - Garden City Movement (1898 by Sir Ebenezer Howard)
  - Today, involves the location of land uses and includes
    - ✓ health, safety, environment,
    - ✓ economic development, social,
    - ✓ heritage, aesthetics,
    - ✓ physical design &
    - ✓ general well being of the
    - ✓ community.



# Newfoundland and Labrador

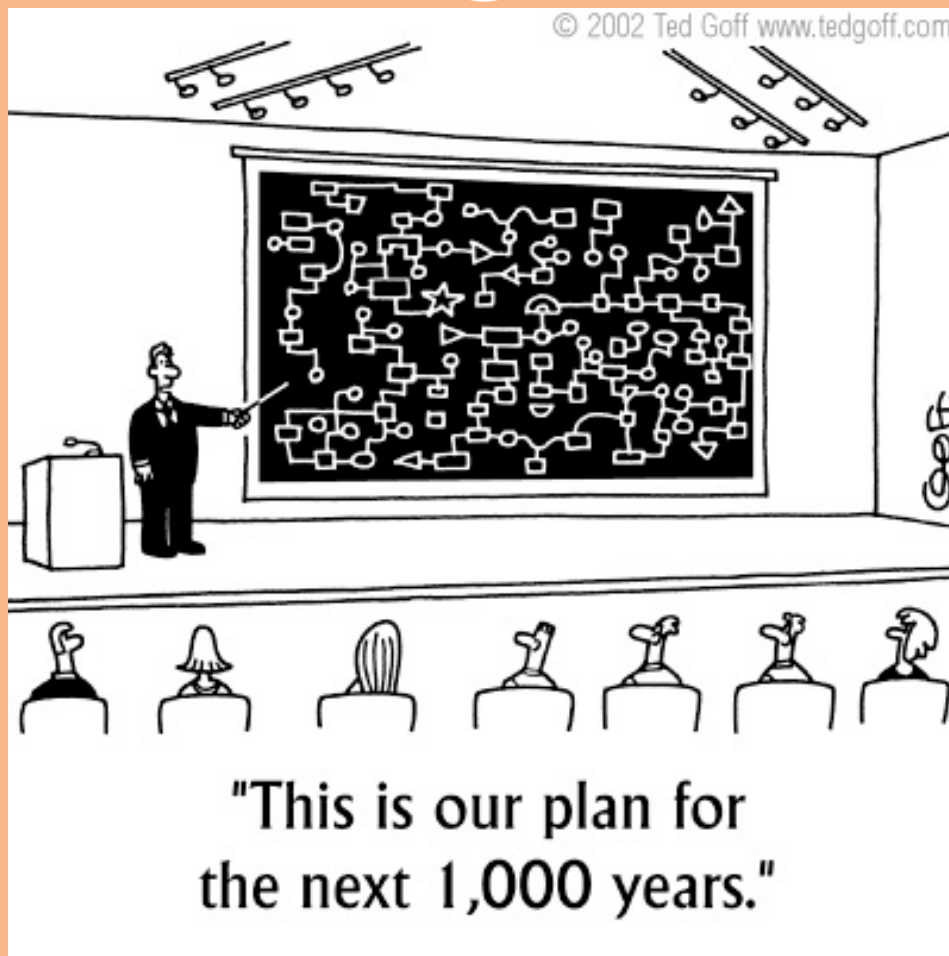


- Land use planning - a responsibility of the provincial government (British North America Act)
- Provincial government delegates the power for local land use or municipal planning to municipal government (creatures of the provincial government)
- Urban and Rural Planning Act – provincial legislation
- Municipal Plan and Development Regulations





# Municipal Planning Process



# Municipal Planning Process



- **Municipal Plan**
  - Inventory
  - Analysis
  - Options, Scenarios and Implications
  - Recommended Policies
    - (Goals, Objectives, Policies, Implementation)
  - Planning Horizon is 10 – 20 years, Plan reviewed every 5 years
- **Development Regulations**
- **Public Consultation**



# Municipal Planning Process



- Development Regulations implement municipal plan policies:
  - general procedural regulations;
  - conditions of development;
  - land use zones;
  - development standards;
  - zoning map





# Role of Public Consultation



- To engage the public and organizations in the future of the community
- To assist Council in identifying community values, interests and future scenarios
- To present options for discussion
- To provide information
- To obtain feedback and views
- To supplement technical report
- For Council as an integral part of decision making process



# Public Consultation Process



- Variety of forms of public consultation and engagement throughout the municipal planning process
  - Public notice
  - Correspondence and emails
  - Meetings, information sessions
  - Focus groups/charettes
  - Workshops
  - Interactive websites
- Methodology is usually outlined at the commencement of the process in a document that advises the public of the plan preparation and public consultation process



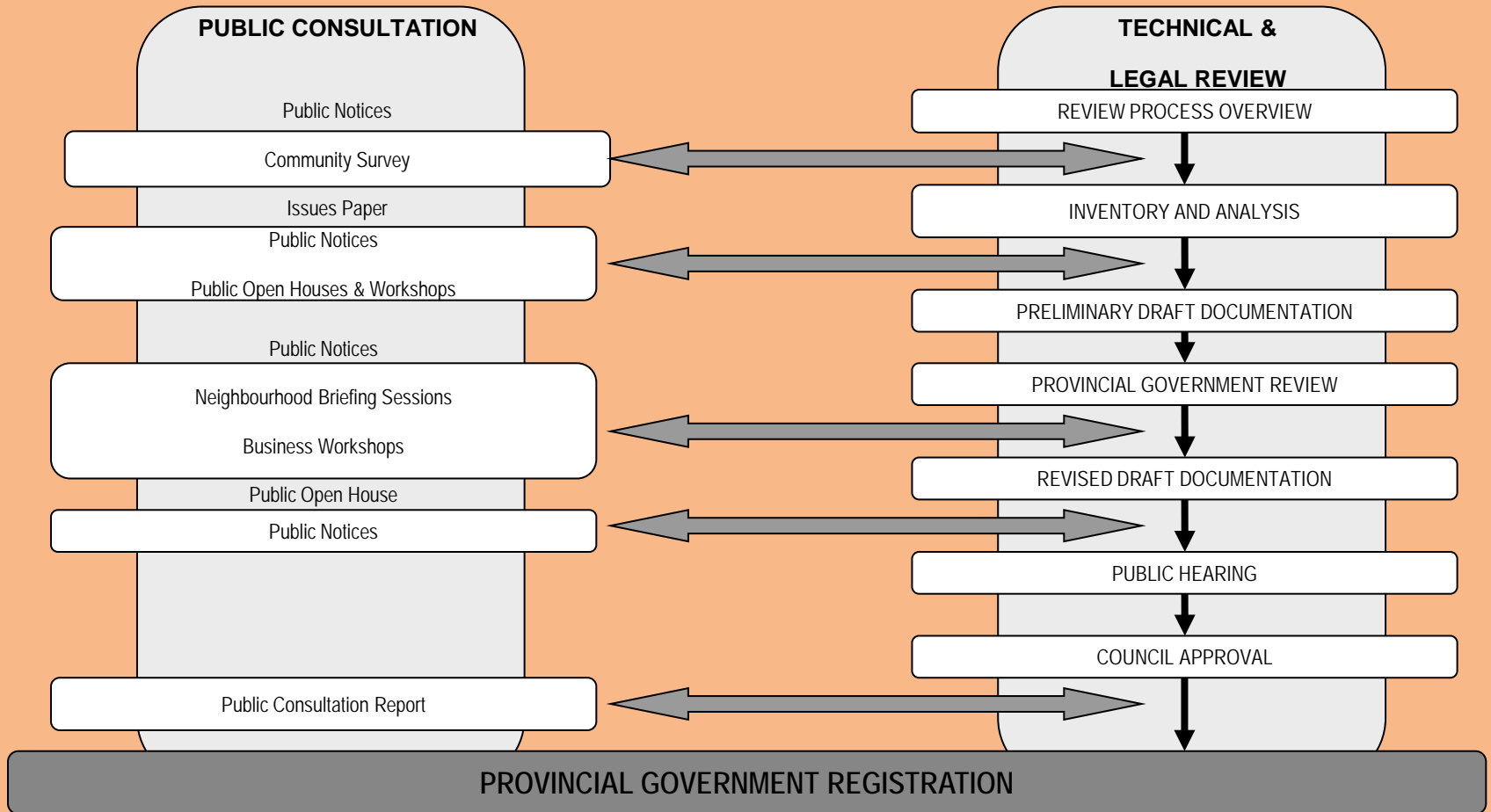
# Public Consultation Process



- Public Consultation Process usually includes the following:
  - initial views and commentary at the start of the process
  - workshop/visioning exercise based on background information
  - commentary and response to proposed plan policies
  - public hearing process



# Public Consultation Process



# Referral Process



- Part of consultation process
- Undertaken as commencement of process
- **Government departments and agencies, adjacent municipalities, utilities, community groups and similar bodies contacted**
- Reference policies, initiatives or issues that should be reflected or addressed in municipal plan process





# Referral Process



- Meeting usually held with respondent to discuss commentary
- Commentary included in background report
- Community goals, objectives or policies may be developed as a result of the input
- **Once draft plan policies and regulations developed, referred to Department of Municipal Affairs and government departments**
- Provincial release
- **Public hearing**



# Health Related Themes from Recent Consultation Processes



- Healthy Communities
- Integrated Sustainable Plans
- Active Transportation
  - Bikeways
  - Walkways, sidewalks
  - Public transit
- Quality of Life Considerations  
(noise, vibration, light,  
environmental hazards, odour,  
view planes, green space)



# Health Related Themes from Recent Consultation Processes



- Open Space and Recreation
- Pedestrians and the Build Environment
  - Neighbourhood level mixed use plans (the walkable community)
  - Friendly streetscapes
  - Safe transportation corridors
- Local Food Policies
  - Community Gardens



# Implementing the Plan



- Development Application Process
- Rezoning
- Studies





# Implementing the Plan



- **Development Application Process**
  - Municipal plan policies and development/zoning regulations used to review and assess subdivision, development applications and proposals





# Implementing the Plan



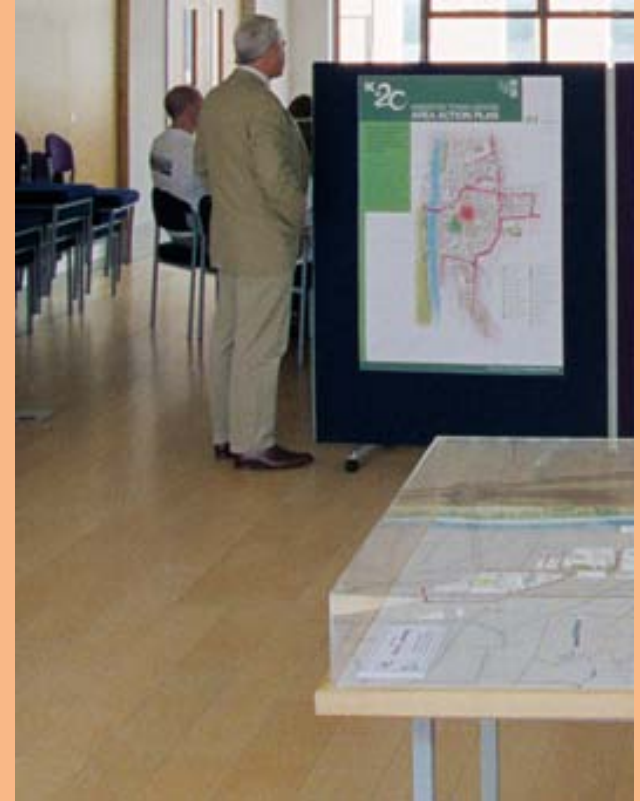
- Permitted, discretionary or conditional and in some cases prohibited uses in each zone
- Discretionary or conditional uses may be permitted at the discretion of Council subject to receiving public input
- **Applications are referred to regulatory departments and agencies**



# Implementing the Plan



- **Discretionary process involves a public consultation component which allows the public to provide input and commentary on specific proposals**
- Notices circulated to property owners, agencies, special interest groups and notice in the newspaper and website
- **Rezoning**
  - Applicant requests a zoning change to accommodate a proposal that is not in accordance with municipal plan or regulations



# Implementing the Plan



- **Applications are referred to regulatory departments and agencies**
- Notices circulated to property owners, agencies, special interest groups and notice in the newspaper and website
- **Studies**
  - Further detailed study directed by plan policies/Council
  - Referrals and public consultation



# Health Inputs in the Planning Process



- Be more actively involved in the discussion about healthy activities and lifestyles in our communities
- Provide research results regarding health determinants, proactive health approaches and initiatives and community health



# Heath Inputs in the Planning Process



- Identify positive relationships between health and the physical layout of communities, land uses, activity areas and the built environment
- Support and encourage municipal policies, regulations and initiatives the promote healthy communities
- Provide feedback to municipalities on proposed plans, amendments and rezonings where applicable





# Heath Inputs in the Planning Process



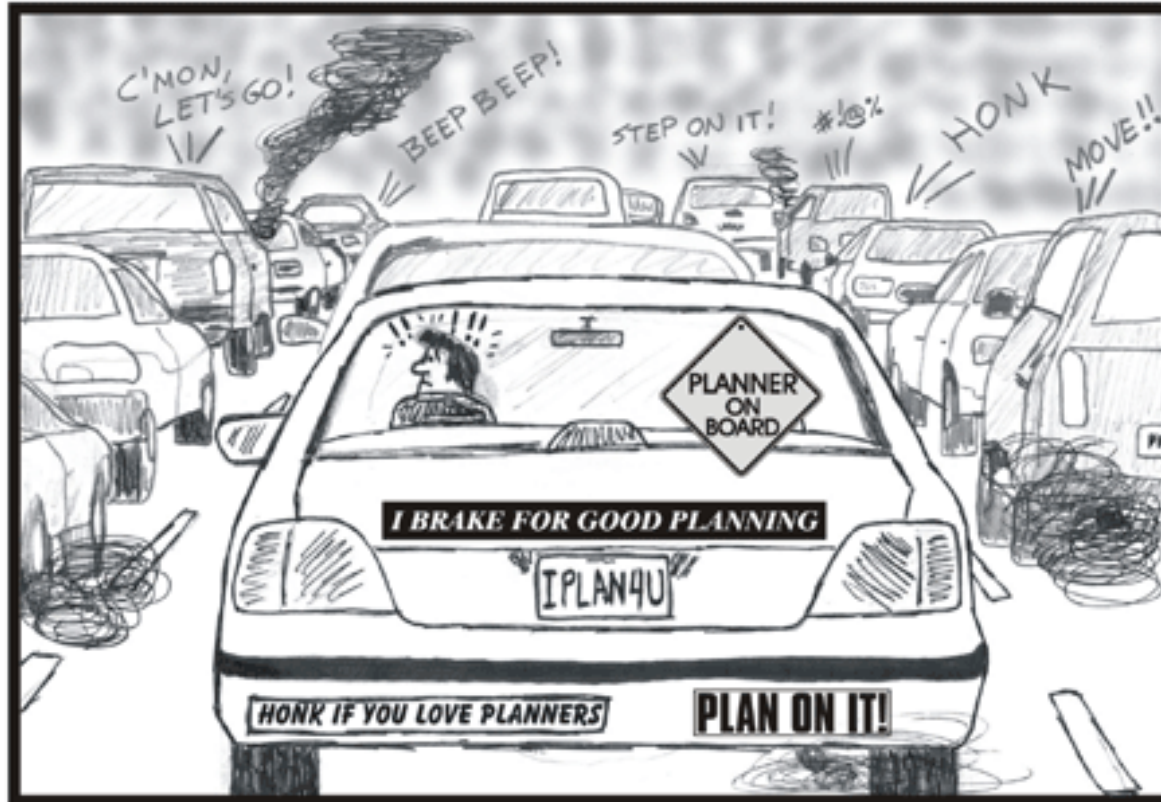
**Continue the Collaboration**  
**Support the Building of Healthier Communities**

# Thank You



## URBANE PLANNING

by Robert A. Jonas, AICP



A bad time to let the world know that you're a planner

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