

LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE

Proceedings

Friday, February 10, 2006
Mississauga Living Arts Centre

LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE - FEBRUARY 10, 2006

Liveable Peel is a new initiative that promotes long-term planning by balancing the social, economic, environmental and cultural needs of Peel's residents. The Region of Peel is working to ensure that future generations are able to live, work, and travel in an inclusive and prosperous community. The Liveable Peel initiative also seeks to include strategies to work towards a balance between the natural and built environments.

The Liveable Peel Conference was held on **Friday, February 10, 2006 at the Living Arts Centre in Mississauga**. The Conference brought together Regional Councillors, practitioners, academics, industry experts, and community leaders to discuss sustainability issues as they relate to the long-term future of Peel Region.

Approximately 180 guests participated in the Liveable Peel Conference. Industry experts and community leaders in areas such as finance, health, housing, transportation, environment, immigration and culture presented their insights into the challenges and possible solutions for Peel to ensure that future generations can continue to enjoy a high quality of life over the next 50 years. The Conference was organized around discussion themes that incorporated the broad-based approach to planning for the future of Peel. 15 concurrent sessions were designed to involve presentations from experts and to have facilitated discussion amongst the participants.

Highlights of the Conference included remarks by the Honourable David Caplan, Ontario Minister of Public Infrastructure Renewal, and the Honourable Michael Colle, Provincial Minister of Citizenship and Immigration.

"The Liveable Peel Conference was a successful and exciting forum for long-term planning in Peel," said Regional Chair Emil Kolb. "The rich network of expertise and information-sharing available to us demonstrates a commitment to the common goal of maintaining and enhancing an inclusive and prosperous community."

"Understanding the changing needs of our residents is key to planning for the future," said Richard Paterak, Regional Councillor and Planning Committee Chair. "The feedback gained at the Conference will help shape the Region's service delivery both now and in the future."

"The Conference was a great opportunity to work with our Regional Council, area municipalities, the Province and local agencies to share ideas aimed at maintaining the quality of life for our citizens," said Nick Tunnacliffe, Commissioner of Planning.

APPENDIX IV
 March 2, 2006

- 2 -

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH
LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

A key aim of the Conference was to frame the right questions that need to be addressed in order to chart a course for Liveable Peel. A key view shared by participants is not if change would occur, but how to effectively shape change to make Peel not just liveable, but wonderful. This Proceedings Report highlights the key ingredients noted throughout the day for furthering the objectives of the Liveable Peel Initiative. It also frames the questions and major points identified through each of the sessions. Visit www.liveablepeel.ca for a list of speakers and presentations.

KEY INGREDIENTS FOR FURTHERING OBJECTIVES

Throughout the day, during the plenary and concurrent sessions, a number of themes emerged. These are the key ingredients identified by the participants for supporting long-term sustainability and quality of life in Peel.

- I. A high degree of coordination, collaboration and integration is required to achieve progress in the many areas explored during the Conference such as environmental sustainability, healthier communities, and an aging society.
- II. It is necessary to build informal and formal linkages, as well as partnerships to collaborate on moving from the "individual's" perspective to a "societal" perspective.
- III. Unequivocal political will and championship at all levels to get this done.
- IV. Coordinated planning and delivery among all levels of government across the Greater Golden Horseshoe will be required.
- V. A long-term financial forecast of capital and operating needs based on solid financial principles is required.
- VI. Adequate, predictable, and sustainable funding is required to implement many of the ideas such as sustainable transportation.
- VII. A strategic approach to attracting, settling and integrating immigrants is required to leverage talents and contributions. Cultural aspects are to be considered.
- VIII. More focus on understanding and acting on ways to create good health outcomes through community form, active transportation and active living.
- IX. Working intersectorally to make healthy, active choices the easy choices.
- X. Engage in social marketing to communicate information on a broad range of issues and regional initiatives designed to address them.

APPENDIX IV

March 2, 2006

- 3 -

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH

LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- XI. Development of strategies that are creative and think "out of the box" to tackle our air quality problems with emphasis on public buy-in of need to make changes to how we travel.
- XII. The Clean Air Program needs to be implemented with an educational component fostering creativity.
- XIII. The way we live, work and transport ourselves will require rethinking as a result of the energy dilemma.
- XIV. Human service planning needs to be carried out in the context of competitiveness, prosperity and economic development.
- XV. A long-term strategy is required for the development of growth centres and corridors which integrates policy, infrastructure investment, public education, and patience to attract mixed use and office development.
- XVI. Land use and transportation planning must be integrated.
- XVII. "Moving minds" – changing people behaviour and encouraging sustainable choices.
- XVIII. Housing must meet the needs of increasingly vulnerable groups and be inclusive.
- XIX. Pearson International Airport and the surrounding employment area should be protected, promoted, and evolve as a stronger transit node.

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH
LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

KEY MESSAGES FROM EACH OF THE CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Air Quality: Taking A Leadership Role in Climate Change

- The Region has to take the lead - "Talk the Talk" and "Walk the Walk" - to show that the Region is committed and will act on programs and policies to implement the Clean Air program.
- Educate everyone that we cannot continue the way we used to plan and operate.
- Develop strategies that are creative and think "out of the box" to tackle our air quality problems.

A Look through the Crystal Ball at the Future of the Pearson Airport

- Canada's premier international gateway for passengers and freight is a key economic node that has had a dramatic impact on the development and economy of Peel Region.
- Pearson Airport has a strong role in providing international connections which help attract foreign investment and support the immigrant population in Peel.
- Protection of the competitiveness of Pearson Airport as a Canadian hub is vital to the area. High federal taxes hurt Pearson's competitiveness and new federal bilateral agreements are needed to allow more direct routes to foreign destinations.
- Cannot assume current role as a major hub will continue unchallenged.
- Additional transit access to the Pearson Airport is necessary to keep the airport from becoming road access and congestion-constrained in the future. The Pearson Airport has potential to become a stronger transit node for the Region.
- The airport employment lands and the Pearson Airport itself represent a significant concentration of employment (over 200,000 jobs). Need to find new ways to market and revitalize these lands.
- Need to promote recycling of employment lands, greater prestige of the area, and more amenities. Need to focus on improved transit access to the area and TDM programs.

Aligning Regional Services with a Changing Economy

- Need better integration of economic development programming with human service programming.
- Need to better balance investment into things that lead to future prosperity (i.e. education, business infrastructure) with funding consumption, such as human services, in order to become more prosperous. This, in turn, will allow us to put more money back into human services once this balance has been achieved (bigger pie to divide up).
- Funding from senior levels of government is not adequate to meet human services needs. There is a need for more funding but more can also be done at the local level to better coordinate and be more efficient in the delivery of services.
- Need to make better use of immigrants who are generally well educated but are underemployed. Economic Development should focus on attracting the "right" kinds of industries/companies to ensure there are high quality jobs.

APPENDIX IV

March 2, 2006

- 5 -

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH

LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Changing the Future Course of Transportation in Peel: From Gridlock to Sustainability

To succeed in moving forward on sustainable transportation, we need the following:

- An agency to co-ordinate transportation and distribute funding in the GTA.
- Adequate, predictable and sustainable funding.
- Land uses organised and conducive to transit, and this means intensified and mixed uses.
- Decision processes and pricing that take energy conservation into account.
- Political champions are needed to help drive the implementation process.
- Concerted effort to change travel behaviour.
- Bringing together the Provincial Growth and regional transportation plans.

Coming to Terms With the Energy Dilemma

- Re-think the way we live, work and transport ourselves.
- Energy considerations should come first.
- Need energy-focused official plans that address land use planning in terms of energy production, consumption, and local food production.
- Many challenges still exist to implement renewable energy alternatives.
- Shifting energy supplies will require adjustments in how we build and design our communities.

Reaping The Rewards: Culture As the Fourth Pillar of Sustainability

- The Liveable Peel initiative needs to address culture as a part of sustainability and address financial contributions to support evolving culture in Peel.

Driving Prosperity: The Role of Immigration

- Peel is a leader in attracting immigration which is driving its growth and prosperity.
- Vast talent and culture provide significant strengths in the community.
- Integrate into the Liveable Peel plan a strategic approach to attracting, settling, and integrating immigrants in order for the full benefits of immigration to be realized.

Focusing In On Where We Live and Work

- To achieve the development of growth centres and corridors a long-term strategy is required which integrates policy, infrastructure investment, public education and patience in development approvals to attract mixed use and office developments.
- Recognize benefits and fit with overall strategy of attracting employment in areas outside centres and corridors to provide live-work opportunities, to reduce commuting and to create more social interaction.

Getting to Green: Future Trends and Fresh Ideas, and Getting to Green: What Does It Take? (morning and afternoon sessions)

- Acknowledge that the past pattern of development cannot continue.
- Create a more integrated approach to planning which gives greater consideration to all of the requirements (i.e. the four pillars of sustainability).

APPENDIX IV
March 2, 2006

- 6 -

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH
LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- Overcome challenges through working collaboratively through partnership, education and consultation.
- Educate the public and consumers on the benefits and outcomes of sustainability.
- Strengthen policy support for green infrastructure.

Good Health for Everyone - Realistic or Utopian Dream?

- Need to create a database containing information on initiatives of groups, planners, the health community and the public which can be easily accessed and shared to promote community health.
- Work with planners to change the built form and urban spaces in new communities and retrofit existing communities to foster improvements in human health.
- Need to align activities around public education on health issues – healthy choices, active living; good choice is the easy choice.
- Social marketing is needed to promote good health. Work with new immigrants to share information about good health vs. “American dream” (TV ads about unhealthy food poor lifestyle).
- Encourage employers to create healthy work places for employees.
- Good health must be integrated into all aspects of planning.

Sustainable Municipal Finance: How Do We Get There?

- The goal is to be financially sustainable over the long-term.
- Develop a thorough forecast of capital and operational needs and apply principles of full cost recovery, life-cycle costing, adequate capital investment and low debt levels.
- Planned adjustments to service levels may be required to address the needs of aging and diverse populations.
- We are doing well on items that we measure but we don't measure the infrastructure deficit and declines in service quality.
- Consider implications for alternative revenue sources and/or uploading of services if, after a long-term forecast is prepared, a deficit remains.

Put A Roof On It: Meeting Housing Needs of Peel's Current and Future Residents

- More affordable housing is needed to meet the needs of vulnerable groups (seniors and people with disabilities).
- Greater public participation is required in the planning process.
- Need to address how to effectively plan for new communities for all income groups (i.e. low income), ethnicities and demographics.
- Housing is a key determinant which leads to good health.

The Booming Dynamics of Aging in Peel: Crystallizing the Years Ahead

- Better integration of services for seniors.
- Educating seniors to understand their role in future community planning.
- Engaging seniors in the planning process – include them into the community rather than isolate them out.
- Establish flexible work arrangements for seniors wishing to work.

APPENDIX IV

March 2, 2006

- 7 -

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH

LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

PARTICIPANT INPUT FROM EACH SESSION

Session Title: Air Quality: Taking A Leadership Role in Climate Change
Moderator: Quentin Chiotti
Speakers: Paul Callanan, Anthony Ciccone, Al Seskus

Questions to be addressed to move forward

Improving air quality in Peel Region is a fundamental requirement to build healthier communities. Many issues have been reviewed and there is some understanding on the underlying issues. Many ideas have been put forward but Conference participants note that there has not been much action. Key questions that need to be addressed include:

- What steps need to be taken to improve air quality within Peel?
- What are the underlying issues that need to be addressed?
- How can we cultivate a culture for leadership and political championing?
- How can we get support to implement the many ideas that have been put forward?
- How can we make it easier for the average individual to reduce home energy costs?

Major Points to be considered

Develop strategies and programs around include the following:

- Full cost accounting for all aspects of automobile travel.
- Alternative energy sources including wind energy.
- The role of parking and its availability as a key determinant of how we travel. Increasing parking costs may encourage other ways to travel like transit or carpooling. It was noted that one car may create demand for up to four parking spots (work, home, shopping, other, etc). What will the effect be of future pricing for parking on automobile travel?
- Develop a model for collaboration having commissions or similar organizations that would be responsible for environmental concerns.
- Introduce roundabouts to reduce stopping and energy consumption, and keep traffic moving.

APPENDIX IV

March 2, 2006

- 8 -

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH

LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Session Title: **Aligning Regional Services with A Changing Economy**

Moderator: Tom Slomke

Speakers: Dennis Cutajar, James Milway, Larry Petovello, Susan Taylor

Questions to be addressed to move forward

- What steps can be undertaken to increase the coordination between economic development and the provision of human services?
- How can we better integrate economic development programming with human service programming?
- How can we obtain sustainable funding from senior levels of government?
- How can we overcome underemployment of immigrants?
- What industries might we attract to ensure high quality jobs?
- Is there anything that can be done at the local level to try and better integrate skills with available good jobs?

Major Points to be considered

- The economy and human services are highly interconnected – a successful economy leads to the ability to fund human services that increase quality of life. The two should not operate as separate “silos”.
- Coordination between economic development and the provision of human services should be looked at more closely between the Region and the municipalities to ensure the greatest efficiencies are achieved.
- As a Region, we should look at better integrating economic development programming with human service programming. At the local level, there has been a great deal of work put into ensuring that these services are coordinated, however, there might be opportunities to look at how human services at the Regional level are provided in order to tie in more closely to the economic development strategies that have been developed at the local level.
- We need to better balance investment into things that lead to future prosperity (i.e. education, business infrastructure) with funding consumption, such as human services, in order to become more prosperous. This, in turn, will allow us to put more money back into human services once this balance has been achieved (bigger pie to divide up).
- Funding from senior levels of government is not adequate to meet human services needs. There is a need for more funding but more can also be done at the local level to be better coordinated and more efficient in the delivery of services.
- Need to make better use of immigrants who are generally well educated but underemployed. Economic Development should focus on attracting the “right” kinds of industries/companies to ensure there are high quality jobs.
- Underemployment is certainly a pressing issue. Focusing on and attracting sectors that are geared to high quality jobs (eg. IT and bio-technology have good future prospects and require more highly skilled workers) is of key importance in providing better jobs to the community. It is up to Economic Developers and the municipalities to help ensure those jobs are available to take advantage of increased skills.

APPENDIX IV

March 2, 2006

- 9 -

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH

LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- We should be careful about what we define as prosperity. Income is only one facet and we need to pay attention to quality of life as well. Prosperity helps provide a larger pool of money to put into those things (such as human services) that increase quality of life.

Session Title: Changing the Future Course of Transportation in Peel:
From Gridlock to Sustainability

Moderator: Sue Cumming

Speakers: Tom AppaRao, Dr. Richard Gilbert, Neal Irwin, Clive Rock

Questions to be addressed to move forward

- How can we obtain adequate and sustainable funding?
- What steps need to be taken to ensure that the regional transportation plan and Growth Plan have integrated, planning, funding and coordinated delivery?
- How do we increase transportation options in future to meet diverse needs and to minimize health impacts?
- How to deal with conflicting needs, i.e.: goods movement vs. people?
- What type of powers should the GTTA have to be an effective body?
- How can we get the public to support intensification and change our travel habits?
- How can we get the politicians to champion sustainable transportation, a critical ingredient for success?

Major Points to be considered

- Need coordinated transportation and land use planning with emphasis on transportation.
- Must have adequate, predictable and sustainable funding.
- Must have decision processes and pricing that take energy conservation into account.
- Need to fully integrate smart growth planning.
- Seek federal funds for showcase projects – draw from experience in Greater Vancouver, showcase program to build transit villages.
- We need to build a strategy together. Bring together land use and transportation.
- Explore broad range of financial instruments i.e. in Vancouver \$30 charge on commercial parking spaces.
- Advocate for the Province to organize, fund and implement an integrated transportation plan.
- We need to plan transportation not just for the GTA, but, also for the Golden Horseshoe.
- Organize land use to support transportation. We should decide what we want for our transport system and then organize our land use around that.
- Expand initiatives that improve public health i.e. Employee Trip Reduction Program – Health issue, walk/cycle to work, benefit to not driving Single Occupancy Vehicles.
- Absolutely essential to have political champions who are passionate to move agenda forward, despite difficulties to be overcome.

APPENDIX IV

March 2, 2006

- 10 -

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH

LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- We need an agency with appropriate powers to coordinate transportation and distribute funding in the GTA. This would integrate various bodies that have individual parochial interests.
- Land use needs to be intensified and include mixed-uses to be conducive to transit.
- Consider future health impacts and balance with trends of goods movement, demographics, etc.
- Set (numerical) targets for live/work densities.
- Absolutely essential to have political champions to implement growth strategy.
- Implement rapid transit. Rapid transit can prepare us for an energy shock (\$4/L of gas). This would also help in developing employment lands, mixed uses, etc.
- Truck trips are growing faster than population, employment and passenger trips.
- Almost half of Peel's peak hour trips are inter-regional. We need a common vision and co-ordinated planning across the GTA.
- Future growth in travel demand will far exceed our ability to improve roads. Road improvements alone will not be able to meet travel demand. Road congestion in Peel will triple by 2031 unless concerted action is taken to move Peel towards more sustainable transportation.
- Sustainable Transportation has to leave the world in better shape for future generations. How can we plan for alternate energy sources and reduce our dependence on oil?
- Key issues revolve around the physical environment (pollution, fuel supply, etc.) and finances (congestion costs, funding transit, etc.)
- User fees can generate revenue and alleviate congestion.
- Manage Goods Movement through improved logistics, eg. reduce empty return trips.

APPENDIX IV

March 2, 2006

- 11 -

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH

LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Session Title: Coming to Terms with the Energy Dilemma
Moderator: Nick Tunnacliffe
Speakers: Dr. Richard Gilbert, Allan Jenkins, Dr. Nonita Yap

Questions to be addressed to move forward

- How can we overcome challenges to implementing renewable energy?
- Who are the agents of change?
- How can we get the consumer to be more willing to pay the extra cost of achieving long term energy conservation?
- How can we gain acceptance for creating buildings that are energy efficient?
- How can we develop the institutional attitude? It was noted that many feel that measures taken at levels of government and Research and Development organizations are neither adequate nor comprehensive enough to cope with the level of change required.

Major Points to be considered

- Until prices more than double, Canadians will not change their energy consumption habits. To get radical changes, the price of petroleum and gasoline will have to increase over four times the current price of energy.
- Many challenges still exist to implement renewable energy production.
- Energy considerations should prevail in planning - Three possibilities:
 - Greater than 50 per cent chance that these prices will occur, will need a Plan A that entails an energy focused official plan that addresses land use planning in terms of energy production and use, and local food production.
 - 25-50 per cent that these price increases will occur, the Region will need a Plan B with the ability to kick in the moment prices go up.
 - Less than 25 per cent chance that these prices will occur, no need for a Plan A or a Plan B.
- We need to decarbonize, dematerialize and humanize consumption.
- Need a change in our entire way of thinking about how we live and work.
- Focus on redefining the Canadian culture to that which promotes low consumption habits.
- Peel could leverage the cultural advantages of immigration to look for cultural beliefs in low consumption practices.

**PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH
LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY**

Session Title: Driving Prosperity – The Role of Immigration
Moderator: David Szwarc
Speakers: Naomi Alboim, Naheeda Jamal, Dr. Colin Saldanha

Questions to be addressed to move forward

- How can we overcome underemployment?
- How can we collaborate with other levels of government to improve settlement and level of preparedness for immigrants?
- How can we advocate for better training for non-profit organisations which provide services to immigrants and secure the funding to do so? In order to do this, we need to hear from the people getting the services and hear both the successes and problems encountered.
- How can we consolidate the duplication by the various organizations that provide services geared to immigrants and look at more effective outcome measures in order to assess these programs?
- Are there better models for immigrant services delivery that could be explored?
- How can we better prepare immigrants to understand Canadian values?

Major Points to be considered

- Immigrants predominantly choose to settle where they have existing family members or friends.
- Immigration is a “two-way street” – immigrants come to Canada (Peel) for a better life and we in turn benefit economically, socially, and culturally. To attract more immigrants, we need to ensure they are able to do well.
- A major problem is that immigrants are assessed on their education and work experience, however, when get here, these attributes are rarely recognized and/or utilized. Underemployment is a significant problem facing new immigrants.
- There is a significant problem in that many immigrants come to Canada inadequately prepared, partly because there is a great deal of misinformation which leads to expectations among immigrants that aren't being met. We need to look at ways of addressing this problem through:
 - Better language training
 - Better assessment of foreign credentials
 - Better communication/programming between governments and service providers (municipal/provincial/federal/NGO's)
 - Better pre-preparation of immigrants (i.e. through a web Portal/language training, credentials documentation gathering, etc.)
 - Appointment of immigrants to responsible positions within the community
- There is a fractured delivery and duplication of many services geared towards immigrants. In addition, funding is not always adequate.
- We need to have “faces to stories”
- We need to look at how we provide services. By identifying four or five major areas of concern and concentrating on addressing those needs (e.g. employment), we could coordinate a more centralized provision of services. For example, Employment

APPENDIX IV

March 2, 2006

- 13 -

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH**LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY**

Canada should play a key role in any employment services being offered and a representative should be available. Right now, funding is set up in narrow categories and then agencies are forced to compete and many resources go towards obtaining more funding (i.e. proposal writing, etc), creating a self-perpetuating cycle. Going forward, it will be important to look at better models for immigrant services delivery.

- While it was noted that part of the problem is the quality of training of those providing services, a response to this was due to continual under-funding, organizations often hire who they can afford, not who is necessarily the best.
- In regards to whether we are creating a moral dilemma through immigration, we need to keep in mind the individual's right of freedom of choice and the right to pursue a better life. It is, however, incumbent on the host countries to provide and live up to the promises that they offer to immigrants.
- It is important to keep in mind that when immigrants leave their country of origin, there are still many connections back. Benefits to the countries of origin can occur when immigrants send money back to their families or when business opportunities and partnerships are forged between the immigrant and people "back home". In fact, some countries even "train for export", knowing money will be sent back home after these people immigrate and become successful. This is one way some less advantaged countries draw in wealth. There should be more of an intersection between the various policy sectors to address these issues (i.e. between foreign aid and immigration policy).
- It is important to recognize that integration is a two way street and it is reasonable to expect both sides to make accommodations for each other. It is wrong to expect either "side" to give up everything. There are, however, fundamental / core values in Canada such as respect for the law, equality, our charter of rights and freedoms, respect for others. We need to state this is who we are and that these are "non-negotiable" points.

APPENDIX IV

March 2, 2006

- 14 -

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH

LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Session Title: Focussing In On Where We Live and Work

Moderator: Hannah Evans

Speakers: John Corbett, John Waller

Questions to be addressed to move forward

- Where can we put future development? How will the Province work with Area Municipalities to define boundaries of urban growth centres and corridors?
- How can we get sustainable funding to support intensification and infrastructure investment?
- What additional policy supports are needed?
- What will the Province be doing to market the Growth Plan and to build broader public support?

Major points to be considered

- To achieve the development of growth centres and corridors a long-term strategy is required which integrates policy, infrastructure investment, public education and patience in development approvals to attract mixed use and office developments.
- Recognize benefits and fit with overall strategy of attracting employment in areas outside centres and corridors to provide live-work opportunities, to reduce commuting and to create more social interaction.
- Transit is very important. Need to have population/employment balance and employment density to generate trips.
- There is a need for infrastructure investment to implement transit that will support intensification of corridors.
- There is a need for additional public policy to focus development.
- If the plan is under-funded, there is a risk that we have a false sense of security.
- It was noted that the Province is already spending money on infrastructure but much more is needed. More details on phasing and costing will come.
- Municipalities will have to spend money and where will that come from?
- Need a public education and engagement program to support intensification.
- The Province needs to tell the public about the Growth Plan and market it.
- Need to work with those who share values and collaborate with health organizations (Heart and Stroke Foundation, College of Family Physicians to cite a few) to put information on web sites and to develop interactive tools.
- There is a need to really look at employment and the types of jobs that can be created both within the intensified urban centres and outside. There are larger parcels of attractive land outside the downtowns where pressure will continue for development.

APPENDIX IV

March 2, 2006

- 15 -

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH

LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Session Title: Good Health for Everyone - Realistic or Utopian Dream?

Moderator: Sue Cumming

Speakers: Gena Ali, Dr. Hanif Kassam, Shelley White

Questions to be addressed to move forward

- How can Peel create linkages between groups, planners, the health community and public to share information, make connections and develop strategies that promote community health?
- What changes are needed to the built form and urban spaces in new and existing communities to foster improvements in human health?
- What resources and tools such as a centralized database would increase awareness and information sharing on health initiatives?
- How can good health planning be infused in economic and social systems (i.e. housing, water, food) and integrated into the broader society?
- How can we ensure that land use decisions do not contribute to childhood obesity – i.e. not locating fast food restaurants across from schools, increasing walkability of communities, etc?
- How do we spread the message to new immigrants about health vs. “American dream” (TV ads about unhealthy food poor lifestyle)?
- How about looking at health issues in the planning decision-making process as a precautionary principle?
- How do employers encourage healthy work places for employees?

Major points for consideration

- There is a greater need for increased physical activity and active living.
- There are existing barriers to quality of life and mental health; need for dialogue between health professionals and the public; need for formulating health indicators and monitoring systems
- There needs to be more integrative education programs to discuss healthy food to parents and educators to combat television advertisements that promote poor food and “super-sized” meals. It was noted that some cities such as San Francisco use precautionary principle in educational programs.
- We have a diverse community; need to break idea of “one size fits all”. Health care providers need to be culturally-sensitive.
- Resources need to be shared.
- Health and well-being ought to be a social responsibility on individual behaviour; benefits pose less reliance on the health care system
- Need to acknowledge and reward doctors for healthy patients (prevention vs. treatment business).
- Need to review scope and role of walk-in clinics.
- Learn from emergency preparation (SARS).
- Integrate food education into the school curriculum.
- Connect resource pool of seniors to help solve issues of youth.
- Lower work/home expectations to reduce stress levels.

APPENDIX IV

March 2, 2006

- 16 -

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH

LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- Need to create linkages between groups, planners, health community and public to share information, develop strategies that promote community health
- Need to change urban spaces in new communities and retrofit existing communities to be more health conscious.
- Need a database containing health information, including all health initiatives that is accessible to the public.
- Need a social marketing programme to communicate and promote good health.

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH
LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Session Title: Getting to Green: Future Trends and Fresh Ideas (morning)
Moderator: Andrea Warren
Speakers: Brian Denny, Isobel Heathcote, and Christine Zimmer

Questions to be addressed to move forward

- How can we develop a more integrated approach to planning which gives greater consideration to all of the requirements of sustainability (environment, economy, culture, and social aspects)?
- How can we educate the public regarding different types of urban form and its impact on the natural environment?
- How can we develop and build acceptance of planning goals to achieve “liveability”?
- How can we improve our implementation of innovative environmental planning?
- How can we implement natural heritage and restoration economy strategies (e.g., 30 per cent forest cover) with the development pressure facing the GTA and growth forecasts provided by the Province?
- How close are we to putting our water supply at risk? Are we on a balancing point where we will have water supply issues?

Major points to be considered

- Need communication and education about sustainability to the greater public (consumer).
- Need to explore new and enhanced partnerships for collaboration and for implementation to take place.
- We need to think of innovative solutions and move beyond business as usual.
- Need to create a demand for environmental responsibility.
- Policy tools to support green infrastructure are needed at the local level.
- We need more policies to support green infrastructure.
- Past patterns of development cannot continue.
- We need to agree on new criteria to implement sustainable decision-making at the community and neighborhood levels (e.g., LEED-ND is one model).
- We need to agree on planning goals to achieve “liveability”.
- Principles of low impact development are a realistic alternative to water management, with the goal to maintain the pre-development state of the natural environment and maintain natural hydrology.
- The Restoration Economy movement should be embraced. The Movement suggests there are tremendous economic benefits from restoration of communities and our environment. The restoration economy includes four growth industries related to the natural environment: the restoration of ecosystems, watersheds, fisheries, farms and rural economies.
- Urban Environmental Accord promotes energy, waste reduction, urban design, urban nature, transportation, environmental health, and water.
- There is need for regional terrestrial natural heritage systems that utilize integrated watershed planning and protect the overall water budget by moving away from current stormwater management practices and working towards new urban water management (i.e. low impact development approach).

APPENDIX IV

March 2, 2006

- 18 -

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH

LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- We need new management alternatives for new development. We need greater consideration for the environment in land use planning.
- Municipalities need a new approach to water management such as low impact development.
- Municipalities need to connect watersheds and implement terrestrial natural heritage system strategies. Need fish management plans.
- We have a crisis of implementation on our hands.
- We need to collaborate and bring everyone to the table. The way we get there is to cooperate and utilize forums and charettes to collaborate and work together on ideas.

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH
LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Session Title: Getting to Green: What Does it Take? (afternoon)
Moderator: Andrea Warren
Speakers: Andrew Bowerbank, Maurice Stevens and Lee Ann Mallett

Questions to be addressed to move forward

- What is the practical way to make development green? Changes can be small things that add up to a lot (e.g., Energy Star Housing, smart meters). These are things that will cause consumers to change behavior.
- How do we make it happen? We need to consider the perspective of developers and meet their needs to achieve sustainability objectives. We should be "incentivizing" the process rather than taking a regulatory approach (i.e. obtain environmental benefits through streamlined approvals that shorten development times).
- How can we collaborate more effectively through partnerships, education and consultation?
- How can municipalities put these concepts into practice?

Major points to be considered

- Key to making change: Partnerships with municipalities, NGOs, and the private sector
 - We need to coordinate and collaborate (decrease duplication)
 - Partner with local community groups to get things off the ground
 - If we don't know what each other is doing, we cannot work together
 - You have to connect with what people understand and what they want to do. Need to reach people in their communities, find out how we can connect with them and accommodate their needs to make it easy for them to participate in stewardship programs. Engage a wide range of partners and supporters
 - Need education about sustainability.
- Need partnerships and collaboration to implement sustainable building design.
- Need to address the different needs of each community.
- We need to educate the consumer.
- Let the free market work its' magic and bring costs down.
- Need full cost accounting.
- Speak to your audience in their language.
- Need to collaborate between disciplines, not just sectors – need to break down traditional silos.
- Utilize the media to promote ideas and communicate with target audiences.
- Need organizational and political champions and advocates.
- Update existing policies and legislation.
- Need to be prepared to take risks and to promote and support risk taking.
- Be adaptable in learning, it's an iterative process.
- Provide incentives (not necessarily monetary).
- We need to establish criteria at an early stage before developer financing arrangements are made.
- When evaluating the costs of green/sustainable building design, there are other aspects to measure costs that need to be considered (i.e. employee absenteeism, productivity of the people living/working in them, etc.).

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH
LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Session Title: **A Look Through the Crystal Ball at the Future of Pearson Airport**

Moderator: Glenn Miller

Speakers: Karen Campbell, Neal Irwin, Steve Shaw, Ray Simpson

Questions to be addressed to move forward

- How can Peel increase its understanding of how the Pearson Airport supports the economy of the Peel Region? How does the Airport help to increase investment in Peel businesses and encourage new businesses to come and locate in the Peel area?
- What steps need to be taken in the short term for Peel to take leadership in pursuing more effective provincial and municipal transportation for both the airport and the airport area?
- How can we encourage discussions between Peel and the GTAA about working more closely together and carrying out joint initiatives?
- How can we develop a greater transit focus in the airport lands area by making the airport a growth centre and creating more transit to employment areas and the airport itself?
- How can we support the reduction of the Pearson Airport rent charged by the federal Government to help the Airport remain competitive?
- How can you add value to the airport employment lands?
- How can selected areas of the airport employment lands, such as the Airport Corporate Centre, be marketed as prestige property and emphasis put on image enhancement?
- How can we move forward with discussions between Peel, the GTAA, Mississauga and Brampton about economic, business and transportation developments in the airport area?

Major points to be considered

- The Pearson Airport needs to be looked at, not by itself, but in its regional context with the surrounding area.
- Pearson Airport ground transportation system (both the onsite and offsite components – highways, roads, GO Transit, local transit, airport transportation services) needs to be considered as an integral part of the whole airport system.
- Transit access is a critical need for the future viability of the airport to keep it from being road capacity and congestion-constrained. The area around the airport is not currently well-served by transit (i.e. Airport Corporate Centre and Dixie Road) and needs to be served by an improved transit system.
- The airport employment lands are very important to Peel and the GTA - a concentration of 200,000 jobs. (compare with the 100,000 jobs in the financial district of Downtown Toronto). Need to look at how we can continually redevelop and revitalize this employment area over time as needs and competitive factors change. It was noted that the commercial and industrial lands are completely free to evolve, unlike the residential uses which are restricted because of noise controls from the Airport Operating Area.
- Need to find new ways to market these properties as prestige facilities.

**PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH
LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY**

- To help image enhancement, could use criteria based on building design rather than zoning.
- Airport employment lands have a critical need to have good transportation access in the future to keep them viable.
- Pearson Airport is a gateway of choice for international passengers. Pearson handles 47 per cent of the international passengers coming to Canada. 55 per cent of the passengers using the airport are international, a higher percentage than any other airport in North America including New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Atlanta. However, in absolute terms, it is the third largest airport in North America for absolute number of international passengers handled in 2004 – 16 million vs. 17.4 million handled by New York and 16.5 million handled by Los Angeles. Pearson's strong international service in aviation is a good complement to Peel Region's role in accommodating and providing services for immigrants.
- Maintaining a high degree of competitiveness is vital to the viability of Pearson.
- The competitiveness of Pearson airport relative to other airports depends on 1) providing excellent service to passengers, 2) being cost competitive (total airport cost of handling each passenger) and 3) having direct access to many destinations.
- Pearson needs better access to foreign destinations such as India, China, Middle East, South America. The bilateral agreements that are negotiated by the federal government need to be liberalized to give more direct routes to those areas. US have 63 open skies agreements while we have one!
- Having an attractive airport is valuable to attract foreign investment to businesses in Peel and the GTA. It is the Pearson Airport that often makes the first impression on foreign executives coming to Toronto. It is representative of the excellent infrastructure of the area including the transportation system.
- In attracting foreign investors to work from Peel and the GTA as a base, Pearson Airport is a major asset
 - Pearson provides access to the NAFTA market and NE US
 - can use Peel and Toronto as a beachhead to these markets
 - offers direct flights to the Northeast US which accounts for almost half of US GDP
 - can get to places like Chicago, Washington, New York, for a day's business and return
 - Pearson offers an amazing frequency of daily direct flights (i.e. 52 to New York, 32 to Washington and 29 to Chicago)
- Businesses use the airport for executive travel, customer meetings, sales calls, corporate meetings, conferences and training, and for getting goods to and from clients.

APPENDIX IV

March 2, 2006

- 22 -

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH

LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Session Title: Reaping the Rewards: Culture the Fourth Pillar of Sustainability

Moderator: Arvin Prasad

Speakers: Beth Gignac and Brian Gilchrist

Questions to be addressed to move forward

- How can we build on the recent initiatives around incorporating culture into our planning processes and integrate it into policy setting and decision-making?
- Who are the political champions that could move this forward?
- How can we elevate the discussion of culture in our community?
- Where can we obtain resources to develop records and formal collections reflecting our cultural diversity?
- How can we build support for compact urban form and transit supportive densities with the expectations of new immigrants coming here with dreams of having the big yard, the big house, and the big car in light of new government policies? What steps should be taken to educate immigrants to help dispel the desire for these things?
- What steps are needed to recognize culture as an integral component of sustainability and how to "fit it in" to sustainability plans?
- How can we develop a tangible framework from which to plan culture?

Major points to be considered

- Culture is critical to placemaking and needs to be interwoven throughout our programs and planning.
- Incorporating culture into our planning processes is still a relatively new field and we need to explore how to integrate it.
- Lorraine Hogan (Ministry of Culture) noted that they are just finalizing a study (Peel Cultural Diversity Project) that looks at the issues and challenges with ethno-cultural arts and audiences. This is a topic we will be hearing a lot more about in the next few years.
- Tangible records and elements of our culture in Peel play an important role, however, there are very few formal collections reflecting the cultural diversity that have developed in the Region over the past 50 years. We need to address this gap.
- Culture defines communities and presents opportunities to create vibrant and dynamic places. Malton is a prime example of a hidden gem that could be revitalized by showcasing the culture of the ethnic enclaves that have chosen to reside there.
- We have just recently started to recognize Culture as an integral component of sustainability and we are now trying to figure out how to "fit it in" to sustainability plans. Unlike things such as the environment which encompass vast areas, culture is generally very local and is reflected at a local level by individuals, in how we choose to express ourselves (dress, manners, etc.)
- It was also noted that culture can be widespread as well. The "mechanics" or physical manifestations of culture often have significance / implication for societies (i.e. wearing of certain items, performing certain gestures, etc.). In this sense, culture helps define your "place" in the society. If culture becomes based on the individual only, this makes things confusing and one no longer has a sense of where they "fit".

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH
LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- We are still trying to come up with ways to integrate culture into the planning process but we're not there yet.
- There are a number of areas where culture can and should be reflected in our communities. For example, the Malton and Pearson Airport areas are the first places that new arrivals to the GTA see when they come here. Malton is a "cultural gem" waiting to be transformed. Malton has untapped potential as a cultural focus, although a number of barriers exist. Culture is difficult to define and Malton has traditionally been seen as disconnected from the rest of Mississauga.
- Revitalization and a cultural infusion will also occur as the next generation of community pride starts to develop. Business associations and local neighbourhood groups will evolve and "improve" the communities.

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH
LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Session Title: Sustainable Municipal Finance: How Do We Get There?

Moderator: Bryan Hill

Speakers: Frank Clayton, Enid Slack, Cam Watson

Questions to be addressed to move forward

- What models or approaches to paying for services would be workable to draw on potential revenue sources from property taxes, income taxes, sales, user fees, etc?
- How can we get the Province to move towards sustainable municipal finance?
- What steps need to be undertaken to implement new approaches around full cost accounting?
- How can we move more to a system that matches responsibilities with revenue?

Major points to be considered

- The goal is to be financially sustainable over the long-term.
- Develop a thorough forecast of capital and operating needs and apply principles of full cost recovery, life-cycle costing, adequate capital investment and low debt levels.
- We don't measure infrastructure deficit or declines in service quality; we do well on items we measure but may not be doing well on those we do not measure.
- Planned adjustments to service levels may be required to address the needs of aging and diverse populations.
- Consider implications for alternative revenue sources and/or uploading of services if after a long-term forecast is prepared, a deficit remains.
- Many are concerned about sustainability with future growth pressures, aging population and insufficient rapid transit financing.
- Some things municipalities can control, other things we don't. We can't imagine the future. Important thing is to get prices right. User charges should be applied correctly. Not about bringing money as income, but about changing behaviour, what it REALLY costs. i.e.: peak time. People will use less water. Reduce demand in future, not make more money.
- It was noted that jurisdictions in the US are different than Canada due to more funding from the federal government and other factors.
- There is reluctance to raise property taxes because the effective property tax rate has been dropping in relation to the significant increase in property values in the 1990's. Property tax is a highly visible tax for people to pay. Income tax is a larger amount but less visible. With growth, our problem is to take land taxes to subsidize social network, immigration, education, housing – which the federal government hasn't kept up with. That's the source we need to be worried about over the next 30-50 years
- Regions provide a continuum of services similar to private services like water which we should charge for. Others are in between – social services are in the middle. Should not be funded by property taxes.
- Interest in exploring public/private partnerships as a source of revenue funding.

**PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH
LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY**

Session Title: The Booming Dynamics of Aging in Peel: Crystallizing the Years

Ahead

Moderator: Carole Berry

Speakers: Ray Applebaum, Ron Jaros, Alan Skeoch,

Questions to be addressed to move forward

- How can we coordinate better planning for seniors recognizing the new ethnic diversity and family dynamics that influence housing needs and services?
- What partnerships could be developed to address inter-generational planning?
- Are there services that are currently not provided? Which sector ought to provide the gap in services?
- How to rethink existing "silos"? How to better integrate need with service?
- How do seniors invest their equity strategically to sustain themselves in the absence of public services?
- How do you market for seniors who don't admit to being seniors?

Discussions Points Noted:

- Need better integration of services for seniors.
- Increase education of seniors to understand their role in future community planning.
- Engage seniors in the planning process – include them into the community rather than isolate them out.
- Explore flexible work arrangements for seniors wishing to work.
- Housing needs are a reflection of demographics with the recognition of new ethnic diversity, family dynamics that influence housing needs. Instead of creating older adult enclaves, seniors must be integrated into society and engage in community activities. Seniors may be forced out of urban areas due to inability of government to meet their essential needs.
- Government should fund programs and services that allow older adults to receive care in their homes. Home care is more expensive and higher quality care, and this should be encouraged and supported.
- Service delivery may stop at the door of public facilities due to high cost / high demand, where better services may be required in extended to the home.
- Existing dwellings may further be subdivided into multiple units due to high housing expenses and ability to care for family members.
- Issue of accessibility within housing.
- Future housing consists of granny flats, extended families, and housing for all life cycles
- Consider renewable energy sources in new housing stock.
- Leadership habits will change with gender changes (i.e. Women's role in leadership will address some of these changes)
- Funding eligibility of municipalities create stipulations; too much fragmentation within disciplines (i.e. silos, departments, scale)
- Must plan for healthy/active seniors.

PLANNING POLICY AND RESEARCH
LIVEABLE PEEL CONFERENCE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- Age wave is not all negative; not all seniors are impoverished thus, the health system does not need to pay for all seniors.

Session Title: Put A Roof On It: Meeting Housing Needs of Peel's Population

Moderator: Bruce Hynes

Speakers: Hugh Heron, Jennifer Murdoch, Michael Shapcott, Ron Jaros

Questions to be addressed to move forward

- How can we creatively use resources to improve housing?
- How can we provide for greater public participation in the planning process and convince the public to buy-in to intensification?
- Will 100 foot lots exist in 50 years?
- How to manage growth in an innovative way to achieve sustainable communities?
- What proportion of new affordable housing is built by private sector?
- Future planning will mainly consist of intensification, what steps need to be undertaken to ensure effective implementation?
- How can we work with immigrants who are not accustomed to low density housing, get accustomed to high rise? Many come here with a dream of a single family home on a larger lot.

Major points to be considered

- The building code and zoning standards need to be revised for people with physical disabilities. With the aging population, this issue will become more important.
- There is a gap between design and different lifecycle/lifestyle needs in housing.
- There is a need for greater public participation in the planning process, as well as professionals; there are many excellent case studies across Canada to refer to. There is a lack of leadership and "followership" (NIMBYism). People don't like change.
- Places to Grow calls for 40 per cent infill of future housing. This will affect zoning and will create tremendous public opposition which will be a large stumbling block
- There are large tracts of land designated for urbanization under the Places to Grow Plan and there is a need for Regional governments to be strong advocates in housing to direct larger vision.
- There is a need for greater public participation, partnerships between public/private sectors in order to strategically plan for healthy housing needs and sustainable communities that includes affordable housing strategies.
- Must factor key trends in Ontario's market and demographics to effectively address diverse housing needs for immigrants, low income groups, people with disabilities and different stages of life.