



Highlights of Recent Developments

Each of Canada's Capital cities has a number of initiatives underway. The following list provides a glimpse of a few of the most significant ones:

Victoria, British Columbia

Victoria adopted a new **Official Community Plan** that will guide growth over the next 30 years. Strategic local-area plans support the main Plan, which focuses on vibrant, walkable villages and town centres, with the downtown core as the heart of the region. The Plan calls for housing options that accommodate a wider variety of needs, and a more resilient city that supports reduced greenhouse-gas emissions, seismic-related upgrades to buildings and infrastructure, and local food production. The Planning Institute of British Columbia awarded Victoria a Gold Award for Excellence in the policy-planning category, which honours significant projects that enhance the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities, and demonstrate meaningful public consultation in policy development.

Edmonton, Alberta

Edmonton will **create a mixed-use urban community** on a 217 hectare (536 acre) site that once housed City Centre Airport. Known as Blatchford, the development will eventually provide homes for up to 30,000 residents and workplaces for 11,000 employees. Construction is expected to begin next year with occupancy as early as 2016. Informed by extensive public consultations, Blatchford will feature a mix of residential and commercial development, along with more than 70 hectares (180 acres) of parkland and open spaces, including 600 community-garden plots and a large stormwater lake with natural landscaping. A district heat and power plant will provide 100 percent renewable energy.

Regina, Saskatchewan

Following a thorough review and analysis of options, Regina selected a public-private partnership agreement to complete a much-needed **modernization of the City's sewage-treatment plant**. Under the agreement, Regina will work with a consortium of companies to design, build, finance, operate and maintain the plant, while retaining ownership and control. Required to meet new environmental regulations, it is one of the largest and most complex capital projects in the City's history. Regina is also planning a

\$278 million football stadium for its exhibition grounds. The 33,000-seat stadium will open in time for the 2017 Canadian Football League season.

Winnipeg, Manitoba

With more than **\$2 billion invested in a variety of development projects**, Winnipeg is experiencing an exciting transformation. The Canadian Museum for Human Rights, the country's newest national museum, is set to open in 2014. Work also continues on the \$200 million, three-phase redevelopment of Assiniboine Park and Zoo. Plans include a breathtaking new conservatory and family centre, a nature playground and an expansion of the Duck Pond, popular for wildlife viewing in the summer and skating in the winter. Plans are also in place to modernize the city's South End Water Pollution Control Centre and create separate systems to handle sanitary sewage and stormwater runoff.

Toronto, Ontario

Toronto is busy preparing to host the Pan and Parapan American Games in 2015, when more than 30,000 athletes and volunteers will travel to the city. To support the event, more than **14 hectares (35 acres) of downtown lands will be redeveloped**. After the Games, the athletes' village, built to a minimum of LEED Gold standard, will be converted into a YMCA student residence and more than 350 affordable housing units—more than two-thirds will be rental units. The city upgraded its public-transit system by purchasing more than 200 fully accessible new streetcars that will begin to serve customers in 2014.

Canada's Capital Region: Ottawa, Ontario and Gatineau, Québec

One of the largest development projects in the history of the National Capital Region is in full swing at **Lansdowne Park**. The project includes renovations of Frank Clair Stadium (where a new CFL team will play in 2014) and the Civic Centre, along with new condominiums, townhouses, shops, restaurants and an urban park. Work is also underway on a state-of-the-art light-rail network that will significantly improve Ottawa's mass-transit system. Transit improvements are also underway in Gatineau, where a bus-only roadway will improve service to and from the northern and eastern areas of the city. Later this year, the National Capital Commission expects to finish a 50-year plan for Canada's Capital.

Quebec City, Quebec

Work continues on a **new multi-use arena**. Set to open in 2015, the building will have a capacity of more than 18,000 and is designed to support the return of the National Hockey League to Quebec City. The city is developing an innovative waste-to-energy plant. The project involves recycling and composting up to 60 percent of the city's waste organic matter, and using the waste gas created during decomposition to generate electricity. Partners in the project include the city of Ste. Hyacinthe and Gaz Métro, a private firm that has agreed to purchase any surplus biogas. Quebec City also plans to develop a series of green neighbourhoods.

Fredericton, New Brunswick

Fredericton, the third-largest city in the province, continues to make progress on a number of initiatives. The City reached an agreement with Northampton Brewing (Picaroons) to **redevelop the Gibson Roundhouse**. Along with a brewery, the redeveloped site will feature a community meeting space, an interpretation centre, public parking and washrooms for users of an adjacent trail. Originally built in 1885 to service locomotives of the Northern and Western Railroad, the building has long been vacant. The City has also opened the largest indoor skate park in the Maritimes at the Northside Youth Centre, which also hosts a number of other youth activities.

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Halifax, the largest city in Atlantic Canada, is in the midst of a construction boom. The \$500 million **Nova Centre development**—funded by the private sector—includes a hotel, office complex, residences and a new convention centre, which will be leased back to the city. Certified LEED gold, the Nova Centre will be completed in 2015. Construction is also underway on a new \$55 million central library that will also be certified LEED gold. The City of Halifax also continues to upgrade its public-transit system, recently investing in a new technology platform and a new passenger ferry.

Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

Charlottetown is busy preparing for the **150th anniversary of the 1864 Charlottetown Conference**, the event that led to Confederation. Along with dozens of special events to honour the sesquicentennial in 2014, the city will also host Communities in Bloom, the Federation of Canadian Municipality's Sustainable Communities Conference, and next year's CCCO conference.

Charlottetown recently launched a micro-website to showcase projects that contribute to a more healthy, vibrant and sustainable city. The idea for the website grew out of the dialogue sessions and focus groups that informed the Charlottetown Integrated Community Sustainability Plan, adopted in 2010. Charlottetown has also approved a new transportation plan that emphasizes walking and cycling. The planning process was informed by an extensive community-engagement process.

St. John's, Newfoundland

Significant progress has been made on **Roadmap 2021**, St. John's medium-term economic plan. Roadmap 2021 envisions a vibrant city that capitalizes on its energy, creativity and distinctiveness to drive economic progress and enhance quality of life.

Key recent accomplishments include:

- Incorporating online technologies into the Mayor's Symposium for the St. John's Municipal Plan Review. The review featured real-time voting and feedback to engage attendees, and online polls and discussions for the broader community.
- The addition of 19-35 year olds to seven city advisory committees;
- Undertaking an inventory of lands available for residential and commercial development;

- Securing the 2014 MTS/IEEE OCEANS conference and exhibition—an opportunity to showcase local knowledge, and strengthen St. John’s reputation as a City of Ocean Excellence.

Whitehorse, Yukon

Whitehorse has contracted an independent consultant to develop a **Transportation Demand Management Plan**. The Plan, informed by extensive public consultations, will include a series of initiatives and programs for the City and its citizens to implement in the coming years. The City is also planning two new service and operation facilities to replace old and inefficient buildings. The redevelopment of Whitehorse’s historic waterfront continues to revitalize the City. Projects include improvements to Shipyards Park and Rotary Peace Park, trail enhancements, completion of the Whitehorse Wharf, First Avenue improvements including lighting and underground utilities, as well as the investment in the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre and Whitehorse Public Library.

Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

Yellowknife has begun work on a new five-year **Economic Development Strategic Plan** and will launch public consultations at an open house in September. Among other goals, the Plan will set objectives for the City’s new Department of Communications and Economic Development. The City is also seeking public input on the next phase of the redevelopment of Old Airport Road, part of the City’s Smart Growth Development Plan. The redevelopment of Old Airport Road, a major gateway to Yellowknife, will create business opportunities and improve traffic flow. The project includes landscaping, artwork, irrigation, lighting, sidewalks and poured curbs.

Iqaluit, Nunavut

Iqaluit continues to develop a **Community Sustainability Plan** through an extensive consultation process. Guided by a long-term community vision of a more sustainable Iqaluit, the Plan will align community and municipal objectives. Iqaluit is also developing a plan to manage solid waste in response to a rapidly growing population and a landfill site that is at capacity. The planning process will include an assessment of Iqaluit’s current and future waste-management needs and a feasibility analysis of various management approaches. The process will also address the need to decommission and manage the existing landfill site.

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